



**Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**  
Ministry of Youth Development and National Service



*Supporting • Sustaining • Succeeding*



# EDUCATE EMPOWER ELEVATE

- Corporate Training Packages
- Capacity Building Workshops
- One Day Courses
- Mentorship
- Business Advisory

# EDUCATE · EMPOWER · ELEVATE

## NEDCO's Entrepreneurial Training and Business Advisory Services

Welcome to NEDCO – your trusted partner on the journey from business dreams to reality! As the forefront provider of Entrepreneurial Training and Business Advisory services, we are on a mission to cultivate a dynamic entrepreneurial landscape.

### Empowering Dreams:

At NEDCO, we go beyond traditional training. We empower aspiring entrepreneurs, startup visionaries, and small business owners with not just knowledge and skills, but the mindset needed for success. Our Entrepreneurial Training is a transformative experience crafted to navigate the intricacies of entrepreneurship and enhance your chances of success.

### Your Success, Our Priority:

Our Business Advisory service is not just about expertise; it's about the partnership. Our enthusiastic professionals are dedicated to propelling your small business toward success. Dependable, engaging, authentic, and attuned to your needs, our Business Advisors leverage their extensive experience to guide you organically through the journey of growth.

### More Than Advice, It's a Push Toward Excellence:

Business Advisory at NEDCO is more than receiving expert opinions; it's about the push to achieve

your best. We offer Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) vital, creative, and adaptable support. In the intricate world of business, our qualified advisors are your partners, assisting you in growing your company into a sustainable, thriving organization.

Embark on your entrepreneurial journey with confidence – NEDCO is here to transform your business aspirations into success stories!

## Business Advisory Services

### Welcome to NEDCO's Business Advisory Services – Your Gateway to Entrepreneurial Excellence!

At NEDCO, we understand the dynamic challenges faced by MSEs, and our Business Advisory Services are tailored to provide vital, creative, and adaptable support for your business growth. Our qualified Business Advisors, with years of experience, are ready to guide you through the complexities of the business world.

### Why Choose NEDCO?

- Accelerate your business development.
- Overcome obstacles and avert errors.
- Gain industry-specific knowledge.
- Realize steady progress and accomplishments.
- Unlock your entrepreneurial potential.

**What We Offer: Advisory Sessions:** Quick tips and general consultancy support to address daily business issues.

- **Coaching Sessions:** Task-oriented guidance for key business tasks.
- **Mentorship Sessions:** Goal-oriented directive support over an extended period.
- **Facilitation and Training:** Topic-based information sessions for groups.

#### **Benefits of NEDCO's Business Advisory Services:**

- Gain insights and direction.
- Obtain unbiased third-party insight.
- Close knowledge gaps and receive industry-specific knowledge.
- Be heard by an avid listener.
- Unlock self-imposed limits and navigate challenges effectively.

#### **When is the Best Time to Access NEDCO's Business Advisory Services?**

##### **If you resonate with any of the following:**

- Considering a business idea or two.
- In need of a brainstorming buddy
- Need help with the business registration process.
- Starting your business.
- Seeking clarity and direction.
- Simply need to be heard!

#### **Book a Business Advisor today for a transformative business journey!**

We also collaborate with organizations across Trinidad and Tobago to enrich the entrepreneurial

ecosystem. Let NEDCO unlock the full potential of your ideas and ventures. Get in touch with us today!

