Final Report – Volume 3: Supporting Evidence

Prepared by Triple Line & GICSRD

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Evaluation of FCDO support to improve resilience in the Caribbean through a range of programmes and wider initiatives

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Cover: The aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Dominica. Photo by Anadolu Ajansı

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List of abbreviations

BII	British International Investment
CACP	Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme
CANTA	Caribbean Association of National Training Agencies
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARTAC	Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre
CBD	Caribbean Development Bank
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CCR	Central Crisis Reserve
CDT	Caribbean Development Team
CEDP	Caribbean Economic Development Programme
CIMH	Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology
CMP	Centrally Managed Programmes
CSME	Caribbean Single Market and Economy
CSJP3	Citizen Security and Justice Programme
DFID	Department for International Development
DTVETC	Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Council
ECDPG	Eastern Caribbean Development Partners Group
EE	Energy Efficiency
EF	Evaluation Framework
EMG	Evaluation Management Group
EQs	Evaluation Questions
ESIAs	Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
FA	Financial Assistance
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FID	Financial Investigations Division
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

GICSRD	Global Institute for Climate Smart and Resilient Development
GNI	Gross National Income
GNTA	Grenada National Training Agency
GoCD	Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica
GoJ	Government of Jamaica
HDI	Human Development Index
ICF	International Climate Fund
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDS	International Development Strategy
IFI	International Financial Institutions
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INDECOM	Independent Commission of Investigations
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JCF	Jamaican Constabulary Force
JCs	Judgement Criteria
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MDA	Ministries Departments and Agencies
MDBs	Multi-lateral Development Banks
MICs	Middle-Income Countries
MNS	Ministry of National Security (Jamaica)
MOCA	Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency
MoH	Ministries of Health (Belize)
MVI	Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index
NIMOS	National Institute for Environment and Development
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OCG	Office of the Contractor General

ODA	Overseas Development Assistance
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development-Development Assistance Committee
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PEA	Poverty and Equity Analysis
PFM	Public Financial Management
RE	Renewable Energy
RESI	Resilient and Sustainable Islands Initiative
RPD	Resident Prosecution Division
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
SEEC	Sustainable Energy for the Eastern Caribbean
SEQs	Sub-Evaluation Questions
SIDS	Small Island Development States
SkYE	Skills for Youth Employment
SRO	Senior Responsible Officer
SSDA	Sector Skills Development Agency
SVG	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
TA	Technical Assistance
ToC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UK	United Kingdom
UKCIF	UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund
UN	United Nations
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UWI	University of the West Indies
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation

Annex 1. Case studies

Case Study: Suriname

CAPITAL	Paramaribo
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Association of Caribbean States Organisation of American States
POPULATION	618,040
GDP	US$3.62B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$16,260PPP
HDI	0.69

1.1 Suriname

1.1.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

The Republic of Suriname is an upper middle income, natural resource rich country on the North Atlantic coast of the South American mainland. With 97% of the country's total area under tropical rainforest, the majority of its population of 618,000 resides along the coastal districts of Paramaribo and neighbouring towns and villages. It is bordered by Guyana, French Guinea and Brazil, and is also one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the region, with no single group constituting a majority. The population is heterogenous mix of Dutch, African, Indian, Indonesia, Chinese and Brazilian origin. The indigenous populations comprise several tribes including the *Kalinyas* (Caribs) and *Lokonos* (Arawaks) in the coastal and nearby districts with the *Akoerio*, *Trio* and *Wayana* living deeper in the interior along with the *Marron* descendants of enslaved Africans who fled the plantations.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

Unlike most of the region, Suriname has a low tourism dependence of <3%, and instead has an economy largely dependent on the export of commodities such as gold, bauxite, oil and timber—with oil and gold accounting for 85% of all exports and 27% of government revenue.

VALUE OF EXPORTS IN 2022

GOLD
US$2.03B

REFINED PETROL
US$279M

WOOD & TOBACCO
US$120M

Mining commodities gradually replaced traditional plantation crops such as sugar, cocoa, cotton and rice, in the early 20th century with the discovery of bauxite. Given its high dependency on natural resources, accounting for one third of total government revenues and four-fifths of exports, the economy is highly vulnerable to global commodity price fluctuations—as was observed during the economic crisis of 2015.

Economic outlook is positive, with a growth projection of 3% driven by government investment in non-oil sectors. Key priorities in building economic resilience relate to the expansion of Paramaribo Port facilities and logistics services with support from IDB for the development of a logistics centre, intelligent transport system and upgrading of the roads and bridges serving the port. The Multi-Annual Development Plan (MADP) has also prioritised investment in four major corridors (to Apoera, Pusugrunu, Mawaeane and Langataviki) through public-private partnership (PPP) arrangements

alongside investments in transport and traffic management and safety. Other initiatives include strengthening the enabling environment for business and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) development as it accounts for 98% of all private sector activity whilst displaying multiple vulnerabilities related to the lack of integration into export value chains, limited production capabilities, and limited access to finance.

