OECS EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (OEDP)





CURRICULUM GUIDE

For Secondary Schools Grades 7 – 9 (Forms 1-3)



Physical Science





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Message from the Chief Education Officer

Globalization and the knowledge economy pose numerous challenges to small island developing states. St. Vincent and the Grenadines is no exception.

With the transformation of entire economies and cultures, schools are expected to keep pace, and educators have to rethink and reform the education system to grapple with these challenges by increasing access and providing opportunities for the student population to acquire skills and gain knowledge for living and production.

The curriculum is a powerful instrument through which education reform is pursued. The curriculum has to provide opportunities for personalizing learning by introducing flexibility in what is taught. It has to be relevant and engaging for all pupils. The curriculum should create learning opportunities for each child by considering the range of abilities, aptitudes and diverse backgrounds of all students. The foundation skills - literacy, numeracy and ICT are also of utmost importance but initiative, creativity and problem solving must transform the way of thinking and doing.

The new curriculum and assessment framework makes provision for new approaches and the use of innovative modalities to encourage teachers to change from traditional to interactive approaches; to foster critical thinking and problem-solving while engaging teachers in proper assessment practices which will enable them to provide evidence-based-intervention strategies for all learners.

The framework also allows practitioners to hone the latent energies and abilities of students through the Design and Technology, Physical Education and Creative Arts curricula. This, it is hoped, will provide future citizens with skills and knowledge to be employable, competitive, self-sufficient and to increase civic and democratic responsibility.

Through the use of this curriculum, from Kindergarten to Grade 9, the education received will determine the citizens' capacity to prosper and to help the economy to bloom.

The new thrust to introduce teachers' guides into schools strengthens the initiative to provide the appropriate resources to allow teachers to implement all programmes of learning. I urge teachers to make maximum use of these resources so that the nation's children will continue to benefit from the opportunities provided in all classrooms.

Susan Dougan

Susan Dougan (Mrs.) Chief Education Officer

FOREWORD

The phased introduction of Universal Secondary Education (USE), completed in 2005, highlighted the need for appropriate curricula to meet the varying needs and interests of the increased, more diverse student population entering secondary schools.

USE led to a further fragmentation of the current curricula as different secondary schools adopt different coping strategies to meet their diverse students' needs.

Hence for USE to be deemed effective there was an urgent need for the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and in particular the Ministry of Education to provide a uniform curriculum framework for all secondary schools, thus providing more equitable access for all.

The Education Act of 1992 and the ESDP (2002-2007), sought to address these issues by providing for the development of a National Curriculum and Assessment Framework (NCAF), which provides flexibility for schools to customize the curriculum, subject to policy requirements, to best meet the needs of their students.

This National Framework, developed through a wide-ranging consultative process and participatory methodologies, led to the development of National Curriculum Programmes of Learning (POLs) and Teachers Guides in nine (9) subject areas: *Creative Arts (Dance, Art, Drama and Music), Design and Technology, Foreign Languages (French and Spanish), Health and Family Life Education, Language Arts, Mathematics, Physical Education and Sports, Science and Social Sciences.*

These Programmes of Learning seek to raise the performance and standards of teachers and students by providing Attainment Targets and basic Learning Outcomes and Achievement Indicators that ALL students are expected to achieve.

The Attainment Targets describe what each student should know, be able to do and the desirable attitudes they should display.

The *Learning Outcomes* are derived directly from the Attainment Targets. They indicate the basic depth and breadth of what students should know, be able to do, and the desirable attitudes they should demonstrate.

The *Achievement Indicators* state what the students should know, be able to do and the values and attitudes they must display in order that the teachers and students can know that a Learning Outcome has been achieved.

The Teachers' Guides are designed to enable ALL students to achieve the national goals for secondary education. They aim to illustrate the integration of teaching, learning and assessment.

Each Guide has been designed to suit the particular needs of each subject area. Furthermore, the Guides include sample lesson plans, assessment strategies, activities and the major resources/materials needed to effectively deliver the programmes. These documents should therefore serve as a guide for the development of instructional programmes to be implemented at the classroom level.

