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Resilient nations.*

## **Local Project Appraisal Committee Minutes (LPAC)**

### British Virgin Islands (BVI) transition from recovery to sustainable development: Implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions  
6 April 2021 – 15h00

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#### **Participants**

- Lenni Montiel, UNDP Resident Representative a.i., Barbados and Eastern Caribbean MCO
- Benito Wheatley, BVI Special Envoy of the Premier to UN
- Ugo Blanco, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP
- Jason LaCorbiniere, Poverty and Governance Cluster Head. Lead of M&E team
- Marlon Clarke, Prevention, Recovery and Resilience Cluster Head.
- Mohammad Nadgee, Sustainable Solutions, Energy and Climate Change Cluster Head
- Janelle Clarke-Hinds, Head of Procurement Unit
- Cherryanne Hinds, Programme Finance Associate
- Luis Francisco Thais, Head of UNDP Project Office in Dominica
- Sacha Lindo, M&E Associate
- Miguel Guirao, Multi country liaison officer

## Discussions

### 1. Opening Remarks, by Ugo Blanco

- Welcome and introduction of participants.
- The LPAC is a formal UNDP procedure to revise the project proposal and endorse it or recommend adjustments.

### 2. Brief presentation of the project, by Ugo Blanco

- This project is the result of a long-standing working collaboration that started after hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated the BVI in September 2017.
- In 2018, UNDP established a project office in Tortola to support national recovery efforts.
- In July 2019, considerations towards a closer collaboration were discussed between Premier Fahie and Mr. Magdy Martinez Soliman, UNDP RR at that time.
- In Nov 2020, Premier Fohie and UNDP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Mr. Luis Felipe Lopez-Calva signed a MoU with the following objectives:
  - o Support for achievement of the SDGs and 2030 agenda, including mainstreaming the SDGs in national policies and plans, accelerating their implementation and providing technical assistance for sectoral analysis, promotion of Blue Economy and other relevant activities.
  - o Addressing socio – economic impacts of COVID – 19 and other external shocks such as natural disasters, financial crisis or pandemics.
  - o Strengthening the partnership and considerations to the opening of a UNDP project office in Tortola
- The project titled “British Virgin Islands (BVI) transition from recovery to sustainable development: Implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals” will serve to implement that MoU.
- With a Government total contribution of US\$120,000 for a one-year collaboration, the project will have as main activity the recruitment of a national coordinator and support personnel (intern).
- Key expected results (ProDoc, page 7) are:
  - o Strategic advice, technical support, monitoring and evaluation support and implementation capacity enhanced at national and local level for the timely and efficient implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan.
  - o Gender equality and promotion of Social and Environmental Standards mainstreamed across sectors.
  - o Global SDG assessment, monitoring, implementation, and reporting tools made available.
  - o Solid communications strategy, including consultations, outreach campaigns and social media delivered and local capacities enhanced.
  - o Blue Economy Roadmap finalized, approved by Cabinet, published and implementation plan developed.
  - o Study on access to finance developed and presented for approval.
  - o Technical assistance for sovereign rating identified and provided.

- Multi-disciplinary capacity building strategy developed in areas such as gender mainstreaming, procurement, project management, recovery planning including best practices.
  - Technical guidance on institutional arrangements for ensuring compliance to social and environmental safeguards during the project cycle.
  - Technical assistance on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience provided to relevant institutions.
  - Outreach to private sector actors for an engagement campaign on CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) around the SDGs and international UN days.
  - Promotion of the work done by the BVI in the region through South-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms.
  - Presentation of BVI priorities and work in regional fora.
  - Lessons learnt document on BVI experience published and widely distributed.
  - Advocacy on international UN Days
- A possible project extension will be discussed by both parties before current project expires.

### **3. Comments from Mr. Benito Wheatley, Special Envoy of the Premier to the UN**

- Gratitude was expressed for the enriching and fruitful collaboration with UNDP.
- This project is aligned with government priorities and the intention of accelerating the implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- UNDP's added value for the facilitation of key activities will be critical, including sectoral plans and capacity building on gender, M&E and other crosscutting sectors.
- BVI government see this initiative as part of their intention to show a model of how the UN can work, including the RCO, ECLAC, UN Women, ILO and others.
- As part of this agreement, BVI government will host the national coordinator and support personnel in the UN house.

### **4. Quality Assurance**

**Jason LaCorbiniere**, Lead of M&E team.

- Stakeholder identification should be strengthened: The key stakeholders and beneficiaries should be identified explicitly, even in the absence of a full-fledged stakeholder engagement strategy. The individuals to receive training, government agencies/institutions to be engaged during implementation, development partners who will be involved, community organisations and the private sector players will be identified, with as much specificity as is possible.
- Risk Log will be developed.
- Gender Marker - No gender markers assigned to the outputs. The MCO Gender Focal point will be engaged to ensure that gender equality considerations are fully reflected in the outputs/outcomes.

### **5. Comments and questions:**

- The ProDoc will be revised to strengthen the gender elements, including ensuring that there is a focus on understanding and integrating issues related to GBV and VAWG into national planning documents.
- Expected results should be aligned with project timeline. Project coordinator to develop a work plan as soon as s/he is recruited.
- This project is a great opportunity to continue expanding south/south cooperation in the region as BVI has a lot to share with other countries.


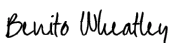




### PAC recommendations

#### 6. Decision and closing:

The LPAC recommended approving the Project Document, with the comments/adjustments mentioned above:

1. List of stakeholders to be updated.
2. Risk Log to be completed and added.
3. Strengthening gender elements in the ProDoc.
4. Description of UNDP COVID-19 response programme.

The meeting was adjourned with the agreement of all participants.

Name	Title	Signature
Lenni Montiel	Resident Representative a.i., UNDP Barbados and Eastern Caribbean MCO	
Benito Wheatley	BVI Special Envoy of the Premier to UN	
Ugo Blanco	Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP	
Jason LaCorbiniere	Poverty and Governance Cluster Head. Lead of M&E team, UNDP	
Marlon Clarke	Prevention, Recovery and Resilience Cluster Head, UNDP	
Mohammad Nagdee	Sustainable Solutions, Energy and Climate Change Cluster Head, UNDP	

Janelle Clarke-Hinds	Head of Procurement Unit, UNDP	<i>Janelle Clarke-Hinds</i>
Cherryanne Hinds	Programme Finance Associate, UNDP	<i>Cherryanne Hinds</i>
Luis Francisco Thais	Head of UNDP Project Office in Dominica	<i>Luis Francisco Thais</i>
Sacha Lindo	M&E Associate, UNDP	<i>Sacha Lindo</i>
Miguel Guirao	Multi country liaison officer, UNDP	