









December 2023 - Issue #24

CCRIF Salutes Two Directors for their Sterling Service to the Facility...



In September, CCRIF paused for a moment to salute two of its board directors, Desirée Cherebin, who served for 13 years on the board and Faye Hardy who served for 12 years. CCRIF's Chairman, Mr. Timothy Antoine and other members of the Board, the management team and service providers lauded both Desirée and Faye for their dedication, commitment, sterling contribution and ultimately their work with CCRIF. Both women have made several contributions to CCRIF, contributing without question to the success of CCRIF. Over the years, they have contributed to the introduction of new products, improvements to the CCRIF models, the overall corporate governance framework of the Facility, financial sustainability, and improved understanding across the region of the importance of parametric insurance as a key tool in financially protecting economies and the development prospects of members. Desirée chaired the CCRIF Technical Assistance Committee and Faye was a member of that committee and they both ensured that the Technical Assistance Programme contributed to building the resilience of communities in the region, building knowledge and capacity, and contributing to increasing the cadre of persons and technical expertise in the areas of disaster risk management, climate modelling and climate change.

We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

They will be missed!



CCRIF Makes Payouts totalling US\$4.9 Million during the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season

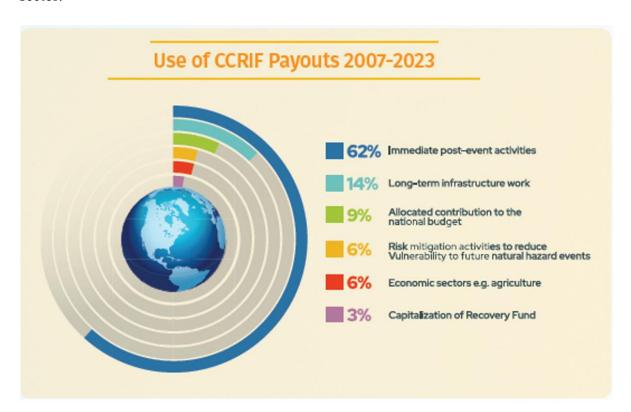
CCRIF SPC made three payouts totalling US\$4.9 million to the governments of Antigua and Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands and St. Kitts and Nevis following Tropical Storm Philippe in October and Tropical Cyclone Tammy in November. CCRIF made payouts on these countries' parametric insurance policies for Excess Rainfall as follows:

• Antigua and Barbuda: US\$2,880,424

• British Virgin Islands: US\$552,297 – this was the BVI's first payout from CCRIF.

• St. Kitts and Nevis: US\$1,509,804

Since CCRIF's inception in 2007, the Facility has made 63 payouts to 17 member governments in the Caribbean and Central America totalling US\$266,775,251. CCRIF payouts have benefitted over 3.5 million persons in the Caribbean and Central America. Most of the CCRIF payouts – more than 60 per cent (see use of payouts graphic below) – have been used by governments to address immediate needs post disaster – from providing food, water and medicines to the most vulnerable, to clearing roads or rehabilitating an important piece of infrastructure such as a bridge or water treatment plant etc. Payouts have also been used for repairing critical infrastructure such as schools, supporting the tourism sector post disaster so that the country does not miss the upcoming tourist season while hotels await payouts from their indemnity insurance, and supporting the agriculture sector.



CCRIF Expands Access to Parametric Insurance in Central America - Welcomes Honduras

CCRIF now has 26 members!

In September, CCRIF SPC welcomed Honduras as its fourth member from Central America. The Government purchased parametric insurance coverage for excess rainfall, effective from 1 June 2023. Honduras' entry and participation in CCRIF was supported by the Central America and Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Program Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF), administered by the World Bank. The MDTF offers benefits such as financing a country's Participation Fee, which is a requirement for prospective members to join the Facility.

Nicaragua was the first Central American country to join the Facility, when COSEFIN (Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic) and CCRIF signed a memorandum of understanding in 2015 to enable COSEFIN members to gain access to CCRIF's parametric insurance products. Panama joined in 2018 and Guatemala in 2019. Since 2015, CCRIF has made 8 payouts to these three countries, totalling US\$47.5 million.

In welcoming Honduras to CCRIF, CCRIF CEO, Mr. Isaac Anthony said, "I am happy to welcome Honduras to CCRIF and look forward to continuing to engage with the Government as it accesses CCRIF parametric insurance as an effective means of closing the protection gap and strengthening the country's public financial management framework. Access to excess rainfall insurance will allow the Government the flexibility to begin recovery efforts immediately following a severe weather event, as payouts received within 14 days of an event can be used to address the country's most urgent needs, including helping vulnerable populations or rehabilitating critical infrastructure among other areas."



