**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

***ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT***

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| **Project Title** | Caribbean Risk Management Initiative Phase II |
| **Delivery date:** | January 2013 |
| **Prepared by:** | Jacinda Fairholm |
| **Award ID:** | 00060722 |
| **Regional Programme Expected Outcomes:** | Focus Area 3: Crisis Prevention and Recovery   * Strengthened regional, national and local capacities to manage and mitigate the risks of disasters   Focus Area 4: Environment and sustainable development   * Strengthened regional capacity to adapt to climate change |
| **Project Expected outputs:** | Output 1.0: Capacity for disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change developed within the Caribbean region is strengthened.  Output 2.0: Improved management of knowledge on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction  Output 3.0: Partnerships and Resource mobilization are enhanced |
| **Executing entity :** | UNDP- Regional Centre |
| **Implementation entities:** | UNDP RSC-LAC, CDEMA, UVW, CIMH, INSMET (Cuba) |
| **Award ID start date:** | October 25th, 2010 |
| **Award ID end date:** | December 31st, 2012 |
| **Total Project Budget (Award ID):** | USD 950.000 |
| **Participating countries:** | Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Barbados and ECS, Guyana, Dominica Republic, Belize, Haiti |
| **Host country:** | RSC LAC Panamá |
| **Period of the report:** | 02/01/2012 al 31/12/2011 |
| **Total expenditure for the reporting period:** | 180,597.52 |

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| **Brief Description** |
| This project combines aspects of UNDP’s corporate strategic plan (2008-2011) from operations areas: Crisis prevention and recovery – *disaster risk reduction* and: environment and sustainable development – *promoting adaptation to climate change*. The project falls under focus areas three and four from the RBLAC regional plan and the RBLAC key results areas *Strengthened regional, national and local capacities to manage and mitigate the risks of disasters*; and strengthened *regional capacity to adapt to climate change.*  Capacity in the Caribbean for managing climate-induced disaster risk is low despite gains made by the Caribbean Risk Management Initiative (CRMI) Phase one and other initiatives undertaken by regional governments, the United Nations, and other development partners. To develop such capacity, this project will establish throughout the region, disaster risk reduction centres which will map hazards, vulnerability and risk due to climate change and geological hazards and be part of the national early warning system at the local government and community level. The project will support collection and generation of data on climate and the development of accurate climate change scenarios for key economic sectors to inform effective adaptation to climate change within the highly vulnerable SIDS of the Caribbean. Capacity to manage risk and adapt to climate change will be developed by establishing and supporting a Community of Practice, and developing educational courses and increasing awareness among, *inter alia,* the media, policy-makers and stakeholders in communities, technical agencies and government. The project will also support development of financial mechanisms and promulgation of guidelines for reducing risk and integrating climate change adaptation into livelihoods, policy and practice. |

