



## E-News



January 2023 - Issue #22



### CEO's New Year's Message 2023



As we begin the unfolding of 2023, let me take a moment on behalf of the board of directors and senior management team of CCRIF, to wish you our members, team, stakeholders, reinsurers, and indeed the general public happy new year.

It would be remiss of me not to look back at the year – specifically the 7 months from June to December 2022 which coincide with our current policy year – and share with you some of our main achievements.

- CCRIF's member governments purchased US\$1.2 billion in coverage for catastrophe risk insurance against climate-related and seismic hazards for the 2022/23 policy year which started on June 1 - an increase of 10 per cent over the previous policy year.
- We made 4 payouts totalling US\$15.2 million to 3 of our member governments during October for hydro-meteorological events associated with the 2022 Hurricane Season. Payouts were received by the governments of:
  - Nicaragua, which received US\$8.9 million on the country's tropical cyclone policy following Hurricane Julia, which made landfall in Nicaragua on October 8 before moving into the Pacific.
  - Trinidad and Tobago, which received US\$5.84 million following heavy rains that occurred during October 5-8, 2022, causing widespread flooding in the twin-island nation. From the payout, US\$5,115,782 was made on the country's excess rainfall policy for Trinidad and US\$726,932 on the excess rainfall policy for Tobago.
  - Antigua and Barbuda, which received US\$420,645 on the country's excess rainfall policy following rains associated with Tropical Cyclone Fiona.
- We welcomed our 24th member – the Saint Lucia Electricity Services Limited (LUCELEC), which joined CCRIF in October and purchased parametric insurance cover for its electric transmission and distribution network that runs the length and

breadth of Saint Lucia. This is the 2nd electric utility to join CCRIF, the first being the Anguilla Electricity Company Limited (ANGLEC).

- We hosted and participated in more than 20 events to enhance the understanding of disaster risk financing and specifically CCRIF and our parametric insurance products and policies and their linkages to financial protection and sustainable development. One event that we are truly happy about is a workshop for Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories we hosted in collaboration with the World Bank.
- We finalized and began implementation of our new strategic plan that covers the period 2022 – 2025. And we also prepared a specific strategic plan for Central America to give more dedicated focus to our current and prospective Central American members.

Importantly, in the development of our strategic plan, the board and management of CCRIF engaged in a visioning exercise, which allowed us to revisit our strategic framework – our vision, mission and strategic objectives. In undertaking this exercise, we redefined our vision and created a new vision statement which we believe better defines our ambition and potential. CCRIF’s new vision statement is: *“A leading global development insurer, providing disaster risk financing products and services to member countries to improve lives and livelihoods, building resilience and advancing sustainable development agendas”*.

As we look to 2023, I also want to share with you that there are several goals we have set out to achieve and there are many initiatives that are coming down the pipeline – all of which are expected to positively impact our members and stakeholders. One key initiative that we will be undertaking this year is the upgrade of the models (tropical cyclone, earthquake, and excess rainfall) that currently underpin our parametric insurance products. Other key initiatives include:

- Completing the development of new models and products for runoff (flooding), drought, and agriculture among others, and increasing the number of countries with access to the COAST fisheries product and the electric utilities product
- Revising the Caribbean and Central America risk profiles and enhancing knowledge and use of country risk profiles through training and capacity building
- Exploring new fundraising arrangements with a focus on both traditional and non-traditional donors and development partners
- Increasing training opportunities for our current and prospective members in Central America on CCRIF models, financial protection, risk transfer, and disaster risk financing
- Enabling access to microinsurance products (e.g. through our work with the Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean (CRAIC) Project) for climate-related events and specifically for vulnerable groups

As always, we look forward to working with you throughout the year and to your continued support and guidance as you work towards financially protecting your economies and advancing your sustainable development prospects in the thrust to *‘leave no one behind’*.

**Isaac**

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**CCRIF Welcomes LUCELEC as its 24th Member**



The Saint Lucia Electricity Services Limited (LUCELEC) became CCRIF's newest member when it purchased the Facility's parametric insurance product for electric utilities in October 2022. LUCELEC also became the second electric utility member of CCRIF. ANGLEC, Anguilla's electric utility company, joined CCRIF in 2020 when the electric utilities product covering overhead transmission and distribution was first made available by CCRIF to Caribbean electric utility companies.

The electric utilities policy is designed to limit the financial impact of devastating tropical cyclones by quickly providing financial liquidity to electric utility companies when a policy is triggered. The policy covers direct damage to the transmission and distribution (T&D) components of the electric power system due to impacts of wind. Like CCRIF's other policies, the electric utilities policy is parametric, and makes payments based on the intensity of a tropical cyclone and the modelled losses to the company's T&D infrastructure. Should a policy trigger, payments will be made within 14 days of the event, as with all other CCRIF products. While electric utility companies can access indemnity insurance for its generation facilities, this is not the case for overhead T&D infrastructure which attracts risks that make indemnity insurance either too expensive or not readily available.

