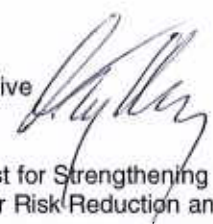




*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

To: Ms. Jessica Faieta
Regional Director, RBLAC

Date: 15 January 2015

From: Stephen O'Malley
Resident Representative 

Subject: DIM Authority Request for Strengthening Public Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in the Eastern Caribbean

ATLAS Project ID: 00087427

The Barbados and the OECS Sub-Regional office (SRO) has been successful in mobilising resources from the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction managed by the World Bank (WB GFDRR). Specifically, the UNDP SRO discussed and agreed with the WB GFDRR on an initiative to strengthen risk management in public sector planning and investment. The initiative has a budget of USD 779,420 of which the World Bank's Global Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction will provide USD 629,420. This initiative will commence in January 2015 and be completed by mid-2016.

The success of the UNDP Proposal in a very competitive Call for Proposals within the wider Caribbean region was based on the soundness of the proposal; UNDP's experience in the implementation of DRR initiatives and strategic focus on resilience building throughout all sectors; and its design as a multi-country initiative. Additionally, the main counterparts for the project will be the Ministries of Economic Development and/or Planning as well as the national disaster management offices, the former being the UNDP national focal point and the latter having engaged in several UNDP initiatives. UNDP is therefore best placed to bridge the gap between the economic development and disaster risk reduction stakeholders at this time. UNISDR will also serve as a key technical partner in guiding the risk assessment capacity development process in countries.

The project is consistent with the multi-country CPAP (M-CPAP) 2012-2016 for Barbados and the OECS, with components relating to multi-hazard risk identification and improving national structures and mechanisms for disaster risk management. Specifically, the project outcomes relate to UNDAF/SPD Outcome - Enhanced capacity of national, sub-regional and regional institutions and stakeholders to effectively manage natural resources; build resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change and natural and anthropogenic hazards; improved energy efficiency and use of renewable energy; improved policy, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for environmental and energy governance.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

- 2 -

The project will support seven Eastern Caribbean countries in the upgrading or development of national loss accounting systems; quantify and characterise the exposure and vulnerability for public assets to two specific hazards and ultimately assist in characterising an optimal risk management portfolio; lead to the implementation of more rigorous processes and procedures for risk management in the public sector; and finally demonstrate a good practice for other countries and particularly Caribbean SIDS to utilise.

The project will also closely liaise with a second GFDRR initiative being implemented by UNDP, the Strengthening Capacity in Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in the Caribbean project for the same countries that will address building capacity for early recovery and will work with the same national stakeholders.

DIM modality is sought to implement the initiative for the following reasons:

- The project will require close collaboration with the national stakeholders, UNISDR and the World Bank as well as the PDNA project and other regional partners and initiatives. Few, if any partners are working in this specific area in the Eastern Caribbean, even though it is identified as a priority area for mainstreaming DRR. Additionally the initiative would benefit from being a multi-country initiative to balance the access to technical resources; interaction between the various national structures; and general peer-to-peer learning and South-South cooperation.
- UNDP Barbados and the OECS SRO has the experience and capacity to effectively implement DIM projects as it has demonstrated over the last eight years, most recently including disaster response and disaster risk reduction activities and those in the areas of poverty reduction and governance.

The Deputy Resident Representative will provide project supervision, and a representative from one of the countries will chair the Project Board comprising of UNDP, UNISDR, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the World Bank, representatives from the beneficiary countries and the target communities and the members of the technical committee. Day-to-day project management responsibilities will be undertaken by the Programme Manager for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience with further support provided by the Programme Assistant.

Based on the foregoing, I write to seek DIM authorisation for the Strengthening Public Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in the Eastern Caribbean project for the period 15 January 2015 – 14 January 2016.