

Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) Meeting Report

Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER)

25 March 2019
Online



Empowerment from
Resilient nations

Agenda

1. Chair welcome – Ms. Chisa Mikami, Resident Representative, a.i., UNDP Barbados and the OECS Subregional Office.
2. Introduction of participants
3. Project Overview – Ms. Danielle Evanson, Programme Manager Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience and Energy and the Environment a.i. UNDP Barbados and the OECS.
4. Q&A/Discussion
5. Conclusion

Attendees:

- **Antigua and Barbuda**
 - Rashauna Adams-Matthew – Department of Environment
 - Daryl George – Department of Environment
 - Melissa Johnson – UNDP
- **Belize**
 - Col Shelton Defour - National Emergency Management Organisation
 - Dr. Lennox Gladden – National Climate Change Office
 - Carlos Pol - Ministry of Economic Development
 - Donniell Cain - Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
 - Anhivar Parralta - Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
 - Diane Wade – UNDP
- **CDEMA**
 - Elizabeth Riley – Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
- **Dominica**
 - Anderson Parillon - Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
 - Gelina Fontaine – Office of Disaster Management
 - Massimiliano Tozzi - UNDP
- **Grenada**
 - Elaine Henry McQueen – Division of Gender and Family Affairs
 - Titus Antoine – Department of Economic and Technical Cooperation
- **Guyana**
 - Janelle Christian – Office of Climate Change, Ministry of the Presidency
 - Michael Welch - Guyana Livestock Development Agency, Ministry of Agriculture
 - Hymawattie Lagan - Ministry of Social Protection
 - Yashma Subhai - National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute, Ministry of Agriculture
 - Shevon Wood - Guyana Energy Agency

- Anita Wilson-Layne – Civil Defence Commission
- Tracy Amanda Smith – UNDP
- Megumi Uchino – UNDP
- Nkayo Drepaul – UNDP
- Astrid Lynch – UNDP
- **Jamaica**
 - Nadine Brown – Planning Institute of Jamaica
 - Dr. Siddier Chambers – Bureau of Gender Affairs
 - Mitzie Moore-Clarke– Bureau of Gender Affairs
 - Dr. Elsie Laurence-Chounoune – UNDP
 - Cordia Chambers-Johnson – UNDP
 - Richard Kelly – UNDP
 - Ava Whyte Anderson – UNDP
 - Stacy-Ann Tomlinson – UNDP
- **Suriname**
 - Sharon Saridjan-Tjokro - Ministry of Home Affairs (Bureau Gender Affairs)
 - Jacqueline Warso - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Anil Pershad - National Institute for Environment and Development (NIMOS)
 - Gina Griffith - National Institute for Environment and Development (NIMOS)
 - Armstrong Alexis - UNDP
 - Haidy Malone - UNDP
 - Bryan Drakenstein- UNDP
 - Sharon Legiman - UNDP
 - Manorama Sunuwar - UNDP
- **UNDP Barbados and the OECS**
 - Chisa Mikami - Resident Representative a.i. (Meeting Chair)
 - Ugo Blanco – Senior Recovery Advisor
 - Nato Gzobava – Operations Manager
 - Danielle Evanson – Programme Manager Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience and Energy and the Environment a.i
 - Jason LaCorbiniere - Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Analyst
 - Marlon Clarke – Recovery Officer
 - Cherise Adjodha - Programme Specialist Sustainable Human Development and Inclusive Governance
 - Cherryanne Hinds – Programme Finance Associate
- **UNDP Regional Hub**
 - Jacinda Fairholm – Regional Advisor Disaster Risk Reduction

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Mikami, the UNDP Resident Representative, a.i. for Barbados and the OECS chaired the meeting and welcomed participants sharing her satisfaction in reaching this phase, which is the last leg before commencement of implementation. The Chair further thanked partners for their engagement and collaboration during the project development phase and noted that this initiative seeks to be gender responsive.

2. Overview of the project

Ms. Evanson was invited to give an overview of the project, and remarked that the initiative seeks to build on ongoing work and lessons learned, namely:

- Advancing from the work of the Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership for the gender-responsive implementation at the sector-level of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) being developed;
- Strengthening national preparedness for post-disaster recovery, given the experiences in the region following the 2017 hurricane season;
- Supporting capacities for inclusion and representation of the needs and perspectives of the most vulnerable populations in cross-sectoral governance and national climate and disaster risk planning.

