

March 19, 2015

**RE: Approval by mail: Implementation of Investment Plan for the Caribbean Regional Track of the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) IDB—  
Comments Received from Germany**

We have no major objections to the implementation of the project. However, we recommend considering our earlier comments on the SPCR for the Caribbean Regional Track, submitted on 7th May 2012, as well as our comments made below during project implementation.

**Individual Comments on the Proposed Project**

We appreciate that the Investment Plan for the Caribbean Regional Track of the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) aims to improve regional processes of climate relevant data acquisition, analysis and dissemination, and to pilot and scale up innovative climate resilient initiatives. I am convinced that the proposal would have benefited from a greater level of details, given its general complexity as well as its regional approach. This is particularly true for activities in Component 4. Given various sectoral foci as well as different co-implementing institutions, allow me to **recommend to line out in greater detail how these activities fit into national strategies and actions, and on which basis the respective institutions have been selected as co-implementers.**

With regard to the challenge of lacking “reliable climate data and consistent protocols for their use to inform decision-making”: The proposal seems to pursue a rather technical approach focusing on enhancing the quality and spatial resolution of climate data. Given the staff and budgetary constraints of the meteorological offices in the region, however, it is equally important to ensure that these offices have the necessary capacities to process the data and generate user-friendly knowledge products. Therefore, we suggest exploring options to strengthen the capacity development activities envisaged under Component 2 and develop strategies for disseminating targeted information material to end users. In addition, although the activities under Component 4 would highly benefit from the availability of enhanced climate data, the proposal does not mention if and how the outcomes of Components 1 to 3 will be taken into account during implementation of the applied adaptation initiatives. **Allow me to therefore recommend elaborating how the project intends to create synergies between the four components, and particularly how the activities under Component 4 will benefit from the enhanced climate data generated under Components 1 to 3.**

The project proposal briefly mentions that it will foster mainstreaming of climate change by conducting policy and legislative reviews and applying the “Caribbean climate change risk and adaptation tool” (CCORAL) in selected countries. However, the respective indicators of Outputs 1 (“Degree of integration of climate change in national, including sector planning”) and 2 (“Evidence of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to mainstream climate change”) mainly seem to focus on the availability of high-quality climate data and do not touch upon the governance perspective of mainstreaming. **Thus, we recommend including an additional indicator which more appropriately captures the envisaged mainstreaming activities.**

Moreover, specifically regarding Component 1, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is also actively pursuing bathymetric studies in the region. **Thus, we suggest closely**

**coordinating with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) before generating additional bathymetric data, in order to benefit from lessons learned and to avoid duplication of efforts.**

### **Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues**

#### *Learning*

In line with our comments on the SPCR for the Caribbean Regional Track, submitted on 7th May 2012, we deem very relevant that the regional track actively disseminates best practices and lessons learned, and that it ensures that learnings are shared across both PPCR and non-PPCR countries within the Caribbean. Although the project proposal states that “it is expected that lessons learnt under the PPCR will be shared with all countries across the region”, it does not provide any information on how this will be achieved. Particularly given that “ineffective coordination” is listed as one of the main risks of the project, the absence of a sound strategy for sharing lessons learned can undermine its overall success. **Thus, we highly recommend elaborating in greater detail how the project intends to disseminate relevant learnings and share best practices between the different PPCR and non-PPCR countries in the region.**

The recently endorsed PPCR project Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological Services in Haiti strives to improve institutional capacity of the Government of Haiti to provide hydro-meteorological and climate information services. **Due to the similar objectives of the Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological Services project in Haiti and the proposed Investment Plan for the Caribbean Regional Track, we suggest actively sharing relevant learnings between these two PPCR projects.**

#### *Synergies with German Climate Change Related Engagement in the Region*

Under the Caribbean Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions (CATS) program, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the German Government are currently supporting the efforts of eight CARICOM member states to adapt the management of their natural resources and economies to the impacts of climate change. Several complementarities and potential synergies exist between this program and the proposed PPCR project, particularly regarding the adaptation activities under Component 4. **Thus, we suggest close coordination and collaboration between the two projects, in order to make use of already existing knowledge and to harmonize specific adaptation initiatives implemented in the same sectors or regions.**

Dr. Romeo Bertolini  
Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development  
Sondereinheit Klima  
Special Unit on Climate  
Tel.: +49-228-535-3223  
Fax: +49-228-535-10-3980  
E-Mail: [romeo.bertolini@bmz.bund.de](mailto:romeo.bertolini@bmz.bund.de) Internet: [www.bmz.de](http://www.bmz.de)