These Guides should therefore provide opportunities for the enhancement of teaching and learning at the classroom level and so contribute to the cognitive, affective and psychomotor development of the child.

The teacher, the main user of these Guides is envisaged as someone who:-

- ♣ Plans for teaching according to different learning styles and needs of his/her students
- ♣ Is flexible and creative.

The teacher of the NCAF is therefore someone who is confident in the delivery of the subject matter.

At the Ministry of Education, we are confident that these Guides will significantly enhance teaching and learning in secondary schools and eventually contribute towards the achievement of school graduates who are:

- Literate and numerate in all domains
- ♣ Capable of sound moral and ethical judgments
- Confident and emotionally secure
- ♣ Capable of working independently and cooperatively
- Lifelong learners
- Hardworking with positive work ethics
- ♣ Knowledgeable and appreciative of their creative and artistic expressions

It is our hope that principals and teachers continue to play their roles in ensuring that these Guides are used for the enhanced development of the Nation's children as we work together to produce better citizens in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

D. Bacchus

Deborah Bacchus (Mrs.) Senior Education Officer - Curriculum

Vision of the Learner

The graduate of the National Curriculum is envisaged as someone who has learned to:

- communicate effectively through words, numbers, visual images, symbols and sounds.
- be self reliant, act positively and respond appropriately to changing situations.
- be computer competent, skilled in science and technology and able to apply research and evidence based skills appropriately in his/her living.
- be aesthetically and artistically aware, creative, confident, emotionally secure with well developed interpersonal and problem solving skills; capable of sound moral and ethical judgments.
- engage in learning as a lifelong activity and thus be productive, adaptable citizens prepared to take up different employment opportunities to meet personal and national needs.
- evaluate data to make and implement decisions and accept responsibility for those decisions in the home, workplace and wider society.

Developmental Outcomes of Graduates of ES 3

At the end of Education Stage 3; students can:

- apply knowledge, skills and reasoning to their daily lives.
- exhibit positive work attitudes.

- understand and demonstrate a commitment to physical and mental fitness, good healthcare and a productive life style.
- demonstrate a high level of self-worth.
- make sound moral and ethical judgments.
- appreciate and conserve the national environment and cultural heritage.
- respect and value their rights and responsibilities and those of other people as equal citizens in a democratic society.
- demonstrate different life-learning skills for different purposes in their daily lives.
- respect and value their rights and responsibilities and those of other people as equal citizens in a democratic society.
- demonstrate different life-learning skills for different purposes in their daily lives.
- promote a Caribbean identity through regional co-operation, harmonization and integration.

Expectations of a Learning Outcomes Curriculum

A Learning Outcomes Curriculum is a structured hierarchy of integrated learning. It ensures that students experience the Attainment Targets and Learning Outcomes for each subject as inter-related, and linked, both within and across subjects at each grade. It seeks to expand and support the students' opportunities to acquire the desired knowledge, skills, values and attitudes across the whole curriculum. The Learning Outcomes for each subject set out progressively more complex, deeper and broader expectations of learning that shall be

made clear and explicit to all stakeholders, including the students and parents, before teaching and learning begins.

A Learning Outcomes Curriculum expects students to make sense of new knowledge in the context of their existing knowledge and so develop new understandings as learning takes place. It recognizes that learning at school is only truly beneficial when learners draw on learning from their daily lives both in and outside school to learn and then transfer or apply that new learning back into their daily lives in and outside school. The process of learning is therefore considered as important as the final products and it is designed to encourage students to engage in learning as a life-long activity, as an essential pre-requisite to understand and manage their lives in an ever-changing world.

Structure of the Science Curriculum

The curriculum for grades 7 to 9 is comprised of three strands: Earth Science, Life Science and Physical Science. Each of these strands is further divided into sub-strands. The Life Science strand is divided into two sub-strands – Classification of Organisms and Structure, Function and Diversity. Earth Science is divided into three parts – Earth's Weather, Earth's Resources and The Solar System. Similarly, the Physical Science is divided into three sub-strands: Energy; Matter and Materials; and Force, Motion and Structures.

