



Regional Dialogue Delivering Caribbean Climate Ambitions: Climate Finance, Civil Society and Partnerships

March 16-18, 2021

10:00 am - 1:00 pm (Eastern Caribbean time; UTC-4)

Under the project
“Enhancing Caribbean Civil Society’s Access and Readiness for Climate Finance”

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

As small island developing states (SIDS), Caribbean countries are disproportionately vulnerable to external economic shocks and natural disasters that can instantly erase years – if not decades – of development gains. Compounding the Caribbean’s exposure to climate risks, national governments and other key stakeholders such as civil society and the private sector are also facing significant capacity constraints, limited fiscal space and insufficient domestic financing to respond adequately to the challenges posed by climate change.

Unlocking international climate finance is a key priority for increasing climate resilience in an under-resourced and over-exposed region. However, this has proven to be a very competitive and lengthy process for many Caribbean SIDS. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other climate funds aim to help address this by not just expanding and accelerating access to climate finance to governments, but also civil society organisations (CSOs) and the private sector. CSOs, in particular, can play a significant role in planning and implementing adaptation and mitigation actions as well as helping to monitor and evaluate the success of actions undertaken by governments and businesses. They are often a strong force for making the voices of marginalised and vulnerable communities heard and amplified. They can also be instrumental in ensuring that the prioritisation of projects aligns with country needs, and that climate action and access to climate finance remains people-centred. Building the lasting in-country capacity for CSOs to contribute to this process, and to access the financing they need to do so, is crucial.

Recognising the importance of engaging CSOs in climate finance and decision-making at the national and regional level, the project “[Enhancing Caribbean Civil Society’s Access and Readiness for Climate Finance](#)” is being implemented from 2020 to 2022 by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) and national designated authorities across the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), including Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Suriname. The lead national designated authority for the project is the Climate Change Division, Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change in Jamaica. The project is funded by GCF.

Purpose

This regional dialogue, to be hosted online, will bring together key stakeholders in the Caribbean – including national designated authorities, accredited entities, funders, technical agencies and CSOs – and international partners to discuss and explore options for accessing climate finance with a focus on civil society’s role and capacity, expanding multi-stakeholder engagement in climate decision-making, and leveraging partnerships to realise national and regional climate ambitions.

It is being co-facilitated by CANARI and the technical partners, Climate Analytics and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop will be to:

1. introduce Caribbean CSOs and key partners, including national designated authorities, accredited entities and the private sector, to the current state of play on climate financing;
2. explore success stories, challenges and innovations in civil society's access to climate finance and engagement in climate change decision-making;
3. validate the mapping report and scoping study on engagement mechanisms and levels of access to climate finance for CSOs across the CARICOM region; and
4. identify the potential roles and priorities for action to enhance Caribbean civil society's readiness for climate finance.

Event Format

The event will be held as a virtual forum from Tuesday 16 March to Thursday 18 March, 2021 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm (Eastern Caribbean time; UTC-4) each day. It will be hosted using Zoom. Please register at: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuceitqTMjG9LbmPnhpzmJi79DVRTAWWUa>

Target Group

Participants from a range of stakeholder groups will be engaged across Caribbean countries and territories, as well as their international partners, including:

- Regional and national CSOs
- National designated authorities to GCF
- National authorities responsible for climate change
- Accredited entities to GCF operating in CARICOM and the wider region
- GCF, other climate funds and bilateral and multilateral partners
- Intergovernmental and other key technical agencies

Approach

The regional dialogue will feature a mix of presentations, moderated panel discussions and breakout groups. Sessions will be designed to maximise interactivity and exchange between participants to encourage the sharing of experiences from across the region.

Key outputs

The regional dialogue will contribute to the following outputs:

- Validated and finalised mapping report and scoping study on engagement mechanisms and levels of access to climate finance for CSOs across the CARICOM region
- Identified priorities for action to enhance Caribbean civil society's readiness for climate finance

For more information, please contact:

