

# Caribbean Youth Policy Review

Presentation to the Caribbean Forum on  
Population, Youth and Development

July 24, 2018



CARIBBEAN FORUM on POPULATION,  
YOUTH and DEVELOPMENT



Caribbean  
youth  
policy  
review

Context

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Participating countries

Key  
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Main Conclusions

Summary recommendations

**LISBON DECLARATION ON YOUTH POLICIES  
AND PROGRAMMES, LISBON, PORTUGAL, 12  
AUGUST 1998**



20th anniversary

**World Programme of  
Action for Youth**  
INVEST IN YOUTH

**CARIBBEAN FORUM on POPULATION,  
YOUTH and DEVELOPMENT**



# Policy Review

- 1995 adoption of “World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (WPAY)” - policy and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of youth (15-24) around the world.
- 1998 World Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth, in Lisbon, Portugal, committed themselves to **National Youth Policies**
- 2018 - **Status of National Youth Policies in 29 members and associates of the CDCC and impacts on youth development**

# Lisbon Declaration

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20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies adopted  
August 1998

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Provides for economic, social, educational, emotional, cultural and spiritual needs of young people in 7 main areas namely: participation, development, peace, education, employment, health, and drug and substance abuse.

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Recorded government commitments to youth policy formulation and implementation, mainstreaming, high-level supports and investments, inter-agency collaboration, full engagement of youth

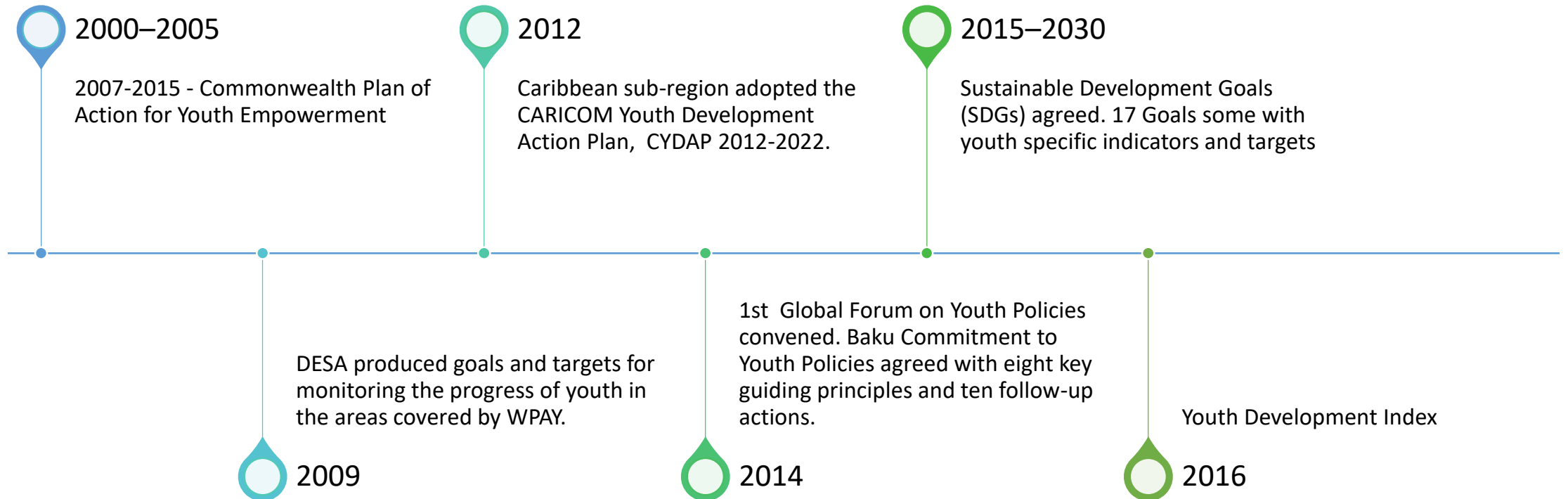
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Enjoined UN System-wide / cross- agency approach to country and regional programming to help achieve Lisbon aims, and expansion of UN portfolio on Youth

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Established policy contexts and principles for youth rights and social justice and dignity of all youth.

## REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INFLUENCES



## WPAY 2000 AND BEYOND

### 15 PRIORITY AREAS

#### 49 WPAY indicators:

relating to education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, substance abuse, juvenile justice, globalization, ICTs, HIV/AIDS

| WORLD PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR YOUTH | CLUSTERS                    | AREAS   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
|                                     | Youth in the global economy | Education<br>Employment<br>Hunger & poverty<br>Globalisation  |
|                                     | Youth in civil society      | Participation<br>Environment<br>ICTs<br>Leisure-time activities<br>Intergenerational issues         |
|                                     | Youth and their well-being  | Health<br>HIV/AIDS<br>Girls & young women<br>Drug abuse<br>Juvenile delinquency<br>Youth & Conflict |



PAYE  
2007-2015



CYDAP  
2012-2017

- 01 DESK REVIEW
- 02 SURVEY
- 03 FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUTH GROUPS + GUIDING QUESTIONNAIRE
- 04 DRAFT SUBREGIONAL REPORT
- 05 CARIBBEAN FORUM ON POPULATION, YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT. GUYANA, JULY 24 TO 26, 2018
- 06 FINAL SUBREGIONAL REPORT

## METHODOLOGY




“The future is **YOUth**. We are responsible for securing the world we want to live in. Be relentless and **challenge** status quos. We have **everything** we need to ensure that we are heard and **meaningfully** engaged. Get **involved.**”



**Sheriece Viechweg**  
President, 2017-2018, UWI STAT Vice Chancellor's  
Ambassador Corps, Cave Hill Chapter



A portrait of André A. Browne, a young Black man with short hair and a light beard, wearing a blue shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

“As we work toward the development of our Caribbean and CARICOM region, it is more important now more than ever to involve **youth voices** and **actions** in key discussions such as this one. I'm very proud to be a part of this **initiative.**”

**André A. Browne,**

CARICOM Youth Ambassador, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,  
Dean, CARICOM Youth Ambassador Corps.



“There is a great need for **youth** inclusion in **polycymaking**. The future belongs to the youths, so their voices need to be **included** in the **choices** that will affect them and generations to come. I believe that this forum, as well as the various youth dialogues, provide the **perfect** platform for the achievement of this.”