Apart from the division into strands and sub-strands, the curriculum is divided by grade levels, with learning outcomes for each sub-strand specified for each grade level. Moreover, each major topic covered at grade 7 level is revisited at the other two higher levels, with appropriate learning outcomes for the different levels. In essence, the curriculum shows a spiral progression in the learning outcomes. It also includes achievement indicators pertaining to each learning outcome at each grade level.

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know	Theme 1: Characteristics/Classification of Organisms			
that learner	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/For	m 2
has achieved	Learning Achievement Indicators		Learning	Achievement Indicators
this	Outcomes		Outcomes	
Attainment	Realise that	1. Appreciate the importance	Recognise	1. Appreciate the importance of classification.
Target when	animals can be	of classification.	that plants	
s/he can	grouped		and parts	2. Identify characteristics used by scientists to
	according to	2. Identify physical	of a plant	classify plants.
	their physical	characteristics used by	can be	
	characteristics.	scientists to classify	classified	3. Classify seed plants (higher plants) into
		animals.	according	angiosperms and gymnosperms (conifers).
			to	
		3. Classify vertebrates and	observable	4. Differentiate between the two groups of
		invertebrates into the	features	angiosperms.
		currently recognized groups		
		according to their		5. Classify different parts of plants based on
		characteristics.		observable characteristics (to include modified
				plant structures).
		4. Construct a simple		
		dichotomous key based on		
		observable features and use		
		it to classify organisms.		

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know that	Grade 9/ Form 3		
learner has achieved this Attainment Target when			
s/he can	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
	Understand the role of micro-organisms in the 1. Appreciate the importance of classification of the importance of classification in the i		
	environment.		
		2. Identify various micro-organisms in the	
		environment.	
		3. Classify organisms into beneficial and harmful.	
		4. Understand how micro-organisms cause food	
		spoilage.	
		5. Discuss ways to reduce/prevent food spoilage.	

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know that learner has	Theme 2: Structure, Function and Diversity	
achieved this Attainment Target	Grade 7/Form 1	
when s/he can	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators
	Realise that living organisms have specialised	1. Describe the basic concept of a cell.
	cells, tissues, organs and systems that carry out	
	specific functions.	2. Differentiate between plant and animal
		cells.
		3. Realise that a relationship exists
		between cells, tissues, organs and
		systems in organisms.
		4. Appreciate that variation exists among
		living things.

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know	Theme 2: Structure, Function and Diversity			
that learner	Grade 8/ Form 2			
has achieved	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators		
this Realise that living 1. Relate the characteristics of gas exchange surfaces		1. Relate the characteristics of gas exchange surfaces to their function.		
Attainment	organisms have	2. Delete the expression of a leafue its forestion		
Target when	specialized structures	2. Relate the structure of a leaf to its function.		
s/he can	that carry out specific functions.	3. Relate the structure of the respiratory system in man to its function.		
		4. Describe the effects of chemicals on the function of the respiratory system.		
		5. Relate the structure of the digestive system in man to its function.		
		6. Understand why animals need a circulatory system.		
		7. Relate the structure of the circulatory system in man to its function.		
		8. Recognise that water and nutrients are transported in higher plants and specialized tissues.		
		9. Demonstrate an understanding that reproduction is both sexual and asexual.		
		10. Relate the structure of a flower to its function in sexual reproduction.		
		11. Identify the structures used in asexual reproduction in plants.		
		12. Relate the structure of the reproductive system in man to its function.		
		13. Appreciate that disease affect the proper functioning of each system.		