1. **MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT**

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| **Description of the main achievements of the Project throughout the year** |
| After 5 years of CRMI implementation, the second phase started in April 2011 and its strategy addresses many of the recommendations of the external evaluation undertaken in 2008, and seeks to build on the key successes of the first phase of the initiative.  Moving into 2012, the project has faced several challenges. Among them: the closure of the Caribbean Sub-regional Centre of Trinidad Tobago, the subsequent reorganization of capacities and the lack of definition regarding the location of the project manager represented important challenges for the implementation of the project in 2011.  As of January 2012, the project did not contend with a project manager; ad interim, the project came under the responsibility of BCPR Caribbean regional advisor for disaster risk reduction, with the support of a project assistant. The new project manager was incorporated into the RSC – CPR team in mid-Sept 2012.  The main achievements of the Project throughout 2012 were:  Output 1: Capacity for disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change developed within the Caribbean region is strengthened   * 2012-2013 plan for Risk Reduction Management Centre (RRMC) replication south-south initiative developed * Guidelines and criteria for RRMC initiative participation and implementation circulated * Commitment to RRMC initiative expressed by 5 countries in the region: Jamaica, British Virgin Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and the Dominican Republic. * Baseline data on each participating country collected. * First technical support mission (Jamaica) realized with site visit. * Cuban counterparts committed to providing technical assistance and training in 2013   Output 2: Improved management of knowledge on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction   * Diagnosis, analysis and proposal on enhanced CRMI knowledge platform (incorporating interactive social media and Teamworks functions) conducted and agreed upon. * Translation and adaptation of “Gender, Public Policy and Risk Management” online course, developed by CPR Practice Areas in RSC, and led by the UNDP Virtual School. The course will be piloted in the second quarter of 2012. 16 students (UNDP DRR focal points, UN agencies ie. OCHA and UNICEF) enrolled in pilot course, offered between Oct 23rd, 2012 and Feb 21st, 2013. Aim is to solicit input and feedback on course to improve relevance to individuals and institutions in the Caribbean region. * “Integrating Gender in Disaster Management in Small Island Developing States: A Guide” (produced by CRMI I) launched at both the Pacific Platform (Sept 2012) and the 7th Annual Caribbean Comprehensive Disaster Management conference (Dec 2012). * CPR Community of Practice meeting held in Panama (Sept 20 – 21st) with six representatives from the Caribbean in attendance. Discussion on regional positioning of DRR and planning for recovery, mapping of services, needs and tools, and sharing of projects and experience ie. Barbados tsunami early warning systems and lessons from Haiti. * Collaborated with CDEMA to strengthen gender integration into CDM 2013+ Strategy through a) creating entry-point for national women’s ministry and partners to provide input in the CDM Strategy 2013+ via session “Women and Girls – the (in)visible force of resilience” at the CDM conference b) launching of the Gender Working Group to provide technical assistance to process. * Support to the HFA consultation process realized in Turks and Caicos and Jamaica, in cooperation with UNISDR.   Output 3: Partnerships and Resource mobilization are enhanced   * Project Assistant hired to support recruitment of new Project Manager. Project Manager hired and incorporated by mid-Sept 2012. * Discussion and exchange with RSC and Caribbean Country Offices (RR/RC and EE and DRR focal points) regarding the activities and direction of CRMI, in order to achieve greater coherency and more strategic role in the region, resulting in substantive revision to CRMI II Project Document and project and DIM authorization extension to Dec 2013. * Involvement and support to the South-South Cooperation between Pacific and Caribbean SIDS on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Management, reflected in a) the co-launching of the “Integrating Gender in Disaster Management in Small Island Developing States: A Guide” (CRMI I) b) Facilitation of 6-member Pacific delegation to the 7th annual CDM conference, for south-south cooperation and exchange in Gender integration in DRM (Samoa), CBDRM toolkit (Samoa), Integrating DRM into the Education Sector (New Caledonia), Catastrophe Risk Insurance (SPC), Youth Resilience (Micronesia). c) coordination of Caribbean input into Caribbean-Pacific S-S project evaluation, through side-meeting. * Contribution to UNISDR Regional Platform, Santiago Chile in area of Technical Cooperation for DRR, focused on triangular technical cooperation. * Commitment of support from UNDP-Barbados and UNDP-Cuba for CRMI II coordination and implementation – division of roles and responsibilities agreed upon. * Draft communication strategy circulated to relevant parties. |

1. **PROJECT RISKS**

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| **No.**  (as per prodoc) | **Description** | **Date identified** | **Type of Risk** | **Countermeausures adopted** |
| 2 | Transition to Regional Management | Project approval | Operational  Organizational | Advocacy for stronger partnership  Involvement of the identified partners in the ownership and implementation of the project – targeting CDEMA for this discussion |
| 3 | Natural Disaster in the Region | Project Inception | Operational  Organizational | Shifting implementation timelines and resources as required |

1. **MAIN DIFFICULTIES IN THE EXECUTION**

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| **N0.** | **Description** | **Date identified** | **Type** | **Countermeasures adopted** |
| 1 | Project management interim for better part of 2012 due to organizational structure changes in 2011 | Beginning of 2012 | Operational  Strategic | Management structure in place; Project manager recruited for Sept 2012 |

1. **NEXT YEAR CHALLENGES**

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| **No.** | **Description** |
| 1 | Project implementation will require coordinated efforts with multiple country offices, including Barbados, Cuba, and five pilot offices as well as UNDP actors such as EEG and regional actors such as CDEMA. |
| 2 | Resource Mobilization will be priority for Q1 2013. |