

# SUMMARY REPORT ECACC PROJECT LAUNCH

8 - 10 NOVEMBER, 2007  
GEORGETOWN, GRAND CAYMAN

PROJECT SPONSOR  
DFID - UK Department for International Development

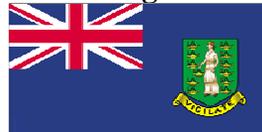
PROJECT EXECUTED BY  
Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

## PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES

Anguilla



British Virgin Islands



Cayman Islands



Montserrat



Turks and Caicos Islands



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## **Preface on the Launch of the ECACC project**

Discussions leading up to the design and approval of the Enhancing Capacity for Adaptation to Climate Change (ECACC) project for the UK Overseas Territories started in 2002 between the project management of the CIDA funded Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caribbean project, the Overseas Territories, the Tyndall centre and DFID. The project was finally approved for implementation by the UK Department for International Development in April 2007 with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs) as the Executing Agency of the project. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that 5Cs with the full support of the Government the Cayman Islands through the Department of the Environment of the Ministry of Tourism, Environment, Investment and Commerce initiated the launch of the project on November 8, 2007. All five Overseas Caribbean Territories were represented at the meeting. Participants were officially welcomed by His Excellency Stuart Jack CVO, Governor of the Cayman Islands who pledged his full support for the success of the project. A brief overview and the purpose of the project were expressed by Mr. Richard Beales, Senior Natural Resources & Environment Adviser Overseas Territories Department, DFID and Dr. Kenrick Leslie CBE, Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre. Mrs. Gloria McField Nixon, Permanent Secretary and the Hon. Charles Clifford, JP, Minister of the Ministry of Tourism, Environment, Investment and Commerce welcomed the participants on behalf of the Government and people of the Cayman Islands. The full text of the welcome addresses of the Permanent Secretary and the Hon. Minister is included in Annex 1 of the report.

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**Georgetown, Grand Cayman**

**1. Background information**

**a. The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)**

The Executive Director of the CCCCC gave a brief overview on the mandate and role of the Centre as a CARICOM Institution, the details of which are summarized in Annex 2. Key activities of the Centre applicable to the ECACC (ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE) project were highlighted. These include:

- i. Outputs from its regional climate modelling
- ii. The Clearinghouse
- iii. The Training programme

**b. The National circumstance of each participating country**

Presentations on the National circumstance were made by each participating country. The materials presented formed the basis for subsequent discussions in the development of both the national and regional work plan.

**c. Overview of the MACC Project**

A summary of the MACC project programme was presented which served to provide areas of activities for consideration under the ECACC project. Annex 3 gives the details of the presentation.

**2. Possible Activities for the ECACC Project**

Five areas of activities were discussed and are listed below:

- i. Regional Climate Monitoring activities
- ii. Climate Change Scenarios and Impact Studies as a means of providing information to policy makers.
- iii. Vulnerability Assessments
- iv. Adaptation Strategies
- v. National Climate Change Policies

### **3. Highlights of the discussions**

#### **a. Monitoring activity**

- i. Need to improve and/or expand existing meteorological and climate monitoring stations.
- ii. Cayman and TCI regions identified as areas where more data are required.
- iii. The need to have a central repository for data that is accessible to all of the Overseas Territories. The Centre's Clearing House was identified to serve such a function.
- iv. The ICON station to be installed in Little Cayman was identified as similar to the MACC project CREWS station in Discovery Bay Jamaica.
- v. It was noted that reef monitoring activities are already being carried out in many of the Overseas Territories. However, a need for an integrated regional depository of the collected data and its analysis was identified. Again the CCCCC's Clearinghouse was identified to carry out this function.
- vi. A comprehensive review of all monitoring being done was recommended in order to identify gaps both national and regional.

#### **b. Research and Publication in the region**

- i. The lack of peer-reviewed literature on the state of Caribbean reefs was noted.
- ii. It was also noted that coral reef and water quality monitoring data are often treated as proprietary by individual countries.
- iii. Identification of the key parameters of interest for climate change discussion and that there is need to be aware of existing monitoring networks such as the Association of Marine Labs of the Caribbean, CARICOMP, and NOAA's coral bleaching network.

#### **c. Climate Change Scenarios**

- i. The Met Offices have been identified as critical partners for the training session in one of the Territories in generating climate change scenarios.
- ii. It was noted that the Cayman Met Service has been using the TAOS storm surge model with 90m resolution.

- iii. It was noted that in most cases both the bathymetric and near coast topographic data lack the resolution for accurate prediction by the TAOS storm surge model.

