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### ***SMEs Get Productivity Boost***

On Wednesday, January 18, 2017 The St. Lucia Employers Federation (SLEF) hosted a one-day Membership Workshop entitled “**Productivity Improvements for Small and Micro Enterprises**” at the Bay Gardens Inn. The workshop was a follow-up to one held in Grenada in 2015, for members of the Caribbean Employer’s Confederation (CEC), which identified productivity training as one of the critical needs of members.

This year’s workshop, which was a collaboration with the Caribbean Employers’ Confederation (CEC), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC), sought to equip SMEs with an understanding of the concept of productivity and strategies for improving at an organizational level.

Amongst the facilitators at the activity were Ms. Vanessa Phala, Senior Specialist on Employers' Activities attached to the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean, who provided participants with an Overview to some ILO Productivity Tools; Ms. Fiona Hinkson, Executive Director of the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC) , who presented on on "Productivity & Competitiveness Indicators, Measurement, Data Requirements & Data availability in St. Lucia" and "Measures to Improve Productivity at various Organizational Levels" and Mr. Joseph Alexander, Executive



Director of the St. Lucia Employers' Federation who addressed " Improving Productivity/Controlling absenteeism". The workshop concluded with discussion on policies and strategies to address productivity.

#### **About the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC)**

Established in October 2013, The National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC) is responsible for the identification of key issues related to competitiveness and productivity in Saint Lucia.

The NCPC and its Technical Secretariat is committed to providing the necessary advocacy and research to produce timely and effective recommendations to policymakers on issues that affect both competitiveness and productivity on island. For more information about productivity or on the NCPC, visit [www.stluciancpc.org](http://www.stluciancpc.org); [www.facebook.com/stluciancpc](https://www.facebook.com/stluciancpc), call 468-5571/5576 or send an e-mail to [stluciancpc@gmail.com](mailto:stluciancpc@gmail.com)