NIA representatives and students from the Ananda Marga preparatory School, on the occasion of the “Irie Book Tour and Creative Contest”.

Community members at a town hall meeting held in May Pen Clarendon.
October 19-24: Participation in the 18th IACC and TI Annual Members Meeting.

October 24: Participation in the 14th Annual CIN Lecture.

October 25: Governor General’s IBI Initiative, Youth Consultative Conference.

October 27: Love in Our Hearts, Peace in the City Parade.
National Integrity Action and the Transparency International Secretariat hosted a Caribbean Regional Meeting of TI Chapters and Contacts on June 27-28, 2018 at the Jewel Runaway Bay Hotel in St. Ann. The meeting aimed at advancing the development of a TI Caribbean Network, as a distinct sub-group of the TI Americas region, with due regard to the Caribbean’s peculiarities and constraints. Previous work on building the Caribbean Network was undertaken at a meeting in Miami, Florida in May of 2016. This Runaway Bay meeting sought to build on the discussions and outcomes from Miami.

NIA’s delegation to the meeting was led by Executive Director, Professor Trevor Munroe and included Deputy Executive Director, Dr. Patrece Charles; Events Coordinator, Tijani Christian; Youth Outreach Officer, Jamie-Ann Chevannes and Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator, Marlon G. Moore. The International cohort consisted of:

- Ariane Moonsie, Trinidad & Tobago Transparency Institute;
- Duane Burke, Transparency Institute of Barbados Inc. (TIBI);
- Luciana Torchiaro, Transparency International Secretariat, Berlin;
- Tamara Van Breugel, Citizens for a Better Bahamas (CBB);
- Troy Thomas, Transparency Institute Guyana.

We were also joined on the first day of the meeting by Mr. Nicholas Abbate from the US Embassy and Mr. Allan Bernard from the USAID Mission. It is also notable that the meeting sought to engage contacts from the Cayman Islands as well as St. Kitts and Nevis, but they were unable to attend.

One of the points arising from the Miami meeting was the need to generate “comparable and reliable information among countries.” To this end Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago as well as the Bahamas participated in the latest round of the Global Corruption Barometer. Additionally, TI is currently undertaking research into the Caribbean Public Accountability Mechanism (CARIPAM), which seeks to evaluate the quality of anti-corruption legislation in seven (7) countries throughout the region, relative to international benchmarks. The particular pieces of legislation examined were Conflict of Interest, Political Financing, Freedom of/Access to Information and Financial Disclosure.
Transparency International’s Secretariat (TI-S) hosted a training seminar/meeting for its Advocacy and Legal Advice Centres (ALAC), from May 14 – 15, 2018, which also commemorated the 10th Anniversary of the formation of the first ALAC in the Americas Region. The meeting was titled “Encuentro Internacional de sociedad civil para la lucha contra la corrupción”, which loosely translates to “International Meeting of Civil Society in the fight against Corruption”. National Integrity Action (NIA) was represented at the meeting by Legal Research Assistant, Tressa West who was among sixteen (16) other participants present from seven (7) countries at the Porta Hotel in Antigua, Guatemala.

The evening’s lecture focused on “Charting a Pathway for Just and Sustainable Futures” with the Keynote Presentation by Professor Melissa Leach – Director of the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. A robust discussion ensued from the presentation. Out of the discourse, it was reaffirmed that now, more than ever before, the future we chart has to be one with equitable justice.

Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) is a feature of Transparency International (TI), through which TI chapters provide free and confidential legal advice to witnesses and victims of corruption. There are currently over 100 ALACS operating in over 60 countries around the world.

Generally, the ALAC seeks to mainly:
1) Provide free and confidential Legal Advice.
2) Advocate for justice reform.
In the continuous effort to ensure that the focus of organisation building is paramount to the fulfilment of the mandate of the National Integrity Action (NIA), NIA continues to recruit members of the citizenry to the social movement. Towards this end, National Integrity Action hosted a New Members’ Orientation Workshop on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at its Head Office in New Kingston, Jamaica. The orientation was attended by twenty (20) participants. Two sets of persons were inducted as members from our community outreach portfolio – Justices of the Peace and other professionals.

National Integrity Action (NIA) was invited by the Legal Aid Council (LAC) to participate in the second in its series of Justice Fairs for 2018, held on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at Independence Park in Savanna-La-Mar, Westmoreland from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Justice Fairs are part of the Community Services Component of the Citizen Security and Justice Programme III under which the LAC is mandated to convene four Justice Fairs in the CSJP parishes. NIA was represented at the Justice Fair by its Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre team comprised of Lenworth Burke – Legal Adviser, Latoya Thomas – Legal Research Assistant, Tressa West – Legal Research Assistant and Lisanne Hamilton – Legal Officer and NIA’s Grants Field Officer, Hezekiah Hall.
In an effort to re-establish and expand the Integrity Clubs within schools, National Integrity Action (NIA) hosted two trainings during the quarter for teachers and/or staff members who would be the facilitators of the Integrity Clubs in their respective institutions.

