1. *Session 1: Update on SVG's SPCR, Challenges and Opportunities (actual and anticipated):*

- The St. Vincent and the Grenadines SPCR was approved and is being implemented as part of a larger programme- the Regional Disaster Vulnerability Risk Reduction Project (RDVRP)- focused on reducing disaster vulnerability/risk and improving climate resilience in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Currently, the focus is on finalizing the preparatory activities to facilitate commencement of work during the second half of 2012. Already, positions have been advertised to augment the staff of the implementing unit and there is ongoing dialogue with the partner agencies with a view towards finalising the implementation and procurement plans.

Challenges:

- Consensus building - looking for common interests among contending entities.
- Conveying the importance of the project to the populace and getting "buy-in" from them
- Collaborating with donor agencies (who sometimes appear to have objectives, not consistent with the country's)
- Incorporating the flow from the dual stream Regional PPCR project into local operations
- Maintaining ownership and energy /Drive –keeping stakeholders and partner agencies motivated and active to keep the project moving forward.

Successes:

- The project has generated significant interest at a high level, and greater appreciation of the climate change adaptation/resilience agenda. This interest can be translated into a positive change in policy which has the potential of bringing about the desired transformation required to achieve the proposed impact
- Project was successfully launched in November 2011 and project staff is actively preparing for implementation.

Opportunities:

- Interest at multilateral agency level resulting in significant funding in the area of climate change adaptation
- The project provides an opportunity to have a holistic, integrated and comprehensive (sectors, aspects) approach/view to/of climate change and its impact and building resilience.
- There are great possibilities to collaborate with and learn from our regional neighbours.

2. *Maintaining a Programmatic Approach in Implementation*

a) Stocktaking of challenges, lessons and good practice...

Challenges:

- Capacity issues in partner agencies
- Funding
- Coordinating activities among collaborating agencies

Lessons learnt:

- Success of the project requires the partnering agencies' full participation in, and ownership of, the project.

- In order for there to be transformation, there needs to be a change in the mindset of the decision makers towards CC adaptation. SVG has been fortunate, in this regard, to receive support at the level of the Prime Minister. In addition, SVG's SPCR includes as part of the capacity building, a number activities which support CC adaptation oriented policy reform and institutional and legal strengthening.

b) Institutional Arrangements for implementation of the SPCR: (see OM for further details)

The SPCR is being implemented as part of the RDVRP. 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 project implementation. It has responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation, procurement and financial management and general management of the project. 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 l 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 implementation 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.

c) Stakeholder Engagement, including the private sector

i. General Lessons Learnt from Stakeholder engagements

- It is not always easy to get stakeholders to contribute for the wider benefit, particularly if the benefits are not immediately obvious.. Further, it is not uncommon for stakeholders to care only for their sector even though the sectors involved are very interrelated.
- Bottom up planning is critical.
- Developing the project is an iterative process. Feedback to and from stakeholders is critical.
- Data gathering is essential.
- Difficult to gather stake-holders on a consistent basis.

ii. In terms of the Private Sector

In the case of SVG, there were initial discussions with selected businesses and in some instances presentations of the impact of climate change were made. (Some stakeholders also made presentations, for example the Insurance Association did a presentation on the cost of CC). These initial discussions demonstrate that the private sector has a major role to play in climate resilience. This matter will be pursued further during project implementation. Activity **3.5**[1] addresses the need to raise awareness in the public and the private sectors. Also, activity **4.10**[2] seeks to establish collaborative mechanisms between government and the private sector. There are various areas of the private sector, which would be of particular importance for climate resilience. These include insurance, shipping, transport and the tourism industry.

REFERENCE: Page 75

d) Knowledge management and lessons learned

Activities within the project for knowledge management:-capturing and sharing lessons learnt – PG 41 PAD.

[1] Page 104 of the Investment Plan
[2] Page 89 of the Investment Plan

The project has this built into it. For each of the pilots, the lessons learnt would be captured and subsequently published with the participation of a regional technical agency, thereby providing valuable information on the pilot foci (watershed management, coastal protection, CC in atolls).

In addition, workshops and other knowledge management support would be organised to facilitate national and regional learning. So far, SVG has hosted an infrastructure workshop which had the following objectives:

- Discuss the impacts of climate change and engineering considerations for climate resilient infrastructure in the OECS;
- Increase the capacity of engineers to strengthen the design, construction standards and methods to build climate resilient infrastructure in small island developing states (SIDS);
- Improve access to engineering models and new technologies for construction designs;
- Support the creation of a technical engineering association in the OECS to exchange information and best-practice for regional standards, codes, models, etc.

Outcomes:

- Improved understanding of building codes, standards and policy recommendations;
- Strengthened designs, TORs and standards for long-term durability of regional infrastructure investments that prevent and mitigate climate-related disasters in the Eastern Caribbean;
- Improved access to international codes, models, technologies related to and climate resilient infrastructure;
- Improved climate resilience of planned infrastructure investments made through the PPCR/RDVRP.

Also, SVG has installed GeoNode a data management platform which functions as a repository for geospatial data.

3. Measuring Results from Investments in Climate Resiliency

Challenges:

- Specific data on the costs and benefits of adaptation measures are not readily available. Other data required for baseline may be outdated or unavailable or may be too costly to acquire.
- Highly technical expertise may not be available.
- Synchronising agreed matrix with implementation plan and procurement plan.

Session 5: Hydro- meteorological and Climate Information Services – please review and be prepared to discuss your country's SPCR investments and activities to enhance hydro-meteorological and climate information services.

There are a number of activities in the SPCR to address the capacity issues in hydro-meteorological services in SVG:

Activity	US$	Required next steps	Responsible Agency	Description
MET Office : Technical Assitance / Training - Improved Forecasting & Intergovernmental Coordination	100,000	ToR to be prepared	MET & CPD	Consultancy would support the MET office efforts to improve their hydro-climatological monitoring, analysis, and understanding. To be complimented by through the procurement of additional instruments et al.
CWSA: Technical Assitance / Training - Improved Capacity for Hydrological (drainage) and Waste Water Management	40,000	ToR to be prepared	CWSA & CPD	Consultancy would support CWSA efforts to improve their hydrological monitoring, analysis, and understanding, as well as their waste water management policies and procedures. To be complimented by through the procurement of additional instruments et al.
Acquisition and Installation of Telemetric Hydro-Climatic Weather Stations & Other Hydro-meteorological sensors	700,000	Technical specification & BoQ to be prepared	CWSA, MET & CPD	This package may require an upstream instrumentation analysis to determine effectiveness of current MET / CWSA networks