

**Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) Meeting Minutes
Caribbean Recovery and Resilience Programme (CariPro)
13th July 2018
UN House, Barbados/Virtual**



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

PAC Members:

- Nato Gzobova, Operations Manager, UNDP Barbados and the OECS (Chair)
- Anderson Parillion, Economist, UNDP focal point, Ministry of Planning, Economic Development and Investment, Dominica
- Broderick Penn, Chairman, Disaster Recovery Coordination Committee, BVI
- Cherise Adjodha, Programme Specialist, UNDP Barbados and the OECS
- Danielle Evanson, Programme Manager, UNDP Barbados and the OECS
- Ian King, Head of Project Office, UNDP Dominica
- Jahna McLawrence, Project Officer, UNDP Dominica
- Jason LaCorbiniere, Planning & Monitoring Evaluation Specialist, UNDP Barbados and the OECS
- Luis Thais, Head of Project Office, UNDP BVI
- Massimiliano Tozzi, Project Manager, UNDP Dominica
- Maureen Lance-Onyeiwu, Head of Project Office, UNDP Antigua and Barbuda
- Philmore Mullin, Director of National Office of Disaster Services, Antigua and Barbuda
- Reshmi Theckethil, Early Recovery Specialist, UNDP BVI
- Selena Gooding, Programme Associate, UNDP Barbados and the OECS
- Ugo Blanco, Senior Recovery Advisor, UNDP Barbados and the OECS

Absent

- Cherryanne Hinds, Programme Finance, UNDP Barbados and the OECS
- Marlon Clarke, Technical Coordinator, UNDP Barbados and the OECS

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Overview of the project
3. Discussions
4. Review of the QA
5. Approval of project document

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms Gzobova, chair of the LPAC, welcomed the group and introduced all meeting participants. She further explained the objective of the meeting and the agenda items, noting that the meeting documents were previously circulated. Mr Ugo Blanco was then invited to present a brief overview of the project.

2. Overview of the project

UNDP Multi-Country Office in Barbados and the OECS will continue to provide support in the context of Irma and Maria hurricanes recovery process in Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda and the British Virgin Islands. The proposed project will serve as a framework that aims at creating the conditions to transition from early recovery efforts to long term resilience, building back better (BBB) and to facilitate investments in sustainable development in the affected islands.

Early recovery interventions have proved to be critical to address urgent needs and have quick tangible impacts benefiting affected countries and territories. This recovery process is an opportunity to promote long-term engagement to address the fundamental drivers of vulnerabilities. While this is key in the aftermath of the disaster, planning and investing for the medium and long-term resilience is essential.

The project structure its proposed interventions around the following 5 outputs:

- Output 1: Gender responsive recovery strategies developed and implemented at regional, national and local levels
- Output 2: National efforts on housing repairs upscaled, and critical community infrastructure reconstructed and rehabilitated
- Output 3: Livelihoods and income generating activities supported and local economies stimulated
- Output 4: Multi-hazard risk reduction measures implemented
- Output 5: Regional partnerships supported and knowledge promotion enabled

Barbados MCO will work closely with multiple partners including governments, national institutions, local stakeholders, affected communities, regional organizations, bilateral donors, South-South Cooperation Office and International Financial Institutions. This collaboration will also extend to other UN agencies, NGOs, universities, Think Tanks and other UNDP COs supporting disaster recovery such as Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

UNDP's Crisis Response Unit (CRU), the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) and the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC), Denmark, Romania, New Zealand and other donors will contribute with financial resources and technical assistance over the project activities as well as the UNDP Regional Hub based in Panamá.

3. Discussions

At the beginning of the discussion Mr. Parillion, from Government of Dominica, indicated after his review of the document that Output 3 could include more information. Mr. LaCorbiniere responded that this is an umbrella project which is setting the framework for various activities to be undertaken at the country level so further details will be discussed with all relevant partners once resources are available for specific interventions. This is the case of output 3 that focuses on livelihoods and income generating activities which will be defined once financial resources are mobilized. Mr. LaCorbiniere further stated the relevance of guidance in the results framework with respect to any gender considerations that should

be focused on or access for disadvantaged or vulnerable groups. Therefore, the results framework for output 3 will be updated once specific activities are identified and resourced.

Mr. Penn, from the Government of the BVI, also highlighted the need to include further reference to the impact of Irma in the territory and, while he agrees with the proposed outputs, he indicated that better defined activities would be useful. Mr. Penn stressed the importance of income generating activities in the aftermath of the disaster as some affected families still find themselves in difficult situations. On Output 5, given the various vulnerabilities and the limitations recently exposed in the BVI in terms of knowledge and capacity, Mr. Penn welcomed the assistance provided by the UNDP team members in BVI and encouraged the promotion of regional partnerships to boost existing technical capacities.

Mr. Mullin, Head of NODS in Antigua and Barbuda, queried why funds allocated for Climate change adaptation at global level (Green Climate Fund and GEF) have not been re-allocated to reduce the risk and vulnerable in the Caribbean states since this is one of the regions most affected by the impacts of Climate Change. In response Mr. Blanco stated that some countries are currently exploring accessing the Green Climate Fund and although the process is onerous it is an approach UNDP can assist with. He further stated that Dominica has already initiated the process and have requested UNDP's support to do all preparatory work to access the funds. CariPro funds could be used in a catalytic manner on this regard. In addition, Mr. King, also highlighted that UNDP has a history of helping countries access the global environment facility of which one element was climate change adaptation.

Mr. Mullin also expressed his desire that the scope of gender mainstreaming -in general- has not been defined to date which is a critical issue. He further indicated that numerous countries in the Caribbean have conducted poverty studies and until the root causes of poverty are addressed the issue of risk reduction will not disappear. In response, Ms. Adjodha stated that the document is a framework that provides guidance towards ensuring that adequate attention on gender and recovery issues is paid at country level when defining the content of specific interventions. Ms. Adjodha also emphasized that by promoting gender responsive strategies, UNDP aims at supporting recovery strategies that are sustainable and respond to the needs of women and men.

Review of Quality Assurance (QA) and comments

QA proposed scoring is Satisfactory or Highly Satisfactory. All participants were in agreement of the scoring for the QA and no comments or concerns were raised.

4. Approval of the project document

The Chair moved to approve the project pending the recommended changes.