Mr. Trevor Louisy, Managing Director of LUCELEC, stressed the importance of this new coverage, stating that, *"Parametric insurance is an ideal solution to further mitigate the significant risk exposure associated with catastrophic weather events. With the increasing intensity of storms and the associated damages left in their wake, as was recently seen in Florida with the passage of Hurricane Ian, this risk is increasing. Unlike traditional fire and perils coverage, there is no need for a damage assessment, which can delay the insurance payout and by extension the recovery from the effects of the disaster, for the company and by extension, the country. Parametric insurance is the way to go!"*

In welcoming LUCELEC, CCRIF CEO Mr. Isaac Anthony said: *"At CCRIF we continue to be proud that*

*we are able to provide bespoke insurance solutions - unique and tailored insurance coverage - that is not readily available in the indemnity insurance markets or where pricing is too high and prohibitive.” He also thanked the Caribbean Electric Utility Services Corporation (CARILEC) for working alongside CCRIF to sensitize its members and onboard them as members of the Facility.*

Executive Director of CARILEC, Dr. Cletus Bertin responded that he was very pleased that a second electric utility had joined CCRIF and indicated that, *“We are pleased that LUCELEC, an investor-owned utility and ANGLEC, a government-owned utility, are members of CCRIF now. CARILEC is a mix of investor-owned utilities and government-owned utilities in the ratio of about 60:40, and we are very confident that, notwithstanding the sovereign cover that some of these member utility countries might have, this product will bring tremendous benefit to the utility and the sector as a whole. As we all know, electricity is the bedrock of many other sectors operating efficiently and effectively; electricity is needed for not just economic activities but also for the social and cultural life of our people in the region and we well understand the disruption and dislocation that occurs when we are hit with the increasing, and devastating storms and hurricanes. So, we are very thankful that CCRIF saw it fit to develop this product in collaboration with us and would like to encourage all of our electric utilities to continue the development steps towards signing on to CCRIF. We know that several other utilities are involved in different aspects of engaging with the product - from data modelling to collection of data and submission of datasets.”*

CCRIF CEO, Isaac Anthony, also stressed the importance of incorporating CCRIF parametric insurance into countries’ and companies’ risk financing strategies: *“CCRIF parametric insurance is an important tool to include in the disaster risk financing strategies of both sovereigns and private sector companies to complement other financing instruments that address different layers of risk and different types of hazard events”*. This was reiterated by Mr. Louisy, who commented that *“For us at LUCELEC this insurance reduces the risk of failure of our self-insurance fund in the event of a catastrophic weather event”*.



Mr. Trevor Louisy, Managing Director, LUCELEC



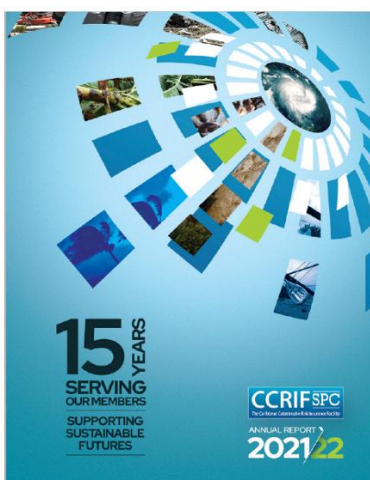
Mr. Isaac Anthony, Chief Executive Officer, CCRIF SPC



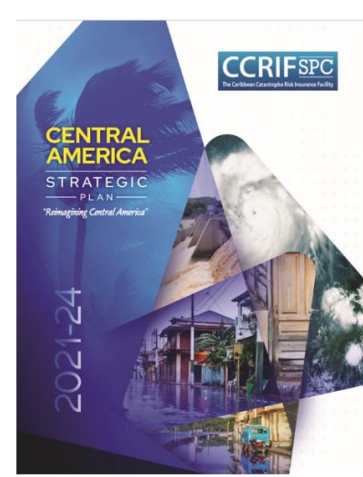
Dr. Cletus Bertin, Executive Director, CARILEC



**New Publications, Videos and Spoken Word Performances**



CCRIF Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025



Central America Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 “Reimagining Central America”