Fiscal Resilience

The sharp decline in global commodity prices post 2013-2014 led to a dramatic fall in per capita GDP from $10,000 in 2014 to just $6,000 by 2022 with growing budget deficits and mounting government debt, increasing from 24.8% of GDP in 2014 to 147.9% by 2024 and high levels of inflation. This situation has been exacerbated by a high degree of political instability, weak governance, and the lack of an adequate policy framework to stabilise the economy and restore economic growth.

Seeking to address this, the government secured a 36-month International Monetary Fund (IMF) Extended Fund Facility (EFF) in 2021 which includes measures to address the fiscal crisis including a number of structural reforms such as the introduction of a value-added tax (VAT), liberalisation of the exchange rate, and the implementation of a new monetary policy to help reduce inflation. By the end of 2023, the government concluded debt restructuring which resulted in a modest upgrading of the country's sovereign credit rating from 'selective default' to 'CCC+'.

PRIORITIES

Restoring debt sustainability

Improve quality of public spending

Strengthen social protection mechanisms

Measures of debt restructuring, macroeconomic stabilization, and debt repayment will need to be sustained to keep Suriname on its current path. Fiscal consolidation and oil revenue is anticipated to further open up fiscal space for greater investment into social programmes.

Workforce Resilience

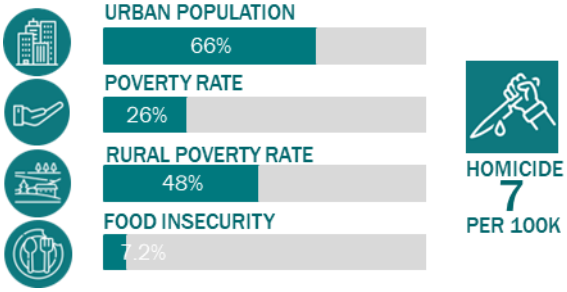
Unemployment in Suriname has been on a downward trend since 2020. Over one third of the country's labour force is employed in the public sector, including state owned enterprises and public services. Informal employment continues to be an issue, with estimates of 25% of workers on private payroll, and over half of those in non-agricultural jobs, being informally employed.

Emigration has also become a pressing issue in the workforce, resulting in a brain drain of qualified professionals from specialised fields in search of more lucrative opportunities elsewhere.

The Government of Suriname's Mid-term Labour Market Policy for 2022-2025 outlines the following key weaknesses that it seeks to address to strengthen human capital development and workforce resilience:

- The disconnect between present and future required skills and education and training offerings.
- High entry barriers for entrepreneurs
- Limited linkages between social assistance and labour market policies
- Lack of accessible labour market information

Social and Democratic Resilience



The Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index for Suriname is 43.2 meaning it is less vulnerable than the average developing country and less vulnerable than most SIDS. Income inequality, however, is one of the highest in the region, highlighted by the obvious socio-economic inequality in the Greater Paramaribo Region.

Structural adjustment and public sector reform have placed significant pressure on the social and political spheres as poverty remains a major issue. This has been exacerbated by the recent increases in the cost of living and high unemployment with the most severe impacts on vulnerable communities such as indigenous groups, women, and youth. Public

expenditure on health accounted for around 4.4% of GDP and 13.8% of total public expenditure in 2020, although progress towards health-related sustainable development goals (SDGs) outcomes continues to be slow. These pressures pose a risk for the current reformist government and could lead to a return of the former populist regime at the next election.

Priorities include strengthening the delivery of social services in education, healthcare and social protection focusing on the poor and vulnerable alongside livelihoods and job creation and investment in basic infrastructure in water and sanitation. Although Suriname has abundant water resources, high levels of non-revenue water, low tariffs and limited cost recovery have contributed to low levels of capital investment and limited recurrent expenditure in operations and maintenance, resulting in a decline in access to safe drinking water and sanitation at the household level.

Regional Integration

Suriname is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Association of Caribbean States (ACS), and the Organisation of American States (OAS). Following its independence, the country has been actively participating in initiatives in pursuit of greater political and economic integration within the wider region and global economy.

The three Guianas were identified as key players in driving regional cooperation. Geographically, it is strategically located in that they can act as a bridge connecting the Caribbean, Amazon, South America, and the European Union given close ties between the Netherlands and its former colonies. Economically, Suriname's of natural resources, specifically in its off-shore oil and gold, could support regional growth and reduce regional reliance on fossil fuel imports.

