

PRESS RELEASE

**TOURISM TRINIDAD DRIVES INVESTMENT AND ENHANCEMENT IN
ACCOMMODATION SECTOR**

Port of Spain, December 9th, 2023: Tourism Trinidad distributed cheques to six properties that concluded works under the last cycle of the Tourism Accommodation Upgrade Project (TAUP) marking a significant stride in bolstering Trinidad's tourism infrastructure. TAUP is an initiative, aimed at fortifying the tourism accommodation sector exemplifying government's commitment to elevating Trinidad's tourism offerings.

In the just concluded cycle six properties were able to benefit. Cara Hotels, Holiday Inn Express and Suites, Par-May-La's Inn, Royal Hotel, Sundeck Suites, and Tradewinds Hotel successfully completed their respective enhancement endeavours, augmenting their appeal and quality.

Speaking about the significance of this initiative, Deputy Chairman of Tourism Trinidad, Director Rene Seepersadsingh, "This upgrade facility embodies our commitment to fostering growth and sustainability within Trinidad's tourism sector. By incentivizing and supporting the development efforts of small and medium-sized businesses, we are strengthening the foundation of our tourism landscape, ensuring an enriched experience for our visitors."

Moreover, Carla Cupid, CEO of Tourism Trinidad, highlighted the collective efforts fuelling this endeavour, stating, "The successful conclusion of these TAUP projects underscores the synergy we have with property owners. This collaboration showcases our shared vision to continuously enhance Trinidad's tourism infrastructure, making it more appealing and competitive on the global stage."

As Trinidad progresses into the new TAUP cycle, the budgetary allocation of TT\$4Mn demonstrates a steadfast commitment to fostering growth and innovation within the tourism accommodation sector. The extension of this project spanning from November 1, 2023, to September 30, 2026, underscores the government's enduring support for the tourism industry's vital contributors.

With a view to expanding participation in the TAUP, Tourism Trinidad has been actively engaging potential applicants, with at least seven more properties expressing interest in leveraging this incentive to elevate their establishments. This outreach is a testament to the project's progressive impact, empowering small and medium-sized businesses and invigorating Trinidad's tourism landscape.

Now in its 5th cycle, TAUP continues to represent a dynamic partnership between the Government and the stewards of our hospitality sector. Since its inception, TAUP has provided over \$13.5 million in reimbursements across properties in Trinidad and Tobago.

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