



# LIVELIHOOD PROTECTION POLICY

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) LIVELIHOOD PROTECTION POLICY

Jamaica





LIVELIHOOD  
PROTECTION  
POLICY

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Jamaica

The Climate Risk and Insurance in the  
Caribbean (CRAIC) Project



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# CCRIF SPC

## THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA PARAMETRIC INSURANCE FACILITY AND DEVELOPMENT INSURER

MEMBERS

35

ANNUAL  
COVERAGE  
PURCHASED

US\$  
1.44B  
2025/26

PAYOUTS

82

BENEFICIARIES

>5M

### PARAMETRIC INSURANCE PRODUCTS



Earthquake



Tropical  
Cyclone



Excess  
Rainfall



COAST  
(Fisheries)



Electric  
Utilities



Water  
Utilities



Fluvial Flood  
(Runoff)

### A PREVIEW OF NEW PRODUCTS IN DEVELOPMENT



Drought



Agriculture



Tourism



Government  
Infrastructure



Housing



Livelihood Protection for  
Vulnerable Groups

TOTAL PAYOUTS  
US\$**483M**

PROVIDING  
**QUICK LIQUIDITY**  
FOLLOWING NATURAL HAZARD EVENTS SINCE 2007  
to the Caribbean and Central America



CCRIF SPC is the Caribbean and Central America Parametric Insurance Facility and Development Insurer. It is the world's first multi-country, multi-peril risk pool based on parametric insurance and the leading provider of parametric insurance for Caribbean and Central American governments, as well as electric utility companies and water utilities. CCRIF offers parametric insurance for tropical cyclones, excess rainfall, runoff, earthquakes, and the fisheries and electric and water utilities sectors – insurance products not readily available in traditional insurance markets.

### CCRIF's success and value to its members

#### QUICK LIQUIDITY

Provides quick liquidity within 14 days of a natural hazard event when a policy is triggered.

#### PROTECTION GAP

Helps to close the protection gap by providing insurance solutions for economic exposure.

#### MODELS

Offers parametric insurance products underpinned by models customized for the regions we serve.

#### RISK POOLING

Benefits from the best prices for reinsurance, making coverage more affordable to members.

#### INNOVATION

Uses its base models to develop products for economic sectors and vulnerable persons.

#### LOSS AND DAMAGE

Helps countries manage growing risks and losses from climate change.



The Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean (CRAIC) Project began implementation in 2011 by Munich Climate Insurance Initiative in collaboration with CCRIF SPC and the ILO Impact Insurance Facility. The project will end in December 2025. The project was designed to address climate change, adaptation, and vulnerability by promoting weather index-based insurance as a risk management instrument in the Caribbean. Over the period, MCII, CCRIF and ILO Impact Insurance have collaborated to study the microinsurance landscape and understand the needs of vulnerable groups across the Caribbean.

To reach low-income people who are particularly vulnerable to extreme weather events, CRAIC developed a microinsurance product, the Livelihood Protection Policy. The LPP has evolved through research, pilot testing, stakeholder engagement, and capacity building with regulators and insurers. The product now reflects user input, regional realities, and lessons from past skepticism around insurance.

Support was provided by the International Climate Initiative of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection. The project is being implemented in five Caribbean countries: Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.





# INTRODUCTION

## The Impacts of Natural Hazards on Communities and People





Within our populations, and in our communities, many of the natural hazard risks that we are exposed to – such as tropical storms, hurricanes, extreme rainfall events, etc. – affect different groups differently and may also affect men, women, and children differently. In other words, these risks are not evenly distributed among all groups in the same way and some people are more exposed to or negatively impacted by the effects of natural hazards. This may be due to their economic status, where they live, the work that they do, and other social characteristics. These factors can determine how vulnerable or how exposed certain groups, communities or people in general are to these natural hazards. This exposure, when combined with a reduced ability to protect or defend oneself against natural hazard risks and cope with their negative consequences, causes people and communities to become vulnerable. Increasing exposure to risks increases vulnerability and often impacts individuals' socio-economic status and, in some instances, results in persons falling into poverty.





## What can people do to reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards/disasters?

There are many actions that we can take to build our resilience and better respond to and cope with natural hazards. For example, before the Hurricane Season, we may:

-  trim trees and branches near houses and electricity lines.
-  ensure that we have adequate drinking water supplies.
-  stock at least 4-5 days of food supplies or hurricane supplies.
-  make sure that roofs, windows, and doors that need repair are fixed.

And there are many other actions we can take.