#### **Our Business Advisory Projects**

##### **Project: Map It**

"Map It" is the conceptual name given to the one-hour-long Business Advisory service product designed specifically for young "female" entrepreneurs and differently-abled persons with technical skills. This sub-product is particularly aimed at evoking the entrepreneurial spirit with a focus on building an entrepreneurial mindset. Conceptually "Map It" will filter introductory topics to new entrepreneurs. The flow of the session should include discussions about:

- Hustler vs. business Owner vs. entrepreneur
- The Mindset of an Entrepreneur
- What type of Entrepreneur am I?
- Finding your business passion
- Mapping my Business Idea

**Intended audience:** Females between 16 to 35 years, and differently-abled persons between 16 to 35 years.

##### **Project: NEDCO's Youth Mentorship Programme – From Exam to Entrepreneurship**

As a New product to boost NEDCO's business support arsenal, the Youth Mentorship Programme (YMP) was designed for implementation in collaboration with sponsors from Corporate T&T. NEDCO will be inviting a minimum of five (5) Corporate Partners to sponsor an "entrepreneurial scholarship" inclusive of referring and supporting one young person in the development of a new MSE. This interactive three-month programme was structured to enable the students to put into practice their learnings and create the business of their dreams.

**Intended audience:** The recommended young person should be between the ages of 16 to 25 years; “fresh” out of school having recently completed business or skills subjects at CSEC; CVQ, CAPE, or University and not yet gainfully employed.

**Interested in becoming a sponsor?** Join us in championing entrepreneurship, education, and empowerment. Together, let’s pave the way for a future where innovation knows no bounds. Contact NEDCO today at [training@nedco.gov.tt](mailto:training@nedco.gov.tt) to discuss how your sponsorship can make a lasting difference in the lives of those ready to embark on their entrepreneurial odyssey.

The NEDCO Exam to Entrepreneurship Project awaits your support – together, let’s shape a future of endless possibilities!

### **Project: NEDCO’s Youth Advisory Clinic**

A virtual advisory “clinic” service product, branded on Social Media and targeted toward issues young entrepreneurs face. The platforms selected for the dissemination of information were META (Facebook/Instagram/WhatsApp etc.); TikTok, and LinkedIn together with traditional media. The audience can look forward to joining lives, viewing videos, listening to podcasts, radio and interacting with a Business Advisor for free advice.

Topics to be covered are:

- Do you know what is killing your Cash?
- I hate paperwork!
- Why am I losing followers or sales?
- Why did taxes affect my loan or grant application?
- A Financial Advisor’s story on what could go wrong or right with taxes.
- Do you know what your “hidden” costs are?
- Horror stories: What did I do wrong in this

business meeting?

- Help! I have friends but I need a network!
- Why don’t you trust me?
- Are you ready for the Competition?
- Am I the Brand?
- The social pressure of social media
- Debate: Experience vs Innovation
- Stop listening to all the doubters and start trusting yourself
- Time to act upon an idea.
- Courageous and self-confident Vs Cocky
- Is it me or are there too many government regulations for my small business?

**Intended audience:** Youths 18 to 35 years and new Entrepreneurs with lots of technical skills and limited business acumen.

### **Project: To Market to Market**

“To Market to Market” is a series of NEDCO’s Group Advisory / Coaching services designed for groups of potential and current business owners with disabilities. This service would provide the opportunity for select clients to participate in engaging conversations, as well as, use tools or templates specific to their industries or business needs in detail. Ideally, clients should be skilled or operating in similar industries or may need the equivalent type of business support.

The overarching aim of the Business Advisory Unit continues to be to deliver a realistic guide to implementing information gleaned in any introductory business topic and the added value of structured networking.

“To Market to Market” was created to deliver dynamic consultancy in a predesigned session. Each session will be customized to host specific small business owners in a two-hour-long intense think tank. A relaxed learning environment would be fostered within the group setting through a participatory approach to learning with shared experiences, interactions, and synergies.

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Group sessions will assist the clients with identifying business strategies/concepts as practical as possible for application in their businesses. All the "To Market to Market" Group Advisory sessions will seek to dissect key business-related topics while sharing tips, tools, templates, and techniques relevant to the needs identified for the select group.

**Topic Areas will include:** Marketing (Digital and Social Media), Business Plan Writing, Financial Literacy and Money Management, Business Registration, and Taxation.

