

**GOVERNMENT SHARPENS  
FOCUS ON RESILIENCE  
AND RISK OVERSIGHT AT  
AUDIT CONFERENCE**

**THE 2026-27  
NATIONAL  
BUDGET**

**GOVERNMENT OF  
JAMAICA SECURES  
USD 70 MILLION  
IDB LOAN**

**IS EVERYBODY'S  
BUSINESS**





# Editorial

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) continues to advance Jamaica's economic stability and national development through the implementation of sound socio-economic and financial policies. As we enter a new financial year, the Ministry remains committed to protecting fiscal sustainability while supporting reconstruction and long-term growth, particularly as communities continue rebuilding following the passage of Hurricane Melissa.

In keeping with this commitment, the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) announced a \$1.44 trillion national budget for the 2026/2027 fiscal year focused on safeguarding fiscal discipline while powering reconstruction and economic expansion. The budget underscores the GOJ's continued dedication to prudent fiscal management and policies that promote resilience and sustainable development.

During the quarter, the GOJ also engaged key stakeholders and international partners to strengthen Jamaica's economic outlook. The Prime Minister of Jamaica and Minister of Finance and the Public Service met with Scotiabank Global Executives during a courtesy call to discuss the strength of Jamaica's financial sector and opportunities for continued investment and partnership. Additionally, Fitch Ratings affirmed Jamaica's rating at 'BB-' with the outlook remaining stable highlighting continued confidence in the country's macroeconomic framework and fiscal management.

In this edition of the **MOFPS Insider**, we highlight the Jamaica Stock Exchange's 21st Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference, GOJ's Audit Committees' Conference and the GOJ's signing of a Letter of Intent for a Subsea Cable Project. We also share highlights from the Ministry's internal activities geared at engaging and empowering staff.

If you wish to share feedback on this publication, please send an email to [mofps.pr@mof.gov.jm](mailto:mofps.pr@mof.gov.jm).



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# GOJ ANNOUNCES 1.44 TRILLION DOLLAR BUDGET TO PROTECT FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY AND SUPPORT RECONSTRUCTION



Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service delivers the 2026 Opening Budget Presentation in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, Minister of Finance and the Public Service delivered the 2026 Opening Budget Presentation in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, March 10. She outlined how the Government of Jamaica plans to spend its 1.44 trillion-dollar budget in the upcoming fiscal year.

## The Central Government Expenditure Budget of J\$1.44 trillion comprises:

- Non-Debt Expenditure of approximately J\$1063.2 billion
- Debt Service of approximately J\$378.55 billion

## Non-Debt Expenditure, in turn, is comprised of:

- Compensation of Employees J\$555.25 billion;
- Recurrent Programmes J\$428.25 billion; and
- Capital Expenditure J\$79.74 billion.

Of significance, the expenditure for the fiscal year now ending includes \$67 billion in Hurricane Melissa spending, of which \$24.1 billion (US\$150 million) was provided as a loan to the Jamaica Public Service to accelerate the restoration of electricity to communities impacted by the hurricane.

Included in the budget are several allocations for important national development initiatives and programmes aimed at strengthening governance, infrastructure and social development.



The Finance Minister announced plans to advance the Public Procurement (Set-Asides) framework to increase opportunities for Micro and Small Enterprises to participate in government procurement.

## KEY ALLOCATIONS HIGHLIGHTED FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR:

- **\$18.8 million** for the **Backlog Audit Project**, which is aimed at reducing the number of unaudited Financial Statements prepared by Municipal Corporations, some statutory bodies, Executive Agencies and some internationally funded projects as well as the annual Appropriation Accounts of Ministries and Departments.

- **\$121 million** for the relocation of the Office of the Children's Advocate.
- **\$372 million** for the relocation of the Office of the Independent Commission of Investigations.
- **\$1.86 billion** for implementation for National Identification Systems (NIDS).
- **\$1.5 billion** for Rural Economic Development Initiative II.
- **\$225.5 million** for Integrated Community Development Project II.
- **\$150 million** for strengthening Cybersecurity in Jamaica to include expanding the pool of specialised cybersecurity professionals.
- **\$5.5 billion** for maintenance of secondary roads.
- **\$760 million** for the HOPE housing.
- **\$50.3 billion** for payment of pensions.

