Caribbean Region

CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

THE SITUATION

The Caribbean region consists of a network of low-lying areas, characterized by extreme sensitivity to weather and climate variations. Ports, hotels, and other critical infrastructure are often vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including tropical cyclones, flooding, and droughts. Global warming is expected to intensify these and other extreme weather and climate events, and rising sea levels could drastically reduce soil quality and consequently agricultural yields. In the absence of greater investments to mainstream effective and coordinated climate resilience planning and action at the local, national, and international levels, climate change and variability will amplify food and water insecurity in the region, exacerbating adverse economic and health impacts on vulnerable populations with low adaptive capacities and undermine the region's sustainable development.

Source: IPS Inter Press Service

Despite substantial progress already achieved in terms of coordinated action to reduce the region's vulnerability to some climate and weather risks, the lack of reliable climate-relevant data and of consistent protocols for their use to inform decision making has hampered the development of adequate systems for responding to other key climate change threats.

THE TRANSFORMATION

To address this gap, six Caribbean nations—Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines—are tapping around US$125 million from the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) for targeted investments to mainstream and enhance climate resilience planning and action. Designed under the leadership of the Caribbean PPCR pilot country governments in coordination with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank (IBRD), other development partners and key Caribbean stakeholders, the strategic program is designed to improve the regional process of data acquisition, storage, and analysis. The overarching objective of the Caribbean region's PPCR financing is to develop, through analytical and participatory processes, land use plans in strategic coastal zones, including maps, action plans and recommended regulations, that will enable innovative, effective, and scaled-up responses to climate change and variability, as well as replication in other non-PPCR pilot countries.

PPCR Financing (US$ million)	Grants	Near-Zero Interest Credits	Total
Dominica	7	9	16
Grenada	8	12	20
Haiti	20	0	20
Jamaica	15	10	25
Saint Lucia	7	15	22
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	7	3	10
Regional track	10.6	0	10.6
Caribbean region total	74.6	49	123.6

CARIBBEAN REGION PPCR PILOT COUNTRY QUICK FACTS

UNDP HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX RANK:

Dominica: 81/187

Grenada: 67/187

Haiti: 158/187

Jamaica: 79/187

Saint Lucia: 82/187

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: 85/187

CARIBBEAN REGION PPCR QUICK FACTS

PPCR financing: US$123.6 million (60% grants; 40% near-zero interest credits)

Expected to leverage: US$94.3 million

EXPECTED PPCR IMPACT:

Across the Caribbean, tropical storms and hurricanes bring heavy winds and rain that can ravage entire communities, destroying lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure. To improve territorial planning and preparedness, Caribbean island nations are working to improve access to regional climate information, sharing knowledge and best practices, and implementing disaster risk management practices. Around US$125 million PPCR financing is expected to leverage nearly US$100 million in additional public and private co-financing regional activities designed to facilitate information flow and allow for economies of scale to enhance efforts of island nations with resource constraints. The investments are expected to transform the region's ability to identify, analyze, and address key climate and weather risks through improved geospatial data and adaptation planning, consolidated regional climate monitoring platforms, downscaling climate projection models and maps, and sharing of adaptation lessons within and among key groups and sectors.

CARIBBEAN PPCR INVESTMENT FOCUS AREAS:

DATA AVAILABILITY AND ANALYSIS

RATIONALE: PPCR financing will support investments to improve the quality of geospatial data crucial for understanding the impacts of climate change in order to support decision making in development planning, adaptation strategies and disaster risk reduction.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Collect topographic and bathymetric data and aerial imagery and support the development of a digital elevation model for the region.
- Provide training and support for data processing and analysis; data hosting, management and application; and knowledge management and information sharing.

DATA EXCHANGE, STORAGE, AND ACCESS

RATIONALE: PPCR financing will support investments to consolidate and expand the regional climate monitoring network connectivity and linkage with global networks.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Provide financing and support for regional connectivity and data interpretation and use for existing hydro-meteorological networks.
- Support measures related to the consolidation, archiving, interpretation, and exchange of data within the region and globally.

MODELING CLIMATE CHANGE AND IMPACT

RATIONALE: PPCR financing aims to address lacking detail in global climate models which is critical to assess the likely impact of climate change in the region, particularly in the agriculture and water sectors.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Increase the availability of down-scaled regional climate projections and improved collection and dissemination of lessons learned to enhance regional climate modeling capacity.
- Expand the portfolio of climate variables assessed and analytical techniques implemented, including the examination of extreme events and hurricanes.

APPLIED ADAPTATION INITIATIVES

RATIONALE: PPCR financing will be applied to reduce the vulnerability and increase the productivity of people and communities through adaptation measures targeting specifically food and nutrition security, economic livelihoods, and human health.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Finance assessments, designs, and scaled-up replications of practical adaptation planning and action through cost benefit analysis of water aggregation and augmentation and coastal fishing projects.
- Assess, design, and implement policy and legislative changes to enhance the integration of climate resilience adaptation measures into development planning and action.
- Collect and share lessons learned, including through design and delivery of training modules on successful adaptation activities and approaches that focus in particular on gender and vulnerable groups.

BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DEVELOPPEMENT / AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND / FONDS AFRICAIN DE DEVELOPPEMENT
ADB Asian Development Bank
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDB Inter-American Development Bank
WORLD BANK GROUP