Of course, when a storm or hurricane is approaching, we keep our families close, listen to warnings and bulletins, and ensure that items outside our homes that can be blown away are secured or placed inside. We also keep a list of important contacts, charge our cell phones, and become familiar with the location of the shelter nearest to our home ‘just in case’. Farmers secure their livestock, greenhouses, and food storage facilities and put away their tools. Fishermen come off the sea and secure their boats, etc.

### But are these actions enough to protect us?

Not really, because despite these efforts to enable us to be resilient to natural hazards or be able to better cope when natural disasters strike, there is oftentimes some amount of risk that remains, and as such we are impacted by these weather-related events. This is why financial tools such as insurance are important complements to disaster preparedness, helping households recover more quickly when hazards strike.



## Can insurance be used to protect individuals against natural hazard risks and shocks?

Yes, insurance has been gaining much attention in the last decade or so as a solution or tool to help economies and people cope and recover faster following natural disasters. It is now recognized that even where we have put in place disaster risk reduction or climate change adaptation strategies at the individual, community or national levels, there is still some risk or potential for negative impacts from natural hazards.

Insurance against natural disasters—such as the parametric insurance offered by CCRIF SPC—can also be made available to individuals and communities. This type of insurance pays out quickly after storms or heavy rainfall, without the need for lengthy damage assessments.

CCRIF’s parametric insurance makes payments based on the intensity of an event and the amount of loss calculated in a pre-agreed model caused by these events. Therefore payouts can be made very quickly after a hazard event. This is different from traditional or indemnity insurance settlements that require an on-the-ground assessment of individual losses after an event before a payment can be made. Parametric insurance products can be designed at three levels:





Parametric insurance sold to governments is referred to as parametric insurance at the macro level. Insurance that is designed for individuals and vulnerable groups is known as microinsurance because it is insurance offered primarily to clients with low incomes and limited access to insurance services. Many persons and groups often do not have adequate means of effectively coping with weather-related risks.

Whilst parametric insurance has many benefits, parametric insurance may sometimes result in what is called basis risk, when a payout does not perfectly match the actual losses experienced. However, the Livelihood Protection Policy has been designed to minimize basis risk by using locally calibrated rainfall and wind thresholds.

Today, microinsurance is recognized as a means of providing financial security to enable lower-income persons, groups, and families to access insurance against natural disasters.

## What is the Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP) and how can it help individuals and vulnerable groups and protect their livelihoods?

The Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP) is a parametric, weather index-based insurance product that offers insurance coverage for wind that is associated with tropical storms and hurricanes and rainfall that is associated with excess rainfall or with tropical storms and hurricanes.

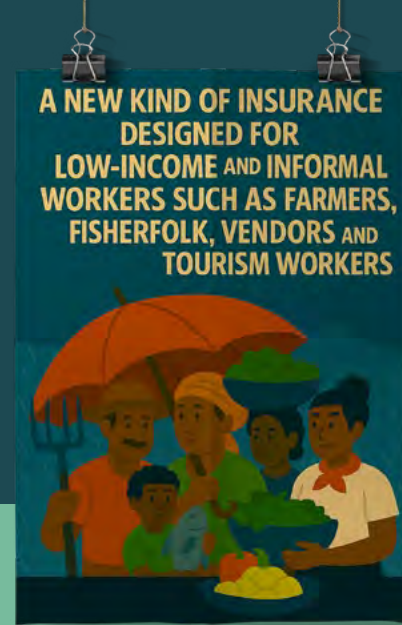
The LPP provides quick cash payouts after an extreme weather event, which helps individuals recover faster after such events. The product is ideal for individuals whose livelihoods can be critically affected by rain, floods and strong winds. The payouts are tied to a series of thresholds for wind speed and rainfall.

## Purpose of the LPP

The LPP is designed to provide fast, affordable insurance to low-income and vulnerable groups who rely on natural resources and informal livelihoods.

The LPP has been designed to:

- help protect the livelihoods of vulnerable, low-income individuals such as small farmers, tourism workers, fishers, market vendors, food vendors, and day labourers, by providing quick cash payouts following extreme weather events (specifically, those associated with wind and heavy rainfall).
- provide some stability to the financial situation of vulnerable, low-income individuals after a disaster through the injection of quick liquidity or cash payouts, allowing them to avoid adopting coping strategies that could lead them into poverty.
- quickly (within a few days) help people whose livelihoods are affected by a natural disaster, without them having to wait for help from “external” sources like the Government, friends, family, etc. If a farmer purchases the LPP for example, he or she will have a source of immediate funding to undertake activities such as replanting, draining fields, and reconstructing irrigation systems should the insurance policy trigger.
- improve the credit worthiness of individuals in the long term, giving them access to financial services that they previously may not have had access to. The LPP can be used in some countries as a form of collateral against a loan with a credit union, for example.





