



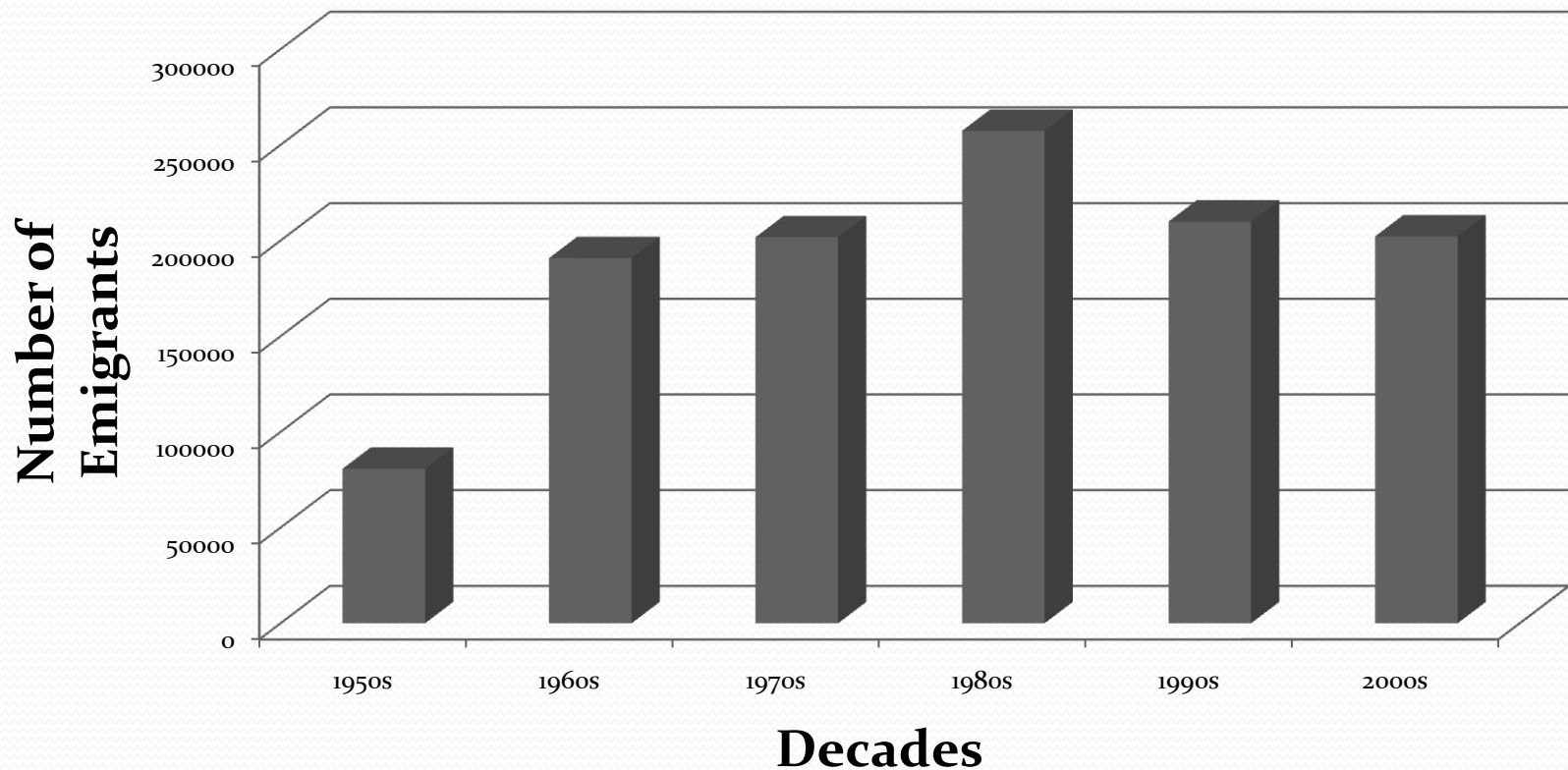
Towards a National Policy on International Migration and Development for Jamaica