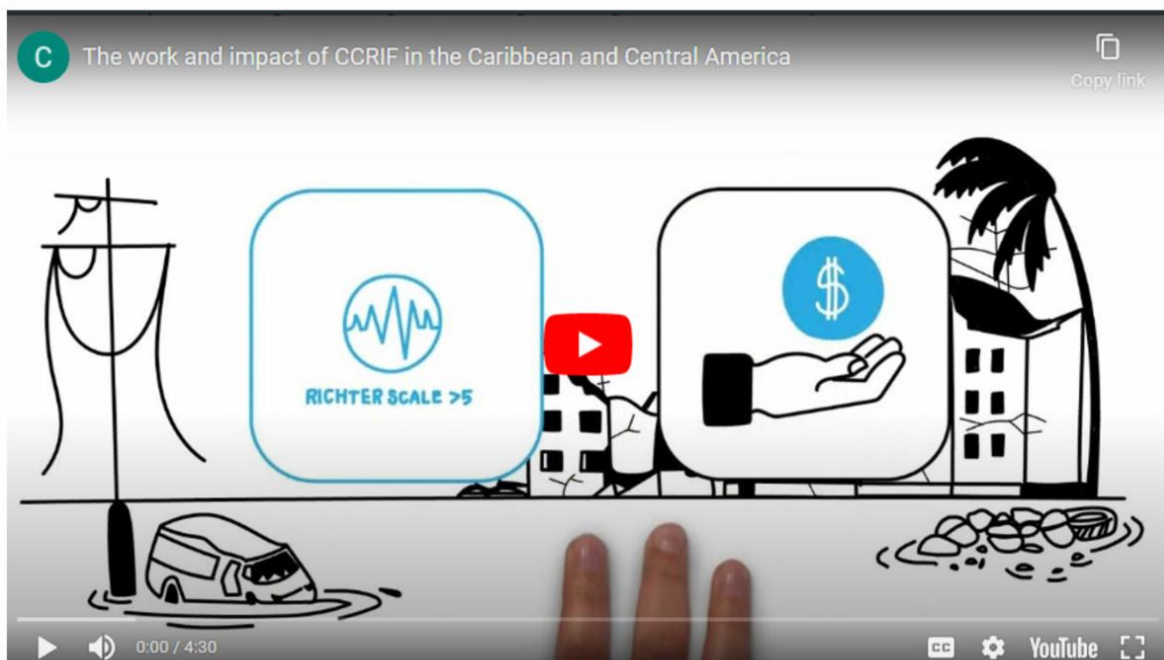
CCRIF Annual Report 2021/22 is available for download at:

<https://www.ccrif.org/publications/annual-report/ccrif-spc-annual-report-2021-2022> and for viewing via Flipbook at: <https://www.ccrif.org/sites/default/files/Flipbook2022/START.html>

CCRIF SPC Strategic Plan 2022-2025 is available for download at:

<https://www.ccrif.org/publications/strategic-plan/ccrif-spc-strategic-plan-2022-2025>

CCRIF is always seeking to help its members and other stakeholders to better understand what we do and parametric insurance in general. Click on the link below to view our most recent whiteboard video available at <https://youtu.be/p5rv9lzl8rg> and titled, “*The Work and Impact of CCRIF in the Caribbean and Central America*”.



Whiteboard Video, “*The Work and Impact of CCRIF in the Caribbean and Central America*”. Available at: <https://youtu.be/p5rv9lzl8rg>

A powerful spoken word/poem “Bespoke”, commissioned by CCRIF and developed and

performed by poet Cyndi Celeste, brings into sharp focus the impact of natural disasters on the poor and most vulnerable in society and the role that climate risk insurance can play in helping to support these persons as well as their livelihoods. This piece was performed at the 18th International Conference on Inclusive Insurance held in Kingston Jamaica in October 2022



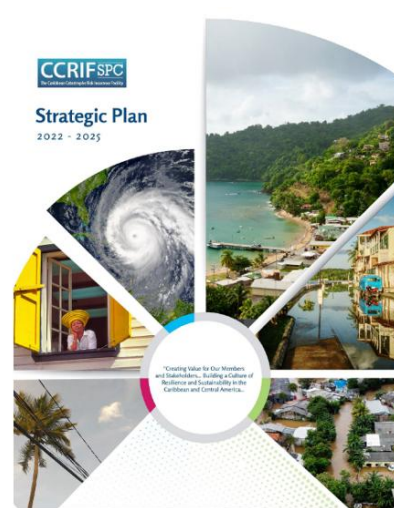
Link to spoken word performance video: <https://youtu.be/WeVwxb-RJcl>

## A Brief on Our New Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025

The CCRIF Board of Directors approved the CCRIF Strategic Plan covering the period 2022 – 2025. The Plan includes a new Vision Statement:

**A leading global development insurer, providing disaster risk financing products and services to member countries to improve lives and livelihoods, building resilience, and advancing sustainable development agendas**

CCRIF has identified, through its various planning processes, 47 key priorities and initiatives to be implemented over the 2022 - 2025 period. These initiatives will support the achievement of the Facility's strategic objectives and consequently its mission and propel it towards achieving its vision by 2030. Each initiative is aligned to the relevant strategic objective.



