



*For Immediate Release*

## ***Assessing climate change adaptation readiness in the fisheries sectors of Anguilla and Montserrat***

**Port of Spain, March 14, 2018** – Is the fisheries sector ready to adapt to climate change? This question was the focus of consultations conducted in Anguilla and Montserrat, in February 2018, under the Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund project “Climate change adaptation in the fisheries of Anguilla and Montserrat”.

The fisheries sectors in Anguilla and Montserrat make significant contributions to livelihoods and national food security. However, they are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate variability and change. Increased sea surface temperatures, sea level rise and more intense storms are expected to have both biophysical and socioeconomic impacts on fisheries.



*Consulting with technical staff from the Departments of Agriculture and Environment, Montserrat*

Technical officers from the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), in collaboration with their counterparts from the Fisheries and Ocean Resources Unit, Montserrat, and Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Anguilla, consulted with representatives from key agencies responsible for the environment, agriculture, fisheries, coastal and marine management and finance, as well as fisherfolk and their fisherfolk organisations to determine the institutional readiness of the fisheries sector to deal with climate change adaptation in these two Overseas Territories. The institutional assessments involved the use of the World Resources Institute’s Adaptation: Rapid Institutional Analysis (ARIA) toolkit, which focuses on five critical climate change adaptation functions: assessment, prioritisation, coordination, information management and mainstreaming. The findings from these assessments will be used to inform upcoming actions aimed at creating awareness and building institutional capacity to mainstream climate change adaptation into fisheries governance and management in Anguilla and Montserrat.



*Consulting with technical staff from the Department of Environment, Anguilla*

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**About the project:** The three-year (April 2017 – March 2020) Darwin Plus Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund project “Climate Change Adaptation in the Fisheries of Anguilla and Montserrat”, is aimed at mainstreaming climate change adaptation into fisheries governance and management, using an ecosystem approach to fisheries. The project will result in improved resilience and sustainability of fisheries, associated livelihoods and conservation of the marine environment in Anguilla and Montserrat. The project is being jointly implemented by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources (DFMR) - Anguilla, Fisheries and Ocean Resources Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Housing, Land and Environment (MATHLE) - Montserrat and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies of the University of the West Indies (UWI-CERMES). See here for more information: <http://www.canari.org/climate-change-adaptation-in-the-fisheries-of-anguilla-and-montserrat>.

**About CANARI:** The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is a regional, technical, non-profit organisation which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for more than 20 years. Our mission is to promote equitable participation and effective collaboration in managing natural resources critical to development. Our programmes focus on research, sharing and dissemination of lessons learned, capacity building and fostering regional partnerships.

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