

2022



Second Session 12th Parliament

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT

Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Head 48: Ministry of Trade and Industry

Allocation: \$229,508,000

A summary of the Department's Expenditure, Divisions and Projects. Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago.

Publication

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Trade and Industry for the period 2016-2022. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry's responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure 2022;
- the Estimates of Development Programme 2022;
- the Public Sector Investment Programme 2022; and
- the Auditor General's Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2020.

Head 48: Ministry of Trade and Industry

Ministerial Overview¹

As one of the frontline Ministries within the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) is leading the drive to position Trinidad and Tobago as a manufacturing base, and the business, trade, and financial hub of the Americas.

The Ministry's core responsibility is to grow trade, business and investment, particularly through driving the non-energy sectors of the economy. As the pivotal agency for trade promotion and development, MTI manages and coordinates the trade process to ensure access to international markets for companies located here. This is closely tied to another critical mandate – the aggressive development of business and industry. In this regard, MTI is formulating more appropriate industrial and services policies, designed to enhance the capability of the local industrial sector to compete in the global marketplace.

Much of MTI's activities are geared towards creating a facilitatory and supportive environment for business, especially through developing the most appropriate legislative framework to support business and investment activities. MTI is also responsible for stimulating domestic and foreign investment and is working to upgrade the entire framework for attracting investment – the lifeblood of industrial activity. MTI conducts its affairs and provides required services with the highest regard and esteem for all clients and customers. The Ministry's stakeholders are located within Trinidad & Tobago, as well as regionally and internationally, and are drawn from government circles, the private sector, and civil society.

Vision

A dynamic, client oriented organisation delivering integrated, quality services for business growth, trade and investment expansion and consumer empowerment.²

¹ Ministry of Trade and Industry website, accessed on August 30, 2021: <https://tradeind.gov.tt/who-we-are/>

² Ministry of Trade and Industry website, accessed on August 28, 2021. <https://tradeind.gov.tt/vision-mission/>

Mission

To work as an innovative team, championing business growth, trade and investment for enhanced global competitiveness and promoting consumer interests for improved wellbeing.

Directorates

The Ministry of Trade and Industry has streamlined its operations into four key directorates which are summarised below:

1. The **Investment Directorate** of the Ministry is responsible for attracting inward investment especially in the non-energy sector and creating an enabling environment to retain such investment. The main objectives of the Directorate are to:
 - facilitate foreign direct and domestic investment for the growth of the non-energy sectors;
 - ensure a coordinated approach to investment promotion to attract further investments into the economy; and
 - ensure that Trinidad and Tobago is the premiere destination for investments.
2. The **Business Development Directorate** of the Ministry is to develop and grow business in Trinidad and Tobago. This objective can be further broken down into eight (8) processes which are captured in the Business Development Value Chain. The Business Development Directorate comprises two Units which are as follows:
 - The Business Support and Facilitation Unit which is responsible for addressing issues related to the business environment in order to make it more facilitating and transparent. It has oversight for the sectors identified by Government for development in its quest to diversify the economy of Trinidad and Tobago; and
 - The Alliances Unit which is responsible for managing stakeholder relationships and strengthening links with State Agencies which fall under the purview of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.
3. The **Policy and Strategy Directorate** works closely with other directorates, Ministries, and Agencies, by providing policy advice and direction on domestic and international policy issues; leading national business reforms; project monitoring and evaluation;

data analysis and business facilitation. The PSD also prepares and reviews strategic plans, policies, briefs, technical papers and presentations.

4. The **Trade Directorate** is responsible for identifying opportunities, negotiating trade agreements, developing policies, and growing and developing non-energy trade, particularly export-led trade in Trinidad and Tobago.

Minister: Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon

Permanent Secretary (Ag.): Mrs. Ayleen Alleyne-Ovid

Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.): Ms. Karlene Roach

Organisations, State Enterprises, Statutory Boards and Other Bodies

Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT)

The Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Ltd (CreativeTT) established by The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Trade and Industry is a wholly owned State enterprise with the mandate 'to stimulate and facilitate the business development and export activities of the Creative Industries in Trinidad and Tobago to generate national wealth.' CreativeTT is responsible for the strategic and business development of the three (3) subsectors under its purview- Film, Fashion and Music.

- The Trinidad and Tobago Fashion Company

The Trinidad and Tobago Fashion Company Limited (FashionTT) was established in 2013 with the mandate to stimulate and facilitate the business development and export activity of the fashion industry in Trinidad and Tobago to generate national wealth. As a subsidiary of the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT), FashionTT provides service for local fashion industry stakeholders primarily fashion designers in the areas of fashion apparel, functional apparel and accessories.

- The Trinidad and Tobago Film Company Limited (FilmTT)

FilmTT is the state agency established in 2006 to facilitate the growth and development of the film and audio-visual sector in Trinidad & Tobago. As a subsidiary of the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited, FilmTT works on all aspects of film sector development, promotes Trinidad & Tobago as a film production location, and provides Film Commission services to local and incoming productions. FilmTT's mission is to maximise the economic and creative potential of Trinidad and Tobago's screen industries for the benefit of the country and its people.

- The Trinidad and Tobago Music Company Limited (MusicTT)

MusicTT was established in 2014 with the mandate to stimulate and facilitate the business development and export activity of the music industry in Trinidad and Tobago to generate national wealth. As a subsidiary of Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT), MusicTT provides industry-wide strategic direction and action plans toward the development of the music industry as well as guidance and access to music education and capacity development, especially in the business and monetization of local music and protection of the same.

Central Statistical Office

The CSO is a Division of the Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development charged with the responsibility of taking censuses in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and collecting, compiling, analyzing and publishing statistical information relating to all social and economic activities of the people of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce

To be the champion of business towards the development of a strong and sustainable national economy.

The Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Service Industries

TTCSI is a national umbrella body that brings together all services sector organizations and associations. Basically it is an alliance of professional services associations and organizations. It will function as a focal point to lobby; channel and address trade in services issues and services development issues, which are critical for the sector to thrive in the competitive global environment.

Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS)

The primary role of TTBS is to develop, promote and enforce standards in order to improve the quality and performance of goods produced or used in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. To ensure industrial efficiency and development; promote public and industrial welfare, health and safety; and protect the environment.

Trinidad and Tobago Fair Trading Commission

Trinidad and Tobago Fair Trading Commission is an independent statutory body established pursuant to the Fair Trading Act No. 13 of 2006 with responsibility for:

1. preventing anti-competitive conduct thereby ensuring competition and efficiency while at the same time complementing other policies that promote competition;
2. maintaining free and fair competition in business; and
3. taking action against abuse of dominance, restraint of trade and unfair or deceptive trade practices.

Essentially, the Commission is responsible for implementing and administering the Act. Its mandate is to promote and maintain effective competition throughout the economy and to ensure that competition is not distorted, restricted or prevented. Its objectives include:

- Ensuring that all legitimate business enterprises have an equal opportunity to participate in the economy;
- Preventing anti-competitive conduct while at the same time complementing policies that promote competition;
- Raising awareness of the benefits of competition; and
- Exhibiting a high level of integrity and intellect.

Trinidad and Tobago Racing Authority

In 1976 however, Government took over the control of the regulatory aspects of the local horse racing industry with the establishment of the Trinidad and Tobago Racing Authority. By Act of Parliament (No. 45 of 1976) and which accordingly replace the Trinidad Turf Club as the controlling arm of racing, however the club still maintain its status as a Promoter of racing. The TTRA's mission is to uphold the integrity of the Racing Industry in Trinidad and Tobago, so as to ensure fair play for all participants without fear or favor.

Evolving Tecknologies and Enterprise Development Company Limited (e Teck)

Evolving Tecknologies and Enterprise Development Company Limited (e Teck) reviewed and revised its strategic direction in October 2011 and launched a 15-year Strategic Plan (2012-2027) to better align to the Ministry of Trade and Industry's overall goal for diversification – “to drive the non-energy sectors for the sustainable long-term growth and development of diversified and knowledge-based economy that contributes to the creation of high quality jobs.