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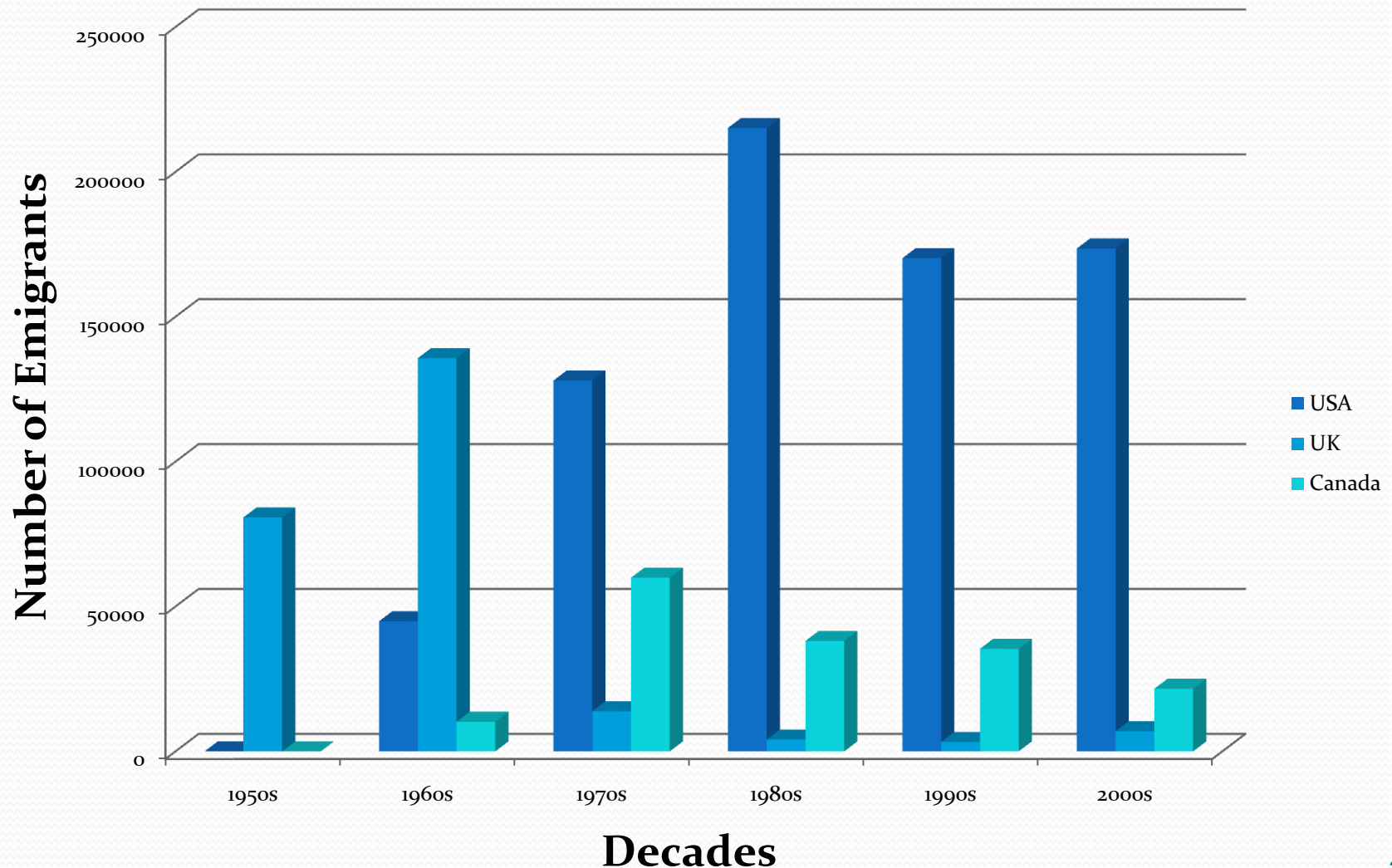
Global Forum on Migration and Development
Workshop on
Managing International Migration for Development: Policymaking and
Monitoring & Evaluation
June 13-15, 2011. Marseille, France

Mainstreams of Emigration

Mainstreams of Migration, 1950 - 2009



Mainstreams of Emigration by country of destination, 1950-2009



Characteristics of Migrants from Jamaica

- Most productive age groups – 15-40 years
 - Migrants to USA and Canada were highest in the 20-29 age group
 - 47.0 per cent of migrants to USA – 20-49 years
 - 49.0 per cent of migrants to Canada in the same age group.
- Predominantly females
- Highly skilled and trained