**Intended audience:** Persons with Disabilities not age-specific, persons in the culture and arts, and female entrepreneurs

**Project: ILO Green Sustainability and My Green Business**

ILO Green Project is a new training programme undertaken by NEDCO's Business Advisors to teach MSEs the methods needed to start and operate sustainable enterprises. The courses will be delivered virtually and integrated into the NEDCO's training portfolio. The participants will also be given the option to have in-person sessions for additional advisory support. A WhatsApp group will be set up for participants to communicate, ask questions of the group, and engage with the Business Advisor.

The topics covered under the ILO Green Project:

- General Information and Sensitization Session
- Benefits of the Greening Program outline
- Green Entrepreneurs
- Green Opportunities
- Green Business Idea - Brainstorming
- My Green Business Idea
- Investments and Financing plan
- Development of the Green Business Plan.

**Intended audience:** As a state agency NEDCO is also often contracted by other state agencies to offer support to persons seeking to become entrepreneurs. Participants will be chosen from the partner's database and the program may be advertised soon in the media as a new service offered by NEDCO.

**Project: Caribbean Development Bank (Caribank) MSME Capacity Building Programme**

NEDCO has partnered with the Caribbean Development Bank (Caribank) for the implementation of a Capacity Building Training for a maximum of fifty (50) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and one-on-one technical assistance for a maximum of ten (10) MSMEs.

Three (3) workshops entrepreneurial training workshops and one-on-one technical assistance series will be conducted in the following areas:

- Business Continuity Planning for MSMEs (First Training- Draft Agreement received)
- Digital and Social Media Marketing for MSMEs
- Financial Literacy and Management for MSMEs.

The first round of training will be the Business Continuity Planning for MSMEs scheduled for January 2024 (exact dates to be determined) and one-on-one Technical Assistance for ten (10) MSEs to create a Business Continuity Plan will be scheduled for March and April 2024

**Intended audience:** MSMEs selected to participate must be/have

- Registered and in operation for at least two (2) years,
- No more than fifty (50) employees;
- Servicing a loan /received a grant,
- A business plan,

- Between the ages of 18 to 35 years,
- A significant number of woman employees, if not female-owned and operated
- Operating directly or indirectly in sectors/subsectors relating to agribusiness, the blue economy, the creative industry, hospitality services, technology-based and green-tech businesses.

## Entrepreneurial Training Services

### Empowering Entrepreneurial Excellence with NEDCO's Training Services

At NEDCO, we are committed to fostering entrepreneurial success through our comprehensive training programs. Our services, both physical and virtual, provide integrated learning capabilities designed to address key needs and bridge gaps experienced by entrepreneurs. Explore the world of possibilities with NEDCO's Entrepreneurial Training Services.

### Physical, Virtual, and Hybrid Training for Integrated Learning Capabilities

The custom-made, business skills training workshops are designed and delivered by NEDCO to address key needs and close gaps entrepreneurs are experiencing. NEDCO provides various training interventions to meet the needs of the MSE Market. Some of the interventions are done via one (1) day workshops comprising three (3) to six (6) contact hours for each training course.

NEDCO's Capacity Building Training as a developmental intervention comes in the form of customized training used to improve the entrepreneurial abilities of the strategic partner's

stakeholders. It is designed with the needs of the target group in mind. Firstly, the participants are assessed via an entry form method to determine their levels of literacy and their understanding of Entrepreneurship or if they were operating a business before the programme was designed.

NEDCO prides itself on recruiting highly skilled trained facilitators who educate and enable entrepreneurs across many industries. Some of whom are trained by the International Labour Organization (ILO) are able to execute programmes that are proven to develop budding entrepreneurs worldwide and further enhance the businesses of seasoned entrepreneurs.

Further, due to the practical nature of the interventions mentioned above the participants who engage in these workshops and programmes can immediately implement the learning and action items into their businesses.

