Good Practices Exchange in Caribbean Youth Policies and Programs - Inter-sectoral Aspects of Youth Development

Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program

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YOUTH – CENTRE OF SOCIAL POLICY

- How social policy is developed and implemented in the Caribbean is critical to the success or failure of youth development:

    - In the Caribbean, six out of every ten citizens are below the age of 30

PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE

- It is 23 years since the UN's World Programme of Action for Youth & 20 years since the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes

- The Caribbean Millennium Goals 2010 Report indicates – among other areas - progress towards – universal primary education, child survival rates, maternal health goals, combating HIV and AIDS, and in the usage of ICT
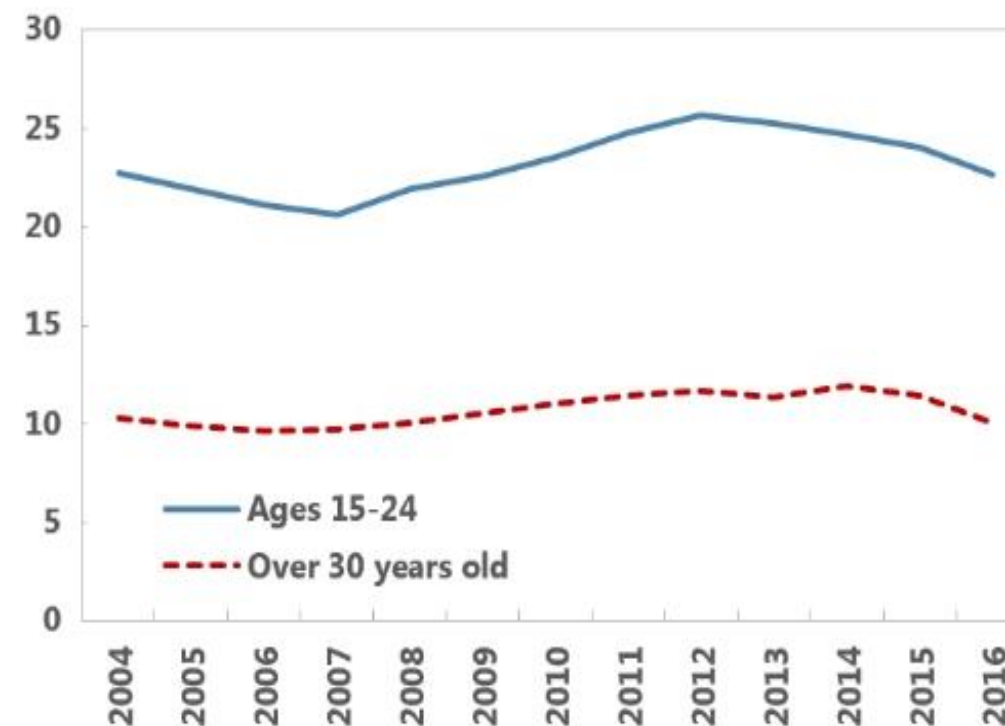
SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REMAIN

- **Poverty** among youth is greater than in the general population (UN Regional Overview: Youth in LAC)

- **Unemployment** average youth unemployment rate above that of adults (IMF World Development Indicators)

- **Teen pregnancy** – LAC remains the region with the second highest rates of adolescent pregnancy . The profile of maternal deaths showing a higher concentration of adolescents (PAHO, UNICEF & UNFPA Report 2017)

- **Crime and violence** – in 2017, five Caribbean countries were in the top 10 countries with the highest levels of homicides in the world. 50% of homicide victims across the Caribbean are younger than 30 (IGARAPE Institute Homicide Monitor)

- **Poor educational outcomes** (CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan (CYDAP) Draft 2012–2017)

- **Alienation and frustration** (CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan (CYDAP) 2012–2017)

Unemployment rates
Youth unemployment rates remain very high in the Caribbean.
(in percent)