Ms. Evanson further iterated that the project has 3 immediate outcomes guiding project implementation:

- **Outcome 1110** – Improved national capacity for gender-responsive climate change adaptation and mitigation planning and implementation among state and non-state actors in the target countries. This outcome will be achieved through technical support provided for mainstreaming gender equality in the implementation of NAPs and NAMAs at the sector level. Given that NAPs and NAMAs are broad and wide-ranging policies, it isn't expected that the project will fully implement them but that it will initiate key results at the sector level which will support the most vulnerable as well as efforts to generate further resources in this regard.
- **Outcome 1120** – Improved integrated recovery planning and frameworks at the national and regional levels for gender-responsive and resilient disaster recovery by key vulnerable groups. The meeting was advised that through cooperation with CDEMA, this will support the development and operationalisation of integrated, gender-responsive multi-hazard recovery frameworks at the national and regional levels. On the latter, this project will initialise the Caribbean Resilient Recovery Facility (CRRF), a regional mechanism envisaged based on the request from CARICOM Heads of Government following the situation in 2017. Actions under EnGenDER will be the incipient steps to grounding a regionally-owned and led CRRF to elevate and support recovery in the region. It will focus on building capacities within national institutions to be able to undertake roles in recovery more effectively, as well as creation of the supporting regional agency. The recently completed Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Audit of six participating states will form part of the baseline assessment for this work.
- This outcome will be implemented through partnerships with UN Women, CDEMA and WFP. Under the leadership of UN Women, a comprehensive review of the gender inequality of disaster and climate risks will be undertaken, forming part of a global study, including sector-specific analysis. The project will support CDEMA to revise the Model National Recovery Framework (MNRF) as a guidance document to enhance gender-responsive resilient recovery approaches and solutions at the national level. Finally, the project will partner with WFP to extend their work on shock responsive social protection to countries within the project.
- **Outcome 1210** – Increased application of gender equality and rights-based approaches by national climate change and DRR coordinating bodies. This outcome will support capacity building among gender machineries and climate change and DRR actors be able to apply differentiated needs analysis in planning and implementation of change strategies and DRR actions.

Ms. Evanson indicated that since countries are at different stages and levels of capacity in relation to the planned activities, one of the initial activities in the project is the completion of a baseline

assessment so that country specific needs, priorities and subsequently work plans can be developed. These country work plans will then feed into the regional monitoring framework.

The meeting was advised that the total costs budgeted for the project is estimated at USD 15,300,000 with USD 11,310,000 being provided by the Government of Canada and the balance USD 3,990,000, from the Government of the United Kingdom. Ms. Evanson informed that the final USD equivalent of the funds received will be subject to change in accordance with the exchange rate at the time of receipt of the various tranches.

In terms of the governance and management arrangements, EnGenDER will be a multi-country project with direct implementation (DIM) by UNDP with the exception of Belize which has selected a support to NIM arrangement. A dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established for this project and will be based in Barbados. The Project Board will be the mechanism to provide overall guidance on the project's strategic policy direction and management and will meet at least every six months.

In closing Ms. Evanson outlined the annexes affixed to the document specifically highlighting Annex 2, the Quality Assurance (QA) Report. This is the mechanism to ensure achievement of quality results through evaluation of key focus aspects namely strategic, relevance, monitoring and evaluation, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the project. She further noted that for all UNDP projects the QA should be completed during project inception, implementation and at project closure.

3. Q&A/Discussion

The Chair thanked Ms. Evanson for her presentation and invited participants to raise any points they may have.

Suriname

Noted that comments were shared prior to the meeting and agreed that these can be addressed as part of the updated document. Recommended that further discussion will be needed to determine how the UNDP Country Offices (COs) can have a level of autonomy to allow seamless implementation. The question was raised whether all countries have to sign off on the project document once the documents are finalised. In response the Chair advised that all country signatures are required.

CDEMA

No substantive comments at this time but the document will be shared with the Executive Director for any additional comments he may have. CDEMA is hoping to revert on this by the end of the week with any comments.

Grenada

Indicated their satisfaction in being part of this initiative and acknowledged that country work plans need to be developed. Two specific questions were raised by the country representatives: 1) What strategies will be put in place to maintain the interest and commitment on different committees on the issue of gender equality responses and transformation beyond the project end date and 2) How will the impacts of the project be translated within the country and at the community level?

In response it was noted that capacity building is a key component within the initiative with training being envisioned for sector level mainstreaming for technical and senior level positions. The project should therefore see the strengthening of the agencies to improve gender-responsiveness in risk reduction actions, as well as prioritising the strengthening of the capacity of the gender machinery

within government on DRR and CC issues. It will also increase the overall technical capacity of line ministries on the interlinkages between these themes.

Relating to the second question the project will develop a communications strategy that will articulate the methodologies that will be utilised to capture knowledge and articulate project impact. Certainly, the degree to which the community will be a specific point of outreach will be dependent on the design of the country work plan.

