

DRAFT FEDERAL YOUTH POLICY

April, 2010
St Kitts-Nevis

FEDERAL YOUTH POLICY- SKN 2010

Message by Minister of Youth Empowerment Minister Phillip (to be inserted)

Message by Mr. Lazar, Permanent Secretary

“We hope that as the process continues, young people will create greater avenues for themselves as well as continue to pose demands upon the Government of St Kitts-Nevis to ensure that they achieve greater opportunities and are listened to.”

Message by Director Social Services Department, Nevis

I would first like to commend the diligence and hard work that went into the compilation of this National Youth Policy. A document such as this could have only come this far due to meticulous process, spearheaded by individuals committed to Youth Advancement in the Federation.

I would hope that the document will not become one that is shelved among numerous other program and policy documents of its kind; especially at a time when our youth are increasingly bombarded with myriad of issues and challenges that its contents will undoubtedly help to effectively address.

The Youth Division of my department is committed to its implementation, and views this document as a valuable tool in our work towards youth development.

Mr. Geoffrey Hanley, Director of Youth

“The youth of St. Kitts and Nevis must be proud of a document that is youth driven aimed at empowering them to take a pivotal role in leadership in national development process”.

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INTRODUCTION

St. Kitts and Nevis faces the new millennium with confidence and optimism. Over the last few years the economy has grown at a rate of 1% to 7.3% per annum. The Gross Domestic Product per capita now exceeds \$10,000.00. While, according to the last population Census, the population of St. Kitts and Nevis was approximately 41,000, life expectancy has reached 70 years. The life expectancy for men is usually slightly less than women. These remarkable achievements of St. Kitts-Nevis have been summed up in the United Nations (UN) Human Development Index ranking of 50 among 174 nations of the world (UNDP, 2007), and second only to Barbados in the Caribbean.

However, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis is concerned about the sustainability of this progress. The Government earnestly wishes to embrace all Kittitians and Nevisians in the march towards continued improvement in the standard of living and the quality of life of its citizens. It also wishes to trigger social mechanisms that will sustain this progress in the long term.

This progress will undoubtedly be based on a technological and service - oriented economy, primarily financial services, tourism and hospitality. Subsequent to the closure of the sugar industry more emphasis has been on agricultural diversification, including alternatives to sugar production. This will require people with acute minds and agile bodies to take advantage of the opportunities emerging in growth industries and throughout all areas of life.

The development of the nation's youth, therefore, becomes extremely critical for sustainable development in St. Kitts and Nevis. Young people must be empowered to be nation builders, entrepreneurs and role models in all spheres of economic, social and spiritual of the nation. The involvement of Youth must be strengthened in all decision making and debates on issues of national importance. Marginalization of at-risk youth should be abolished and all young people should feel a measure of hope through their involvement and sharing of the benefits to be derived from the economy.

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Every young person should be able to enjoy his or her rights and privileges guaranteed by the Constitution of St Kitts-Nevis. In *The Saint Christopher and Nevis Constitution Order 1983* (London) No 881 of 1983, Chapter 11, Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedom Sections 12, 13 and 14 reads "*Protection of freedom of expression 12 (1)* Except with his own consent, a person shall not be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference, freedom to receive ideas and information without interference, freedom to communicate ideas and information without interference (whether the communication is to the public generally or to any person or class of persons) and freedom from interference with his correspondence.

Protection of freedom of assembly and association 13 (1) Except with his own consent, a person shall not be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of assembly and association, that is to say, his right to assembly freely and associate with other persons and in particular to form or belong to trade unions or other associations for the protection of his interests or to form or belong to political parties or other political associations.

Protection of freedom of movement 14 (1) A person shall not be deprived of his freedom of movement, that is to say the right to move freely throughout Saint Christopher and Nevis, the right to reside in any part of Saint Christopher and Nevis, the right to enter Saint Christopher and Nevis, the right to leave Saint Christopher and Nevis and immunity from expulsion from Saint Christopher and Nevis."

The Government of St. Kitts-Nevis deems it necessary therefore to provide a framework that unites all young men and women of this country regardless of religious or social background or political affiliation, through the formulation of a National Youth Policy. This Policy will provide an operational framework with a set of realistic guidelines, from which action programmes and services can be developed, to facilitate meaningful involvement of youth in national development efforts and to respond to their various needs.

In an effort to accomplish this, the Youth Policy includes the opinions of a wide cross-section of our youth, having been discussed on our local media, in Youth Parliament and during several Youth Symposia and discussion fora over the last several years.

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Why is there need for a Policy?" Responses from our youth suggest the following reasons:

- So that the opinions of youth can be heard
- Because the majority of the population are youth
- To encourage interaction on social issues
- To strengthen existing youth ties and develop new linkages among youth
- To identify problems and solutions to issues facing youth
- To be used as a basis for improved family relationships
- To empower youth
- To ensure that youth are not neglected
- To act as a platform for youth
- To chart a course for the future development of the country.

The implementers of this Policy deem its purpose as a documentation of the concerns of the youth of this Federation in an effort to assess our nations' development process and its impact on our youth, while providing a basis from which stakeholders in youth development can plan for the further development of the youth populace.

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The definition of youth has always been a contentious argument worldwide. For statistical purposes the United Nation's definition for youth is 15-24 years (www.un.org/youth) but it is often country specific. In St. Kitts-Nevis, youth is defined anyone up to the age of 35 years. This is a time when most young people are going through dramatic experiences in their life circumstances as they move from childhood to adulthood, having achieved many educational and social goals and have begun to make substantial contributions to national development.

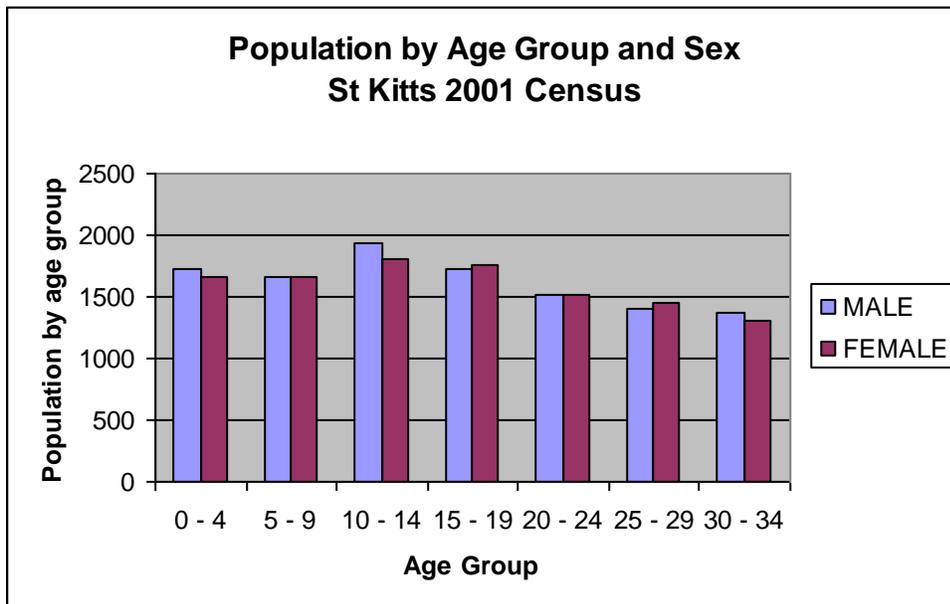
While some respondents felt that the age range for youth in the Policy should stop at 29, the majority indicated that it should include persons up to the age of 35. In recognition of the above characteristics we must acknowledge the legal rights of youth:

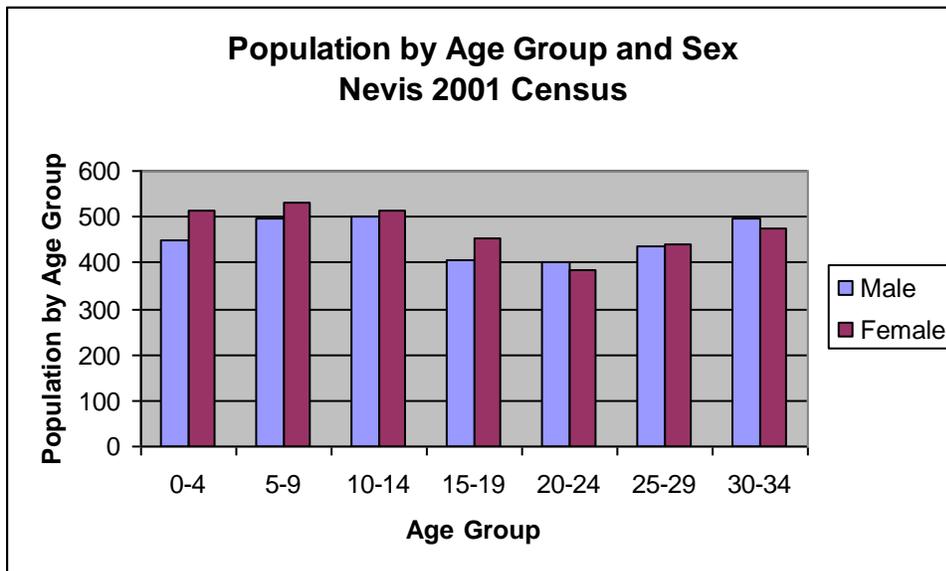
Age of consent:	16 years
Legal School Leaving Age:	16 years

Age of Majority: 18 years

YOUTH PROFILE

The last Population Census 2000 reports a population of 40,410 persons in St. Kitts-Nevis of which youth within the age of range of 0-35 is 26,220, which is 64.9% of the entire population which is a total youth population of 13,830 between the ages of 16-35.





In both St. Kitts and Nevis, the majority of the youth are between the ages of 0-19 years. In St. Kitts, there seems to be more males in this age group than females. In Nevis, the distribution is the converse.

Family Structures

The basic family structures that exist in St. Kitts-Nevis are the single parent, nuclear and extended family units. A large majority of our young population are single parent households with absentee and non-functional fathers and/or mothers. This contributes to the social conditions that presently exist.

The non-nuclear family structures have resulted in single parent homes that bring pressure on the state and its institutions such as the Children's Home. The Government of St. Kitts-Nevis through, the youth organizations and Social Services Departments, has been educating the population, raising the awareness of abandoned children and the pressure it brings on the state. Many parenting workshops have been organized by schools, Early Childhood Development Unit and the Department of Gender Affairs to sensitize and assist parents with parenting skills and good practices in child development. Recently, the University of the West Indies certified a number of individuals in the area of Parenting Facilitating

and these trained facilitators are now perched to equip parents and other members of society.

Ethnicity

The Government of St. Kitts-Nevis in its Constitution under Chapter 11, Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedom Section 15, The saint Christopher and Nevis Constitution Order 1983, (London) No 881 of 1983 reads, *Protection from discrimination on grounds of race etc. 15 (1)* Subject to subsections (4), (5) and (7) no law shall make any provision that is "discriminatory" either to itself or in its effect.

(3) In this section the expression "discriminatory" means affording different treatment to different persons attributable wholly or mainly to their respective descriptions by race, place of origin, birth out of wedlock, political opinions or affiliations, colour, sex or creed whereby persons of one such description are subjected to disabilities or restrictions to which persons of another such description are not made subject or are accorded privileges or advantages that are not accorded to persons of another such description.

(5) Nothing contained in any law shall be held to be inconsistent with or in contravention of subsection (1) to the extent that it makes provision with respect to standards or qualifications (not being standards or qualifications specifically relating to race, place of origin, birth out of wedlock, political opinions or affiliations, colour, creed or sex) to be required of any person who is appointed to or to act in any office under the Crown, any office in the service of a local government authority or any office in a body corporate established by law for public purposes.

St. Kitts and Nevis is increasingly becoming a multi-ethnic society. The population is predominantly black, of African descent. However, there are fairly substantial representation of peoples of other ethnicities, for example, white/ Caucasian, Syrian/Lebanese, Chinese, Portuguese and East Indian and mixed nationalities.

A National Policy therefore must embrace youth regardless of race or ethnicity and provide opportunities for them to contribute to the national development agenda, as well as, to derive maximum benefit from the proceeds of investments in nation building.

Literacy and Educational Levels

The literacy rate for St. Kitts and Nevis is quoted as 98%.

Young men and women in St. Kitts-Nevis are exposed to free education from early childhood to post secondary education. All schools follow a curriculum that caters for the intellectual, moral, spiritual and physical development of students. Upon completion of the secondary school programme students may qualify for CSEC/CXC General and Technical Proficiency, the recently introduced Caribbean Certificate of Secondary Level Competence (CCSLC) and the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ). Some private schools and adult education programmes offer G.C.E. 'O' and 'A' level certification.

Post secondary and tertiary level education is offered at the Advanced Vocational education centre (AVEC) and the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC) where students may pursue programmes leading to certification in the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CXC/CAPE), Associate degrees in TVET areas, Hospitality, Teacher Education and Nursing, It is now possible to complete bachelor's degree programmes offered by the University of the West Indies at the UWI School of Continuing Studies.

The Government of St. Kitts-Nevis has afforded its youth who were not successful in their overseas examinations and for those who were not able to undertake overseas exams an opportunity to obtain practical skills that would prepare them for the labour force. Some of the institutions are the Special Education Unit (for those mentally challenged), Project Strong, Adult Vocational Education Centre (AVEC) and the National Skills Training Programme (formerly Non-Formal Youth Skills Training Programme). In addition, institutions from both the public and private sector provide training opportunities promoting life long learning among staff and the general public.

Recently, technical and vocational education (TVET) has been given greater prominence in the education system and many opportunities for training and entrepreneurship are now available for young people. With the implementation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) and the free movement of skilled persons within CARICOM, it has become essential that our people become skilled in order to compete in the new regional market. Further, our people need to develop the proper work ethics to be selected in the competitive job market.

Historical and contemporary issues infringing on youths

Every generation of youth has to face challenges within their social, political, economic and cultural environment. Respondents in St. Kitts and Nevis listed the challenges facing this nation's youth as:

- Breakdown in the family structure
- Male marginalization
- Teenage pregnancy
- Negative peer pressure
- Drugs
- Crime
- Promiscuity
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Feelings of inability to achieve goals
- Hopelessness

Arguably, a great danger facing today's youth is HIV/AIDS. Since there is no cure for HIV/AIDS, it is necessary to engage in programmes of public education targeting young people. Hence, there is need to support the development and implementation of the National Strategic Plan for the National Response to HIV/AIDS, as well as, the delivery of Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) programme in schools.

