

December 16, 2010

**Joint Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank response to comments made by the PPCR Sub-Committee on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' Phase 1 Proposal**

Dear PPCR Sub-Committee,

In response to the questions raised by the PPCR Sub-Committee regarding Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' (SVG) Phase 1 Proposal, we would like to address questions raised by providing the following additional information:

In discussing the concerns raised by Sub-Committee members on the SVG Phase 1 Proposal with the Government of SVG and consultants identified to assist the Government in formulating the SPCR, there is general agreement that all issues raised will be addressed during the Phase 1 process and more specifically referenced in the SPCR.

As outlined in the Phase 1 Proposal, there will be a series of national consultations with the PPCR Technical Working Group (TWG), non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society and gender groups, including women and children, and beneficiary ministries/departments<sup>1</sup> to ensure multi-stakeholder engagement. The objective of these consultations will be to reach national consensus on how climate change resilience should be most appropriately addressed across sectors. The PPCR TWG, with assistance from the Central Planning Division within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, will be responsible for ensuring coordination between the private sector and the public sector, national agencies and beneficiaries as well as ensuring the proposed priorities and components correspond with the defined focal points. A public education/outreach strategy to promote and encourage behavioral policy changes in the quest of building climate resilience will also be developed during Phase 1. Additionally, the PPCR TWG plans to conduct a review of the current approach to integrate climate change into planning and development processes, as outlined in the Phase 1 Proposal, including strategies to mainstream climate resilience into relevant sector policies, investment planning and land-use planning approaches at the local and national level. This will be complimented by the sector-specific work of the PPCR Consultancy Team, which will be responsible for providing technical expertise in the following areas: data management (geo-spatial data, climate data, institutional data, etc), watershed management, coastal zone management and legal regimes. These sectors were not specifically addressed in the Phase 1 Proposal; however, will be addressed in detail based on inputs from the respective consultants.

Specific responses to Sub-Committee comments are addressed below:

***Gender mainstreaming/engagement of most vulnerable groups:*** Through the process of the national consultations the Government intends to gain a better understanding of how to address

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<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health and the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Transport and Works and the National Emergency Management Organization.

the special needs of vulnerable groups, and incorporate approaches identified into the design of its public education/outreach strategy to promote and encourage behavioral policy changes, , in order to provide a solid platform for awareness-building for the general population and community-based activities that directly address identified vulnerabilities, especially from the perspective of women and children. As part of informing this strategy, and through the SPCR development process, the Government also aims to gain information in regards to aspects of the poverty situation, education, land use/access to land etc.

***Linkages between national and regional activities:*** Clear linkages between national and regional PPCR activities and synergies will be addressed more specifically in SVG's SPCR. The PPCR Regional-Track Phase 1 proposal is currently under development in close supervision and cooperation of the PPCR Caribbean Steering Committee (established by the countries and regional organizations in order to manage the program in the region). This proposal was further discussed during a meeting of the PPCR Caribbean participating countries, regional organizations and development partners held on November 11th 2010, at the headquarters of the IDB in Washington DC. It is expected that this proposal will be submitted for endorsement by the end of 2010. Once completed, SVG's national activities will be clearly linked to the regional track when it begins to develop its SPCR in early January 2010.

With Kind Regards,

The Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank