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**Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) / Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) Study Tour
on South-South Exchange on Best Practices and Institutional Framework for Poverty Reduction
– Peru and Chile –**

A BACKGROUND

The Government of Jamaica approved the establishment of the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) within the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) in February 2012, but it was only formally established in December 2013. The PRCU represents the Government of Jamaica's coordination mechanism for poverty reduction through the structured implementation of a Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme in keeping up with the country's growth strategy.

Priority Actions

The PRCU will use the *Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan*, the *Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (2012-2015)*, the *Vision 2030 Jamaica Poverty Reduction Strategic Plan (2009)*, the *Social Protection Strategy (2013)*, the *Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions* (various years), and other secondary data sources inter alia to:

1. Prepare a *Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme* inclusive of a medium term framework to replace the *1997 National Poverty Eradication Policy and Programme*;
2. Establish and implement an appropriate institutional monitoring mechanism for the Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme; and
3. Provide technical advice to ensure coherence between social, economic and sustainable development policy directions and the Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme.

The PRCU is currently preparing a *Conceptual Framework for Poverty Reduction* which will reflect a gap analysis of the current poverty-related initiatives across Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). The Conceptual Framework will recommend priority areas and an inter-ministerial and inter-sectorial poverty reduction coordination framework for the Policy and Programme targeting at completion in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

B OBJECTIVES

The PIOJ expressed the need to set up the machinery of an effective institutional framework in order to manage the national coordination of a poverty reduction policy and multiple poverty reduction programmes across MDAs. Jamaica has experimented with an institutional framework which spanned national, parish (regional) and ministry level committees, from which critical lessons were learnt. At this



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At this juncture, the PIOJ seeks to examine existing frameworks for poverty reduction in Southern contexts with generally similar socio-economic and political characteristics.

Key Areas

Specifically, the PIOJ seeks to understand best practices to include but not limited to the following key areas:

1. What are the strategies of successful and unsuccessful institutional frameworks at central and local levels?
2. What authority structure governs institutional frameworks? What are the reporting mechanisms?
3. What are the contributory factors for sustainable:
 - a. Poverty reduction programming?
 - b. Poverty reduction coordination through the institutional frameworks?
4. How are institutional frameworks resourced (financial, human etc.)?
5. Who are the key stakeholders in the poverty reduction process? What participatory mechanisms, if any, sustain the involvement of stakeholders?
 - a. What, if any, is the role of public-private partnerships in programming and/or resource mobilization?
 - b. What, if any, is the role of public-civil society partnerships in programming and/or resource mobilization?
6. What are the components of poverty reduction programmes that have led to sustainable outcomes?
7. What systems are in place to monitor and evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness and economy of:
 - a. Poverty reduction policy(ies) and programme(s)?
 - b. Poverty reduction coordination through the institutional frameworks?



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C ROLE OF IPC-IG

The International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) is a partnership between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Brazil. IPC-IG facilitates South-South learning with the aim of expanding developing countries' knowledge and capacities to design, implement and evaluate effective policies towards the attainment of high inclusive growth. Social Protection is considered by IPC-IG and UNDP as a key area for South-South and Triangular Cooperation. IPC-IG through its diverse communication channels offers dissemination and support to knowledge-sharing on the current practices as well as forward-looking policy innovations taking place in the field of social protection in low and middle income countries through policy dialogue and support to comparative research.

IPC-IG is organized into two main research teams (Social Protection and Population Studies) and an operation and a communication & knowledge management team. IPC's communication and knowledge management team plays a vital role not only in disseminating its knowledge but also in facilitating study tours and undertaking outreach to media and to research centers as well as other partners in developing countries. Its' Social Protection and Employment team has undertaken extensive comparative analysis and supported policy dialogue on strategies and programmes to tackle poverty and inequality, promote employment and livelihoods and deliver social protection programmes effectively.