Background to the Development of Youth Services

An analysis of the situation should always precede social intervention. Data collected for the Youth manifesto of the current Government shows current

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provisions for young people. It was found that varying provisions were made for young people in several areas of development. The following summary of these provisions bear testimony to the spectacular contribution to human resource development made by the Government in its recent terms.

EDUCATION

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(a) Primary and Secondary Education

There are twenty-three (23) Primary Schools in St Kitts of which 6 are privately run. Of the seventeen (17) publicly run primary schools, six (6) are located in Basseterre and the others distributed around the island. In Nevis there are seven (7) public primary schools and three (3) private primary schools, of which four (4) primary schools are in Charlestown- one (1) public and three (3) private.

In St Kitts there are six (6) public secondary schools and one (1) private, while Nevis has two (2) public secondary schools and one (1) private.

Educational programs are also available for youth with hearing and physical disabilities through the Special Education Units, one in each island.

(b) Post Secondary and Tertiary Level Institutions

In St. Kitts and Nevis the highest level of post-secondary/ tertiary level education is the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC), which provides associate degrees and courses in the Level 1 of a University of the West Indies degree. Additionally, there is the Sixth Form College of the Charlestown Secondary School that offers CXC/ CAPE programmes. Some courses offered are terminal while others are precursors to levels at regional and other universities. The CFBC also offers programmes under its Adult and Continuing Education programme.

The University of the West Indies (UWI) School of Continuing Studies/ UWI Distance Education Centre offer certificate level, associate degrees and undergraduate courses as part of the UWI Distance Education programme. Other private institutions offer secretarial and other work-related training. These typically cater for a smaller number of students, in part-time and full time educational programmes.

(c) TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

In addition to the provisions for technical and vocational training at the CFB College, the Advance Vocational Education Centre (AVEC) provides places for students with a technical orientation. AVEC is a post-secondary educational

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institution that adopts a holistic approach in developing skills, positive attitudes and work ethics in its students. Over a two-year period, part time and full-time students study six-core subject and one elective, while gaining job experiences through attachments. Successful graduates may proceed to the CFBC or on to the job market.

The National Skills training programme also offer training in occupational skill areas for school leavers and adults.

THE "YES" Programme

In December 2008, the Prime Minister hosted a day long National Crime Symposium. One of the action points that came out of this national discussion was the recommendation for a short term national skills training initiative that will be used to positively engage young people while at the same time retooling the work force of the Federation. On February 13th 2009, the Prime Minister officially launched Project YES (Youth Empowerment through Skills) which was designed to cater to five hundred (500) unemployed young people. The program was implemented under the auspices of the National Skills Training Program and offered training, attachment, professional and personal development and small business development to all enrolled.

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

There are two institutions that cater for youth entrepreneurship. The former Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) now renamed Nation Entrepreneurial Development Division (NEDD) and the Foundation for National Development (FND), SEDU providing funding and NEDD technical assistance in the business areas that have been undertaken by youth.

NEDD assists persons 18 years and over in developing their business from concept to completion. Both NEDD and FND have targeted young people for training in the development and management of business enterprises. They have managed several short-term programmes that also include elements of self-assessment and leadership development. In Nevis SEDU administers the Youth Enrichment Scheme and the Empowerment Fund (E-Fund). Empowerment Fund Programme is directed

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by the Development Bank of St. Kitts where youth can access up to \$100,000.00 to start their small businesses. The Ministry of Youth Empowerment intends to introduce the Youth Credit Initiative, with the assistance of Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) and also to strengthen this initiative, investors would be encouraged to contribute to the Youth Credit Initiative Fund (YCIF). Small loans would be made available to youth for Micro Businesses. In all cases training will be available to participants who access the funds.

In addition, to further strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit among our younger citizens we intend to introduce within the primary schools: The Primary School Entrepreneurial Project. Students would be expected, after being train to operate small businesses within their schools.

LEADERSHIP

Established bodies such as the Girls Brigade, Scouts, Guides, The Anglican Young Peoples Association (AYPA), youth organizations of other churches and denominations, Junior Chambers of Commerce, Leos, Rotary, Rotaract, Private and Public establishments, Carnival, Culturama, Arts Festival, Palm Awards, Jaycees, Police Boys Club and Pathfinders provide leadership opportunities for youth.

The Ministries responsible for Youth Development provide courses in youth leadership sponsored by the Commonwealth Youth Programme. In particular the "Diploma in Youth Work" and the Certificate courses have now been delegated to UWI School of Continued Studies.

Both Youth Ministries in the Federation intend to offer the Associate Degree in Youth Work through the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC). Further affiliations will be established between Universities in England to facilitate the eventual offering of the Bachelor Degree.

SPORTS

The Department of Sports, the various sporting associations and clubs ensure that there is lively competition in football, basketball, netball, volleyball, cricket and

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athletics throughout the country. The International Triathlon has generated considerable interest in three sports involved running, cycling and swimming.

Numerous opportunities are available for youth to access local, regional and international training in various sports and physical disciplines.

CULTURE

The annual Music Festival, Culturama, Carnival, and the community festivals are cultural activities that ensure interest is sustained and has lasting appeal to youth. There are several programs that are schedule to incorporate youth with reference to their participation in cultural event; this includes the newly established folklore academy, the Registry of Slaves website and the Basseterre Past and Present program being launched by UNESCO.

We intend to further develop the cultural arts through our community initiative programs, school drama festivals and videography.

HEALTH CARE

Medical Clinics are distributed island wide providing health care to the communities and tackling issues related to general health, child obesity, the reduction and control of non-communicable diseases along with highlighting social safety nets. Healths services are also being offered in a more youth friendly approach and special emphasis is now being placed on encourage young men to use the medical facilities.

The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis offers a number social safety net programmes intended to alleviate poverty and protect the vulnerable. Services which are accessed by young persons include:

- compassionate grant or cash transfer for children with a deceased or incarcerated parent
- food vouchers which are redeemable at major supermarkets
- financial and other support services to teen mothers under the Project Viola programme
- probation services for juveniles in conflict with the law

- rehabilitation services
- counselling and mediation

Policies and Documents Related to Youth

The following section outlines various Documents and Policies/Legislative Framework that relate to the development and empowerment of youth in St. Kitts and Nevis.

(a) The Constitution of St Kitts- Nevis

In the Saint Christopher and Nevis Constitution Order 1983 (London) no. 881 of 1983 Chapter 11, Protection of the Fundamental Rights and Freedom Section 3-20 gives the youth of St Kitts-Nevis the opportunity to associate, plan and practice their interests and skills within the framework of the constitution of a free society.

Sec. 25-36 Composition of Parliament

Sec. 37-45 Powers of Parliament

Sec. 51-68 The Executive

Sec. 90-95 Citizenship

Sec. 96-99 Judicial Provisions

Sec. 100-114 The Island of Nevis

(B) Commonwealth Youth Programme

The Commonwealth Youth Programme is an initiative of the Commonwealth Secretariat, which focuses on positive youth development. The Centre for the Caribbean region is based in Guyana and the Regional Advisory Board Meetings are held every two years at which representatives of the Ministry of Youth in St Kitts-Nevis attend and present reports on our youth involvements. The programme provides advice on the development and focus of Youth Ministries and St Kitts-Nevis has signed on for the Strengthening of Youth Ministries Initiative.

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The Commonwealth Youth Programme works towards a society where youth are empowered:

- Develop their potential, creativity and skills as productive and dynamic members of their societies; and
- Participate fully at every level of decision-making and development, individually and collectively, successfully promoting Commonwealth values.

The Programme focuses on three main areas: National Youth Policy Development; Human Resource Development; and Youth Empowerment.

(C) UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

The UN Convention on the rights of the Child reaffirmed the fact that children, because of their vulnerability, need special care and protection, placing a special emphasis on the primary care, and protective responsibility of the family, the need for legal and other protection of the child before and after birth, the importance of respect for cultural values of the child's community and the vital role of the international co-operation in securing children's rights.

The following are examples of pertinent rights of children up to the age of 18:

- Article 3- Right to protection and care
- Article 6- Right to life
- Article 8- Right to an identity
- Article 12 and 13- Right to expression
- Article 19- Protection from violence
- Article 23- Rights of the disabled
- Article 24- Right to health
- Article 27- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Article 28-Right to education
- Article 33-Protection to illicit use of drugs
- Article 34-Protection from sexual exploitation

Source: UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF 1998

(D) National Strategic Plan for the National response to HIV/AIDS 2008-2012

This document is a broad national plan to guide the country's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. It was prepared and distributed by the Ministry of Health. It is a statement of the intent of the Government of St Kitts-Nevis to serve all sectors and persons. The plan is structured in five priority areas:

- (i) Prevention
- (ii) Treatment, Care and Support
- (iii) Advocacy
- (iv) Surveillance, Epidemiology and Research
- (v) Programme, Coordination and Management

The plan includes all Private and Public Sector entities and stakeholders identifying their priority areas and focus. It particularly focuses on youth in all areas, presenting clear and precise information on the response to youth at risk.

(E) National Master plan for Drug Abuse Prevention

St Kitts-Nevis has made encouraging progress in the struggle against Drugs over the past several years but the single guide map of the master plan prepared and presented by the National Drug Council provides a more defined way toward focusing on the efficient delivery of anti-drug programmes and strategies. This plan is aimed at identifying a number of factors, which strongly influence our drug problem with a view toward breaking the cycle of drugs and crime.

It provides us with statistical analyses on the current situation and insights on the views of our nation's people and highlights the following:

- (1) Manifestation of the problems
- (2) Current situation of the Consumption, Addiction, Arrest and related procedures
- (3) Measures being applied to assess and control the situation
- (4) Legal and institutional frameworks

(F) Review of the St. Kitts-Nevis National Youth Policy 2007 Draft

The first task force to formulate a National Youth Policy was formed in 1996 consisting of a cross-section of youth, social workers, community workers, public and private sector entities that functioned to research and document information that would eventualize a FYP. A draft document was presented to Cabinet in 1997 which has provided us with the basis for this current policy. Further development was made in 2000. It was reviewed and revised in 2004 and then again in 2007.

Principles and Values underlying the Federal Youth Policy (FYP)

The Federal Youth Policy FYP is based on current documents that outline the principles and values of our Federation's youth and youth representatives. These are outlined in

- (a) The Constitution
- (b) The National Strategic Plan

The positive examination results in the past years are a manifestation of our youth's development in both academics and self-esteem. It is evident that some creative young persons would prefer that the educational system be reformed to facilitate the needs of all youth as was clearly outlined by youth in attendance to the 2002 Symposium. Although the system provides for most of their demands there are limited resources within the society and decisions have to be made on how best it can be utilized.

Many youth feel that there should be more dialogue between adults and youth and that this issue should be addressed nationally.

Youth at risk, HIV/AIDS and sexuality, drug abuse prevention, crime and violence and life skills should be emphasized within this policy.

GOALS AND VISION STATEMENT

This policy will provide a framework to guide our young men and women in their development initiatives to be undertaken within the Federation.

Vision

The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis is declared as:

- a God -fearing country based on religious values and morals
 - a law abiding, safe country free of crime and drugs
 - a country based on equal human rights and respect for all persons
 - having a sound educational framework that identifies and develops on a continuing basis the abilities of its students, allowing them to reach their full potential and productivity
 - a country that protects our traditional heritage and the family unit which also encourages and prepare youth to assume leadership roles
 - having a comprehensive healthcare system for all categories of the society
 - a Federation which provides openness, responsible and accountable governance and includes, a working partnership with all sectors of society
- From discussions in St Kitts-Nevis, young people seem to have mixed feelings on the opportunities for self-development, safety against crime, HIV/AIDS and employment.

Overall Goal of The Federal Youth Policy

To mobilize and motivate our youth to be actively involved in the process of policy formulation and implementation for personal and national development.

Goal 1: The development of a personal and social, cultural and spiritual identity by all young men and women of the Federation

Goal 2: The provision of comprehensive educational opportunities for young men and women

Goal 3: Training and employment for all young men and women

Goal 4: Promotion of sustainable social, economic and physical development with emphasis on the need for agricultural development and environmental conservation

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- Goal 5: Re-organising and strengthening of institutions to provide effective services for youth in our evolving society
- Goal 6: Participation of young men and women in decision-making forums and in particular the Federal Youth Parliament
- Goals 7: Promoting healthy lifestyles among young people free of substance abuse, acts of violence, premature, premarital and extramarital sexual activity.

Policy Objectives

- Goal 1: The development of a personal, social, cultural and spiritual identity by all young men and women of the Federation

Objectives:

- 1.1 To help children, young men and women to become aware of their identity and to enhance and appreciate their natural skills.
- 1.2 To promote spiritual, cultural and historical programmes with a view towards assisting youth in developing their identities.
- 1.3 To encourage young people to participate in cultural life towards the development of national pride and dignity.

- Goal 2: The provision of comprehensive educational opportunities for youth.

Objectives:

- 2.1 To review the existing educational system and assess its relevance to the needs of young people to prepare them for the development in our social, economic, industrial and political structure.
- 2.2 To make young men and women aware of their rights, personal and social

responsibilities within our development process.

Goal 3: Training and employment for all young men and women

Objectives:

- 3.1 To provide skills training and support to enable young men and women to enter the labour market.
- 3.2 To publicize training and employment opportunities in the local market while encouraging entrepreneurship.
- 3.3 To facilitate the conduct of periodic labour market surveys.
- 3.4 In the event of redundancies in particular skills, the Government will seek to provide re-training that is necessary for young persons to meet the demands of other industrial skills for employment.

Goal 4: Promotion of sustainable social, economic and physical development with emphasis on the need for agricultural development and environmental conservation.

Objectives:

- 4.1 To provide youth with training skills and opportunities to be productive members of the labour force, as well as, entrepreneurs, with emphasis on skills related to environmental protection, conservation and agriculture.
- 4.2 To develop in partnership with young people and stakeholders practical sustainable development plans for youth empowerment.

Goal 5: The re-organising and strengthening of institutions to provide effective services for youth in our evolving society

Objectives:

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- 5.1 To research and evaluate institutional functioning (families, schools, churches, statutory bodies and voluntary organizations) to determine the level of services that are being provided for young people.
- 5.2 To enhance capacity for the nurturing, educating, socialising, protecting and rehabilitating, where necessary, of young men and women.