The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Honduras (SEFIN) issued the following statement:

The Government Plan of President Xiomara Castro underscores the urgency of enacting public policies focused on disaster protection, prevention, and planning. Such policies are designed to ensure the resilience of our population, as well as bolster the infrastructure and resources to confront the growing severity and frequency of natural hazard events. Through the recently signed 'agreement with CCRIF, our goal is to continue strengthening Honduras' public finances and our capacity to respond to and recover from disasters, without forgetting the enhancement of institutional capacity to effectively manage a resilient and inclusive recovery and reconstruction process.

Parametric Insurance Coverage for Extreme Weather Events Launched for Caribbean Water Utilities

In September, CCRIF, in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (UK FCDO), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), made available a parametric insurance product for water utilities that would financially protect them against extreme weather events such as hurricanes, tropical storms, and excess rainfall events. This was made possible through the establishment of the Caribbean Water Utility Insurance Collective (CWUIC) as a segregated portfolio (SP) within CCRIF. Approximately 35 water utilities in 29 territories in the Caribbean have been identified as potential clients for CWUIC SP.

CCRIF now offers 6 parametric insurance products: for tropical cyclones, excess rainfall, earthquakes, the fisheries sector, the electric utilities sector for transmission and distribution and the water utilities sector.



CWUIC SP has been in the making since 2021, with the IDB providing technical and financial support for the structuring of CWUIC, and CCRIF undertaking the modelling work to develop the insurance model that now underpins the water utilities insurance product. CWUIC has 3 components:

Component 1: Support to water utilities in emergency response planning and restoring and rebuilding post-disaster.

Component 2: Parametric insurance to help water utilities to respond to and recover from natural disasters.

Component 3: Provision of advisory services and technical assistance to identify and structure priority projects to build water and wastewater utilities' resilience to natural hazards.

To date, a total of US\$8.45M of grant resources has been mobilized for CWUIC SP. This includes US\$7.8M from the IDB, of which US\$5.6M was provided by the UK Government through the FCDO to support technical assistance to finalize the structuring of CWUIC SP and provide premium subsidies for the insurance coverage to water utilities in 6 Caribbean countries. CDB has approved grant funds of US\$650,000 in technical assistance. FCDO has also provided development aid to CCRIF, in the amount of US\$25M, to capitalize CWUIC SP. This will be used in combination with reinsurance to protect CWUIC SP against unexpected losses from policy claims. This US\$25 million facility provided by FCDO to CCRIF is interest-free with repayment after a 20-year period.

The story of the Caribbean region's vulnerability to hydro-meteorological hazards such as hurricanes, tropical storms and excess rainfall is well known, and the impacts of these events are being exacerbated by climate change, which is increasing their frequency and intensity. Following natural disasters, the infrastructure and equipment of water utilities, such as pumping stations and intake valves may be significantly impacted and/or destroyed, often due to the high levels of turbidity and accompanying flooding. Water utilities across the region have limited financial resources and oftentimes are unable to recover in a timely manner to provide safe drinking water and sanitation services following natural disasters. The importance of potable water following a natural disaster cannot be emphasized enough and is key to avoiding the incidence of water-borne diseases which are often associated with these natural disaster events.

Access to quick liquidity following a natural disaster will be key for water utilities as this will ensure that they will be able to restore water supply in the shortest possible time. In fact, several years ago, a payout to one of CCRIF's members in the Eastern Caribbean under their tropical cyclone insurance policy was used to quickly repair that country's main water treatment plant which was a feeder for other plants on that island. A dedicated disaster risk financing and management facility for the water and wastewater sector will bring immeasurable benefits and dedicated resources for water utilities to respond to their

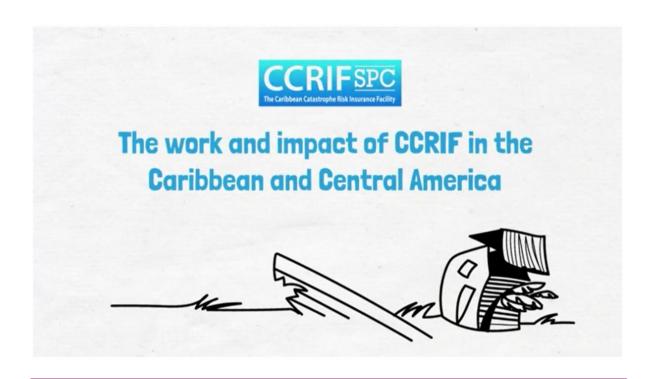
Publications, Knowledge Products and Videos 2023

Access CCRIF's publications, and knowledge products, many of which are new, by scanning the QR code below.



