



SCOTIABANK (BARBADOS) LIMITED
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Scotiabank partners with BASE to build skills, independence and opportunity for persons with disabilities.

Scotiabank has partnered with the Barbados Association for Supported Employment (BASE) to support its Training and Entrepreneurial Development Programme, helping to advance economic inclusion and create sustainable opportunities for persons with disabilities.

The Programme delivers skills training and entrepreneurial development for persons with developmental disabilities, equipping participants with practical, income-generating skills including soap making, kitchen gardening, candle making, confectionery making, soft furnishings, and marketing for small business, alongside group activities that strengthen social engagement. The initiative is designed to foster independence, build confidence, and create pathways to meaningful employment and self-reliance.

BASE was established to address the limited employment opportunities often available to young adults with developmental disabilities after they leave the formal education system. Through its flagship training facility, First BASE, the organisation provides structured, supported training in a safe, inclusive environment, along with social, psychological and life-skills support for participants and their families.

BASE welcomed the partnership, noting that Scotiabank's support will help expand training offerings, diversify products, and provide stipends that recognise participants' contributions as they develop workplace skills. For participants, the impact goes beyond training. "I had fun learning how to make soap. I felt proud to know that I could make soap on my own," shared one BASE programme participant, reflecting the confidence and empowerment the initiative aims to build.

This initiative supports Scotiabank's focus on removing barriers to opportunity and backing programmes that promote long-term economic participation for underserved and vulnerable groups. Suzette Armoogam-Shah, Country Head, Scotiabank Barbados, said: "Through this partnership with BASE, Scotiabank is proud to support a programme that empowers young adults with developmental disabilities to build skills, generate income and participate more fully in their communities."



Participants in BASE's Training and Entrepreneurial Development Programme during the kitchen gardening aspect of the initiative.



Soaps made by participants in BASE's Training and Entrepreneurial Development Programme.

About Scotiabank

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