



CCRIF and CDB host Caribbean Regional Risk Conference – April 6 and 7, 2022

CCRIF SPC and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) will host the 2022 Caribbean Regional Risk Conference on April 6 & 7, to provide a forum for policymakers, senior technocrats, and other stakeholders to explore country risk management and risk governance.

Under the theme, “Introducing Country Risk Management to Advance Sustainable Development”, the event will address the myriad of risks facing Caribbean countries, taking the discussion beyond natural hazard risks and climate change, to explore economic, geopolitical, environmental, societal, and technological risks, which continue to impact the region’s development prospects. Speakers and presenters are from several regional and international organizations, including the United Nations, The World Bank, Swiss Re, The University of the West Indies, and PriceWaterhouseCoopers, among others. The keynote speaker is Her Excellency, Dr. Carla Barnett, Secretary-General of CARICOM.

The conference will highlight the role of integrated risk management frameworks at the country level in enabling policymakers to better anticipate, identify and manage both climate and non-climate risks. Participants also will be exposed to cutting-edge tools, processes, and governance structures, necessary for operationalizing country risk management and developing all-hazards policy frameworks.



President of the CDB, Dr. Hyginus “Gene” Leon said,

“ *In the wake of the global pandemic and the growing threat of climate change, this conference takes on special significance as it sets the stage for us to explore country risk management through a wider lens and build much-needed capacity amongst key stakeholders. We will leverage the experience of both CDB and CCRIF along with recognized experts to stimulate new policy direction and action.* **”**

The Caribbean Regional Risk Conference is part of the Integrated Country Risk Management in the Caribbean Project, launched by the CDB and CCRIF SPC in 2017 to support the development of a regional risk platform for Caribbean governments.



In commenting on the conference and the wider country risk management project, CCRIF's CEO, Mr. Isaac Anthony said,

“ *As we seek to build forward stronger post-COVID and achieve the SDGs, country risk management and integrated risk governance must be seen as a key strategy for Caribbean sustainable development. This initiative will require action by a range of partners whose mandates focus on areas outside of natural catastrophe risks – mandates related to economic and financial risks as well as social and other humanity-related risks – to make it a resounding success for the small island and coastal states of the region.* **”**

The conference has:

- 1 Keynote Speaker
- 4 panel discussions
- 2 Café Corners
- 2 Launches

To register for the conference click here:
[Caribbean Regional Risk Conference Registration](#)

The **agenda** is available on the **conference page** on the CCRIF website.

Caribbean Regional Risk Conference | **2022** | **Virtual Conference**

Panel Discussions
DAY 1: APRIL 6, 2022 | 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM ET

Panel 1 | **THE REGIONAL LANDSCAPE FOR ADVANCING THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Moderator:
Diane Quarless
 Director
 ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

Panelist:
Mariko Kagoshima
 UNICEF Jamaica Country Representative

Panelist:
Dr. Stacy Richards-Kennedy
 Pro Vice Chancellor, Global Affairs
 The University of the West Indies

Panelist:
Tonni Ann Brodber
 Representative of the UN Women Multi-Country Office, Caribbean

Panelist:
Ian Durant
 Director, Economics Department
 Caribbean Development Bank

Panelist:
Sally Yozell
 Director of Environmental Security
 The Stimson Center

Lightning Talk Style Panel

Register at : hopin.com/events/caribbeanregionalriskconference2022

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CCRIF-SPC
 The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

Caribbean Regional Risk Conference

2022

Virtual Conference

Panel Discussions

DAY 1: APRIL 6, 2022 | 1:00 - 2:15 PM ET



Panel 2 COUNTRY RISK MANAGEMENT AND GLOBAL RISK GOVERNANCE - MANAGING EXISTING AND EVOLVING RISKS



Moderator
Richard Look Kin
General Manager
First Citizens Investment
Services at First Citizens
Bank, Trinidad & Tobago



Panelist
Timothy Antoine
Governor
Eastern Caribbean
Central Bank and
Chairman, CCRIF SPC



Panelist
**Professor Ann Marie
Bissessar**
Professor, Department of
Political Science
The University of the West Indies



Panelist
Jennifer Chang
Vice President-
Senior Analyst
Moody's Analytics



Panelist
Anthony Zamore
Director, Advisory Risk
Assurance Services
PwC



Panelist
Mary Boyer
Disaster Risk
Management Specialist
The World Bank



Presenter
Malcolm Buamah
Chief Risk Officer
Caribbean Development Bank

Twitter Style Panel with Tweetable Sound Bites

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Caribbean Regional Risk Conference

2022

Virtual Conference

Panel Discussions

DAY 2: APRIL 7, 2022 | 10:15 - 11:45 AM ET



Panel 3 DEMYSTIFYING CLIMATE RISKS



Moderator
**Therese Turner
Jones**
International
Development
Consultant



Panelist
Anu Jogesh
Associate Director,
Climate and Resilience
Hub
WTW



Panelist
**Kathy Baughman
McLeod**
Director
Adrienne Aron-Rockefeller
Foundation Resilience Center



Panelist
Gillian Golah
Chief Operations
Officer
CCRIF SPC



Panelist
Dr. Simon Young
Co-Head: Disaster Risk
Finance / Parametrics
Climate and Resilience
Hub
WTW



Panelist
Andria Grosveno
Deputy Executive
Director
Caribbean Disaster Emergency
Management Agency



Presenter
Gloria Joseph
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Planning, Economic
Development, Climate
Resilience, Sustainable
Development and Renewable
Energy, Dominica

Connect the Dots Panel

Register at : hopin.com/events/caribbeanregionriskconference2022



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Caribbean Regional Risk Conference

20
22

Virtual
Conference



Panel Discussions DAY 2: APRIL 7, 2022 | 12:00 - 1:30 PM ET

Panel 4

BEST PRACTICES IN INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT AT THE NATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL LEVELS:
CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND BEST PRACTICES



Moderator
Julian Rogers
Managing Director
Jamaica Observer



Panelist
H.E. Dr. Didacus Jules
Director General
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States



Panelist
Mariame McIntosh Robinson
President and CEO
First Global Bank



Panelist
Philippe B. Brahin
Managing Director and Head of
Americas, Public Sector Solutions
Swiss Re



Panelist
Dr. David McBean
Executive Director
Mona School of Business & Management, The
University of the West Indies



Call to Action
Panel



Register at : hopin.com/events/caribbeanregionalriskconference2022



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Caribbean Regional Risk Conference

20
22

Virtual
Conference



Café Corner

Spotlight Interview



DAY 1 : APRIL 6, 2022 | 2:30 - 2:55 PM ET 

Julian Rogers interviews Denise Antonio

Julian Rogers
Managing Director
Jamaica Observer



Denise Antonio

Resident Representative to the
United Nations Development
Programme in Jamaica, Belize
Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The
Bahamas, and Turks and Caicos

Whither another Global Pandemic – Lessons Learned and Directions for Future Preparedness



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Caribbean Regional Risk Conference

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Virtual
Conference



Café Corner

Spotlight Interview



DAY 2 : APRIL 7, 2022 | 9:45 - 10:05 AM ET

Julian Rogers interviews CCRIF and CDB



Julian Rogers
Managing Director
Jamaica Observer



Elizabeth Emanuel
Head, Technical Assistance
Manager Team and Head,
Corporate Communications
Manager Team
CCRIF SPC



Yvette Lemonias-Seale
Vice President Corporate
Services
Caribbean Development Bank



Malcolm Buamah
Chief Risk Officer
Caribbean Development Bank

Why Country Risk Management?



