**Press Release**

May 14th , 2020

**COVID-19 High Frequency Phone Survey**

The Central Statistical Office supported by the World Bank is currently implementing the Saint Lucia COVID-19 High Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS). The World Bank is providing support to countries to help mitigate the spread and impact of the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19). One area of support is for data collection to inform evidence-based policies that may help mitigate the effects of this disease.

In this regard, the HFPS will aid in monitoring the socio-economic effects of this evolving COVID-19 pandemic in real time. These data will contribute to filling critical gaps in information that could be used by the Government of Saint Lucia and stakeholders to help design policies to mitigate the negative impacts on its population.

Following the decision by the Central Statistical Office to suspend all ongoing face-to-face interviews (data collection), the planned COVID-19 High Frequency Phone Survey to monitor the socio-economic impact of COVID019 will require Enumerators to contact persons via the telephone.

The project will run from May through June 2020, with the first round being in May and the follow up round in June.

The Central Statistical Office is seeking the support and assistance of the public during this important exercise.