Trinidad and Tobago Free Zones Company Limited

The Free Zones Programme has been designed to attract export-oriented businesses both Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) and local investors; as part of the Government's diversification drive. The large energy projects have come to Trinidad and Tobago to access Trinidad and Tobago's energy resources and the special incentives offered by the Government. Such projects cannot access free zone incentive.

invesTT

As Trinidad and Tobago's Investment Promotion Agency (IPA) aligned to the Ministry of Trade and Industry, InvesTT is the first point of contact for investors seeking investment opportunities in Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT)

The Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Ltd (CreativeTT) established by The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Trade and Industry is a wholly owned State enterprise with the mandate 'to stimulate and facilitate the business development and export activities of the Creative Industries in Trinidad and Tobago to generate national wealth.' CreativeTT is responsible for the strategic and business development of the three (3) subsectors under its purview- Film, Fashion and Music.

exporTT

exporTT Ltd. was designated by the Cabinet of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to be the sole National Export Facilitation Organization of Trinidad and Tobago. exporTT Ltd's mandate is to:

- Generate export growth and diversification in the goods and services sectors
- Increase in the international competitiveness of exporters
- Develop new exporters across the various sectors of interest
- Expand to new markets, based on market research

Export Import Bank of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (EXIMBANK)

The Export Import Bank of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (EXIMBANK) remains the only official Export Credit Agency (ECA) in the country. It has emerged out of what was formerly the Trinidad and Tobago Export Credit Insurance Company Limited (EXCICO), which was established in 1973 by the Government to promote the export of goods and services. This allows regional buyers access to a wide range of manufactured goods on credit terms.

The Trinidad & Tobago Manufacturers' Association

The TTMA promotes, encourages and assists the growth and development of manufacturing industries in Trinidad and Tobago. The TTMA also acts as a representative for industries in dealing with Government and in the monitoring of legislation affecting manufacturers. The TTMA is also responsible for the generation of market expansion both regionally and internationally through the mounting of local, regional and international trade fairs, exhibitions and foreign trade missions.

National Flour Mills

National Flour Mills Limited (NFM) was established in 1972 as a public trading company and has since been recognised as the main leader in flour milling, rice packaging, feed milling and dry mix operations throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

Key Statement from 2020 Standing Finance Committee Debate³

During the Standing Finance Committee debate of 2020, the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Trade and Industry for fiscal year 2020/2021:

“The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure and Development Programme for the Ministry of Trade and Industry for the financial year, 2021, have been prepared taking into consideration the Government’s national development strategy, Vision 2030. The allocations proposed for the Ministry of Trade and Industry will assist in executing its work programme and work plan which were completed taking into consideration the relevant 2020 manifesto imperatives of governing administration and tenets of the Roadmap to Recovery Report, the Roadmap for Trinidad and Tobago, transforming to a new economy and a new society and the measures outlined in the budget statement.”

***- Sen. the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon
Minister of Trade and Industry***

³ Standing Finance Committee Hansard of Ministry of Trade and Industry accessed August 18, 2021 [20201019, Unrevised Standing Finance Committee Debate - Monday October 19, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. \(tparliament.org\)](https://tparliament.org/20201019/Unrevised-Standing-Finance-Committee-Debate-Monday-October-19-2020-10:00-a.m.)

Public Sector Investment Programme 2019/2020 Achievements⁴

In fiscal 2021, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) pursued the creation of an enabling environment for growing trade, business and investment towards positioning Trinidad and Tobago as a manufacturing base and the business, trade and financial hub of the Americas. A total of \$58.9 million was invested in various initiatives aimed at building capacity, economic diversification and the creation of opportunities for business expansion locally and internationally.

FashionTT

Funds in the sum of \$2.6 million were expended by the Trinidad and Tobago Fashion Company Limited (FashionTT) for the continued implementation of the four-tiered Fashion Value Chain Investment Programme (FVCIP) which was developed to assist local designers to enter international markets.

FilmTT

The Trinidad and Tobago Film Company Limited (FilmTT) utilised a sum of \$0.1 million to implement its programmes, geared towards the expansion of the film industry through activities to increase the number of film productions in Trinidad and Tobago, attractiveness to international productions and support the success of local businesses in the field.

MusicTT

In fiscal 2021, the Trinidad and Tobago Music Company Limited (MusicTT) recorded expenditure in the amount of \$0.4 million to support the growth and development of entrepreneurs and practitioners in the music sector and to create new opportunities for the sector.

Investment Promotion

MTI through its Investment Promotion and Facilitation Initiative aims to develop and market the competitive advantages created by its facilitation services. In fiscal 2021, the programme utilised a total of \$1.0 million towards efforts for increasing foreign and local direct

⁴ Public Sector Investment Programme 2022, pgs. 28-34, accessed on October 06, 2021: [Public-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf \(finance.gov.tt\)](#)

investment in targeted sectors, directly engaging investors with the advice of experts in the areas of focus and tenanted a cluster of firms at Phoenix Park Industrial Estate and Moruga Agro-processing and Light Industrial Park.

Export Initiatives

In fiscal 2021 Government sought to provide support geared towards export readiness through the Export Capacity Building Programme, which is aimed at improving the rate at which manufacturing firms are able to penetrate and establish a presence in international markets. Funds in the sum of \$0.2 million were expended in fiscal 2021 and ExporTT worked with various local manufacturers to achieve the following:

Implementation of international standards for exporters:

- Two (2) new companies gained international standards compliance for fiscal 2021; and
- Four (4) companies were enrolled and engaged in the process of attaining certification/compliance with international standards.

Export competitiveness – work on export support plans was conducted with two (2) cohorts consisting of twenty-nine (29) companies:

- eight (8) remaining companies in cohort one (1) began implementation of their export support plans which were completed in fiscal 2019; and
- ten (10) additional companies were identified to be approached to start their export support plans in cohort two (2).

Tobago Export Development:

- five (5) manufacturing companies in cohort one (1) [varying from soap to tea production] began execution of their export support plans; and
- twelve (12) new Tobago export support plans began the implementation process in cohort two (2).

Co-Financing Fund – ten (10) companies of varying types including the services industry benefitted from co-financings.

The Ministry's total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2016 to 2022

Year ⁵	Total Allocation ⁶	National Budget ⁷	Percentage of National Budget
2016	\$120,562,597	\$56,573,913,053	0.2%
2017	\$102,079,943	\$54,883,153,410	0.2%
2018	\$125,654,003	\$54,211,726,813	0.2%
2019	\$123,688,515	\$54,581,467,181	0.2%
2020	\$121,133,926	\$57,388,076,726	0.2%
2021	\$119,135,665	\$57,292,169,264	0.2%
2022	\$212,008,000	\$57,917,018,000	0.4%

- Total allocation for the Ministry to the national budget illustrated a growth of 0.2% between the period 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

⁵ For the Fiscal Years 2014-2020, actual figures were used to calculate total allocation. However, estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022.