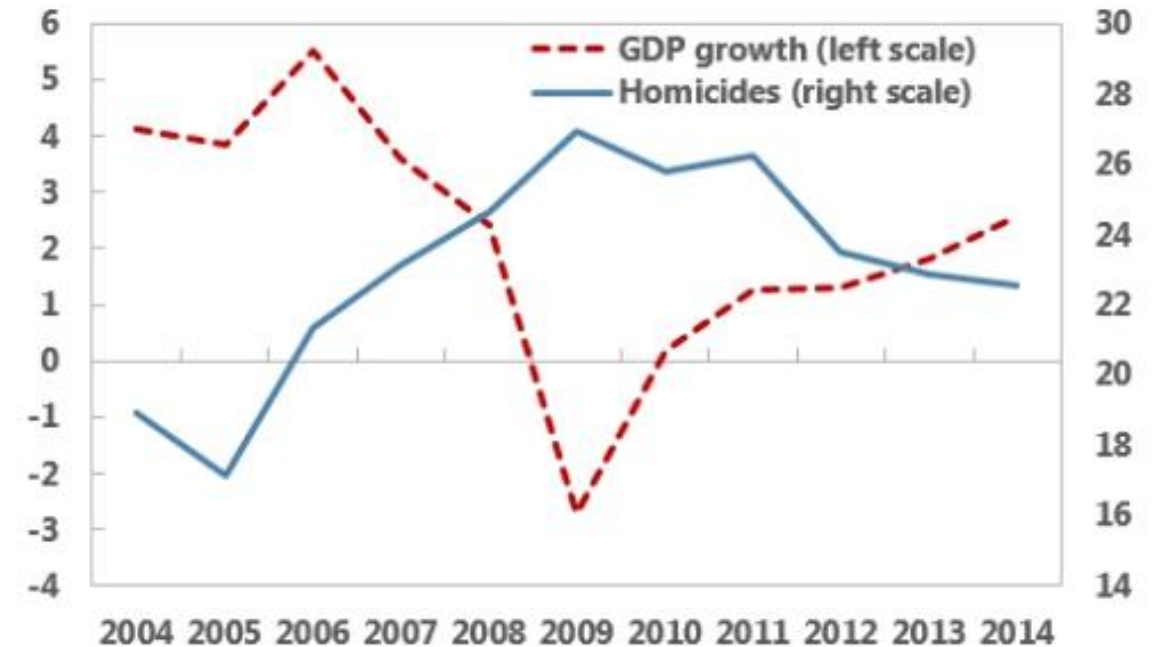Sources: World Development Indicators and IMF staff calculations.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REMAIN (Cont'd)

- Implementation Issues: Highlighted in the CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan (CYDAP) 2012–2017

  - Poor data

  - Poor coordination and agency competition

  - High level political distance from implementation teams

  - Misaligned funding arrangements

Growth and homicides
Murder rates in the Caribbean remain high and growth has been anemic.
(growth rate, percent)

Sources: World Development Indicators and IMF staff calculations.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

USAID's Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program

- Working in Saint Lucia, Guyana and St. Kitts and Nevis to build youth resilience to respond to growing levels of crime and violence

- Applying a public health model that matches interventions based on level of risk

- Working in 15 communities, with youth focus on those aged 10 – 29

- Youth most-at-risk for violence and risky behavior will receive targeted counseling to lower risk factors

USAID's Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program: Integrated Social Policy Approach

- Main aim **- Violence Prevention**

  However, recognizing in its design the interconnectivity to other social issues, levels of risk affecting youth (Poverty, low education levels, unemployment, health, culture, gender norms) and protective factors

  - Comprehensive approach - strengthen abilities and possibilities as well as treat with major deficits

    - Universal services to build abilities and resilience - Primary

    - Targeted services for those youth more exposed to risks - Secondary

    - Administrative reform to support reintegration for those youth who have become perpetrators and victims - Tertiary

    - Some differentiation to recognize different impact and required responses for girls/young women and for boys/young men

USAID's Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program: Safer Communities, A Shared Responsibility

- Upfront, pursued symmetry with country government goals related to the area to reduce possibilities of duplication – increase possibilities for partnerships as well as for take up by the national governments

  - In St. Lucia, CFYR targeting in Central Castries took into consideration work to be done by the CDB in the same area

- Used available data and wide consultations at the policy, NGO and community levels to achieve consensus on the targeting of the program.