Main occupational groups of migrants to the USA

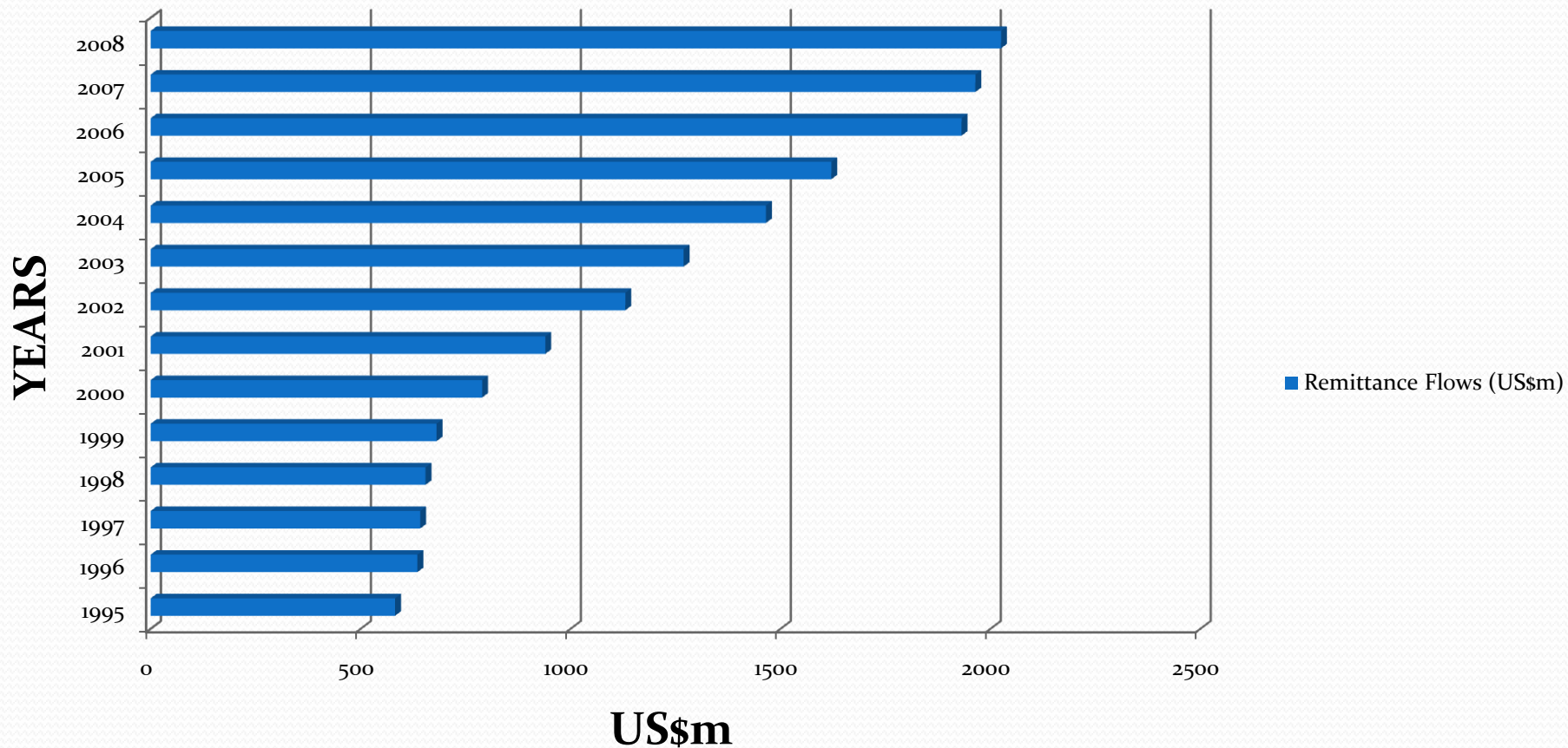
- Services
- Professional and Technical
- Executive and Managerial
- Sales

Main occupational groups of migrants to Canada

- Non & New Workers, Homemakers, Students and Retirees
- Professionals, Senior Officials and Technicians
- Service Workers, Shops and Market Sales Workers

Remittance Flows

Remittance Flows (US\$m), 1995 - 2008



An Assessment of the Emigration of Tertiary Level Graduates (25 years and older) from Jamaica

Tertiary Migration Rate (World Bank)	76.6%
Tertiary migration Rate adjusted for Jamaicans trained abroad (PIOJ)	59.3%

Traditional Perceptions of Immigration Policy in OECD countries

- Restrictive (volume) and selective (labour market)
- Family reunification and geo-political preferences

Underlying perceptions

- **Sending countries:** loss of critical human resources, brain drain and negative development impacts
- **Destination countries:** Providing employment opportunities, better life for immigrants, immigration largely negative for OECD countries. Lack of studies on cost-benefit analysis of immigration.