⁶ Total Allocation for the Ministry of Trade and Industry = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund Expenditure

⁷ The National Budget = Recurrent Expenditure + Total Development Programme Consolidated Fund

Where the Ministry spends its money

2021-2022 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of **\$229,508,000** for the Ministry of Trade and Industry is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of **\$143,958,000⁸**; and
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme in the sum of **\$85,550,000⁹** which includes:
 - Consolidated Fund in the sum of **\$68,050,000**; and
 - Infrastructure Development Fund¹⁰ in the sum of **\$17,500,000**.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

01 Personnel Expenditure - **\$24,090,090**

04 Current Transfers and Subsidies **\$78,872,440**

02 Goods and Services - **\$30,051,570**

06 Current Transfers to Stat. Boards and Similar Bodies **\$9,200,000**

03 Minor Equipment Purchases **\$1,743,900**

Percentage Allocation of the Ministry of Trade and Industry is as follows:

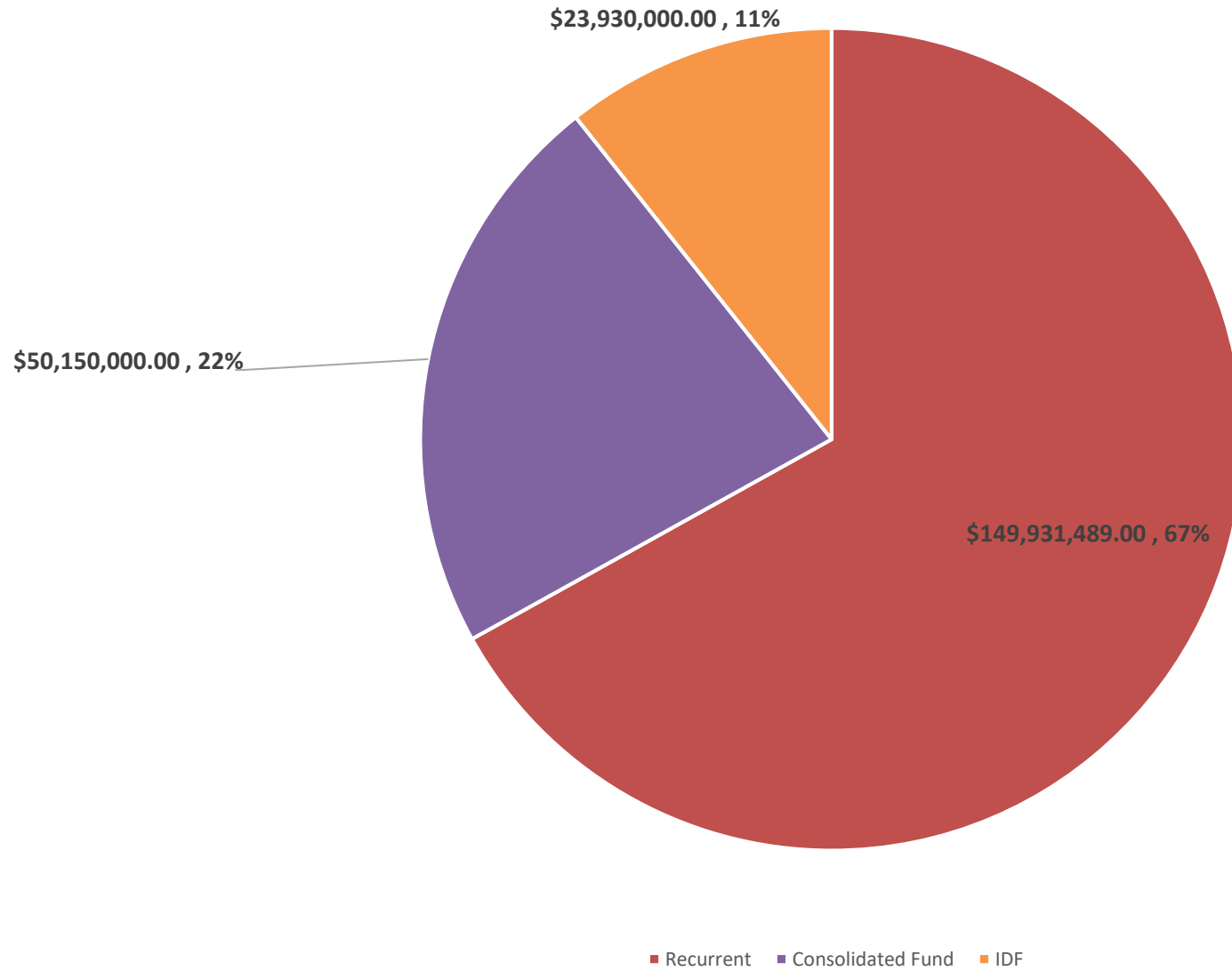
- Total allocation as a percentage of National Budget is **0.4%**;
- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of Total Recurrent Expenditure is **0.3%**;
- Consolidated Fund Expenditure as a percentage of total Consolidated Fund Expenditure is **2.72%**; **and**
- Infrastructure Development Fund Expenditure as a percentage of total Infrastructure Development Fund Expenditure is **1.3%**

⁸ Ministry of Finance website – Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf> Accessed October 5, 2021

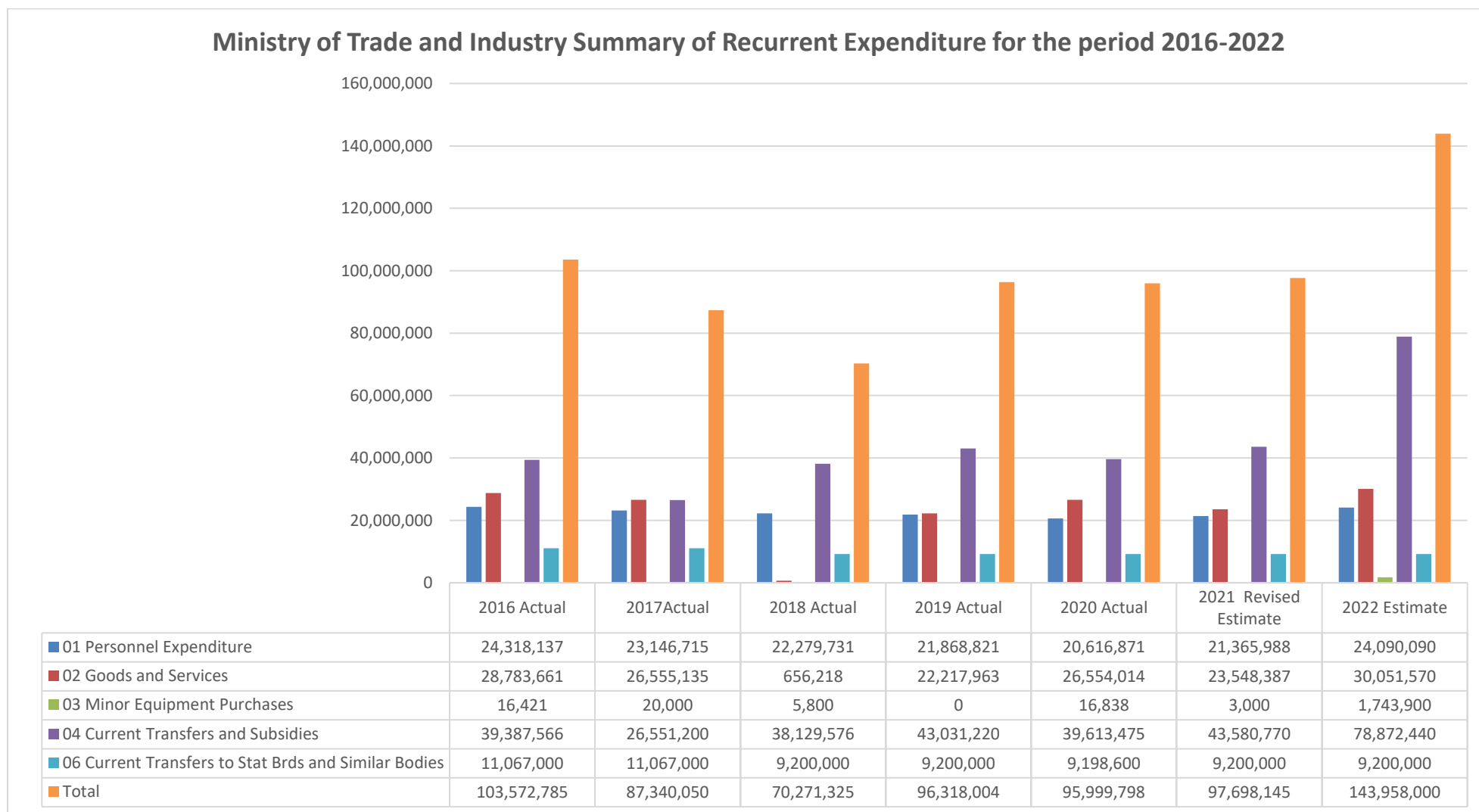
⁹ Ministry of Finance website – Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 5, 2021

