

# Barbados Cabinet Approves Cultural Industries Development Bill

February 13, 2013 | 10:21 pm | [Print](#)

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*Above: Bridgetown (CJ Photo)*

By the Caribbean Journal staff

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Barbados' Cabinet has approved the Cultural Industries Development, Culture Minister Stephen Lashley said Wednesday.

In a government release, Lashley said the bill was a "forward-looking piece of legislation that will position Barbados in the forefront of regional development of the sector."

"On becoming law, it will give this island another economic platform on which it can depend, since it relies solely on the creativity of its human resource," he said. "It will enable the sector to become a viable one, capable of making a significant contribution to the country's GDP."



The bill, which will have to be taken to Parliament when it reconvenes, is “comprehensive in its scope,” he said.

The bill provides for the establishment of a regulatory framework to “facilitate and encourage the sustainable growth and development of cultural industries, funding for cultural projects, as well as duty-free concessions and income tax benefits in respect of cultural projects,” according to the government.

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# **British Virgin Islands Planning 10-Year Infrastructure Plan**

February 1, 2013 | 3:47 pm | [Print](#)

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6 Above: the Ministry's planning meeting (Photo: GIS)  
By the Caribbean Journal staff

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The British Virgin Islands' Ministry of Communication and Works is setting out a 10-year infrastructural development plan for the territory.

The plan is the product of a two-day retreat last month under the theme of Building a Better Virgin Islands, 2013-2023.

Among the ideas for the territory? A better road network, an improved sewage system, more access to water and "vastly improved" ports.

"A robust infrastructure is a key component of our economic development and long term economic growth," said British Virgin Islands Premier Dr Orlando Smith. "Both our economic pillars tourism and financial services are impacted by our infrastructural development hence the need for the creation of a strategy with a view to further enhance both industries."



Minister for Communications and Works Mark Vanterpool said the BVI remained “in its infancy as it relates to infrastructural development.” “We are charged with building the systems in which our entire country operates,” he said.

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# Grenada Planning Yachting Push

January 14, 2013 | 12:06 pm | [Print](#)

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21 *Above: yachting in Grenada*  
By the Caribbean Journal staff

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Grenada is planning to strengthen the country's yachting sector with a new \$375,000 investment.

The grant, which came from the Caribbean Development Bank-administered CARTfund, will go toward expanding the marine and yachting markets.

The country, through Grenada Grenadines Yachting, has launched a new campaign called "Grenada Grenadines Yachting: We Are Sailing," being launched by the Marine and Yachting Association of Grenada.

"Grenada as a yachting destination is one of the best kept secrets of the Caribbean and it is time for the secret to be revealed" said Anita Sutton, President of Grenada's Marine and Yachting Association.

Grenada is home to three international yacht charter companies: The Moorings, Sunsail and Horizon Yacht Charters.

"The yachting industry is one of the primary drivers of travel to Grenada," said Tourism Minister Dr George Vincent. "Our abundant natural resources and authentic onshore attractions round out a superior sailing experience,



while visitors who enjoy them are simultaneously contributing to the island's economy by supporting our local tourism-related vendors."

Grenada Grenadines Yachting is currently highlighting the sector at the Toronto International Boat Show.

Last month, Grenada announced a push to feature another marine sector: diving, something Tourism Minister Dr George Vincent called Grenada's "most mature market."

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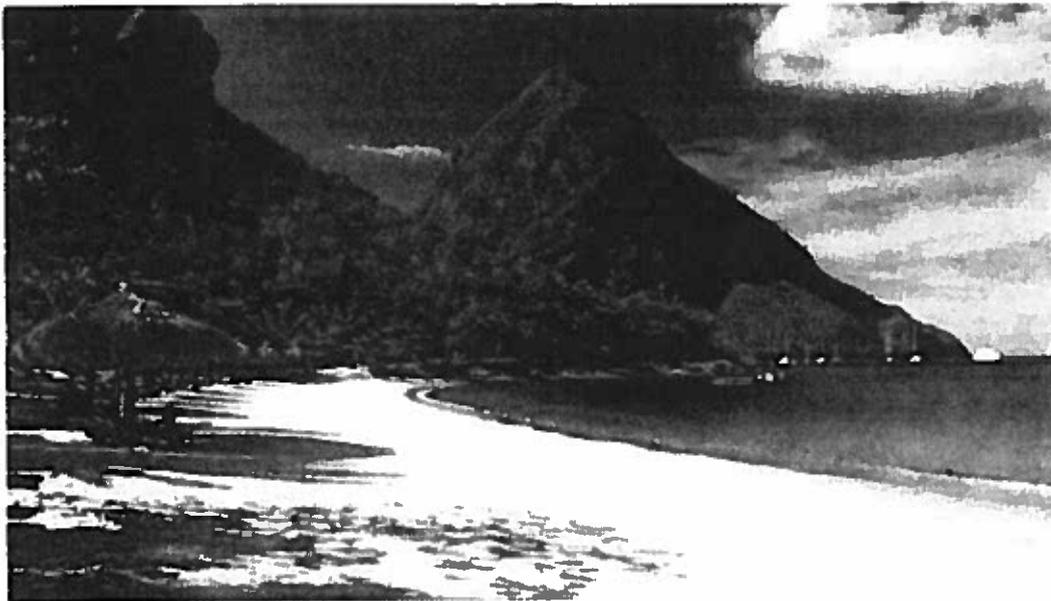
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# St Lucia to Launch Construction Stimulus

August 14, 2012 | 3:17 pm | [Print](#)

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5   **Above: Sugar Beach in St Lucia**  
By the Caribbean Journal staff

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St Lucia is readying the launch of a two-year construction stimulus programme, Prime Minister Dr Kenny Anthony announced. The government called the plan, which would begin this month and end in February 2014, a “direct and immediate response to the lethargic economic environment currently being experienced.”

The stimulus is being launched in conjunction with several private sector partners, including the St Lucia Chamber of Commerce and the St Lucia Bankers Association, along with the Customs Department and other government agencies.

Part of the plan includes reduced prices on all building materials, reduced fees associated with new mortgages for residential and commercial construction, and “soft financing” for such projects.



The launch comes a month before St Lucia's implementation of its new VAT consumption tax.

The stimulus plan will officially launch Aug. 21, the government said in a statement.

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# Trinidad and Tobago Looks to Develop Small Business Policy

September 20, 2012 | 9:28 am | [Print](#)

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4 By the Caribbean Journal staff

[Tweet](#) Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development began a series of consultations

this week aimed at developing a small business policy in the country.

The first meeting was held in San Fernando, and came nearly 10 years after the last such policy consultation in 2002, according to Sheryl-Anne Haynes, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry.

That resulted in the formation of Trinidad's National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO).

"Ten years later, we have been able to review the success to date and, given the present economic climate, believe it is important to revisit these mandates," she said. "It is evident that there are still challenges being faced by the SME sector that have not been addressed since that time."



According to data from the Ministry, the SME sector represents 200,000 households across Trinidad, and about 95 percent of business operating in the country.

“I am sure that most of the micro and small businesses here will attest to the challenges they face in assessing markets, sourcing funds for their business, receiving support in managing their businesses and dealing with the various operational challenges,” she said.

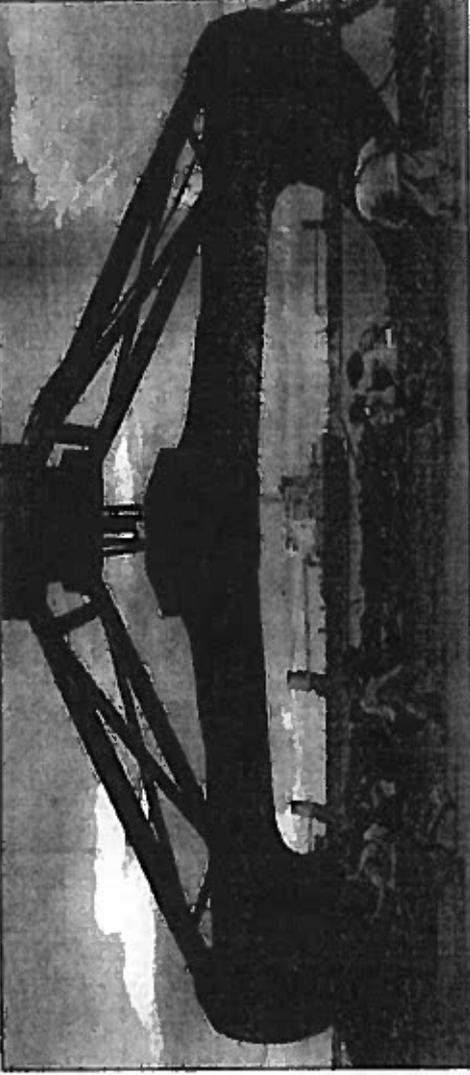
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# Havana sees new life for seedy industrial port

**HAVANA, Sept. 15.** Havana's harbor has been re-arranged into a wide, shallow, sandy, twisted affair, the dominant feature of the bay that has been built up for the past 24 hours a day.

That lately denuded shores and the twisted, sandy, twisted affair, the dominant feature of the bay that has been built up for the past 24 hours a day.



(Above) Townsfolk walk past an excavator at the harbor of Havana, where the harbor is being re-arranged into a wide, shallow, sandy, twisted affair, the dominant feature of the bay that has been built up for the past 24 hours a day.

The city is best known for the Marti Hotel of 1900, when more than 100,000 Cubans fled the island for the United States.

Designed to accommodate big, deep-drafting vessels that will be used to transport the Cuban sugar, the harbor is being re-arranged into a wide, shallow, sandy, twisted affair, the dominant feature of the bay that has been built up for the past 24 hours a day.

Harbor re-arrangement is being carried out by the United States Army, the United States Navy, and the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

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Plans are being made for the harbor to be re-arranged into a wide, shallow, sandy, twisted affair, the dominant feature of the bay that has been built up for the past 24 hours a day.

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