**Asha-Gaye Cowell**  
President - UWI STAT Vice Chancellor's  
Ambassadors Corps, Mona Chapter

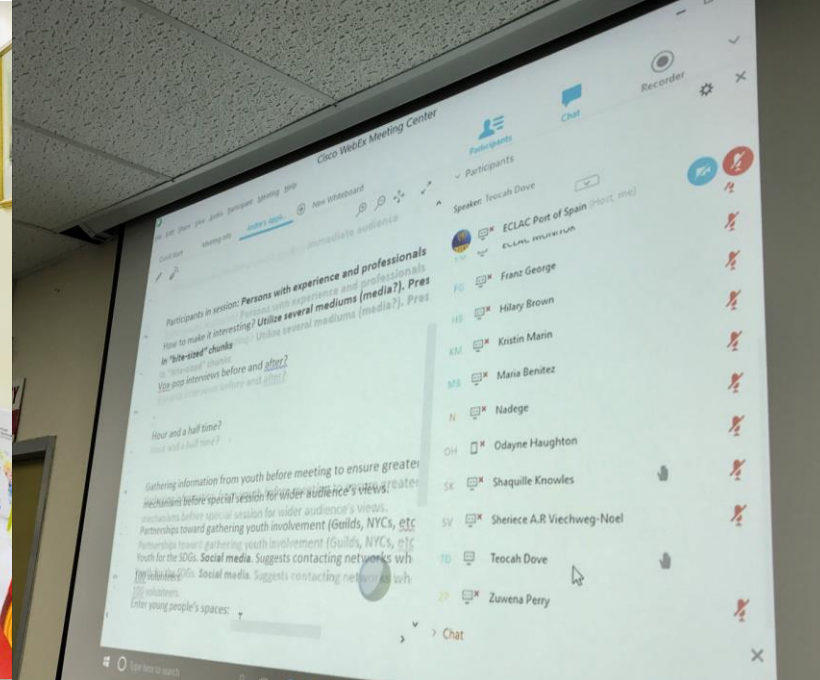


“The youth dialogue sessions are **engaging** where it's allowing for **young** people throughout the Caribbean to **exchange** realities and goals that should be **established** in the outcomes of these sessions review.”