Register at : hopin.com/events/caribbeanregionalriskconference2022



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The conference will be held virtually and is open to the public. The programme will cater to several target groups, including the public and private sectors, civil society organizations, development organizations, academia, and the media.

CCRIF to Roll Out COAST to Several Caribbean Countries





Saint Lucia and Grenada have had COAST policies for the fisheries sector since 2019. CCRIF is expected to roll out COAST to other countries starting in 2022/23, which will be made possible by grants from the World Bank and Irish Aid, as well as resources from CCRIF. The COAST (Caribbean Ocean and Aquaculture Sustainability Facility) initiative was launched by CCRIF SPC with support from the World Bank and the US State Department in 2019.

The Caribbean is the first region globally to develop and implement parametric climate risk insurance for the fisheries sector, ensuring that vulnerable fishing communities now have access to insurance developed specifically for their needs, protecting their livelihoods and promoting resilience and sustainable management of the marine environment, leading to a stronger blue economy.

The COAST parametric insurance product is an innovative climate risk insurance mechanism and will be an essential tool to help address the impacts of natural hazards on food security and livelihoods of those working in the fisheries sector.

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COAST promotes resilience in the fisheries sector and contributes to the sustainable management of the ecosystems that support the sector by incentivizing policy reforms for the uptake of climate-smart fisheries

practices and increasing coastal resilience. This will help to build a stronger foundation for advancing the blue economy, while supporting the livelihoods of those who depend on the valuable marine resource.



Like CCRIF SPC's other parametric insurance products, COAST policies make payouts based on a pre-defined level of wave height, rainfall, wind or storm surge and their modelled impact. The COAST parametric insurance provides coverage for fisherfolk so that they can cope with losses caused by adverse weather which may prevent them from going out to sea as well as by direct damages to fishing vessels, equipment and infrastructure such as fish markets, landing sites, and boat-building facilities, among others.

The COAST parametric insurance policy is unique – in that it incorporates an adverse weather component (providing livelihood protection, akin to microinsurance) and a tropical cyclone component (similar to CCRIF's sovereign product). Thus, even though COAST is a sovereign level product purchased by governments, it is designed to provide coverage for losses to fisherfolk caused by bad weather (high waves and heavy rainfall) throughout the year and for direct damages caused by tropical cyclones (due to wind or storm surge) to fisheries assets.

Irish Aid Provides €1 million (US\$1.16 million) to CCRIF in Support of COAST

In November 2021, Irish Aid announced it would provide €1 million (US\$1.16 million) to CCRIF in support of COAST. This support will help to roll out COAST in five Caribbean countries. The funding will be used to support not only activities necessary to implement the COAST policy but also activities that will contribute to the sustainable management of



the fisheries sector in the five countries. Activities will include for example: data collection and model enhancement for the specific fisheries risk profiles for each country; enhancement of national systems for fisher and vessel registries, fisheries regulations and payout mechanisms; sensitizing fishers and others in the industry to COAST and the benefits of insurance and the linkages with sustainable management of associated ecosystems and food security; and the development of fisheries management plans.



Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Simon Coveney TD (left) and CCRIF CEO, Mr. Isaac Anthony (right) at the ceremony in November 2021 to sign the grant agreement for the Government of Ireland's support for CCRIF's COAST parametric insurance product for fisheries

CCRIF CEO, Isaac Anthony, on the signing of the grant agreement, stated:

“ *COAST is the first parametric insurance ever developed for the fisheries sector and has been developed to advance resilience and sustainable management of the marine environment, leading to a stronger blue economy in the region. The COAST policy is an example of inclusive insurance – it is more than a financial instrument, as it is designed to protect the livelihoods of the most vulnerable, thereby contributing to sustainable livelihoods, national food security, and community development, especially in rural areas.* **”**

Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Simon Coveney, TD, in commenting on the grant to CCRIF, said:

“ *This Irish Aid support to CCRIF's climate risk insurance is part of the Government of Ireland's commitment to small island developing states. It helps maintain a sustainable blue economy in the Caribbean, through enabling quicker local responses to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation.* **”**

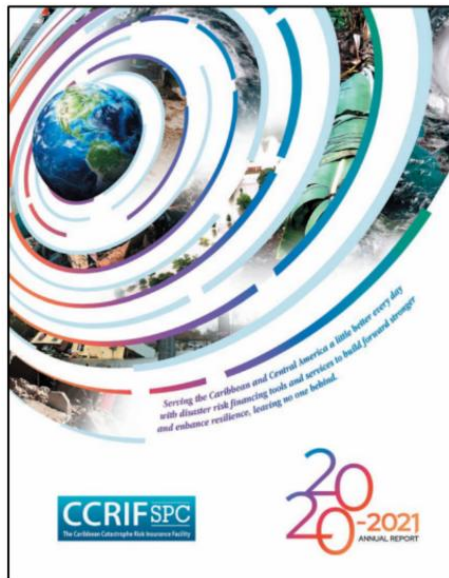
CCRIF Welcomes New Chief Risk Management Officer

In January 2022, CCRIF welcomed its new Chief Risk Management Officer, Ms. Yvonne



Rivera. Prior to joining CCRIF, Yvonne – a national of Puerto Rico – was the Property Director of Chubb de Mexico. Chubb is the world's largest publicly traded property and casualty insurance company. She has extensive experience in reinsurance and underwriting in property and catastrophe risk. She holds a Master of Business Administration in Risk Management and Insurance from the Peter J. Torbin School of Business at St. John's University.

CCRIF's Chief Risk Management Officer (CRMO) has responsibility for providing technical leadership and advice to the management and board as it relates to the areas of risk management, financial planning, catastrophe modeling, and (re)insurance placement. The CRMO plays a lead role in ensuring the integrity of CCRIF's models and products in order to ensure the company's solvency and liquidity standards. Welcome Yvonne!