#### **d. Vulnerability Assessments**

- i. The following sectors were identified as most vulnerable to climate change and for which vulnerability assessment should be conducted:
  - 1. Water
  - 2. Agriculture
  - 3. Tourism
- ii. The vulnerability assessment is expected to reveal issues to be addressed. The methodology developed by NOAA (which includes social factors, economic issues, livelihoods etc.) is identified as a tool that can be used in the assessment.
- iii. Pilots should be conducted in the region on three sectors identified as vulnerable. Since tourism is a dominant sector in all the territories, a multi-disciplinary team from the OT's could be utilised to carry out the assessments. Further this study should be used as the pilot project from a regional perspective and in addition each territory can continue to look at other sectors identified above, utilising the methodology.
- iv. The importance of the other sectors was highlighted. The Agriculture sector, normally, would not be considered as important in the UKOT's. However, it was noted that as a **food security issue** it was identified as important for consideration. Issues connected with food security include impact of climate change on agriculture in countries from which we import foods, impact of shift towards bio-fuel crops etc.

Water resources and energy security were identified as two other very important vulnerabilities for the UKOT's.

#### **e. Public Education and Outreach**

A number of approaches to address the issue of public education and outreach were identified.

- i. Countries which have the facilities to develop outreach materials should share with other countries. JNCC project on outreach material development for UKOT's highlighted.

- ii. Decide on a national message so that all agencies can integrate climate change considerations into their separate presentations and thereby reinforce message. Consistency and credibility of message important but message will need to be packaged differently for different audiences.
- iii. Need a community champion – someone respected in the community and who can get the message across to the average person.
- iv. Public education and outreach needs to be at core of all of our activities. Identify existing methods and mechanisms for communication and insinuate Climate Change messages into these.
- v. The use of multi-media tools like a DVD which can be used across the region.
- vi. Produce Calypso on Climate Change
- vii. Have to balance “doom and gloom message” with adaptation messages – messages need to be personal.
- viii. Cayman’s insurance sector highlighted as possibility for engagement on regional issues.
- ix. Promotion of new insurance products on the market eg such as Parametric insurance where payment becomes automatic once a particular meteorological threshold is surpassed e.g.winds reach a certain intensity, and the UK insurance scheme that gives credit to businesses who climate proof ventures etc.
- x. Need to look at insurance that creates some type of social safety-net for nations poor. Low-income-housing. Consider Self-insurance schemes – Barbados Light and Power created fund that is now non-taxable – required legal changes.

#### **4. Going Forward**

The forward steps and local requirements for the implementation of the ECACC project are given in Annex 4 and Annex 5 respectively.

**Annex 1      Address by Mrs. Gloria McField Nixon, Permanent Secretary and the  
Hon. Charles Clifford, JP, Minister of the Ministry of Tourism,  
Environment, Investment and Commerce**

**Welcome Remarks by Mrs. Gloria McField Nixon,  
ECACC Workshop  
Climate Change in the Caribbean UK-OT's**

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- Your Excellency the Governor
- Dick Beales, Senior, Natural Resource and Environmental Advisor with the Department for International Development (D-FID)
- Director of Environment, and department staff
- Distinguished Guests
- Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen ... Good Morning.

On behalf of the people of the Cayman Islands I would like to extend a warm welcome to all who are participating in this year's Planning Workshop for Enhancing Capacity for Adaptation to Climate Change (E-KAK) in the Caribbean UK Overseas Territories.

It is an honour to host and participate in this important workshop, and a testament to the Cayman Islands' commitment to sustainable development.

As you are aware, the ECACC (E-KAK) Project has an ambitious goal – to get 5 participating UK-OT's to adapt to climate change and climate variability.

However the objective of this workshop is to approve the work plan for the expected 3 year life span of this project.

The project will assist the Caribbean Overseas Territories in building their local capacity to plan and implement measures to adapt to climate change and climate variability within the context of their national development planning processes.

It is expected that by the end of the project all participating territories will have developed national climate change adaptation strategies and initiated the implementation of these.

It is also expected that each participating territory will have developed the capacity to engage with regional and international climate change programmes, and to benefit from

and contribute to the work of the relevant regional institutions, including the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (also referred to as the 5 C's).

We have much work to do for it is well documented that small islands are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change including climate variability and severe weather events.

While our collective small size as Overseas Territories and narrow economic base means that we are not among the world's greatest emitters of carbon, and therefore not the major contributors to climate change, we still have a moral, social and economic responsibility to deal with the contributing factors that are within our control, as well as adjust to those factors that are frankly outside of our control.