Shaquille R. Knowles  
Chairperson, Caribbean Regional Youth Council

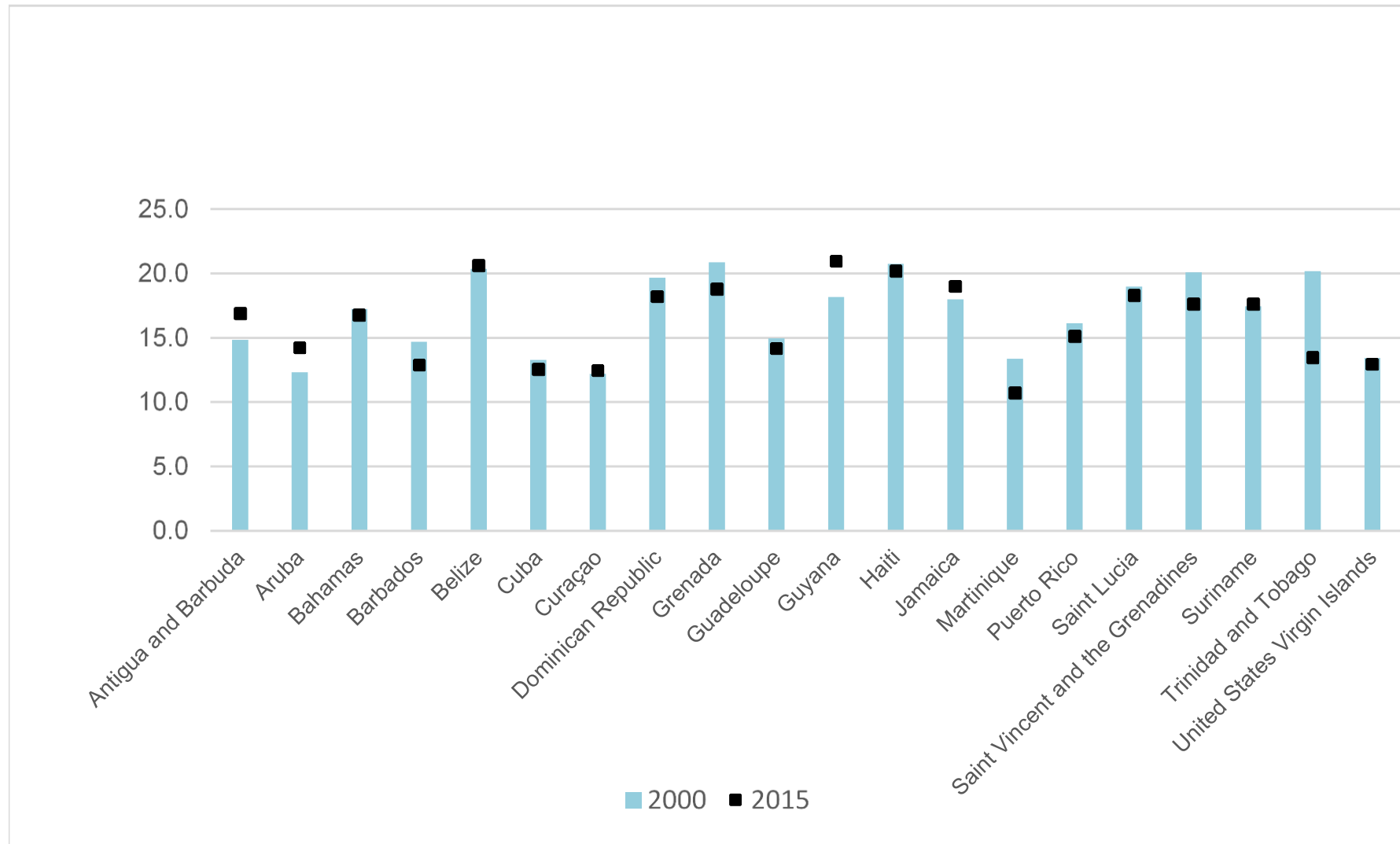






## Percentage of country's population aged 15-24 years, 2000-2015

(% share of total population)