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

	Theme 2: Structure, Function and Diversity		
We will	Grade 9/ Form 3		
know that	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
learner has	Realise that living organisms have specialized	1. Demonstrate an understanding that organisms increase in size	
achieved	structures that carry out specific functions.	and complexity during their lives.	
this		2. Investigate the factors which influence plant growth.	
Attainment		2. Investigate the factors which influence plant growth.	
Target		3. Understand the relationship between plant growth and	
when s/he		agricultural practices.	
can		A A way wind a the improved many of ways and in a minute.	
		4. Appreciate the importance of movement in animals.	
		5. Investigate how movement occurs in different animals.	
		6. Realise that different animals have specialised structures to facilitate movement in different habitats.	
		7. Understand why responses to stimuli are important.	
		8. Identify the sense organs and the stimuli to which they respond.	
		9. Understand the importance of excretion in living organisms.	
		10. Relate the structure of the excretory system in man to its function.	
		11. Appreciate that diseases affect the proper functioning of the system.	

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know that	Theme 3: Organisms and their Environment			
learner has achieved	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
this Attainment Target	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators
when s/he can	Recognise that	1. Discuss how living	Recognise the	1. Identify biotic and
when sine can	organisms are	things are adapted to	interaction of the biotic	abiotic components
	adapted to their	their environment.	and abiotic factors in	within named
	environment.		the environment	environment.
		2. Understand that living		
		organisms require certain		2. Discuss the impact of
		conditions for survival.		the biotic and abiotic
				components in named
		3. Understand the		environment.
		relationship between		
		organisms in food chains		3. Discuss how biotic and
		and food webs.		abiotic factors limit
				population growth.
		4. Classify organisms		
		found within the		4. Examine the impact of
		environment (producers		human activity on the
		and consumers).		environment.

STRAND 1: LIFE SCIENCE

We will know that	Theme 3: Organisms and their Environment		
learner has achieved this	Grade 9/ Form 3		
Attainment Target when	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
_	Appreciate that organisms and their environment	1. Discuss ways in which man's activity can	
s/he can	need to be protected, conserved and preserved.	adversely affect organisms and their	
	•	environment.	
		2. Discuss the need to protect organisms and their environment.	
		3. Discuss ways in which man can protect, conserve and/or preserve organisms and the environment.	
		4. Research policies ad laws developed to protect the environment.	
		5. Discuss the effectiveness of these policies and laws.	

STRAND 2: Earth Science

We will know that	Theme 1: Earth's Wea	ther & Climate		
learner has achieved	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
this Attainment	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators
Target when s/he can	Understand that the	1. Explain the terms	Understand that	1. Explain the concept of an
Target when sine can	Earth's Weather &	weather and climate.	Ecosystems vary	ecosystem.
	Climate vary from		from climate region	
	Place to Place.	2. Describe the elements	to climatic region.	2. Identify the components
		of weather and climate		of an ecosystem.
		(temperature, rainfall,		
		wind, sunshine).		3. Describe the relationship
				among the components of
		3. Discuss the concept of		an ecosystem.
		climatic zones.		
				4. Assess the degree to
				which climatic
				characteristics affect the
				relationships within an
				ecosystem.

STRAND 2: Earth Science

Theme 1: Earth's Weather & Climate		
Grade 9/ Form 3		
Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
Explain the natural phenomena associated with	1. Identify the different climatic zones.	
each climatic zone.		
	2. Identify the natural hazards affecting each	
	climatic zone. (tropical storms; hurricanes,	
	typhoons, blizzards).	
	3. Discuss the effects of each hazard.	
	4. Discuss the concept of climate change.	
	5. Describe the effects of climate change on the human & natural environments.	
	Grade 9/ Form 3 Learning Outcomes Explain the natural phenomena associated with	

STRAND 2: Earth Science

We will know that	Theme 2: Earth's Resources			
learner has	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
achieved this	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	Learning	Achievement
			Outcomes	Indicators
Attainment Target	Appreciate the presence of the	1. Explain the term "Natural	Appreciate that	1. Describe the
when s/he can	natural resources available	Resources".	man use the	major natural
	for use by man.		resources in his	resources that are
	332 323 33	2. Differentiate between	environs for survival.	utilised by man.
		renewable and non-renewable	survivai.	
				2. Discuss the
		resources.		
				importance of each
		3. Discuss the major natural		natural resource.
		resources utilised by man.		
				3. Explain how
		4. Evaluate how the natural		natural resources are
		resources are utilized.		used/processed for
				man's benefit.

