

Call for submission on human settlements and adaptation

According to the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, human settlements can be defined as the totality of the human community – whether city, town or village – with all the social, material, organizational, spiritual and cultural elements that sustain it.¹ During SBSTA 44, Parties highlighted that those making submissions should “bear in mind the unique challenges and scale differences in urban, rural and remote settlements, in particular in small island developing States and least developed countries.”² During SBSTA 46, Parties further underscored their interest in collecting information related to rural and coastal settlements, particularly remote settlements.³

We thank you in advance for filling out this template with concise, evidence-based information and for referencing all relevant sources. There are 5 sections in the template: please fill the sections that are relevant to the work of your government or organization. As you will see on the last page of the document, more detailed information on case studies, tools/methods and other knowledge resources for dissemination through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal is welcome, but optional.

Name of the organization or entity:

Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)

www.canari.org

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government/ municipal authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional center/network/initiative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization (IGO) | <input type="checkbox"/> Research institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National/public entity | <input type="checkbox"/> UN and affiliated organization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental organization (NGO) | <input type="checkbox"/> University/education/training organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector | |

Location

City: Laventille

Country: Trinidad and Tobago

Scale of operation:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local | <input type="checkbox"/> Subregional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary |

¹ See: <https://unhabitat.org/the-vancouver-declaration-on-human-settlements-from-the-report-of-habitat-united-nations-conference-on-human-settlements-vancouver-canada-31-may-to-11-june-1976/>

² FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15(b)(ii).

³ FCCC/SBSTA/2017/L.7, paragraph 13.

City(ies)/Country(ies) of operation (if appropriate):

Trinidad and Tobago – Caribbean region

1. Assessing sensitivity and vulnerability to climate change

Description of relevant activities/processes or research:

Please describe the activities or processes that your entity has implemented to assess sensitivity and/or vulnerability to climate change in human settlements. In case your organization carried out research on such activities/processes, please describe them.

CANARI implemented the project *Climate ACTT: Action by Civil society in Trinidad and Tobago to build resilience to climate change* in collaboration with Conservation International and BHP Billiton Trinidad and Tobago from August 2015 to January 2017. The Climate ACTT project aimed to build the capacity of five civil society organisations (CSOs) in Trinidad and Tobago to internationally accepted levels of best practice in two areas: organisational strengthening; and technical capacity to deliver projects and programmes for climate change adaptation and resilience. The five CSOs targeted were Caribbean Youth Environment Network – Trinidad and Tobago Chapter, Environmental Research Institute Charlotteville, Environment Tobago, Fondes Amandes Community Reforestation Project and Turtle Village Trust. The project was worth \$500,000 US.

The project involved two parallel streams of work. CANARI built the technical capacity of the five CSOs for climate change adaptation through training, mentoring and small grants to demonstrate and apply their learning. Two training workshops - focused on 1) communicating on climate change and 2) assessing vulnerability and building resilience to climate change - were convened for the five CSOs. With the support of a mentor, each CSO then conducted participatory vulnerability assessments and developed pilot adaption projects using a small grant.

CANARI developed the toolkit, *Implementing climate change actions: A toolkit for Caribbean civil society organisations*, to support the technical capacity building of CSOs. It provides information, tools and case studies of best practices on what is climate change, communication for awareness raising and advocacy, participatory vulnerability assessments, adaptation planning and taking action to adapt and build resilience to climate change.

To support the CSOs' work on climate change, CANARI also conducted organisational strengthening for each CSO through coaching, mentoring and training. A tailored approach was used to provide individual support to each CSO. This included conducting an organisational needs assessment for each CSO, identifying their priority needs, and designing and implementing a strategy for organisational strengthening.

Description of relevant tools/methods:

Please describe the tools and/or methods that have been developed and/or used to assess sensitivity and/or vulnerability to climate change.

The five CSOs were trained in and utilised a range of tools for participatory vulnerability assessments for climate change and to catalyse action within their target communities. Below the specific tools and actions are outlined, including community mapping, geographic information systems (GIS) analysis, photojournaling and value chain analysis.

With its focus on promoting youth advocacy for climate change, the Caribbean Youth Environment Network – Trinidad and Tobago Chapter trained its members and a youth environmental club in the Couva community of Central Trinidad in photojournalism and developed a photojournal to document local climate change impacts and vulnerability in Couva. They also developed a spoken word video and blog to share strategies and tools for climate change adaptation and advocacy. To support future work, the Chapter produced a Climate Change Advocacy Strategy and Toolkit to build the capacity of its members and partners.