¹⁰ Head 18 –Ministry of Finance, Sub-Head 04 – Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance allocation for the financial year. *Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Ministry of Trade and Industry does not include IDF funding.*

Ministry of Trade and Industry Total Allocation - \$224,011,489

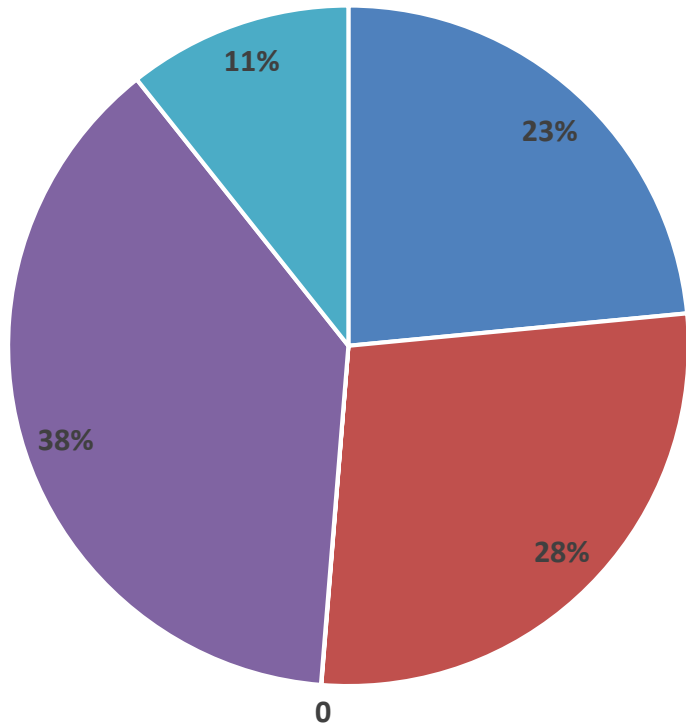


Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2016-2022¹¹



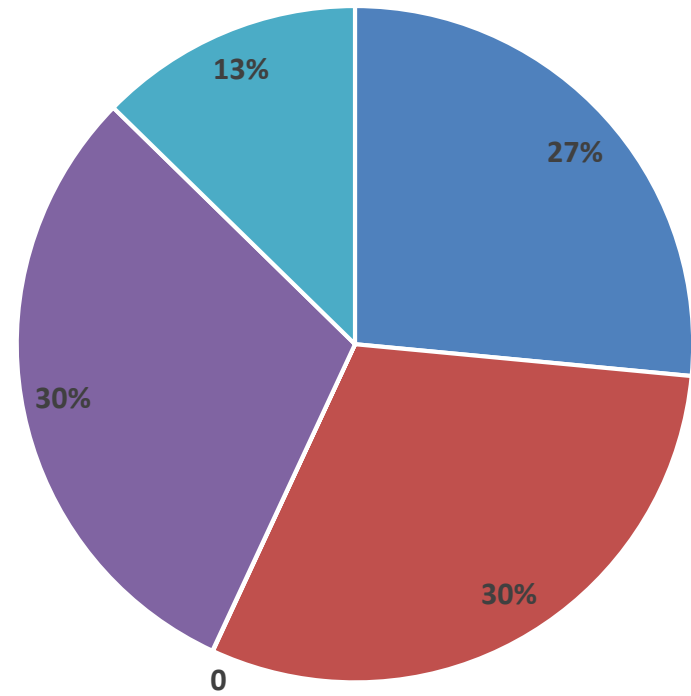
¹¹ Ministry of Finance website – Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf> Accessed October 5, 2021

2016 Actual = \$103,572,785



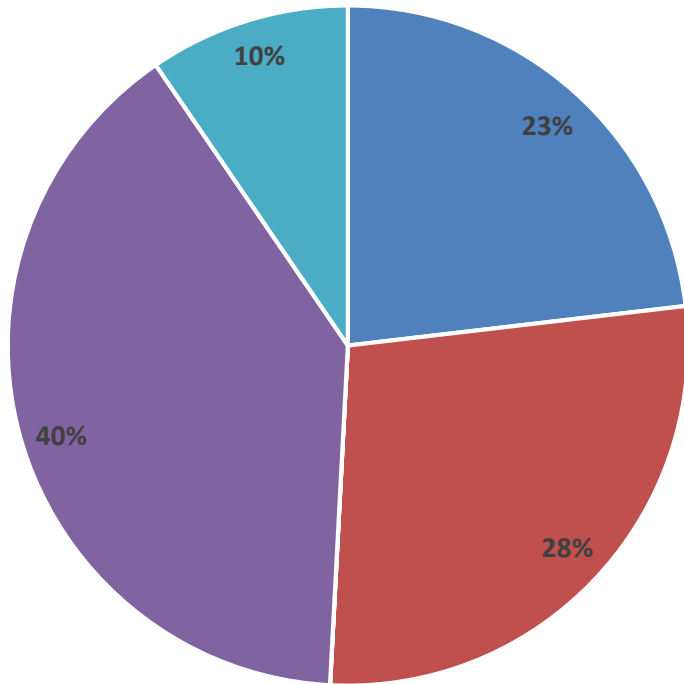
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

2017 Actual = \$87,340,050



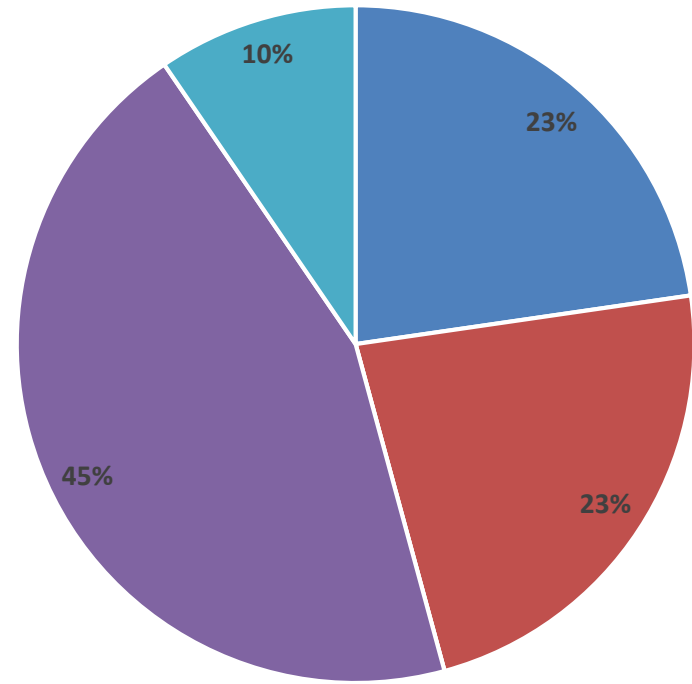
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
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2018 Actual = \$96,271,325



