



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

**Global Climate Change Alliance
Caribbean Regional Conference
28-29 March 2011, Belize City, Belize**

Context

The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) is an initiative of the European Union to strengthen its policy dialogue and cooperation on climate change with the developing countries most vulnerable to its impacts, notably the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The objectives of the GCCA conference held in Belize in March 2011 were:

- 1) To discuss the *Draft Implementation Plan for the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change*; and
- 2) To follow up on the CARIFORUM-EU Declaration on climate change signed in May 2008¹ and deepen dialogue on climate policy between the parties;
- 3) To assess areas of potential collaboration on mitigation and adaptation to climate change, including capacity building.

The two-day meeting was organised by the European Commission in close collaboration with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) and with the support of the Government of Belize. It was attended by about 50 high-level officials and ministers from 13 CARICOM countries (all the members except Bahamas and Jamaica), as well as Cuba, the Dominican Republic and international and regional development partners².

Please refer to the agenda and list of participants in **annexes A and B**.

Further information on the GCCA in general and on the Conference can be found at: www.gcca.eu.

28th March 2011

Official Opening

The Conference was opened by the HE Ms Joy Grant, Ambassador of Belize to the European Union. During the opening the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Mr Alexis Rosado emphasised the importance of the Cancun outcomes and drew attention to specific challenges in the region: degradation of Caribbean reefs, propagation of diseases such as dengue fever, heat waves and rural exodus. He stressed the effects on sectors essential to the regional economy and the importance of inter-regional alignments and timely provision of financial resources.

The Executive Director of CARIFORUM, Mr Percival Marie, emphasized the importance of the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Declaration on Climate Change and expressed his wishes for a fruitful conference in terms of commitments of the parties to ensure its implementation.

From the European Commission³, Mr Philip Mikos noted the need for regional planning to fight against climate change and mentioned the utility of budget support to stepping up climate financing.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Belize and Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, HE Mr Gaspard Vega, expressed the region's appreciation for the EU's leadership role in climate. He underlined the fragility of Belize's ecosystems comprising the largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere, but threatened by

¹ During the Summit between the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean in May 2008 in Lima

² Unfortunately a fire at Miami airport shortly before the event led to many cancelled flights. Several participants experienced long delays and some of those invited could not reach Belize.

³ Head of Sustainable Management of Natural Resources at the EC Directorate General Development and Cooperation



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

coral bleaching. He recalled that Belize was hit recently by two severe hurricanes destroying transport and energy infrastructure. He outlined the Belize climate policy pointing out that 50% of energy use is renewable. He appealed to strengthen coordination, raise awareness through education and increase the level of ambition in the climate negotiations.

Draft Implementation Plan for the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change Chaired by the UNFCCC Focal Point of Belize, Ms Ann Gordon

The Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) Dr Kenrick Leslie presented the **regional framework** approved by the Heads of Government in July 2009. This builds on previous programmes and projects on climate change adaptation⁴ and represents **a roadmap for action during the period 2011-2021**.

The CCCCC is currently working on the plan to implement this framework, running extensive consultations in the region with politicians, government officials, regional agencies, NGOs, the private sector, donors and development banks.

The **implementation plan** aims to provide guidance on the actions that can be taken by CARICOM member states, regional organisations, the private sector and NGOs. It will be further refined at a regional meeting beginning of May in St Lucia and presented to the Heads of Government in July 2011.

The common views agreed through the consultations are:

- Achieving low carbon and climate resilient growth is an integral element of the wider sustainable development agenda: a transformational change is needed;
- Caribbean governments and organisations have to take the lead of this change and collaborate to ensure efficiency: acting regionally to deliver nationally.
- Individual policy and project interventions seem insufficient to transform Caribbean economies: effective partnerships with donors and international financial institutions are critical.
- Regional and international cooperation and support are needed. Industrialized and emerging economies were requested to implement and enforce action to reduce GHGs and avoid an increase of the global average temperature above 2°C.

After the presentation of the draft implementation plan, the audience requested the plan to:

- Include implementation and research actions: recognition is given to the need of further assessment and studies in different areas of climate change, although this should neither prevent nor delay interventions on the ground.
- Ensure coherence with ongoing climate and development initiatives;
- Facilitate the removal of barriers that prevent adaptation measures; particularly the management of land resources (coastal and inland);
- Define concrete roles for regional bodies: e.g. CARICOM Secretariat as coordinating energy development; the OECS is working on common legislation and/or aligned legislation for its member

Strategic elements of the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development resilient to climate change

1. Mainstream of climate change adaptation strategies into national development agendas.
2. Implement specific adaptation measures to address key vulnerabilities in the region.
3. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, reducing the dependency of fossil fuels and switching to cleaner energy sources.
4. Reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems to the impacts of a changing climate.
5. Derive social, economic, and environmental benefits through the prudent management of standing forests.

