

## **Revisiting Resilience in the Caribbean: a 360 degrees approach**

### **Context and Objectives**

The Caribbean region periodically suffers major economic losses from natural hazards. The region frequently experiences hydro-meteorological, seismic, and geological hazards including hurricanes, flooding, storm surges, volcanic eruptions, and landslides, many of which are being exacerbated by climate change. The region's physical characteristics explain its high vulnerability to natural hazards and the challenges resulting from these disasters. For small island or small coastal states, when a disaster strikes a large part of the population, infrastructure and businesses are directly or indirectly affected. The region's lack of economic diversification also explains the high levels of disaster risks. The economy of the region is concentrated in a few sectors like tourism, manufacture, agriculture and fisheries, which suffer nation-wide and regional losses when disasters strike. High poverty levels in many Caribbean countries increase the socio-economic impacts of disasters, as the poor are more vulnerable to disasters.

The objective of the Revisiting Resilience in the Caribbean project is to provide guidance to policy makers and development partners as well as information to the public on how to approach resilience to natural disasters and climate change in a holistic way in the context of the Caribbean, characterized by high risks and small island states. The Project will study the state of climate and disaster resilience in the region, propose a common framework and indicators for countries to measure progress towards resilience, and methods to measure these indicators. The final output will be a World Bank Group - published flagship report which will take a 360 degrees approach to resilience to natural disasters and climate change.

### **Main Activities**

- Sectoral Notes: These will be comprised of five technical reviews of relevant policies that increase resilience to disasters and climate risks in the context of small states and small island states.
- Quantifying Resilience: Indicators identified in the sectoral notes will be brought under a common framework and translated into the parameters of the model developed for the "[Unbreakable](#)" report.
- Synthesis Report and Policy Recommendations: The synthesis report will provide an overview of resilience in the Caribbean and recommendations.

### **Results**

This project is in its inception phase.

### **Partnerships and Coordination**

This project will work closely with relevant EU Delegations, donors and agencies active in DRM within the Caribbean region. It will closely coordinate with regional organizations like the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) to integrate experiences like the "Country Work Program

Development Models” and the Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Audit Tools into the report’s recommendations and the evaluation framework.

**Region**

- Caribbean

**Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility  
Component**

- Regional Technical Assistance Facility to Mainstream Resilience

**Amount approved**

- \$600,000

**Co-financing**

- \$160,000 (from the World Bank Group)

**Duration**

- 09/2019 – 10/2021