Environmental Research Institute Charlotteville identified climate change champions within the surrounding coastal communities and organised a training of trainers to enhance their awareness of climate change and facilitate community mapping to capture local knowledge about climate change impacts and key vulnerable areas. A map of the coastal communities' vulnerability to climate change in Charlotteville, Tobago was created through these efforts. Environmental Research Institute Charlotteville also established a community network of climate change champions to raise awareness about climate change, its impacts and local vulnerabilities and mobilise for adaptation. In addition, a coral reef climate change awareness tour and snorkel trail was developed to further support awareness raising among tour operators and tourists in NE Tobago.

Environment Tobago conducted a survey of knowledge, attitudes and practices related to climate change, its impacts and potential adaptation actions in the coastal community of Lambeau in south-west Tobago. They also identified and mapped climate change impacts and risks using GIS tools. Based on these assessments, Environment Tobago highlighted that the community was most vulnerable to storm surge with sea level rise and more extreme weather due to climate change. They also produced a documentary film of the process and results from the vulnerability assessment to enhance awareness among the community and key decision makers.

The Fondes Amandes Community Reforestation Project used value chain analysis to assess the vulnerability of its eco-tourism enterprise in north Trinidad and identify relevant adaptation actions. A value chain represents all the processes involved in an enterprise. It shows the steps from getting the raw materials for the products/services to developing the products/services through to the sale to the final consumer. Analysing the value chain is one way that helps a CSO or entrepreneur to deliver goods and services at the lowest possible cost. It can also help to identify vulnerabilities to climate change. With the support of a business expert, Fondes Amandes Community Reforestation Project identified greater rainfall variability and heat stress as the most significant climate change risks to their eco-tourism enterprise in terms of their ability to collect raw materials, such as herbs, to reliably produce herbal products and maintain safe hiking trails. They therefore focused on establishing a nursery to house a herbal garden and identifying and propagating drought-resistant tree species to provide shade along trails as means to 'climate proof' their enterprise.

Key outcomes of the activities undertaken:

Please provide information regarding the outcomes of the activities/processes described above, and do not hesitate to add qualitative assessment and/or quantitative data to substantiate the information.

- Built technical competencies within the five CSOs to conduct participatory vulnerability assessments for climate change and communicate the findings among their target communities and other stakeholders
- Innovative tools and adaptation actions developed and implemented by the five CSOs, including:

- An advocacy toolkit which can be used in building capacity of Caribbean Youth Environment Network – Trinidad and Tobago Chapter members and other youth to conduct advocacy on climate change issues at community to national levels
- Creation of the North-east Tobago climate change champions network which is working to foster climate change awareness and mobilise for adaptation in their coastal communities
- Development of a coral reef climate change awareness tour and snorkel trail as an ecotourism attraction which is contributing to raise awareness of visitors of the impacts of climate change on North-east Tobago coral reefs and potential adaptation and resilience building actions
- Use of local knowledge and community-led research for identification and propagation of resilient tree species, including drought-resistant species, for reforestation to address heat stress and rainfall variability due to climate change and contribute to flood and watershed management
- Creation of a short video that captures local knowledge of climate change impacts and vulnerabilities in south-west Tobago and the process for undertaking a vulnerability assessment
- Enhanced understanding by five CSOs of their organisational strengths and needs and the value of organisational strengthening to support technical work on climate change
- Built organisational competencies within the five CSOs in strategic planning, financial management, human resources management and effective board governance

Description of lessons learned and good practices identified:

Please consider the following points when describing lessons learned and good practices: (a) effectiveness/impacts of the activities/processes (including measurability of the impacts), (b) efficiency in the use of resources, (c) replicability (e.g. in different locations, at different scales), (d) sustainability (i.e. meeting the current economic, social and environmental needs without compromising the ability to address future needs).