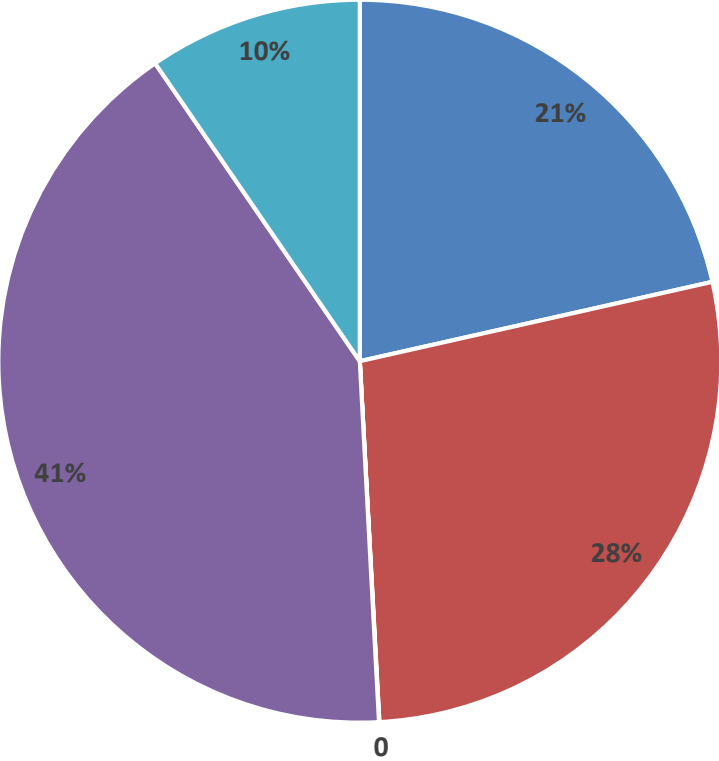
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
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- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

2019 Actual = \$96,318,004



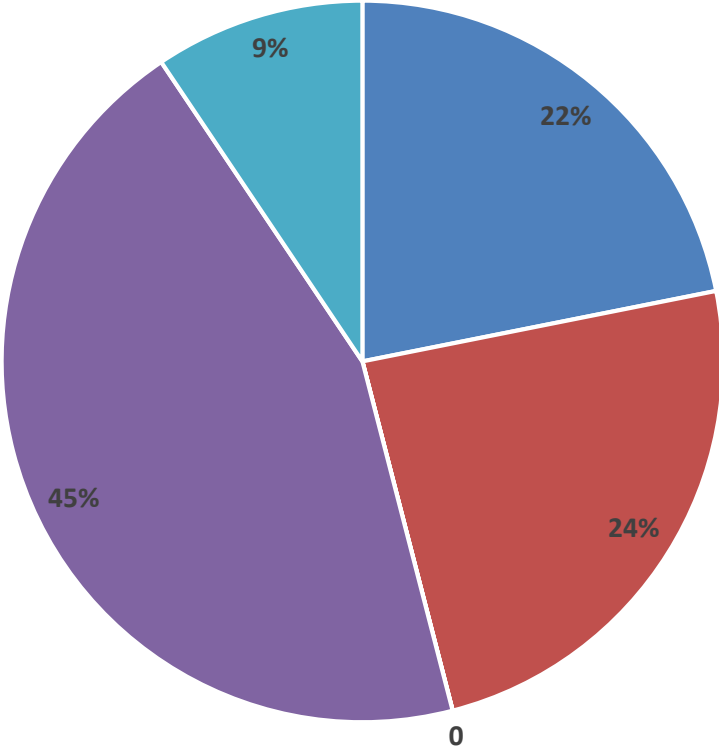
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

2020 Actual = \$95,999,798



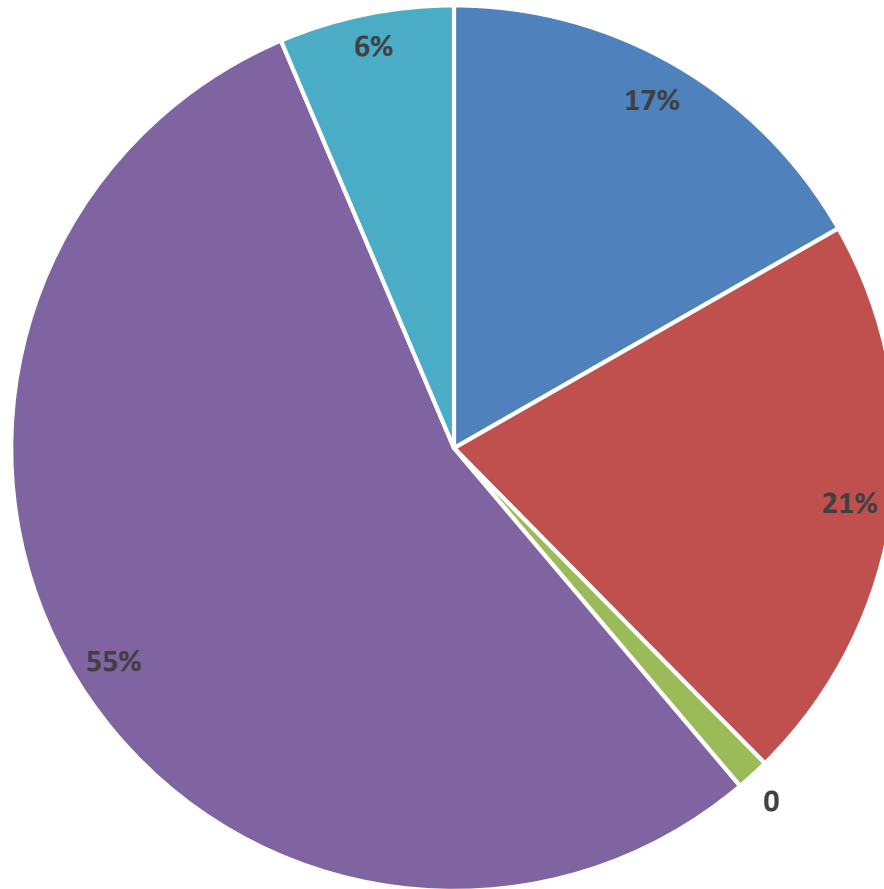
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