We should not be surprised if during the next few days we discover that we share similar concerns, challenges, and possibly even strategies as we attempt to grapple with the realities of a rapidly changing planet. It is therefore imperative that we build upon this collective effort and continue to move forward in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

We are delighted to have the support and cooperation of Mr. Dick Beale's of the Department for International Development (D-FID.) Your presence here is re-assuring as this is not something that we can fully address on our own as Overseas Territories. We trust that the concerns of the Overseas Territories will register with the UK Government and that you will be encouraged by our commitment to adapting to climate change while continuing to develop our economies in a sustainable manner.

As I close I would simply like to wish all presenters and delegates a successful workshop, and I trust that you will enjoy your stay here with us in the Cayman Islands.

Once again welcome and good morning.

## **ECACC Climate Change Workshop**



Minister of Tourism, Environment, Investment and Commerce, the Hon. Charles Clifford, JP, has cited the need for UK Overseas Territories (UKOTS) to forge a strong collaboration in order to adapt to climate change.

He noted that climate change poses a serious threat to the natural resources and economic prosperity of the entire region. "National action, backed by strong partnerships in the region, is the only way to confront the threat of climate change," Mr Clifford said.

The Minister was giving the keynote address at the *Enhancing the Capacity for the Adaptation on Climate Change (ECACC) Planning Workshop* at the Marriott Beach Resort today (Thursday, 8 November).

Also speaking during the workshop's opening ceremony was His Excellency the Governor, Mr Stuart Jack, CVO; Mr Dick Beales, senior natural resource and environmental adviser, for the UK's Department for International Development; and the ministry's Chief Officer Gloria McField-Nixon.

In his address, Minister Clifford noted some of the effects of climate change. "Even now, as sea levels rise, and air and sea temperatures increase, we are experiencing more intense hurricanes," he said.

"These storms severely impact our environment and economies, and have the potential to radically transform life as we know it. They threaten our economic bases."

The minister pointed to reports from the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), which state that UKOTs are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of their small land masses; the ratio of coastline length to land area; limited natural resources; and narrow ecological bases for livelihoods.

He also underscored the impact upon fisheries, agriculture and biodiversity; in turn, these impacts affect tourism, the mainstay of many regional economies. "As minister with responsibility for tourism and the environment, I'm very aware of climate change's potential effects on Cayman's economic pillars," he said.

As an example, he noted that predicted warmer temperatures will lead to coral bleaching, which could impact recreational diving. Such an occurrence would be devastating to Cayman, he acknowledged, as watersports is the centrepiece of the island's tourism.

Minister Clifford said that Cayman seeks to take stronger action in order to promote sustainable development; protect the country's endangered land species; and preserve wetlands through the drafting of a National Conservation Law.

"The law is also an important tool for us to integrate our development plans with environmental considerations, in order to mitigate the impact of climate change," Mr Clifford said.

In his comments, the Governor said that while climate change is a major environmental challenge for the future of countries such as the Cayman Islands, the region can manage the challenge by facing up to it now, and by developing adaptation strategies.

This, he said, is critical to the sustainable development of our communities, and for people of the region to have a tolerable and comfortable future. However, it may involve some difficult decisions about - for example - how and where homes and developments are constructed.

Mr Jack added the workshop has kick-started an invaluable process by aiming to produce a strategic plan for the three-year work programme; by encouraging all territories to have climate-change adaptation strategies in place, by the programme's conclusion; and by sharing best practices, as well as by focusing on public education and outreach.

The objective of the workshop is to approve a work plan for the three-year duration of the ECACC project. Funded by DFID, the project aims to have five participating UKOTs in the Caribbean to adapt to climate change and climate variability, within the context of national development. UKOTS attending the workshop are Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos, and Cayman.

Mr Beales, the DFID adviser, said the project, which is being implemented through the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), will provide £300,000 over the next three years to fund climate change adaptation strategies in the region.

The ministry's Mrs McField-Nixon outlined Cayman's climate change adaptation strategies to date, including the creation of Hazard Management Cayman Islands; and the joint project by Cayman's Department of Environment and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research.

Other measures being pursued include the passage of the draft National Conservation Bill; and amendments to development and planning law regulations.

## Annex 2

### THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRE INCEPTION TO OPERATION - A BRIEF OVERVIEW

#### 1. The Genesis of the Climate Change Centre

The CARICOM Heads at their annual meeting in July 2002 recognized the vulnerability of the region's sustainable development to the projected impacts of climate change and climate variability. As a result endorsed the creation of the Climate Change Centre with a mandate to coordinate the regional response to climate change and its efforts to manage and adapt to its projected impacts.

