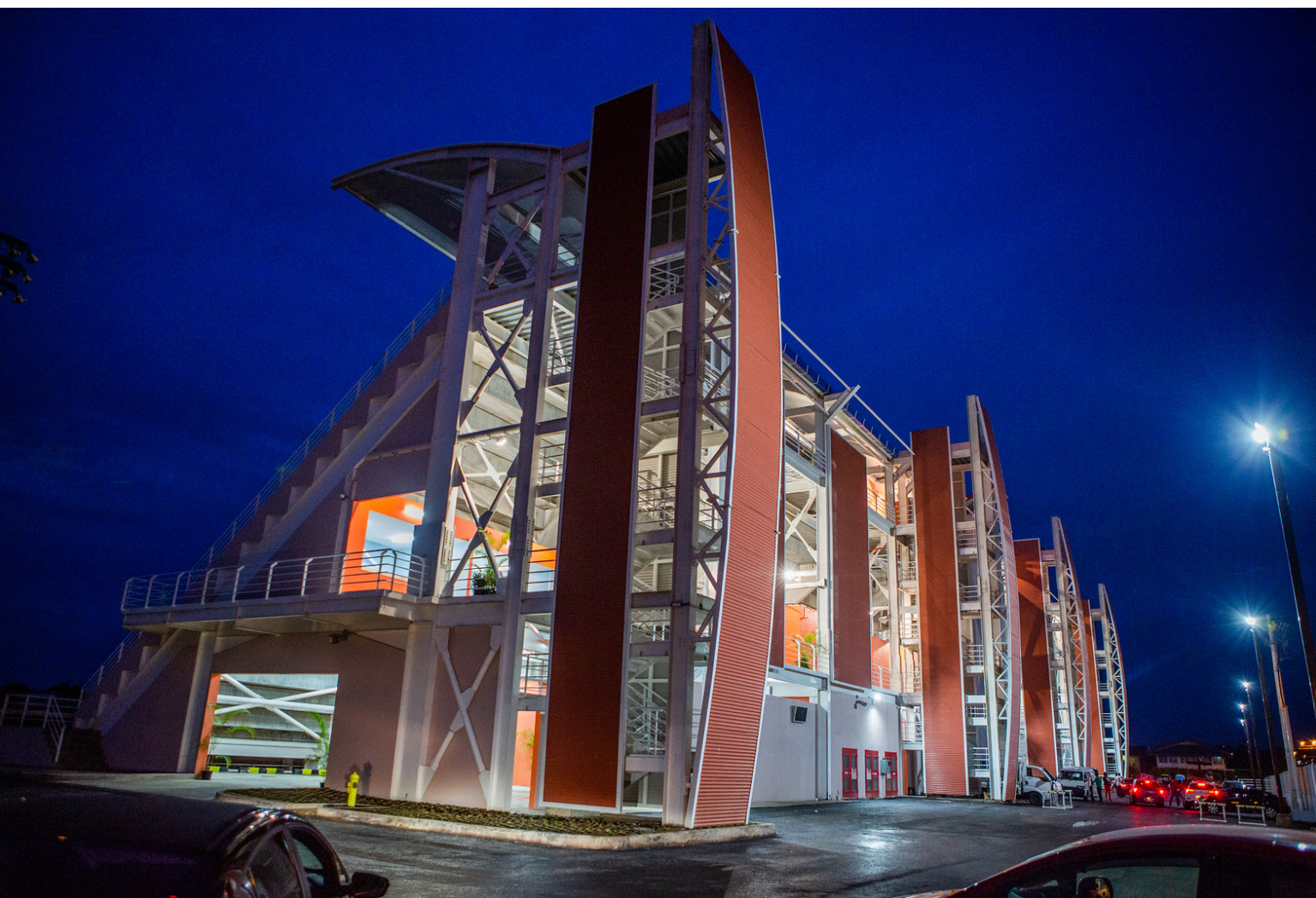




Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited - UDeCOTT

BUILDING TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S FUTURE,
ONE LANDMARK AT A TIME