## Who can purchase an LPP?

Any individual who believes that they are exposed to natural hazard risks and have the potential to be impacted negatively and/or are already vulnerable to natural hazard events associated with wind or rainfall. The LPP has been designed with the following groups in mind, whose livelihoods are oftentimes disrupted by natural hazard events:

- fisherfolk
- farmers
- food and market vendors
- day labourers
- construction workers
- seasonal tourism workers
- taxi and bus drivers
- micro and small business owners
- musicians and entertainers who are dependent on the tourism industry.

Even a community group, an NGO, or a co-operative can purchase a policy or policies for its members.

By having access to the LPP, persons may be able to recover faster following natural disasters. In other words, the LPP is designed to provide some level of stability to the financial situation of vulnerable or low-income individuals after a disaster by providing quick cash so they do not have to resort to coping strategies such as selling assets.

## Key Features of the LPP

- Parametric Triggers:** Payouts are based on pre-defined weather thresholds (e.g. rainfall or wind speed), not on individual damage assessments. If the trigger is met, the payout is automatic.

- Fast Payouts:** Beneficiaries receive funds within days, no claims process, no paperwork. Payments made within 14 days of the event.
- Affordable Premiums:** Designed for accessibility, often bundled with savings or credit union services.
- Inclusive Coverage:** Targets low-income and informal workers, women, rural communities and peri-urban communities who are often excluded from traditional insurance.
- Distributed via Aggregators:** Credit unions, cooperatives, NGOs, and community groups help enroll and educate beneficiaries.

## Is there more than one type of LPP?

No, the LPP is a single product, which covers two hazards: rainfall and wind. In other words, it covers you against the impact of strong winds associated with major storms and heavy rainfall that may occur during a hurricane or at any other time.

## How does the LPP work?

Let's say there is a storm or hurricane or heavy rainfall, satellites measure the local rainfall and CCRIF's SPHERA model estimates the wind speeds, using storm track data from the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). We use the data for each country's location, parish, county – or part of the island depending on your country – and compare this information to the trigger levels related to your location.

An LPP policy payout can be triggered by wind or rainfall or both. LPP payouts are triggered based on the values for wind speed or rainfall level. The "trigger values" are based on actual weather events that have occurred in the past and are different for policyholders depending on where they live. The payout is done per peril. For each peril, the payout amount is calculated as a percentage of the amount of coverage for that peril: the more extreme the event, the larger the payout.



### How the LPP works for wind

For wind, a payout is triggered if the maximum speed of winds in a storm equals or exceeds the trigger wind speed for your location. The wind speed triggers are shown in Table 1 below – measured in kilometers per hour (km/h).

For example, following Hurricane Ivan in 2004, wind speeds in Portland exceeded the catastrophic trigger level. Policyholders would have received the maximum payout of 100% of their wind sub limit. This demonstrates how the LPP provides immediate financial support after severe events.



<b>TABLE 1: THE JAMAICA LPP WIND SPEED TRIGGERS</b>				
Location	<b>Wind speed triggers</b> per location for maximum wind speed in kilometers per hour			
	Trigger 1 (Mild)	Trigger 2 (Moderate)	Trigger 3 (Severe)	Trigger 4 (Catastrophic)
Clarendon	116.3	152.3	164.0	171.5
Hanover	117.9	153.4	164.9	172.1
Kingston & St. Andrew	107.5	140.8	151.1	158.3
Manchester	112.8	147.5	158.6	165.8
Portland	118.6	154.8	166.6	173.8
St. Ann	113.2	147.8	158.5	166.2
St. Catherine	113.2	148.2	158.4	165.8
St. Elizabeth	114.8	150.1	161.8	168.1
St. James	111.7	146.1	156.4	163.8
St. Mary	116.2	151.2	162.8	170.2
St. Thomas	119.9	159.0	170.3	177.7
Trelawny	116.1	151.4	162.7	170.9
Westmoreland	116.4	150.5	161.9	168.6



### How the LPP works for rainfall

For rainfall, a payout is triggered if the maximum rainfall in your location within 12 or 48 hours is significantly higher than the average for historical events in your location, thereby meeting or exceeding the rainfall triggers. The rainfall triggers are shown in Table 2 below.