### What We Offer:

#### 1. Comprehensive Seminars:

A series of 10 short courses exploring critical topics such as:

- The Mindset of an Entrepreneur
- Developing Your Business Plan
- Record Keeping and Cash Management
- Innovation and Creativity in Business
- Registering/ Starting Your Business
- Costing and Pricing
- Record Keeping and Cash Management
- Taxes and the Entrepreneur
- Customer Service and Relationship
- Negotiation Tips with Suppliers and Customers
- Marketing and Social Media Strategies for MSEs
- Types of MSE Financing/Credit Readiness and your Credit Profile

## 2. One-Day Courses:

Take a crash course and delve deep into impactful insights in:

- Business Taxation/Know Your Taxes
- Business Etiquette and Protocol
- Costing and Pricing
- Developing a Business Plan
- Excellence in Customer Service
- Information Technology
- Innovation and Creativity in Entrepreneurship
- Managing Staff
- Record Keeping and Cash Management
- Steps to Starting Your Business
- Tendering for Contracts
- Negotiating Tips and Techniques
- Facilities Management
- Marketing for MSEs
- Social Media Strategy
- Competitive Strategy
- Customer Relationship Management
- Corporate Governance
- Digital Transformation for MSEs.

## 3. Capacity Building Programs:

Customized training packages designed for youths, females, artisans, and cultural communities.

### Customized for our Partners:

- ILO SIYB Training Modules: Generate your Business Idea, Start Your Business, and Improve Your Business
- ILO's Youth Entrepreneurship Academy
- ILO's Green Sustainability and My Green Business Modules
- Caribank Capacity Building Training for MSMEs.

## Customized for Corporate Organizations:

Corporate Training is offered and designed for companies who desire to improve the skills of their staff members. These are offered in the form of soft skills workshops such as:

- Business Etiquette and Protocol
- Managing Staff
- Customer Service Management
- Customer Relationship Management.

## Benefits of Entrepreneurial Training

Our training programmes helps you to:

- Establish and meet specific goals for your business.
- Turn objectives into daily activities that foster development.
- Create a motivating culture for operational success.
- Achieve excellence in client acquisition and retention.
- Implement practical strategic planning.
- Create financial reports for informed decision-making.
- Learn how to start and manage a sustainable small business.

## Key Questions Entrepreneurial Training Answers

Our training addresses critical questions such as:

- How do you envision your business looking in three to five years?
- How can you set up your work so that you spend less time in other zones and more time in your desired zone?
- How successful is the culture of your business, and what can be done to make it better?
- Do you offer enough compensation and

- benefits to entice and retain top talent?
- Is the structure of your organization suitable for the stage of your business?
- How might you expand the range of products or services you provide to your present customer base?
- Are there markets you don't currently serve that have prospective new customers who could benefit from your current offerings?
- In order to produce results that are better, faster, or less expensive, which processes need to be redesigned or reengineered?
- What departments within your business require innovation?
- What are the most effective tools for raising awareness of online businesses?
- What are some strategies to find the ideal clients for your new venture?
- Do small businesses have any options when it comes to funding? Should you obtain funding?

new abilities to sustainable and environmentally friendly businesses.

Two hundred (200) participants of the YAHP Full-time Programme were trained and a further ninety (90) potential *agripreneurs* from the Shade House Project were also provided with business support training.

Recently two hundred (200) participants of the YAHP Part-time programme have embarked on their entrepreneurial business training.

**Intended audience:** Youth 18 to 35 years

### **Project: Export Centres Company Limited Training**

In September 2022, NEDCO and ECCL embarked on a collaboration to train several artisans in the area of Entrepreneurship with a focus on building the entrepreneurial capacity of this special group. The following levels of training interventions were aligned with ECCL's Craft Training Programmes.

- Level I (Introductory): Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Business Management
- Level II (Intermediate): Starting and Managing Your Small Business
- Level III (Advance): Grow Your Small Business.

Level I: Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Business Management covers the following areas:

- Describing business which focuses on explaining business terms and what they mean.
- Entrepreneurial mindset which highlighted the importance of developing a mindset that is focused on business development.
- The tenets of Innovation and Creativity were explored in this content as well;
- Business Planning with a focus on the

## **Ongoing Partnerships**

### **Projects: MYDNS Youth Agriculture Homestead Programme (YAHP Full-time and Part-time Cohort) and Youth Agricultural Shade House Project (Shade House Project)**

In collaboration with MYDNS's Project Implementation Unit NEDCO was engaged to provide entrepreneurial development support for the Youth Agricultural Homestead Programme (YAHP) and the Shade House Project. While other agencies provided agro-processing and agricultural skills training; NEDCO trained aspiring business owners via in-person and online in business development and interventions with a keen emphasis on *Agropreneurship*.

NEDCO showed the participants how to apply these

importance of developing a business plan and how to set business goals as an entrepreneur was explored; and

- Starting a Business segment emphasized the business registration process and how taxes are to be done

The Intermediate Level II: Starting and Managing Your Small Business covers the following modules:

- Business Taxation/Know Your Taxes
- Costing and Pricing
- Developing a Business Plan
- Excellence in Customer Service
- Information Technology
- Managing Staff
- Record Keeping and Cash Management
- Steps to Starting Your Business
- Marketing for MSEs
- Social Media Strategy

Level III: Grow Your Small Business.

**Intended audience:** Artisans and new craft business owners.

### **Project: The Music School Capacity Building Training**

The Ministry of Tourism Culture and the Arts (MTCA) expressed interest in entrepreneurial development training for its Music Schools in the Community-Capacity Building Initiative (MSIC CBI) pilot program. Music School in the Community programme aims to create a cadre of trained musicians for the future, serving to increase music literacy and supporting institutional strengthening among traditional and communal spaces such as pan yards, mandirs, and other community-based venues offering musical courses for the youth.

As the premier organization in Trinidad and Tobago charged with the development of the Small and Micro Enterprise (MSE) Sector NEDCO eagerly

collaborated with the Ministry of Tourism Culture and the Arts to further work with the owners' music schools.

## **Upcoming Capacity Building Training**

### **Project: DSO Capacity Building Project**

NEDCO's service offering to Entrepreneurs within the cultural art form also includes the facilitation of a Capacity Building Training and exploratory exercises for the community members of the Desperadoes Steel Orchestra (DSO). This training project focuses on the business of music and teaches the band members a collaborative method for advancing DSO's revenue-generating endeavors. This customized training will be executed in three phases and also has a group mentorship element.

**Intended audience:** Thirty (30) band members of the steel orchestra.

**Partners:** WITCO.

### **Project: Youth Aquaculture Programme (YAP)**

The Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS) via their Permanent Secretary expressed interest in the entrepreneurial development training for one hundred (100) participants of the Youth Aquaculture Project (YAP). Similarly, the participants will be exposed to the training and development initiatives. The programme, due to commence in January 2023, covers introductory topics, the entrepreneurial mindset, business idea generation, and the elements of a new business.

The training will help participants in developing a detailed business plan and the potential business owner to start their business. Therefore, all participants will be required to complete a business plan and an assessment will be done to determine if knowledge was transferred as well as if the plan is ready to be executed.

**Intended audience:** Youth 18 to 35 years.

## Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives

The Training Unit will be embarking on an initiative to encourage Corporate Trinidad and Tobago to adopt a community. NEDCO, along with the Organizations who are willing to partner, will identify the underserved communities and the needs that exist for sustainable development. These Organizations will be encouraged to provide financial support while NEDCO works at building the entrepreneurial capacity of the groups identified.

Additionally, the Business Advisory and Training units at NEDCO work together to provide a holistic developmental approach for the MSE industry.

Opportunity knocks, and we invite you to open the door to positive change through NEDCO's CSR initiatives. As we strive to make a meaningful impact in communities, your sponsorship can be the driving force behind transformative projects that uplift, empower, and create lasting change. Contact us today at [training@nedco.gov.tt](mailto:training@nedco.gov.tt) to discuss how your sponsorship can play a pivotal role in shaping a brighter and more sustainable future through NEDCO.

