CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



Strengthening the integration and application of resilient technologies and practices in critical work and systems in Saint Lucia

Context and Objectives

Saint Lucia is exposed to multiple disaster and climate-related hazards that represent a significant risk to its economic and social development. Climate-related natural hazards, such as winds, floods, landslides, droughts, and rising sea levels have increasingly impacted livelihoods, destroyed infrastructure, and disrupted the provision of essential services, necessitating an increasing share of the national budget for recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Despite these challenges, Saint Lucia has made substantial improvements to its Disaster Risk Management (DRM) capacities, namely by strengthening its institutional, legal, and coordination frameworks, by enhancing early warning systems and response planning, and investing in risk mitigation measures and financial instruments. Saint Lucia has also developed its national Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR), a five-year strategy to build the country's resilience to climate change impacts.

Saint Lucia still faces challenges in comprehensively managing risks from natural hazards and planning long-term resilience. For this reason, the World Bank has been helping the government through the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP), which has implemented activities that have strengthened risk reduction investments and emergency reconstruction. This project builds on the DVRP activities and supports the integration of DRM knowledge and practices.

Main Activities

 Enhancing the integration of resilience across critical infrastructure works and construction practices

Activities under this component focus on supporting the government of Saint Lucia in guiding investments to improve critical infrastructural assets such as roads, bridges, community centers, and hospitals, making these assets more resilient to disaster risks, resulting in enhanced knowledge and resilience of critical infrastructure services.

• Strengthening the application of climate and disaster risk information into decision-making processes

Activities under this component focus on building open systems and platforms to create, share, analyze and use disaster risk and climate change data and information for improved decision making and engineering design for risk reduction and climate change adaptation. These applications will support further studies and analytics on hydro-meteorological observation networks and data integration, flood forecasting, and the application and development of remote sensing technologies such as Light Detection and Ranging. Eventually, the project will provide recommendations and guidance to improve the design and application of these open systems and platforms for disaster risk management and decision making.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



• Communications and knowledge management

Activities under this component support knowledge-sharing activities and the dissemination of communications products to broadcast project impacts and lessons learned among key stakeholders and beneficiary communities. This involves conducting workshops with line Ministries, relevant agencies and project beneficiaries; and developing reports and knowledge products to capture results.

<u>Results</u>

This project is in its inception phase.

Partnerships and Coordination

This Technial Assistance is implemented by the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice (GPURL) in collaboration with the following government institutions of Saint Lucia: The Ministry of Economic Development, Housing, Urban Renewal, Transport and Civil Aviation and the National Emergency Management Organization. The Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) is also consulted to ensure that climate and disaster risk information utilizes and builds on existing regional tools and databases such as the Caribbean Risk Information System (CRIS).

Country

Saint Lucia

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

• Regional Technical Assistance Facility to Mainstream Resilience

Amount approved

• EUR 84,000 / \$100,000

Duration

• 12/2021 - 01/2023