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URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED - UDeCOTT

UDeCOTT at 30: Building Trinidad and Tobago's Future, One Land Mark At A Time

RESEARCH BY **JOSEPH PHILIPS**



It's 1994. Trinidad and Tobago is in the midst of an urban transformation, and at the center of it all is a newly established government agency with a grand vision: to reshape the nation's urban landscape and build a more sustainable, vibrant, and connected future. Fast forward three decades, and that vision has become a reality. The Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (UDeCOTT) celebrates 30 years of innovation, resilience, and impact—a journey filled with iconic projects, strategic partnerships, and a relentless focus on creating spaces that inspire and empower.

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that enhance the lives of citizens across the country. But behind the blueprints, steel beams, and soaring facades, there is a story of dedication, of navigating challenges, and of pushing boundaries to deliver something extraordinary.

projects that would redefine the country’s physical and social landscape.

“Our mandate has always been about more than just buildings,” says UDeCOTT Director Jacqueline Ganteaume-Farrell. “We are here to shape spaces that reflect the needs and aspirations of our people. Each project is a statement of who we are and where we’re going as a nation.”

A History Built on Innovation

From its inception, UDeCOTT was not just another government agency tasked with overseeing construction projects. It was created with a purpose—to stimulate national development by transforming urban environments in a way that would reflect the nation’s growth and potential. The corporation’s early years were marked by rapid expansion, as it took on ambitious

UDeCOTT’s scope has evolved over time to include project development, construction management, and a robust facilities management arm. The corporation oversees everything from large-scale public infrastructure projects to the maintenance and preservation of

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impact than the projects that have come to define Trinidad and Tobago’s skyline. Over the past 30 years, the corporation has delivered a series of landmark developments that have reshaped the country’s urban fabric, each with its own story of challenges overcome and milestones achieved.

Take, for example, the restoration of the Red House, one of Trinidad’s most historic and symbolic buildings. When UDeCOTT took on the task of restoring this architectural gem, it wasn’t just about bringing a structure back to life—it was about preserving a piece of the nation’s history. The project required meticulous attention to detail, as engineers and architects worked to ensure that every brick, every column, every detail remained true to the original design while incorporating modern safety and sustainability standards.

“Restoring the Red House was like peeling back layers of history,” recalls Ganteaume-Farrell. “It was a delicate balance between preserving the past and preparing the building for the future. We’re proud to have saved a piece of our national identity.”

But UDeCOTT’s portfolio is not limited to historic preservation. The corporation has also been at the forefront of modern development, delivering cutting-edge facilities that are as innovative as they are functional. The Hasely Crawford Stadium, for instance, underwent a comprehensive refurbishment that included upgrading mechanical, electrical, and HVAC systems, as well as installing a state-of-the-art synthetic track certified by World Athletics. The project, completed in record time, is a testament to UDeCOTT’s ability to deliver high-quality work on tight deadlines, all while enhancing the nation’s capacity to host international sporting events.

There is no clearer testament to UDeCOTT’s impact than the projects that have come to define Trinidad and Tobago’s skyline

government buildings and heritage sites. In each of these areas, UDeCOTT’s approach is driven by a commitment to sustainability, efficiency, and accountability—core values that have been tested and strengthened over the years.

Iconic Projects: Defining the Nation’s Skyline

There is no clearer testament to UDeCOTT’s

Other major projects, such as the Sangre Grande Hospital Campus and the National Academy for the Performing Arts (South), have solidified UDeCOTT’s reputation as a leader in public infrastructure development. These projects are not just buildings—they are community assets that provide critical services, create jobs, and enhance the cultural and social fabric of the country.