With the opportunities for wider spread collaboration, also come challenges in domestic affairs that will need to be addressed. These include:

- Limited economic diversification; in the case of Suriname, economic activity is concentrated in mining
- Inadequate connective infrastructure (such as roads) to facilitate adequate movement of people and goods across borders
- Security concerns, mostly relating to weaknesses in enforcement, mechanisms, and institutions controlling the illegal movement of people (trafficking) and illicit goods (drugs)
- Weak regulatory framework and mechanisms for progressive and sustainable environmental management and protection
- Social security, equity, and rights, particularly for indigenous and vulnerable communities

The country is on the right track with the expansion of the Paramaribo Port facilities to strengthen connectivity and trade. In leveraging existing regional cooperation platforms, diplomatic relations, and cultural ties across borders, Suriname can help identify synergies through which a more collaborative, forward-looking, and solutions-oriented environment can be fostered for a more unified and coordinated Caribbean region.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

With 87% of the population residing along the low-lying coastal plane, the resilience of the largely coastal and urban population to climate hazards is among the main infrastructure challenges. This problem is exacerbated by the lack of investment in maintaining sea defences, and the poor state of urban drainage systems including canals, sluice gates and pumping stations, and depletion of coastal mangrove forests.

Solid waste management is a critical investment priority. The country currently lacks an integrated solid waste management system, a sanitary landfill and a recycling facility; these could promote a sustainable circular economy.

Total energy supply (TES) is met primarily by oil (88.8%), followed by hydropower (8.3%). The electricity generation mix, however, differs slightly with oil meeting just over half of the mix at 51.5% and hydropower constituting under half at 48%. As a CARICOM member, Suriname has already hit the target of achieving 47% RE generation by 2027.

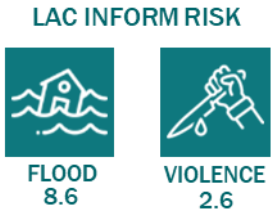
An energy sector plan was prepared in 2020 with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); however, the document does not appear to be published or publicly available. Beyond CARICOM targets, Suriname does not appear to have any existing legislative framework or strategy for its energy sector nor RE development.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

Heavy rains and high tides are the country's primary natural hazards, occurring seasonally from May to July and November to January. With most settlements situated in low-lying coastal areas, flooding has been the country's greatest climate risk. However, there are problems caused by variation in rainfall and increases in drought have been projected. This will increase the need to improve the management of storage for domestic and agricultural use.

On top of this, the Greater Paramaribo Region also faces other challenges, including the lack of adequate investment in Early Warning Systems (EWS) supporting

disaster risk management and adaptation, and low levels of institutional capacity in accessing climate finance, further driving its vulnerability.



Suriname's National Adaptation Plan 2019-2029 builds upon its preceding National Climate Change Policy, Strategy, and Action Plan (NCCPSAP) 2014-2021, and lays down an approach to continue the expansion of adaptation activities, and to mainstream climate resilience into policy-making, planning, and programming across all sectors.

Blue Economy and Biodiversity Resilience

Suriname has managed to maintain 93% of its original forest cover, and it is one of the few countries in the world that is mostly forested. In sustaining this, it contributes to mitigating climate change and conserving globally important biodiversity. However, to do this will require improved management, better legislation, enforcement, quality monitoring, increased protected areas and control of threats. There are few data on the forest's extent and quality and there are not enough persons trained in the skills required to support the management systems needed to create and maintain carbon credits; but without such a scheme it is difficult to see how the current forest extent will remain. Illegal logging is degrading the forest, and it is under threat from mining. Gold mining degrades forest and removes vegetation; mercury, used to extract gold from ore, pollutes streams and rivers and is a hazard to people and animals downstream of mining operations. Additionally, poorly planned and extensive agriculture causes deforestation and degrades the forest as is occurring in the Amazon.

Supporting Suriname's contribution to carbon sequestration and conserving biological diversity would require substantial financial and human investment into sustainable forestry but will have global and national benefits. Unlike Guyana, Suriname has not yet developed carbon credits for sale.

On the coastal and marine front, Suriname has a score of 75 on the Ocean Health Index (OHI), ranking 67 out of 220 territories. Although there have been a handful of projects and strategies targeting coastal resilience, and mangrove rehabilitation, there does not appear to be significant publicly led initiatives for exploring the country's blue economy potential. Although tourism isn't very significant in the country's economy, there is much value to be captured in aquaculture, fisheries, and in the sustainable management of its coastal ecosystems (seagrass and mangroves), especially as it continues to build upon its off-shore oil and logistics hub potential.

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	Headed by a President and Vice President advised by a *Staatsraad*
LEGISLATIVE	Unicameral National Assembly
JUDICIAL	Led by Court of Justice with members appointed by the President, National Assembly, *Staatsraad*, and National Order of Private Attorneys

Suriname gained independence from The Netherlands in 1975 with the establishment of a democratic government, with a multi-party system led by the President and Vice President. The members of the National Assembly (DNA) are elected by voters across the country's 10 districts, each of which is headed by an appointed district commissioner. The government has alternated between two main rival parties, namely the Progressive Reform Party, and the National Democratic Party for most of the period, with the exception of two military coups, in 1980-87 and 1990-91 instigated by the current opposition leader Desi Bouterse (military officer, politician, and convicted criminal). He later returned to office through the democratic process as President from 2010 to 2020 during which time he led a largely populist regime with a natural resource dependent economy coupled with weak governance, endemic corruption, kleptocracy and crime.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	85 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	40 (100 being lowest)

