

GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

Colour Key:

new policies

policies that have changed stage since the last update

| No | Ministry | Name of Policy | Purpose | Stage | Comments |
|----|--|---|--|-------|--|
| 1. | Cabinet Office | The Ministry has no matters for inclusion in the Programme currently. | | | |
| 2. | Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport | National Culture Policy of Jamaica | To establish a robust and relevant framework which can guide the Government of Jamaica as it seeks to safeguard, develop and promote our Jamaica's culture and cultural and creative industries. | 2 | |
| 3. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Climate Change Policy Framework | To guide Jamaica's approach to addressing climate change. | 1 | Via Decision No. 24/19 dated 22 July 2019, Cabinet approved the process for updating the Climate Change Policy Framework for Jamaica |
| 4. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Squatter Management Policy and Implementation Plan | To develop a national framework to regulate and manage squatting in Jamaica | 1 | |
| 5. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Beach Access and Management Policy | To ensure access rights are preserved as well as the effective management of the island's beaches, particularly public beaches. | 2 | |
| 6. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Cays Management Policy for Jamaica | To support the sustainable management of Jamaica's cays | 2 | |
| 7. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Emissions Policy Framework for Jamaica | To address the management of emissions from the following sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial processes including power generation; • Land, air and sea transportation; • Waste disposal and treatment; • Land-use and biomass burning; • Agricultural by-products; and • Residential and commercial sources. | 2 | |

Key

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| 8. | 6. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Land Policy | To establish a framework for the efficient planning, management, development and use of land to generate and sustain economic growth, while considering issues of sustainability and environmental preservation. | 2 | |
| 9. | 7. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Policy on Biosafety | To regulate Living Modified Organisms within Jamaica. | 2 | |
| 10. | 8. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Overarching Policy for Jamaica's Protected Areas System | <p>To guide and provide an enabling environment for the development and maintenance of a comprehensive, effective and representative system of protected areas.</p> <p>The Policy will be designed to address the institutional arrangements, the recommended legislative provisions, the establishment of the system, the role of stakeholders and the scope of the system. This overarching policy, together with the proposed overarching legislation and the Protected Areas System Master Plan (PASMP) will facilitate an integrated approach to planning for and managing the protected areas system which is a critical component of Jamaica's national development strategy.</p> | 2 | |
| 11. | 9. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Revision of the 2008 Housing Public Private Partnership (HPPP) Policy | The Housing Agency of Jamaica Limited (HAJL) has been utilizing an approach as it relates to unsolicited proposals from prospective Developers to enter into Housing Public Private Partnership (HPPP) Agreements to pursue a number of housing developments. The current HPPP (2008) does not adequately address this new model and as such, Cabinet by way of Decision | 2 | |

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| | | | No. 36/13 instructed that the Policy should be reviewed to incorporate this model. | | | |
| 12. | 10. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Sustainable Management of Public Sector Residential Real Estate | To establish a framework to guide the divestment of government owned houses in an efficient and transparent manner. Formerly Policy for Divestment of Government-Owned Houses. | 2 | |
| 13. | 11. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | Wildlife Trade Policy for Jamaica | To regulate the wildlife trade in Jamaica | 2 | |
| 14. | 12. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Housing Policy and Implementation Plan | To give strategic direction to Jamaica's housing sector, to provide the enabling framework within which the Government can realize its goal of access to affordable, safe and legal housing solutions for all Jamaicans by 2030. | 3 | The Policy was tabled as Green Paper No. 2 on 23 July 2019. |
| 15. | 13. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Policy for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes | To ensure the management of hazardous wastes in Jamaica | 3 | The National Policy for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes was tabled as a Green Paper in the Parliament on 25 September 2018. Four (4) public consultations on the Green Paper were held between August and September 2019 in the parishes of St. James, St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine and Kingston. |
| 16. | 14. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Policy on Environmental Management Systems (EMS) | To support the implementation of EMS within the public and private sectors. | 5 | The National Policy on Environmental Management Systems was approved by Cabinet as a White Paper in May 2019. Policy was tabled as White Paper No. 4/19 and Ministry Paper No. 61/19 on 10 September 2019. |
| 17. | 15. | Economic Growth and Job Creation | National Water Sector Policy and Implementation Plan 2004 (Review) | To provide universal access to potable water to all Jamaicans by 2030 | 5 | The Policy and Implementation Plan was tabled as a White Paper on 2 July 2019 (Ministry Paper No. 35/19). |