CCRIF Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025

<https://www.ccrif.org/publications/strategic-plan/ccrif-spc-strategic-plan-2022-2025>

**CCRIF... Leading the Way in Creating the Next Cadre of Leaders in Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (CDRM) in the Caribbean**



*In 2022, CCRIF awarded 7 scholarships for postgraduate study in the Caribbean, USA and UK – and provided 15 internships for young persons to work in areas related to CDRM in national and regional organizations.*

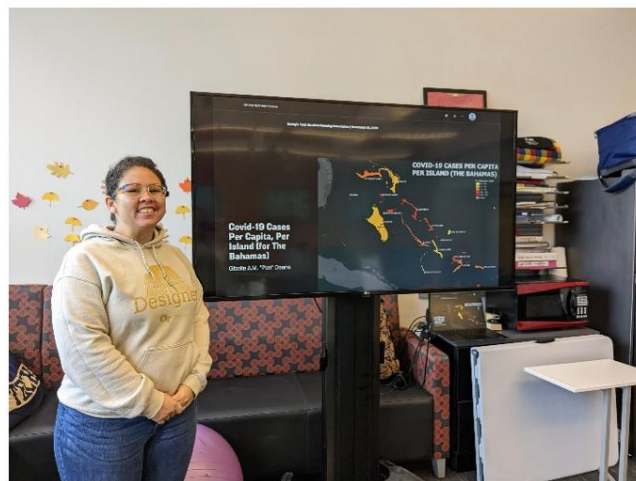
CCRIF considers itself to be a development insurance company, supporting its members to fulfill their development prospects. Very early on, CCRIF engaged with regional partner organizations in capacity building initiatives and recognized the need to develop the knowledge and skills in the Caribbean in areas related to disaster risk management. In 2010, CCRIF provided its first scholarship to Ms. Wazita Scott from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to pursue an MSc in Atmosphere, Ocean and Climate at Reading University in the UK. Since then, CCRIF has gone on to help build a cadre of young Caribbean leaders in comprehensive disaster risk management through scholarship and internship programmes.

**Since 2010, the Facility has provided 320 scholarships and internships across the Caribbean to 113 men and 207 women - with an investment of US\$2.2 million.**

**Since 2010, CCRIF has invested:**

- US\$1,807,211 to offer 165 scholarships for students from 13 countries obtain Bachelor’s and/or Master’s degrees in the Caribbean, UK and USA
- US\$411,498 to provide 155 internships to recent university graduates from 11 countries to implement work related to related to disaster management or meteorology at 32 regional and national organizations - national disaster management and/or meteorology offices in 8 member countries have hosted CCRIF interns
- US\$59,413 to support 22 persons from 16 countries to attend courses or conferences

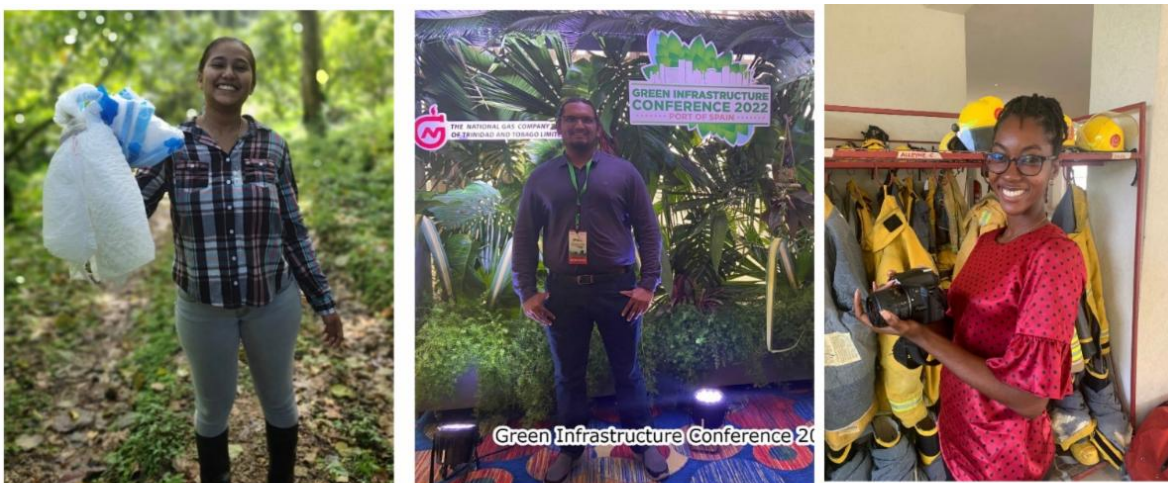
CCRIF provides scholarships to students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate studies in areas related in some way to comprehensive disaster risk management and disaster risk financing. Through the CCRIF-UWI Scholarship Programme, the Facility offers scholarships to 1st-year students at all campuses of The University of the West Indies for their 2nd and 3rd years – in select programmes such as Geography/Geology, Civil/Environmental Engineering, Meteorology, Environmental Science, Disaster Risk Resilience in Agriculture and the Environment and a special management studies degree in Insurance and Risk Management.



