

Component 4: Formulation of a National Climate Change Adaptation Policy

Significant progress was made during this period, with substantial interaction with country functionaries in the field. The final configuration of the implementation plan for this Component is as follows:

- Draft National Policy.
 - Identification of climate change issues and Draft Issues Paper.
 - Inception Mission – Issues Paper review and development of a work plan for National policy and Implementation plan.
 - Finalization of Issues Paper.
 - Country visits to develop draft National Policy and Implementation plan.
 - National Consultations and Review by RPIU technical team to finalize National Policy and Implementation Plan.
 - Regional workshop to develop Regional Policy.
 - National consultations / review by RPIU technical team to finalize regional policy (for the summary of comments from in-country meetings see Annex 4).
 - Presentation of National Policy and Implementation Plan for incorporation into national planning process.
 - Presentation of regional policy to Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) for endorsement.

During the reporting period the following was accomplished:

- A template outlining the format and required content of the Issues Paper was circulated to all countries with requests to compile this paper using local resources.
- Inception mission to all CPACC countries.
- Draft Issues Papers from several countries were received by the RPIU technical team and formed the basis of discussions during the Inception Mission. In instances where progress on the compilation of the Issues Paper was minimal, information on the country's first national communications was utilized. To date, issue papers have been completed from Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guyana, St. Lucia, Dominica and Belize. The Inception Mission also served to get countries to agree to a timetable for the development of the draft national policy and Implementation plan. It became evident during the course of these National Consultations that a key requirement in the development of the National Draft Policy will be an effective public awareness and education campaign in each country. The latter will also serve to heighten interest in the knowledge of climate change issues in the region. To this end, each country was tasked with developing a public awareness and education strategy for the implementation during the process of developing the draft of the National Policy. A few countries had already initiated some public awareness on climate change, through posters, brochures, lectures, competitions, etc.

Focal points were provided with a CD produced by the EPA, on climate change facts, and it is expected that this tool will be used in outreach efforts, particularly to schools.

- A comprehensive Inception Mission report was prepared, and this consisted of:
 - Completed Issues Papers: Detailed country work plans for developing the draft National Policy and Implementation plan.
 - Reports on country consultations: This report has been circulated to countries for their review and comments and information has now been finalized.