STRAND 2: Earth Science

We will know that	Theme 2: Earth's Resources			
learner has achieved this	Grade 9/ Form 3			
Attainment Target when	Learning Outcomes	Learning Outcomes Achievement Indicators		
	Understand that there can be adverse 1. Describe the adverse effects of man's activitie			
s/he can	consequences associated with man's use of natural on the environment.			
	resources.			
		2. Discuss the measures that can be taken to		
		reduce/ eliminate these adverse effects.		

STRAND 2: Earth Science

We will	Theme 3: Solar Sys	tem		
know that	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
learner has	Learning	Achievement Indicators	Learning	Achievement Indicators
achieved	Outcomes		Outcomes	
	Realise that the	1. Identify the components of	Understand that	1. Understand the processes of rotation and
this	Universe consists	the universe.	the movement of	revolution.
Attainment	of different	2 Differentiate among the	the celestial	2 Differentiate between the muccesses of
Target	components.	2. Differentiate among the components of the Solar	bodies causes	2. Differentiate between the processes of rotation and revolution.
when s/he	•	System.	predictable and	Totation and revolution.
can		3. Have knowledge of the devices used to determine the location of celestial bodies.4. Investigate how knowledge of celestial bodies shaped man's civilization over time.	cyclic events.	3. Recognise the relationships among the relative positions of the Sun, Earth and Moon to include lunar and solar eclipses.4. Describe the effects of the revolution of the moon around the earth (to include tides and phases of the moon).
		5. Understand that gravity is the force that keeps the planets of the solar system in balance/equilibrium.		

STRAND 2: Earth Science

We will know that	Theme 3: Solar System		
learner has achieved this	Grade 9/ Form 3		
Attainment Target when	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
C	Understand how space exploration has influenced	1. Investigate how technology has extended	
s/he can	human civilization.	man's ability to explore space.	
		2. Investigate how space research has improved technology.	
		3. Develop an awareness of the problems associated with space exploration.	
		4. Discuss the feasibility of space exploration.	
		5. Understand that space exploration requires	
		specific standards (to include spacecraft, space	
		suit.)	

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

ATTAINMENT TARGET: The learner should know that the states of matter are dependant on the energy content and that forces affect the form and function of materials.

We will	Theme 1: Energy			
know that	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
learner has	Learning	Achievement Indicators	Learning	Achievement Indicators
achieved this Attainment Target when s/he can	Outcomes Recognise that energy manifests itself in different forms.	Discuss the importance of energy to man. Realise that energy can be converted from one form to another.	Outcomes Recognise that energy use must be conserved.	 Identify sources of the different forms of energy (to include heat, light, sound, solar and electrical). Discuss the application of different forms of energy by man (to include heat, light, solar,
		 3. Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable sources of energy. 4. Recognise energy conversions, which involve heat, light and sound, solar and electrical energy. 		 sound and electrical). 3. Identify the different ways by which energy can be transferred. 4. Analyse approaches to energy conservation. 5. Evaluate the impact of energy use on the environment (to include nuclear energy).

DATE: April, 2009

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

We will know that	Theme 1: Energy			
learner has achieved this	Grade 9/ Form 3			
Attainment Target when s/he can	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators		
	Recognise the impact of electrical energy on	1. Discuss the everyday activities and		
s/ne can	man's daily activities.	applications of magnets.		
		2. Examine the relationship between magnetism and electricity.		
		3. Investigate how the production of electricity affects the environment.		
		4. Construct simple circuits and apply an understanding of circuits to the construction of other devices.		
		5. Discuss the importance of safety devices used in electrical appliances/circuits.		
		6. Discuss safety measures to be followed when dealing with electricity.		
		7. Determine the energy consumption of different appliances.		
		8. Interpret household electrical bills.		