Access CCRIF's latest video on its work and its impact in the Caribbean and Central America at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boY4isB5RkY



Government of Panama



As an entity with 19 Caribbean members and 4 members from Central America, CCRIF routinely holds its quarterly board meetings in member countries and uses this as an opportunity to engage with a range of stakeholders. These meetings provide an opportunity for CCRIF to share with member governments and other key stakeholders various updates on the Facility, new and emerging initiatives that the Facility may be engaging in, and importantly to listen and hear from our members on how the Facility can better serve them and meet their needs.

In September, CCRIF held its quarterly board meeting in Panama and took the opportunity to pay a courtesy call on the Minister of Finance and the Economy, Hon. Hector Alexander, Deputy Minister Mr. Jorge Luis Almengor, as well as other officials of the Ministry of Finance and the Economy. Others in attendance at the meeting were the: CCRIF Management



CCRIF Chairman, Mr. Timothy Antoine (right) receives a tabletop publication on Panama from Hon. Minister Hector Alexander

Team: other members from the Ministry of Finance and the Economy Panama; and the World Bank.

Panama has been a member of CCRIF since 2018 and received a payout of US\$2.67 million under its excess rainfall policy in 2020 for rains associated with Tropical Cyclone Eta.



Mrs. Desirée Cherebin, CCRIF Vice-Chairperson, receives a tabletop publication on Panama from Mr. Jorge Luis Almengor, Vice Minister of Economy and Finance. Mr. Francisco Alvarez, Managing Director Directorate of Investments, Concessions, and State Risks (DICRE) in the Ministry of Economy and Finance and Ms. Dilka Escobar, Deputy Director, DICRE look on.



Mrs. Saundra Bailey, CCRIF Board Director, presents
Mr. Francisco Alvarez, Managing Director
Directorate of Investments, Concessions, and State
Risks in the Vice Ministry of Finance with CCRIF's
most recent publications. The Honourable Minister
looks on.







L-R: CIBC FirstCaribbean's Debra King, Director, Corporate Communications and Mark St. Hill, Chief Executive Officer, along with CCRIF SPC's Desirée Cherebin, Vice-Chairperson of the CCRIF Board and Chairperson of CCRIF's Technical Assistance Committee; Isaac Anthony, Chief Executive Officer; and Leslie Gittens, Business Development Specialist at the ceremony commemorating the donation from FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation to CCRIF.

In November, the FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation provided CCRIF with a donation of US\$75,000 to help enhance rainfall monitoring systems and disaster preparedness in the Caribbean and another US\$5,000 to print and disseminate additional copies of CCRIF's publication on "Hazards, Disasters and Climate Change", developed for children ages 8 to 12 years old.

The grant of US\$75,000 will be used to enable at least 4 Caribbean countries to improve their weather monitoring networks by adding automated weather systems and other equipment to their existing networks. These new automated weather systems (AWSs) will enhance these countries' early warning systems and their ability to better prepare for hydro-meteorological events such as hurricanes and severe rainfall events throughout the year. These systems also can inform longer-term planning. AWSs can incorporate a range of sensors that can provide data to enable national meteorological services to undertake more detailed and reliable analysis of climate trends to inform national strategies on climate change and disaster risk management.

The FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation is a registered charity which was established in 2003, to support CIBC FirstCaribbean's community relations programmes. The Bank makes contributions to causes within the Caribbean in the areas of Health & Wellness, the Community & the Environment, and Youth & Education. Since its inception in October 2002, through the ComTrust Foundation, CIBC FirstCaribbean has donated more than US\$30M to worthy projects across the Caribbean.

This donation from the ComTrust Foundation will support an existing initiative currently being implemented by CCRIF that focuses on providing much needed assistance to its member governments to enhance their AWS networks. In 2020, CCRIF worked with the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) to undertake a situational analysis to determine if there were existing gaps in rainfall measuring networks of its member governments and the extent of these gaps.

