National Integrity Action’s Quarterly Newsletter
October to December 2018
National Integrity Action (NIA) in partnership with the Media Institute of the Caribbean (MIC) hosted an Investigative Journalism Workshop entitled, “The Art of the Investigative Story” on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at the Conference Room of the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce in Kingston.

The participants trained, totaling seventeen (9 males and 8 females), were mobilized by the Press Association of Jamaica (PAJ) with members from the major media houses i.e. RJR/Gleaner, Nationwide News Network, CEEN, Jamaica Observer, the Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication (CARIMAC) at the UWI Mona, and alumni members of the Media Institute of the Caribbean.

**Transparency International’s Annual Membership Meeting**

Transparency International, the global coalition against corruption, of which National Integrity Action is a member, held its Annual Members’ Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark on October 20th to 21st, 2018. The meeting was held prior to the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) and saw over one hundred Chapters of Transparency International being represented. National Integrity Action's delegate, Ms. Jamie-Ann Chevannes, Youth Outreach Officer. Ms. Chevannes participated in and contributed to some of the thematic and plenary sessions. The discussion during the plenary session focused on the engagement of the “grassroots” in the varying countries as well as seeking to define which segment of people belonged to this target group.

**Governor-General’s Programme for Excellence, Youth Consultative Conference**

National Integrity Action partnered with the Office of the Governor-General of Jamaica, through his Programme for Excellence’s I Believe Initiative, to host the 2018 National Youth Consultative Conference under the theme, “Mental Health Among Youth” at the Montego Bay Convention Centre, Rose Hall, St. James on Thursday, 25th October 2018. The day’s proceeding had an audience of approximately 1,000 participants from all over the country. While it was dubbed a youth conference, the crowd was mixed in its demography with a number of Custodees from each parish and professionals in various fields.
Judicial Conduct and Ethics Regional Workshop

National Integrity Action in collaboration with the Judicial Education Institute of Jamaica (JEIJ) within the Supreme Court of Jamaica; the United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC) and the Court Management Services (CMS) hosted the Launch of the United Nations Office on Drug & Crime (UNODC) Judicial Conduct & Ethics Training Regional “Train the Trainers” Workshop. This was held at the University of the West Indies Regional Headquarters in Kingston on Sunday, November 25, 2018 at 4:00 pm. Judge of Appeal, the Hon. Justice Mr. Patrick Brooks, moderated the proceedings. The evening’s messaging followed a common thread that, “Corruption in the justice system - whether actual or perceived - poses a real threat to confidence in the rule of law; therefore boosting judicial integrity is an integral part of the Doha Declaration Global Programme.” This was the message endorsed by speakers - Chief Justice Bryan Sykes, NIA Executive Director Prof Trevor Munroe, and Justice Minister Delroy Chuck.

Integrity Gathering 2018

National Integrity Action (NIA) hosted its second annual Integrity Gathering on Sunday, December 9th, 2018 at the Glenmuir High School Auditorium in May Pen, Clarendon, in partnership with the Council for Voluntary Social Services (CVSS). Dubbed ‘Integrity Gathering 2.0,’ the event was multi-purpose in focus, celebrating NIA’s seventh anniversary, commemorating United Nations International Anti-Corruption Day, certifying the second cohort of Integrity Champions (IC) trained by the CVSS, as well as announcing the launch of NIA’s first parish chapter in Clarendon. Close to four hundred (400) persons attended the gathering comprised of NIA staff, members and supporters, Integrity Champions, Clarendon chapter members with their family members and sub-awardee beneficiaries. Dignitaries in attendance included His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen, Governor General, Custos of Clarendon the Honourable William Shagoury and Political Ombudsman the Honourable Donna Parchment-Brown.

The 18th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) 2018

The 18th International Anti-Corruption Conference took place in Copenhagen, Denmark on the heels of Transparency International’s Annual Members Meeting over a three-day period from October 22 to 24, 2018. The conference was aptly themed “Together for Development, Peace and Security: Now is the Time to Act”, as the workshops and plenary discussions were focused on corruption, in increasingly complex forms, which is eroding fair and democratic governance across the world. One thousand six hundred (1600) delegates from one hundred and thirty (130) countries including the over one hundred Chapters of Transparency International amongst whom were National Integrity Action’s delegate, Ms. Jamie-Ann Chevannes, Youth Outreach Officer.
The Ministry of Education, Youth and Information’s (MoEYI), Youth and Adolescents Policy Division requested that National Integrity Action (NIA) become a strategic partner for the 2018 staging of the National Youth Parliament of Jamaica (NYPJ).