⁴ Such as the National Enabling Activities including the First National Communications Projects, the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Climate Change project (1998-2001), the Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caribbean project (2001-2004), and the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change project (2003-2009)



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

states and the Caribbean Development Bank to establish regional funds to reduce dependency on international funds;

- Sequence the actions and define priorities to link each intervention to the achievement of an overall objective.

From Cancun to Durban: Next steps on international climate negotiations Chaired by Mr Andrew Bishop, UNFCCC Lead Negotiator for Guyana

In his opening remarks Mr Bishop commented on the current status of the negotiations from the Caribbean perspective. While the Copenhagen COP is widely considered to have failed the recent Cancun COP did achieve several results including: a technology agreement, a REDD decision, momentum on financing mechanisms and, of course, the establishment of a 2°C target for temperature increase in a UN document. As urged strongly, in particular by the Caribbean countries, the implications of a 1.5°C target will be studied and assessed by 2015.

Mr Walter Kennes⁵ presented the European Commission's assessment of the Agreement reached in Cancun emphasizing the success of re-establishing the faith in the multilateral approach to deal with climate change.

Cancun achieved a balanced set of decisions. In addition to those mentioned by the chair of the session, Mr Kennes highlighted the following:

- Priority is given to adaptation in the most vulnerable developing countries (SIDS, LDCs and Africa) and creation of the "adaptation framework", advocating for a comparable share of climate funding on adaptation and mitigation.
- Commitment of long term climate finance of \$100 billion per year by 2020 from public and private, bilateral and multilateral and alternative sources.
- Creation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which should build on the progress made for the adaptation fund e.g. direct access; keep thematic windows e.g. for adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer.

Mr Kennes presented the EU's commitment on fast start funding; which collectively adds up to €2.4 billion per year from 2010-2012⁶. The EU is delivering on this commitment and decided on €2.34 billion climate support in 2010. The European Commission contributes a small part amounting to €50 million per year of which half has been going to the GCCA with a focus on adaptation. This amount is additional to a baseline climate finance amounting to around €400 m per year over the recent past.

Among the unresolved issues he mentioned:

- Progress towards a legally-binding agreement and a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol involving all industrial countries and emerging developing countries, for which positions remain far apart.
- No agreement yet on an agriculture work programme and on new sector mechanism as well as targeting classic CDM projects to LDC/SIDS.
- Progress on measuring, reporting and verifying;
- The present mitigation commitments are far from what is needed to achieve the 2°C target (let alone the stricter 1.5°C that Caribbean nations together with other island states strongly prefer).
- No agreement yet on bunker fuels for air transport and shipping.

The Caribbean Region and the European Union do share a common interest on achieving a sound post-2012 climate regime. There are important synergies between limiting global warming and achieving a sustainable development: preserving biodiversity, combating deforestation and reducing pollution. There is a need to keep the momentum from Cancun because delaying action will much increase the costs.

Participants pointed to an effective participation in the Fast-Start Funding as one of the current challenges for the region. The use of innovative funding (like an airline fuel tax) is seen with caution.

⁵ Head of Sector for Environment and Natural Resources, DG Development and Cooperation

⁶ For the three years together and in US\$ this adds up to 10 billion or one third of the collective pledge of industrial countries.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

It is acknowledged that adaptation should be primarily funded through public funds (grants), while mitigation has a potential to attract private investments. The challenge will be use public funding to attract the private sector investment, and to make the private sector accountable in terms of emissions cut.

The EU is requested to lobby for stronger emission reductions, and to put more pressure on those not taking responsibility.

29th March 2011

The second day started with two **parallel sessions** on **capacity building needs in the Caribbean**. One session was focussed on adaptation and climate compatible development and the other session dealt with low emission development strategies, including REDD+ and links between climate, agriculture, and energy. Both sessions allowed a wide exchange among the participants and a better identification of the capacity needs in the region.

There was a brief introduction to encourage participants to share views during the two sessions. A chair and rapporteur for each group were selected. Two issue notes were shared with the participants to help guide the discussions (see Annexes C and D).



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Adaptation and climate resilient/compatible development in the Caribbean Chaired by Dr Leonard Nurse (CCCCC). Rapporteur: Dr Mark Bynoe

Climate Resilient Development is defined by the group as the actions and processes driven by knowledge of climate impacts within an enabling environment, i.e., policy, risk management, human and financial capacity, etc. in order to plan better for future climate related events based on current information available.

Among the constraints and bottlenecks hampering implementation of adaptation strategies were mentioned:

- a) the lack of political will and difficulties to coordinate the existing initiatives under a common strategy, due to a disconnection between the scientific community, planners and finance ministries, international negotiators and national officials, and
- b) the low involvement of private sector, due to lack of information on how to be prepared and contribute on the provision of practical approaches.

