



CSOs for Disaster Resilience (Phase II)

Empowering civil society and local communities to build resilience to hurricanes and climate extremes in the Eastern Caribbean

In the last decade, the Caribbean has experienced increasingly destructive hurricanes, with significant human, social, economic and environmental impacts. Ecosystem-based and community-based approaches which focus on conservation, sustainable management and restoration of natural ecosystems, and on engaging at-risk communities as part of the process to reduce disaster risk and help people and systems adapt, have become increasingly important.

From October 2022-October 2025, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) will undertake a second phase of the project entitled ***"CSOs for Disaster Resilience: Empowering civil society and local communities to build resilience to hurricanes and climate extremes in the Eastern Caribbean."*** The project which is funded by the Inter-American Foundation, focuses on improving local resilience to hurricanes and climate extremes in the Eastern Caribbean using community-based and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR/Eco-DRR) approaches. It specifically targets Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines and builds on an initial phase of work implemented from September 2019- September 2022.

To continue to respond to the need for more sustained and long-term support and strengthening of civil society organisations (CSOs) to address disaster risks and build their own resilience, CANARI will work closely with eight partner CSOs and community stakeholders in eight high-risk communities across the target countries. **This will be done through technical and organisational capacity building; mobilising local knowledge and partnerships; and supporting practical CBDRR/Eco-DRR actions on the ground.**

PROJECT IN BRIEF

Goal: Improved resilience for local communities, associated livelihoods and ecosystems to hurricanes and climate extremes in the Eastern Caribbean through implementing community-based and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR/Eco-DRR).

Lead: Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)

Target countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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Partners: 8 CSO partners working at national and community levels in the target countries

Donor: Inter-American Foundation

Budget: US \$390,000 (Phase II)

Duration: October 2022 – October 2025

Project webpage: <https://canari.org/csos-for-disaster-resilience>

PROJECT COMPONENTS & KEY ACTIVITIES

1

Component 1: Strengthening CSOs to deliver integrated community-based and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR/Eco-DRR). This includes technical capacity building of partner CSOs and community stakeholders to deliver CBDRR/Eco-DRR solutions for disaster risk reduction via a **training-of-trainers workshop**, **technical webinars** and **exchange visits**. It also includes organisational strengthening of partner CSOs via a **tailored mentoring programme**, and development of a **toolkit on mentoring Caribbean CSOs** to support further action.

2

Component 2: Supporting practical actions using integrated CBDRR and Eco-DRR to improve local resilience. This will focus on practical actions by partner CSOs to build resilience in the eight target communities using CBDRR/Eco-DRR solutions. Partner CSOs will be supported via **small grants** and **technical coaching** to lead **participatory community vulnerability assessments** and **adaptation planning** and use the results to design and implement a **small grant project** addressing identified resilience challenges.

3

Component 3: Enhancing knowledge mobilisation and partnerships for integrated CBDRR and Eco-DRR. This will focus on mobilising knowledge and partnerships through facilitating **national dialogues** on resilience priorities in target project countries and a **regional dialogue** on community resilience in the Caribbean and what is needed to scale this up, and **documenting and sharing project results, lessons and best practices** including via an **online knowledge platform**.

4

Component 4: Monitoring, evaluation and learning. This will include **mid-term and final independent evaluations** to assess overall impact, results, lessons, and recommendations from the project, and the production of **stories of change** of locally-led adaptation and nature-based solutions.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Locally-appropriate practical actions implemented to reduce vulnerability in at least eight high-risk communities, using community-based and ecosystem-based approaches
- Technical and organisational capacity as well as experience of Partner CSOs to undertake resilience actions built or strengthened
- Elaboration of an approach for empowering CSOs and local communities to build resilience, which can be replicated - inclusive of CSO mentoring and facilitating 'learning by doing'
- Experiences and lessons from the project evaluated, documented and shared
- Dialogue enhanced and a community of practice created to continue and expand CBDRR/Eco-DRR in the Eastern Caribbean region.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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