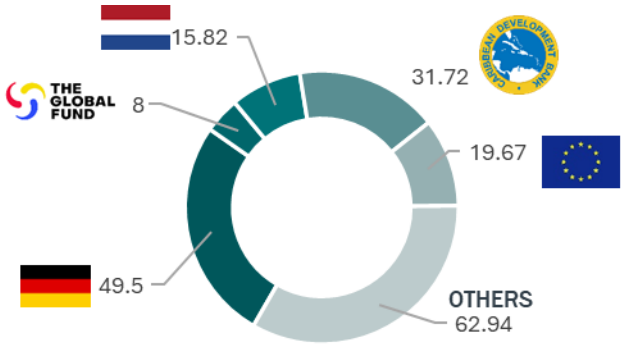
Corruption is found in most institutions, sectors, and transactions. News of high-ranking government officials placed under investigation or persecution for fraud, embezzlement, involvement in criminal organisation, and other financial crime would not be met with shock, especially with the previous administration's presidents' history. The justice and law enforcement systems are under-resourced, hence

the greater susceptibility to corrupt practices, and generally poor enforcement of regulatory, security, and migration laws.

The country is both a transit and destination point for trafficking in humans, arms, and drugs. The human trafficking networks are believed to be international, and involved in sex trafficking, child labour and exploitation, as well as forced labour in agriculture, mining and construction. The arms and drugs trades are closely interlinked and tend to be the drivers behind violent crime.

1.1.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country



Suriname accesses development resources from a variety of bilateral and multilateral sources. Its main multilateral and bilateral partners include IDB with the largest portfolio in resilient infrastructure including ports and roads, the European Union and member states, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and many others.

IDB has the largest active portfolio, it comprises lending for macroeconomic sustainability, economic development, private sector competitiveness, basic service provision and social protection. Other donor priorities include sustainable development, energy (efficiency, access, renewable energy), and institutional capacity building.

The WB is supporting drainage infrastructure with US$35M for the Saramacca Canal System Rehabilitation Project working on a new Country Partnership Framework which will be based on four pillars addressing: environmental resilience, social resilience, human capital and social protection, enabling the business environment and private sector development. Much of USAID's country focus has been on supporting the agriculture dimension of climate change and the NDCs as well as SME development to strengthen value chains. USAID's regional programme support in Suriname covers disaster management and support for IMF through CARTAC. UNDP's country programme document for Suriname (2022-26) centres on democratic governance, social development, and the environment, climate change and natural resources management.

The CDB has disbursed US$157M in loans and US$2.3M in grants from 2014 to 2023. Its active portfolio consisted primarily of 3 projects with a total approved value of US$121.8M. The portfolio is affected by the slow implementation of some projects mainly due to capacity issues and poor inter-agency coordination. The previous country engagement strategy was recognised to have been overly ambitious in targeting a broad range of capital investment loans (in street lighting and improving the energy transmission infrastructure) and TA without the corresponding absorptive capacity in government. A clear lesson going forward will be to adopt a more strategic approach whilst focusing on thematic areas such as the education sector, private sector development and the water sector where CDB has developed knowledge, competence, and strong engagement with government.

The CBD's Country Engagement Strategy (CES) 2024-2030 includes a resource envelope estimated at US$250M with investment opportunities already identified for US$161M. This will focus on the following three strategic pillars: building social resilience, building climate resilience, and private sector and agricultural development.

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

US$187.7M
ODA provided from 2018-2022

British High Commission Georgetown

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Guyana and CARICOM 2023 Business Plan:

1. Continue to increase trade and investment between UK and Guyana
2. Promote democracy, good governance and upholding values
3. Strengthen engagement on climate change and resilience, biodiversity (green and blue economy) and renewable energy
4. Deepen the UK's relationship with CARICOM
5. (Suriname only) Maintain a watching brief

Key FCDO Programmes

- Caribbean Economic Development Programme

1.1.3 Recommendations for the FCDO

A critical dimension in building Suriname's resilience relates to the urgent need to addressing key vulnerabilities of flooding in all 6 coastal districts where almost all the country's built assets are located. Investments in flood protection would complement CES support for enhancing water supply and environmental management. Here, there may be opportunity to expand the investment portfolio with FCDO support to address other critical resilience priorities in coastal districts around flood prevention and drainage working alongside the World Bank investments in Canal restoration. The Ministry of Public Works has formulated a medium-term investment programme in priority flood prevention initiatives in Paramaribo District which would encompass infrastructure investments (grey and green) in a new drainage system for the Paramaribo Noord Swamp area, including canals, pumping stations and coastline protection works and operating system improvements with an estimated cost of $30mn. Given the scale of the current deficit in climate adaptive infrastructure for flood prevention, with the medium-term financing gap estimated at around $500mn, there is a critical need for further donor financing in this sector. This could include funding sea defences linked to nature-based solutions such as mangrove forest planting and restoration which would complement EU investments in mangrove restoration and conservation and strengthen links with FCDO global programmes such as the Blue Economy initiative.

Supporting Suriname's contribution to carbon sequestration by maintaining its current forest quality, land cover and biodiversity would require substantial financial and human investment into sustainable forestry but will have global benefits. Unlike Guyana, Suriname has not yet developed carbon credits for sale. Support to resuming work started under REDD+ could assist in this area and develop a programme like the one in Guyana. Encouraging and supporting sharing experiences and technical expertise between the two countries could help Suriname create REDD+ authorized carbon credits for sale. The proceeds could protect the country's valuable forests and the species within, while providing economic benefits to stakeholders. Revenue from the sale of the credits could maintain ecosystem services and benefit indigenous people and local communities living in or near forested areas. Since the lack of technically qualified individuals in-country is a constraint to this, as an initial step, the FCDO could consider supporting exchange programmes with regional agencies involved in REDD+ programmes and carbon credits as well as funding training and scholarship opportunities with regional and UK universities in remote sensing, carbon accounting, developing carbon credits, forest monitoring, biodiversity conservation and protected area management.

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Case Study: Guyana

CAPITAL	Georgetown
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	808,726
GDP	US$14.72B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$38,250PPP
HDI	0.74

1.2 Guyana

1.2.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

Guyana is an upper middle-income country located on North Atlantic coast of the South American mainland, bordered by Venezuela, Brazil, and Suriname. It was colonised under the Dutch occupation in the 17th century, then by the British for over 150 years before achieving independence from the UK in 1966.

The country has traditionally been a small commodity-based economy with an average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 4% (2010-2019), and has faced challenges in converting its natural resources into sustained and inclusive growth. However, with the 2015 oil discovery and commencement of commercial oil production in 2019-2020, its GDP boomed, turning Guyana into the world's fastest growing economies.

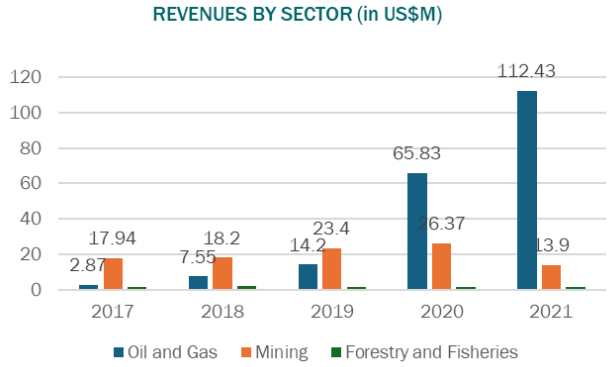
Though commended for its fiscal discipline and absorptive capacity for fiscal shocks by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), much can still be done to strengthen fiscal transparency, extractives management, development of non-oil sectors, and overall resilience.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

With oil production coming on-stream in 2019 after its discovery in 2015, Guyana's economy has undergone a major structural change with the oil and gas sector accounting for 60% of total GDP and GDP growth of 48.7% in 2022 and 63.3% in 2022 and estimated to continue to grow at 30% per annum to 2026 making Guyana the fastest growing economy in the world. This has created significant spillover effects into the non-oil economy which grew at 11.5% in 2022.

ExonMobil initiated oil and gas exploration activity in the Stabroek block in 2008 and subsequently drilled its first exploration well, Liza-1 in 2015 after which it signed a production sharing agreement with the Government of Guyana (GoG) in 2016 with a signature bonus of $18million to the GoG. Offshore production began in 2019 with volumes quickly growing from 27 million barrels in 2020 to 46 million barrels by 2022. The GYEITI reports more than 35 discoveries to April 2023 with reserves equivalent to 11 billion barrels of petroleum resources which would translate to 14,000 barrels per capita, ahead of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar.



Whilst oil production is now the main driver of growth, under the terms of the contract with ExonMobil, GoG's revenues from oil are limited to just 12.5% of profits and 2% royalties (14.5%). However, in the long run there is significant potential as GoG's profit share could eventually go up to 50%, once ExonMobil has recouped its exploration and production costs.

Fiscal Resilience

With prudent debt management, the government has reduced its debt burden from around 100% of GDP to 15% of GDP. However, IDB estimates the infrastructure financing gap over the next 10 years could be as high as US$24B, 30% of which could be met by the private sector. The 2024 budget proposes a 39% increase in public expenditure and a consolidation of capital investment in transport, energy, health, education, housing and defence. It also provides new funds for the country's Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 projects as well as above inflation increases for social protection to the elderly, persons with disabilities and or vulnerable communities.

As a result of its rapid economic growth, the country is in the process of transitioning from concessional to non-concessional finance. In 2020 IDB was the first Multi-lateral Development Bank (MDB) to modify Guyana's eligibility status.

Workforce Resilience

The fertility rate of Guyana has been on a decline since the 1960s, but currently sits at 2.40. The population remains fairly young, with a 74.7% being under the age of 45, based on DataReportal's 2022 report.