CANARI Senior Technical Officer Ainka Granderson at ainka@canari.org



AGENDA

Day 1: Access to Climate Finance

Tuesday 16 March, 2021

10:00am	Welcome & Introductions	Mrs. Una-May Gordon, Climate Change Division, Jamaica
10:10am	Opening remarks	Dr. Orville Grey, Green Climate Fund
10:20am	Brief remarks	H.E. Mrs. Diann Black-Layne, Ambassador of Climate Change and Department of Environment, Antigua and Barbuda
10:30am	Overview of the GCF readiness project: Enhancing Caribbean Civil Society's Access and Readiness to Climate Finance	Dr. Ainka Granderson, Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)
10:40am	Presentation: Findings from Scoping Study on Caribbean Civil Society's Access to Climate Finance	Mr. Alec Crawford, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
	Interactive Q&A session	
11:10am	Panel Discussion – Applying lessons and innovations in financing civil society organisations and local communities to build climate resilience	Moderator: Ms. Frances Fuller, Climate Analytics
	a. What are the key actions being taken?	Panellists: H.E. Mrs. Diann Black-Layne, Ambassador of Climate Change and Department of Environment, Antigua and Barbuda Mrs. Nayari Diaz-Perez, Protected Areas Conservation Trust Ms. Nicole Leotaud, CANARI Mr. Nicholas Ross, Caribbean Development Bank
	b. What are the best practices and innovations to inform GCF's and other climate funds' investments?	
	c. What are current challenges, needs and priorities to action?	
	d. What are opportunities that can be leveraged?	
	Interactive Q&A session	
12:00pm	Breakouts:	
	Breakout 1 – Getting accredited to the Green Climate Fund	Facilitator: Mr. Christian Ledwell, IISD
	Breakout 2 – Leveraging the Green Climate Fund's Enhanced Direct Access	Facilitator: Ms. Frances Fuller, Climate Analytics

	Breakout 3 – Improving delivery of climate finance	Facilitator: Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI
1:00pm	End of Day 1	

Day 2: Multi-Stakeholder Engagement & Decision-making

Wednesday 17 March, 2021

10:00am	Welcome & Re-cap of Day 1	Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI
10:15am	Presentation: Findings from Scoping Study on Effectiveness of CSO Engagement in Climate Change Decision-making	Ms. Frances Fuller, Climate Analytics
	Interactive Q&A session	
10:45am	Panel Discussion – Enabling pro-poor and inclusive climate change decisions and investments nationally and regionally	Moderator: Mr. Alec Crawford, IISD
	a. What are the key mechanisms for engagement nationally and regionally?	Panellists: Mrs. Una-May Gordon, Climate Change Division, Jamaica
	b. What are current challenges and gaps?	Mr. Leroy Martinez, Ministry of Finance, Economic Development & Investment, Belize
	c. What roles can civil society play in decision-making processes and what spaces/platforms can be leveraged?	Mr. Dylan Williams, Dominica Civil Society, NGO & Private Sector Technical Working Group
	d. What are the best practices and innovations to inform NDCs, NAPs and other decision-making processes?	Ms. Jhannel Tomlinson, Caribbean Youth Environment Network
	e. What are the best practices and innovations to inform climate financing (e.g. GCF Country Programmes)?	
	Interactive Q&A session	
11:30am	Presentation + video: Mainstreaming gender in climate change decisions and investments	Ms. Angie Dazé, IISD
	Interactive Q&A session	
12:00pm	Breakouts:	
	Breakout 1 – Strengthening multi-stakeholder engagement mechanisms nationally and regionally	Facilitator: Mr. Paolo Cozzi, Climate Analytics
	Breakout 2 – Promoting gender equality and social inclusion in climate finance	Facilitator: Ms. Angie Dazé, IISD
	Breakout 3 – Enabling collective civil society action on climate change	Facilitator: Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI

1:00pm End of Day 2

Day 3: Leveraging Partnerships & Realising Ambitions

Thursday 18 March, 2021

10:00am	Welcome & Re-cap of Days 1 and 2	Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI
10:15am	Brief remarks	
10:25am	Panel Discussion - Making the Green Climate Fund work for inclusive, low-carbon and climate resilient development in the Caribbean a. What are key challenges and needs in engaging CSOs and other stakeholders to effectively design and deliver Green Climate Fund projects for adaptation and mitigation? b. What are the priorities for action? c. What partnerships can be leveraged?	Moderators: Ms. Frances Fuller, Climate Analytics & Mr. Alec Crawford, IISD Panellists: Mrs. Neranda Maurice-George, Green Climate Fund Mrs. Donette Chalery, Department of Economic Development, Transport and Civil Aviation, Saint Lucia Mr. Omar Mohammed, The Cropper Foundation Dr. Donneil Cain, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
	Interactive Q&A session	
11:20am	Launch and overview of the regional Climate Finance in Action Network	Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI
11:35am	Breakouts on Defining Priorities for Action: Breakout 1 – Antigua & Barbuda Breakout 2 – Belize Breakout 3 – Grenada Breakout 4 – Jamaica Breakout 5 – Saint Kitts and Nevis Breakout 6 – Saint Lucia Breakout 7 – Suriname	Facilitator: Ms. Refica Attwood Facilitator: Mr. Jose Perez, Association of Protected Areas Management Organisations Facilitator: Mrs. Sandra Ferguson, Inter Agency Group of Development Organisations Facilitator: Faradaine Forbes-Edwards Facilitator: Mr. Terry Morris Facilitator: Mrs. Barbara Jacobs-Small, Right Angle Imaging Facilitator: Ms. Grace del Prado

	Breakout 8 – Regional Priorities	Facilitator: Dr. Ainka Granderson, CANARI
12:50pm	Closing Remarks & Thanks	Mrs. UnaMay Gordon, Climate Change Division, Jamaica
1:00pm	End of Dialogue	