

Manufacturing

There are over 160 companies producing goods for export in 37 product categories. Apart from the energy sector, the principle manufacturing industries are steel and its downstream products, cement, food processing, rum, beer, electronics, plastics, car care products, chemical products, household goods, construction material, sawmilling and furniture manufacturing and garments etc..

Excellent opportunities exist in the manufacturing industry and local firms continue to seek joint venture partnerships to access new technology and expand exports to new international markets. Industries offering opportunities for expansion are those requiring advanced technical skills and cheap energy, in particular, telecommunications, electronics, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and textiles.

Tourism

The government has identified the tourism sector as a major development priority, and now recognizes the potential tourism has for generating foreign exchange, job creation and economic diversification. Incentives have already been legislated, and the door has been opened for foreign investors to assist in developing this sector.

Trinidad and Tobago has many strengths that it can capitalize on while developing this sector. Substantial improvements have been made over the past few years to the infrastructure of the tourism industry, such as airport improvements and cruise ship berths. The country has significant natural areas and ecotourism resources. Along with the ability to offer the traditional surf, sun and sand, the country also has a flamboyant and colourful cultural and entertainment scene. All these resources combined creates an excellent foundation on which to build a successful tourism industry.

The government's focus within the tourism sector will be aggressive promotion and marketing of tourism through the Tourism and Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), as well as developing adequate training facilities and adequately trained staff to service this industry. Specific projects scheduled to be implemented in 1996 include upgrading of the Maracas Bay facilities, institutional support and market research, feasibility studies, environmental management and eco-tourism ventures and community and public awareness. The government also remains committed to encouraging private investment initiatives, the development of the Chaguaramas and North Coast areas, developing reef management systems, and further hotel development in Tobago.

With the completion of a Tourism Master Plan in 1995, the government of Trinidad and Tobago has outlined several priority areas for investment within the sector. These include:

- Development of a System of National Parks
- Tourism Technology Development