IPC-IG participates at the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B) which was established upon request of the G20 in July 2012 with the primary objective of improving coordination among international agencies active in the area of social protection. IPC-IG contributes to a multi-dimensional policy agenda, building on its renowned global outreach and advocacy portfolio. IPC-IG is developing the Social Protection Gateway, a neutral, stakeholder-oriented online platform aimed at facilitating South-South learning on social protection policies, particularly across middle and low income countries. Its aim is to collect and provide knowledge materials focused on regional or local experiences in order to foster south-south dialogue and learning on social protection.

IPC-IG's knowledge base on social protection coupled with its strong communications team has allowed it to support several study tours and workshops in terms of content and logistics, facilitating the exchange of experiences among countries worldwide with medium to long term impact on the policy process. Moreover, supporting such exchanges has been also an important source of information for own IPC-IG research. Thus far, most of the study tours supported by IPC-IG have involved Latin American, African and Asian low-income countries and/or the IBSA and BRICS countries. The study-tour will offer an ideal opportunity for IPC-IG not only to facilitate the learning for the PIOJ team but also to deepen its own engagement in comparative studies among Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The Study Tour of the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit to two South American countries (Peru and Chile) is expected to take place from 05th to 16th of October 2014. IPC-IG has been identified by UNDP Jamaica and PIOJ as the ideal partner to facilitate this mission given the possibility to provide technical



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assistance to support PIOJ within the priority actions of the *Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan* during the different phases of the mission (pre-departure, on tour, follow up) . The realization of the Study Tour involves the development of the agenda, technical backing of the group during visit and policy advisory regarding the key learning opportunities in form of a comparative evaluation among different programmes.

D STUDY TOUR PHASES

IPC-IG Study Tours include three phases as follows:

❖ PRE – DEPARTURE ACTIVITIES

- a) Briefing papers will be prepared for participants providing them with an overview on each country, how it reflects the objectives and key issues to be explored, and description of specific activities during the study tour and their significance. This includes background papers and information on the relevant policies, programmes and experiences that the participants will study.
- b) Expectations questionnaire: a grid of individual learning objectives to be completed by each participant stating what the participant would like to learn from the study tour and specific learning questions. This will be used both to evaluate each participant's learning and to assist in tailoring the study tour to learning needs of the represented institution.
- c) Orientation meeting: it will include a review of the study tour objectives, expected results, itinerary, country information, logistics and any other relevant issue. This meeting will be led by UNDP Country Office Jamaica.

❖ ON TOUR

- a) In-country meeting upon arrival to review in greater detail: schedule, itinerary and focus areas. This meeting will be led by IPC-IG.
- b) Meetings with national players in the area of Social Protection.
- c) Field visits to learn from design and implementation of national and sub-national social protection programmes.
- d) Daily debriefing and review by all participants led by the Study Tour Leader (to be nominated by PIOJ before departure).
- e) De-briefing and Technical Wrap-ups.



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❖ **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:**

- a) Upon return to Jamaica, a Study Tour Report will be prepared by its participants aiming at assessing the degree to which learning objectives were achieved, the lessons learned and how these lessons may be applied in the current PIOJ work.
- b) A Post-Study de-briefing in Jamaica will take place for sharing mission's experience, findings and recommendations with relevant staff, organisations and agencies (to be held by UNDP Jamaica).
- c) Online Training - Long distance support through electronic and online services (Follow-up video-conferences can be scheduled upon request).

E DUTIES AND DELIVERABLES

1) *Project Management:*

IPC-IG will guarantee the required quality of the technical part of the Study Tour being responsible for

- a) Consolidating a broad and profound agenda for the Study Tour in Peru and Chile. This will include the identification of relevant players in both countries within Governments, Research Centers, Regional Bodies among others. In coordination with PIOJ representative the ideal agenda including appropriate meetings as well as field trips will be defined. Based on this definition, IPC-IG will liaise with UNDP COs in Peru and Chile to support the establishment of the final agenda for the mission in both countries that addresses the objectives outlined above;
- b) Technical backing of the study tour during the entire visit in order to guarantee the best outcome in terms of knowledge sharing and lessons learnt within the South-South Exchange. The content-related preparatory work on analyzing the identified key areas by PIOJ, the on-site support as well as the follow-up and de-briefing in terms of comparative evaluation of visited programmes will be done by the same Researcher, guaranteeing the consistency of the process.

