

May 4, 2011

Comments from Germany on the Approval by Mail: Grenada Disaster Vulnerability and Climate Risk Reduction Project

Dear Patricia,

Thank you very much for the speedy and excellent preparation of the first project under the SPCR of Grenada. We fully endorse the proposal.

Please find attached some detailed comments. I would like to draw you particular attention to the aspects of effectively monitoring results and gender.

Kind regards
Annette

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Summary

The objective of the DVRP is to measurably reduce vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change impacts in Grenada and in the Eastern Caribbean. As also stated in our comments on Grenada's SPCR, which the DVRP builds on, the measures suggested will in all likelihood reduce vulnerability and improve climate resilience. Thus, there are no major objections from our point of view. However, we would like to provide some comments and suggestions for adjustments (**in bold**).

Individual Comments on the Project Approval Request

- The Project Approval Request describes the DVRP as an effort to reduce vulnerability and climate change impacts by making infrastructure more robust as well as by developing adaptive capacity. We commend the holistic approach taken in addressing vulnerability, combining both “hard” and “soft” adaptation measures.
- The DVRP covers investment project 1 and technical assistance measures 1-4 of Grenada's SPCR. However, expected outcomes, key results and indicators are also provided for investment project 2 (Forest Rehabilitation Project), which is outlined in Grenada's SPCR, but which is not part of this Project Approval Request. *“Restored and improved forest resources”* and *“reduced vulnerability to climate change through the restoration and preservation of valuable forest resources ...”* are – as far as we

understand the DVRP components and technical assistance measures – no expected outcome or result of the DVRP. **We therefore recommend revising the expected outcomes and results and linking them to the project components or technical assistance measures, which are included in the project proposal.**

- The expected outcome of the technical activity ‘Grenada Water Resources Assessment and Management Study’ is mentioned in the Project Approval Request to be *‘improved water resource management’*. However, the result of this TA measure is described as *‘improved water supply management’*. **Considering the need for Grenada to use its limited water resources sustainably , one might consider that water demand management measures be included alongside water supply management in the implementation of this TA measure.**
- In light of our previous recommendation to clarify how cooperation with PPCR pilot activities in other participating countries will be brought about, we appreciate that the provided documents have elaborated this point some more. The DVRP’s Component 2, for instance, is set at the regional level (Regional Platforms for Hazard and Risk Evaluation, and Applications for Improved Decision making and Building Practices). Furthermore, the Project Approval Request specifies that the participating countries are envisioned to cooperate on such activities as ‘capacity building for generating and interpreting risk assessments’ as well as in identifying risks to critical infrastructure.

Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues

Gender

Both the SPCR Proposal of Grenada and the Project Appraisal Document of the World Bank recognize that the level of gender inequality is fairly high and that this inequality is also reflected in the vulnerability to climate change. However, none of the provided documents clearly outlines how gender inequality can be addressed nor is any indicator linked to gender issues. Women are also not explicitly outlined as project beneficiaries (though families are) in the Project Appraisal Document. **As already mentioned in our comments on Grenada’s SPCR we recommend that gender issues be addressed in greater detail. During project implementation it must be ensured that the vulnerability of women to climate change is reduced and that their capacities as “agents of change” are increased and supported wherever possible.**

Participation

We commend the Project Appraisal Document for highlighting the importance of involving local communities alongside national authorities and regional technical agencies in vulnerability reduction and capacity-building initiatives to ensure ownership and the success of the measures. We also appreciate that stakeholder and beneficiary perspectives on the proposed intervention were solicited and that the outcome of these consultations will be integrated into the project operation plans. However, while the roles of the regional technical agencies and various line ministries in the implementation phase are elaborated in the provided documents,

there is little information regarding whether stakeholders and beneficiaries will continue to be consulted during project implementation. We therefore recommend clarifying to what extent stakeholder and beneficiaries will be actively involved in the design and implementation of planned activities, such as in water resource management measures.

Learning

We appreciate that knowledge sharing and learning at the regional level is well integrated in the project and described in much more detail than in Grenada's initial SPCR. This is especially relevant for climate data management and capacity building in the Caribbean region. The Summary of the Project Approval Request outlines the involvement of several regional technical agencies to facilitate collaboration on the regional level. Component 2 in particular – as described in the Project Appraisal Document – facilitates knowledge sharing and learning by publishing lessons learned and blueprints and by fostering regional collaboration on data management, risk analysis, and climate change adaptation planning.