2021 Revised Estimate = \$97,698,145



- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

2022 Estimate = \$143,958,000



- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat Brds and Similar Bodies

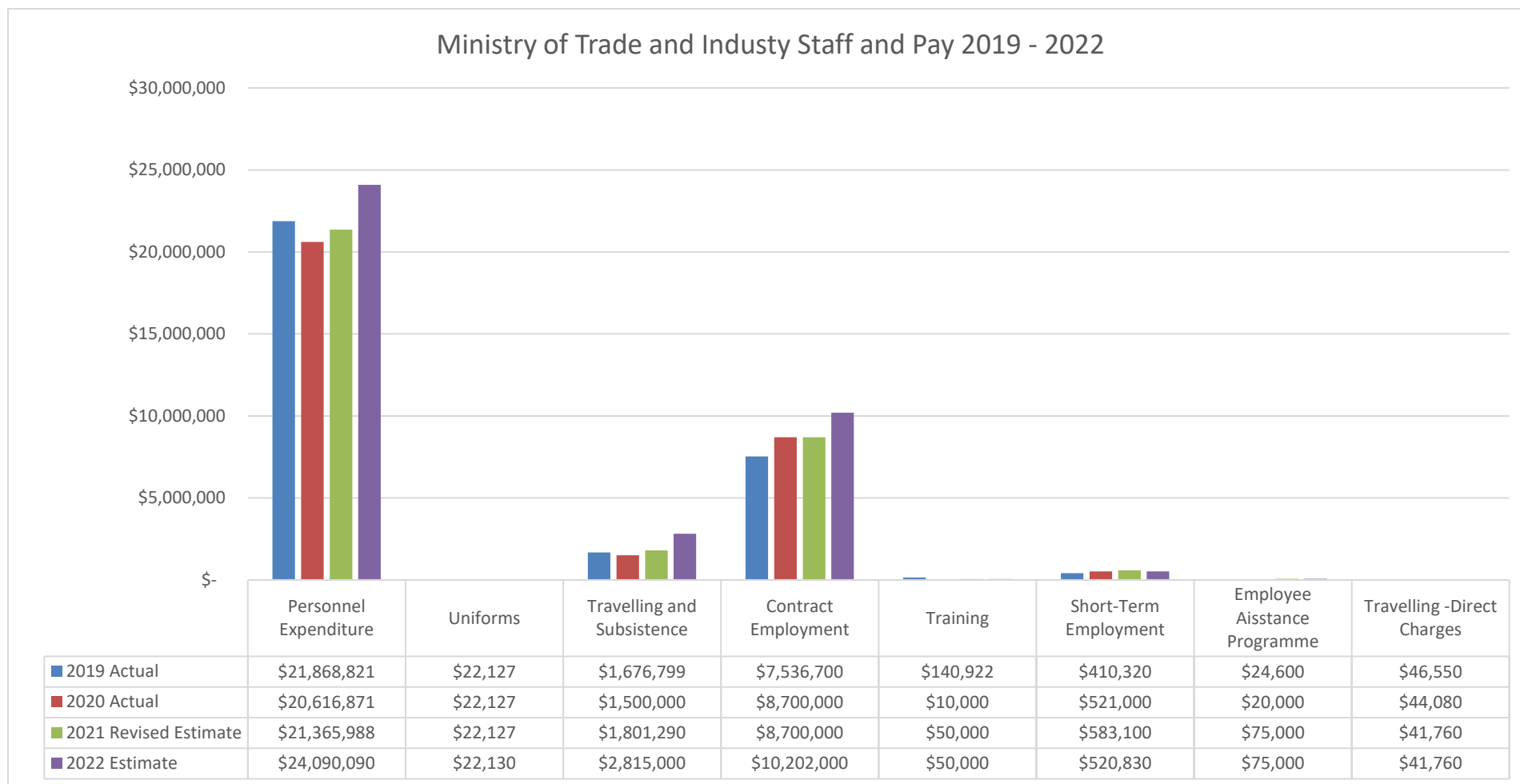
Analysis and Summary of Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases, Current Transfers and Subsidies and Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 is **\$143,958,000**.
- The Revised Estimate for Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 was **\$97,698,145**. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2021/2022, there was an overall increase of **32%**.
- The **largest** portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head **Current Transfers and Subsidies**. This sub-head has been fluctuating over the period 2016-2022, accounting for approximately **55%** of the Ministry's Recurrent Expenditure for the fiscal 2021/2022.
- For the years 2016 to 2022, **Goods and Services** received the **second largest** of the total allocation to the Ministry of Trade and Industry.
- **Minor Equipment Purchases** received the **lowest** portion of the allocation for the period 2016 to 2022.
- In 2021/2022 **Personnel Expenditure** accounts for **17%** of the Ministry's total allocation.
- **Current transfers to State Boards and Similar Bodies** represents approximately **6%** of the Ministry's total recurrent allocation for fiscal 2021/2022.

Staff and Pay¹²

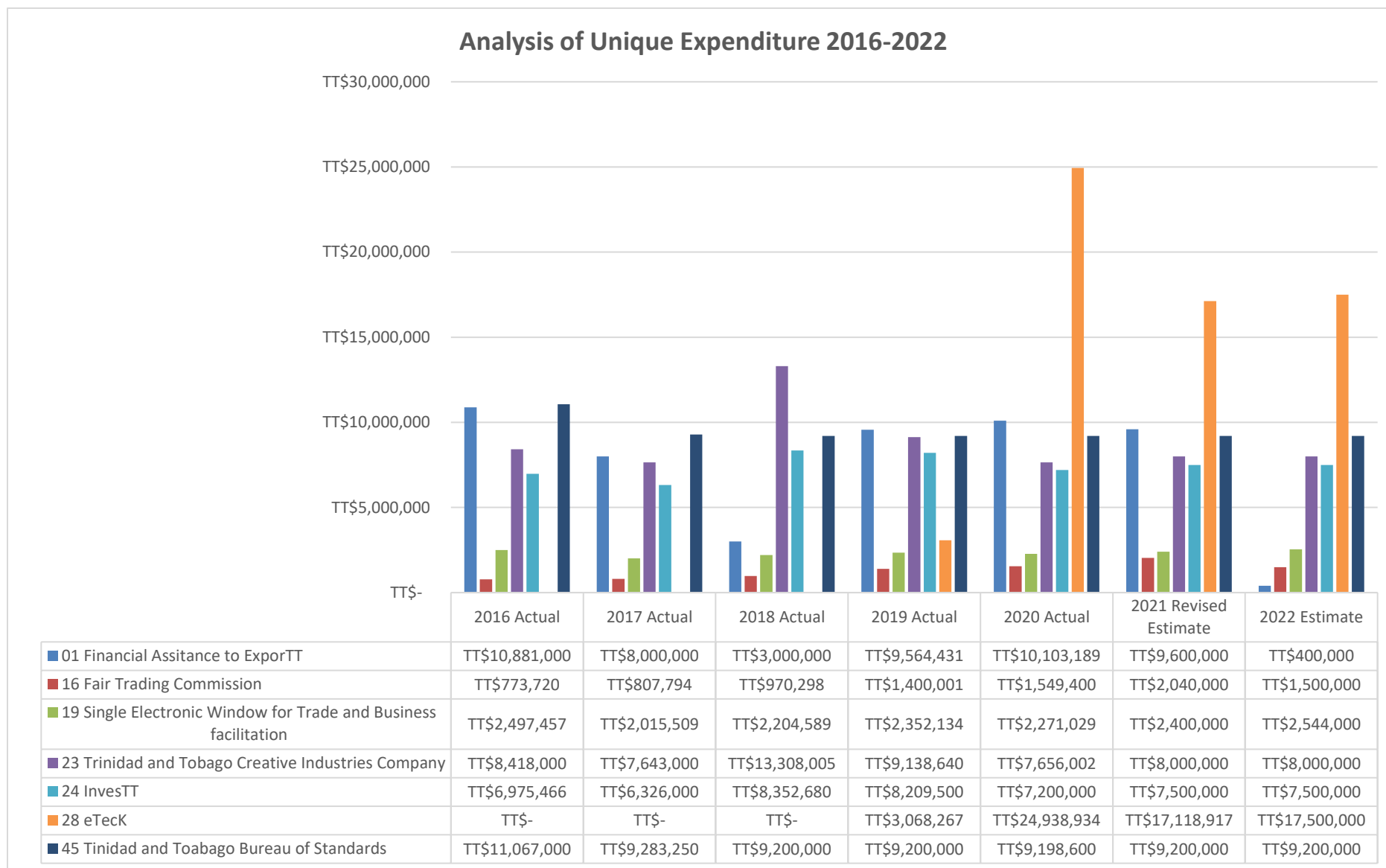
The allocation of staff expenditure for the fiscal year 2021/2022 is **\$37,816,810** which represents an increase of approximately **13.7%** from the last fiscal year, 2019/2020. The following table provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2019-2021.



¹² Ministry of Finance website – Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf> Accessed October 5, 2021

Analysis of Expenditure Unique to the Ministry of Trade and Industry

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Ministry of Trade and Industry that may not feature in other ministries or departments.