Goal 6: The participation of young men and women in decision-making forums and, in particular, staging an annual Federal Youth Parliament sitting

Objectives:

- 6.1 To develop leadership skills, enterprise, initiative and innovation among young men and women.
- 6.2 To provide resources for the development of projects and business enterprises to integrate and involve young people while encouraging volunteerism.
- 6.3 To educate and encourage participation in the political and democratic process.
- 6.4 To delegate the inclusion of a person to advocate youth interest on ALL statutory Boards, and Government Committees
- 6.5 To provide out-reach in the form of sharing relevant information to encourage them to access available resources.

Goals 7: Promoting healthy lifestyles among young people, free of substance abuse, acts of violence, premature, premarital and extramarital sexual activity

Objectives:

- 7.1 To provide all youth, parents and other stakeholders with the necessary

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information to prevent: use and abuse of substances (drugs and alcohol), child abuse, domestic violence, crime, sexual promiscuity- incest, rape, early sexual activity.

- 7.2 To develop and implement preventative programmes that provides safe environments and healthy opportunities for young people.
- 7.3 To implement intervention programmes to provide counseling and other rehabilitative support for youth.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

The Federation of St. Kitts-Nevis endorses The United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child including that of Human Rights. The FYP therefore follows the right to

- an identity
- health
- education
- worship
- protection and care
- life
- adequate standard of living
- protection from violence
- Protection from illicit use of drugs and sexual exploitation.

In order to strengthen the UN Convention in St. Kitts and Nevis and to reduce or totally eradicate abuse of young people in the Federation, a nation - wide campaign or educational programme must be implemented, targeting all citizens, particularly parents and guardians, in promoting the Rights of the Child.

It is also necessary for forums to be organized and a new development approach be

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constructed to bring youth and adults together to discuss such issues for the common good of the family units and the wider society.

Respondents consider The Responsibilities of Youth to be:

- acquire an education and take advantage of opportunities
- show respect and act responsibly
- be a good citizen and give back to society
- worship
- choose wisely and show leadership

STRATEGIC GOALS

Key Strategic Areas

In order to achieve its goals and objectives, the FYP will focus on promoting the following strategic areas:

- Education
- Employment and Entrepreneurship
- Health
- Training in Healthy Life Styles / Life Skills
- Recreation/ Social Sector
- Culture and Heritage
- Immigration and Secession

It must be emphasized at the onset that the achievement of the different strategic areas requires both the political will and enough resources to make a difference. Young people must challenge the Government to undertake the necessary action to ensure that young people are equipped to face future challenges.

EDUCATION

Strategic Goal

All young people leaving educational institutions:

1. Have the necessary skills and competencies to enable them to fulfill their maximum potential and become productive citizens.
2. Possess characteristics that demonstrate holistic development: moral, spiritual, character, physical, social and patriotic.

Special Activities

- Strengthen school student councils
- Alternative education opportunities for alternative learning needs
- Mentorship and tutelage for youth
- Teacher training for learning support
- Increased attention to lower streams in secondary schools
- Review relevance of curriculum
- Increased parental education programmes
- Strengthen Technical and Vocational Education programmes
- Strengthen guidance and counseling in schools and colleges
- Improve career guidance in schools
- Provide diverse school activities (clubs, Art, drama, physical education and sports, dance, adventure, business labs, information and communication technology etc.); amend school hours as necessary.
- Access to information on post-secondary and tertiary training opportunities

EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

1. Youth are equipped with good work ethics and understanding of diversity in

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the workplace, thus reducing stigma and discrimination in terms of gender, age, religion and ethnicity.

2. Youth are empowered to exploit opportunities for entrepreneurship.

Special Activities

- Sensitization of employers
- Standardize workplace policies, relating acceptance of diversity
- Create a generic employee's manual or handbook
- Alternative media, advertising providing youth with different employment aspirations
- Training and financial support for young entrepreneurs
- Promote creative disciplines for employment or career choices, e.g. artists, musicians, drama, dancers, and other artisans.
- Assist young people in exploiting job opportunities and entrepreneurship in the services sector.

TRAINING IN HEALTHY LIFESTYLES & LIFE SKILLS

This new initiative is being implemented in both Primary and Secondary Schools in the Federation. It is intended to broaden the focus of the Family Life Education curriculum to include personal development, family ethics and adolescent health and sexuality primarily among other areas. The intention is to enable all youth to leave the education system with a well-balanced focus on morality, enhancing the potential of youth to become productive contributing adults.

This is an initiative of the CARICOM Multi-Agency Health and Family Life Education Project in collaboration with the local Ministry of Health as the key agency in a multi-sectoral approach to implementing the program. This initiative is fully endorsed in our Education White Paper.

Goal 2: The provision of comprehensive educational opportunities for young men and women

Goal 3: Training and employment for all young men and women

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Goal 4: A Federal Policy on sustainable social, economic and physical development with emphasis on the need for agricultural development and environmental conservation.

Special Activities

- Family workshops should be created
- Anger management workshops
- An established Big Brother/ Big Sister programme
- Street Counseling to teach about sex, family life etc.
- Greater teacher/ parent communication in response to health and sexuality
- Organised community activity through community councils
- Enforcing laws on statutory rape
- Equal focus on all other STD's as on HIV
- National Peer on Peer education health groups
- Sexual Education in Primary Schools
- Review legislation on the age of consent for alcohol and Tobacco making identification mandatory
- Put measures of accountability in place for parents to be penalized for the misuse of drugs and other destructive substances in front of children
- Regional youth forums on Healthy lifestyles and gender differences
- Introduce rallies against drugs, crime and sexuality/promiscuity

Leadership Training: The Youth Development Centre

The Government is aware of the tendency in society to consider young people as having potential and has also provided facilities for further development. The point is that young people will never acquire leadership skills unless they are given opportunities to acquire and sharpen those skills.

Although there are existing community centers, there are plans within the public Sector to establish a pilot Youth Development Center that is to be managed by young people themselves. With the support of a Consultant and Youth Officers, young people will be given opportunities to acquire practical experience in organizing and managing activities ranging from sporting events, small businesses,

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and community projects to overseas trips. The object of the exercise is to foster a sense of responsibility among youth and to encourage volunteerism while acquiring leadership training.

Co-ordination: A Restructured Youth Division

The new paradigm in youth development is "targeting" and "empowering" young people for sustainable development and nation building. It therefore follows that Youth Departments must continue operating within a portfolio that includes Education, Social & Community Development and Gender Affairs. As this is the where the Nations riches resource will be impacted.

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The Government has therefore created a dedicated Ministry of Youth that is responsible for co-coordinating youth empowerment programmes. Youth Officers living and working in each parish/constituency will be appointed over a period of time to monitor the behaviour and patterns of youth while providing programmes for their further development. These Youth Officers together with the Youth Director will co-ordinate activities taking place in various communities and Collaborative activities by other Institutions in the Public and Private sector.

RECREATIONAL/SOCIAL SECTOR

Young people have little opportunity to participate in the decision-making of their society. When enlightened decision-makers seek the input of youth, they invariably get an input that is unrepresentative of any significant category of youth. Indeed, one of the regrets mentioned by those participating in the 2000 Conference was the low involvement of youth in "decision-making".

There are plans to facilitate the development of a National Youth Council that is representative of young people in all walks of life in St. Kitts-Nevis. The base of this elected regional representative will constitute National Youth Council.

This structure is intended to facilitate the flow of information up from the grassroots to the highest decision-making forum and back again. If one member of the National Youth Council shadows a Member of Parliament then this could be one of the most effective means of training young people for political office. Similarly, members of the National Youth Council who have their bases in their communities and are in regular touch with young people could sit on Advisory Boards in the social, economic and cultural realms of society.

The Government will within the next five years explore the feasibility of introducing National Youth Service lasting one year that will be based on the expressed and agreed needs of youth. The goals that speak to the above are Goal #1- the development of a personal identity by all young men and women of the Federation and Goal #6- the participation of young men and women in decision-making forums in particular the Federal Youth Parliament.

Raising Awareness: The National Youth Forum

Based on the assumption that the average youth is more pre-occupied with the present than the future and in many cases ignorant of or defiant of the challenges facing him or her, the government will launch an awareness-raising campaign as soon as possible. The main mechanism will be a National Youth Forum to alert young people to the threats and opportunities facing them. This forum will be an opportunity for decision-makers to dialogue with young people and to communicate important messages to them. The Youth Forum will become a regular feature of the development process and will address certain issues such as HIV/AIDS, drugs, sports, crime, employment and family issues among others.

Goal 5: The re-organizing and strengthening of institutions to provide effective services for youth in our evolving society

Goals 7: Young people embracing healthy lifestyles free of substance abuse, acts of violence, premature, premarital and extramarital sexual activity

Special Activities

- Greater youth group cohesion in communities
- More youth Church gatherings and radio shows
- Greater focus on Global Youth Service Day
- More youth integrated into Federal Youth Parliament
- Establishment of a Cultural Centre for the Arts
- Development of Centers to train in various areas
- Welfare scheme for youth dealing with teenage parents/HIV victims, delinquencies
- National Awards for youth advancement
- More parent focused self development programmes
- Create opportunities for youth to manage Community Centers
- Greater communication/ collaboration across the channel between youth department and Youth Groups

CULTURE/ HERITAGE

The Department of Culture, The National Trust and the Nevis Cultural Development Foundation involve youth through volunteerism in National Festivals, Community Festivals and cultural development programmes such as folklore groups. The nature of these activities provides developmental and educational opportunities for youth.

The National Museum in St. Kitts, Lord Nelson and Alexander Hamilton Museums in Nevis, the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society and The National Trust ensure the preservation of our history and the education of our youth through regular programming and the provision of material and data. The FYP objectives that speak to cultural development are: Goal #1 and Goal #5.

Special Activities

- Greater focus on our local and Caribbean culture
- More culture based TV/radio programs
- More cultural art programs in schools
- Introduction to string band in schools
- Cultural Centre needed
- More youth related Festivals
- Greater focus on Heritage Studies in School Curriculums
- Rewards for young people in cultural development and greater emphasis for the financial respect for talent

IMMIGRATION

It is necessary for our young people who are immigrants to be integrated into the process of national development, to ensure that the cultural differences, language and ethnicity are recognized and catered to.

A Returning National Secretariat has been established to address these issues and to ensure that these young people are prepared to contribute to society. The FYP goal that speaks to this development is Goal#1

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Special Activities

- Better enforcement needed in upholding immigration laws
- Basic privileges are apparently withheld and should be given
- Thorough background checks should be done on individual for their integration into the workforce
- Strong opposition to secession based on concerns for the future economic well-being of the Federation
- Concern on the implication of youth integrated programmes and program planning
- Continuous public relation sessions on secession and how this alternative agreement will work.

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PRIORITY TARGET AREAS

Youth, Social and Community Workers are involved in preventative and intervention strategies targeting;

1. Youth at risk
2. Disabled youth
3. Youth in general

1. Youth at risk

Youth at risk are defined as having more than one of the following; lack of effective parental care and involvement, low self-esteem, lack of sound Christian values; no community or educational involvement. These youth should be identified at the earliest stage.

It is necessary to have sufficient trained Youth, Social and Community Workers and Teachers to provide prevention and intervention strategies.

Many issues affecting young men and women have caused concern in educational achievements, criminal conduct and responsibility, sexuality, social relationships and employment. In an effort to provide an inter-sectoral and collective approach to these issues the Department of Youth continues to seek intervention, insight and participation by other related Ministries with programmes targeting youth.

2. The Disabled

Disabled youth are defined as youth who are physically and mentally challenged. In the Federation, the institutions that provide for the disabled are; the School for the Deaf, Society for the Blind and the Special Education Units. The Ministry of Education and the Red Cross Society create and promote programs and opportunities for disabled youth.

3. Youth in general

The examination results reveal that young men on average are lower level achievers in education as we see more subject passes in favour of women to men. Measures should be implemented to encourage both young men and women in their educational progress. There is a need for gender equality in career guidance.

Young men and women who are excelling in various aspects of life (education, sports, business etc.) should be encouraged and assisted to fulfill their potential and greater excellence. Such youth serve as role models.

IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

The FYP seeks to outline the mechanisms that are necessary to ensure that the instruments in this Policy are applied. It hopes to provide a basis for integrated and collaborative efforts by all Government agencies, NGO's and Stakeholders.

The process for Youth Development incurs cost and therefore proper and effective budgetary provisions must be made by Government to ensure that critical areas affecting youth are addressed through the implementation of this Policy. **These provisions should not be seen as "costs but as investments."** In addition, the FYP makes provision for accessing of grants, scholarships, volunteerism and liaisons with International agencies to ensure that the objectives of the policy are met.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Ministry of Youth in both St. Kitts and Nevis should be strengthened and provided with the necessary resources to play a vital role in coordinating youth activities and collaborating with stakeholders in the implementation of programmes that address youth development.

2. A number of support structures should be established and/or strengthened to augment the work of the Youth Departments.

(a) Federal Youth Parliamentary Sitting

The National Youth Parliament (SKNYPA) should be future strengthened as a youth advisory body to debate relevant concerns of youth and to inform the National Parliament on legal matters and required legislation that affect youth. The Federal Parliamentary Sitting should be inclusive of youth representation of a wide cross-section youth from youth groups and organisations, including all youth ambassadors, students from secondary schools, post -secondary and tertiary level institutions.

(b) National Youth Council (NYC)

The NYC should be an independent body consisting of NGO's, voluntary organisations and unattached youth run by an elected executive. The Director of the Youth Department is an ex-officio member of the NYC. The key role of the NYC should be to integrate youth through programmes and activities as well as the involvement of stakeholders, with a view towards ensuring the implementation of the National Youth Policy and the sustainable development of our youth. It is imperative that our youth ambassadors play an integral role in the organization.

(c) National Youth Advisory Committee

There is need to ensure that there is a diversified approach to youth development , the implementation of the Federal Youth Policy, and the monitoring and evaluation of the other governments initiatives that impact on young people. These include but are not limited to the Strategic Plan for the national response to HIV/AIDS, the Master plan on Drug Abuse Prevention and a Strategic TVET Plan.