New Publication - CCRIF's Annual Report 2020-21 is Available

***A Year of Thanks and Gratitude,
A Year of Fortitude, A Year of Pivoting
not Pausing***

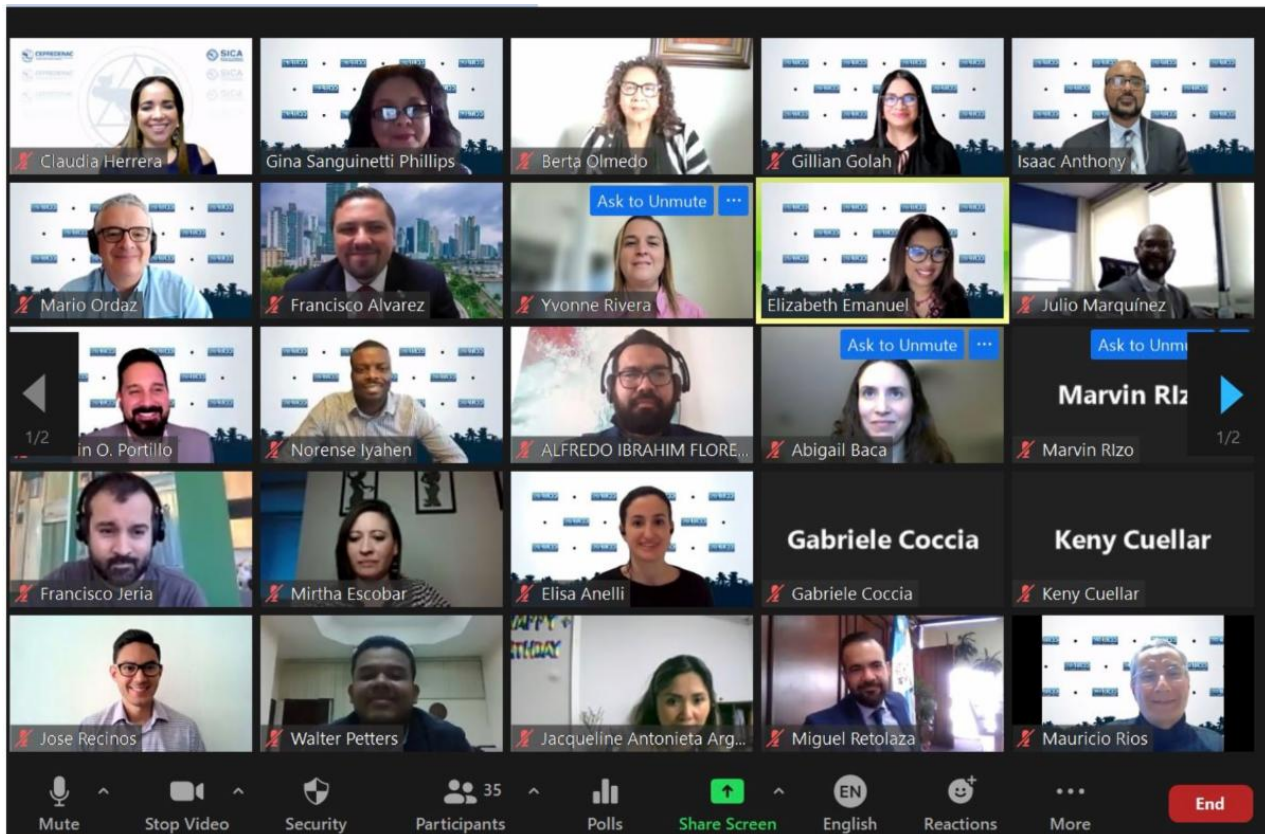
The CCRIF Annual Report 2020-21 – covering the period June 1, 2020, to May 31, 2021 – provides a snapshot of the Facility's activities over the period. 2020/21 could be described as a year like no other – for CCRIF and many other organizations around the world, it was challenging. However, for CCRIF, it also was productive and successful. In the midst of all that was happening, CCRIF's performance for the period was strong and the Facility produced several solid outputs and achieved some significant milestones as follows:

- All member governments renewed their parametric insurance coverage for tropical cyclone, excess rainfall, earthquake and fisheries, ceding over US\$1 billion in risk to CCRIF and increasing overall coverage by 13 per cent for the 2020/21 policy year.
- We made 7 payouts totalling US\$44 million to 5 member governments: Haiti following TC Laura, Jamaica following TCs Zeta and Eta, Panama following TC Eta, and Nicaragua following TC Eta and TC Iota – Nicaragua actually received 3 payouts.
- We were able to bring to market a new product – the electric utilities product. This

product aims to limit the financial impact of devastating tropical cyclones by quickly providing financial liquidity to electric utility companies when a policy is triggered. The product covers direct damage to the transmission and distribution (T&D) components of the electric power system due to impacts of wind.

The annual report is available at: [CCRIF SPC Annual Report 2020-21](#)

CCRIF Hosts its Online Policy Forums for its Caribbean and Central America Members