Effective April 1, 2026, the PAYE threshold will **INCREASE TO J\$1.9 MILLION.**

For the upcoming fiscal year there will be



Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service returned to the House of Representatives on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, to close the debates.

**2026/27 National Budget is available at [mof.gov.jm](http://mof.gov.jm).**

# The National Budget Secondary SCHOOL TOUR

## SCHEDULE

Tuesday,  
April 14, 2026

**Ferncourt High**  
Marcus Garvey Technical High

Thursday,  
April 16, 2026

**Oracabessa High**

Tuesday,  
April 21, 2026

**York Castle High**  
Brown's Town High

Thursday,  
April 23, 2026

**Aabuthnott Gallimore High**  
St. Hilda's Diocesan High

Tuesday,  
April 28, 2026

**St. Mary High**  
Marymount High

Thursday,  
April 30, 2026

**Annotto Bay High**  
Wycliffe Martin High

The national Budget is  
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**MOFPS**  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE

# GOJ COURTESY CALL WITH SCOTIABANK GLOBAL EXECUTIVES



Dr. The Most Hon. Andrew Holness ON, PC, MP, Prime Minister of Jamaica and Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service met with Scotiabank Global Executives during a courtesy call at the Office of the Prime Minister on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, to discuss Jamaica's economic outlook and the strength of the financial sector.

The discussion focused on opportunities for continued investment and partnership while reaffirming the government's commitment to macroeconomic stability, strengthening financial inclusion and fostering a business-friendly environment.



# Want to know who Government of Jamaica Contracts are awarded to?

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Except as provided by the Public Procurement Act, procuring entities are required to publish details of every contract awarded of a value above \$500,000.00 on the Government of Jamaica Electronic Procurement Platform (GOJEP).



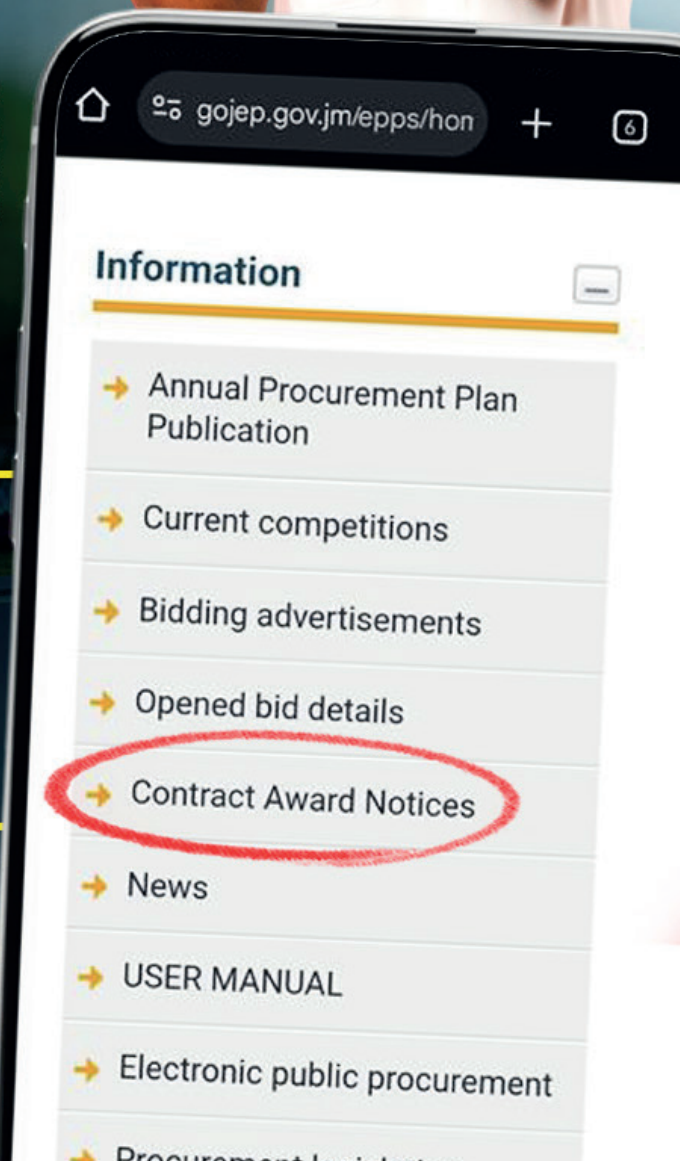
Visit GOJEP to view information on who received the contract, the contract value; in the case of emergency contracts, the circumstances of emergency that necessitated award of the procurement contract as an emergency contract.

See which procuring entities are complying with the legal requirements for publication of contract award details.

Accessing GOJEP is easy, free & open to all.

1. Visit [www.gojep.gov.jm](http://www.gojep.gov.jm)
2. Click on the "Contract Award Notices" tab
3. View information about government contracts
4. Hold procuring entities accountable

For more information visit  
[mof.gov.jm](http://mof.gov.jm) | [www.gojep.gov.jm](http://www.gojep.gov.jm)  
[procureja.gov.jm](http://procureja.gov.jm)





# STATE MINISTER SAYS THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY IS A PILLAR OF NATIONAL STABILITY



**Hon. Zavia Mayne, MP, State Minister** within the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service delivered keynote address at the Jamaica Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (JAIFA) Blast Off 2026 at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. The event was held under the theme “Leading through Generations” and recognised the importance of preparing for the future.

Minister Mayne, in his address to attendees, underscored the role of the insurance industry in contributing to national development.

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# JAMAICA STOCK EXCHANGE HOSTS

## 21<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL INVESTMENTS AND CAPITAL MARKETS CONFERENCE



**Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service delivered remarks on day two of the Jamaica Stock Exchange 21st annual Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.**

The 3-day conference, which brings together government officials, leading experts in business, investors and other stakeholders, seeks to examine areas of growth, challenges and advancements that are currently shaping societies and world economies.





Statistical Institute  
of Jamaica

# THE LISTING OF DWELLINGS HAS BEGUN!



The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) is conducting its Listing of Dwellings exercise in selected communities. This exercise is important to:

- Support sample selection for future surveys.
- Help ensure that future surveys provide reliable data for evidence-based decision making.

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# GOVERNMENT SHARPENS FOCUS ON RESILIENCE AND RISK OVERSIGHT AT AUDIT CONFERENCE

Auditors, public sector workers and government officials engaged with presenters and panellists during the GOJ's Audit Committees' Conference held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

## ***Press Release Dated: Thursday, January 22, 2026***

Auditors, public sector workers and government officials were urged to strengthen stakeholder confidence in public services by reinforcing trust, enhancing risk oversight and building institutional resilience at the Government of Jamaica's (GOJ) Audit Committees' Conference, held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

Hosted by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) in collaboration with the Office of the Cabinet, the conference facilitated high-level discourse addressing both traditional and emerging risks confronting the public sector, including artificial intelligence (AI), enterprise risk management and resilience in governance.

Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, in her address, underscored the pivotal role

of audit professionals in advancing the goals and outcomes of Vision 2030 Jamaica. She noted that effective auditing enables public entities to identify systemic vulnerabilities and proactively anticipate risk.

**“Your role is central to ensuring that public institutions operate with integrity, credibility and consistency, reinforcing the trust that underpins the effective functioning of government. Trust, however, cannot be strengthened through intention alone. It grows when risk oversight is robust and when systems operate with discipline,” emphasised Minister Williams.**

The Minister also highlighted the critical contribution of audit committees to Jamaica’s national recovery following Hurricane Melissa.

“You are not simply members of audit committees; you are partners in the national renewal. You are guardians of public trust and essential architects of the Jamaica we are building together. And so, I challenge you, lead boldly and act decisively. Let your work reflect the Jamaica we are determined to restore,” she stated.

Meanwhile, Hon. Bryan Sykes, OJ, CD, Chief Justice of Jamaica, in his keynote address, encouraged auditors to lead with integrity, accountability and transparency.