*Giselle Deane from The Bahamas received a CCRIF scholarship for a Master’s degree in Geographic Information Science & Technology at the Georgia Institute of Technology.*

At the postgraduate level, scholarships for study in CDRM-related areas are tenable at select universities in the Caribbean – including The UWI, University of Guyana, University of Trinidad and Tobago and the University of Technology Jamaica, among others – as well as universities in the USA, UK and Canada. We are always looking for new programmes at current or new universities that would be eligible for these scholarships.

To complement these scholarships, CCRIF began its Regional Internship Programme in 2015, to provide opportunities to recent university graduates to work in areas related to CDRM at national or regional organizations. The interns are provided with a monthly stipend and if they are placed outside their home country also receive an accommodation allowance and airfare to the host country. Both hosts and interns have found these internships invaluable. Host organizations have been able to complete tasks that in some cases remained dormant for a long time and have benefitted from new skills and knowledge brought by the young interns. At the same time, interns have received valuable experience at both the professional level and personal level, as they interact with co-workers and stakeholders. Host organizations have included The UWI (several departments and centres), CIMH, CDEMA, the Association of Caribbean States, Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and the CARICOM Secretariat, among others – as well as national DRM and meteorological organizations.



*Some of the 2022 CCRIF interns at work*

# Get ready for 2023!

We will be opening the application window for the 2023 programmes soon. Keep an eye on the scholarships and internships pages on the CCRIF website:

- **CCRIF Scholarship Programme for postgraduate scholarships**
- **Undergraduate scholarships at The University of the West Indies**
- **Internships at national and regional organizations**

**CCRIF in Collaboration with the World Bank Hosts Successful Disaster Risk Financing Conference for Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories**





L-R: Ms. Mary Boyer, Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank; Ms. Layla El Khadraoui, Program Manager for St. Barthelemy and Regional Caribbean OCTs, Delegation of the European Union to Guyana; Honourable Evelynna C. Wever-Croes, Prime Minister of Aruba and Minister of General Affairs, Integrity, Energy, Innovation, & Government Organization; Honourable Geoffrey B. Wever, Minister of Economic Affairs, Communications, and Sustainable Development; Mr. Isaac Anthony, Chief Executive Officer, CCRIF SPC; Ms. Elizabeth Riley, Executive Director, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency

CCRIF and the World Bank hosted the ***Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management and Financial Resilience Workshop for Overseas Countries and Territories in the Caribbean*** on November 1-3, 2022, in Aruba. The workshop was conducted with the support of the European Union and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, under the Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine Biodiversity Programme (RESEMBID). 65 persons participated in the workshop, including government representatives of 11 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs); international development partners, and regional organizations.

The overall objective of the regional workshop was to bring together key public sector officials from OCTs in the Caribbean who work in the areas of public finance, climate change, and disaster risk management, along with regional organizations such as the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC) and development partners to discuss and share experiences in comprehensive disaster risk management (CDRM) and financial protection strategies.

In this regard, the workshop was designed to:

- Improve the understanding of hazard risks affecting OCTs, comprehensive disaster risk management, disaster risk financing tools and current practices in financial protection
- Enhance knowledge of the work and products of CCRIF SPC



- Build consensus among governments, regional institutions and development partners on the most urgent needs of OCTs with respect to financial protection and CDRM
- Identify key CDRM actions for the short and medium term that would build the resilience of OCTs

Prime Minister Evelyn C. Wever-Croes and Minister of Economic Affairs, Communications, and Sustainable Development, Geoffrey B. Wever delivered remarks on behalf the Government of Aruba. The CCRIF CEO and the EU representative for Caribbean OCTs, Layla El Khadroui, also delivered remarks. Ms. Elizabeth Riley, CDEMA Executive Director, delivered the keynote address, on the topic, “*OCTs - like all other Caribbean countries – exist in a multi-hazard environment. CDRM, including financial protection, must be a national development priority.*”

The workshop included several interactive sessions including two panel discussions, a ½-day training programme in disaster risk financing, the playing of the highly engaging and interactive Game, *Hurricane Hurry* and a field trip that showcased Aruba’s sustainable agriculture practices and steps being taken to advance food security.

