

**Meeting of PPCR Pilot Countries and Regions  
October 30, 2012 - Istanbul, Turkey**

**Progress Updates from PPCR Pilots**

**Country/regional pilot:** SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

**Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR):**

- Endorsed
- Endorsement date: April 19, 2011

*Briefly outline three major advances, challenges and lessons learned arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.*

**Advances:**

1. ***Policy***

The programme has generated significant interest at a high level, and greater appreciation of the climate change adaptation/resilience agenda. This interest has resulted in a certain ease in getting policy decisions made (approvals/reviews/directives etc) which ultimately affects the success of the programme.

2. ***Operational***

Many of the activities under the programme have been packaged for procurement and the project staff is working with the collaborating agencies to prepare ToRs. Some tenders have been launched and proposals are expected to be submitted in the upcoming months.

3. ***Technical***

- Core technical staff (Engineer, Quantity Surveyor, Procurement, Project Coordinator) have joined the implementation team boosting project execution.
- Regional knowledge workshop held on climate resilient infrastructure – This provided the SVG team with an opportunity to learn about various building codes and regulations etc from regional and international experts and peers.

**Challenges:**

1. Incorporating the flow from the Regional PPCR project into local operations.
2. Maintaining ownership and energy /Drive –keeping stakeholders motivated and active to keep the project moving forward (partner agencies).
3. Keeping track of similar CC adaptation initiatives undertaken by non-governmental agencies or other government agencies which do not make contact with the lead SPCR agency - information sharing; inter-agency coordination.

4. No Government agency with explicit responsibility/mandate for coastal zone management.
5. Steeper learning curve than anticipated.

**Lessons learned:**

1. Do not make assumptions about agencies' capacity to provide critical technical assistance. Ensure that the agencies have the capacity to deliver what they had elected to in the preparatory phase. If possible make provisional allocations to cater for discrepancies.
2. Map results/indicators to activities outlined in the investment plan prior to beginning procurement activities. This will provide a clearer path for results monitoring and scheduling of activities.
3. There are many studies/interventions being undertaken in the area of CC adaptation and resilience in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. These need to be archived to provide base data for future studies. A single repository is needed to better provide access to work already done.

*What is the most striking value added or benefit from the PPCR process in your country?*

Implementation of the SPCR allows the Government to consolidate its efforts (past and present) in the area of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. The programme promotes/build cohesion.

*Briefly outline the institutional arrangements for the coordination and oversight of the implementation of the SPCR as a program. What works and what needs improvement?*

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines SPCR will be implemented within the Government's existing programme management framework. **The Public Sector Investment Programme Management Unit (PSIPMU)** within the Central Planning Division of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning is the lead agency for programme implementation. It has responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation, procurement and financial management of the project. The CPD will also manage the environmental and social safeguard aspects of activities financed by the programme.

In addition, the CPD has responsibility for macroeconomic planning and coordinating development activities. Thus, the Unit is well placed to recognise commonalities in similar projects and capitalise on the synergies from other projects with similar objectives to the SPCR.

Collaborating agencies include the Ministries of Health and the Environment, Housing, Physical Planning etc, Transport and Works, NEMO, MET Office and BRAGSA.

In addition, a steering committee has been established. This committee is responsible for ensuring the smooth execution of project activities and the accomplishment of project objectives.

The Committee will meet monthly to review project implementation performance, but will also be convened, when necessary, to attend to urgent matters which may arise in the course of implementation of the Project. Generally, the role of the Steering Committee is to:

- Assess project progress.
- Provide advice and guidance on issues facing the project.
- Assist with resolving strategic level issues and risks.
- Use influence and authority to assist the project in achieving its outcomes.
- The committee also acts as a liaison between project implementation and the Prime Minister, who is responsible for disaster management in the country.

*If you have an endorsed SPCR, which of your projects have progressed the most in terms of preparation/implementation and what are the 3 main factors that have contributed to this progress?*

**Project:** Georgetown pilot area: Feasibility studies and environmental assessment for coastal protection works.

1. Dedicated procurement team moving the processes forward/well defined procurement cycle.
2. Good technical support from the partnering MDG (The World Bank) in development of ToRs etc.
3. Excellent response to Request for Expression of Interest (REoI).

*What are the 3 major tasks ahead for your SPCR during the next 6-12 months?*

1. Development of a National Physical Development Plan.
2. **Arnos Vale Pilot Area:** Preparation of a comprehensive integrated watershed management policy and action plan for SVG.
3. Refining activities to be undertaken in the **Union Island Pilot Area.**
  - i) Conduct in-depth audit of related interventions undertaken on Union Island.