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| 18. 1. | Education, Youth and Information | National Policy on Pathways in Education | The objectives of the policy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide diverse learning opportunities to meet the differentiated needs of learners; • Improve educational outcomes for all students; and • Facilitate the development of skills, knowledge, values and attitudes necessary for all students to achieve their potential. | 2 | |
| 19. 2. | Education, Youth and Information | National School Nutrition Policy (formerly the National School Feeding Policy) | To promote healthy eating and physically active lifestyles in schools to improve the nutritional status of children and support their long-term physical and psycho-social development. | 2 | |
| 20. 3. | Education, Youth and Information | Safe Schools Policy | To provide schools with policy guidelines directed at securing children at school and addressing issues of security in schools. | 3 | |
| 21. 1. | Finance and the Public Service | National Natural Disaster Risk Financing | To reduce the fiscal impact of natural disasters through the adoption of risk layering strategies combining risk retention and transfer instruments | 2 | |
| 22. 2. | Finance and the Public Service | National Population Policy and Plan of Action (Revision) | The Policy is a deliberate attempt to influence population parameters – fertility, mortality and migration – to meet the sustainable development imperatives of the country. | 2 | |
| 23. 1. | Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade | National Consular Policy | To create a comprehensive framework to address the complexity of consular needs and improve the quality, efficiency and reach of consular services provided to Jamaican nationals abroad and at home. | 2 | |

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| 24. | 1. | Health and Wellness | National Policy for the Reduction of the Harmful Use of Alcohol | To reduce the avoidable premature mortality, disability and socioeconomic impact associated with harmful use of alcohol to individuals, families and communities across Jamaica. | 2 | |
| 25. | 2. | Health and Wellness | HIV Policy (revision) | To address the broad and evolving range of challenges and opportunities associated with the HIV epidemic. | 2 | |
| 26. | 3. | Health and Wellness | National Health Insurance Plan for Jamaica | To provide appropriate levels of access, coverage and financial protection to the population. | 3 | |
| 27. | 4. | Health and Wellness | National Infant and Young Child Feeding | To create a sustainable environment that will contribute to reduction in child morbidity and mortality and improvement in child health and nutrition. | 4 | |
| 28. | 1. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Services Policy and Implementation Plan | The key objectives of the policy are: i) To improve the enabling environment for the services sector ii) To achieve diversification within the services sector iii) To address regulatory gaps within the services sector iv) To improve people skills within the services sector v) To strengthen the national data management system for the services sector | 1 | Via Decision No. 6/19 dated 11 March 2019, Cabinet approved the development of the National Services Policy and Implementation Plan. |
| 29. | 2. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan | To maximize consumer welfare through empowerment and protection delivered by a coordinated national consumer affairs strategy, and strengthen consumer affairs at the member state level, in readiness for alignment to the Regional Consumer Strategy. | 1 | |

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| 30. | 3. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Investment Policy | To provide the framework to align the efforts of all the entities involved in the attraction and facilitation of investments from both local and international sources, as well as facilitate a coherent approach to investment and improve the ease of doing business. | 2 | |
| 31. | 4. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | Animal Health and Welfare Policy | This policy has been spearheaded to harmonize and strengthen the regulatory, legislative and institutional framework governing the animal health and welfare system, in keeping with the standards established by the World Organization for Animal Health and the Codex Alimentarius Commission. | 2 | |
| 32. | 5. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Organic Agriculture Policy | The Policy will seek to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities in the global organic movement. The objectives of the Policy are to provide a framework for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased production and trade of organic products primarily by development of niche markets; • Create an enabling environment for the development of the organic sector • Reduce environmental degradation and support enhancement of ecological services • Promote consumption of locally produced organic food/products; • Contribute to social equity, food security and improved health of the nation; and • Increase stakeholders' awareness about the importance and benefits of organic production. | 2 | |