CCRIF Policy Forum for Central America Members and Stakeholders held

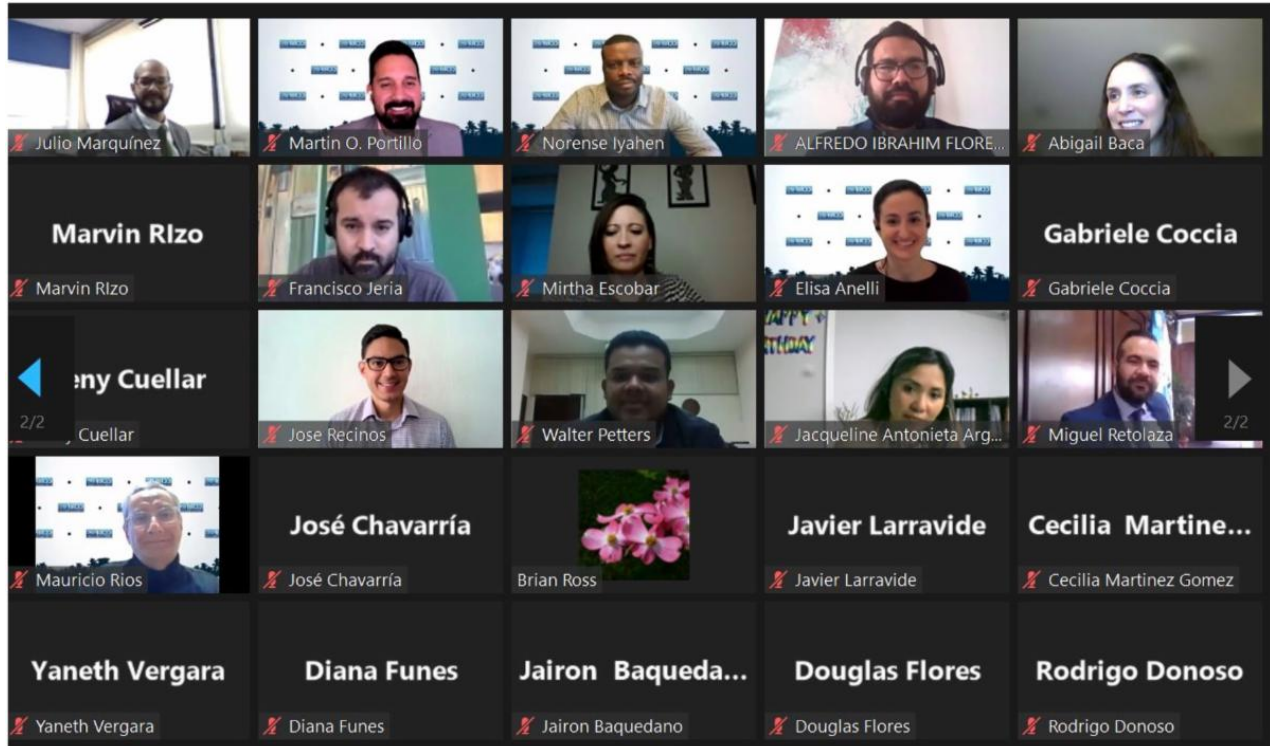
February 24, 2022

In February, CCRIF hosted two online policy forums – one for its Caribbean members and one for its Central America members. The CCRIF Online Policy Forum was launched to strategically find ways to engage members and stakeholders in defining CCRIF’s way forward to 2030 and to better support disaster risk management in the two regions that the Facility serves. The forum brings together CCRIF’s key contacts from member countries – Finance/Permanent Secretaries and Ministers/Viceministers in the Ministry of Finance – and includes from time to time, depending on the topics being addressed, representatives from key regional organizations, and national disaster and meteorological offices, among others. The forum provides a unique space for these officials to engage in open and frank discussion and provides an opportunity to develop solutions to address common challenges in keeping with the spirit of building resilience.

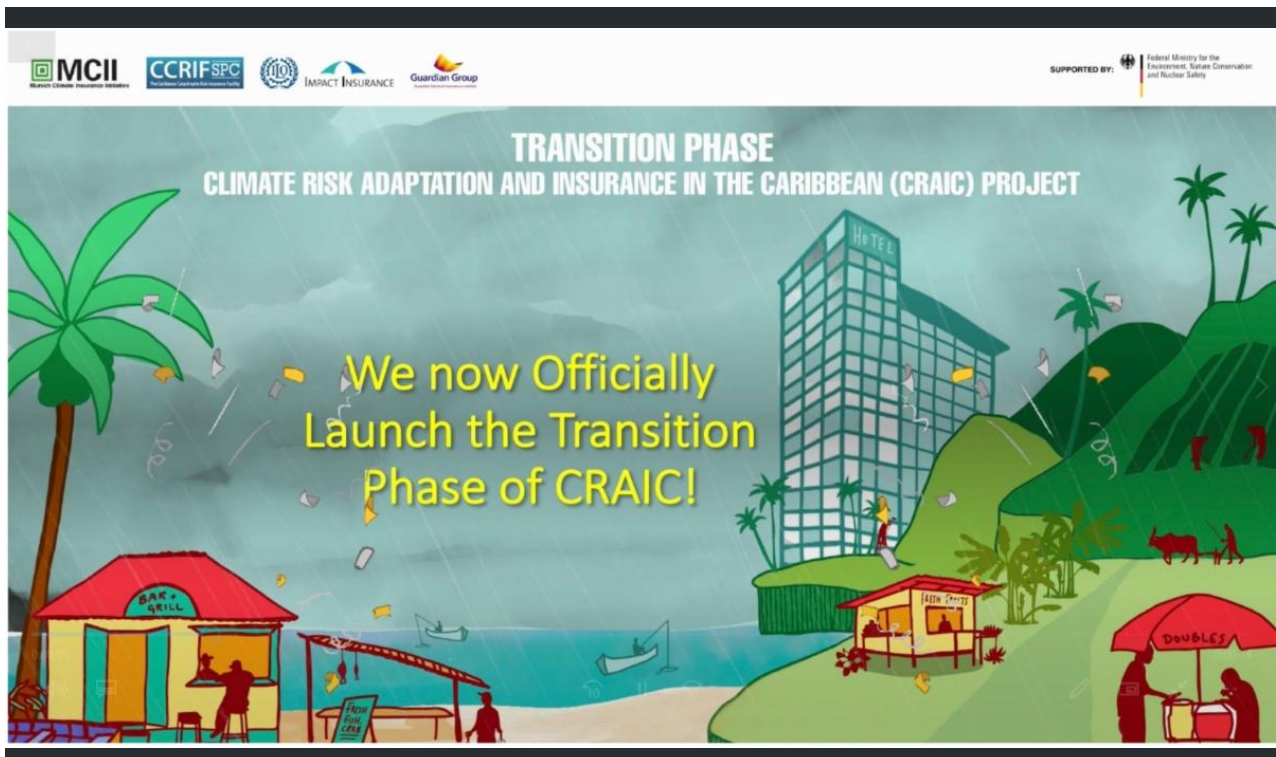
In the forums held in February, areas of focus and discussion centred on:

- CCRIF policy renewals 2022/23
- CCRIF model improvements
- New product development

- CCRIF feasibility study for the incorporation of ground data into its excess rainfall (XSR) model
- CCRIF stakeholder assessment 2021
- CCRIF expansion study



CCRIF and Munich Climate Risk Insurance Initiative Launch Transition Phase of CRAIC Project



The Transition Phase of the Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean (CRAIC) Project to be led by CCRIF, was launched February 2, 2022. This phase of the project will use the lessons learned from the first 10 years to promote wider access to a microinsurance product, known as the Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP), within 5 pilot

countries in the Caribbean – Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. The intent is to fully roll out the LPP in all 19 CCRIF member countries in the Caribbean following the Transition Phase.

The main objectives of the CRAIC project are to:

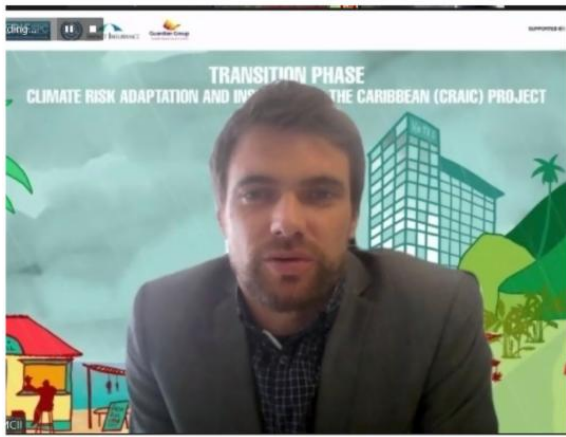
- Support the development of weather-related risk management solutions, including insurance
- Assist target countries to increase social resilience and incentivize sustainable adaptation measures by incorporating climate risk insurance within a broader framework of disaster risk reduction strategies
- Support the development of public-private insurance solutions, so financial support is extended to the most vulnerable groups when they face climate-related disasters
- Demonstrate the value of regional risk pooling instruments in climate change adaptation and risk management, targeted specifically for low-income and vulnerable persons

The CRAIC Project has been promoting microinsurance for climate risk in the Caribbean since 2011. CRAIC is implemented by the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), CCRIF SPC, and ILO Impact Insurance, with support from the International Climate Initiative of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection. The project was conceptualized to address climate change adaptation and vulnerability by promoting weather-index-based insurance at the individual level as a disaster risk financing instrument in the Caribbean, specifically for vulnerable groups. CRAIC is intended to complement other similar instruments at the sovereign level, particularly the products and services provided to 22 Caribbean and Central American countries by CCRIF.