The Situational Analysis undertaken by CIMH assessed the rainfall measuring network of 19 of CCRIF member governments, The report indicated that only 5 Caribbean countries have over 70 per cent of the recommended level of AWS coverage. The minimum coverage was 10 per cent of optimal coverage, the maximum was 90 per cent of optimal coverage, with an average of 40 per cent of optimal coverage across the countries. Having reviewed the report, the CCRIF Board took the decision to provide support under its Technical Assistance Programme to member countries in the region to strengthen their network of automated weather stations. CCRIF also reached out to the FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation based on the goals of the Foundation to determine if this was an area that they would be willing to provide support for. The rest is history!

To date, CCRIF has assisted 4 countries (Belize, Antigua and Barbuda, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Cayman Islands), providing them with approximately US\$250,000 in support to improve and expand their rainfall data collection and measurement systems. These resources from the ComTrust Foundation will support an additional 4 countries to expand their rainfall monitoring networks. CCRIF will match these resources from ComTrust to support another 4 countries in the region. By the middle of 2024, 12 countries in the Caribbean would have additional AWSs and enhanced rainfall measuring networks, which will help governments to better prepare their populations in the face of the increasing frequency and intensity of hydro-meteorological hazards.

ComTrust also provided US\$5,000 for the production of additional copies of the booklet "Hazards, Disasters and Climate Change" booklet which allows children to learn about the different types of hazards that affect the Caribbean; actions to take before, during and after these natural hazard events; climate change; and how to take care of our natural environment.



Since its first publication in 2021, CCRIF has distributed over 2,000 copies to schools, ministries of education, disaster preparedness and management agencies, public libraries, and civil society organizations throughout the region. The booklet is also available in French (created with our member country Haiti in mind) and can be accessed via the CCRIF website at: https://www.ccrif.org/publications/booklet/booklet-ccrif-spc-hazards-disasters-climate-change-primary-level-kids.

(French: https://www.ccrif.org/publications/booklet/booklet-ccrif-spc-hazards-disasters-climate-change-primary-level-kids-french).

CCRIF Announces 2023 Scholarship Winners at the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Levels... Launches 2024 Programme



In September, CCRIF announced its 2023/24 scholarship winners - eleven students from across the Caribbean, pursuing postgraduate and undergraduate studies in areas related to comprehensive disaster risk management (CDRM) – and who will benefit from a total of US\$80,000 to cover their tuition and other expenses related to their courses of study. On November 7, CCRIF brought together its scholarship recipients at the UWI Regional Headquarters at UWI Mona to celebrate them. Scholarship recipients not domiciled in Jamaica were able to view the proceedings online courtesy of UWI TV. Scholarship recipients from the University of Technology, Jamaica were also in attendance.

Since the inception of the CCRIF SPC Scholarship Programme in 2010, CCRIF has provided 176 scholarships totaling US\$1.8 million to Caribbean nationals for study at regional and national universities in the Caribbean, as well as universities in the USA and the UK.



CCRIF Scholarship recipients who were in Jamaica, flanked by UWI and UTech professors and officials as well as CCRIF officials.

CCRIF Board member, Mrs. Saundra Bailey in addressing scholarship recipients said: "We are proud of the decisions we have made in choosing you as CCRIF scholars. You are our future and the future we want is based on the decisions we make today. It is all a circle of life and we have invested in you, in the knowledge that you will make the best decisions in the future as you carry the baton on the next leg of achieving our development goals. I challenge you to use this opportunity to define your success and shape your future and be an agent of change. The Caribbean and the world need good and positive change. This scholarship is merely a start but a start in the right direction. Think big, dream big, vision for your future and country, be kind to yourself and others, work hard, remember the soft skills - they are just as important as the technical skills. In all of this, remember to take care of yourself and enjoy the world around you."



Here, CCRIF Board
Director, Saundra
Bailey, shares lens time
with CCRIF
postgraduate
scholarship winner, Mr.
Patrick Burke, who on
receipt of the award
said: "For me the route
to getting a bachelor's
degree has not been an
easy one or a direct
route. I have been a
ward of the state for 17
years and as such the

journey was difficult and sometimes unbearable. Being faced with disdain, ridicule, and

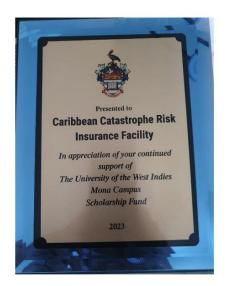
stigma became a norm for wards, and this affected me throughout high school and university. The reality is that being in a boys' home was a constant battle, mentally, physically, and emotionally – especially because education was never viewed as an important subject. However, I did not allow what I went through to affect my futuristic goal."