Through the project, CANARI identified a number of key lessons including:

- Enhancing organisational capacity of CSOs is a prerequisite for effective delivery of technical projects and programmes on climate change adaptation and building resilience.
- Five key areas to address for organisational strengthening are: good governance; accountable and transparent financial management; clear strategic direction; financial sustainability through effective fundraising; and human resource management.
- Matching climate change adaptation efforts with the CSO's mission and strengths contributes to success and long-term sustainability.
- Participatory vulnerability assessments need to be the first step to inform adaptation planning and actions and ensure evidence-based decision making.
- CSOs can act as intermediary organisations to manage small grant programmes for other CSOs and deliver strong capacity building results.
- Promoting a bottom-up approach to build resilience to climate change in small island developing states, such as Trinidad and Tobago, is key. CSOs need to be engaged as partners in planning and implementation and supported to implement community-based and ecosystem-based approaches.
- Partnerships between private sector, international non-profit organisations and indigenous CSOs like CANARI can ensure the effective delivery of corporate social responsibility programmes to address on-the-ground needs and deliver strong results.

Description of key challenges identified:

Please describe the key challenges associated with those activities/processes or the use of those tools/methods, that policy-makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders interested in assessing sensitivity and vulnerability to climate change should know about.

- Donors rarely fund targeted organisational capacity building. Yet, long-term programmes are key to build the core organisational competencies of Caribbean CSOs so they can be effective in delivering climate change adaptation programmes and projects.
- CSOs need to appreciate the value of organisational strengthening and be willing to commit to and invest resources (human and financial) in ongoing processes of learning and capacity building.
- CSOs that do not have paid staff can find it challenging to undertake organisational and technical capacity building in parallel. A phased approach to implementation of capacity building programmes or projects needs to be considered.
- There is limited recognition among government agencies and the private sector of the role and value of CSOs in assessing climate change vulnerabilities and implementing adaptation actions and the need for their active engagement and capacity building.

Planned next steps (as appropriate):

Based on this experience or research, have next steps been planned to address/study some of the identified challenges, scale up or scale out such activities/processes?

CANARI is actively seeking funding for a phase 2 of the Climate ACTT project that is scaled up to target up to 20 leading CSOs throughout the Caribbean region to enhance their organisational and technical capacity to effectively deliver adaptation programmes and projects and build resilience to climate change.

Relevant hyperlinks:

Please provide hyperlinks to sources of information

Climate ACTT project webpage: <http://www.canari.org/climateactt>

Policy brief on effective organisational capacity building of Caribbean CSOs:

<http://www.canari.org/wpdm-package/pb24climateactt>

Implementing climate change actions: a toolkit for Caribbean civil society organisations:

<http://www.canari.org/wpdm-package/climate-actt-toolkit>

2. Integrating both short-term and long-term climate considerations (including both extreme and slow onset events) into planning

According to UNFCCC decision 1.CP/16, slow onset events include sea level rise, increasing temperatures, ocean acidification, glacial retreat and related impacts, salinization, land and forest degradation, loss of biodiversity and desertification.⁴

Description of relevant activities/processes or research:

Please describe the activities or processes that your entity has implemented to integrate both short-term and long-term climate considerations (including both extreme and slow onset events) into

⁴ FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1, para 25, footnote 3.

planning. In case your organization carried out research on such activities/processes, please describe them.

Description of relevant tools/methods:

Please describe the tools and/or methods that have been developed and/or used to integrate both short-term and long-term climate considerations (including both extreme and slow onset events) into planning.

Key outcomes of the activities undertaken:

Please provide information regarding the outcomes of the activities/processes described above, and do not hesitate to add qualitative assessment and/or quantitative data to substantiate the information.

Description of lessons learned and good practices identified:

Please consider the following points when describing lessons learned and good practices: (a) effectiveness/impacts of the activities/processes (including measurability of the impacts), (b) efficiency in the use of resources, (c) replicability (e.g. in different locations, at different scales), (d) sustainability (i.e. meeting the current economic, social and environmental needs without compromising the ability to address future needs).

Description of key challenges identified:

Please describe the key challenges associated with those activities/processes or the use of those tools/methods, that policy-makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders interested in integrating both short-term and long-term climate considerations into planning should know about.

Planned next steps (as appropriate):

Based on this experience or research, have next steps been planned to address/study some of the identified challenges, scale up or scale out such activities/processes?

Relevant hyperlinks:

Please provide hyperlinks to sources of information.

3. The role of national governments in supporting adaptation at the local level

Description of relevant activities/processes or research:

Please describe activities or processes that your entity took part in, or studied, and that illustrate the role of national government(s) in supporting adaptation at the local level.

Description of relevant national-level policies, programmes or projects:

Please describe relevant policies, programmes, projects (or other relevant initiatives) implemented by national government(s) to support adaptation action at the local level. Information on the implementing partners and financial mechanisms established would be particularly helpful.