Rainfall triggers are based on how much rainfall in a 12- or 48-hour period exceeds the usual average for that parish. The higher the rainfall compared to the historical average, the higher the trigger level—and the larger the payout.

For example, during Hurricane Elsa in 2021, rainfall in St. Mary exceeded the severe trigger level, resulting in payouts to policyholders in that parish. This example helps to illustrate how the trigger values translate into real benefits.



TABLE 2: THE JAMAICA LPP RAINFALL TRIGGERS								
Location	Rainfall triggers per location for a standardized index for the maximum rainfall in 12- and 48-hour periods							
	Trigger 1 (Mild)		Trigger 2 (Moderate)		Trigger 3 (Severe)		Trigger 4 (Catastrophic)	
	12-hr	48-hr	12-hr	48-hr	12-hr	48-hr	12-hr	48-hr
Clarendon	2.646	2.379	4.355	4.082	5.053	4.747	5.440	5.083
Hanover	3.347	3.146	5.438	5.049	6.301	5.987	6.735	6.400
Kingston & St. Andrew	2.514	2.654	3.668	4.377	4.251	5.214	4.528	5.614
Manchester	2.991	2.813	4.617	4.487	5.345	5.275	5.781	5.770
Portland	2.711	3.058	3.988	4.660	4.473	5.236	4.684	5.552
St. Ann	3.322	3.389	5.773	5.904	6.843	6.929	7.403	7.577
St. Catherine	2.718	2.790	4.471	4.497	5.201	5.350	5.659	5.628
St. Elizabeth	3.619	3.528	5.939	5.783	6.925	6.597	7.422	7.074
St. James	3.316	3.166	5.272	5.013	6.201	5.915	6.740	6.421
St. Mary	2.857	3.076	4.609	5.075	5.532	5.925	5.996	6.260
St. Thomas	2.590	2.610	3.810	4.580	4.259	5.609	4.517	6.382
Trelawny	3.226	3.282	5.276	5.271	6.114	6.221	6.645	6.711
Westmoreland	3.649	3.888	6.374	6.844	7.487	7.926	8.117	8.641



Say you purchased an LPP. Recall that a payout can be triggered by wind or rainfall or both. A payout is triggered if the maximum speed of winds in a storm equals or exceeds the trigger wind speed for your location. Or, a payout is triggered if the maximum rainfall in your location within 12 or 48 hours is significantly higher than the average for historical events in your location, thereby meeting or exceeding the rainfall triggers. A payout will occur if either the 12-hour trigger value or the 48-hour trigger value is met or exceeded. If a payout is triggered by meeting or exceeding the policy's wind or rainfall trigger or both, you will then be notified via text message, email, or phone to alert you that you will receive a payout. Your payout is then deposited into your bank account or the bank account provided.



## How much does it cost?

First off, there is no set price. The price of the LPP is based on the amount of coverage that you wish to purchase. Your premium, or the cost of the LPP, is calculated as a percentage of the coverage purchased. The percentage used to calculate the price of the LPP is based on the payout rates and exposure to both perils – wind and rainfall – and other factors.

The premium is calculated as 11.5% of the policy coverage purchased. For example: farmers who are interested in coverage of J\$31,000 (US\$200) (with sub-limits of J\$15,500 (US\$100) for rainfall and wind) pay a premium of J\$3,565 regardless of their location. Farmers who are interested in coverage of J\$155,000 (US\$1,000) (with sub-limits of J\$77,500 (US\$500) for rainfall and wind) pay a premium of J\$17,825. Where taxes are applied to insurance, the LPP will be subject to the corresponding tax rate.

### EXAMPLE 1

Coverage required by insured – **J\$31,000**

Sub-limits

Sub-limit for wind:

**J\$15,500**

Sub-limit for rainfall:

**J\$15,500**

Premium rate:

**11.5%**

Price of LPP –

**J\$3,565**



### EXAMPLE 2

Coverage required by insured – **J\$155,000**

Sub-limits

Sub-limit for wind:

**J\$77,500**

Sub-limit for rainfall:

**J\$77,500**

Premium rate:

**11.5%**

Price of LPP –

**J\$17,825**





## LPP Payout Scenarios

### A Scenario: St. Elizabeth and Westmoreland

A Category 3 hurricane passes along the southern coast, generating sustained winds of 165 km/h and rainfall resulting in a 24-hour rainfall standardized index of 8.000.

#### St. Elizabeth

Wind Trigger Level 3: 161.8 km/h ✓ Triggered

Rainfall Trigger Level 4: 7.422 ✓ Triggered

Payout: Dual hazard activation qualifies for Level 3 (wind) and Level 4 (rainfall) payout, supporting farmers in the island's breadbasket, vendors, and tourism workers in the region.