# CARIBBEAN YDI, RADAR CHART OF SUB-COMPONENT SCORES, 2015

Antigua and Barbuda

Bahamas

Belize

Barbados

Cuba

Dominican Republic

Grenada

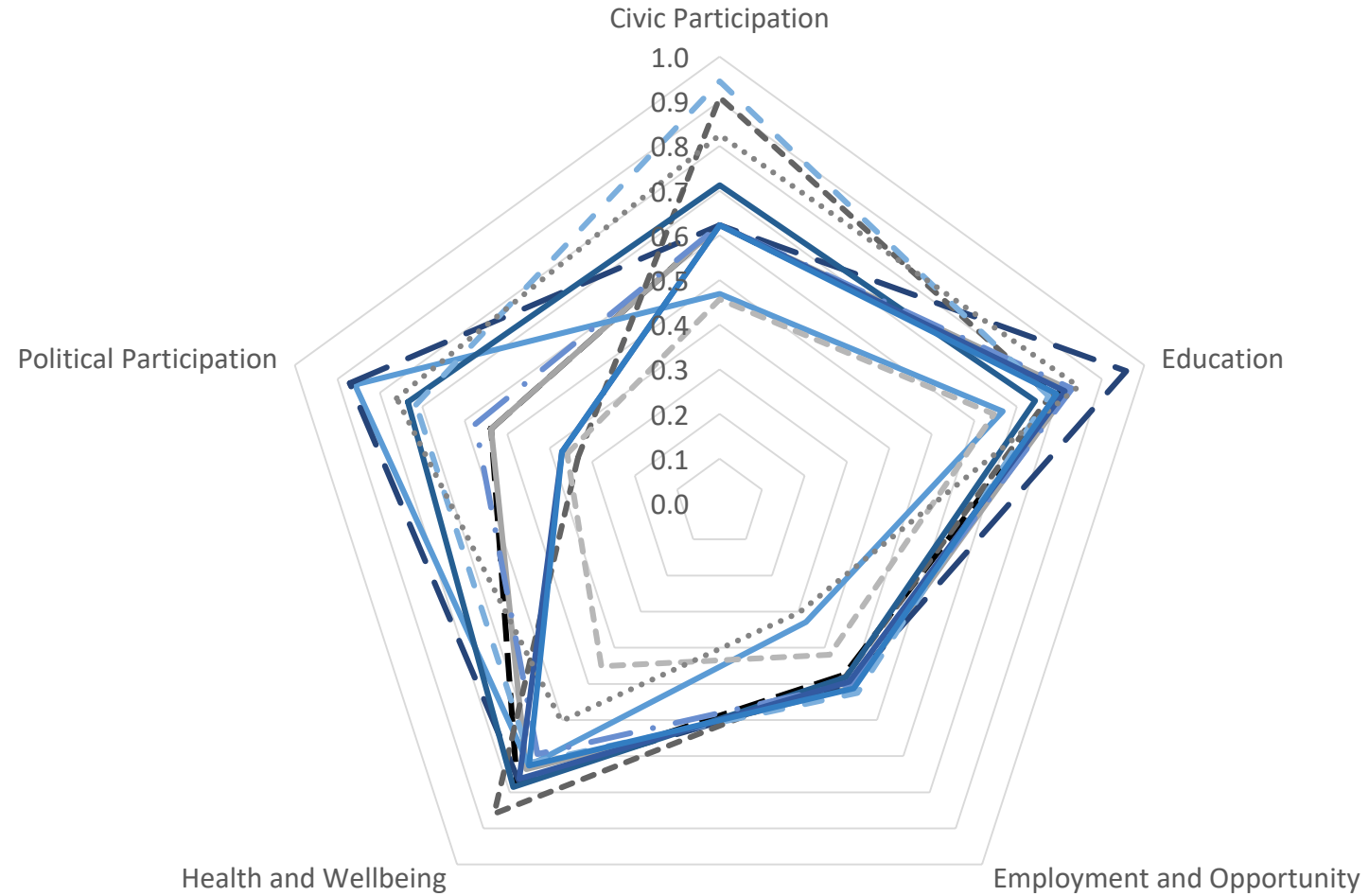
Haiti

Jamaica

Saint Lucia

Trinidad and Tobago

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



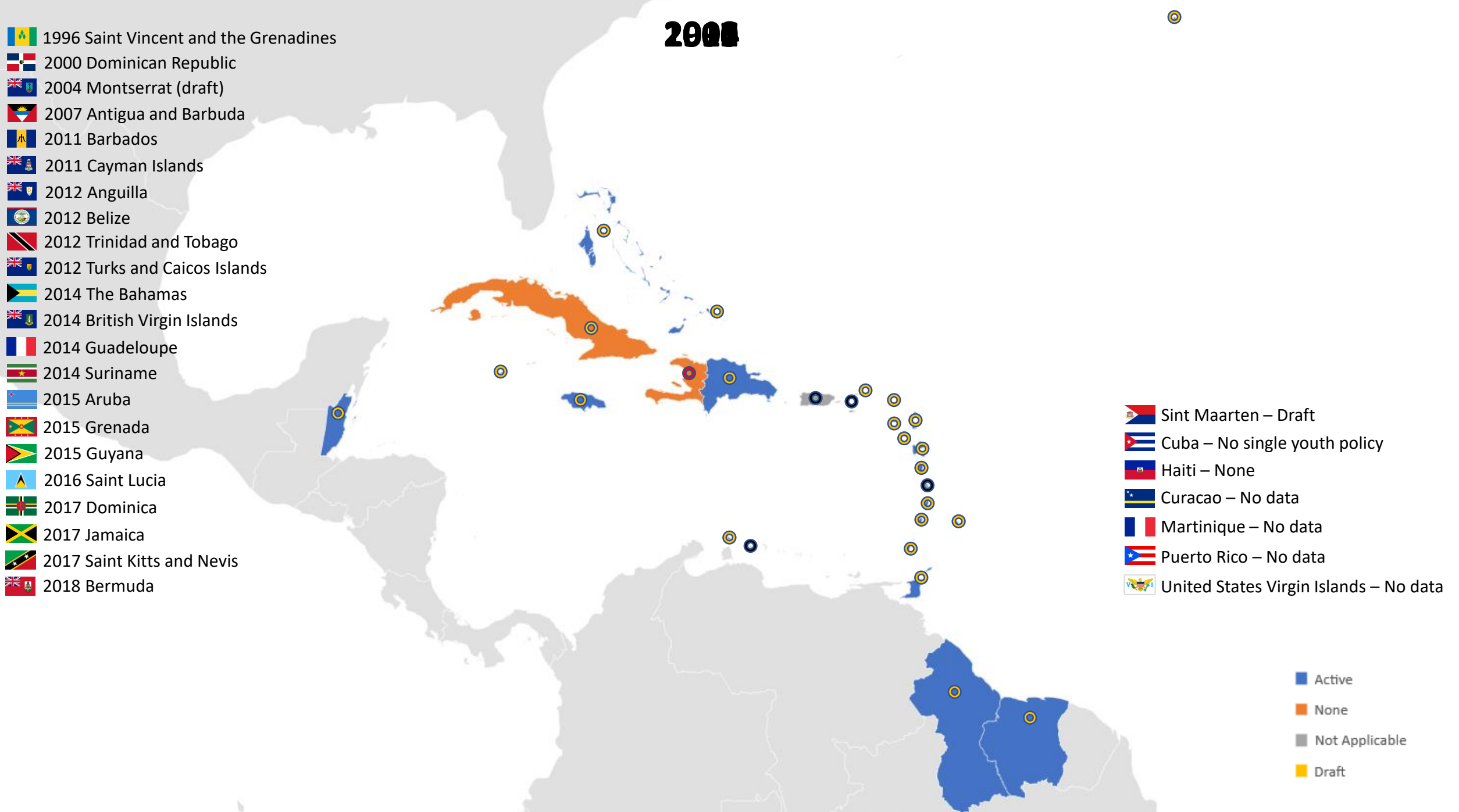


2004

- 1996 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- 2000 Dominican Republic
- 2004 Montserrat (draft)
- 2007 Antigua and Barbuda
- 2011 Barbados
- 2011 Cayman Islands
- 2012 Anguilla
- 2012 Belize
- 2012 Trinidad and Tobago
- 2012 Turks and Caicos Islands
- 2014 The Bahamas
- 2014 British Virgin Islands
- 2014 Guadeloupe
- 2014 Suriname
- 2015 Aruba
- 2015 Grenada
- 2015 Guyana
- 2016 Saint Lucia
- 2017 Dominica
- 2017 Jamaica
- 2017 Saint Kitts and Nevis
- 2018 Bermuda

- Sint Maarten – Draft
- Cuba – No single youth policy
- Haiti – None
- Curacao – No data
- Martinique – No data
- Puerto Rico – No data
- United States Virgin Islands – No data

- Active
- None
- Not Applicable
- Draft

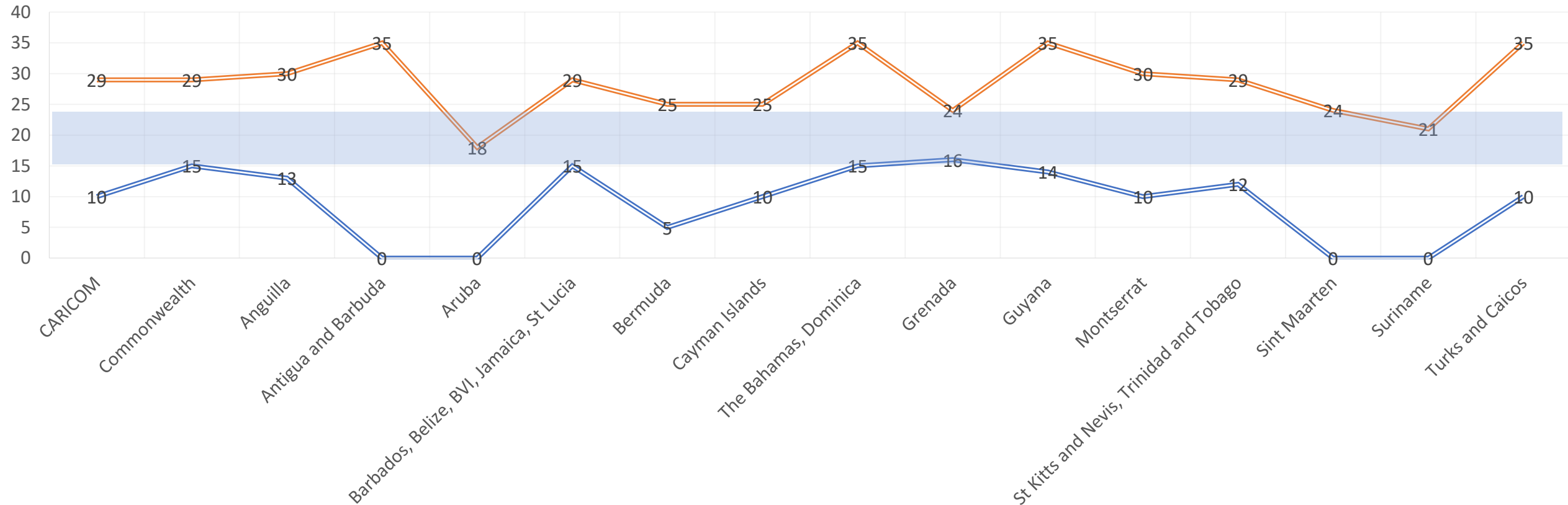




# KEY FINDINGS

- Legal definition of youth most aligned to CYDAP and PAYE. However wide fluctuations with context of “youth” including infants and children.

## YOUTH RANGES IN NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY



# KEY FINDINGS

- **There are challenges across a broad spectrum that impact the implementation of NYPs common to most countries. Some are country specific, some are people-centric, but most relate to the absence of an enabling framework and coordinated supports and adequate investment for youth development.**
- **Lisbon Declaration is valid twenty years later and Caribbean countries of CDCC have progressed in developing NYPs using WPAY, PAYE and CYDAP. More deliberate action required for implementation, accountability and measurement, diverse and cross-sectoral partnership and youth inputs, broadened research agenda and human and other resources.**

# MAIN CHALLENGES

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**Moving from policy to action planning and M&E**

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**Few programmes or actions ever get implemented**

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**Who monitors or ensures accountability within sectors**

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**Engaging audiences most in need of supports – diversity programming**

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**Underserved priority areas - hunger and poverty, girls and women, climate change and the environment, leisure, intergenerational relationships**

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**Limited scope - e.g. health, ICTs, youth and violence prevention (drug abuse, delinquency, leisure)**

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**Bringing in diverse youth participation and representation**

# Some highlights

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Dominica - Climate change and the environment

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Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands –Housing and Land Access for youth

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Barbados – HIV/AIDS and reducing stigma

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The Bahamas, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia- informal and non-formal education, life long learning, TVET reforms, ICTs integrated in education

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Barbados, Dominica, and Grenada, Belize, British Virgin Islands and Saint Kitts and Nevis – dedicated and comprehensive supports for youth entrepreneurship

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Antigua and Barbuda- Gender Relations and Gender Equity

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St Kitts and Nevis- Gender and Human Rights

# Some highlights

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Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis- mental health concerns of young people

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St Kitts and Nevis – enhance health outcomes according to emerging issues e.g. cyberbullying, negative impacts of pornography on young people, and to meet needs of diverse youth including LGBTIQ population

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Jamaica- support in the prioritisation of preventative policies and programmes aimed at juvenile delinquency

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Dominica, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis- Social crime prevention. Barbados – HIV/AIDS and reducing stigma

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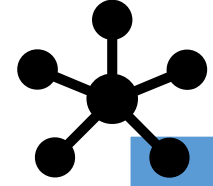
The Bahamas, Saint Lucia, and Saint Kitts and Nevis – youth as digital natives.

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British Virgin Islands, Guyana, and Saint Lucia - sports for peace and development



# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



## Improved coordination and collaboration

- Synergies between youth policies and broader development policies and frameworks
- Collaboration and partnership in youth policy development

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## Appropriate strategies and mechanisms for implementation

- Institutional capacity building of youth development agencies and youth networks
- Adopt a knowledge-based approach
- Monitoring and evaluation systems should be an integral basis of a robust NYP
- The active participation of all strata of youth is key to the success of implementation
- Consistent and targeted funding and programming for youth development and advocacy priorities

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of Integrated NYPs

- Adopt principles of Baku declaration
- Every issue is a youth issue > Reinforce Youth mainstreaming
- Measures to reinforce volunteerism, gender mainstreaming, climate change, and inter-generational partnerships. Use available global guides and tools.

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