

## CCRIF PROVIDES POST-SANDY ASSISTANCE TO HAITI, JAMAICA AND THE BAHAMAS

Hurricane Sandy passed through the Caribbean in October 2012, affecting three CCRIF member countries – Haiti, Jamaica and The Bahamas, although not to the extent of triggering their tropical cyclone policies.

Shortly after the passage of Sandy, CCRIF began to engage in discussions with the three countries regarding possible support for recovery activities through its existing Technical Assistance programme. Small-scale, community-level projects were identified by disaster managers and other key stakeholders in each country to receive assistance from CCRIF. This assistance was granted through dialogue with national partners as humanitarian support.



### JAMAICA

Based on discussions with Jamaica's Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) and other stakeholders, CCRIF agreed to provide US\$100,000 to support the rehabilitation of Muirton Boys Home, a residential childcare facility, which was damaged by the hurricane. On April 12, 2013, CCRIF signed a contribution agreement formalising this donation and the Child Development Agency is in the process of making the repairs, which should be complete by the end of 2013.



*Participating in the signing of the agreement for the grant for post-Sandy recovery, front row (L-R), Mr. Sydney Bartley, Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Culture; Mr. Devon Rowe, Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning; Mr. Isaac Anthony, CEO, CCRIF; Mr. Ken Blakeley, Board Member, CCRIF; back row (L-R), Mrs. Carla Francis-Edie, Chief Executive Officer, Child Development Agency; Mr. Ivan Carter, VP, Sagikor Jamaica, Insurance Manager, CCRIF; Dr. Simon Young, CEO, Caribbean Risk Managers, Facility Supervisor, CCRIF*

### THE BAHAMAS

After discussions with the Ministry of Finance, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Ministry of Works and Urban Development, CCRIF agreed to the Government's request to provide US\$85,000 for two projects to strengthen coastal defences damaged by Sandy: dune extensions at Sandport Beach Entrance and other locations, and repairs to Long Wharf Sidewalk – all of which are important for The Bahamas' tourism industry.

## HAITI

Following a review of appropriate post-Sandy disaster risk reduction projects compiled by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), discussions were initiated with the Fondation Amour de Dieu (FADA), a humanitarian NGO in Haiti, and an agreement was reached for CCRIF to make a contribution of US\$115,000 towards a project focusing on soil conservation and rehabilitation of flooded arable lands around the Bainet River.



*The Bainet River Bank - Before and After the Project*



*Activities included constructing biological barriers for gullies, erecting fences on gently sloping slopes, planting fruit seedlings as well as forging relationships and building capacity and leadership within the community around the issue of improving disaster management practices in these communities.*

Through this project, FADA was able to help City Bainet and surrounding communities address some of the challenges due to environmental problems and mismanagement of risk and disasters, many of which are linked to the seasonal cyclonic period and which often result in food security issues.

Today people within these communities are able to benefit from the trees planted and their resilience has been increased due to the gabions installed along the river bed and the training conducted. They are well on their way to meeting the Haitian saying: **“Do not be ready for a fatality, safeguard early.”**

### Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

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