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Recognizing the share magnitude of the effort required to support positive young people while at the same time rescuing some from the proverbial brink of trouble and treating others who are already involved in non-productive past times

Understanding that a truly coordinated national initiative is required to curb the growing trend of youth crime and violence that is linked to the National Youth Policy to ensure a measured response

Acknowledging that positively engaged young people are present and eager to be actively involved in the forward and productive movement of the Federation

Be it resolved that the Department of Youth establishes the National Youth Advisory Council to operate under the following terms of reference

The terms of reference for this Committee will be determined by the Director of Youth with approval from the Minister with responsibility for Youth Affairs.

The National Youth Forum

Based on the assumption that the average youth is more pre-occupied with the present than the future and in many cases ignorant of or defiant of the challenges facing him or her, the government will launch an awareness-raising campaign as soon as possible. The main mechanism will be a National Youth Forum to alert young people to the threats and opportunities facing them. This forum will be an opportunity for decision-makers to dialogue with young people and to communicate important messages to them. The Youth Forum will become a regular feature of the development process and will address certain issues such as HIV/AIDS, drugs, sports, crime, employment and family issues among others.

Goal 5: The re-organizing and strengthening of institutions to provide effective services for youth in our evolving society

Goals 7: Young people embracing healthy lifestyles free of substance abuse, acts of violence, premature, premarital and extramarital sexual activity

Youth Development Centers

The Government is aware of the tendency in society to consider young people as having potential and has also provided facilities for further development. The point is that young people will never acquire leadership skills unless they are given opportunities to acquire and sharpen those skills.

Although there are existing community centers, there are plans within the public Sector to establish a pilot Youth Development Center that is to be managed by young people themselves. With the support of a Consultant and Youth Officers, young people will be given opportunities to acquire practical experience in organizing and managing activities ranging from sporting events, small businesses, and community projects to overseas trips. The object of the exercise is to foster a sense of responsibility among youth and to encourage volunteerism while acquiring leadership training.

Youth organisations and young people in general have constantly expressed the need to have a place that they can consider to be a 'safe haven' where they can engage themselves in meaningful activities and can interact with each other.

Although there exists Community Centres throughout the country, they are not readily accessible to youth at all times; that is, they are not "youth friendly". This is a registered concern made by youth at various informational forums. There is a need for to develop "drop-in centers for youth" in the different zones. Such centers should be responsible for providing active programmes that would instill training and discipline through sports, literary arts and community development as well as being a cradle for young men and women. Young people must have access to these facilities and they must be properly equipped to meet the demands of young people and should be properly managed.

Youth self-help can be used to facilitate this project, perhaps coordinated by the National Youth Council.

Restructuring of the Youth Departments

A Ministry of Youth Empowerment should be established in Nevis with an

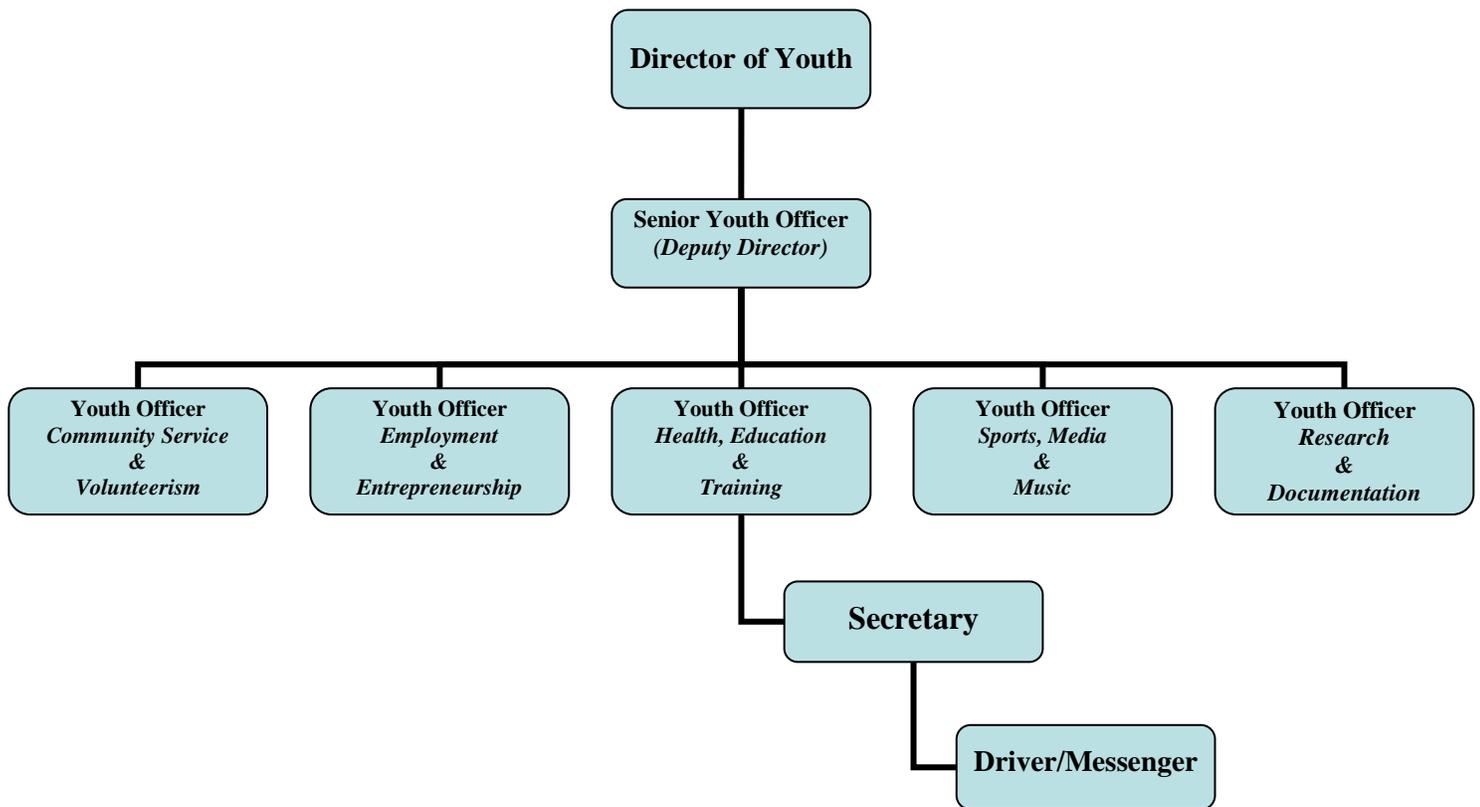
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established collaborative operational framework with St. Kitts.

The Ministries should be effectively structured with sufficient Youth Development Workers to administer effective programmes to achieve stated objectives outlined in this Policy, as well as, to allow for proper monitoring and evaluation. The budget for youth work, as included in the annual Budget Estimates, should reflect the importance that Government attaches to youth development. Notwithstanding the Youth Ministries should be able to procure additional resources necessary for programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The following diagram outlines the proposed structure of Youth Ministries in both St. Kitts and Nevis.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



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Each island will be zoned and designated Youth Officers will have field work responsibilities and will be assigned to specific zones.

NB Young people were asked to make recommendations general recommendations for achieving the key strategic goals. These recommendations are listed in Appendix 1 and form an integral part of this document.*

CONCLUSION

The FYP is a document that is a vehicle of change in the process of youth development. It is the responsibility of the society as a whole to implement it once approved by youth, public and private stakeholders and Cabinet.