Description of relevant tools/methods:

Please describe specific tools and/or methods that have been developed and/or used by national government(s) to support adaptation at the local level.

Key outcomes of the action undertaken:

Please provide information regarding the outcomes of the actions described above, and do not hesitate to add qualitative assessment and/or quantitative data to substantiate the information.

Description of lessons learned and good practices identified:

Please consider the following points when describing lessons learned and good practices: (a) effectiveness/impacts of the activities/processes, national-level policies, programmes or projects (including measurability of the impacts), (b) efficiency in the use of resources, (c) replicability (e.g. in different locations, at different scales), (d) sustainability (i.e. meeting the current economic, social and environmental needs without compromising the ability to address future needs).

Description of key challenges identified:

Please describe the key challenges associated with those actions, that policy-makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders working either at the national or at the local level should know about.

Planned next steps (as appropriate):

Based on this experience or research, have next steps been planned to address/study some of the identified challenges, scale up or scale out such actions.

Relevant hyperlinks:

Please provide hyperlinks to sources of information.

4. [Cross-cutting issues and linkages to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans \(NAPs\)](#)⁵

Description of relevant activities/processes or research:

Please describe activities or processes that your entity took part in, or studied, and that illustrate cross-cutting issues and/or linkages to the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

Description of relevant national-level policies, programmes or projects:

Please describe relevant policies, programmes, projects (or other relevant initiatives) implemented by national government(s) that integrate local-level adaptation action into the process to formulate and

⁵ For additional information on NAPs, see: <http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/Home.aspx>

implement NAPs. Information on the implementing partners and financial mechanisms established would be particularly helpful.

Description of relevant national-level policies, programmes or projects:

Please describe specific tools and/or methods that have been developed and/or used by national government(s) to address cross-cutting issues and/or foster linkages with the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

Key outcomes of the action undertaken:

Please provide information regarding the outcomes of the actions described above, and do not hesitate to add qualitative assessment and/or quantitative data to substantiate the information.

Description of lessons learned and good practices identified:

Please consider the following points when describing lessons learned and good practices: (a) effectiveness/impacts of the activities/processes, national-level policies, programmes or projects (including measurability of the impacts), (b) efficiency in the use of resources, (c) replicability (e.g. in different locations, at different scales), (d) sustainability (i.e. meeting the current economic, social and environmental needs without compromising the ability to address future needs).

Description of key challenges identified:

Please describe the key challenges associated with those actions, that policy-makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders working either at the national or at the local level should know about

Planned next steps (as appropriate):

Based on this experience or research, have next steps been planned to address/study some of the identified challenges, scale up or scale out such actions?

Relevant hyperlinks:

Please provide hyperlinks to sources of information.

5. City-to-city partnerships on climate change adaptation

Description of relevant activities/processes or research:

Please describe activities or processes that your entity took part in, or studied, and that contributed to fostering city-to-city partnerships on climate change adaptation.

Description of relevant tools/methods:

Please describe specific tools and/or methods that have been developed and/or used to foster city-to-city partnerships on climate change adaptation.

Key outcomes of the action undertaken:

Please provide information regarding the outcomes of the actions described above, and do not hesitate to add qualitative assessment and/or quantitative data to substantiate the information.

Description of lessons learned and good practices identified:

Please consider the following points when describing lessons learned and good practices: (a) effectiveness/impacts of the activities/processes (including measurability of the impacts), (b) efficiency in the use of resources, (c) replicability (e.g. in different locations, at different scales), (d) sustainability (i.e. meeting the current economic, social and environmental needs without compromising the ability to address future needs).

Description of key challenges identified:

Please describe the key challenges associated with those actions, that policy-makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders should know about.

Planned next steps (as appropriate):

Based on this experience or research, have next steps been planned to address/study some of the identified challenges, scale up or scale out such actions?

Relevant hyperlinks:

Please provide hyperlinks to sources of information.

Further information:

Please do not hesitate to submit more detailed information on case study(ies), tool(s)/method(s) and/or other relevant knowledge resource(s) that are relevant to adaptation in human settlements. The latter will be shared through the [Adaptation Knowledge Portal](#):

- [Case study\(ies\)](#)
- [Tool\(s\)/method\(s\)](#)
- [Other knowledge resource\(s\)](#) (online portals, policy briefs, training material, multimedia material, technical reports and scientific publications)