The areas of potential collaboration identified were:

1. Science:
 - Practical research of relevance to the region linked to adaptation measures and to identify good practises and promotion of linkages among sectors;
 - Capacity building to develop technical capacity to analyse scientific information and transmit this information in a useable way for decision making.
2. International negotiations:
 - Support countries and regional delegations to be properly represented into international meetings.
 - Capacity building through:
 - o Short-term training in a regular basis to keep negotiators (and other government officials affected by the negotiations, like finance) abreast on the latest developments of the negotiations.
 - o Position building sessions facilitated by experienced officials to inform the negotiators on national/regional concerns affected by the international negotiations.
3. Technical assistance to formulate adaptation projects.
4. Support to update, collect and disseminate best practices in the region.
5. Assistance to establish a policy unit to synergise issues related to multilateral environmental agreements: useful jump-start that would later be absorbed by the Governments.
6. Review the legislation to take cognizance of climate change impacts and put in place measures to enforce the established regulations.

Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) and links between climate, agriculture and energy
Chair and rapporteur: Mr Wilber Sabido, Chief Forest Officer of Belize

Some Caribbean countries have already developed these strategies and others are in the process of designing them.

At the local and national level the implementation of LEDS would need to:

- Overcome the financial gaps, maybe through access to fast-track funding;
- Identify bankable national and regional projects to encourage private investment. Grants could be used to initially promote/launch these projects;
- Retain national experts, once the capacity/knowledge has been developed instead of hiring international experts to implement national projects;
- Demonstrate/disseminate the economic impacts of small scale interventions, raise awareness and create demand for renewable energy attracting private and public investments;
- Prepare baseline studies on financial needs;
- Support the identification of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs); this can be co-ordinated through CCCCC and should examine the potential of Public-Private-Partnership.

At the regional level the needs identified were:



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

- Study on energy export possibilities;
- Sharing knowledge among countries with specific knowhow.

Priorities for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and linkage to Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) in the Caribbean Region by Ms Saudia Rahat, Senior Programme Office Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

Ms Rahat described the vulnerability landscape as reflecting the geographical location and the livelihood challenges such as the poverty level. In this context DRR can be seen as a short term response to cope with vulnerability while CCA is a more long term reaction. Both require a multi-sectoral approach⁷. CDEMA prepared and presented a model programme and plan of action for CCA and DRR, comprising tools and mechanisms for mainstreaming DRR and CCA⁸.

Comments from the audience questioned the additional funding needed when both DRR and CCA are packaged together.

Follow-up to the 2008 Joint CARIFORUM-EU Declaration on Climate Change: GCCA in the Caribbean Region, including presentations on the state of the GCCA regional and country specific actions in Belize, Guyana, Jamaica.

Mr Walter Kennes, from European Commission, recalled the commitments in the Joint Declaration on climate, and pointed out that many of those are embodied in the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change and more concretely in its Implementation Plan.

- **Enhancing Belize's resilience to adapt to the effects of climate change by Ms Ann Gordon**

The intervention aims to enhance capacity and resilience to CC specifically within the water sector, via pilot projects and institutional capacity. The actions include review of water management systems, replanting, community-based watershed management and a sustainable water supply. The initiative will contribute to develop a comprehensive national CC strategy and action plan through the support to a CC Secretariat.

- **Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project by Ms Anette Arjoon**

The GCCA in Guyana supports, through budget support, the national Low Carbon Development Strategy. The strategy presents the strong link between the mangroves and climate change. The intervention focus on mangrove restoration, with a strong component of public awareness (such as mangrove days for educational purposes and some planting), capacity building (e.g. grants were placed with university for project-specific research), sustainable management and a legal framework, critical for success. Sustainable harvesting and management is now in place and involves all stakeholders, Government and civil society. Reference was made to bee-keeping to facilitate pollination and to generate extra revenue from honey production. It is intended to declare the mangrove forest as a Natural Reserve.

- **Jamaica, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project by Dr Richard Pagett**

The project intends to implement measures to adapt to climate change particularly in vulnerable communities, through the reduction of downstream run-off and associated negative environmental and human impacts through rehabilitation and improved management of selected watersheds.

Climate focused initiatives in the region, chaired by Ms Sonya Bagwhan Logie, UNFCCC Focal Point and Permanent Secretary for Environment in Grenada

- **DFID interventions**, presented by Ms Simone Banister

⁷ The priorities and tools are embodied in *Draft Implementation Plan for the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change* and the *Caribbean: Comprehensive Disaster Management – Harmonised Implementation Programme*.