#### 2. Its Operational Status

The Centre commenced limited operations in January 2004 with the appointment of a Director. It became fully operational in July 2005 through supporting grants from the host country Belize and the Governments of Barbados and Italy. The current staff is comprised of five (5) Technical and eleven (11) Financial and Administrative supporting personnel. It is located in the City of Belmopan, Belize



Figure 1 Building housing the offices of the Climate Change Centre

### **3. Legal Status and Governance**

The Centre possesses full juridical personality. It is a CARICOM specialized agency with an independent management that is guided by

- The CARICOM Council of Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on policy matters
- A board of directors with responsibility for strategic planning
- A technical secretariat headed by an Executive Director with responsibility for tactical planning

### **4. Financial Sustainability**

The Centre derives operational and research revenue through Grants, project execution fees and a Trust Fund. Currently the Centre is the Executing Agency of a number of projects:

- MACC (World Bank / GEF project) ≈ US\$6M)
- SPACC (World Bank / GEF project) ≈ US\$5M)
- PHRD (World Bank / Japanese project) ≈ US\$300K)
- UKDFID (UK£300,000)
- UKDFID (UK£71,000)
- UNESCO (US\$160,000)
- Italian Renewable Energy feasibility study (€400K)

The Trust Fund is currently US\$1 million established from a grant by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago Petroleum Funds.

### **5. The Objectives of the Centre**

The primary objectives of the Centre include:

- Promoting protection of the earth's climate system with special emphasis on the Caribbean
- Enhancing regional, institutional capabilities for the co-ordination of national responses to the adverse effects of climate change
- Providing comprehensive policy and technical support in the area of climate change and related issues and spearheading regional initiatives in those areas
- Promoting education and public awareness on climate change issues
- Facilitating regional consensus for negotiations related to the UNFCCC

## **6. Current Activities of the Centre**

The current activities of the Centre include:

- Assessment of existing global circulation models and development of a downscale tool for application in the Caribbean;
- Development of an Economic Assessment Tool to assess adaptation measures;
- Promotion of Regional symposia, workshops and Capacity building programmes.
- Collaborating with regional and extra-regional institutions in climate change-related research in biodiversity and land use management

## **7. Collaborating Institutions**

The Centre collaborates with a number of regional and extra-regional institutions in order to meet its obligations. Currently it has Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the following institutions:

- University of Louisville (Kentucky, U.S.A.)
- Florida International University (U.S.A.)
- University of the West Indies
- University of Belize
- Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
- United Kingdom Hadley Centre
- Meteorological Research Institute, Japan
- INSMET of Cuba
- CATHALAC

## **8. Contact Information**

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## **Annex 3**

### **THE MACC PROJECT AND POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ECACC PROJECT**

The MACC (Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change) is a GEF-Funded Project (2004 – 2008) for twelve CARICOM member states (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago). It is implemented by the World Bank and Executed by the Caribbean Community Climate change Centre in Belize.

The project follows two prior projects - the GEF-CPACC project (Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change, 1997 – 2001) and the CIDA-ACCC project (Adapting to Climate Change in the Caribbean, 2001 - 2004). It has laid the ground work for the GEF - SPACC project (Special Pilot Adaptation to Climate Change, 2007 - 2011).

#### **The project is made up of four operational components consisting of**

- Build capacity to assess vulnerability and risks associated with climate change
- Build capacity to reduce vulnerability to climate change
- Build capacity to effectively access and utilise resources to reduce vulnerability to climate change
- Public Education and Outreach

#### **COMPONENT 1: BUILD CAPACITY TO ASSESS VULNERABILITY AND RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CLIMATE CHANGE**

##### **1.1 Meteorological Monitoring System**

Under CPACC project 18 monitoring stations were installed to monitor the following parameters:

- i. Sea Water level
- ii. Sea surface temperature
- iii. Barometric pressure
- iv. Wind velocity
- v. Air temperature
- vi. Relative humidity
- vii. Rainfall

Under the MACC project the existing monitoring stations are being improved to enhance performance and data reliability. In addition sea level rise is being monitored with the instalation and implementation of Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS). Other activities include:

- i. Provide support for the Regional Archiving Centre (RAC)
- ii. Strengthen capacity at CIMH (Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology) for the maintenance and operation of the monitoring network, and in the training to Meteorological offices personnel to manage stations, expand applications and use of data, installation and use of CORS.