Mr Burke is pursuing a master's degree in Enterprise Risk Management at the Mona School of Business and Management and holds a BSc in Actuarial Sciences.



to our 2023/24 scholarship recipients!

UWI Mona Honours CCRIF... Earlier in 2023, UWI Mona presented CCRIF with a token of its appreciation for its contribution to the University's scholarship fund and overall support to student development.





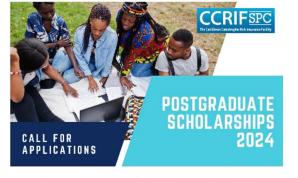
Launch of CCRIF 2024 Scholarship Programmes

CCRIF now invites applications for its undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships for academic year 2024/25. Apply today!

Please visit our website for eligible programmes or scan the QR code on the flyers below.

Postgraduate scholarships: https://www.ccrif.org/scholarship

Undergraduate scholarships: https://www.ccrif.org/ccrif-uwi-scholarships.



CCRIF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2024

FOR MORE INFORMATION 60000

SCHOLARSHIPS AT CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITIES AVAILABLE IN 2024

STUDENTS MUST BE ADMITTED TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING UNIVERSITIES:

The University of the West Indies. University of Technology Jamaica, Northern Caribbean University (Jamaica). University of the Commonwealth Caribbean (Jamaica). University of Cuyana, University of Suriname. University of Trinidad and Tobago.

DEADLINE

Both online and face-to-face programmes are eligible.





Cave Hill Campus

- FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT:

DEADLINE JUNE 15TH, 2024

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CCRIF Candids September – December 2023

Courtesy Call on the CARICOM Secretary-General



L-R: Mrs. Desirée Cherebin, CCRIF Vice Chairperson, Her Excellency Dr. Carla Barnett, Secretary-General, CARICOM and Mr. Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF met in November 2023, and along with other members of the CARICOM Secretariat and CCRIF Team discussed various matters related to new and emerging initiatives that CCRIF is implementing, new products, scaling up of CCRIF, and the importance of parametric insurance within the context of advancing countries' sustainability agendas.



Meeting with the Minister of Finance, Guyana



L-R: Mrs. Desirée Cherebin, CCRIF Vice Chairperson, presents a set of CCRIF's recent publications to Dr. Ashni Singh, Guyana's Senior Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance, following a meeting between CCRIF and the Government in November 2023.



Guyana's Senior Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance, representatives of the Ministry of Finance and members of the CCRIF Team

Courtesy Call on the University of Guyana



CCRIF Vice-Chairperson, Desirée Cherebin, CEO Isaac Anthony and the Technical Assistant Manager, Elizabeth Emanuel met Linda Johnson-Bhola, (centre), Dean of the Faculty of Earth & Environmental Sciences and other university officers as well as 2022 CCRIF scholarship winner, Lisa Martins (2nd right) and other lecturers of the university and previous CCRIF scholarship winners.



CCRIF Vice-Chairperson, Desirée Cherebin, presents Lisa Martins with a CCRIF plaque that recognizes her as a 2022 CCRIF scholarship recipient.

Conference, Guyana

The CCRIF CEO attended the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association Conference in Guyana in October. There he participated on two panels that sought to bring greater awareness and understanding of CCRIF's new parametric insurance product for the water utilities sector as well as CWUIC SP (Caribbean Water Utility Insurance Collective Segregated Portfolio) which was recently established as a new segregated portfolio in CCRIF.





Photo at right: Mr. Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF shares lens time with Ryan Phillip, CCRIF 2021 Scholarship Recipient who volunteered as a rapporteur at CWWA.



CCRIF TA Manager Participates in Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2023 in Panama



Elizabeth Emanuel (centre) of the CCRIF Technical Assistance Manager team shares lens time with fellow panelists following the FAO Panel Discussion titled "Assessing Loss and Damage in agrifood systems: Experience from countries and way forward". Other organizations represented on the panel were the UNDRR, Uruguay Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, International Organization of Migration, and FAO.



