

## Interoffice Memorandum

**To:** Susan McDade  
Deputy Director  
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2015

**From:**   
Rebeca Arias  
Director  
Regional Hub - RBLAC

**Subject:** Request for Direct Implementation authorization for the Regional Project "Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership": 00088096

I am pleased to request your consideration and approval of the Direct Implementation (DIM) authorization for the Multi-country Regional Project "**JAPAN-CARIBBEAN CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP**" funded by the Japan Government. Atlas Project Number 00088096 – from May 2015 until December 2016.

### **Brief description and objectives of the project and alignment with UNDP SP and RBLAC RPD**

The Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (JCCCP) is promoted by the UNDP Regional Hub and the Country offices of Barbados and the OECS, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname, in coordination with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The Project will target the following eight Caribbean countries: Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, Jamaica, Belize and Suriname. It is scheduled for 3 years (2015- 2017) with a budget of USD 15M.

The JCCCP is designed to strengthen the capacity of countries in the Caribbean to invest in mitigation and adaptation technologies, as prioritized in their Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), some of which will be developed under the project. These technologies will help reduce the dependence on fossil fuel imports, setting the region on a low-emission development path; as well as improve the region's ability to respond to climate risks and opportunities in the long-run, through resilient development approaches that go beyond disaster response to extreme events. The project will help the integration of climate risks and opportunities into economic planning and budgeting across key sectors, which should result in concrete adaptation and mitigation technology investments such as Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based early warning systems, solar water heaters, and energy efficient lighting. It will provide a regional platform for the promotion of low-emission and climate-resilient technologies for the Caribbean, considering the multi-sector coordination challenges amongst climate change and other stakeholders in the region. It will also bring regional scale to attract and catalyze additional/incremental technology investments, by removing the financial, information, and capacity barriers preventing investment into these applications.

Within the context of the Implementation Plan, this project proposes to contribute to linking CCA and DRR through strengthened integration in existing institutional structures, increasing understanding among stakeholders of risk and its impact on sustainable development, improved early warning systems, and coordinated training and education. This will be informed by CARICOM's Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change 2011-2021 and associated Implementation Plan; and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency's (CDEMA) Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy 2014-2024.

The project is also consistent with UNDP's new Strategic Plan (2014-2017), contributing with Outcome 1 and 5 (RPD Outcome 1 and 4) and outputs 1.4, 1.5, 5.1 and 5.2. Accordingly, the project incorporated in its design the

pathways set in the Strategic Plan to address climate change consequences. Hence, its planned actions will support countries with integrating low-emission, climate-resilient objectives into national and sector development plans and identifying priority mitigation and/or adaptation measures; reforms that reduce investment risk and offer improved incentives for adaptation and mitigation responses that can work over the medium to long term; implementation of measures to reduce vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity across affected sectors; and development of capacities to access (including through direct access), deliver, monitor, report on and verify the use of climate finances. In addition, the plan explicitly emphasizes the need to adopt inclusive and sustainable solutions to achieve increased energy efficiency and universal modern energy access (especially off-grid sources of renewable energy).

#### **Justification for Direct Implementation**

The Direct Implementation is advisable for the following reasons:

1. The project, which has a multi-country scope offering quality services to the Caribbean SIDS, will require an executing agency with the capacity to coordinate different components (capacity building, technical assistance and knowledge management products and services); and a wide array of governments, regional partners such as CARICOM Secretariat, the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCC), the OECS Commission, national and international stakeholders.
2. The project requires an implementing agency with the ability to coordinate various internal UNDP stakeholders (regional technical teams and several country offices) and to convene a wide variety of national and international, public and civil society stakeholders and partners, including other UN Agencies and donors. The universal presence of UNDP in the region will allow coordination and the capacity to promote alliances and partnerships through its offices and focal points both in the Caribbean.
3. The project seeks to add value to and improve the effectiveness of UNDP technical assistance in the region. A regional approach is required to systematically synchronize lessons learned, methodologies and strategies, to develop permanent mechanisms for identification, systematization, analysis of lessons learned and to support national efforts for resources mobilization; benchmarking and facilitating the work of policy makers and country office programme units.
4. The Direct Implementation of the project facilitates the provision of technical assistance to meet emerging clients' demands. Combined with country office capacities, DIM implementation will enable the project to seek and secure new business opportunities, providing an effective mechanism to meet national demands and donor needs for quick response and implementation.
5. The Regional Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean will provide oversight and project assurance, and the Barbados and the OECS multi-country office, overall management with the other four COs coordinating the implementation of nationally focused activities. These offices have the required experience to coordinate the regional project as demonstrated through the management of other initiatives and the Regional Hub is placed to provide the necessary support.
6. The eight countries involved in this project (Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, Jamaica, Belize and Suriname) have already confirmed their acceptance of the project through participation of the PAC and signed the attached letters of endorsement.

Consequently, we would appreciate your authorization under the DIM modality for the Multi-country Regional Project "JAPAN-CARIBBEAN CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP".

*Attached documentation:*

- Project Document which includes:
  - o Link to the Strategic Plan and the Regional Programme Document for LAC 2014-2017;
  - o Results and Resources Framework;
  - o Annual Work Plan 2014-2015;
  - o Risk Log;
  - o Social and Environmental Screening Template
- Letters of endorsement by Governments;
- Minutes from the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC);
- ATLAS AWP and Cover Page of the initial budget revision;
- Budget Revision Clearance Slip duly signed.

Award 00088096, Project IDs: 94903, 95006, 95007, 95008, 95009 DIM authorization from May 2015 until December 2016.

Cleared and Approved:   
Susan McDade  
Deputy Director  
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Date: 26 May 2015