#### Westmoreland

Wind Trigger Level 3: 161.9 km/h ✓ Triggered

Rainfall Trigger Level 3: 7.487 ✓ Triggered

Payout: High rainfall and wind thresholds met, triggering Level 3 payout, especially critical for seasonal tourism workers in Negril's tourism corridor.

### Case Study on Hurricane Melissa – Linking CCRIF Sovereign Insurance with LPP

Let us look at Hurricane Melissa. On October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa struck Jamaica as a Category 5 hurricane, with wind speeds reaching 185 mph (295 km/h) and torrential rainfall across the island. It was the strongest hurricane in Jamaica's recorded history, causing catastrophic damage in the parishes of Westmoreland, St. Elizabeth, Hanover, St. James and other southern and western parishes. Entire communities were flattened, infrastructure was destroyed, and over 60% of the island lost electricity.

CCRIF responded with two parametric insurance payouts:

- US\$70.8 million under Jamaica's tropical cyclone policy, based on modelled losses from wind and storm surge.
- US\$21.1 million under the excess rainfall policy, triggered by the volume and distribution of rainfall.

These payouts were disbursed within 14 days, providing needed liquidity/ cash to allow the Government to begin recovery efforts. The scale and speed of CCRIF's payouts validate the Livelihood Protection Policy as a complementary tool for household and community level recovery. While CCRIF supports governments, the LPP can:

- Deliver fast, no-claims payouts to low-income workers in affected parishes.
- Protect women vendors, farmers, fishers, and tourism workers among others whose income was disrupted.
- Strengthen community-level resilience and reduce reliance on public relief.

In parishes like St. James and St. Elizabeth, where CCRIF confirmed modelled losses, LPP wind values would have triggered Level 4 payouts and rainfall values would have triggered Level 3 and Level 1 payouts respectively, supporting rapid recovery for thousands of vulnerable households.





## How soon after I purchase my LPP am I covered? If I purchase my LPP today, and there is an excess rainfall event in the next two days severe enough to trigger my policy, will I receive a payout?

No. After you pay your premium, you will have to wait 10 days before you receive protection from your policy. Your policy is valid for one year.

## Can I purchase more than one policy?

Yes. Persons can purchase more than one policy. Remember as well, organizations such as co-operatives and fish sanctuaries can purchase group policies on behalf of their members.



## How will I be notified of a payout?

If a trigger level is met and your policy triggers, then your insurance company will contact you by text message, email or phone to alert you that you will receive a payout.

## How quickly will I receive the payout, and how will I get it?

Your insurance company will send you the money within 14 days after a trigger is met. The company will deposit the funds into your bank account or send it to your credit union if this is your preferred payment method.

## Will I need to submit a claim for the payout?

No, you will not have to file a claim because the amount you receive is based on specific rainfall or wind speed levels, which are automatically measured.

## How do I sign up? And when does my policy start?

Interested persons can sign up in just three easy steps:

- 1 Contact your local bank, credit union, insurance broker or insurance agent.
- 2 Share some basic information about yourself.
- 3 Pay your premium via your preferred payment method.



Your coverage under the LPP will begin 10 days after your premium is paid.

### Which address should I use on my application form if my work location and home address are different?

The LPP covers only one location. If cover is required for 2 locations then 2 policies should be purchased.

### Is it possible to be impacted by an event and not receive a payout?

Yes. Remember that the LPP coverage is based on the agreed triggers. It is possible that winds and/or rainfall are below the trigger levels in your location but did cause losses. In this instance, a payout would not be made to you.

Like all insurance policies – parametric or indemnity – the LPP is affected by basis risk. That means that there is a chance that the payout calculated does not match your damage experienced on the ground or your losses. This means that there is the possibility of an event in which there are losses and there is no payout (or the payout is less than you expect) or alternatively, you can also receive a payout that is higher than you expect.



Notwithstanding, it is always better to be protected against these weather events, which are increasing in intensity and frequency due to climate change. The LPP provides you with the possibility of timely and reliable payouts that will help you cope better and respond to storm and rainfall events... shielding you from financial hardship.

### Can I sign up for the LPP through a group such as a co-operative or small business?

Yes, you can sign up for the LPP through groups such as co-operatives, associations, and small businesses.





## NOTES



## NOTES





## NOTES





[www.ccrif.org](http://www.ccrif.org)

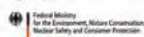
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