Changing Perceptions

Fundamental Turning Point:

- UN Long-term projections of declines in populations of developed countries
- Discussion of the concept of Replacement Migration within the UN as a strategy to fill labour shortages in advanced demographic transition countries has provided the fundamental basis for a new approach to migration

Changing Perceptions Cont'd

- Greater need for inter-state consultation and collaboration.
- Greater explicit recognition that international migration can benefit both the countries of origin, countries of destination and of the migrants themselves
- Greater collaboration between institutions in sending and destination countries in programme design and implementation

Changing Perceptions Cont'd

- Recruitment agencies in some developed countries are more regulated by their governments and tend to operate through official channels in countries from which they are recruiting.
- Some developed countries have been moving towards a more conciliatory approach to international migration policy.

International Migration and Development Policy Process in Jamaica

- Pre-1990s, state policy was largely centred around border management and short-term labour migration programmes.
- In the 1990s, the emergence of regional consultative processes took precedence over national approaches (Puebla Process – USA, Canada, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Jamaica [observer]).

International Migration and Development Policy Process in Jamaica cont'd

- In 2006, UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development rekindled a return to the need for the formulation of national migration policies but with a development focus.
- Proposal presented at GFMD Marketplace in 2007 and Expressions of Interest for assistance enunciated by IDPs

International Migration and Development Policy Process in Jamaica cont'd

- Over the 2008-2009 period, research to fill data and information gaps for policy development undertaken, Migration database developed and Study on Children, Migration and Remittance.
- In 2010, IOM consulted to provide assistance to coordinate policy development process. Cabinet approved submission for development of the policy and programme of action.

International Migration and Development Policy Process in Jamaica cont'd

Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan

- Designed to guide Jamaica towards developed country status.
- Vision – “Jamaica – the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business”.
- Outcome – “to ensure that international migration is adequately measured, monitored and influenced to serve the development needs of Jamaica”.

Development of National Policy and Plan of Action

- Three Projects

1. IOM 1035 Facility – Development of National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development

2. Global Migration Group – Mainstreaming Migration in National Development Strategies

Development of the National Policy and Plan of Action

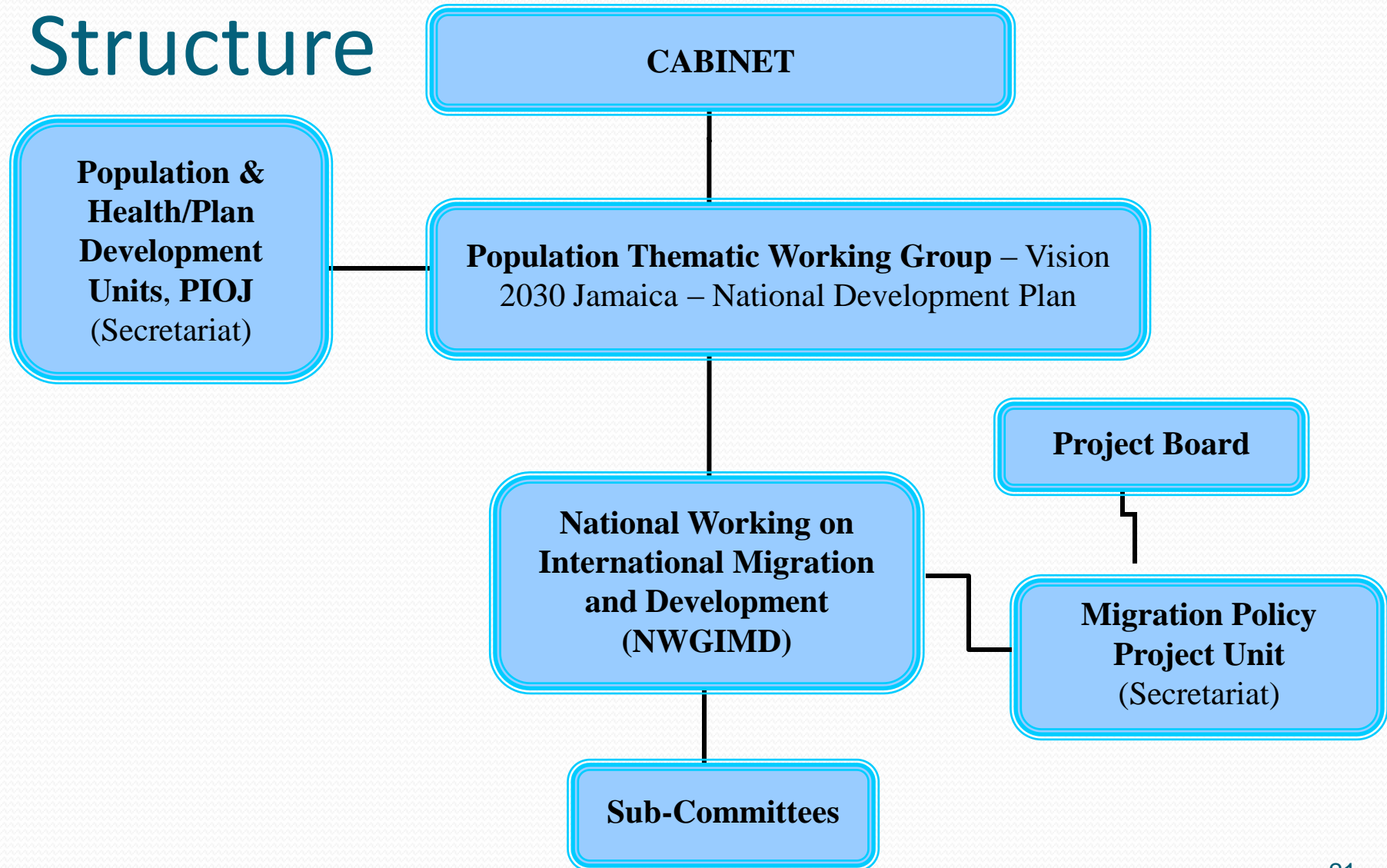
3. EU-LAC – Strengthening the dialogue and cooperation between EU and LAC to establish management models on migration and development policies.