**“An effective audit committee member reads between the lines. They ask *why*? Even when *why* makes the room uncomfortable. They exercise what the law now calls ‘the care, diligence and skill that a reasonable and prudent person would exercise’ – but they do so even when unreasonable pressures are applied,” said Chief Justice Sykes.**

Hon. Audrey Sewell, OJ, CD, JP, Cabinet Secretary in the Office of the Cabinet and Darlene Morrison, CD, Financial Secretary at the MOFPS, were among the speakers at the event.

Other featured presenters included Odean White, JP, Chief Risk Officer at the Bank of Jamaica and Founder of Risk Institute of the Caribbean Limited, Detective Superintendent of Police Carl Berry, Authorised Financial Investigator, Keith Khal, Retired Chief Audit Executive and Harris Robinson, Financial Advisor, Guardian Group.

The one-day hybrid conference, originally scheduled for October 2025, was postponed due to the passage of Hurricane Melissa.





# PENSION PAYMENT SCHEDULE 2026

<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUN</b>	<b>JUL</b>	<b>AUG</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>SEP</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>DEC</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>17</b>

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# GOJ SIGNS LETTER OF INTENT FOR SUBSEA CABLE PROJECT



The Government of Jamaica signed a Letter of Intent with Trans Americas Fiber System for the Subsea Cable Project at Jamaica House on Tuesday, February 3, 2026. The initiative marks an important step toward establishing a new undersea internet connection for Jamaica, designed to deliver faster internet speeds while improving reliability and network resilience across the island. The project is expected to strengthen Jamaica's digital infrastructure and support sustainable economic growth.





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# FITCH RATINGS AFFIRMS JAMAICA'S RATING AT 'BB-' WITH THE OUTLOOK REMAINING "STABLE"

**Press Release Dated: Friday, February 6, 2026.**

Fitch Ratings Agency, on February 5, 2026, affirmed the Government of Jamaica's Long-Term Foreign-Currency and Local Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BB-' and maintained the outlook at "Stable".

**In explaining the ratings action, Fitch pointed out the government's continued commitment to maintaining macroeconomic stability while managing one of the most severe natural disasters to affect Jamaica in recent history.**

Hurricane Melissa, which struck the island on October 28, 2025, caused widespread destruction, particularly across the western region, with estimated damage reaching USD 8.8 billion or 40.0 percent of GDP.

Fitch projects a temporary economic contraction of 1.5 percent in 2025 and 2.6 percent in 2026, as Jamaica advances reconstruction efforts. Despite these challenges, the rating agency highlighted Jamaica's robust financial preparedness, underscored by a multilayered risk-management framework that includes concessional multilateral loan packages exceeding US\$6.0 billion, government insurance and contingency funds totalling nearly US\$250.0 million, additional lines of credit, a catastrophe bond facility of US\$150.0 million, and substantial expected private insurance inflows.

The agency also noted Jamaica's responsible fiscal response, including the temporary suspension of the Fiscal Responsibility Law to accommodate urgent reconstruction costs. Fiscal balances are forecast to swing into deficit in FY2025 and FY2026; however, primary surpluses



are expected to resume in FY2027, aligning with the government's target to reduce debt-to-GDP levels toward 60.0 percent.

Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Fayval Williams, said that she welcomes the rating agency, Fitch Ratings, affirming Jamaica's international credit ratings.

**Minister Williams said that Fitch's highlighting of the fact that "Jamaica's government has a strong decade-plus track record of adhering to a solid fiscal framework, which has resulted in a sharp reduction in debt/GDP" speaks volumes for the work of the government, its steadfastness to fiscal discipline and the many sacrifices of the people of Jamaica.**

Fitch indicated that it believes the government will remain "committed to its fiscal framework and will actively seek to reduce its debt burden once reconstruction efforts are achieved." Minister Williams confirmed that this is the commitment of the Government of Jamaica.

Before we look at the data, take a guess.

# How many babies do you think Jamaica recorded in 2024?

Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)



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**Dr Jose Miguel Guzman**  
PIOJ Dialogue for Development Lecture 2026



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(Subject: Exhibition) to learn more.