CCRIF Participates in COP28 – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference



CCRIF's delegation to COP28, led by CEO, Isaac Anthony, also included the CCRIF Technical Assistance and Corporate Communications Manager Teams – Gina Sanguinetti Phillips and Elizabeth Emanuel

CCRIF organized and hosted 3 panel discussions in the CARICOM Pavilion at the 28th session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP28), held in Dubai, UAE as follows:

- The natural hazard landscape in the Caribbean and Central America A conversation with the Heads of CCRIF, CDEMA and CEPREDENAC: Challenges, Best Practices, Lessons Learned, and Solutions for Sustainability and Resilience
- Addressing Loss and Damage and Financial Protection Best Practice Examples from the Caribbean.
- Coping with climate risk the role of Shock-Responsive Social Protection and Insurance in Supporting Vulnerable Groups: Protecting people, livelihoods and local communities against climate related risks: Experiences, best practices, modalities, lessons learned

CCRIF also supported the organization and hosting of 2 other panels at COP28, which showcased CCRIF and the 3 other regional risk pools (Africa Risk Capacity (ARC), Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC), and South-East Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF):

- Unleashing Regional Resilience through a Thematic Window for Regional Risk Pools; Her Excellency, Carla Barnett CARICOM Secretary General provided a testimonial on CCRIF at this panel discussion (hosted by the Global Shield Solutions Platform, Global Shield Secretariat and the 4 regional risk pools)
- Building Resilience to the Climate Crisis Perspectives and Shared Solutions from the Global Risk Pools (jointly organized and hosted by the 4 regional risk pools)



Mr. Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF presents Mrs. Claudia Herrera, Executive Secretary, CEPREDENAC with a token of appreciation courtesy of the OECS Commission following her participation on the conversational panel focused on "The Natural hazard landscape on the Caribbean and Central America, - Challenges, Best Practices, Lessons Learned and Solutions for Sustainability and Resilience".



Following the launch of the Thematic Window for the Regional Risk Pools, organized by the Global Shield, Her Excellency, Carla Bennett (centre) shared lens time with the CEO's of the four regional risk pools, from left: Mr. Yoshihiro Kawai, Board Chair of the SEADRIF Insurance Company (South East Asia), Mr. Lesley Ndlovu, Head, Africa Risk Capacity Limited, Mr. Isaac Anthony, and Mr. Aholotu Palu, CEO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (PCRIC).



"Jamaica is taking responsibility for its vulnerability", tweet from Jamaica's Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Dr. The Honourable Nigel Clarke, following the high-level show and tell panel titled "Addressing Loss and Damage and Financial Protection Best Practice Examples from the Caribbean", in which each speaker showcased, the various innovative disaster risk financing instruments that are being implemented in the Caribbean to address loss and damage. In photo L-R: Elizabeth Emanuel, CCRIF Technical Assistance Manager (Moderator); Mr. Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF SPC; Dr. The Hon. Nigel Clarke, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Jamaica; Prof. Donovan Campbell, Professor of Environmental Geography, The UWI, Mona; Dr. Simon Young, Senior Director, WTW Disaster Risk Finance and Parametric Practice; and Ms. Sasha Jattansingh, Loss and Damage Expert, Climate Analytics.



CCRIF's third panel, titled, "Coping with climate risk - the role of Shock-Responsive Social Protection and Insurance in Supporting Vulnerable Groups: Protecting people, livelihoods and local communities against climate related risks", showcased insights and best practice examples from around the world, from the Caribbean, Asia, and the South Pacific on approaches to supporting the most vulnerable cope with climate risks. At the end of the panel discussion, several new connections were made with promises of the need to engage further and share more. Left – Right: Nazaruddin, Project Manager, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative and moderator of the panel (he opened the discussion with his story and experience of the 2004 tsunami in the South Pacific and the impacts of this event on his livelihood and future); Mr. Gernot Laganda, Director of Climate and DRR, World Food Programme; Mr. Krishna Narasimhan, Lead Specialist and Programme Manager, Climate, Disaster and Risk Financing Insurance, United Nations Capital Development Fund; Honourable Pennelope Beckles, Minister of Planning and Development, Trinidad & Tobago; Ms. Elizabeth Emanuel, TA Manager Team, CCRIF; Mr. Omar Sweeney, Managing Director, Jamaica Social Investment Fund; Mr. Crispin D'Auvergne, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Coordinator, OECS Commission.

Members of the CCRIF Team at COP28 also participated on other panels hosted by other organizations and engaged in several side and strategic discussions with key stakeholders.