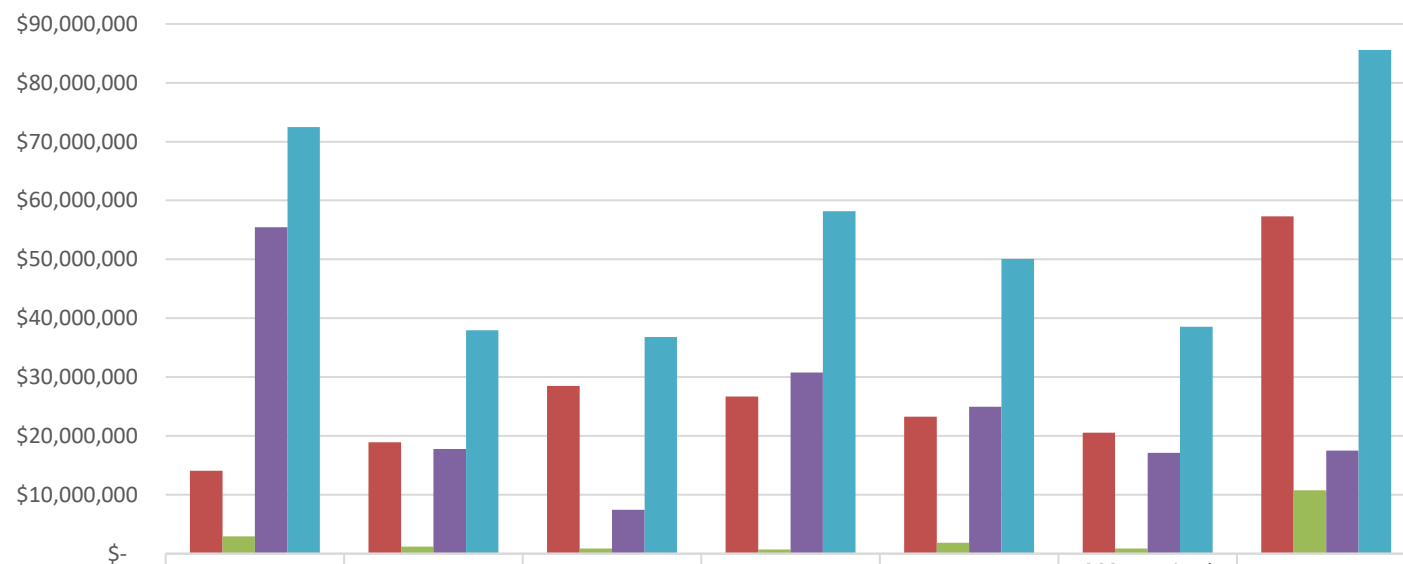
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2016-2022

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation of **\$85,550,000** for development programmes are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = **\$68,050,000** and represent **(79.5%)** of the total allocation to the Police Service; and
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = **\$17,500,000** and represent **(20.5%)** of the total allocation to the Police Service.

Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2016-2022



	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
003 Economic Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund	\$14,065,584	\$18,932,000	\$28,485,863	\$26,677,745	\$23,291,322	\$20,567,620	\$57,300,000
005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Consolidated Fund	\$2,924,228	\$1,213,000	\$896,815	\$692,766	\$1,842,806	\$869,900	\$10,750,000
005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Infrastructure Development Fund	\$55,470,494	\$17,781,995	\$7,433,644	\$30,795,044	\$24,938,934	\$17,118,917	\$17,500,000
Total	\$72,460,306	\$37,926,995	\$36,816,322	\$58,165,555	\$50,073,062	\$38,556,437	\$85,550,000

Public Sector Investment Programme 2020/2021 Expectations¹³

Creative Industries

The creative and cultural industries continue to form part of Government's thrust towards growing the non-energy sector. As such, Government's commitment to develop this sector is reinforced under Pillar 1 of the Roadmap to Recovery Report, which speaks to diversifying and transforming the Economy of Trinidad and Tobago. Under this Pillar, increased focus is placed on investing in steelpan manufacturing, cultural creative industries and tourism, among others, in order to advance economic diversification and build the export capacity of the sector, while boosting competitiveness, productivity and employment generation in Trinidad and Tobago.

Towards this end, a sum of \$1.5 million will be invested for the execution of programmes and projects geared towards the development of the fashion industry, in alignment with the approved Strategic Plan of FashionTT. The allocated funding is aimed at increasing the contribution of the fashion industry to the GDP, improving capacity and infrastructure of the fashion sector, creating channels to production and retail distribution, attaining the alignment of local industry activity with international market cycles and supporting the marketing and promotion of the fashion industry locally. To achieve these objectives, FashionTT will continue the implementation of activities as follows:

- *the Fashion Value Chain Investment Programme:*
 - Global Value Chain;
 - Non-Global Value Chain;
 - Business Advisory;
- *the Implementation of the Local Production Facility;*
- *Fashion Industry Development Programme; and*

¹³ Public Sector Investment Programme, 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Public-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf> Pages 171-173, 185-187 Accessed on October 6, 2021

- *Fashion LookBook.*

The Film and Audio-visual Sector is a vehicle that supports other elements of the Creative Industries including fashion, music, performance and visual arts. The Trinidad and Tobago Film Company Limited (FilmTT), as a sub-company of CreativeTT, continues to drive the economic development of the film and audio-visual in Trinidad and Tobago. In fiscal 2022, funding in the amount of \$1.0 million will be provided for the implementation of projects under three [3] major areas of the company namely: film commission, production sector development and administrative support.

Funding in the sum of \$1.0 million will also be provided to MusicTT to support the growth and development of entrepreneurs and practitioners in the Music Sector and to broaden the opportunities and avenues for the sector as a whole. These funds will facilitate initiatives to address critical strategic areas at both the macroeconomic and microeconomic level, creating an enabling environment for stakeholders and practitioners to thrive. In fiscal 2022, MusicTT will support sub-projects geared towards the fulfilment of the overall music industry development as follows:

- Development of the Live Music District;
- Enhancement of the Music Tech Platform;
- Micro-investment and Micro-sponsorship Fund;
- Spotlight: An Artist Portfolio Development Programme; and
- Music Export Academy.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry will invest \$1.2 million to establish and operationalise a Trade and Investment Promotion Agency in Trinidad and Tobago that will promote effectively promote business opportunities in export and investment of the local and international private sector. This project will facilitate the merger of all existing government trade and investment institutions within the Trinidad and Tobago into one organisational structure with specific functions based on international best practices, and will also seek to develop an

integrated management system to manage clients related to both export and investment and track organisational progress and achievements.

Consistent with the Roadmap to Recovery's strategy to stimulate local demand and economic activity through steelpan manufacturing, the sum of \$3.0 million dollars will be provided for further research and development, capacity building and mechanisms geared towards the further development of the steel pan industry. This investment will provide additional support to the Steel pan Manufacturing Grant Fund Facility to MSME's, to provide financial support for the acquisition of new machinery, equipment, software, tools, raw material and training.

Green Manufacturing

Green manufacturing is also a critical element to the Manufacturing sector emphasised in the Roadmap to Recovery. To this end, Government will invest the sum of \$2.0 million towards the Development of the Eco-friendly Businesses Sector. Boosting this sector is critical towards achieving the agreed upon UNDP SDGs by the year 2030. The funding will also aid in the development of MSMEs such as the Scrap Iron Dealers, promote recycling, energy efficiency and other environmentally friendly methods that helps to reduce the carbon footprint.

Investing in Human Resource

The enhancement of the human resource capacity is another fundamental component to achieving a globally competitive Manufacturing Sector. Thus, through the MTI, funds in the sum of \$5.0 million will be provided to support the implementation of the National Apprenticeship Programme to create a cadre of trained and skilled individuals. This programme is designed to equip trainees with the necessary skills set for the Non-energy Manufacturing Sector that meets and exceeds the current and future skills gap in the Manufacturing sector. The training will be provided by the MIC-IT as the National Skills Development (NSDP) Journeyman Programme over the course of three (3) years as a full-time programme delivered in two (2) phases.

In fiscal 2022, the GORTT will invest a sum of \$0.5 million to combat the prevalence of illicit trade and its negative impact on all actors of the economy. It was estimated that over \$100 million is lost annually through various sectors and this contributes to a gap in tax revenue in Trinidad and Tobago of approximately \$1,200 million. Combatting this underground industry requires a holistic and collaborative approach which has influenced the program design to achieve the following objectives:

- strengthen the legal framework to combat illicit trade;
- strengthen the capacity of Ministries and enforcement agencies to combat illicit trade;
- enhance collaboration among regulatory and enforcement agencies;
- promote public-private partnerships towards fighting illicit trade; and
- increase public awareness of illicit trade and the associated dangers.