In its first 2 phases, CRAIC significantly enhanced the understanding and importance of microinsurance across the Caribbean and can be credited for promoting policy discussions at the sovereign level around the use of microinsurance as a component of social protection strategy. The LPP and other microinsurance products and financial services geared to low-income vulnerable persons hold much promise for governments in the region as part of their social protection strategies. During the first 2 phases, it became clear that governments have a role to play in scaling up microinsurance by being involved in making these products available – not just as the regulator approving the insurance product for sale but seeing the products as part of social protection, fostering financial inclusion and enhancing the resilience of fishers, farmers, and owners of micro and small businesses. This observation and other lessons learned from the first 2 phases of CRAIC will guide the actions in the new phase. For example, the role of agriculture extension officers in raising awareness of farmers will be key in helping to create the appetite for the LPP among the many small farmers in the 5 pilot countries.

The Transition Phase is expected to be implemented over a two-year period. At the end of this phase, it is anticipated that CRAIC and the LPP would be fully institutionalized within CCRIF, which would allow all CCRIF member countries to have access to this product to support their most vulnerable populations.

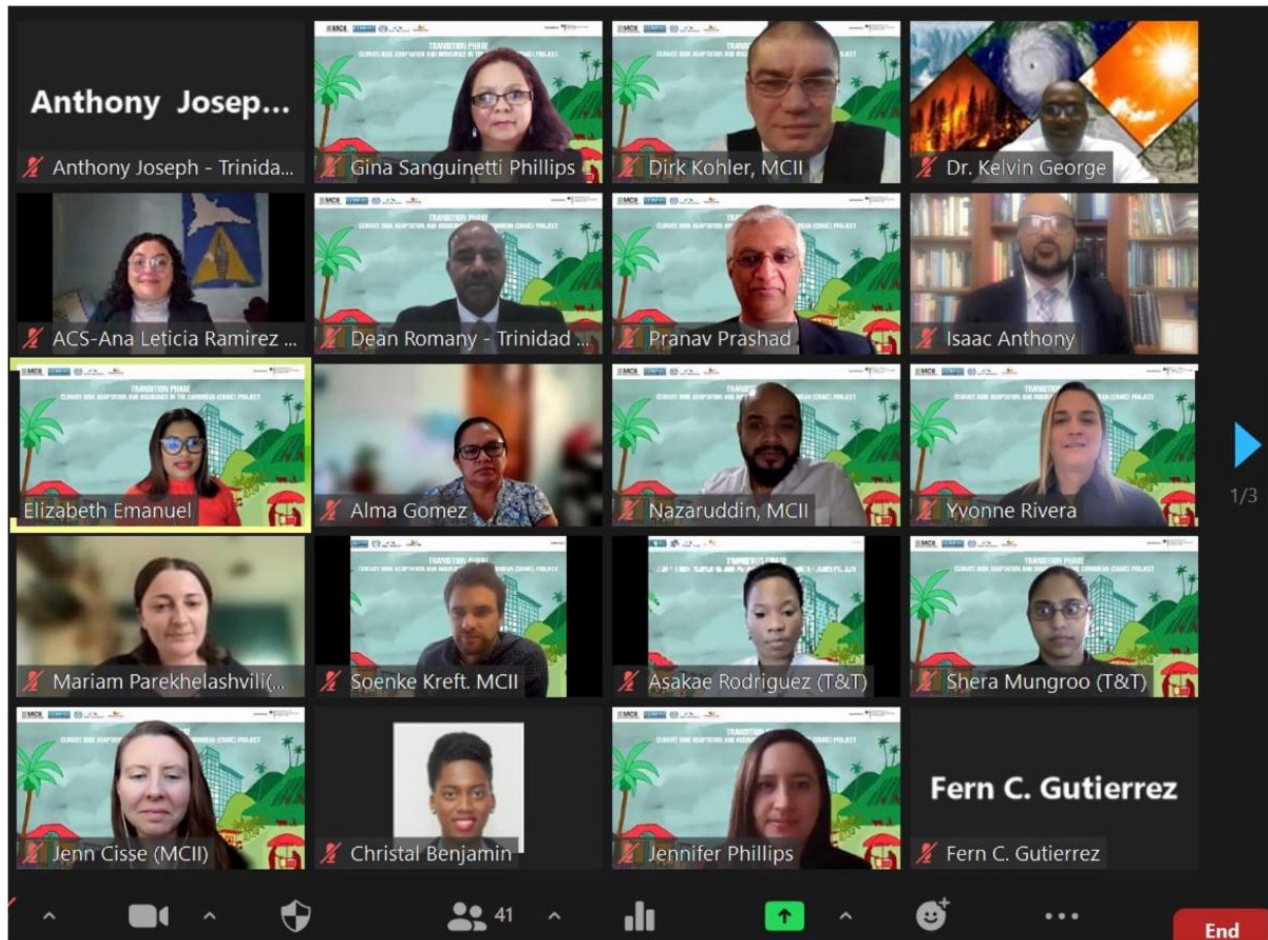
There are several benefits to microinsurance. Having microinsurance can improve individuals' and vulnerable groups' credit worthiness and can lead to better understanding of the importance of disaster preparedness, and foster financial inclusion – all towards advancing the sustainability of the small island and coastal states of the region.



Söenke Kreft, Executive Director of MCII was enthusiastic about the Transition Phase:

“This moment represents a new era in the relationship between the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative and CCRIF SPC. We at MCII are thrilled that CCRIF SPC is stepping into this new role, scaling up access to microinsurance products through leadership and partnerships with Caribbean insurers, governments, and stakeholders.”

Attendees at the launch included governments from the 5 pilot countries, the consortium partners and other key stakeholders.



CCRIF and Guardian General Insurance Limited Sign MOU to Scale Up Microinsurance in the Caribbean



CCRIF and Guardian General Insurance Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding to offer individuals and organizations such as cooperatives and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and their members the ability to protect themselves against financial losses that result from extreme weather associated with wind and rain. Guardian General Insurance Limited will provide access to the Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP) – a parametric microinsurance product designed to help protect the livelihoods of low-income and vulnerable persons such as small farmers, seasonal tourism workers, fishers, market and food vendors, musicians, day labourers, and small entrepreneurs, by providing quick cash payouts following extreme weather events (specifically, high winds and heavy rainfall).