The April 28-29 2018 batch were trained at the Iberostar Beach Hotel in St. James and consisted of seventeen (17) participants from high schools in the western end of the island. For the May 19-20 Kingston Batch which were trained at the Altamont Court Hotel, there were sixteen (16) teachers in attendance. NIA was represented by Jamie-Ann Chevannes, Youth Outreach Officer; Tijani Christian, Events Coordinator; Nellisa Asphall, Intern and the Integrity Club Training Consultant.

Before concluding the training, the participants agreed upon a timeline for the establishment of the Integrity Clubs, which will be at the start of the next academic school year at the end of August. Reports will be sent to NIA at the end of each term, which will incorporate their progress, challenges being faced and support needed going forward. The training allowed for the sharing of ideas on the most impactful means by which to establish the Integrity Clubs and sustain them in schools. The teachers, additionally, provided insight into the need for the lessons contained within the programme and mention was made that some of the materials provided within the manual could be utilized in developing the civics curriculum in their respective schools. The establishment and expansion of the clubs in schools would significantly aid NIA in fulfilling its mandate of promoting integrity and combating corruption within society, and is being implemented with the support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information.
National Integrity Action’s Youth Outreach Officer, Ms. Jamie-Ann Chevannes, accepted an invitation from the Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Centre to engage with the young male wards at their annual Career Day, which was held on May 30, 2018. The day included various organisations such as National Youth Service, National Housing Trust, HEART Trust NTA and the Correctional Services. Due to the nature of the engagement, NIA invited representatives from “New Path” a joint USAID-OAS programme, to speak with the young wards. Ms. Chevannes, in her presentation, advised the young persons that regardless of what brought them to where they were now, they now had a choice in the direction their life will now take. She noted that making the choice to create a positive change would not be easy, but with hard work and determination that they could achieve their goals. She added that there are persons and organisations who were more than willing to assist but they had to believe in themselves as well and make the commitment to do the right thing.

Mr. Jerome Palmer, Regional Manager of New Path, also spoke with the young males, encouraging them to make the positive change in their lives as of today. He indicated that he understood their circumstances noting that he too came from the same environment - but it was up to them if they wanted to make a real difference in their lives. He explained how they could benefit from the New Path Programme, and how they could get involved. The men were particularly receptive to the New Path programme, especially, with the prospect of them being provided with resources such as transportation and meals to attend school.

National Integrity Action supported Sam Sharpe Teachers’ College, in hosting their inaugural Research Day, which was held on April 17, 2018. The event took place on the college campus with the theme: “Crime and Violence: Educate to Eradicate” and saw approximately one hundred and twenty (120) students in attendance. This activity fell primarily under our TI-Supported IMPACT programme of work. National Integrity Action’s Executive Director, Professor Trevor Munroe, took part in a panel discussion focusing on “The impact of Crime and Violence on Jamaicans: Educate to Eradicate”. Professor Munroe in his presentation made the connection between corruption and crime, whilst highlighting the work of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and MOCA in the fight against corruption.
Brixton Hill Community Resource Centre Launch

On Wednesday April 22, 2018, residents of Brixton Hill and adjoining communities welcomed the Charge d’Affairs of the United States Embassy, Acting Mission Director for USAID, Member of Parliament for the area, Acting ACP Steve MacGregor and Charles Ross of the Community Renewal Programme at the PIOJ to launch USAID-COMET II’s Brixton Hill Community Resource Centre (CRC).

National Integrity Action is collaborating with COMET II to provide training and capacity development, especially in governance and advocacy building, to the members of the management committee of the CRC.

Charge d’Affairs at the US Embassy, Eric Khant spoke of the importance of partnership and leadership in building a better community. The people of America are proud to support the development of local communities through USAID, he noted. A community resource centre, he said, is important to sustainable community practices, from a simple place to meet to use for enterprise development. Member of Parliament Pernel Charles, in his message, spoke of the years of committed work that has led to the opening of the CRC. MP Charles also spoke to the importance of community organization and participation in building the community.

Acting Senior Superintendent Steve McGregor of the Community Safety and Security Branch commended the management committee for their tireless work in community development and for being a committed partner with the Jamaica Constabulary in community policing. Professor Munroe in his presentation spoke to the importance of participation and commitment to national development.