Technical Studies on International Trade

Furthermore, an investment of \$0.5 million will be made for the Conduct of Technical Studies on International Trade. The studies seek to provide sound technical grounding, to inform government policy to create and exploit new and existing regional value chains within CARICOM to aid the manufacturing sector in Trinidad and Tobago. Identified as a key area to improve the Manufacturing Sector, the project seeks to uncover new and alternate sources of inputs for manufacturing including raw material, labour/skill needs, as well as, retail and distribution requirements. Through a consultancy over a period of six [6] months, the research seeks to deliver on two [2] major areas:

- Study 1: Study on Regional Value Chains for the Manufacturing Sector; and
- Study 2: Strengthening Sectoral Linkages in Trinidad and Tobago.

Industrial Development-Industrial Parks

Emphasis will be placed on the development of new modern parks and upgrades to existing facilities to target firms in the specific areas of high-value and light manufacturing in emerging industries, in alignment with the overall development and diversification thrust by

the Government. In fiscal 2022, funding will be provided for continued expansion of the non-petroleum initiatives aimed at developing globally competitive domestic industries.

Of the nineteen [19] active industrial parks, fifteen [15] currently possess fire hydrant infrastructure which are mostly non-functional and have also been deemed non-compliant with current international specifications by the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services (TTFS). In an effort to mitigate the risks associated with fires especially in light of the presence of many manufacturing entities on the parks, Government will invest \$2.0 million towards the upgrade of the fire hydrant infrastructure to safeguard the physical assets of the manufacturing sector. These funds will be directed towards activities including the replacement of the existing non-functional fire hydrant pedestals and the installation of new fire hydrant pedestals and supply lines based on TTFS specifications.

Government will provide \$2.0 million in fiscal 2022 towards attracting investment and promoting business development to stimulate micro enterprises consistent with the Roadmap to Recovery Phase II Report. Focus will be placed on the following three [3] industrial parks which are at different stages of development, with both the Moruga Agro-processing and Light Industrial Park and Tamana InTech Park completed with room for further expansion while Phoenix Park and Industrial Estate is still under construction.

Noteworthy Development Programme Estimates in 2018-2022

The table below lists the projects that have experienced irregular variances in estimates for funding received under the Ministry of Trade and Industry: ¹⁴

Item	Project	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF/003/11/R014	Business Development of the Creative Industries	\$30,000	-	-	-	-
CF/003/11/R016	Enhancement of the Single Electronic Window (IDB Loan)	\$10,538,725	\$22,176,680	\$19,977,920	\$15,400,000	\$30,000,000
CF/003/11/R023	Development of Fashion Industry		\$1,966,060	\$1,941,390	\$2,646,000	\$1,500,000
IDF/005/03/Q293	Wallerfield Industrial and Technology Park	-	\$1,319,908	\$1,500,000	\$10,318,917	-
IDF/005/03/Q303	Single Electronic Window for Trade and Business Facilitation	\$7,433,644	\$7,870,640	\$7,438,970	\$6,800,000	\$6,900,000

¹⁴Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2017-2018

The following new projects received funding in the 2017/2018 financial year¹⁵:

Description	Project	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF/003/11/R019	Development of the Music Industry	\$1,000,000	\$815,225	\$481,103	\$410,000	\$1,500,000
CF/003/11/R021	Development of the Film Industry	\$1,826,000	\$757,564	\$696,707	\$113,600	\$1,000,000
CF/003/11/R023	Development of the Fashion Industry	\$4,500,000	\$1,966,060	\$1,941,390	\$2,646,000	\$1,500,000
CF/005/03/B220	Enhancing the Quality Infrastructure for Trinidad and Tobago (TTBS)	\$230,000	\$128,000	\$805,528	-	-
CF/005/06/A018	Feasibility Study of Export Financing Mechanism for Services Providers and Pilot Programmes	--	\$119,644	\$400,000	\$202,000	

¹⁵Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2018-2019

The following new projects that received funding in the 2018/2019 financial year¹⁶:

Description	Project -Item	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF/005/06/A020	Implementation of the National e-Commerce Strategy	\$2,000	\$49,494	-	\$200,000
IDF/005/03/Q305	Construction of Moruga Agro-Processing and Light Industrial Park	\$21,604,496	\$15,999,964	-	-

¹⁶Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2019/2020

The following new projects that received funding in the 2019/2020 financial year¹⁷:

Sub-Head Description	Project	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF/003/11/R024	National SheTrades Chapter	-	-	\$100,000

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2020/2021

The following new projects that received funding in the 2020/2021 financial year¹⁸:

Sub-Item Description	Project	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF/003/11/R26	Gateway to Trade	\$100,000	\$600,000
CF/005/03/B222	National Quality Infrastructure Enhancement Programme	\$500,900	\$9,350,000
IDF/005/03/Q308	Upgrade of Drainage and Fire Hydrants at Industrial Estates	-	\$2,000,000

¹⁷ Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

¹⁸ Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

New Projects for the Financial Year 2021/2022

The following new projects that received funding in the 2021/2022 financial year¹⁹:

Sub-Item Description	Project	2022 Estimate
CF/003/11/R28	Establishment of the Trade and Investment Promoting Agency	\$1,200,000
CF/003/11/R30	Development of the Eco-Friendly Business Sector (Scrap Iron)	\$2,000,000
CF/003/11/R32	Development of the Steel Manufacturing Sector	\$3,000,000
CF/003/11/R34	Conduct of National Service Exporters Survey	\$400,000
CF/003/11/R36	Capacity Building for the T&T Fair Trade Commission	\$500,000
CF/003/11/R38	Implementation of a National Apprenticeship Programme (Non-Energy Manufacturing Sector)	\$5,000,000
CF/003/11/R42	Implementation of the N.A.P. to Combat Illicit Trade	\$500,000
CF/003/11/R44	Conduct of Technical Studies on International Trade	\$500,000
CF/003/11/R46	Implementation of ScaleUp TT Business Accelerator Programme	\$2,500,000

¹⁹ Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2022 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf> Accessed October 8, 2021

IDF/005/03/Q310	Construction of Tamana Intech Park Transit Hub	\$600,000
IDF/005/03/Q312	Upgrade to Factory Road Industrial Park Infrastructure	\$3,000,000
IDF/005/03/Q314	Renovation of Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort	\$5,000,000

Committee Inquires Related to the Ministry of Trade and Industry

Inquiry	Report Laid	Ministerial Response Presented
1. <i>Twenty-First Report of the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee into the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Free Zones Company Limited for the financial years 2012 to 2017</i>	H.O.R: 09-09-2019	Received: http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s4-J-20190909-PAEC-R21-MR-MTI.pdf
2. <i>Twenty-Second Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Fourth Session (2018/2019), Eleventh Parliament on an examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheets and other Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT) for the financial years 2014 and 2015</i>	H.O.R: 20.09.2019	Received : http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s5-J-20191204-PAEC-R22-MR-MTI.pdf
3. <i>Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Fourth Session (2018/2019), Eleventh Parliament on an examination of the Audited Financial Statements of InvesTT Limited for the years 2014 to 2017</i>	H.O.R: 20-09-2019	Received: http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s5-J-20191126-PAEC-R23-MR-MTI.pdf

*Reports can be found on the Parliament's website: http://www.ttparliament.org/committee_business.php?mid=19&id=231&pid=28

General Useful Information

- Department for International Trade, UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-trade-investment>
- Ministry of Trade and Enterprise, New Zealand: <https://www.nzte.govt.nz/>
- Department of Trade and Industry, Republic of South Africa: <http://www.thedti.gov.za/>
- Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia: <http://www.miti.gov.my/>