

October 8, 20120

Comments from the United Kingdom on the Decision-by-Mail: Saint Lucia (Caribbean regional program): Proposal for Phase 1 Funding

Good morning,

Thank you very much for sharing this proposal with us.

On the whole it is strong.

The approach to integrating climate resilience into national development policy and planning is truly cross-sectoral, with strong cooperation across the government departments and the activities listed suggest that the PPCR pilot will build upon existing initiatives and not duplicate work. We welcome the proposal.

However, there are one or two points which need some strengthening:

- There is little indication of engagement with, or consideration of, poor and vulnerable groups or gender impacts. There is limited reference to poverty reduction in general which is central to building resilience. While brief references are made to these groups and issues, it is not explained or elaborated upon to any extent. We would like to know how the needs of the poor and vulnerable are being addressed by the proposal and what the impacts are on poverty reduction.
- The need for international consultants to fill technical capacity gaps in St Lucia is understood. However, it is therefore crucial that a significant part of the work of the consultant must be to train local experts in the required areas of work. Otherwise, it will always be necessary to finance international consultants for future updates. Building national capacity is key to a successful PPCR pilot.
- There is significant focus on data capture but less on lesson learning. It may be implied but we would like to see lesson-learning activities from the data be brought out more robustly in the proposals.
- The importance of the role of the private sector is recognised but there is no detail on how the private sector will be engaged.
- The consultations in general appear to be heavy on the government side and light on non-government actors, such as academics, private sector and civil society groups.

We are happy to approve the proposal if the points above are addressed in the draft SPCR.

Kind regards,

Su-Lin