The first in the series of events to be hosted for the 2018 cohort of Youth Parliamentarians was the Investiture Ceremony, which was held on November 27, 2018 at the Jamaica Conference Centre. Overall ninety-six (96) youth, fifty-three (53) males and forty-three (43) females, were accepted for Investiture.

The partnership also saw NIA engaged in the training of the Youth Parliaments on two separate occasions. The first of which was a one-day training which took place on October 6, 2018 at the Faculty of Law on the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. The day saw seventy-three (73) participants, with thirty-eight (38) females and twenty-nine (32) males in attendance. Professor Trevor Munroe facilitated the sessions of the day with the overarching theme of “Governance and the Parliament”.

The second of the trainings, which was residential, took place on Saturday 13th - Tuesday 16th, October, 2018. The training saw the youth parliamentarians being trained in the following areas: Public/Private Sector Leadership and E-transformation, Position Paper Writing, Policy Development and Analysis, Public Speaking, Parliamentary Roles and Proceedings, Protocol, Ethical Dilemmas in Leadership and Parliamentary Procedures and Mock Sittings (Standing Orders, Motions, Order of Business/Order Paper, and Dress Code among others).

The finale, marking the culmination of their tenure, is the official sitting of Parliament which took place on Monday, November 12, 2018 at Jamaica’s House of Parliament, Gordon House, in Kingston. The sitting saw sixty (60) National Youth Parliamentarians participating after a year of service (30 males and 30 females), which included trainings and the execution of the constituency and County projects.

**Burger King Prep and Primary Schools Debate Competition 2018**

National Integrity Action (NIA) collaborated with Burger King for the third staging of the National Prep and Primary School Debating Competition, held under the theme “Change the world with what you say. Debate Today”. NIA’s decision to partner with Burger King in the staging of this competition arose from the belief that the values and tenets of integrity should be nurtured from the earliest possible stage of development. Additionally, the competition encourages critical thinking, research skills and the organisation of thoughts into pointed arguments, showing youth that there is a better method to settle disputes among themselves.

Twenty (20) teams registered and participated in this year’s Prep and Primary Debating Competition vying for top honours. The competition saw five (5) Prep and fifteen (15) Primary Schools from across the island. The competition commenced on October 31, 2018 and the finals are set to take place in January 2019 at a date to be determined. The teams who will be vying for the title are Duhaney Park Primary and Calabar Primary and Junior High.

**Students from the two teams through to the finals of the competition.**
Engagement with International Partners
EU & The Americas Conference

The European Union Ambassador to the United States David O’Sullivan extended an invitation to the Executive Director of National Integrity Action, Professor Trevor Munroe to speak at “Our Flagship Conference” the first of its kind between the EU and The Americas. The Executive Director accepted the invitation to the Conference, which brought together high-level political, economic and civil society stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic namely Europe, the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean. The Conference was held in Miami, Florida from November 15 to 16, 2018. Participants in the Conference discussed a range of issues including disaster resilience, EU/Americas trade and regional economic partnerships as well as advancing democracy the rule of law and human rights in the Americas. These discussions took the form of panels in which speakers engaged one another and the audience in highly informed and robust exchanges.

IDB Book Launch–Nurturing Institutions for a Resilient Caribbean

The Executive Director of NIA, Prof. Trevor Munroe accepted the invitation of the Inter-American Development Bank’s General Manager for the Caribbean Therese Turner-Jones to participate in the launching of the book “Nurturing Institutions for a Resilient Caribbean”. The book launch took place at the IDB offices in Kingston on December 10, 2018 and took the form of a panel discussion. Professor Munroe was invited to be one of the panellists, the other two being Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice Chancellor the University of the West Indies and Dr. Wayne Henry Head of the Planning Institute of Jamaica. Alongside the panellists, two of the authors of the 15-chapter compilation, Moises Schwartz and Henry Mooney made brief presentations highlighting different aspects of the book. The discussion was moderated by Adriana La Valley, Chief of Operations.

Diaspora Engagement
CIN Lecture 2018

National Integrity Action continued its efforts to engage the Diaspora by renewing its support for the Annual Caribbean International Network (CIN) Lecture Series. The 14th instalment of the series was held on Wednesday October 24, 2018 at the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Centre in Harlem, New York. The main lecture, delivered by Mr. Mark Shields, was entitled “Jamaica’s Crime Monster... Can it be Tamed?” That the turnout from the Diaspora community would be strong, was evident from the cocktail hour which preceded the lecture, and in the end the near-capacity audience was one of the largest the lecture series had seen in recent years.
Sub-Awards Progress Report

The Caribbean Policy Research Institute (CaPRI)

During the quarter CaPRI held the official launch of three research reports done in partnership with NIA and USAID. The first was ‘Transparency, Growth and Transformation: Unleashing the Power of Open Government Data’ on Monday, October 1, 2018 at the Terra Nova Hotel’s Venetian Suite.

The launch of CaPRI’s study was an opportunity to enable a wide audience to learn about open data, and broaden their understanding on how they can directly or indirectly utilize the tool. It also provided a platform for both key stakeholder groups to highlight any challenges, which would prevent the recommendations of the report from being implemented in a timely manner.

The second was the launch of CaPRI’s tax study ‘In Search of the Most Efficient Tax for Jamaica’ on November 13, 2018 at Spanish Court Hotel, Kingston, in a public forum titled ‘Out of Your Pocket or Out of Your Pay’. The occasion provided CaPRI the opportunity to present to an audience of approximately two hundred (200) people, the rationale for a shift towards increased reliance on indirect taxation, to enhance public receptiveness to changes in Jamaica’s tax regime.

Chairman of NIA’s Board of Directors, Mr. Dennis Chung, delivered opening remarks and commended CaPRI for excellent research in various relevant areas of policy, and expressed pleasure on behalf of NIA to be associated with the work. He expressed NIA’s continued support for CaPRI’s work, in particular this research on tax efficiency, on the basis that corruption is often a consequence of inefficient tax laws.

CaPRI launched its third research paper entitled ‘Beyond PET Bottles and Plastic Bags: Fixing Jamaica’s Environmental Regulatory Framework’. The research examined key aspects of Jamaica’s current governance framework for environmental management over the years, with the aim of identifying weaknesses and proposing recommendations for their resolution. The study was launched before an audience of approximately one hundred and eighty (180) persons on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at the Terra Nova Hotel in Kingston.

The Council for Voluntary Social Services (CVSS)

“In 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”

The Council for Voluntary Social Services (CVSS) through NIA’s sub-award mechanism, has been conducting trainings to engage community and youth leaders to build their capacity, mentor, advocate for and sensitize representatives in anti-corruption advocacy, strategies and practices at the community level. Overall, CVSS has trained four hundred and thirty (430) persons in its second batch of Integrity Champions under the project. Approximately two hundred and ten (210) of these Integrity Champions attended NIA’s second annual Integrity Gathering held Sunday, December 9th, 2018 at the Glenmuir High School Auditorium in May Pen, Clarendon. The gathering, which was multi-purpose in focus, also served to certify the second cohort of Integrity Champions who were presented with their certificates, and officially commissioned into action after being led by Professor Trevor Munroe in a choral recital of NIA’s integrity pledge.
Major Organized Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency
‘MOCA Development Project’

The Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA) commenced a series of training initiatives for this quarter. The trainings supported MOCA’s commitment to the professional development of its staff through continuous training and exposure to best practices. The workshops were conducted under the ‘MOCA Development Project’, administered through the NIA programme, ‘Combating Corruption and Strengthening Integrity in Jamaica’.

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 “

Employability Workshops at Charlie Smith High School

For the period under review, WROC conducted a series of employability workshops at the Charlie Smith High School. The objectives of the sessions were threefold, to improve employability skills among youth, to assist students with in-demand, marketable skills in searching and sitting interviews for employment, as well as to reduce anti-social behaviours among unattached youth. WROC’s strategy is aimed at investing in the students to produce benefits in and around the communities of Trench Town. The programme consisted of two (2) hour sessions, once per week over a six (6) weeks period with students being instructed in modules on resume and cover letter writing, dressing for the work environment, interviewing skills, professional etiquette, entrepreneurship in the 21st century, as well as sessions on integrity in the workplace.

Leadership and Advocacy Training Programme Graduation - Women’s Empowerment Group

WROC’s Leadership and Advocacy Training Programme for the first cohort of the Women’s Empowerment (WE) Group culminated with a graduation ceremony at the Knutsford Court Hotel in Kingston on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. Nineteen (19) participants who had attended sixteen (16) workshops covering topics on human rights, sexual and reproductive health, money management, integrity and corruption graduated from the programme. The ceremony was held to recognize the beneficiaries who had successfully completed the programme as trained female community leaders. These community leaders will take up the mantle of engaging their community networks to recruit the next cohort of female community leaders-in-training.

WROC Participates in Annual Silent Protest to End Violence Against Women

WROC was invited to participate in the Annual Silent Protest to End Violence Against Women by the Jamaica Community of Positive Women held at Emancipation Park on November 24th, 2018. A total of eight (8) women and one (1) man from WROC attended the event. This was accommodated under the ‘Street Side’ engagement component of the ‘Strengthening the Culture of Integrity in Jamaica (SCIJ)’ integrated communication strategy and action plan which has as one of its objectives “To expose approximately 300 males and
females 10 years and older to sensitization and awareness building sessions that will assist in creating an environment that facilitates women and girls advocating against corruption in their communities”.

**WROC Parenting Workshop**

WROC hosted a parenting workshop at the Webster Memorial United Church located at 53 Half Way Tree Road on December 8th, 2018 which under the theme ‘Parenting with Integrity’. The session was attended by sixteen (16) parents and guardians (14 females and 2 males) of the boys and girls in the Webster Memorial Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade participating in a series of integrity building activities. The workshop with the parents and guardians was planned to re-enforce the need for integrity in the home.

**Youth Crime Watch of Jamaica (YCWJ)**

*Community Build Back with Youth*

**Integrity Pays (IP) Component**

**Rock Spring Farms**

Rock Spring Farms as part of the YCWJ Integrity Pays Incubator Support programme, continued to strengthen its operations and social value creation machinery. The support has led to a myriad of partnership with government and civil society organisations. These include the Social Development Commission (SDC), FHI 360 and Digicel Foundation. With the continued support of FHI360, Rock Spring Farm was engaged in marketing and sales workshops, and received consistent support in accounting and financial management. Following their summer employment programme, the Rock Springs Farms has extended the programme to employing four youth from the community on a part-time basis. The young men have expressed continued interest in farming and are being taught and supported by proprietors Dale Muir and Ricardo Wellington. The employment programme, is a part of the bigger thrust of Rock Spring Farms to create farming clusters in the Rockfort community, where youth can get the support they need to build their farms and supply the market demand for goods such as mutton, chicken and pork.

**Jah Ova Evil**

Jah Ova Evil, which is one of four social enterprises receiving support under the IP component, was officially awarded the Digicel Foundation Queens Young Leaders Social Enterprise Grant. The organisation has also been supported under the CTA component and played integral role in the creation of the Integrity Album and the subsequent successful execution of the Integrity Tours in schools and communities. Through the support of the YCWJ, Jah Ova Evil has been able to grow and chart a path for additional support from organisations such as the Digicel Foundation. The grant will allow for renovation of the studio and the purchase of live music equipment, screen printing, dance and home-school tools.

**Life Yard**

Life Yard made steady progress with the growth of their Vegan Life Restaurant over the period under review. The enterprise has registered the name one of its signature juices “Buk Up Inna” and is one of the hot spots for natural fruit juices and vegetarian dishes in the central Kingston area. With additional support from partners such as SDC and the Digicel Foundation, the enterprise has been able to strengthen the core of its operations. YCWJ continued to offer technical and resource support to the organisation under the CBBY project and have been working with them to improve their governance structures.

**Flanker Resource Centre (FRC)**

The Flanker Resource Centre (FRC) continued to grow its bag juice business with the purchase of an additional freezer for storage. The organisation has also solicited the business of three additional wholesales, which have indicated that they will be purchasing their bag juices from the enterprise. The enterprise aims to produce and sell 5000 bags of bag juice per month. With the continued support of the FHI360 programme, FRC has been participating in business development workshops to help boost their social enterprise. To date, the FRC has participated in marketing, sales, social media, governance and accounting workshops. Each workshop was specific to the needs of the organisation and were integral in accessing and addressing some of the key challenges with the operations of the social enterprise.