

## **Accountability Workshop of the Saint Lucia National Chapter of the Caribbean Growth Forum –March 6, 2014**

The first Accountability Workshop of the Saint Lucia National Chapter of the Caribbean Growth (CGF) will take place on Thursday, March 6, 2014 at the Bay Gardens Hotel.

The Caribbean Growth Forum (CGF) is an initiative to identify policies and activities aimed at inducing growth and creating jobs in the Caribbean region through analytical work, knowledge exchange and inclusive dialogue. It is therefore facilitated by public-private dialogue around issues central to private sector development and growth. It brings a non-traditional approach to the greatest challenge currently faced by the region – creating sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Caribbean Growth Forum (CGF), is supported by Compete Caribbean, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the World Bank (WB), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in collaboration with the United Kingdom Agency for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD).

The Caribbean Growth Forum Initiative has two phases:

### **Phase 1: Identification and Formulation of Policies and Activities**

Under Phase I, the national chapter of the Caribbean Growth Forum (CGF) was launched on 22 January 2013 by the Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony, Prime Minister of Saint Lucia. Close to 200 persons were in attendance at the forum which included officials from the private and public sectors, civil society and donor agencies.

At its launch in January 2013, three thematic working groups were formed namely, Logistics and Connectivity, Investment Climate and Skills and Productivity. The groups met and deliberated for six weeks which resulted in draft Action Plans with activities to be implemented within a 12 to 24 months timeframe.

### **Phase 2: Implementation of Policy Actions and their Internal and External Monitoring**

During the second phase, countries participating in the CGF initiative will commence implementation of the activities identified by the three working groups. The role of the Caribbean Growth Forum during this phase is to facilitate the application of the identified reforms, by convening accountability workshops to discuss the progress and possibly bottlenecks of those actions. The Government of Saint Lucia will report on the progress made in the implementation of the actions identified by the CGF dialogues for the period September 1, 2013 to February 14, 2014.

Saint Lucia's Accountability Workshop will be held at the Bay Gardens Hotel on Thursday, March 6, 2014. Other countries that have reported on their progress included the Dominican Republic on 3 December 2013 and Jamaica on 20 February 2014.

The National Competitiveness and Productivity Council are the body behind coordinating all activities of the St. Lucian Chapter of the CGF.