2) *Policy Advisory:*

IPC-IG will fulfill its advisory function in order to support the study group to reach its objectives by

- a) Offering substantive advice and providing practical backstopping for the mission as regards understanding the nature of the programme interventions in each of the 3 countries (Jamaica, Peru and Chile). A package of briefing materials with practical and orientation information, expectations and evaluations questionnaires will also be delivered.
- b) Publishing a Policy Brief, in co-authorship with the PIOJ team, listing and analyzing in comparative perspective some of the most relevant Social Policies and Programmes of Jamaica, Peru and Chile, with



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the purpose of highlighting policy lessons and best practices with regard to Social Protection and Policy Reduction. The report will identify the main challenges with respect to each of the 7 identified Key Areas for South-South Exchange and how they refer to some traditional stages in the production chain of Social Programmes such as: planning, funding, targeting, delivering, monitoring & evaluating, updating, etc.

c) Supporting the redaction and compilation of the final report of the Study Tour, if so demanded by PIOJ.

3) *Knowledge Management:*

IPC-IG through its diverse communication channels as well as the Social Protection Gateway will assume the responsibility of

- a) Facilitating and moderating an online discussion forum on Best Practices and Institutional Frameworks for Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme. All visited institutions will be invited to participate in the forum in order to share demands and experiences already up-front the Study Tour as well as maintain the exchange afterwards. IPC will produce a summary of the outcomes of this discussion. Furthermore it is possible to broaden the audience and invite other stakeholders to the discussion.
- b) Publishing of conclusions and recommendations of the analysis of the involved programmes after approval by PIOJ in order to share resources and tools on Poverty Reduction Policy and Programme as well as connect with experts, practitioners, researchers in other countries and regions.
- c) Offering learning opportunities within the Social Protection Gateway, with the possibility of participating at online training activities with IPC-IG researchers.

F OPERATIONAL MODALITIES

UNDP Jamaica will sign a Letter of Agreement with IPC-IG to facilitate the organization to cover the costs of the Study Tour and the technical support to the South-South Exchange.

G PARTICIPANTS

The Study Tour will accommodate a total of 5 participants appointed by PIOJ. A study tour leader should be selected among these participants and will be in charge of compiling the reports and getting comments from the study tour participants. Additionally there will be 1 Researcher from IPC-IG, who will accompany the mission.



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H BUDGET

#	All US dollar values - using UN rate for September (R\$ 2.249: U\$1)	Quan.	Period (month)	Unit price - USD	UNDP Jamaica	Counterpart IPC-IG
	Organization					
1	Project Manager	1	1	4,000.00		4,000.00
2	Administrative Assistance	1	0.5	2,000.00	1,000.00	
3	Social Protection Specialist	1	3	4,000.00	12,000.00	
4	Knowledge Management	1	1	4,000.00		4,000.00
5	Web Assistant	1	0.5	3,000.00		1,500.00
6	Publications	1		3,000.00		3,000.00
7	ISS (Payment Process, PMS,TA, Hotel Reservation)	1		329.49	329.49	
	Total Organization				13,329.49	12,500.00
	Travel and Logistics					
9	DSA Peru	1	7	227.00	1,589.00	
	Total Peru				1,589.00	
12	DSA Chile	1	6	269.00	1,614.00	
	Total Chile				1,614.00	
	Air tickets (The actual prices may vary on date of issue)					
15	Roundtrip Brasilia - Santiago - Lima - Brasilia	1		1,010.00	1,010.00	
16	+ Terminals (2*38)	1		76.00	76.00	
	Total Air Tickets				1,086.00	
	Miscellaneous				428.90	
	Sub TOTAL Travel				4,289.00	
	TOTAL USD				18,704.49	12,500.00