The first panel focused on *Scaling up Partnerships with Regional Organizations*. This was designed as a Connect the Dots Panel Discussion: *Fitting the Pieces of the CDRM Puzzle Together* and focused on each regional organization on the panel presenting in an innovative way how they worked in the CDRM space and how they can serve OCTs. Panellists were CDEMA, ECLAC, Caribbean Development Bank, World Food Programme, Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, The UWI, CARICOM and CCRIF. This session was facilitated by CCRIF. Participants also got the opportunity to engage with presenters after the panel and share information, contacts etc.



L-R: Elizabeth Emanuel, CCRIF SPC; Regis Chapman, World Food Programme; Khaliqa Mohammed, CDB; Lloyd Lynch, UWI Seismic Research Centre; Dr. David Farrell, Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology; Elizabeth Riley, Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency; Diane Quarless, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; and Gillian Golah, CCRIF SPC. Two panelists participated online: Joseph Cox, CARICOM Secretariat; and Dr. David Smith, UWI Centre for Environmental Management/Institute for Sustainable Development



*Participants line up to meet with members of Panel 1 to discuss further, exchange information and to make arrangements to engage further, during and after the workshop*

The second panel, facilitated by the World Bank was titled Dialogue with Donors and Development Partners and included panellists from the European Union, Expertise France, The World Bank, and UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).



*L-R: David Sislen, The World Bank; Jean-Baptiste Marre, Expertise France; Layla El Khadraoui, European Union. One other panellist participated online: Simone Banister, UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office*

Workshop participants also had the chance to play the interactive game Hurricane Hurry, developed by the World Bank, in which participants are required to make ‘real-life’ decisions both individually and collectively as they confront fiscal challenges they face as public finance and DRM officials trying to balance investments in disaster risk management and financing in the Caribbean. Participants were organized in teams and had to make decisions around using resources to cover the basic needs of the population whilst at the same time making decisions around investing in disaster risk financing and pursuing climate-smart growth – all while being cognizant of the real threat of losing their development gains at any time because of the passage of an extreme event such as a hurricane. Participants were confronted with real-life scenarios such as making investment decisions that could have significant consequences if they maximized only GDP growth for example without taking into context instruments such as insurance for natural

disasters. Should you set up a dedicated reserve fund for disasters? What about other innovative financing tools? How do you balance all the choices before you and make the best decision to foster growth, development and leave no one behind?



*The game Hurricane Hury*



*L-R: Gina Sanguinetti Phillips and Dr. Paolo Bazzurro from CCRIF, delivering training in Disaster Risk Financing*



Participants on a field trip, visiting sites with different farming systems and examining issues related to food security in Aruba.

A special creative piece/spoken word was produced specifically for the workshop titled, “Let us Listen”, by Barbadian poet Cyndi Celeste. A link to the video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/d1XRFnjNXwg>

*“... But when natural hazards whisper  
Our ears are already attuned to hear disaster  
We sit on the sidelines beside radars  
To monitor the weather  
And to pray that our early warning systems  
signal danger  
Soon enough for it to matter ...”*

## CCRIF Resumes In-Country Training “Understanding Disaster Risk Financing, CCRIF Parametric Policies and the Relationship with Fiscal and Economic Policy” for its Member Governments – Kicks off Training with the Government of Barbados



As part of a mission to Barbados in October, CCRIF conducted a 1-day training programme, “Understanding Ex-Ante Disaster Financing, CCRIF Parametric Policies and the Relationship with Fiscal and Economic Policy”, which was held over the period October 18 & 19. The training focused on:

- Linkages between Disasters and Fiscal and Debt Sustainability
- Introduction to Disaster Risk Financing
- Introduction to CCRIF and its Products and Models
- Introduction to Country Risk Profiles
- Introduction to Barbados’ CCRIF Policies

- Examination of Barbados' 2022/23 policies for TC, EQ and XSR
- Shock Responsive Social Protection and DRM and Insurance, Microinsurance and the CRAIC Project
- CCRIF's hazard monitoring tool, WeMAP