⁸ E.g. Model Community Preparedness Handbook on climate change and disaster risk management, the Regional Disaster Risk Management Strategy for the Tourism Sector and the Model National CDM Policy.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The UK approach to climate change put emphasis on results, evidence and value for money. The climate change programme 2011-15⁹ is aimed to improve resilience at the community level.

- **The Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) was** presented by Ms Patricia Mendoza. The PPCR is implemented by the Multilateral Development Banks to mainstream climate resilience in national development planning consistent with poverty reduction and sustainable development goals. It includes a needs assessment, regional and national consultation, institutional capacity assessment and identification of national/regional partners for the national/regional track. Activities include data security, regional policy dialogue, and piloting of screening tools.

⁹ The programmes includes: Compete Caribbean, Caribbean Aid for Trade and Regional Integration Trust Fund, Inter-American Development Bank Aid for Trade Thematic Fund, Strategic Growth and Regional Integration Fund/Growth Policy, Jamaica Community Security Initiative, Caribbean CDM Harmonised Implementation Programme, Review of Economics of Climate in the Caribbean, CARIBSAVE Climate Change Risk Atlas, Trust Fund for World Bank Coordinator/CC Support Staff, Haiti-GFDRR Safe Hospital Reconstruction, Insurance for Micro Finance in Haiti, Renewable Energy/IDEAS Contest, and the Community Resilience Fund.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Panel Discussion on Funding Mechanisms for Climate Change Action

Representatives from the OECS, EU, Grenada, Haiti, CCCCC took part in a panel to exchange views on climate change financing mechanisms, opportunities and difficulties to fund action in tackling and adapting to climate change.

Their observations can be summarized as follows:

- CCCCC: Funding for resilience building is fragmented; there are no close linkages with needs in the ground. The financial support is constrained by the lack of capacities in beneficiary countries but also by the budgetary cycles on the side of donors. This leads to keep to using a project approach instead of a more programmatic intervention. The impact of projects is limited. We need to change the way we do business in order to facilitate the long-term change. More comprehensive analysis of constrains is needed (not only in the area of CC).
- Haiti: There exists a great variety of CC funding: from public grants/loans, private capital, carbon market, etc but lack of clarity to access to them. This is partly linked to limited national absorption capacity: a critical mass of expertise is needed to formulate adaptation interventions/strategies. Haiti position favour contribution through budget support, to avoid the institutional and administrative burden of each donor/fund. Haiti is reluctant to join regional interventions if it doesn't include pilot/demonstration project at national level.
- European Commission: The ultimate objective is to have resilient / sustainable economies; therefore there is no need to separate adaptation or mitigation interventions. In the same line, we should move the debate beyond the fast start funding, and discuss the future climate funding as additional to the traditional ODA.
The EU supports the alignment of climate action to national strategies and budgets, taking into account the aid effectiveness agenda, but it is not easiest way forward for beneficiary countries, requested to improve their public finance management.
Climate finance will also come from the private sector and for governments need to be ready to manage it and to create synergies among public and private funding.
- Grenada: The funds from the climate investment are limited and other sources are needed to fund our programme approach. To access to international funding countries face an important challenge to prepare the proposals in line with the donor requirements.

Concluding remarks

By Dr Richard Pagett, team leader of the GCCA Support Facility highlighted the following points discussed on the conference:

- Progress made towards a shared vision on the future climate regime: all agreed that there was substantial progress in Cancun, but that a lot still needs to be done to have a sound post-2012 agreement. We are convinced of the urgency and of the implications of delays in the form of higher costs.
- The specific GCCA actions in Guyana, Belize and Jamaica are progressing well. Other climate actions in the region supported by DFID, UNDP and the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience were presented in the conference, to promote good coordination and aid effectiveness.
- We had interesting exchanges on the draft implementation plan for the CARICOM Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to climate change.
- The parallel sessions helped to identify the capacity building needs for adaptation and mitigation. The insights and results of this Conference will be reflected in the further cooperation between the Caribbean region and the EU.

Mr Cosimo Lambertini , representative of the EU Office to Belize, in his concluding remarks emphasised national and regional achievement and acknowledge the number of success studies on regional cooperation. He highlighted the need to count with good national strategies and programmes to adapt to and mitigate the climate change, but also emphasized the role of the private sector who should be taken on board by the governments. There is a need to develop bankable projects.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Dr Kenrick Leslie, Director of the CCCCC thanked all the participants for the good feedback and noted that the Implementation Plan must be owned by the region. He mentioned the need to use scientific evidence on the decision-making, and noted that uncertainty should not inhibit the process of taking things forward.

