

Regional Human Development Report for
Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016

Inception Report

Saint Lucia

Qualitative Research Agenda

MULTIDIMENSIONAL PROGRESS IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

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1. Introduction

Small Island Developing States face a myriad of socio economic challenges which exert near insurmountable pressures on their small open economies and threaten their very survival within the context of globalized world economy. Saint Lucia and the other countries of the English speaking Caribbean are particularly vulnerable in this regard.

The poor state of the economies of the region militate against economic growth and consequently, poverty, inequality, unemployment and the absence of meaningful progress ensure a continuing state of intergenerational poverty.

This report defines the framework for preparing the Saint Lucia component of a broader study that examines perceptions of how progress is defined by person living in the Latin America and Caribbean region using a qualitative research methodology. The study seeks to promote a greater understanding of the concept of multidimensional progress and bringing into sharper focus the challenges faced by the state, and more specifically, vulnerable groups, despite multiple interventions are in danger of reverting to living in indigence and poverty.

The research findings will help to develop a set of indicators on multidimensional progress, going beyond current monetary definitions of poverty, vulnerability and the middle class.

Findings of the study will ultimately contribute to The Regional Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean 2016.

This project is designed to determine the perceptions of a cross section of the local populace, particularly those who were targets of poverty reduction interventions and are at risk of becoming poor once again or have actually reverted to living in conditions of poverty.

2. Focus of the study

- Understanding multidimensional progress; the push and pull factors that define poverty
- Identifying how different groups are affected
- Eliciting the perspectives of a cross section of the society on multidimensional progress

3. Objectives

- To define the idea of progress (its definition and synonyms) from people's perspective. Concept test: explore the acceptability and domestic use of the term progress.

- To document life stories about dreams and achievements in pursuit of progress. The narrative must respond to the experience in poverty, vulnerability, people who have suffered a shock (environmental, economical, etc.).
- To identify, from the experience of people in general and in particular for men and women, youth, adults and seniors, which are the drivers to a transition out-of-poverty and back-to-poverty.
- To identify what are the dimensions that refer to perceptions, feelings of dignity, welfare and quality of life.

4. Approach & Methodology

Ten Focus group discussions will be conducted throughout the island during the period October 26 through to November 9, 2015. The districts selected are generally representative of the general populace which would include districts whose main economic activities are characterized by high touristic activity, banana production, fishing, subsistence farming and industrial zones. Two additional Focus Group Discussions will comprise women and youth respectively, to bring to bear the unique perspective of women and young people to the fore.

Community Development Officers from the Ministry of Social Transformation will help select and mobilize the participants based on their intimate knowledge of the communities.

Each Focus Group Discussion will comprise 10 participants drawn from various backgrounds and as detailed in the section below.. The meetings will be recorded by a voice recorder and still photographs will be taken of the group while in session. Comments will be captured by a rapporteur on flipchart.

Subsequent to the discussion, a key informant interview will be conducted with a selected participant, to bring in to sharper focus any issues in need of clarification or in need of further elaboration. The questionnaire will be slightly modified to be administered to the key informants. The interview will be videotaped. Each Focus Group Discussion will be approximately ninety minutes long. The discussions will be led by a moderator/facilitator; (the Local Consultant.)

5. Profile of participants:

Participants will be drawn from the communities identified and will be carefully selected to broadly reflect the general character of the community They will comprise:

- Youth-urban & rural
- Adults 30-65 - urban & rural

- Adults 65+ urban & rural
- Inner city dwellers
- Unemployed persons
- Sufferers: chronic diseases.
- Gang members
- Farmers
- Hotel workers
- Victims of natural disasters
- Persons living in poverty

6. Schedule for Focus Group Discussions

Location/activity	Date	Main economic activity
FGD Field visit. Meetings with community mobilization team.	Friday, October 23	
1. Castries	Monday, October 26	commerce
2. Vieux Fort	Tuesday, October 27	industry
3. Soufriere	Wednesday, October 28	Eco-tourism
4. Anse La Raye	Thursday, October 29	fishing
5. Micoud	Monday, November 2	Agriculture/subsistence farming
6. Choiseul	Tuesday, November 3	Agriculture- Non-banana producing
7. Women's group	Wednesday, November 4	
8. Gros Islet	Thursday, November 5	Main tourist hub
9. Youth	Monday, November 9,	Participation of National Youth Council

Submission of reports, notes, photos, audio and video recordings.	Wednesday, November 11	
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7. Appendix 1

Interview Guide

PART I : DEFINING PROGRESS, poverty AND ITS ASSOCIATED DIMENSIONS

- How would you describe the overall social situation in the country?
- How would you describe the overall social situation in the country?
- How would you describe the overall economic situation in the country?
- How would you describe the current social situation in your community?
- How would you describe the current economic situation in your community?
- What can you tell me about your family situation?
- How would you describe your personal/individual situation?
- Do you think you live under peaceful conditions where you can assure your family's wellbeing?
- At a personal /individual level, do you live under sufficiently peaceful conditions?
- When I mention the word “progress”, what comes to your mind?
- How would you define it?
- What does it mean “to progress”?
- Do you consider yourself as living in poverty? Yes/no, why?
- Do you consider yourself as having progressed throughout your life?
- Could you give me one or two examples of your progress?
- What other non-material things/belongings, do you think are important and indicate that you are better or improving?

PART II a: Hierarchy of Dimensions

Part II b. Social Protection

What basic services should be guaranteed to everyone living in the community?

What basic services should be guaranteed by the state to everyone living in country?

(Participants will make the initial suggestions , followed by questions about the list below)

- Basic Education
- Quality Health care
- Adequate nutrition for children
- Legal representation
- Adult education
- Support for persons with disabilities
- Basic housing

Part III. Coping Strategies and Support

- What do you think is needed to overcome poverty?
- What is needed nowadays to ensure progress?

The idea is for people to mention which are the strategies they could use. If, for example, they mention migration, go deeper on the issue. If they mention family issues, go deeper. If it is more work, better access to services, children care, credit access, land, assets, housing, etc., go deeper on the different issues.

- What entities help to support your progress? Your family? Your community? Neighbors? Friends? Church? Government?
- Who should help you?
- What support do you expect from Government /others?
- What support do you not expect from Government /others?
- *(If people do not mention anything (i.e. government), inquire on participants, why/what do they expect, or not expecting.)*

Part IV: Future perspectives

- Is there a project or dream you would like to develop or see developed in your community or country?
- Do you think it is possible to make it happen? If yes/no, why?
- Do you think a future out of poverty/shortages is possible? What would you/your community / your country, need to make it happen?
- Do you think your children will have a better future than yours?
- People's perspective of progress means many things, all related to their welfare. One contribution of this report is to draft a set of indicators on multidimensional progress, going beyond current monetary definitions of poverty, vulnerability and middle class.

Revised profile of Focus Groups:

- 1. The elderly:**
 - Rural
 - male/female
- 2. The elderly:**
 - Urban
 - male/female
- 3. Youth gang:**
 - sub-urban or where possible
- 4. Youth:**
 - urban:
 - below 30
 - male/ female —
 - unemployed/underemployed
- 5. Youth:**
 - rural
 - below 30
 - male/ female
 - unemployed/underemployed
- 6. Displaced banana farmers**
 - male/female
- 7. LGBTI: mixed group**
- 8. Adults:**
 - Poor community
 - 30 plus
 - Rural
- 9. Adults:**
 - Middle income community
 - 30 plus
 - Urban
- 10. Women: urban/rural**