



CHOICES

Your Life, Your Choice



Mr Felix Lewis, Manager, Centre for Enterprise Development, offers some wisdom to the 40 graduates of the ECCB Small Business Workshop, Cohort 1, St. Vincent and the Grenadines at their graduation ceremony on July 15, 2016.

Life is all about choices. We make them every day all day long. Even when we choose to do nothing we are making a choice. The choices we make dictate the different directions that life takes and is strong evidence that we have a major role to play in determining our destiny. That is why the saying goes, *“God helps those who help themselves.”*

Now choices can be good or bad but they always have some consequence. It is

therefore very important that before a choice confronts us, we are as informed as much as possible on whether the choice is good or bad and the consequences of the choices before us.

Although informed choices and decisions do not guarantee that the best choices will always be made, it certainly increases the probability that we will make choices that will have positive outcomes.

Today we celebrate a good choice, a choice to allocate some time, no matter how busy we are, to acquire new knowledge and to reinforce and renew information that we may already possess. I am confident that no participant will regret this choice that they have made and that the knowledge gained through this workshop will positively impact and inform the decisions taken in their respective businesses.

Change is a relentless inevitability that only increases its pace with time. A massive exponential accumulation of knowledge is driving the pace of change in our world today and bringing with it a rich tapestry of opportunities as deep, wide and long as our imagination will allow. This space is the space where innovation is rampant and opportunity endless and where there is innovation and opportunity, there is endless potential for entrepreneurship.

In this real world scenario, we as business persons must invest in training to keep abreast of change and remain relevant and competitive in the medium to long term.

There is a saying that good luck is where opportunity meets preparation. **The opportunities are there but it takes entrepreneurship and a mindset that places no limits on our ambitions to recognise and exploit**

them. The just concluded ECCB Small Business Workshop provided you with some of the tools that will inform your choices and decisions in business. This has the potential to open new doors in respect to business opportunities in addition to improving the performance of your ongoing enterprise. It also means that what you have learnt here must be put to

good use. We cannot just sit on this information. We have to take action if we are to benefit from this experience. So I encourage you to implement what you have learnt and be hungry for the next opportunity. Improve and expand on your knowledge to remain relevant and competitive.



Sharing in the photo with the graduates -: The Honourable Camillo Gonsalves, Minister of Economic Planning, Sustainable Development; Mr Felix Lewis, Manager, Centre for Enterprise Development; Mrs. Elritha Miguel, ECCB Resident Representative