Closing Ceremony

H.E. Ambassador Mrs Joy Grant closed the conference, considered it to be an excellent meeting. The Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Mr Alexis Rosado acknowledged the meeting success and thanked Ambassador Joy Grant for leading Belize and the region in this subject area. He also thanked the EU in making the meeting happen in partnership with CCCCC. He thanked all delegates for their lively and thoughtful engagement and the Foreign Affairs staff.

Dr Kenrick Leslie (CCCCC) thanked Mr Walter Kennes for his enduring support, Dr Leonard Nurse for his significant contributions and Dr Mark Bynoe for his efforts together with CCCCC consultants Mr John Firth and Mr Joe McGann. He thanked the representatives of AusAid, DFID, and UNDP for their engagement and to DFID for specific support for the IP. Finally, he was pleased to acknowledge the hard work of Dr Richard Pagett and the other team members of the GCCA Support Facility.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Annex A Agenda

28th March 2011	
9.00 – 9.30	Participants Registration
9.30 – 11.00	<p>Official opening of the GCCA Caribbean Regional Conference Welcome by H.E. Mrs. Joy Grant, Ambassador of Belize to EU With the interventions of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Alexis Romero, CEO of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize; • Mr. Percival Marie, Executive Director of CARIFORUM /CARICOM; • Mr Philip Mikos, Head of Sustainable management of natural resources Unit at the European Commission DG of Development and Cooperation; • Hon. Gaspar Vega, Deputy Prime Minister of Belize and Minister of Natural Resources and Environment
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee/Tea break
11.30 – 13.00	<p>Draft Implementation Plan of the Caribbean Regional Strategy on Climate Change Chaired by Mrs Ann Gordon, UNFCCC Focal Point of Belize and presented by Dr. Kenrick Leslie, Executive Director, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs)</p> <p>Reactions and views from CARICOM states</p>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 16.00	Further reactions from countries and other participants on the Draft Implementation Plan of the Caribbean regional strategy on climate change chaired by Dr. Kenrick Leslie (5Cs)
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee/Tea break
16.30 – 18.30	<p>From Cancun to Durban: Next steps on international climate negotiations Review of the current status of climate change negotiations and anticipation of steps required to achieve a post- 2012 climate regime.</p> <p>Chaired by: Mr Andrew Bishop, UNFCCC Lead Negotiator for Guyana Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Walter Kennes Head of Environment and Natural Resources Sector at the European Commission DGI of Development and Cooperation • Mr. Percival Marie of CARICOM Secretariat • Interventions of Cuba and Dominican Republic <p>Questions and answers</p>
19.30	Reception for participants hosted by Government of Belize at the Chateau Caribbean Hotel, Marine Parade, Belize City (Next Door to Radisson Property).



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

29th March 2011	
9.00 – 10.30	<p>Parallel sessions on capacity building needs in the Caribbean with a view to make recommendations Introduction by Mr Walter Kennes, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: <u>Adaptation and climate resilient/compatible development (inclusive of tourism)</u>. Chaired by Dr Leonard Nurse, Chairman of the board of 5Cs, Lead author of IPCC for Small Island Developing States and senior lecturer at UWI, Cave Hill Campus (Barbados) • Group 2: <u>Low emission development strategies, including REDD+ and links between climate and agriculture, energy</u>. Chaired by Mr Wilbur Sabido, Chief Forestry Officer of Belize. <p>Presentation of the conclusions in the plenary by the rapporteurs</p>
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee/Tea Break
11.00 – 12.30	<p>Chaired by Dr. Leonard Nurse, chairman of the Board of 5Cs</p> <p>Priorities for Disaster Risk Reduction and linkage to climate adaptation in the Caribbean Region by Ms Saudia Rahat, Senior Programme Office Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency.</p> <p>Follow-up to the 2008 Joint Caribbean EU Declaration on Climate Change : Implementation experience of the GCCA in the Caribbean region Some introductory remarks by Mr. Walter Kennes Head of Environment and Natural Resources Sector at the European Commission DGI of Development and Cooperation Brief presentations by representatives of Belize (Ms Ann Gordon), Guyana (Mr Anette Arjoon), Jamaica (Dr Richard Pagett), 5Cs (Dr Mark Bynoe)</p>
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 14.30	<p>Presentation of other climate related initiatives in the spirit of applying aid effectiveness principles: DFID (Simone Banister) and UNDP (Patricia Mendoza). Chaired by Mrs. Sonya Bagwhan Logie, Permanent Secretary of Grenada</p>
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Panel discussion on funding mechanisms for climate change action Exchange of views on existing climate change financing mechanisms, opportunities and difficulties to fund actions tackling climate change.</p> <p>Moderated by Dr. Kenrick Leslie (5Cs) with representatives from countries, regional institutions and civil society as panellists (Mr Philip Mikos, Head of Unit Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, Mr Keith Nichols, Head of the Environment and Sustainable Development Unit, OECS, Mr Joseph McGann, Implementation Plan Coordinator, 5Cs, Ms Joyce Thomas, UNFCCC Negotiator, Mr Ronald Toussaint Technical Counsellor, Climate Change Programmes/Focal Point, World Environmental Programme</p>
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee/Tea break
16.30 – 18.00	<p>Conclusions of the Conference and Next Steps: By the Team Leader of the GCCA Support Facility, a representative of the EU Office to Belize and a representative of the 5Cs</p>
18.00 – 18.30	<p>Closing Ceremony chaired by Ms. Joy Grant, Ambassador of Belize to EU. Interventions of Alexis Rosado (CEO Ministry of Economic Development of Belize), Dr. Kenrick Leslie (5Cs) Mr Cosimo Lambertini, Programme Manager, EU Office to Belize</p>



