



*VAT Simplifying the collection of Tax.*

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

## **FREE ADVISORY VISIT PROGRAMME TO HELP ELIGIBLE VAT TAXPAYERS PREPARE**

**Castries, August 2, 2012;** In pursuit of its objective to ensure optimal awareness and thorough education of taxpayers about VAT, the Inland Revenue Department has designed and commenced its **Taxpayer Advisory Visit Programme**.

Importantly, the programme is also a strategic approach towards ensuring a high rate of voluntary compliance from taxpayers as possible.

Through the Taxpayer Advisory Visit, officers from the VAT section of the IRD will demystify how VAT works, the implications for the business, the processes involved both from the IRD side and those pertaining to the business' Accounting and Recordkeeping which will help the business to meet the requirements of the VAT Act.

Voluntary compliance describes a situation where taxpayers see it as their duty to come forward and pay their taxes in accordance with the law.

Coordinator of the VAT Implementation Project Officer, Adria Sonson explained that a high rate of voluntary compliance hinges upon whether taxpayers are convinced of the fairness of the taxation system and if they are fully informed on how to prepare and maintain their records, and pay their taxes.

“In order to create this atmosphere of understanding, in relation to the VAT, prospective registered persons and others who are eligible for VAT registration can benefit from this one-on-one tutorial counselling which will make the system less murky for them.”

Ms. Sonson said that the aim of the Taxpayer Advisory Visit Programme is to provide information and assistance, and not to be involved in verification, audit or any collection activities.

This Taxpayer Advisory Visit is available to anyone who is eligible to be registered for VAT and is structured to be accessible to entrepreneurs islandwide.

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