# MOFPS AND PARTNERS HAND OVER *Melissa Relief Special Project* TO MANCHESTER-BASED BASIC SCHOOL

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in collaboration with First Heritage Co-operative Credit Union Limited, the Jamaica Civil Service Association and the 2025 Civil Servant of the Year Nominees handed over a Melissa Relief Special Project to the Sidney L. Blake Basic School in Mile Gully, Manchester on Friday, February 27, 2026.

The project was geared at contributing to the Hurricane Melissa recovery effort by supporting underserved communities in most affected areas.



# TAJ SALUTES RETIREES AT 2026 Retirement Luncheon

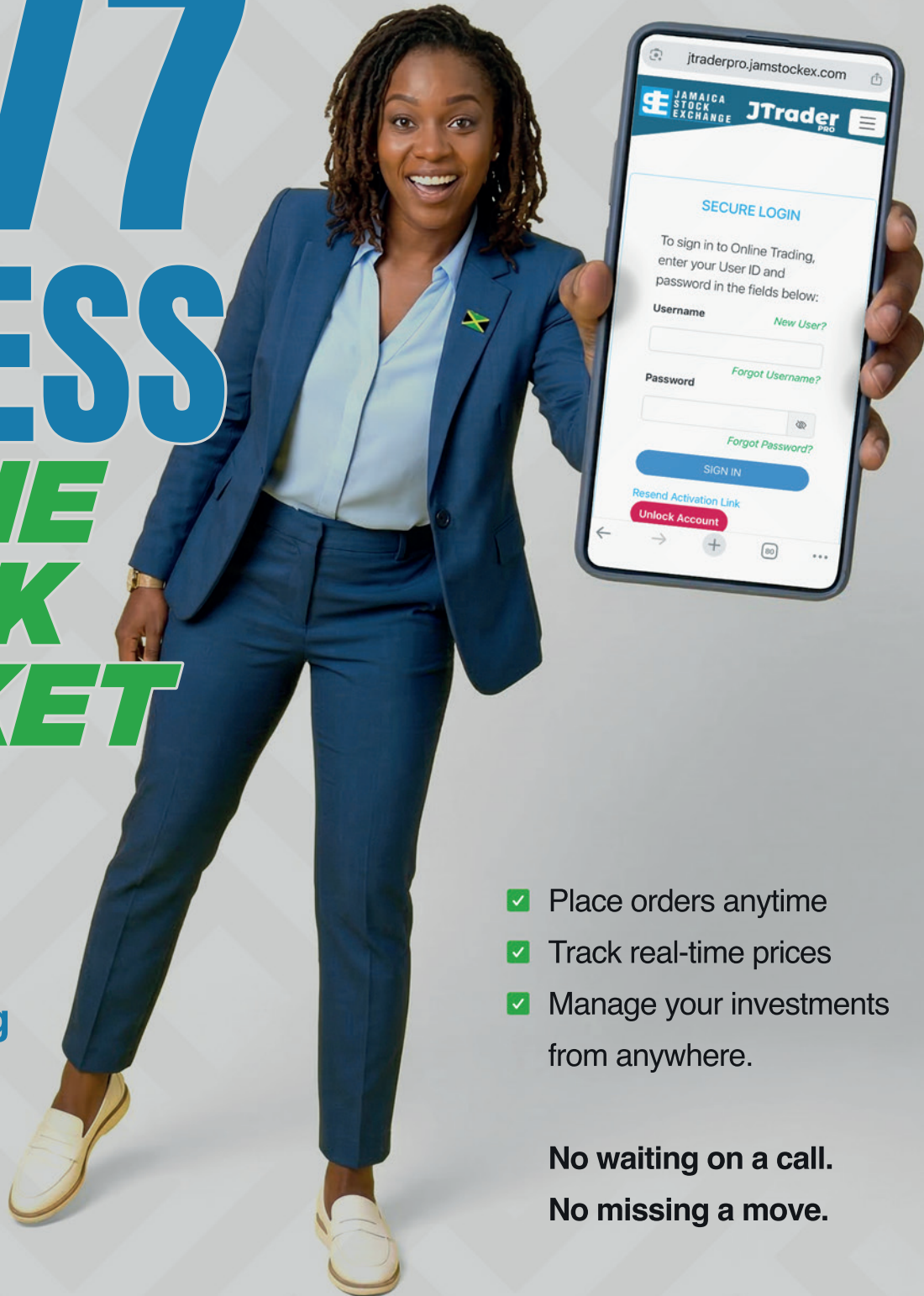
The Tax Administration Jamaica (TAJ) hosted its 2026 Retirement Luncheon under the theme 'Celebrating the Journey, Embracing the Future' at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. The event recognised 2023 – 2025 retirees who served in the TAJ.

Hon. Zavia Mayne, MP, State Minister within the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, while delivering remarks, highlighted the role of retirees in shaping the TAJ, emphasising their commitment, expertise and lasting impact on the organisation and the nation.



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# MOFPS HOSTS

## PUBLIC BODIES CORPORATE GOVERNANCE SENSITISATION FORUM



(L-R) Tamickia Anderson, Acting Senior Director, Public Bodies Governance Coordination and Analysis, Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS), Lenworth Taylor, Technical Specialist, Public Bodies Governance Coordination and Analysis, MOFPS, Tiva Forbes, Senior Director, Monitoring and Evaluation, MOFPS, Joy Lowe, Acting Senior Director, Monitoring and Evaluation, MOFPS, Monica O'Meally, Senior Director, Public Private Partnerships, MOFPS, Josette Maxwell-Dalsou, Permanent Secretary, Parastatal Monitoring Department of Saint Lucia, Alicia Bish, Deputy Financial Secretary, Public Enterprises Division, MOFPS, Nophia Morgan, Director, Public Body Board Secretariat, MOFPS, Paul Miller, Senior Director, Monitoring and Evaluation, MOFPS and Diego Thomas, Acting Principal Director, Public Bodies Governance Coordination and Analysis, MOFPS share a photo following a technical meeting with the Ministry and the Parastatal Monitoring Department of Saint Lucia at the MOFPS on Monday, March 23, 2026.

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Public Enterprise Division met with Ms. Josette Maxwell-Dalsou, Permanent Secretary in Saint Lucia's Parastatal Monitoring Department and her team to exchange best practices in the oversight and governance of public bodies on Monday, March 23, 2026.

This engagement was followed by the Ministry's Public Bodies Corporate Governance Sensitisation Forum, held at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 which brought together key stakeholders to strengthen awareness, accountability and governance standards across the public sector.

# Highlights



# MOFPS HOSTS 2026 PUBLIC PROCUREMENT MUNICIPAL CORPORATION TRAINING



Hon. Desmond McKenzie, CD, MP, JP, (4th left), Minister of Local Government and Community Development and Jovell Barrett (6th right), Chief Public Procurement Policy Officer within the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service are all smiles alongside the representatives from the eastern municipal corporations following a dynamic and engaging public procurement training session at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Thursday, March 26, 2026.

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service through the Office of Public Procurement Policy hosted its 2026 Public Procurement Municipal Corporation Training at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on Thursday, March 26, 2026. The session brought together municipal corporation representatives from the eastern side of the island

to strengthen capacity in procurement practices, enhance compliance and promote transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. Hon. Desmond McKenzie, CD, MP, JP, Minister of Local Government and Community Development delivered greetings at this event.



# Highlights



# GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA SECURES USD 70 MILLION IDB LOAN TO ADVANCE PUBLIC SECTOR TRANSFORMATION



Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA (left), Minister of Finance and the Public Service and Natacha Marzolf (right), Country Representative, Inter-American Development Bank are all smiles following a visibility ceremony for a new loan contract signed between both entities for continued support to the Public Sector Transformation Programme held at the Ministry on Friday, March 27, 2026.

## **Press Release Dated: Friday, March 27, 2026**

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) has signed a new loan contract with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) valued at US\$70 million to support the Continued Public Sector Transformation Programme. The MOFPS and IDB representatives participated in a Visibility Ceremony for the loan agreement at the MOFPS on Friday, March 27, 2026.

The loan agreement, signed on February 13, 2026, will finance reforms aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector over an implementation period of approximately six years.

While building on the achievements of the previous transformation programme, the initiative will enhance core government operations, including human resources, payroll, procurement, finance and accounts. The programme will support continuation of the transition from fragmented manual processes to more integrated technology-driven solutions.

## **The project comprises four (4) components, including:**

- Shared corporate services across government valued at **US\$35,762,692**
- Rationalisation of public bodies and delivery management valued at **US\$10,282,475**

- Strengthening management structures and processes of the civil service valued at **US\$16,718,127**
- Modernisation of human resource management systems valued at **US\$7,236,707**.

The agreement will also introduce digital tools such as a public servant registry, single sign-on platform and enhanced recruitment and performance management systems.

**The total programme cost is US\$78.5 million, with the Government of Jamaica contributing US\$8.5 million in counterpart funding.**

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, welcomed the agreement as a significant milestone in the Government's ongoing public sector transformation efforts.

"The Government of Jamaica values its continued partnership with the IDB in advancing our public sector transformation agenda. This collaboration will support the modernisation of public sector operations, strengthen institutional frameworks and enhance service delivery across key Government entities. Ultimately, we expect all Jamaicans to benefit, particularly through the strategic reallocation of cost savings to priority areas, including ongoing recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa," said Minister Williams.

Meanwhile, Natacha Marzolf, Country Representative from the Inter-American Development Bank, highlighted that the programme matters because it is about improving lives, which is the IDB's mandate.

"I would like to reiterate that we remain fully committed to Jamaica on this journey. We are privileged to witness the extraordinary public sector transformation underway and are confident that the resources provided under this new operation will bring even greater benefits. We also reaffirm our partnership and shared vision that Jamaica can serve as a regional leader in public sector efficiency, digital transformation and institutional strengthening," said Marzolf.



Also speaking at the ceremony, Maria Thompson Walters, Executive Director of the Transformation Implementation Unit, underscored the project's pivotal role in advancing the Government's public sector transformation agenda, while emphasising that the successful realisation of this transformation extends beyond the remit of the TIU and requires a coordinated, whole-of-government effort.

**"Transformation is something that we all must invest in, its success depends on the leadership and commitment of Ministries, Departments and Agencies right across the public sector. Our role is to drive and support the implementation, but the responsibility for the outcomes of public sector transformation is shared by us all," she noted.**

The programme will be implemented by the Transformation Implementation Unit under the portfolio of the MOFPS. The primary GOJ beneficiary institutions include the Office of the Cabinet, the Office of the Services Commission and other Ministries, Departments, and Agencies.

This initiative aligns with Jamaica's Vision 2030 National Development Plan and supports the Government's commitment to strengthening governance, enhancing service delivery and driving sustainable national development.

# MOFPS AND PARTNERS LAUNCH GOJ BOND TRADING PLATFORM



Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA (2nd left), Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Richard Byles (left), Governor, Bank of Jamaica (BOJ), Livingstone Morrison (2nd right), Group CEO, Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) and Senator Ramon Small-Ferguson (right), President, Jamaica Securities Dealers Association share a photo opportunity following the launch of JSE's GOJ Bond Trading Platform at the BOJ Auditorium on Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

The Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) alongside Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) and the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) launched the GOJ Bond Trading Platform at the Bank of Jamaica on Tuesday, March 31, 2026. The

platform is expected to transform how Government of Jamaica bonds are traded introducing real-time pricing, greater transparency and improve liquidity making bond trading more accessible and efficient for investors.



# Highlights



# THE PEOPLE INSIDE THE MOFPS

Jovell  
Barrett



**Meet Jovell Barrett**, Chief Public Procurement Policy Officer in the Public Expenditure Policy Coordination Division at the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service. Mr. Barrett, who is an Attorney-at-Law by profession, has been employed to the public service for two (2) years.

**Here are some things about him:**

**1. If you could change something about Jamaica what would it be? Why?**

I would strengthen the culture of accountability and respect for systems and institutions. Jamaica has relatively excellent laws, policies and talented people but our development often slows when rules are ignored or applied inconsistently. If we consistently uphold standards of transparency, professionalism, accountability and fairness in both the public and private sectors, we could unlock enormous economic potential and build greater public trust in government institutions.

**2. What is your favourite way to spend a day off?**

I enjoy spending time with family and close friends, especially over good food, conversation and games. I also like using quiet time to reflect and sometimes work on personal projects or ideas. For me, a good day off balances relaxation with a little bit of productivity.

**3. If money were no object, what would you do?**

I would dedicate more time to initiatives that strengthen governance, education and entrepreneurship in Jamaica. I believe that strong institutions and empowered citizens are the foundation of national development. I would also travel more and invest in projects that create opportunities for young, disadvantaged Jamaicans.

**4. What is your favourite thing about your job?**

The opportunity to shape policies that improve how public funds are used. Public procurement represents a significant portion of government expenditure and when done properly it ensures the delivery of good quality public services for citizens and support local businesses. I am extremely happy when I see the result of my work in the form of public services being delivered.

**5. Top 3 lessons you would teach your younger self:**

- a. **Think long term.** Decisions made today should always be guided by the bigger picture of where you want to be in the future.
- b. **Be patient with the process.** Real progress often takes longer than expected, do not watch the pace of the progress of others, persistence pays off.
- c. **Invest in relationships and integrity.** Your reputation and the way you treat people will open more doors than any qualification.



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The Jamaica Customs Agency is mandated to protect Jamaica's border, facilitate trade and collect revenue on behalf on the Government of Jamaica, as such, the Agency only gets involved to inspect your items once they are presented to the Officers, this to ensure the mandates above are carried out.



**For more information:**

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✉ @jamaicacustoms

# MINISTRY MATTERS



## ► MOFPS MEETING WITH SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



Hon. Fayval Williams (3rd left), MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service met with the Small Business Association (SBAJ) of Jamaica on Friday, January 9, 2026. Captured are Garnett Reid (right), President, SBAJ, Dennise Williams (2nd left), 2nd Vice President, SBAJ, Kevin Frith (left), Secretary, SBAJ, Althea McPherson (3rd right), Advisor, SBAJ and Shauna Gaye Mitchell (2nd right), Member, SBAJ.

## ► MOFPS MEETING WITH US EMBASSY AND THE US DFC



Hon. Fayval Williams (right), MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service met with the US Embassy and the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) on Friday, January 16, 2026. Captured are Scott Renner (left), US Embassy Chargé d’Affaires and Kerri Hannan (right), US Department of State Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Diplomacy, Policy, Planning and Foreign Assistance.

# ***PUBLIC AUCTION***

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service's Asset Management and Disposal Services Branch hosted its quarterly Public Auction Sale at 1 Shalimar Avenue on Friday, February 27, 2026.



# MOFPS CELEBRATES JAMAICA DAY

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service celebrated Jamaica Day during its monthly farmers' markets, highlighting the nation's culture, unity and national pride.



# MOFPS BUDGET DAY



# THE 2026-27 NATIONAL BUDGET

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service engaged staff with activities and giveaways for Budget Day at the Ministry's Kingston-based location on Tuesday, March 10, 2026.





# Branch **Spotlight**

## **MOFPS STRATEGIC PLANNING, PERFORMANCE AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT BRANCH**

The team is led by  
**Mrs. Sheena Perriel**

Senior Director, Strategic Planning, Performance  
and Project Management Branch.

Meet the Strategic Planning, Performance and Project Management Branch (SPMB)  
within the Corporate Planning and  
Administration Division in the MOFPS.



### **1. What is the staff complement of the Strategic Planning, Performance and Project Management Branch?**

7

### **2. What are the Branch's core responsibilities and function?**

The SPMB is responsible for guiding, coordinating and implementing the strategic planning and performance management processes of the MOFPS and some of its portfolio entities, in keeping with the policy directives set by the Office of the Cabinet and the MOFPS. This includes spearheading the Ministry's strategic and operational planning processes, reporting, monitoring and evaluating performance across the Ministry and its entities and supporting the implementation of key programmes, projects and initiatives.

### **3. How is the SPMB Driven by Service Excellence?**

The SPMB is driven by service excellence through its commitment to providing timely, accurate and strategic support to the Ministry's Divisions and portfolio entities. In so doing, the Branch strengthens accountability, supports informed decision making and helps the Ministry stay focused on delivering results.



# FARMERS' MARKET

The MOFPS Farmers' Market happens every last Friday of each month.