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

	and Philip Mikos (European Commission).
12 noon	30 March Press Conference



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Annex B List of Participants

CARICOM COUNTRIES		
Antigua and Barbuda	Ms. Adelle Blair	Tourism Analyst
	Mr. Frederick Southwell	Deputy Chief Town and Country Planner
Barbados	Mr. Rickardo Ward	Ministry of the Environment Water Resource Management and Drainage
	Mr. Rodney Payne	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs/Office of the National Authorising Officer
Cuba	Mr. Abel Centella Artola	Sub-Director Científico- Instituto de Meteorología del CITMA
	Mr. Cristóbal Díaz Morejón	Especialista Principal- Dirección de Medio Ambiente del CITMA
Dominica	Dr. Kenneth Darroux	Minister for the Environment, Natural Resources, Physical Planning & Fisheries
Dominican Rep	Mr. Victor García Santana	National Council for Climate Change
	Ms. Luz Alcántara de Justo	Ministry of Environment
Grenada	Mrs. Sonya Bagwhan Logie	UNFCCC Focal Point/Permanent Secretary with responsibility for Environment, Foreign Trade and Export Development.
	Ms. Joyce Thomas	UNFCCC Negotiator
Guyana	Mr. Andrew Bishop	UNFCCC Lead Negotiator
	Ms. Annette Arjoon	Chairwoman of the Mangrove Action Committee
Haiti	Mr. Ronald Toussaint	Point Focal Fonds Environnement Mondial Conseiller Technique Programme Changements Climatiques
	Mrs, Dorine JN PAUL	Spécialiste Energie Environnement, Direction Changements Climatiques/Mécanisme Développement Propre
Jamaica	Ms. Claire Bernard	Director, Sustainable Development and Regional Planning Division, Planning Institute of Jamaica
	Mr. Anthony McKenzie	Manager, Strategic Planning and Policies, National Environment and Planning Agency
St. Kitts and Nevis	Mr. Randolph Edmead	Director of Physical Planning and Environment Department
St. Lucia	Mr. Hilary Regis	Programme Co-ordinator NAOs Office, Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and National Development



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

	Ms. Dawn Nathoniel	Sustainable Development and Environment Officer, Sustainable Development and Environment Unit, Ministry of Physical Development and Environment.
St. Vincent And The Grenadines	Mr. Trelson Mapp	Economist - Central Planning Division in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, and National Coordinator - CIF funded Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience,
Suriname	Mrs. Mariska Riedewald	Chief Policy Manager - Environmental Section of the Ministry of Labour, Technological Development and Environment.
	Ms. Anuradha Khoenkhoen BSc.	Policy Manager - Environmental Section of the Ministry of Labour, Technological Development and Environment.
Trinidad and Tobago	Ms. Sonya Bissessar	Policy Division Ministry, Housing and Environment
Belize	Mrs. Beverly CASTILLO	CEO from Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
	Mrs. Ann Gordon	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment UNFCCC Focal Point
	Mr. Carren Williams	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Acting Principal Land Information Officer
	Mr. Leon Westby	Forest Officer
	H.E. Ms. Hyvonne Hyde	Ministry of Economic Development, Commerce and Industry, and Consumer Protection, CEO
	Ms. Emily Aldana	Ministry of Economic Development, Commerce and Industry, and Consumer Protection, Policy and Planning Unit
	H.E. Mrs. Joy Grant	Ambassador of Belize to the EU
REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS		
CARICOM Secretariat	MR. Erwin LaRocque	Assistant- Secretary General
Caribbean Development Bank	Ms. Cheryl Dixon	Operations Officer, Environment - CDB
CDEMA - Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency	Mr. Jeremy Collymore	Executive Director - CDEMA
	Ms. Bibi Saudia Rahat	Senior Programme Officer - CDEMA
OECS - Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States	Mr. Keith Nichols	Head of the Environment and Sustainable Development Unit
CCCCC - Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre	Dr. Ulric Trotz	Science Adviser
	Dr. Mark Bynoe	Resource Economist
	Dr. Albert Binger	Energy Adviser
	Mr. Carlos Fuller	Deputy Director
	Dr. Kenrick Leslie	Executive Director.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN COMMISSION		
Directorate General Development and Cooperation	Mr. Philip Mikos	Head of Unit Sustainable management of natural resources
	Mr. Walter Kennes	Head of Sector Environment and Natural Resources
	Ms. Ana Moreno	Programme Manager of the Environmental Thematic Programme
Delegation of the European Union in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean	Mr. Andre Poucet	Head of Infrastructure Section
Delegation of the European Union in Jamaica	Mr. Federico Berna	Head of Section Rural Development
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS		
UNDP Barbados and the OECS	Mr. Stein Hansen	Deputy Resident Representative
DFID Caribbean	Mrs. Simone Banister	Climate Change Adviser
AUSAID	Ms. Hannah Bleby	First Secretary, Development
CDKN, Climate Development Knowledge Network	Ms. Patricia Leon	Head for Latin America and Caribbean