## Capacity Building Training

### Port-of-Spain City Corporation

The Port-of-Spain City Corporation expressed interest in the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited to provide entrepreneurial development training for Vendors of the City Port of Spain. This training aims to teach informal business owners how to register their business ventures and to improve the business acumen of the target group. The intended audience will consist of twenty-five (25) participants initially. The programmes identified for this group are:

- Registering Your Business (Types of Businesses and the registration process)
- Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset
- Improve Your Business (IYB)

**Intended Audience:** Vendors in the city of Port of Spain

### Port of Spain Shopping Complex Limited (PSSCL)

The Port of Spain Shopping Complex Ltd (PSSCL) expressed interest in entrepreneurial development training for participants of East Side Plaza and New City Mall. This project is geared towards PSSCL exposing existing business owners to effective business structures and how to improve their already existing businesses. Two hundred and twenty-five (225) participants will be provided with the entrepreneurial training interventions.

**Intended participants:** Store owners ranging from 30-50 years.

At NEDCO, we proudly collaborate with diverse partners across Trinidad and Tobago to provide enriching entrepreneurial training that unlocks success and potential. Let's join forces to cultivate entrepreneurial success stories. Partner with us and watch ambitious entrepreneurs transform under our guidance.

Collaborating with NEDCO means making an impact  
- Are you ready?

**Take the Next Step in Your Entrepreneurial Journey**  
- [Contact Us](#) for more information!

## Our Project Partners

As we embark on a new wave of entrepreneurial development projects in 2024, we are delighted to introduce our esteemed partners dedicated to empowering Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs). Together, we are committed to fostering growth, providing support, and creating lasting impact.

### **Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association (TTBWA)**

The Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association (TTBWA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people who are blind and vision impaired. The Association has been in existence since 1914 and was incorporated by an Act of Parliament in 1947 (Act 14 of 1947). From its inception, the organization has been providing welfare/rehabilitation services for our clientele and is constantly seeking opportunities to improve their lives. TTBWA is a nonprofit, voluntary rehabilitation

organization that receives funding from private contributions, bouquets, deeds of covenant, annual financial campaigns, and from government.

The objectives of the TTBWA are:

- To Prevent Blindness
- To Promote public awareness in the community
- To promote independence and integration
- To act as a Resource Centre

The TTBWA services are available to all persons whose vision is impaired to the extent that it interferes with or restricts normal activities. The TTBWA receives referrals from hospitals, professionals in the field of sight, and from relatives or friends of people with visual difficulties. Some of these services are;

- Counseling
- Referrals to Medical Doctors
- Rehabilitation
- Leisure Activities
- Blindness prevention
- Socialization programme
- Library services
- School for Blind Children
- Daily Living Skills, Mobility & Orientation
- Social and Communication skills
- Vocational Counseling
- Social Welfare Assistance.

Three (3) workshops are attached to the Association's Branches. Various crafts in basketry, chair caning, and seagrassing are manufactured. Many crafts are taught to Blind students including that of furniture building. Those of the Blind who are unemployed have a chance to display their works of art at each of the Association's showrooms.

## NiNa

The NiNa Young Women's Leadership Programme (NiNa) provides financial literacy, entrepreneurial skills, and tools to build self-value in young women within the state care system who are transitioning out into the "real world" at the age of 18. For over eight (8) years, the NiNa Young Women's Leadership Programme has supported young ladies from various State Care Facilities

NiNa seeks to create a cadre of young female leaders in the Caribbean through training in life skills, leadership, self-belief, and entrepreneurship.

NiNa has several activities under four streams of work –

- NiNa School Programme,
- NiNa Jude's Home for Girls Programme
- NiNa Summer Programme
- NiNa Transition Programme

The NiNa Young Women's Leadership Programme also engages other students. There is a twelve (12) month entrepreneurship programme within high schools in Trinidad where 5th to 6th formers learn entrepreneurship skills. Twelve (12) targeted modules for business skills are taught. At the end of the year's programme, the students give a business pitch culminating in the NiNa Aspiring Entrepreneur Award – a financial award to act as seed funding for their enterprises. There are now eight (8) graduates of the NiNa Young Women's Leadership Programme who are actively mentoring other young girls to develop life skills.