Regarding an additional question on timelines for the detailed country budgets and work plans, the meeting was informed that this will be dependent on the completion of the baseline assessments with a rough estimate being between 3 to 6 months.

** It was also indicated that consideration is given to the status of the various countries and their various capacities for Jamaica reporting. Reporting will be country specific using country specific indicators. An assessment of various capacities will be done very early in the implementation process.*

Queried whether a small project team can be based at the UNDP Country Office to allow for implementation. It was noted that the CO arrangements will be drafted and will be further discussed with the COs.

The country representatives advised that the Situational Analysis does not adequately reflect that in Jamaica men tend to be more adversely affected by hazards, referring to the impact of Tropical Storm Nicole. It was agreed that the counterpart will share the data in relation to these specific nuances. The Antigua and Barbuda representative agreed with this point and recommended that within the Stakeholder Engagement section of the document, men's organisations should also be included.

The representative further queried whether the project considered how the information and results will be contributed to or be reported under the CDM Strategy, and whether it builds on CDEMA's recent work on gender equality. In response Ms. Evanson noted that the project contributes to the CDM Framework as outlined in its Strategy, and through CDEMA's coordination mechanisms will report will and update on progress on relevant indicators. Ms. Riley confirmed that the project indeed builds on their previous work and is consistent with the Regional Resilience Framework which was adopted in 2018 by Heads of Government, where operational readiness and resilience is one of the 5 pillars.

She asked about the connection between the work by UN Women and a request they have had to contribute to a UN Women/UNICEF/UNFPA global study for presentation at Global Platform for DRR. Confirming that the work under the project did relate to the global study, Ms Evanson indicated that she would confer with UN Women on how the two would interface.

Finally, the country representatives queried how the budgetary allocations for each country will be determined. The meeting was informed that WFP, CDEMA, UNWOMEN have budgetary allocations and there are also allocations for the regional components of the project. Currently country budgetary allocations will be done on an equitable basis unless there is a strong rationale and justification why an alternative approach should be used, which would need to be approved by the Project Board. Tentatively, the budget allocation is USD 500,000 -600,000 per country.

** It was stated that country work plans for each country will be reviewed against available project budget and work activities will be prioritized based on available funds.*

UNDP Regional Hub
The project provides an opportunity to institutionalise capacities and strongly link these to the Regional Recovery Facility. Further the project can leverage the UNDP global practices in strengthening the model recovery framework, as well as connecting best practices and the Global Recovery Team in the work on the CDM Audit tool, recovery mechanisms and training tools.

Dominica

** Further discussions will need to be held with CDEMA on how capacity building on the recovery side will be implemented and this may change the amounts allocated.*

The Dominican counterparts queried whether the NAP and NAMA will be done after the project is approved. In response the meeting was informed that under JCCCP the NAP and NAMA have not been undertaken as the Government had advised they would be developing these through other processes. The project would therefore work with government to determine the best entry point, also noting the ongoing development of the Climate Resilient Recovery Plan.

In terms of the timelines for the country work plan, it was reiterated that the baselines must be completed first and a rough estimate of 3 to 6 months is envisioned.

Guyana

The country representative reiterated the call for an in-country team to support implementation, emphasising the lessons from JCCCP in terms of their in-country project support mechanism. Further reiterated that there is a need for good estimates of the country level budget even if regional elements are still to be fleshed out.

Finally, it was queried how the difference in implementation modality for Belize came about. This was a specific request by the government for support to NIM given their structures and operations. Based on this response, the country representative recommended that implementation modality be changed similarly for Guyana. * Each country has the option of deciding how resources can be managed.

4. Conclusion

The Chair tabled the approval of the document pending changes mentioned during the meeting. All participants indicated their no objection to approving the project, conditional on the changes to the Project Document as discussed.

The Chair thanked colleagues and national representatives for participating and noted that the updated document and meeting minutes will be circulated as soon as possible for signature.

Expected Start Date - April 1, Duration - 4 years

There was a proposal for the formation of a Technical Advisory Group to provide advice and insight for project implementation. This would include representatives from gender related organisations, DRR and related organisations and possibly the CEP (by invitation when required). - THIS MAY HAVE BEEN SPECIFIC TO JAMAICA AND MAY NOT REQUIRE INCLUSION IN THE MINUTES

Minutes Approved by:

Government of Antigua and Barbuda	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date:
Government of Belize	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date:
Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date:
Government of Grenada	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date:
Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date:
Government of Jamaica	UNDP
Print Name:	 Print Name: Elsie Lawrence-Choumoune RR ai
Date:	Date: 15 May 2019
Government of Saint Lucia	UNDP
Print Name:	Print Name:
Date:	Date: