

# CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



**GFDRR**  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

## Improving Urban resilience of Coastal Cities in the Caribbean through Resilient Infrastructure and Urban Planning

### Countries

Grenada, Guyana, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

### Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

### Amount Approved

€357,000 / \$400,000

### Duration

03/2020 – 02/2023

### Context and Objectives

Caribbean countries are facing an increased threat from natural hazards due to climate change, rising sea levels, and adverse climate events, such as hurricanes, coastal erosion, and drought. There is a need to study possibilities for the construction of climate-resilient infrastructure in coastal cities, including green infrastructure which has effectively mitigated damages from storms, hurricanes, and other climate-induced hazards. Activities were implemented in Grenada, Guyana, and Saint Vincent in the Grenadines (SVG) due to their high vulnerability, strong interest in urban disaster-resilient infrastructure, and based on these countries' ongoing engagements with the World Bank.

The objectives of this project were to study approaches for improving urban infrastructure planning to achieve

sustainability and resilience goals in coastal cities, help practitioners better understand the integration of green with existing grey infrastructure, and forge an urban vision to identify infrastructure needs and investment opportunities.

### Main Activities

- Synthesis of vulnerabilities and opportunities.
- Proposals for a schematic plan for urban resilience.

### Results

This project played a crucial role in identifying the vulnerabilities and opportunities for enhancing urban resilience through the integration of grey and green infrastructures in coastal cities. Key outputs, such as *Vulnerability Assessments and Identification of Opportunities*, the *Schematic Plan for Urban Resilience*, *Conceptual Infrastructure Programs*, and *Final Report*, deepened each Governments' understanding of the sectoral challenges, infrastructure gaps, and the possible infrastructure approaches to taking climate change aspects into consideration of long-term sustainability.

The project also provided particularly detailed guidance to the government of Saint Vincent, to explore appropriate technical solutions for urban resilience, emphasizing participatory design, social cohesion, and engagement with the private sector. Three workshops were held with SVG government officials, covering the inception, proposal development, and final report development phases, involving 63 participants. These efforts aimed to ensure close engagement and gain government buy-in.

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### **Partnerships and Coordination**

The technical assistance project supported Grenada's Ministry of Finance, Guyana's Ministry of Agriculture and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development, and Information Technology. The World Bank team coordinated its activities with the relevant European Union delegations.