The 1-day programme was a truncated version of CCRIF's 3-day in-country training programme. The course **“Understanding Disaster Risk Financing, CCRIF Parametric Policies and the Relationship with Fiscal and Economic Policy”** is delivered by CCRIF to its member governments, specifically to officials from the ministries of finance, economy, planning, disaster risk management, environment and other related agencies for meteorological services, local government and social development etc. Launched in 2016, the course is a first of its kind in the region and is designed to build capacity of key individuals to better understand the important role that disaster risk financing plays in advancing debt and fiscal sustainability of countries as well as overall development prospects; and the construct of CCRIF's parametric insurance policies and underlying models and country risk profiles. The course explores the range of products CCRIF provides and how parametric insurance works. It was institutionalized by The UWI in 2020 as a course titled *“Fundamentals of Disaster Risk Financing for Advancing Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”*. The 40-contact-hour course is offered in collaboration with CCRIF and focuses in large measure on enhancing the understanding and use of tools used in disaster risk financing and the important role these tools play in advancing debt and fiscal sustainability of countries. The course also explores the rationale for countries to have in place disaster risk financing policies and strategies and how these can be developed to complement countries' comprehensive disaster risk management policies. It also introduces CCRIF SPC as the Caribbean region's main disaster risk financing facility for parametric insurance and how parametric insurance and the models underpinning it work. Additionally, the course examines the range of other ex-ante and ex-post disaster risk financing instruments and how these work alongside each other. The linkages between shock responsive social protection and disaster risk financing within the context of vulnerable populations also are explored. Two cohorts have already completed this online course in 2021 and 2022. The next offering of the course is expected in 2023.

## Groundbreaking MOU Signed at COP27 Sees Global Risk Pools Join Forces to Raise Visibility Around Disaster Risk Financing and Parametric Insurance



*Global risk pool MOU builds a framework for collaboration in the areas of advocacy, product development and capacity building...*



*L-R: Aholotu Palu, CEO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company; Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF SPC; and Lesley Ndlovu, CEO, African Risk Capacity Limited signed an MOU on the sidelines of COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt.*

Strengthening the reach and impact of the world’s risk pools is the key objective of a Memorandum of Understanding between African Risk Capacity Limited (ARC Ltd.), CCRIF SPC and Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC) signed in November on the sidelines of COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt.

The relevance and importance of the three global risk pools is clear especially in the face of the increasing frequency and intensity of climate change induced events. The MOU formalizes and establishes a framework for enhanced cooperation and partnership among the three risk pools.

“This is an opportunity to take risk pools to the next level so that these are not just seen as insurance or mechanisms for transferring risk, but also are viewed as tools to scale up disaster risk finance in a very significant way to enable governments to provide higher levels of financial protection for their populations, including the most vulnerable.”

**Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF SPC**

The CCRIF CEO explained further that the MOU paves the way for the three risk pools to collaborate on sharing best practices in parametric insurance models, developing new and innovative DRF instruments and undertaking joint initiatives focused on advocacy, capacity building and training.

“One of the exciting things CCRIF is looking forward to is facilitating access to other types of DRF instruments. It will be important for example for the various risk pools to work collaboratively in engaging Global Shield, to ensure that the role of risk pools is recognized in that particular effort,” Anthony added.

"The launch of Global Shield against Climate Risks at COP27 has been long awaited", said Lesley Ndlovu, ARC Ltd. CEO. He indicated that the launch was one of the tangible achievements of the Egypt event, which will “transform the DRF landscape”.

“The Global Shield is an essential element in helping risk pools scale up their efforts to make insurance more accessible, affordable and available to the people who need it the most in the face of increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters,” Ndlovu said.

“The signing of this MOU among the global risk pools sets the tone for a higher level of collaboration and a strong foundation on which to strengthen each other and our efforts and initiatives going forward.”

**Lesley Ndlovu, CEO, African Risk Capacity Limited**

The MOU includes the development and sharing of best practices in parametric model development and management, as well as data management relating to parametric insurance instruments. Advocacy and capacity building will form a key component of joint activities to help raise understanding of the role of risk pools as development insurance facilities supporting economic and social development objectives of risk pools’ member countries.

As loss and damage continue to rise and developing countries struggle to fund insurance premiums, member countries recognize that insurance provided by these risk pools is a critical financial resilience mechanism which protects them against the impact of perils and helps them meet the rising cost of disasters fuelled by climate change, which is largely not caused by their own actions.

However, there are barriers to scaling up DRF, PCRIC CEO **Aholotu Palu** explained.

“While risk pools play an important role in moving the management of disaster and climate shocks away from ad hoc humanitarian assistance and focus the DRM ecosystem on an ex-ante approach, there is still somewhat a lack of understanding of the role we play in helping countries protect their financial means to build resilience and shield themselves from loss and damage caused by climate change. Through the signing of this MOU, we elevate collectively the role we play in helping countries fight the impact of climate change.”

**Aholotu Palu, CEO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company**

## Disaster Risk Reduction in Schools

During the last quarter, CCRIF distributed hundreds of copies of its children’s booklet “Hazards, Disasters and Climate Change”. A few highlights are presented below.



CCRIF Deputy Chairperson and Chair of the Technical Assistance Committee, Mrs. Desirée Cherebin presents a copy of the booklet, “Hazards, Disaster and Climate Change”, to Elizabeth Riley, Executive Director, CDEMA. The presentation was made at the end of the CCRIF Panel on Disaster Risk Financing held on the 1st day of the 12th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management in Barbados.