Building a Stronger Society: UDeCOTT’s Commitment to Socio-Economic Development

Behind each brick and beam, UDeCOTT’s projects are designed with one goal in mind: to improve the lives of Trinidad and Tobago’s citizens. This focus on socio-economic development is evident in the corporation’s approach to community-driven projects, such as the construction

of the D’Abadie/Malabar Community Swimming Pool. This facility, which serves as a hub for recreational and competitive swimming, is a shining example of how UDeCOTT’s work goes beyond physical infrastructure to create opportunities for health, wellness, and social engagement.

“These types of projects are about more than just providing a service,” says CEO Tamica Charles. “They’re about building community. Whether it’s a swimming pool, a hospital, or a cultural center, our goal is to create spaces where people can come together, learn, grow, and thrive.”

UDeCOTT’s focus on community development extends to its broader socio-economic initiatives, including job creation, local supplier engagement, and capacity building. By partnering with local companies and contractors, UDeCOTT



ensures that its projects have a ripple effect on the economy, providing jobs and supporting the growth of local industries.

One such partner is Beston Consulting Limited, a local firm that has played a key role in providing consultancy services on a number of UDeCOTT's projects. "Our partnerships with local suppliers and contractors are critical to our success," Charles explains. "We rely on their expertise, their innovation, and their commitment to quality to help us deliver the best possible outcomes for the people of Trinidad and Tobago."

Strategic Partners: The Backbone of UDeCOTT's Success

UDeCOTT's success would not be possible without the support of its strategic partners—an extensive network of subcontractors, consultants, and suppliers who bring their expertise to the table on each and every project. These partners are more than just service providers; they are collaborators who work hand in hand with

UDeCOTT to overcome challenges, deliver on tight timelines, and ensure that every project meets the highest standards of quality and safety.

Local suppliers such as Pressure Strategic Integrated (PSI) Services Limited, Consulting Engineers Associates 2005 Ltd, NH International (Caribbean) Limited, UNICOM Limited and Ramdhan Engineering Project Management & Consultancy Limited have been instrumental in helping UDeCOTT execute complex projects on time and within budget. Their contributions range from construction services to project management, ensuring that UDeCOTT's ambitious vision is always supported by a foundation of strong, reliable partnerships.

"We couldn't do what we do without our partners," says Charles. "They are the ones on the ground, making sure that everything comes together, from the initial planning stages to the final handover. We're incredibly grateful for their dedication and expertise."



As UDeCOTT looks ahead to the next 30 years, the corporation remains committed to sustainability and community impact

Looking to the Future: Sustainability and Community Impact

As UDeCOTT looks ahead to the next 30 years, the corporation remains committed to sustainability and community impact. Projects like the San Fernando Waterfront Redevelopment showcase UDeCOTT's forward-thinking approach to urban development, blending environmental stewardship with economic growth. By partnering with international firms like Van Oord, a leader in land reclamation and marine engineering, UDeCOTT is ensuring that its projects are not only functional and aesthetically pleasing but also environmentally responsible. "Our goal is to create spaces that serve both the present and future generations," says Ganteaume-Farrell. "That means incorporating sustainable practices into every project, whether it's through green building techniques, energy-efficient systems, or community-driven design." UDeCOTT's commitment to sustainability extends beyond its large-scale projects. Through its Corporate Social

Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, the corporation is investing in programs that support education, youth development, and local arts and culture. These initiatives are designed to empower communities, providing them with the tools and resources they need to thrive. A Legacy of Excellence: The Next Chapter As UDeCOTT celebrates its 30th anniversary, the corporation is not resting on its laurels. With a portfolio of successful projects behind it and a vision for the future, UDeCOTT is poised to continue leading the charge in transforming Trinidad and Tobago's urban landscape. "Our work is never done," says Charles. "Every project we complete is a stepping stone to the next. We are constantly looking for new ways to innovate, to push the boundaries of what's possible, and to make a lasting impact on the lives of the people we serve."

With a strong foundation of strategic partnerships, a commitment to sustainability, and a focus on community-driven development, UDeCOTT is ready to take on the challenges of the next 30 years—and beyond.



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