- **Launch – May 5, 2011**
- Establishment of National Working Group on International Migration and Development
- Project Board

Implementation

- Migration Policy Project Unit
- Timeline – two years
- Continuous consultation including: legislators; political representatives; Jamaican Diaspora.
- Communication Strategy

Governance & Management Structure



Monitoring & Evaluation

- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to be developed.
- Quarterly, Annual and Final Reports

Central Theme of the Policy for Jamaica

- International migration can benefit:
 - Countries of origin
 - Countries of destination
 - Migrant themselves

Proposed areas to be addressed in the Policy and Plan of Action

- Demographic and social interactions of the migrant population and implications for development including gender analysis
- Inter-institutional policy coherence and development
- Labour market and human resource issues including brain circulation and skill development
- Remittance, development and poverty

Proposed areas to be addressed in the Policy and Plan of Action cont'd

- Role of diaspora in development
- Short-term labour migration and circular migration and development
- Intra- and inter-regional migration and development
- Brain Drain, Brain Circulation and development
- Return, reintegration and reunification programmes

Proposed areas to be addressed in the Policy and Plan of Action cont'd

- Migration, children and the family, particularly as it relates to care, protection and well-being
- Border management effects and issues
- Strengthening frameworks for human rights and social protection issues
- Impact of migration on crime

Proposed areas to be addressed in the Policy and Plan of Action cont'd

- Protection and rights of migrants
- Mechanisms for legal migration
- Undocumented migrants and deportation.
- Capacity building in areas of knowledge research and measurement systems
- Migration data and research – improve evidence based policy making

Proposed areas to be addressed in the Policy and Plan of Action cont'd

- Impact of migration on health, education, governance, financial security, agriculture, trade and the environment (including climate change)
- sector national, and regional policies and programmes on migration and development



Migration Policies

Programmes for the Diaspora

- Diaspora Unit in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Diaspora Boards in each of the main countries of destination
- Jamaica Diaspora Foundation

Programmes for the Diaspora (cont'd)

- Biennial Diaspora Conventions – June 15-17, 2011
- Contribution of the diaspora to national development
- Jamaica Diaspora Connect – part of the EU-UN JMDI Initiative

Overseas Employment Programme

- US Farm Work Programme
- US Hospitality Programme
- Canadian Farm and Factory Programme
- Canadian Hospitality and Skilled Workers Programme

Other Labour Initiatives

- Teachers & Nurses
- Foreign Nationals and Commonwealth Citizen's (Employment) – Work Permit Act, 1964

CSME – Movement of Skilled Workers

- CSME – Caribbean Single Market and Economy
- Certificate of Recognition of CARICOM Skills Qualification/CARICOM Skills Certificate
- Need for appropriate monitoring mechanism

Programmes for Return Migration

- Return of Talent Programme – IOM
- Returning Residents Programme – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Association for Deported Migrants



Thank You