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Annex C Issue note on: Adaptation and climate resilient/compatible development in the Caribbean: capacity building needs

Context

The Caribbean region faces a serious challenge to adapt to climate change. Its vulnerability is high: sea level rise, higher temperatures and increased hurricane intensity threaten lives, property and livelihoods. According to the 5Cs regional framework document¹⁰, "*the projected impacts of global climate change are expected to be devastating. These impacts would be reinforced due to the limited adaptive capacity of Small Island and low-lying coastal states*". The response should be "climate compatible development": development that minimises the potential impacts of climate variability and, in the longer term, climate change whilst promoting livelihood development and resilience. This requires integrated and inclusive approaches, encompassing the diversity of challenges, actors and policy areas related to climate change. Some sectors play a very important role in the regional economy as well as in the livelihood of local populations: tourism, housing and infrastructure. They are the ones where most of the economic losses will probably be recorded. In addition, climate change may also have potentially severe impacts on the following productive sectors: agriculture, forestry and marine resources.

In the region, the 5Cs has been mandated for climate change relevant activities. Caribbean countries have put in place both national and regional strategies to address climate change with a focus on adaptation. Given the magnitude of the adaptation challenge for the Caribbean, robust capacities are needed to integrate climate change in the relevant sectors. Strategies should target the areas where the impacts are expected to be the highest and cost-effective solutions have to be prioritised. This requires specific expertise adapted to the different sectors. Adaptation and capacity building issues are also important building blocks in the UNFCCC negotiations and require ad-hoc expertise.

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) strategies show some similarities with Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). This makes a strong case for coordination between, if not integration of, the two policy areas. CDEMA is the regional organisation mandated for DRR. Some Caribbean countries have organised effective mechanisms allowing a better response to disasters when they occur. The region has also developed unique experience in building insurance schemes with regular contributions and automated payments in case of disasters.

Challenges

An integrated and inclusive approach is needed to ensure robust and comprehensive strategies and actions. The efficient use of available resources also requires the prioritisation of actions and the allocation of resources to the most effective and highest impact ones. In addition the phasing of the different actions is also crucial for progressively enhancing resilience to climate change.

As regards the integrated character of adaptation strategies, participants may consider ways of ranking priority actions, based on economic, social and environmental importance. The share of a given sector in the national economy, the numbers of people active in it or the ecosystem services provided by a given area are all important aspects to be considered. Identifying the possible entry points in existing policies and strategies as well as the best leveraging effects is crucial also. Linkages with disaster risk reduction strategies and possible synergies could also be explored.

All relevant stakeholders have to be part of the effort. Adapting to climate change is a matter for all and not only for the public sector. Private sector and civil society involvement are essential to build pertinent strategies (and implement them effectively). Participants may reflect on the best mechanisms and ways of ensuring stakeholder participation to adaptation efforts. Integrating the climate change risk in investment planning and business plans should be a priority for the private sector.

¹⁰ Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, 2009: [Climate Change and the Caribbean: A Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change \(2009-2015\)](#). Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, Belmopan



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CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Adaptation actions often require strong local involvement: agricultural practices, water resources management and consumption, land conservation etc. These issues relate to natural resources management and the challenge is obviously to manage them in a sustainable way, ensuring the long-term delivery of ecosystem-services (fertile soil, water provision, protection against erosion, etc.) while not depleting this important capital. In this regard, ecosystem-based approaches represent a potential for cost-effective solutions as they are integrated by nature and use natural processes to bring global and local benefits. An example is the restoration of mangroves wherever possible rather than the building of artificial protection infrastructure.