The objectives outlined must be seriously considered through a Plan of Action that monitors the progress of the implementation process. The document (FYP) should be reviewed and evaluated once cabinet has approved it, every three years to ensure that it remains current in addressing the needs of youth.

It is therefore necessary for:

- Government to continue to invest in its youth
- young people to be motivated to participate, advocate and excel in areas important to their personal development
- For an inter-sectoral approach to youth development to be sustainable in an effort to effectively develop our youth

The Federal Youth Policy should serve as a guide to NGO's, Voluntary organisations, youth, religious sectors, and Government entities as it clearly registers the needs of our young people, outlining strategies for a smooth transition to adulthood and to the existence of a harmonious society. The policy should continue to pose demands upon the Government of St Kitts-Nevis to ensure that youth achieve greater opportunities and are listened to.

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Masterplan on Drug Abuse Prevention 2001; National Drug Council

APPENDIX 1

Recommendations made by youth to accomplish the Key Strategy Areas

EDUCATION

- A greater level of comfort and cleanliness in schools
- More trained Teachers
- Time allotted in the school program for students to voice their concerns on domestic, social and economic issues
- More Youth Officers at the Youth Department to cater to the needs of Youth(example to help students to understand issues mentioned)
- There need to be more scholarships for young people to regional and International Colleges and Universities
- More educational opportunities to be afforded to persons interested in Teaching
- Caribbean History, African History and Indian History should be taught in schools so that youth can learn more about their historical background and culture
- Choices for CXC subjects should be offered to students upon attending Secondary School
- Students should have a clear understanding of subjects they intend to chose so that they can think of future careers and the job market
- An award should be given for Physical Education or to have this as a mainstream subject, recognizing its importance at Universities
- Music should be incorporated into the educational system
- Greater Student/Teacher confidentiality; Teachers should be held responsible for breaching confidentiality as it relates to gossiping
- Focus on using PTA Meetings as Parent Development workshops, informational and educational development forums
- Encourage family discussions through HFLE
- Encourage the establishment of Student Councils in Secondary schools and eventually the Upper grades in the Primary Schools.

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Extra-curricular

- Alternative forms of education should be provided for teen mothers and fathers within the educational system and for deviant boys and girls
- Family Life should be available to all age groups in the schools
- School to School student exchanges should be developed
- Improved educational facilities (Libraries, Auditoriums etc)
- Greater enforcement of Probation laws
- Community scrapbooks should be implemented to encourage youths in community work

RECREATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Greater youth group cohesion in communities
- More youth Church gatherings and radio shows
- Greater focus on Global Youth Service Day
- More youth integrated into Federal Youth Parliament
- Establishment of a Cultural Centre for the Arts
- Development of Centers to train in various areas
- Welfare scheme for youth dealing with teenage parents/HIV victims, delinquencies
- National Awards for youth advancement
- More parent focused self development programmes
- Create opportunities for youth to manage Community Centers
- Greater communication/ collaboration across the channel between youth department and Youth Groups

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

- Family workshops should be created
- Anger management workshops
- An established Big Brother/ Big Sister programme
- Street Counseling to teach about sex, family life etc.
- Greater teacher/ parent communication in response to health and sexuality
- Organised community activity through community councils
- Enforcing laws on statutory rape
- Equal focus on all other STD's as on HIV

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- National Peer on Peer education health groups
- Sexual Education in Primary Schools
- Review legislation on the age of consent for alcohol and Tobacco making identification mandatory
- Put measures of accountability in place for parents to be penalized for the misuse of drugs and other destructive substances in front of children
- Regional youth forums on Healthy lifestyles and gender differences
- Introduce rallies against drugs, crime and sexuality/promiscuity

CULTURE/HERITAGE

- Greater focus on our local and Caribbean culture
- More culture based TV/radio programs
- More cultural art programs in schools
- Introduction to string band in schools
- Cultural Centre needed
- More youth related Festivals
- Greater focus on Heritage Studies in School Curriculums
- Rewards for young people in cultural development and greater emphasis for the financial respect for talent

IMMIGRATION/SECESSION

- Better enforcement needed in upholding immigration laws
- Basic privileges are apparently withheld and should be given
- Thorough background checks should be done on individual for their integration into the workforce
- Strong opposition to secession based on concerns for the future economic well-being of the Federation
- Concern on the implication of youth integrated programmes and program planning
- Continuous public relation sessions on Secession and how this alternative agreement will work

THE WORKPLACE AND EMPLOYMENT

- Provide training for youth to compete in the job market

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- Develop programmes that deal with training based on employment sector needs
- Ensure that employers follow ILO and Labour conventions
- Effective internship and orientation programmes
- Greater emphasis on workers understanding their rights and those of the employer
- Develop programs on HIV/AIDS in the workplace
- Legislate that all employment vacancies are registered with the Department of Labour's Employment Center
- Lobby statutory bodies, private and voluntary organisations for youth to be represented on their Management Committees
- Public discussion of the Agricultural diversification plan, Tourism development and the acquisition of Lands and Housing by youth

IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS FOR THE FYP

- Through the National Youth Ambassadors Network
- Town Hall Meetings
- Radio Programmes
- Peer on Peer Education
- Open forums and Conferences
- Youth Website on the Policy, youth programmes, opportunities etc
- Media coverage
- House to house campaigns
- Monthly school visits
- On the Block outreach programmes
- Youth rally/Information Fair/Public Meetings
- School exchanges
- Student Councils as Information Ambassadors
- Network in the Public sector and with stakeholders
- Greater Church involvement

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- Extension of the DARE programme
- Youth representation on School Boards and national bodies
- Youth Parliament

APPENDIX II

Stakeholders consulted

Non-Government Organisations (NGO'S) and Youth Groups

Sports

- Youth Tennis/Golf League
- Youth Cricket League
- Youth Football league
- Youth Netball League
- Youth Volleyball League
- Youth Basketball League
- Cricket Association
- Football Association
- Volleyball Association
- Basketball Association
- Golf Association
- Tennis Association
- Special Olympics
- Olympics Committee
- Domino/Draft Association

Service

- Lions Club St. Kitts
- Leos Club St. Kitts
- Rotary Club
- Rotaract
- Challengers Community Involvement Group
- Haynes Smith Youth Club
- Sugar City Youth Volunteers
- Young Adult Voices
- St. Kitts Jaycees

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- We'll Help Ministries
- Youth Advocacy Movement
- Private Sector Social Clubs
- St. Kitts National Youth Parliament Association
- The Teachers Union
- Young Pamites
- Young Labour
- Young CCM
- Young NRP
- Kiwanies Club
- Optimist Club

Uniformed Bodies

- Scouts/Cubs Association
- Girls Guide & Brownies
- Girls Brigade Association
- Boys Brigade Association
- Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders
- Red Cross Society
- Salvation Army
- St. Kitts-Nevis Defence Force (Cadet Core)
- Police Association
- Nurses Association

Religious Groups

- Seventh Day Adventist Youth Arms
- Anglican Young Peoples Association
- Christian Council
- Evangelical Association
- Methodist Youth Fellowships
- Moravian Youth Fellowship
- Ethiopian Youth Fellowships

Other

- National Drug Council
- Outreach Centre
- National Disabled Society

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- National Association of Parents of Youth with Disabilities
- National Youth Council of St. Kitts
- National Youth Council of Nevis
- Business & Professional Women's Club
- Chamber of Commerce