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| 33. 6. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | Youth in Agriculture Policy (YIAP) | The policy is intended to provide the framework for guiding all the Agencies and Institutions contributing to the development of the agricultural sector using youth population as the vehicle. Importantly, it should minimize duplication and splintering of resources and programmes especially among Government agencies and establish a framework for focused coordination. The Policy will also provide the enabling environment for the realisation of the sector's 2030 goals and establish clear pathway for transition and sustainability. | 2 | |
| 34. 7. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | Agricultural Land Use Policy | This policy has been developed in response to the national imperative to guide proper administration and management of land for sustainable use that will foster agricultural growth, encourage opportunities for investment and income generation, satisfy the demand for lands for agricultural production, regenerate livelihoods for farming communities, and promote overall economic development of the country. | 3 | |
| 35. 8. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Craft Policy | The National Craft Policy is aimed at developing the institutional structure of the craft sector for its continued growth and development; strengthening linkages between craft and the tourism sector; and creating a suitable framework for addressing the needs of craft producers, traders and artisans. | 5 | Via Decision No. 26/19 dated 26 August 2019, Cabinet approved the tabling in Parliament of the National Craft Policy, as a White Paper. The Policy was tabled in Parliament on 26 November 2019. |
| 36. 9. | Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries | National Seed Policy and Plan | The policy focuses on the development of a seed system that ensures the availability of high-quality seed which is accessible to end users. The policy addresses research, plant breeding and evaluation, seed multiplication, processing and storage, quality control, marketing, promotion and protection of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The policy makes provision for | 5 | The National Seed Policy and Plan of Action was tabled in the Parliament on 23 July 2019 (White Paper No. 1/19). |

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| | | | <p>the implementation of an appropriate institutional framework, building of technical and institutional capacity, promulgation of seed legislation, financing strategy and a communication programme.</p> <p>The goal of the policy is to establish a sustainable seed system that ensures a consistent and reliable supply of clean, affordable and accessible seed in support of agricultural production, productivity, food security and biodiversity.</p> | | | |
| | Justice | The Ministry has no matters for inclusion in the Programme currently. | | | | |
| 37. | 1. | Labour and Social Security | National Policy for Senior Citizens | To re-examine the current Policy given the faster changes in the population, the main international and regional agreements and the emerging position in the research and study on ageing. To align the Policy with Social Protection Strategy and the Vision 2030 National Development Plan | 3 | |
| | | Local Government and Community Development | The Ministry did not provide a response. | | | |
| 38. | 1. | National Security | National Visa Policy | To strengthen Jamaica's border management capacity while facilitating trade and development through a revision of the legislative and regulatory framework and the development of a Visa Policy. | 2 | |

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| | Office of the Prime Minister | The Ministry is finalising a policy for inclusion in the Programme. | | | |
| 39. | 1. Science, Energy and Technology | Science, Technology and Innovation | The Policy will propel productivity, improve competitiveness of the country's industry structures to support faster growth, create jobs and improve health, education, security and governance. | 3 | Via Decision No. 16/19 dated 27 May 2019, Cabinet approved the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy as a Green Paper for tabling in Parliament. The Policy was tabled as a Green Paper on 12 November 2019. The Ministry hosted four consultation sessions in July 2019 to obtain feedback from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students on the issues to be addressed in the revised Policy. Further consultations are to be held with key stakeholder groups. |
| 40. | 1. Tourism | Destination Assurance Framework and Strategy | To create a framework for the development and implementation of tourism assurance programmes aimed at ensuring that visitor expectations are met and exceeded consistently, anchored by principles of environmental, economic and social sustainability. The Framework and Strategy will guide immediate and long term innovative, sustainable and competitive development of the tourism sector by enhancing the quality of service and attractions. | 1 | |
| 41. | 2. Tourism | Tourism Networks Policy and Strategy | To enable the tourism sector to facilitate growth in the economy through key Networks that provide a foundation for coordinated achievement and growth. The Policy and Strategy document will present a framework for expanding the activities of the Linkages programme, with the build-out of five Network areas, namely: Knowledge, Gastronomy, Health & Wellness, Shopping and Sports & Entertainment. | 5 | Via Decision No. 24/19 dated 22 July 2019, Cabinet approved the Tourism Network Policy and Strategy for tabling in the Houses of Parliament as a White Paper. The Policy was tabled as White Paper No. 5/19 on 10 September 2019 |

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| | | | | | | |
| 42. | 1. | Transport and Mining | National Transport Policy (Revision) | The Policy is being revised to guide the overall development of the transport sector and to provide the framework for the development of environmentally-sound transport infrastructure and services in support of sustainable economic and social growth | 2 | |
| 43. | 2. | Transport and Mining | National Minerals Policy | This Policy will create the framework to attract investments in the industrial and metallic mineral sectors, including prospecting for gold and copper, as well as exploitation of Jamaica's limestone potential. | 4 | |

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