

CPACC

Caribbean: Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change
Joint Project of CARICOM/UWI/OAS/World Bank/GEF

Brainstorming Session on the future of CPACC

**Accra Beach Hotel
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Participants:

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Colin Depradine, Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, Barbados;
Cornelius Fevrier, CARICOM Secretariat;
Jeremy Cullymore, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, Barbados;
Lee Chapin, CPACC/Organization of American States;
Claudio Volonte, CPACC/ Organization of American States;
Jan Vermeiren, CPACC/ Organization of American States;
Ian King, CPACC/Regional Project Implementation Unit;
Neville Trotz, CPACC/ Regional Project Implementation Unit;
Rawleston Moore, CPACC/ Regional Project Implementation Unit;
Rashleigh Jackson, Guyana;
Shelly-Ann Jules-Moore, Institute of Marine Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago;
Kelvin Ramnath, Petrotrin, Trinidad and Tobago;
Leo Moseley, University of the West Indies – Cave Hill;
Oliver Headley, University of the West Indies – Cave Hill;
Loretta Sprissler, World Bank
Kirsten Oleson, World Bank;
Walter Vergara, World Bank;
Rajeev Swami, World Bank.

Issues to be considered by **Brainstorm Session**:

- Outputs that Centre can address;
- Strategic linkages that need to be developed;
- Strategies to ensure necessary political support; and
- Tasks to be undertaken to move from concept to reality.

Introduction - Walter Vergara, the World Bank.

- The group needed to be aware of the fact that CPACC, though of short duration, is dealing with long-term phenomena.
- As such the region needs to develop sustainable mechanisms, which will enable them to deal with the problems of adaptation to Global Climate Change (GCC).
- CPACC follow-up should be driven by technical, scientific and operational considerations and should support the development of sustainable institutional and policy frameworks to support regional responses to GCC.
- GEF will not support the CPACC follow-up in its entirety as in the present case so the group will need to embark on an exercise to identify potential partners and alternative funding activities. This will require an investment in time and resources on the part of the RPIU and its strategic partners.
- CPACC follow-up activities must be driven by local climate change agenda involving the various stake holders and sectoral interest groups. This will provide the foundation for political support.
- At this time, the priority of CPACC is to ensure that delivery of all its outputs and components. The successful and complete implementation of CPACC is a *sine qua non* for any further support for climate change works in the region.
- On the question of funding there were preliminary indications that the GEF will be amenable to providing some support. Possible support to the Center could be from the Canadians, Scandinavians and Europeans need to be explored, CDM certification process and adaptation funds, consulting services, Institutional Development Fund (IDF/World Bank). The World Bank has developed a Carbon Fund, which can support mitigation activities in the region (renewable energy). The short-term goal should be to secure a PDF grant from the GEF.
- Time lag between the end of the CPACC Project (December 2001) and the start up of its follow-up activity should be minimized.

**Progress Report in the development of the Climate Change Center
(Neville Trotz, CPACC/RPIU)**

- At the 1st Ministerial Meeting to consider the implementation of the SIDS POA in 1997, Ministers recorded their support for CPACC and mandated that Caribbean States develop the necessary institutional mechanisms to ensure that critical programmes initiated under CPACC are sustainable beyond the lifetime of the project.
- Consultations in late 1999 with CERMES, UWI Faculty of Natural Sciences, CIMH, PETROTRIN led to the proposal for the establishment of a regional Climate Change Centre with the following objectives:-
 1. collect and disseminate climate change baseline data and to serve as an authoritative source in international negotiation of agreements on Climate Change issues;
 2. advise ACS, CARICOM governments and the private sector on climate change and related issues;
 3. develop special programmes targeting key issues such as coastal zone management and hurricane preparedness and sectors such as Tourism, Agriculture, Health, Insurance, and the Oil and Petrochemical Industries;
 4. assist member countries in the preparation and implementation of future Clean Development Mechanism Projects;
 5. fulfill the need of a regional certification entity s envisioned under the Kyoto Protocol;
 6. assist in resource-sharing and technical co-operation and to provide information exchange on training, both regionally and elsewhere throughout the world;
 7. link with other SIDS initiatives e.g. in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.
 8. facilitate direct meeting of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) representatives before Conference of Parties meetings, to define common strategy and goals and to advocate for SIDS at international fora;
 9. serve as a focus for visiting scientists working on climate change related research and for the organization of Workshops, Seminars, Lectures and other outreach activities aimed at increasing public awareness of the problems associated with Climate Change.
- Political endorsement has been given at the level of the CARICOM Council of Ministers responsible for Trade and Economic Development (COTED). COTED has recommended that the proposal be put to the next meeting of CARICOM for their approval. Further endorsement was secured at the 8th meeting of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean held in Barbados in March 2000.
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- Offers to host the CCC have been made by the Government of Barbados (through the Minister responsible for Energy and Environment) and Trinidad and Tobago (through the Minister responsible for Environment) and PETROTRIN (Trinidad and Tobago oil company).

- A concept paper on the CCC was prepared originally by UWICED but has been adapted and amended to reflect inputs from the network. The adjusted concept paper was available for the present discussion.