CCRIF’s CEO, Isaac Anthony welcomed Guardian General Insurance as a partner, stating:

“ We see this partnership between CCRIF and Guardian General Insurance Limited as a win-win. We are encouraged that Guardian General has included the CRAIC project as part of its overall business strategy. What is key for us at CCRIF, is that Guardian General operates in all of the 5 pilot countries, and we see this as a first step towards scaling up and making this innovative product available to the various target groups. With Guardian General and its networks across the pilot countries, we will have multiple distribution channels for persons to access the LPP. ”

By aligning microinsurance to its overall business strategy, Guardian General has signalled its intent to invest time and resources in regulatory approvals and product rollout, and ultimately to have a major stake in the success of the Transition Phase of the CRAIC project.

Guardian General’s President, Dean Romany stated,

“ Parametric products can be instrumental in alleviating the immediate negative financial impact on an underserved portion of our population, such as SME owners or self-employed individuals in the aquaculture, agribusiness, food & beverage, construction, hospitality, and transportation sectors. ”

Over the period of the MOU, with support from CCRIF, Guardian General Insurance will undertake a range of activities including:

- Preparing and obtaining regulatory licenses for the implementation of the LPP in the 5 countries: Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago
- Preparing pricing descriptions for the product
- Putting in place a dedicated team of commercial and underwriting personnel in each of the 5 countries, including a singular point of contact or resource who will be responsible for the LPP programme and broader CRAIC initiative

- Identifying possible distribution channels for the LPP, and training and equipping distribution channels to sell the LPP product
-

Our Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals



Our commitment to sustainability is grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Our work directly contributes to 9 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and 4 of the 5 Ps as presented below:

- **People** – the populations in the two regions that we serve – the Caribbean and Central America – and providing their countries with access to parametric insurance towards reducing budget volatility and ensuring that our members and their citizens have access to quick liquidity following a natural disaster, so that immediate post-disaster needs can be met. Our focus on inclusive insurance and products such as the livelihood protection policy and COAST¹ are key to ensuring that the most vulnerable in our populations have access to climate risk insurance to protect their livelihoods and that of their families. This focus is key to ensuring that as an organization, we advance the achievement of SDGs 1, 8 and 10.
 - **Planet** – proffering resources, capacity and solutions for environmental sustainability and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems. Our insurance is also considered to be a climate change adaptation tool and able to address damage and loss.
 - **Prosperity** – of our organization, so that we are financially sustainable and can do what we are designed to do, that is provide quick liquidity to our members once a policy is triggered – and our members, using surpluses that we generate from our sound investment decisions to give back to our members through discounts and via our technical assistance programme. Our technical assistance programme also supports the development and implementation of environmental management, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation projects and programmes towards building resilience.
 - **Partnerships** – we cannot do it without you, our members, development partners, donors and all other stakeholders.
-

CCRIF Distributes its Children's Booklet on Hazards, Disasters and Climate Change to Schools and Communities



CCRIF partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew in Jamaica to distribute its children's booklets to several urban and rural schools and to children in Grades 4 to 6. CCRIF board member, Sandra Bailey and Head of CCRIF Technical Assistance and Corporate Communications, Elizabeth Emanuel are members of the Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew in Jamaica. Schools that received booklets included St. Martin de Porres Primary, Grove Primary & Infant School, Louise Bennett

Coverley All Age, Duhaney Park Primary, St. Hugh's Prep, Our Lady of the Angels Prep, and Wolmer's Prep.



We shared copies with students at Hillel Academy Jamaica and engaged in a discussion of the book with the Grade 6 students. In 2020, the then Grade 6 class was part of the pilot for the book. The CCRIF team met with the class at that time and provided them with a presentation of the book, the key elements etc. to assess if the content was pitched at the right level.



We partnered with the “Strengthening the capacity of women coffee farmers in Jamaica through training” project, funded by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, to distribute books in the east rural St. Andrew to the children of coffee farmers who were in Grades 5 and 6.

Contact us at pr@ccrif.org to receive a copy or go to our website at <https://www.ccrif.org> to view the **electronic version**.

Spotlight on CCRIF Small Grants Programme...

Building the resilience of local communities across the small island and coastal states of the Caribbean

CCRIF Provides Support to Two Communities in the British Virgin Islands as Part of Efforts to Enhance Resilience in Communities

CCRIF has provided US\$17,000 to the BVI Red Cross to reduce the vulnerability of the

communities of Purcell Estate and East End, located on the island of Tortola in the British Virgin Islands. Recent assessments have confirmed that these communities are vulnerable to hurricanes, and particularly to flooding. CCRIF will provide support to conduct first-aid training as part of the communities' hurricane preparedness programme, conduct community clean-ups to support proper solid waste management and to install sediment traps into watercourses (known locally as ghuts) and drains in Purcell Estate.

These disaster risk reduction activities were based on the outcomes of community vulnerability assessments of Purcell Estate and East End, conducted under the Enhanced Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (EVCA) project within the Caribbean Resilience Programme, funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

UNITE Caribbean Completes Phase 1 of the RePLAST-OECS Pilot Plastic Recycling Project

The Caribbean region is extremely vulnerable to hurricanes, storms and rainfall events, which often result in flooding and damage to homes, businesses and



RePLAST OECS
Pilot Plastic Recycling Project

infrastructure. Flooding is often exacerbated by poor solid waste management practices, which often cause blocked drains and gullies. UNITE Caribbean undertook the RePLAST-OECS Pilot Plastic Recycling Project to help address the problem of plastic litter in Saint Lucia, which was evident throughout the country. Indeed, one of the pressing issues throughout the Caribbean is a lack of proper systems for the management of plastic waste. There is currently no sustained programme in place for sorting and recycling of this waste and as a result, there is a high incidence of indiscriminate dumping of plastic items. This often results in flooding in low lying areas and affects the coastal and marine environment, causing negative impacts on important economic sectors such as fisheries and tourism.

The RePLAST-OECS Pilot Plastic Recycling Project was designed to create a sustainable solution to the issue of plastic disposal in the OECS Member States. The project created a system that moves Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) and High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) plastic bottles from collection to export, thus removing them from the environment while also creating new financial flows from the export of plastic to be recycled.



1

Community members collect PET and HDPE plastic bottles.



2

Community members take plastic bottles to collection centres and receive rewards points for each lb. of bottles brought in – these points are redeemable at RePLAST Business Partners



3

Recycling companies collect bottles, package them, and export them to external markets to be recycled

Achievements of the RePLAST-OECS Pilot Plastic Recycling Project in Saint Lucia

- Community RePLAST Collection Points established in Gros Islet, Castries, Laborie, Vieux Fort – managed by community groups
- Over 250 community volunteers trained to support operations at community collection points.
- RePLAST collection points established at 4 hotels
- 17 Business Partners participating in the RePLAST Rewards Programme
- Four local recycling companies participating
- Collection of approximately 65,000 lbs of plastic beverage bottles
- Initial shipment made to Honduras of 26,000 plastic beverage bottles

CCRIF provided a grant of US\$24,000 for public awareness activities and funded the development and broadcasting of 6 videos in a “Meet a RePLAST Hero Series”, 5 instructional

videos in a plastic waste collection & recycling series (in Creole and English) and a documentary on the project. To view the videos, please click on the link below:

<https://unite->



caribbean.com/public/replastoecs/Media.html

The collection of media products were broadcasted and disseminated on radio, television, social media, the project website and the Government of Saint Lucia Television Channel, among others, and were instrumental in bringing local, regional and international attention to the project. Since the end of Phase 1 of the project in August 2021, the project continues to garner support, interest and momentum with requests from patrons for continuation.