L - R: CCRIF CEO, Isaac Anthony, engages in discussion with Hon. Natalio Wheatley, Premier of the British Virgin Islands, following the Building Resilience to the Climate Crisis Perspectives and Shared Solutions from the Global Risk Pools Panel discussion that was jointly hosted by the four risk pools at the CARICOM Pavilion. During the question and comments session of the discussion, Premier Wheatley pointed out the importance of CCRIF to the Caribbean in financially protecting the region's economies. He spoke openly about why BVI joined CCRIF in 2018 following Hurricane Irma.





KUDOS! To Previous CCRIF Interns and Scholars who Participated in COP28 having been selected by the International Youth Delegates Programme as one of 100 young persons to participate in COP28.



Left Photo: Ryan Phillip, former CCRIF extra-regional scholarship winner and CCRIF Intern. Right Photo, Jyade Fritz, former CCRIF Intern shares lens times with CCRIF's Gina Sanguinetti Phillips in the CARICOM Pavilion at COP28.



CCRIF CEO and Team Engage Youth on Climate Financing





CCRIF Continues its Distribution of its Children's Book "Hazards, Disasters and Climate Change".





In Guyana, Desirée Cherebin, CCRIF's Vice-Chairperson, provides copies to the University of Guyana to incorporate into its environmental education courses, and to the Guyana Forestry Commission for use in its public education activities.



In Jamaica, CCRIF's TA Manager, Elizabeth Emanuel, presents copies to Rachel McDonald of the D'Cawna Library, which consist of 20 'likkle' libraries and 3 community libraries in Jamaica, particularly in vulnerable communities. D'Cawna Library is a non-profit NGO endorsed by the Early Childhood Commission in Jamaica with a mandate of promoting reading, literacy, and peace across Jamaica.

19 Caribbean Nationals Complete the CCRIF 2023 Internship Programme



Summer 2023, saw 19 interns placed in 16 organizations across the Caribbean region under CCRIF's Regional Internship Programme. This year's host organizations included: The University of the West Indies, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, and Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology – which have hosted interns every year – and CCRIF itself as well as first-time host organizations, the Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Service and IAMovement (an NGO based in Trinidad). Interns worked on several projects, initiatives, and studies. A sample of some of these are presented below:

Study on how shallow clouds affect radiant energy transfer for different forms of convective organization, cloud and atmospheric properties	Supporting the development and rolling out the Communication and Marketing Plan for the Safer Building Training Programme in 8 Caribbean Countries	Work on an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) project to explore the use of stable isotopes to characterize rainfall runoff processes.	Support to an Education and Empowerment Programme for CCA supported by the Ministry of Planning and Development, Trinidad and Tobago to promote and support greater
Development of a database for a Regional Severe Weather Case Study Catalogue	Quantifying the flooding hazard on a coastal region associated with extreme or future conditions	Supporting initiatives related to building community and ecosystem resilience	climate resilience in T&T relating to soil and water related challenges through the use of the Vetiver System (VS)
Support the development of a Funding Proposal for enhancing climate information and knowledge services for Resilience in Caribbean countries to be submitted to the Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Support study on the links of climate change with wildfire frequency in Trinidad & Tobago and St. Kitts & Nevis through the collection of meteorological and wildfire frequency data and contribute to the development of a Wildfire Warning Index.	Work on the "DRY-Alert Caribbean" (Drought Risk Yield Alert System for the Caribbean) project: on the initial development of a framework for monitoring and providing early warnings for drought events.	Undertake vulnerability and risk assessment of coastlines in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Dominica for at risk locations/industry, particularly tourist destinations and areas with critical infrastructure.

Since the launch of the CCRIF Internship Programme in 2015, **171** young Caribbean graduates have benefitted from CCRIF Internships, in which the Facility has invested over **US\$500,000** to date.



Launch of CCRIF 2024 Internship Programme... Join 170+ other Interns who have participated since 2015.

CCRIF now invites applications for its 2024 Internship Programme. Do you want to gain real work experience in the Caribbean in an area related to disaster risk management, climate change, disaster risk financing, ecosystems-based solutions, among others? Then apply today for a CCRIF Internship today!

CCRIF interns also benefit from training in disaster risk financing through an online 24-hour CCRIF-UWI Course on the subject. Once completed you receive 2 credits or 2 continuing education units that can be applied or transferred to future courses of study.

Spotlight on CCRIF Small Grants Programme... ...building the resilience of local communities across the small island and coastal states of the Caribbean...