NiNa is engaged with the ladies under state care throughout the calendar year in a programme called NiNa St. Jude's Home for Girls Programme. The following are activities we undertake:

- One (1) week of training through a boot camp for young women ages 15 – 17 in business and life skills.
- Business pitch culminating in a financial award.

- Six (6) day summer training in life skills (coping, public speaking, leadership, marketing through mentorship, yoga, field trips, sharing of stories by other young entrepreneurs, STEM, sexual health, building self-value).
- Year-round mentoring for select girls in the home with monthly activities.

## National Centre for Persons with Disabilities

The National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) began as an offshoot of the orthopedic Ward of the San Fernando General Hospital. It was meant to be a pilot project to be replicated in Port of Spain and Tobago.

The National Centre for Persons with Disabilities desires to create a social environment aligned with the preconditions for inclusion outlined by the United Nations' Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). The organization's role is to rehabilitate and empower Persons with Disabilities (PWD), providing training, advocacy, and intervention to help our differently-abled fellow citizens live full and meaningful lives, find useful work in the community, contribute to our society, and fulfill their purpose. NCPD supports persons with disabilities in their efforts to combat discrimination, ignorance, and bias, which continue to impede their progress and encroach upon their daily lives.

Available Services:

- Vocational Rehabilitation & Skills Training
- Business Services
- Consultative Services

## Serving Women and Youth (SWAY)

SWAY was incorporated in 2017 as a nonprofit organization for the execution of projects and programmes to facilitate capacity building and skills development for vulnerable individuals and

communities in Trinidad & Tobago, with a focus on women and youth.

At SWAY, our vision is based on recognizing the pivotal role of women in uplifting communities. As individuals, partners, and mothers, their potential to create social change is incomparable. However, many are without access to mainstream education and opportunities to learn essential skills, resulting in a range of unfavourable outcomes that impact not only them, but their children, communities, and future generations. However, many are without access to mainstream education and opportunities to learn essential skills, resulting in a range of unfavourable outcomes that impact not only them, but their children, communities, and future generations.

We can identify many underlying problems across communities:

- There are many women and youth in many communities who are unable to secure employment or a steady income for themselves and their households.
- These women have not been exposed to family planning, evidenced by their having numerous children (often from a very young age), despite not having the financial or educational means to support them adequately.
- As young mothers, with no opportunity to learn about nutrition, child development, and basic life skills - they tend to make poor choices, negatively impacting the health and wellbeing of themselves and their families.

We envision these women recognizing their ability to be self-reliant, and utilizing their innate potential through any role they wish to fulfill, simply by having access to learning opportunities that enable them to expand their mindset and skillsets.

## Guiding Principle

Our guiding principle is Community: our main strength is cultivating strategic partnerships with organizations that have knowledge, access, or experience in a specific community; can access community spaces, both government and private; have professional or niche skillsets (e.g. medical groups); and can conduct skills training. Our partners become project stakeholders who are equally invested in the outcomes that will benefit the communities we work with.

## Our Objectives

SWAY's programs are focused on the following areas:

- Entrepreneurship training for women and youth
- Health and Wellness: Family planning and reproductive health
- Provision of material support for vulnerable communities
- Provision of solar energy devices for vulnerable communities
- Provision of digital skills to empower communities to participate in the new economy.

## SWAY's Activities

Our programs and activities are centered around:

- Conducting skills training for women and youth: entrepreneurship, computer literacy, aesthetician training, and coaching to build a business
- Providing welfare support for vulnerable communities (across Trinidad)
- Offering medical support in rural communities (in collaboration with medical professionals).



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 [training@nedco.gov.tt](mailto:training@nedco.gov.tt)

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