One visible impact on the environment is the reduction of plastic bottles in flood waters after recent periods of heavy rainfall.

UNITE Caribbean Ltd is a Caribbean consulting firm that specializes in Caribbean development initiatives and regional cooperation projects with social and economic impact. The two-year RePLAST-OECS Pilot Plastic Recycling Project was launched in 2019 as an OECS Regional Co-operation Public-Private Initiative, to be implemented in Saint Lucia and further replicated in other OECS Member States. Lessons learned from Saint Lucia will be used to expand the project into other OECS countries. The pilot project was primarily funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For more information on the project visit www.replastoecs.com.

CCRIF Provides Scholarships totalling US\$ 201,000 to 14 Caribbean Students for Postgraduate Study in 2021... Creating the next generation of Caribbean leaders in disaster risk management



CCRIF SPC is pleased to announce the recipients of its postgraduate scholarships to study in 2021/2022. These include students who are pursuing master's programmes at universities in the United Kingdom during the 2021/22 academic year, as well as students who are completing or beginning master's programmes at Caribbean universities during 2021/2022. The total value of these scholarships is US\$201,000.

The scholarship recipients are:

For study at extra-regional universities

- Ryan Phillip - MSc in Climate Change at University College London
- Michael Smith - MSc in Structural Engineering at the University of Manchester

For study at The University of the West Indies

- Aaliyah D'Hereaux - MSc in Urban and Regional Planning
- Abigail Jones - MSc in Natural Resource Management: Disaster Risk Management
- Abimbola Haughton - MSc in Natural Resource Management
- Akil Crichlow - MSc in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean
- Alex Stewart - MSc in Natural Resource Management Programme
- Christianne Zakour - MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean
- Lahtefah James - MSc in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Caribbean
- Orson Nixon - MSc in Natural Resource and Environmental Management
- Romario Cumberbatch - MSc in Agri-Food Safety and Quality Assurance
- Sweelan Renaud - MSc in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Caribbean

For study at other Caribbean universities

- Hannah Lochan - MSc in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management at the University of Trinidad and Tobago
- Tamera Little - MSc in the Built Environment at the University of Technology, Jamaica

Through its postgraduate scholarship programme, CCRIF provides annually:

- **1 extra-regional scholarship** of up to US\$40,000 for students accepted into a university in the United Kingdom, United States or Canada
- **6 Caribbean scholarships** of US\$11,000 each for students accepted into The University of the West Indies; University of Technology, Jamaica; Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica; University of Guyana; or University of Suriname
- **Special Scholarships** totalling US\$11,000 for students enrolled in a new course developed by CCRIF and offered through The UWI titled *Fundamentals of Disaster Risk Financing (with emphasis on CCRIF Parametric Insurance Policies) for Advancing the Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)*

Also, CCRIF provides four scholarships annually to undergraduates at The UWI in select programmes, for their second and third year of study – valued at US\$4,000 for each year.

For 2021/22, CCRIF awarded scholarships to 3 undergraduate students to continue their programme of study in Civil Engineering at the Mona and St. Augustine campuses.

Since 2010, CCRIF has provided scholarships totalling US\$1.5 million for over 100 Caribbean nationals, to build the next generation of leaders in the areas of disaster risk financing, disaster management, climate change adaptation, meteorology, environmental management, etc.

CCRIF Invites Applications for its 2022 Scholarships



CCRIF SPC
The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

CCRIF invites Caribbean nationals to apply to its postgraduate scholarship programme for study at Caribbean and international universities for studies in areas such as disaster risk management (DRM), disaster risk financing, natural resources management, risk management, climate change, civil with environmental engineering, actuarial science, and meteorology.

8 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IN 2022

2 Extra-Regional Scholarships

Value: up to US\$40,000 each

Students must be admitted to a university in the United Kingdom, United States or Canada for study in areas related to DRM, Climate Change, Environment, Engineering, Actuarial Science etc

6 Caribbean Scholarships

Value: up to US\$11,000 each

Students must be admitted to: The University of the West Indies; University of Technology, Jamaica; Northern Caribbean University (Jamaica); University of Guyana; University of Suriname; or University of Trinidad and Tobago in areas similar to the extra-regional scholarship

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

APPLY AT:
<https://www.ccrif.org/scholarship>

Deadline: June 1, 2022

For more information, contact us at technicalassistance@ccrif.org



DO YOUR PART IN THE JOURNEY TOWARDS THE CARIBBEAN BECOMING THE WORLD'S FIRST CLIMATE-RESILIENT REGION.



CCRIF SPC
The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

CCRIF-UWI UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLY TODAY!

CCRIF SPC is offering 4 scholarships to students entering their second or third year in any of the following 20 undergraduate programmes of study at The University of the West Indies:

Mona Campus

- Faculty of Science and Technology for a major in Geography or Geology
- Faculty of Humanities and Education for a major in Geography
- Faculty of Engineering for a degree in Civil Engineering

Cave Hill Campus

- Faculty of Science and Technology for a degree in Environmental Sciences
- Faculty of Science and Technology for a degree in Meteorology

St. Augustine Campus

- Faculty of Engineering for a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Faculty of Engineering for a degree in Land Management
- Faculty of Science and Agriculture for a major in Geography
- Faculty of Science and Agriculture for a degree in Environmental Natural Resource Management
- Faculty of Science and Agriculture for a degree in Disaster Risk Resilience in Agriculture and the Environment
- Faculty of Social Sciences for a special management studies degree in Insurance and Risk Management

To apply: visit the scholarship section on your campus website and submit an application to the Office of Student Financing.

For more information see: <https://www.ccrif.org/ccrif-uwi-scholarship>



DO YOUR PART IN THE JOURNEY TOWARDS THE CARIBBEAN BECOMING THE WORLD'S FIRST CLIMATE-RESILIENT REGION.

The scholarship programme is part of the Facility's wider Technical Assistance (TA) Programme, which provides internships to university graduates, as well as support to

member countries, regional organizations and non-governmental and community-based organizations, and academic institutions to develop and implement disaster risk management and climate change adaptation projects and programmes. The Facility has made a total investment of over US\$6 million under its TA Programme since 2010.

CCRIF Invites Applications for its 2022 Internships



CCRIF SPC
The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

REGIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2022
Providing Young Caribbean Nationals with Work Experience from Anywhere

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

CCRIF invites young Caribbean nationals to apply for an internship to work with a Caribbean organization in an area related to disaster risk management or climate change adaptation.