Chapelton Community Resource Centre Launch

Residents of Sangster’s Heights and the wider Chapelton Community in Clarendon now have access to a newly opened community resource centre (CRC) handed over by USAID/COMET II on May 24, 2018. This CRC is the fifth to be established in Clarendon and the twelfth overall under the USAID/COMET II project. The project seeks to build safer communities through strengthening community and civil society organizations, increase citizen cooperation and accountability, strengthen juvenile justice and at-risk youth programs, and improve community-policing practices.
Social Audit on the National Works Agency

Through the support of Transparency International’s Canadian-funded IMPACT programme, NIA is in the process of conducting a social audit on different aspects of the work of the National Works Agency, the government of Jamaica’s principal agency for the development and maintenance of our roads and infrastructure. This process began on March 3, 2018, with an initial meeting with Dr. Terri-Ann Gilbert-Roberts and members of NIA, who form the core of a social audit team looking at the National Works Agency. From the members present, the areas of interest were: 1. Quality of Road Work 2. Process of Contracting.

Partnership with the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission

NIA entered into a partnership with the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC) – under the TI-IMPACT programme of work – to sponsor different sections of the 2018 staging Festival Competition. Over 10,000 persons participated in the various competitions that were a part of the Festival for this year. At all levels of the competition there was acknowledgement both written and verbal of NIA’s support. The support was also acknowledged in press releases and statements put out by the organizers.
Women’s Resource and Outreach Centre (WROC)

“Strengthening the Culture of Integrity in Jamaica (SCIJ): Enhancing the capacity, role and contribution of women and communities to support the building of a social movement against corruption and for integrity and gender justice”

During the period under review, Women’s Resource and Outreach Centre partnered with the Trench Town District Development Committee and the Social Development Commission to stage an intra-community domino tournament. The event was used to promote comradery, fair play and integrity among participants. It was also intended to promote the presence of WROC and the project within the target community.

WROC continued with its skills training programme, which included a ‘skills in integrity’ component under the six-months training programme for at risk youth. WROC also collaborated with Brenda Wyss, a professor of economics at Wheaton College (Massachusetts) to conduct a research on time use with women from Trench Town.

The Council for Voluntary Social Services (CVSS)

“Improving the overall quality of education and training, building capacity and strengthening Community-based Organizations (CBOs) to be more responsive to anti-corruption efforts and activities at the community, local and national levels”

For the review period, a total of ninety-nine (99) participants were trained at three (3) locations, with participants coming from ten (10) parishes. Training workshops were delivered in St Ann (North Gate High School), St James (International University of the Caribbean) and Kingston (National Volunteer Centre). Participants involved in training at these locations were drawn from the parishes of Westmoreland, Trelawny, Hanover, St. James, St. Ann, St. Mary, St. Catherine, Kingston, St. Andrew and St. Thomas.
Youth Crime Watch of Jamaica (YCWJ)

“Youth Crime Watch of Jamaica (YCWJ), a sub-awardee under the USAID-NIA cooperative agreement, continued its objective of developing youth-led and targeted initiatives to address issues of community sustainability. The project Community Buil’ Back with Yute consists of four components: School Intervention Programme, Sport for Life, Change through Arts, and Integrity Pays. YCWJ organized a series of activities during this quarter mainly under the SIP and SFL components.
National Integrity Action (NIA) was registered as a not-for-profit organisation in March 2011 with the objective of combatting corruption in Jamaica on a non-partisan basis. In 2015 NIA achieved the goal of becoming the Jamaica Chapter of Transparency International. The members of the Board of Directors are:

- Mr. Dennis Chung (Chairman)
- Professor Trevor Munroe C.D, Executive Director (Ex-Officio)
- Mr. Danny Roberts C.D
- Professor Rosalea Hamilton
- Mr. Martin Henry
- Mrs. Jacqueline Samuels-Brown Q.C
- Ms. Fae Ellington C.D
- Dr. Terri-Ann Gilbert-Roberts
- Dr. Lynden Rose, JP
- Mr. Lenworth Burke (Corporate Secretary)

The establishment of NIA grew out of the necessity to raise levels of national integrity and to combat corruption more effectively in Jamaica. The perception of Jamaicans and of the international community is that corruption is unacceptably high in our country, and that the corrupt must be deterred, detected and punished. While maintaining its presence as an effective civil society actor, NIA is now engaged in the process of building the core of a social movement for integrity. This process involves accepting members and partnering with diverse organisations to strengthen good governance in Jamaica. On this basis, NIA is building public engagement and demand for:

- New legislation to strengthen transparency and accountability in governance;
- Enforcement of the law against the corrupt;
- Ensuring that anti-corruption agencies function effectively;
- Stronger institutional partnerships among churches, youth and communities to build and sustain the integrity movement
- Forging strong ties with national and international partners to achieve more meaningful results in building a corruption-free Jamaica.