Small Grants Projects Approved September – November 2023

Between September and November CCRIF approved four small grants to NGOs as follows:

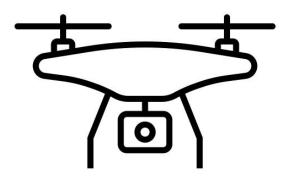
Title of Project	Implementing Organization	Focus of Project	Value of Grant (US\$)
Dissemination of summary version and video adaptations of Farmers' Training Manual	Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)	To develop a printable magazine-sized version of the current manual, 'Creating Farms That are Resilient to Natural Hazards: Small Farmers Training Manual' To develop training videos based on the manual 'Creating Farms That are Resilient to Natural Hazards: Small Farmers Training Manual.'	24,900
Climate Resilience through Rainwater Harvesting in the Bethel Isle, Manchester, Jamaica	Enablers of Community Advancement Projects and Initiatives (ECAPI) Limited, Jamaica	To increase climate resilience among the residents of the Bethel Isles/Blenheim community to drought/dry spells through rainwater harvesting and storage initiatives within needy households.	25,000
Aquaponics Farming for Socio-Economic Development	Davy Hill Community Action Group, Montserrat	To provide support to the Davy Hill community to undertake an aquaponics community pilot project to combat the effects of climate change on crop production by utilizing aquaponics to achieve improved healthy consumption, social interaction and economic development. This project will be a pilot to demonstrate effective use of any available space, using modern technology to grow crops for one's own consumption and to generate an income.	22,727
Strengthening Resilience through Reforestation of Underground water sources in the Kalinago Community of Dominica	Kibekuati Inc, Dominica	To build greater resilience of our groundwater sources to natural disasters in the Kalinago Territory: ensuring safe and accessible drinking water before, during and after a disaster.	22,200

Since 2015 CCRIF has provided 48 grants for community disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation projects totaling about US\$3.5 million.

In Focus: Update on Small Grant Project:

Understanding the Impact of Climate Change and Wildfires in Barbados.

CCRIF has provided a grant of approximately US\$25,000 to the Centre for Biosecurity Studies at The UWI (University of the West Indies), Cave Hill Campus for a project focused on understanding the impact of climate change and wildfires in Barbados. Wildfires are common during the dry season

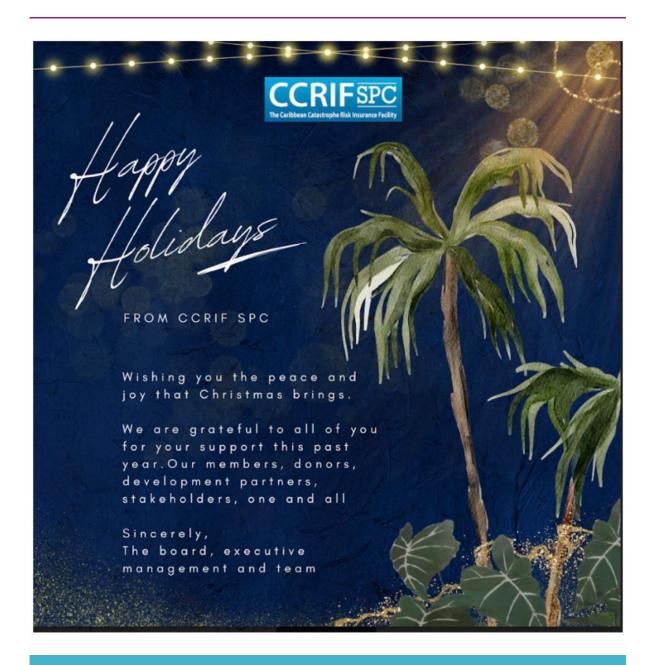


and pose a risk to human health, lives, crops, and property, and can deplete scarce water resources.

Project funds have been used to date to purchase drones and remote air pollution sensors to collect data on wildfires (for example sugarcane, grass, and rubbish fires) and air pollution levels to enable the Barbados Fire Services to develop evidence-based strategies to address fire-related risks.

On September 28, The UWI, handed over four drones to the Barbados Fire Service to aid in their firefighting efforts. Through the project, fire Service officers will participate in training on how to use this drone technology, to better coordinate wildfire monitoring from an aerial view.

CCRIF has also provided funding for the procurement of 10 air pollution sensors which will be donated to the Ministry of Health to assist in their monitoring of air pollution levels and to determine the impact of wildfires on air pollution. The contribution of wildfires to air pollution is known to exacerbate respiratory illnesses especially in persons with health conditions such as asthma. The sensors will be installed at strategic locations (e.g., wildfire "hotspots") near to residential communities that are at risk of wildfires.











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