The 2022 Internship Programme includes:

- Virtual internships – working remotely with a national or regional organization in the Caribbean
- On-site internships – working in your own country with a national or regional organization

CCRIF interns will:

- work for 2-3 months (between July 2022 and March 2023)
- receive a monthly stipend
- receive certification in disaster risk financing and parametric insurance

Past host organizations have included: ACS, CARICAD, CARICOM, CCRIF, CDEMA, CRFM, CIMH, CMO, OECS, departments and centres at The UWI (Cave Hill, Mona and St. Augustine campuses) and national meteorology and disaster management agencies.

APPLY AT:
<https://www.ccrif.org/regional-internship-programme>

Deadline:
June 1, 2022

For more information, contact us at:
technicalassistance@ccrif.org

www.ccrif.org www.facebook.com/ccrif www.instagram.com/ccrif www.linkedin.com/company/ccrif

DO YOUR PART IN THE JOURNEY TOWARDS THE CARIBBEAN BECOMING THE WORLD'S FIRST CLIMATE-RESILIENT REGION.

CCRIF 2021 Internship Programme a Huge Success

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CCRIF redesigned its internship programme to include virtual internships under the theme, “**Providing Young Caribbean Nationals with Work Experience from Anywhere**”. In 2021, CCRIF offered internships to 34 recent university graduates at 16 regional and national organizations across the Caribbean, investing over US\$65,000. The programme was mostly virtual, with 31 interns working remotely and 3 interns implementing on-site internships, working face-to-face in their home country. Also, we were able to increase the internships from 2 months to 10 weeks this year.

While the virtual internships posed some challenges, the comments from one of our host organizations, the Association of Caribbean States, expressed the overarching perception of the hosts:

“ It was definitely a great experience and we would highly recommend the internship programme to other organisations. Interns seem to be highly intelligent and skilled. [The internship] is, in a small part, an opportunity to develop into these skills and model them to suit a very competitive world. ”

2021 Host Organizations

Association of Caribbean States (ACS) • Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD) • Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) • Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) • Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) • Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO) • CARICOM Secretariat • Tobago Emergency Management Agency • Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS) • Barbados Department of Emergency Management (DEM) • Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HMCI) • The UWI: Department of Geography, St. Augustine; Department of Geography and Geology, Mona; and the Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRRC), Mona

Interns worked on a variety of interesting projects. Some examples are presented below:

<p>Dana Lewis at CDEMA: conducted exploration of risk assessment methodologies, contextualized to Caribbean SIDS, to determine what is required to produce accurate and applicable risk assessments for the region</p>	<p>Ronaldo Pierre and Stefan Clarke at the Department of Geography, UWI Mona: for the Bringing Geology and Geoheritage to Life project - created an inventory of buildings and structures, heritage sites, monuments, and tourist areas to inform a vulnerability assessment of these areas to sea level rise and natural hazards</p>
<p>Sara Low at the Department of Geography, UWI St. Augustine: conducted field research to determine the value of vetiver grass in ecosystem restoration</p>	<p>Tasheika Wilson at the TTMS: assessed the overall climate change risk to the water resource sector of Trinidad and Tobago and identified opportunities for adaptation</p>
<p>Ashanie Long-Reid at CIMH: conducted vulnerability and hazard assessments to support the development of integrated resource and resilience plans for the energy sector</p>	<p>Vikki Lee at CMO: Assisted with development of a Regional Severe Weather Operational Plan for the Eastern Caribbean</p>



CCRIF Technical Assistance Committee Chairperson, Desirée Cherebin and the Technical Assistance Manager team with interns at the End-of-Internship Forum in November 2021

After most internships had been completed, CCRIF hosted an End-of-Internship Forum in November 2021. It provided an opportunity for the interns to network and share their work with other interns. The forum also allowed the interns to interact with some of

CCRIF's senior leadership (the CEO and the TA Committee Chairperson) as well as a long-standing host organization – the CIMH, which has hosted 13 interns through the years and former CCRIF intern (and CCRIF scholar) Ms. Christal Benjamin, who gave some perspective on how she benefited from her internship.

Interns collectively created three “CCRIF Internship Statements” for 2021:

“

My CCRIF internship experience was transformational, fulfilling, insightful, incomparable, beneficial and life changing.

CCRIF provides opportunities to enhance the skills, knowledge, education and overall development of Caribbean youth.

As an organization, CCRIF is necessary, innovative, impactful, beneficial and invaluable.

”

See the CCRIF Interns webpage (<https://www.ccrif.org/ccrif-2021-interns>) for additional information on the 2021 interns.

Since 2015 CCRIF has placed 137 interns at 29 national and regional organizations, with a total investment of about US\$374,000

Climate Studies Group Mona Enhances Tools to Reduce Disaster Risk and Enhance Food and Water Security

CCRIF is supporting the Climate Studies Group Mona (CSGM) at The University of the West Indies to upgrade three tools that have been designed to support planning to reduce disaster risk and enhance food and water security. They are intended to assist in making informed decisions on actions to manage climate change threats and to reduce hazard risks.

The three tools are:

1. **Simple Model for Advection of Storms and Hurricanes (SMASH)** : allows users to examine differing scenarios of storm tracks from past storms
2. **Agricultural Climate Change Evaluation for Production, Transformation and Resilience Building (ACCEPT) Agri portal**: allows farmers, extension officers and other agriculture sector stakeholders to see predicted yields and biomass of different crop types under conditions, such as extreme events (e.g. droughts and floods)
3. **Real Time Monitoring System (RealTMS) - Water Quality**: allows for pseudo-real-time monitoring of water quality variables such as Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), pH, temperature and conductivity

During December, January, and February, CSGM held training workshops that provided practical hands-on training to regional stakeholders within government entities and academia on how to use each of these revamped tools. Over 80 disaster/emergency managers and persons from water resources authorities, meteorological services, environmental agencies, ministries of agriculture, and other related organizations across the Caribbean participated in the workshops – in addition to regional organizations such as

As the sponsor, CCRIF participated in all three workshops and discussed linkages between CCRIF's work and participants' areas of focus. The SMASH workshop was held as part of the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) and CCRIF reiterated how the SMASH tool could complement its own web monitoring and forecasting application for tropical cyclones, rainfall and earthquakes – WeMap. At the ACCEPT workshop, CCRIF informed participants about CCRIF's parametric insurance products that can be beneficial to the agriculture and fisheries sector: its COAST product for fisheries, and planned products for agricultural drought and a holistic agriculture product that will address risks to the sector from multiple hazards. Participants were particularly interested in the Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP), the microinsurance product targeting small farmers, fishers and other vulnerable persons, developed under the CRAIC project led by CCRIF.



CCRIF 2021 Intern, Ms. Tremaine Bowman (at left) participated in the SMASH training workshop in December 2021 in her new role as a GIS Specialist at the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), where she had interned a few months earlier. At right is TEMA Director, Mr. Allan Stewart.

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