## **1.2 Coral Reef monitoring**

Under this component of the project a Coral Reef Early Warning monitoring system is installed at Discovery Bay in Jamaica. Critical parameters being monitored include:

- 1.2.1 Partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>
- 1.2.2 Sea water temp.& salinity
- 1.2.3 wind speed and direction, precipitation,
- 1.2.4 barometric pressure, air temperature,
- 1.2.5 photosynthetically available radiation above and below the water, ultraviolet light above and below the water,, salinity

## **1.3 Other Coral Reef Activities**

- 1.3.1 Training & Monitoring in OECS countries & Tobago utilising methodology & Protocols developed under CPACC.

## **1.4 Generating Climate Change Scenarios and Modeling:**

Using A1, B2 and A1B scenarios established by the IPCC future climates for the region is being modeled and analysed for use in impact studies The two primary methods being used are:

- 1.4.1 Statistical downscaling of regional climate models, and the
- 1.4.2 Dynamic downscaling using the PRECIS regional model for 50km and 25km resolutions.

## **1.5 Possible Activities under the ECACC Project under Component 1**

### **MONITORING**

- i. SLR monitoring – acquisition of station and installation in agreed site.
- ii. Coral reef monitoring:
  - a. Ascertain level of coral reef monitoring activities taking place in OTs.

- b. Determine need to adopt CPACC monitoring protocols
- c. Proceed with training in OTs and monitoring if required
- d. If not develop mechanisms for exchange of information and coordination between CARICOM monitoring sites and those in OTs.

## **2.0 COMPONENT 2: BUILD CAPACITY TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

### **2.1 Development of Adaptation Strategies**

Under this component of the project capacity building for identifying and analysing policy options in the development of Adaptation Strategies is being developed in the following selected sectors:

- i. Water Sector
- ii. Agricultural Sector
- iii. Tourism

### **2.2 Collaboration with CDERA**

Close collaboration with CDERA is being undertaken in the incorporation of climate change consideration into region's CDM strategy Also improved collaboration between National Disaster and Meteorological Offices is being encouraged through the sponsoring of joint seminars and workshops in the use of the MM5 model in disaster preparedness planning. Other modeling outputs are also being used to upgrade the regional building code – CUBIC.

### **2.3 Possible Activities under the ECACC Project under Component 2**

- i. CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIOS & IMPACT STUDIES**
  - a. Develop climate change scenarios for all participating countries from PRECIS outputs.
  - b. Capacity building in utilising outputs from PRECIS experiments

- c. Capacity building in impact studies (water, agriculture)

**ii. VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS**

- a. Capacity building in use of vulnerability assessment methodology developed under MACC.
- b. Consider a coordinated vulnerability assessment on the tourism sector in OTs – given the critical role this sector plays in the OTs.

**iii. ADAPTATION STRATEGIES**

- a. Identify no regrets adaptation policies for key sectors – tourism, water, coastal infrastructure, agriculture.
- b. Based on VA studies develop adaptation strategies for specific sector.
- c. Identify opportunities to mainstream CC adaptation in national planning.
- d. Revisit building codes, land use planning, disaster mitigation planning.

**iv. NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION POLICIES**

- a. Develop National CC Adaptation Policies through a process of National consultations and use of expert judgement (similar to CPACC process and that used to develop NAPAs)
- b. Participate in consultative process to develop the regional Strategy.
- c. Briefing sessions with CCCCC on status of international negotiations under the UNFCCC as they affect the Caribbean.

**3.0 COMPONENT 3: BUILD CAPACITY TO EFFECTIVELY ACCESS AND UTILIZE RESOURCES TO MINIMIZE COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**

This component supports:

- i. The preparation of regional position for negotiation on Climate Change at relevant international for a as well as the development of a regional position and negotiation strategy for UNFCCC and other international organizations.
- ii. Feed results from Components 1 and 2 into National Communications

#### **4.0 COMPONENT 4: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

The Public Education and Outreach programme is comprised of the following four components:

- i. Implementation of regional PEO strategy.
- ii. Implementation of National PEO strategies
- iii. Establishing regional clearing house for climate change information.
- iv. Advocacy with key interest groups.

##### **4.1 Possible Activities in the ECACC Project under Component 4**

- i. Design and Implement National PEO plan
- ii. Target key interest groups
  - a. Policy makers.
  - b. Tourism sector.
  - c. Insurance and financial sectors
  - d. Schools
- iii. Given the presence of key insurance and financial regional players in the OTs we may take advantage of this to leverage wider regional interest in CC issues from these critical sectors.

## Annex 4

**Going forward – This is presented as a separate document**

## Annex 5

**Local requirements for the implementation of the enhancing capacity for adaptation to climate change in the Caribbean (ECACC) project. This is presented as a separate document**

## Annex 6

### List of Participants

Name	Position	Organization	Country	Email Contacts
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