Mrs. Cherebin also presented a copy of the booklet to Ms. Kerry Hinds, Director, Department of Emergency Management, Barbados.



Presentations of the booklet also were made in Barbados to:

- Minister of Home Affairs, Information and Public Affairs, Hon. Wilfred Abrahams
- Chief Education Officer, Dr. Ramona Archer, and other officers at the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training
- Deputy Director, Ms. Beverly Archer and Mrs. Marva Savoury-Smith from the National Library Service



## Spotlight on CCRIF Small Grants Programme...

**...building the resilience of local communities across the small island and coastal states of the Caribbean...**

**CCRIF's Investment in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation in the Region...**

*Since 2015, CCRIF has provided 33 grants for community disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation projects totalling about US\$750,000 to 19 organizations and 3 departments of The University of the West Indies...towards enhancing the resilience of communities across the region*

**CCRIF Supports Programme to Improve Disaster Resilience and Preparedness of Persons with Disabilities and Dominica's More Vulnerable Communities**





CCRIF provided a grant of US\$14,280 to IsraAid Dominica to implement the “Safe Schools, Resilient Communities” project. This project aimed to make Dominican schools safer and more resilient, specifically in schools for children with special needs, implementing the concept of “inclusive disaster risk reduction (DRR)”. The project focused on two areas: 1) inclusion within the DRR education system and local communities, adapting emergency plans, resources and tools to ensure that all interventions include the most vulnerable populations, specifically persons living with disabilities; and 2) increasing awareness among community members, particularly parents and teachers, on providing appropriate support to children with special needs, before and during emergencies. IsraAid worked with the four special education schools in Dominica.

**IsraAid worked in 4 institutions that provide special education services to Dominicans:**

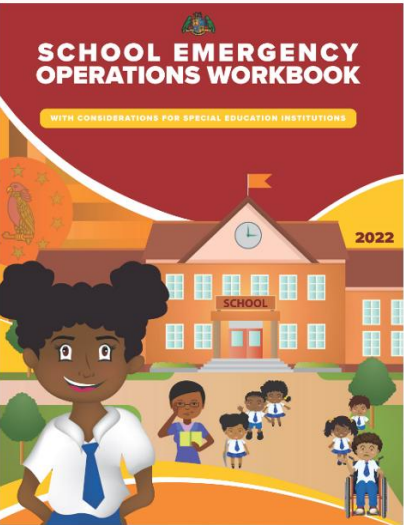
Isulukati Special Education School  
 Alpha Centre Special Education School  
 PACIS Development Centre  
 Achievement Learning Centre

### **Project activities in pictures**

**Special Education Schools Developed their Standard Emergency Operation Procedures (SEOPs) and Implemented Simulation Exercises**



IsraAid provided emergency kits with equipment such as fire extinguishers, face masks, megaphones etc.; safety/emergency signs; and informational books to each school – based on their specific needs.



The project held workshops with staff members, community focal points and representatives of emergency services to develop Standard Emergency Operating Procedures (SEOPs) that are adapted for special education students' needs.



IsraAid conducted SEOP consultations for staff, parents/caregivers and community members at the four schools. During these sessions parents were sensitized about the school's SEOP. Also, a basic first aid presentation was facilitated by local fire officers or nurse practitioners on how to take care of minor injuries. A facilitator also conducted a presentation on psychosocial support topics, including stress response in children and stress relief.



Simulation exercises were conducted in the schools, simulating an earthquake or a fire. The exercises involved fire and ambulance services and police officers and in some cases a hospital. Each school was able to successfully evacuate their building following the steps outlined in their SEOP.

# Public Outreach Campaign



The project created and disseminated posters with facts and concepts about persons living with disabilities in Dominica, which are being placed in strategic locations within the communities, for example, youth and community centres and schools.....



... and created a video showcasing 3 persons with different disabilities – Jahaida Dorival, Micheal Murphy, and Vernicia Francis – and their stories ... and also held bi-monthly radio sessions to raise awareness on disability and inclusion...



Murals were created to promote respect for all persons in the community in each of the school districts: Youth Centre, Grand Bay; St. John's Catholic Primary School, Portsmouth; St. Cyr Platform, Kalinago Territory; and at the main highway near the fire station, St Joseph. Community members, including persons living with disabilities and their family members came up with ideas and concepts for the murals. Artists selected from the community or a community nearby, other community members and youth volunteers recruited by the Youth Development Division were involved in painting the murals. These photos show the mural at the St. Cyr Platform, Kalinago Territory.

This project builds on the Safe School Program Dominica initiative, implemented by IsraAID, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and the East Dominica Children's Federation, which implemented similar activities in all 73 primary and secondary schools in the country.

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