

**Meeting of PPCR Pilot Countries and Regions
May 1-3, 2013–Washington D.C., United States**

Progress Updates from PPCR Pilots

Country/regional pilot: Saint Lucia

Please describe any advances made in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.

Institutional arrangements

Saint Lucia’s strategic programme areas under its SPCR (focused on climate change adaptation (CCA) are closely interwoven with the broader fabric of disaster risk reduction (DRR). Thus, co-financing under the PPCR will be achieved through a synergistic blend, with financial resources made available under the national and regional components of a World Bank-implemented Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP). The PPCR-DVRP is therefore managed accordingly, with the Sustainable Development Environment Division (SDED) of the Ministry of Sustainable Development Energy, Science and Technology leading on technical matters and the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security leading on fiduciary matters. This was already in operation since the last meeting.

Terms of Reference have also been prepared for the hiring of a Climate Change Specialist/Coordinator (to serve as Monitoring Officer), a Communications/Liaison Officer and an Administrative Officer under the Project to operate from the Sustainable Development and Environment Division of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy and Science & Technology.

A Project Management Committee was also established since the last meeting for the review of the projects submitted for consideration by various governmental agencies.

The National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) as the Cabinet Appointed entity to oversee all climate change programmes on the island will also have oversight over the implementation of the SPCR. This will be accomplished through a Climate Resilience Sub-Committee (CRSC) which will embrace additional partners, especially those from Civil Society. Allocation has been made under the project to facilitate the scheduling of these meetings.

Please describe any advances made in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.

Capacity building	Capacity Building under the Project has largely occurred through the Geonode component under Phase 1, where workshops were held with key entities. It is the intention under Phase 2 for Geonode to be extended/upgraded, as appropriate. There are also capacity building components under some of the projects submitted by entities.
Analytical work and technical studies	Terms of Reference have been prepared for various feasibility studies and requirements under the Project Preparation Advance (PPA) component of the Project. This is inclusive of exploratory and investigative work on the Climate Change Adaptation Loan Facility (CALF). As a World Bank requirement, a Rapid Analysis is expected to be undertaken on the CALF (through a World Bank and national effort), the results of which are expected to lead to a more detailed and thorough feasibility study being conducted by a consultant. The evaluation process has also been undertaken for the hiring of environmental and social safeguards consultants as part of a World Bank requirement under the Project.
Stakeholder engagement	All stakeholders continue to be apprised of the current state of affairs under the Project. Some agencies have been asked to make final amendments to proposals.
Procurement and recruiting	<p>Terms of Reference have been prepared for the hiring of a Climate Change Specialist/Coordinator, a Communications/Liaison Officer and an Administrative Officer under the Project to operate from the Sustainable Development and Environment Division of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy and Science & Technology.</p> <p>The evaluation process has also been undertaken for the hiring of environmental and social safeguards consultants as part of a World Bank requirement under the Project.</p> <p>Following a Rapid Analysis of the CALF to be undertaken through a World Bank and national effort, a more detailed and thorough feasibility study is to be conducted by a consultant that will inform the design and operation of the CALF.</p>
On-the ground activities (please specify)	On-the-ground activities have been delayed due to internal processes for project approval. Approval of projects at the national level was granted by the Minister of Finance in March 2013. Only visits to the various sites where interventions are planned have been undertaken with technical agencies during World Bank Missions.

<i>Please describe any challenges encountered in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.</i>	
Institutional arrangements	Some of the momentum gained with institutions during Phase 1 of the PPCR has been lost due the delay in project preparation/approval. There have been challenges in continuity arising from a new (political) administration, changes in Permanent Secretaries of both of the national executing agencies and decrease in the size of the climate change team operating at SDED vis-à-vis increasing workload. However, with the recent approval granted by the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, steady progress is anticipated.
Stakeholder capacity	Some stakeholders have had difficulty in costing project activities and also in justifying activities in the context of CCA and DRR. However, they have been assisted accordingly members of the Project Management Team.
Data availability	Some momentum gained with Geonode under Phase 1 has also been lost, including liaising with various technical agencies in acquiring data to populate the site. It is expected that once a Geospatial Data Coordinator is hired under Phase 2 (along with a GIS specialist), the process of data storage, collection, enhancement, manipulation, will progress.
Stakeholder engagement	The delays in the process meant that the planned meetings of the NCCC and CRSC to be regularly scheduled (oversight, advisory, reporting, etc) had to be largely postponed. However, stakeholders were kept apprised of the current status of the project, largely through smaller, more informal sessions. With the PPA expected to take effect this year, stakeholder engagement will be expected to proceed as originally planned.
Coordination	Phase 1 of the PPCR was largely coordinated by SDED, whereas in Phase 2, coordination on administrative and financial matters is being led by the PCU, while technical matters are being handled by SDED. This presents a learning curve for SDED and PCU that have traditionally both largely managed their own projects. However, the regularly scheduled meetings between the two national executing agencies have and will continue to assist in the smooth operation of the Project.
Financing	The approval of the PPA and the PPCR-DVRP as a whole was granted by the Minister of Finance in March 2013. As such, before then, there was no clear confirmation of the allocation of the funding for the various activities under the Project.

Please describe any challenges encountered in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.

Procurement and recruiting	This has been delayed by the lengthy period awaiting administrative clearance on the PPCR/DVRP from the Ministry of Finance, that is, the focal point for World Bank implemented projects. This approval was granted in March 2013. As such, procurement and recruitment of the PPA activities are expected to proceed as per the Bank-approved Procurement Plan, which outlines in great detail, the specific activities to be financed with the PPA. Some of the TORs and Bidding documents have been finalised and bidding processes have already been launched for some of the activities to be financed under the PPA.
Sustaining momentum	See previous sections.
Other	Administrative delays caused by changes in the political administration as well as changes in leadership of both national executing agencies.

Please provide any additional information you wish to share on activities, impacts or lessons learned from the implementation of your SPCR.

With the PPA expected to take effect in June, lost momentum is expected to be regained. The PPA will finance activities to support project preparation to enhance Project readiness and allow for smooth and rapid implementation of activities soon after Project Effectiveness. PPA activities will include, *inter alia*: PCU and SDED staffing (including the position for the Climate Change Specialist/Coordinator (fulfilling role of Monitoring Officer), Social and Environmental Safeguards assessments, hiring of a GIS Coordinator, technical assistance to executing ministries, feasibility study for the CALF and designs for works that will be financed under the PPCR/DVRP.