  - In Guyana, CSP in the top 30 communities for crime and violence; CFYR in the next 5 communities for crime and violence
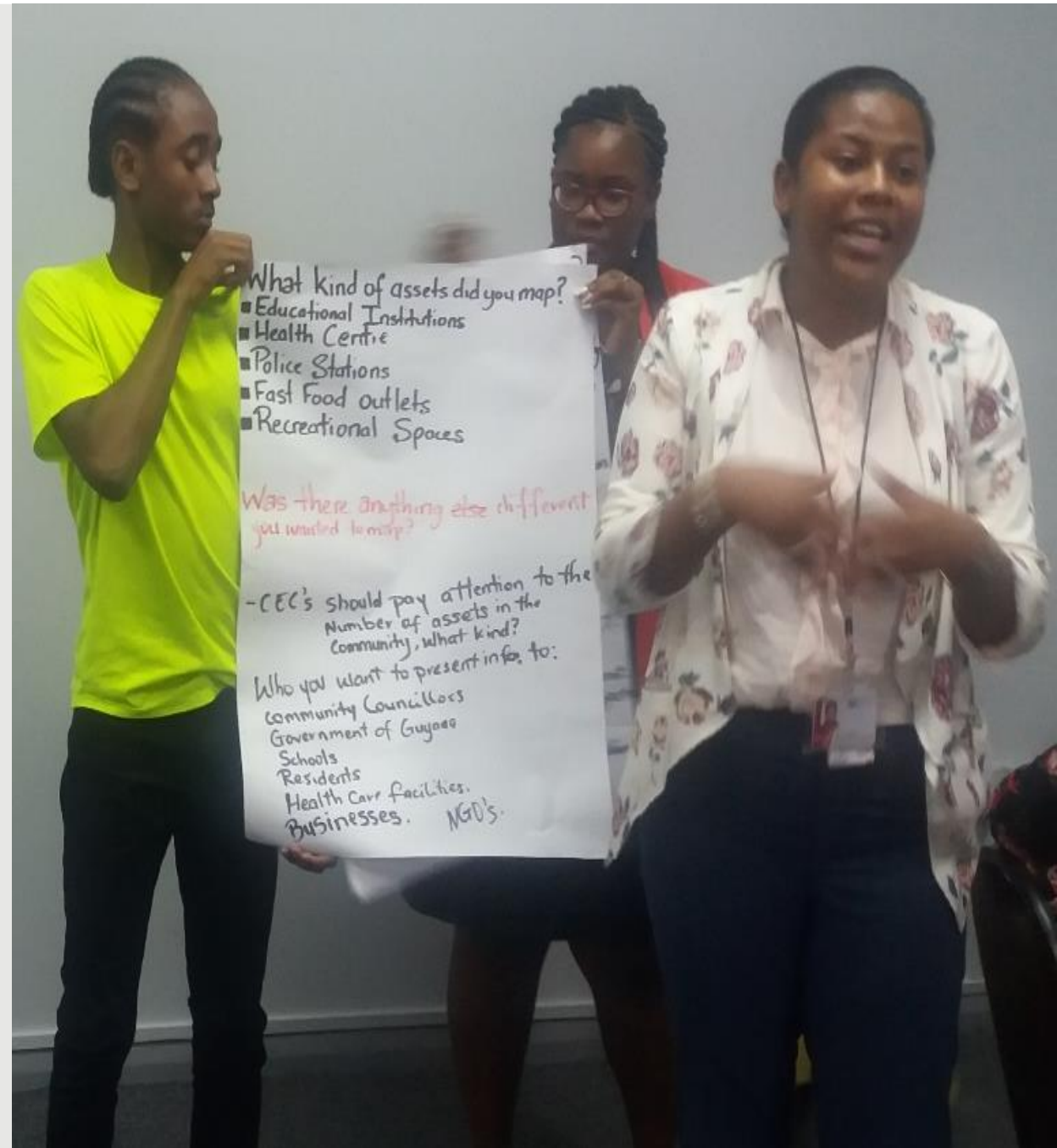
USAID's Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program: Safer Communities, A Shared Responsibility (Cont'd)

- **Drive coordinated action to facilitate connection to youth and community priorities:**

  – Establish with host governments National Advisory Boards (NAB) chaired by high level government representative. Includes youth & community representation as well as other key MDAs

  – Facilitate community leadership – CECs – youth involved

  – Juvenile Justice Reform - promoted within framework of government commitments to reform juvenile justice system

  – Locate secondary prevention program in host government ministry as a randomized trial - if the theory of change is supported by the data, increases the chances for adoption and scale up

  – Support to host government aligned programming through grant funding (Summer camps, after-school, ICT programs, robotics, etc. as alternative curriculum)

  – Facilitate connection of relevant government programming to community safety and resilience building priorities (Qtly Networking, ICT Hub, Community Advocates Program)

USAID's Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program: Data Driven Programming

- Disaggregated to the community-level national crime statistics & focus groups with different actors including youth and youth-serving organizations

- Community Baseline /Mid Program/End of program surveys

- Asset Maps

- Community Safety Plans

- Systematic data collection and analysis on each activity

USAID's CFYR Program:
Support Regional Efforts to Close Implementation Gap

- Caribbean countries have developed NYPs. There is also the CARICOM Youth Development Action Plan (CYDAP)

- They integrate responses to limiting risk factors, they affirm an assets based approach to youth development as well as promote youth agency and inclusion in creating the desired better futures

- Implementation issues, mentioned earlier, remain:

  – Poor data to inform policymaking and determine progress against goals

  – Poor coordination and agency competition

  – High-level political distance from the implementation teams

  – Misaligned funding arrangements

THE CARICOM YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN
(CYDAP) 2012–2017

October 2013

USAID's CFYR PROGRAM:
Support Regional Efforts to Close Implementation Gap (Cont'd)

- Youth Crime and Violence Prevention Summit - January 2019

- Point of departure is CARICOM Crime Prevention & Social Development Action Plan

    – "…establish two virtual learning networks on violence prevention in August 2018, with regional youth leaders and policy makers, who will convene on a monthly basis to help draft a sustainable advocacy and action agenda on youth-centered violence prevention and aid its implementation through critical review and applied research."

    – Emphasis on youth actors and youth-serving organizations

    – Add content to and validate Summit agenda

    – Youth leaders facilitate discussions

    – Establish Caribbean-wide and local youth networks that will be supported to act

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Thank You

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Community, Family and Youth Resilience (CFYR) Program