



Supporting Sint Maarten in developing a National Adaptation Strategy

Under the International Panel for Deltas and Coastal Areas (IPDC) project “**Supporting Sint Maarten in Developing a National Adaptation Strategy (NAS)**”, the Government of Sint Maarten—through the Ministry of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI)—is currently developing a comprehensive **National Adaptation Strategy (NAS-SXM)** to strengthen the policy framework and define the country’s long-term vision, goals, and priority actions for climate adaptation and resilience.

The NAS-SXM will be the first national strategy to systematically organise and prioritise climate adaptation efforts in Sint Maarten. It will serve as a high-level framework to guide adaptation efforts by:

- Identifying key climate risks, as well as related priority adaptation objectives and actions across sectors
- Clarifying institutional roles and responsibilities
- Informing future planning, investments, funding opportunities and implementation to strengthen climate resilience

PROJECT IN BRIEF

Goal: An inclusive and evidence-based National Adaptation Strategy (NAS-SXM) that strengthens Sint Maarten’s climate resilience and provides a strategic pathway for future national climate adaptation planning.

NAS-SXM development team:

- Ministry of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI) (Lead Ministry)
- Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) (Social engagement consultant, project lead)
- Dr. Kalim Shah (Technical consultant)
- Climate Adaptation Services (CAS) (Steering Committee)

Funder: International Panel for Deltas and Coastal Areas (IPDC)/Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management

Budget: Total €60,000 (€40,000 Social engagement component + €20,000 Technical component)

Duration: February – June 2026

Project webpage: <https://canari.org/projects/nas-sxm/>



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Between February and June 2026, the NAS-SXM will be developed through a collaborative process led by a multidisciplinary team. The process will include **technical analysis and inputs, participatory stakeholder engagement and iterative drafting** to ensure the Strategy reflects national priorities, diverse stakeholder perspectives and locally relevant adaptation needs.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- **NAS-SXM inception activities:** Development of the project workplan, methodology and outline for the NAS-SXM, ensuring alignment with existing national development, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management policies and frameworks.
- **Stakeholder mapping and engagement planning:** Conduct of comprehensive stakeholder mapping and preparation of an engagement plan to guide an inclusive and participatory strategy development process. This will include identifying priority actors, institutions, sectors and stakeholder groups, with particular attention to climate-sensitive sectors and ensuring representation across government, civil society, the private sector and vulnerable communities.
- **Stakeholder consultations and engagement:** Conduct of a series of participatory stakeholder engagement activities, including key informant interviews, targeted focus groups and a national multi-stakeholder convergence workshop. These engagements will gather technical inputs, local knowledge and stakeholder perspectives on vulnerabilities, adaptation priorities and implementation challenges and pathways to inform the Strategy.
- **Strategy development and refinement:** Preparation and refinement of successive drafts of the NAS-SXM, integrating stakeholder feedback and technical inputs. This will include refining strategic priorities, governance arrangements, and implementation pathways, and supporting preparation of the final draft Strategy for review and national endorsement.



Stakeholders discuss adaptation priorities at the national convergence workshop held in March 2026. Credit CANARI

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- A nationally owned and inclusive National Adaptation Strategy
- Enhanced awareness and engagement of stakeholders in national climate governance processes.
- Clear, prioritized adaptation actions informed by stakeholders
- Improved coordination across sectors and institutions on climate issues
- A strong foundation for future climate planning (e.g., National Adaptation Plan)

PROJECT CONTACTS

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