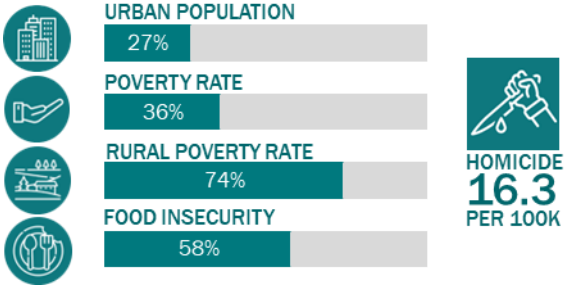
The Guyana Bureau of Statistics carried out a Labour Force Survey in 2021, and the findings were as follows:

- Majority of the working population were employed in either Agriculture, forestry, and fishing; or wholesale and retail trade
- Labour force participation rate was 49.6% toward the end of 2021
- Informal employment accounted for 48.45% of employed population

Alongside capital investment in flood control and drainage, GoG has prioritised investments in human capital to strengthen resilience in critical sectors such as health care and technology. This is especially significant as developed countries including the UK seek to recruit trained health professionals from Caribbean countries, including Guyana. GoG has also prioritised the need for a university teaching hospital as part of a plan to build resilience of human capital in the health sector.

Labour is becoming in short supply, and shortages of skilled labour are compounded by rising labour costs.

Social and Democratic Resilience



The country has an ethnically diverse population, with those of African and Indian heritage comprising the largest demographic blocks, followed by Europeans, Portuguese, Chinese, and indigenous Amerindians. The latter constitutes approximately 10.5% of the population, with communities in the coastal areas (*Kalihna, Lokono*, and *Warau*), and more remote inland areas (*Akawaio, Arekuna, Patamona, Waiwai, Makushi*, and *Wapishana*). Over several decades, the Amerindian population has largely been culturally integrated, though economic disparities may remain.

Guyana currently ranks 108 out of 191 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI) representing a 40% improvement since 1990. It also scores 46.4 on the UN Multidimensional Vulnerability Index and is thus less vulnerable than most small island developing states (SIDS) and less vulnerable than the world median. That being said, much of the Amerindian

population, though part of the economic system, remain at the lowest socio-economic strata, and often operate outside the cash economy. As the economy continues to grow, the Gini coefficient (46.7 in 2019) should be closely monitored given the extreme inequality between the urban-coastal and rural-interior regions (in terms of socioeconomic factors, food security, access to services). Anecdotal indications are that inequality, especially between rural and urban populations and indigenous groups continues to increase.

The country also has a fairly large refugee and migrant population which the government supports through various social support programmes. However, as is the case with most of its social support systems, capacity and accessibility continues to be a challenge in the delivery of services and adequate support.

Regional Integration

Guyana is a member of the Organisation of American States (OAS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which has its headquarters in Georgetown.

Guyana continues to push for greater integration and coordination across the Caribbean, particularly in areas of trade and health. Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, the country demonstrated remarkable tenacity in its World Bank-supported COVID-19 Emergency Response. On top of strengthening its own health systems and its resilience, the country had taken a step further in pushing for the wider, regional adoption of the One Health approach—offering its successes and lessons learned to serve as a blueprint for more resilient health systems.

On the regional trade front, Guyana has been a staunch advocate for the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), now especially with its 25 by 2025 initiative and its oil boom.

As one of the few states in the region that produces over 50% of its own food, it has invested heavily in agriculture in the interest of improving regional food security, and in doing so, also seeks to reduce the regional food import bill by 25% by 2025. Its President continues to appeal for the removal of non-tariff barriers to trade to facilitate this further. Although support is evident in some CARICOM members' policy alignment with the initiative, it is not without its challenges—particularly because of recently strained relations with Trinidad and Tobago.

Guyana's relations with the greater region, however, remains positive, and is characterized by a strong spirit of cooperation, and willingness to provide platforms to enable discussion and pursuits toward integration. Under its food security initiative, the country continues to collaborate with and provide support to Barbados, Suriname, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, and Antigua & Barbuda.

With the preparation of its national gas strategy, Guyana is positioning itself to be a logistics chain hub by leveraging its indigenous oil and gas boom to catalyst to greater regional integration.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

The resilience challenges in Guyana are largely connected to sea level rise and flooding in the capital, as well as riverine and coastal communities. This impacts disproportionally on economic and social activity. Guyana is uniquely placed, along with Suriname and Belize to expand its commercial agricultural production in the coastal and intermediate zones. Developing climate resilience in commercial agriculture requires attention to temperature and rainfall changes, saline intrusion, flooding, drought and prolonged dry seasons to be climate resilient.

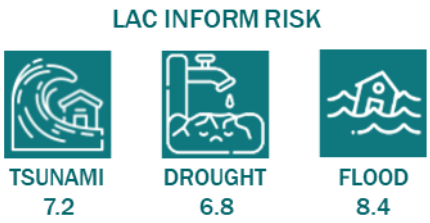
Currently, Guyana lacks the institutional and financial capacity to enforce, monitor, and effectively carry out disaster risk management activities especially in light of climate change.

Total energy supply (TES) is met predominantly by oil, with only 10% coming from renewable energy (RE) sources. Electricity generation figures are similar with 93% of generation sources being oil, 6% from bioenergy, and only 1% coming from solar sources. With the discovery and development of oil, RE consumption had actually dropped, with no change to RE generation capacity reported in 2022.

The Guyana Energy Agency, however, identifies natural gas development as an opportunity for the country to begin branching out from oil, and into hydropower, solar, wind, and biomass.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

Guyana experiences two rainy seasons annually, from May to July and from November to January. Given its location, it is not exposed to hurricanes or other extreme weather events that its island state neighbours are subject to. However, given that most its settlements are situated along the coastal areas, it is highly susceptible to flooding due to excess rainfall and to sea level rise.



This has been the most common disaster type faced from 2000-2021, affecting over 762,000 people, and resulting in approximately US$677.8M in damages.

National Climate Change Policy and Action Plan	Aims to integrate climate change considerations and resilience into national development planning
National Climate Finance Strategy	Seeks to develop a finance framework to support the country's Nationally Determined Contributions, Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, and National Climate Change policy, as well as a project pipeline and investment plan
Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030	Outlines a plan for the following priorities: integrating with emerging international markets (carbon and ecosystem services), clean energy, low-carbon development, biodiversity, oil and gas within a low-carbon framework, and facilitating country-wide participatory approach and involvement in the low-carbon transition Revenues from oil will fund this pursuit

Blue Economic and Biodiversity Resilience

Guyana has 18 million hectares of forest cover representing around 85% of its total area; much of which is under tropical rainforest and is part of the Guyana Shield rainforest eco-region. A major economic species is greenheart which is native to Guyana and known for its strength and durability.

Around 13 million hectares is production forest, of which 55% is state forest and the remaining 45% is unallocated. The production forest sector has traditionally employed around 20,000 people and contributed around 2% of GDP. The export value of timber and timber products was $33.4 million in 2020 representing a marked decline from a peak of over $80million in 2015.

Guyana has an Ocean Health Index (OHI) of 63, placing it 197 out of 220 territories. This is anticipated to worsen with the rapid development of the oil and gas industries, and the limited regulatory framework for ocean protection. However, in 2021, with the support of the Government of the UK, the GoG prepared its Maritime Economy Plan which identified 22 sectoral actions to be taken to protect and develop its blue economy sustainably.

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	President, First Vice President, Prime Minister
LEGISLATIVE	Unicameral National Assembly
JUDICIAL	Legal tradition guided by British common law and Roman-Dutch code for land tenure matters

The Cooperative Republic of Guyana is governed by an Executive President. Members of the legislature are elected through proportional representation on a 5-year electoral cycle. Government processes tend to be bureaucratic with a host of complex and somewhat antiquated procedures and processes, with limited sharing of information in the public domain.

The party-political landscape in Guyana is polarised along racial lines rather than ideology. The two major parties have not often diverged on policy, but the Peoples Progressive Party (PPP) has a predominantly Indo-Guyanese membership and support base whilst the Peoples National Congress (PNC) is primarily Afro-Guyanaese. This means that the electorate tends to vote along racial lines rather than other issues which weakens political accountability. Since its assumption of power in 1992, the PPP has dominated government holding office up to 2015 and from 2020 to date.

Under the ruling PPP, the style of government is based on centralised decision making with low levels of transparency and inadequate oversight mechanisms and engagement with stakeholders. This poses a serious risk in the context of very highly increased revenue flows from a rapidly expanding economy and a government that is sensitive to criticism. As a result of the discovery of Guyana's vast oil reserves, alliances with other oil producing nations have started to form.

The Amerindian population is represented by an umbrella organisation: the National Amerindian Council, which constitutes representatives from the largest NGOs focused on Amerindian interests. Generally, there does not appear to be adequate participation, consultation, or involvement of the indigenous population in policy making. The Amerindian Act received fairly mixed responses, with three of the largest NGOs advocating for the withdrawal of the document, which was passed anyway. Indigenous land rights remain under threat,

and poverty and inequality continue to disproportionately impact the community.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	85 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	40 (100 being lowest)

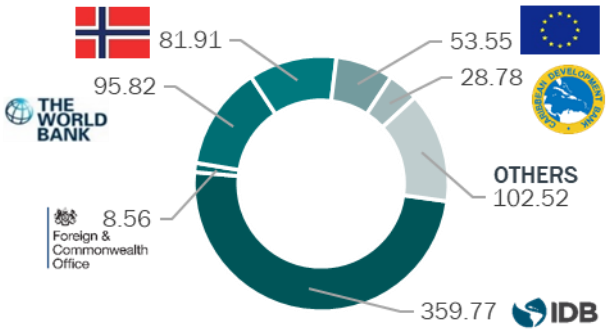
There is limited data or comprehensive research on governance and corruption indices in the country. Requests for data for the FCDO's Political Analysis Report have been ignored by the Government of Guyana. There is limited transparency in procurement, reporting, and management in the oil sector, which leaves it susceptible to corruption and fraudulent practices.

