

*Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)  
Growth Inducement Programme's  
Inclusive Growth Index Framework Launch*

***Opening Remarks***

***by***

***Dr Wayne Henry, CD, JP  
Director General, PIOJ***

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*Don Mills Training Room | Zoom | YouTube*

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Ladies & Gentlemen

Good morning.

Today it gives me great pleasure to welcome you and officially launch the Planning Institute of Jamaica's (PIOJ's) Inclusive Growth Index Framework (IGIF). We are encouraged to see the turnout in person and online.

The Inclusive Growth Index Framework, or IGIF, encapsulates critical focus areas, including equality and equity, health, human capital, environmental quality, social protection, safety and security, and wealth. By consolidating indicators relevant to Jamaica into key sub-indices and a composite index, the IGIF provides a comprehensive basis for measurement, tracking, and in-depth analysis; offering valuable insights for the creation of policy responses and proactive initiatives tailored to our people's diverse needs.

Today's event marks a significant milestone in Jamaica's development, as we officially present a powerful new tool that was created to significantly increase Jamaica's ability to achieve the goals and targets outlined in Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, to attain improved economic and social outcomes for all.

The many years of collaborative effort that has gone into conceptualising and developing this tool has been driven by a commitment shared by many stakeholders to expand traditional economic growth models; recognizing the imperative of inclusive and sustainable development. The demand for such measures has grown significantly, fuelled by a global shift towards recognizing the interplay between economic growth, and social and environmental factors. The 2008 financial crisis, and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, by the 193 member states of the United Nations, underscored the importance of moving beyond gross domestic product (GDP), as the sole indicator of progress.

While we acknowledge the existence of global indices, such as the UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI), the IGIF distinguishes itself by being tailored to Jamaica's specific situation. Furthermore, the IGIF's wider scope and its focus on understanding the interrelatedness of key drivers of growth, makes it a powerful tool for informed decision-making and sustainable development planning.

Importantly, the IGIF is not only groundbreaking for Jamaica, but globally, as it is a framework that other countries can use to model their respective circumstances in pursuit of inclusive growth. It recognizes the critical importance of internal nuances in shaping a nation's development path, balancing external benchmarking with the unique characteristics that make each country distinct.

In conclusion, I want to express my deepest appreciation and congratulations to the GIP, and the wider PIOJ Team, for their efforts in conceptualising and executing the development of this revolutionary tool. I also extend our gratitude to the members of the Core Technical Team and all the stakeholders who partnered with us, from concept to prototype, to the version being launched today. Thanks also to PriceWaterhouse Coopers who worked closely with the GIP team in the past year to create an expanded and improved IGIF. Finally, and importantly, we thank the

Foundations for Competitiveness and Growth Project (FCGP) and the World Bank for providing the financing that allowed the IGIF to come to fruition.

We appreciate you joining us today. Beginning with this launch, and with your continued engagement, we anticipate the positive impact the IGIF will have on Jamaica's targeting of robust, sustainable, and inclusive economic growth; to make Jamaica the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business.