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Theme 2. Matter an	d Materials		
Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2	
Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators
Relate the particle arrangement of the states of matter to their physical properties.	 Demonstrate an understanding of the concept of matter. Illustrate the arrangement of particles in the different states of matter. Compare the properties of the states of matter. Compare solutions, suspensions, colloids and emulsions. Distinguish between aqueous and non-aqueous mixtures. Identify everyday uses of 	Recognise the atomic structure as the underlying basis for the classification of matter.	 Describe the differences between elements, compound and mixtures. Describe the differences between metals and non-metals. Describe with illustrations, the structure of atoms of atomic number. Use and interpret such symbols as ⁶C₁₂. Explain the basis of the arrangement of elements in the periodic table. Define the term isotopes and state the uses of isotopes.
]	Learning Outcomes Relate the particle arrangement of the states of matter to their physical	Achievement Indicators Outcomes Relate the particle arrangement of the states of matter to their physical properties. 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the concept of matter. 2. Illustrate the arrangement of particles in the different states of matter. 3. Compare the properties of the states of matter. 4. Compare solutions, suspensions, colloids and emulsions. 5. Distinguish between aqueous and non-aqueous mixtures.	Learning Outcomes Relate the particle arrangement of the states of matter to their physical properties. 2. Illustrate the arrangement of states of matter. 3. Compare the properties of the states of matter. 4. Compare solutions, suspensions, colloids and emulsions. 5. Distinguish between aqueous and non-aqueous mixtures.

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

We will know that	Theme 2: Matters and Materials		
learner has achieved	Grade 9/ Form 3		
this Attainment Target	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators	
when s/he can	Demonstrate and understanding that the behaviour	1. Recognise that all elements can be	
when s/he can	of an element/compound can be predicted based on	represented by symbols.	
	its properties.		
		2. Realise that all elements can be arranged in a	
		table based on the atomic structure.	
		3. Identify trends in elements in the periodic	
		table.	
		4. Recognise that elements can combine to form	
		compounds.	
		5. Relate the properties of metals and non-metals	
		to their uses.	
		6. Distinguish between acids, bases and salts.	

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

We will	Theme 3: Force,	Motion & Structure			
know that	Grade 7/Form 1		Grade 8/Form 2		
learner has	Learning	Achievement Indicators	Learning	Achievement Indicators	
	Outcomes		Outcomes		
achieved	Determine how	1. Identify the forces that	Demonstrate an	1. Differentiate between linear and circular	
this	the effects of	act on objects.	understanding	motion.	
Attainment	force on a body	2. Determine the effects of	that there is a		
Target	is related to its	these forces on objects.	relationship	2. Relate the direction of motion of a body to the	
when s/he	shape and		between force	direction of the force causing it.	
can	structure.	 3. Appreciate the effects of forces in everyday life. 4. Evaluate how forces affect the shapes and functions of objects. 5. Evaluate structures for strength and stability. 6. Identify factors that determine the strength of an object. 7. Identify factors that affect stability of objects. 	and motion.	 3. Discuss the importance of forces which oppose motion (friction and viscosity.) 4. Investigate how machines make it easier to move objects. 5. Identify different features that facilitate motion of objects. 6. Design and construct objects, which display a variety of motions. 	

STRAND 3: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

We will know that	Theme 3: Force, Motion & Structure			
learner has achieved this	Grade 9/ Form 3			
Attainment Target when	Learning Outcomes	Achievement Indicators		
s/he can	Realise that the effect of pressure on fluids	1. Discuss the relationship between force and area.		
s/ne can	dependent on their properties.			
		2. Identify some simple practical applications of the		
		relationship among force, pressure and area.		
		3. Demonstrate an understanding of the properties		
		of fluids (viscosity and buoyant force).		
		4. Realise that an external pressure can be		
		transmitted through fluids.		
		5. Apply the model of the particle theory of matter		
		to explain the behaviour of fluids under pressure.		
		6. Perform simple experiments to show the		
		relationship between:		
		a. pressure and area.		
		b. force and pressure.		