Session objective and questions for discussion

This session will stimulate discussions on capacity building activities, which a view to:

- Strengthen and improve climate change adaptation strategies
 - Prioritise and phase the different actions foreseen
 - Build stronger influence in the negotiation process
1. *Where are institutional capacities most in demand and where are the main gaps? How best sharing responsibilities between regional, national and local levels?*
 2. *Does the private sector have the necessary information to engage? Does this require a shift in business practices? How could this be achieved?*
 3. *How to best define priorities and allocate resources? How could ecosystem-based approaches best be designed and implemented?*
 4. *Is it feasible to move towards joint climate change adaptation/disaster risk reduction strategies?*
 5. *Building on existing experience, are there pilot approaches that could be replicated?*
 6. *Are there specific capacity needs related to Caribbean states involvement in the negotiations?*
 7. *What should the EU focus on as regards capacity-building in the region? Does capacity building need to be integrated into existing and future cooperation activities, and how?*

Practical outcomes

The following practical outcomes are expected as a result of the discussions:

- Highlight the constraints and bottlenecks hampering implementation of adaptation strategies (also in relation to disaster risk reduction strategies)
- Identify gaps in capacities and concrete actions conducive to strengthened capacity-building
- Understanding of the differences in the capacity-building approach needed in different Caribbean countries (e.g. OECS states)
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- 1. Concrete suggestions for EU-Caribbean cooperation in the areas of climate change adaptation and capacity building.



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Annex D: Issue note on Low Emissions Development Strategies, and Links between Climate, Agriculture and Energy

Low emissions development: Opportunities and constraints

Reorienting development towards a low emissions path is essential for stimulating sustainable growth and reducing poverty. Decreasing dependence on fossil fuels and increasing decentralized renewable energy generation, adopting more effective agriculture production models, avoiding deforestation and promoting reforestation are among the actions needed to generate growth with less greenhouse gas emissions and improve the incomes of poor people. Participation in the carbon market and its mechanisms can also catalyse additional finance and provide access to new technologies. Emerging initiatives, such as financing for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation of forests (REDD+), will offer additional opportunities.

Energy and agriculture are at the heart of low emissions development. They have a large potential to contribute to climate change mitigation, since energy and agriculture are responsible for 26 and 14 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions respectively, and agriculture drives about half of the deforestation each year. At the same time, a large share of poor people relies on agriculture as a source of livelihoods and has no access to basic energy services. Thus, advances in agriculture and energy for low emissions development directly benefit poor people and stimulate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Solid country and regional strategies are essential to lead low emissions development in the Caribbean. Yet, constraints in terms of institutional, human, and technical capacities have often hindered the design and implementation of such strategies the region. Lack of sufficient capacity has also interfered with attracting more Clean Development Mechanism projects and preparing for new financing opportunities. As the countries in the Caribbean recognise, capacity building and access to technologies for mitigation will be essential for addressing climate change and development challenges.¹¹ The involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including governments, international organisations, the private sector, and non-governmental organisations, and civil society will also be needed to effectively maximise the synergies between climate, agriculture, and energy.

Session objective and questions for discussion

This session will stimulate discussions on capacity building activities, which can help the countries in the Caribbean to:

- Develop and implement effective low emissions development strategies, and
- Maximise the synergies between climate, agriculture, and energy to enhance pro-poor climate change mitigation.

The session will aim to identify the main gaps in capacities for low emissions development and arrive at ideas for concrete actions and cooperation activities in the region.

The following questions are suggested for discussion:

1. *What would be the key elements of a low emissions development strategy in the Caribbean? How can it be made explicitly pro-poor and deliver on progress towards the MDGs?*
2. *What are the main capacity constraints for designing and implementing low emissions development strategies?*
2. *How are the needs and capacity constraints for low emissions development different in small island states (e.g. OECS states) and larger countries?*
3. *What successful experiences could the Caribbean countries build on to move towards more sustainable agricultural practices and renewable energy generation?*
4. *What additional capacities are needed to enhance pro-poor climate change mitigation through agriculture and energy?*

¹¹ Liliendaal Declaration on Climate Change and Development, 30th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 2-5 July 2009, Georgetown, Guyana



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CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

5. *What should be the role of the private sector in climate change mitigation (e.g. as a source of additional finance and new technologies)?*
6. *How can an EU capacity building program provide support and add value to pro-poor climate change mitigation at the regional and national level?*

Practical outcomes

The following practical outcomes are expected as a result of the discussions:

- Identification of the main gaps in capacities needed for designing and implementing low emissions development strategies, and enhancing pro-poor mitigation through agriculture and energy;
- Understanding of the differences in the capacity-building approach needed in different Caribbean countries (e.g. OECS states);
- Suggestions for EU-Caribbean cooperation in the areas of climate change mitigation and capacity building.