Regional Mechanism – Center for Sustainable Development

In the subsequent discussion the major issue that emerged concerned the development of a regional mechanism (not unlike SPREP) to address the implementation of the regional sustainable development agenda (essentially the SIDS POA). In this respect there is another concept paper in circulation that addresses the establishment of a regional Center for Sustainable Development. The region was pursuing several projects under the sustainable development umbrella – land degradation, water management, and renewable energy – and it was felt that such a centre would adequately address the problem of coordination and regional capacity building.

The proposers of the Sustainable Development Centre have now embarked on a process of regional consultation. There is a request to place this proposal on the agenda of a meeting of regional Ministers of Environment and Finance supported by UWICED (if CARICOM can arrange). This will be followed by presentation of the proposal to Heads of Government.

It was felt that the concept of the Sustainable Development Center was not inconsistent with the establishment of the CCC but it is essential however that CPACC proceeds with the development and establishment of CCC. The CCC will be within the context of the institutional mechanism to implement CPACC follow-up.

Climate Change Center and other regional institutions

Another issue concerned the envisaged relationship between the Climate Change Centre and institutions such as CIMH and CDERA. It was emphasized that the CCC will facilitate capacity strengthening in areas relevant to climate change in existing institutions that already contribute to climate work in the region. There is no intention for the CCC to absorb functions already performed by other institutions. However the CCC will certainly be filling “gaps” in the regional capacity to address climate change impacts and as a coordinating and initiation center for climate change activities in the region.

The Barbados participant supported the idea of the sustainable development center and indicated that problems may arise for the CCC if the proposal for its establishment had financial implications for Governments. In this respect it was pointed out that the level of input expected from Governments should be the commitment of resources in kind – personnel and institutional support.

Political Process and Support

On the question of presenting the CCC proposal to Heads, M. Toure observed that before this occurs some interaction should take place with the Prime Minister of Belize who is now the Community’s spokesperson on environmental matters. Toure also expressed the need to see the CCC proposal as part of a wider portfolio addressing other cross cutting regional environmental issues under the climate change agenda.

Jan Vermeiren suggested that a strategic decision be made for the next four years not to ask governments for financial support for CPACC follow-up and that we explore to the fullest all opportunities for international funding. He also suggested that in development of the CCC proposal attention be paid to placing it within a regional context vis-à-vis the institutional mechanisms currently in place or anticipated to address the sustainable development agenda.

Kevin Ramnath reiterated PETROTRIN's and the Government's of Trinidad and Tobago support for the CCC initiative.

The reality of the present situation is that the CCC concept has been widely discussed in the region and has proceeded with gaining approval at the political level. Given that the timeframe for the completion of CPACC any delay in finalizing the proposal for the establishment of the centre can compromise the efforts needed to develop it as the regional institutional mechanism for the implementation of CPACC follow-up.

Functions of the Center

The session then considered the functions of the proposed Centre:

- Collect, analyse and disseminate meteorological and sea level data relevant to the observation of climate change, and facilitate, in collaboration with specialized Caribbean agencies, studies about the impact of climate change on the sectors in the Caribbean.
- Facilitate Caribbean positions on GCC and serve as an authoritative technical source for Caribbean countries to inter alia fulfill their responsibilities under the UNFCC.
- Assist countries as appropriate in realizing the equitable benefits resulting from the implementation of financial mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol.
- Provide strategic assistance for public education and awareness campaigns at the national and regional levels to involve all regular stakeholders, both private and public.
- In collaboration with relevant agencies, develop special programs addressing GCC implications in the region for CZM, Disaster Management, and potentially vulnerable sectors such as Tourism, Health, Agriculture and Insurance.
- Promote resource sharing, technical cooperation and information exchange with other GCC initiatives, in particular in SIDS and Latin America.
- Coordinate the development of regional research programmes, including adaptation of global modeling efforts, and specialized training focused on effective adaptation to GCC.

CPACC Follow-up Objectives

The meeting also proposed the following for the CPACC follow up.

Potential Title:

Implementing Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change in the Caribbean (IMPACC)

1. Facilitate replication of CPACC pilot components regionally where appropriate.
2. Support and coordinate the preparation of the 2nd National Communications.
3. Identify and implement appropriate technical and financial response mechanisms for adaptation to GCC (Stage 2 adaptation of UNFCCC).
4. Promote further research on CC impact assessment, including the application of regional climate modeling, in support of decision making at the regional level.
5. Promote the realization of win-win opportunities in the region for adaptation to/mitigation of/GCC (including renewable energy, energy efficiency, technology transfer and watershed protection).
6. Assist countries in incorporating climate variability and change considerations into their development planning process, in particular linking natural hazards risk assessment to CC vulnerability.

Next Steps

The group agreed that the next steps should include:

1. Complete Climate Change Center concept paper (July 2000)
2. Receive endorsement from CARICOM Heads of State (July 2000)
3. Prepare concept paper for GEF Block B to prepare CPACC follow-up (IMPACC) and establish Climate Change Center (September 2000)
4. Prepare GEF Block B (October – December 2000)
5. Implementation of Block B (January – December 2001)
- 6. Establishment of the Climate Change Center: October 2001.**
7. IMPACC project document (October 2001)
8. IMPACC implementation (January 2002 – December 2005). The Climate Change Center will become the executing agency of the IMPACC project.