The weakness of its institutional and financial capacity limits regulatory enforcement around accountability, corruption, crime, and violence. Use of weapons is common, and disorderly murders (i.e., relating to crime whilst under the influence) have been the most frequent type of murder recorded in the country. There is generally low trust in the criminal justice system, which has given way to a system of 'self-help' that has exacerbated and perpetuated cycles of violence.

Trafficking remains a serious issue in Guyana, with the country serving as a transit point for illicit movement of people, arms, drugs, and mined products. The Organised Crime Index recognizes sustained efforts in addressing this problem, however, related and resulting crime continue to be a challenge, given the expanse and remote nature of its borders (underdeveloped landscapes) and lack of capacity.

1.2.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country



IDB is the largest multi-lateral international finance institution (IFI) in Guyana with a portfolio of just under $800m in 2024, accounting for 25% of the country's total foreign debt. While Guyana graduated from IDB concessional finance in 2020, IDB places no restrictions on accessing non-concessional finance. IDB has focused its lending to date on capital investments in transport-based economic infrastructure as a growth driver for the private sector, renewable energy, and water supply. The portfolio includes financing for road construction, upgrading energy supply including transmission and distribution systems, increasing solar energy and electric vehicles (EV) to mitigate GHG emissions and constructing water treatment plants to strengthen adaptation to climate change, the latter in partnership with concessional finance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and CDB.

The country's graduation from concessional financing along with improved creditworthiness has contributed to an expanded lending framework for the MDBs, albeit contingent on demand and absorptive capacity. The IDB country strategy (2023-26) focuses on supporting resilient infrastructure and improvements in social outcomes in health and education to increase private sector investment, jobs and income for more inclusive growth. The government has explicitly requested a greater presence of IDB Invest in Guyana which has significantly increased its portfolio recently.

Other multi-lateral finance institutions with a strong presence in Guyana include the World Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank and the EU. The World Bank programme has been supporting investments in education at secondary and technical, vocational education training (TVET) level. The EU has supported the forest sector focusing on sustainable livelihoods in Regions 2,9.10 alongside work on flood protection and mangrove restoration. The CDB portfolio covers roads.

China is the largest bilateral partner, lending at rates of 2% over 25 years with a five-year grace period. Projects include roads ($150m), bridge construction ($260m) and 6 hospitals ($180m). India has also become a significant bilateral partner with concessional lending at 1.75% over 25 years with a 5-year grace period including a major road investment project of $106M.

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Guyana and Suriname Business and Country Plan 2023:

1. Continue to increase trade and prosperity between UK and Guyana
2. Promote democracy, good governance and upholding values
3. Strengthen engagement on climate change and resilience, biodiversity and renewable energy
4. Deepen the UK's relationship with CARICOM
5. (Suriname only) Maintenance of a watching brief

Key FCDO Programmes

Linden to Mabura Hills Road Project

The UKCIF financed portion of the Guyana–Brazil corridor from Linden to Mabura Hills is a flagship infrastructure project for Guyana with significant transformative potential. The UK CIF section of the road will contribute towards opening up a strategic economic corridor linking Guyana to the north of Brazil. Once completed, the project will play a major role in enabling transport of people, materials and goods between the two countries as well as providing northern Brazil with direct road access to the Atlantic. With additional donor partner investments to complete the remaining sections of the road this will be transformational in the long term. The IDB is currently planning to undertake a feasibility assessment of the remaining section of the corridor to the border with Brazil.

The Ministry of Finance (MoF) in Guyana and other stakeholders including the IDB, World Bank, UN and bilateral donor partners all recognise the importance of the project. The MoF in particular has expressed its strong support for the project as a model of blended financing of strategic infrastructure; grant financing through CIF was blended with CDB loan financing and a GoG contribution to finance implementation which will in turn help to leverage additional IFI funding from IDB.

The project entailed applying robust feasibility assessments with a strong emphasis on Environmental and Social Impact (ESIAs) as well as formulating a Social and Gender Action Plan as a mandatory requirement. The implementation of the Social and Gender Action Plan is currently underway with a focus on entrepreneurship training and micro-enterprise development initiatives for local communities and women living along the road corridor. This includes training of indigenous people in small business management and business operations being carried out with the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs. Work is being done on sensitization to Gender-based violence and ensuring that women have an opportunity to participate in the economic opportunities offered by the road expansion. Work with the villages to improve water supplies is also being carried out. The action plan will help to ensure that local communities directly benefit through a range of sustainable livelihood opportunities arising from the investment whilst reducing socio-economic and cultural risks. At the same time, the main environmental risks associated with increased access to forest resources are predominantly offset by effective forest management practices of the Guyana Forestry Commission with support from UK and Norway (see below) although there are potential risks to wildlife conservation which are yet to be adequately addressed.

Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitals)

The FCDO supported the *Smart Health Care Facilities in the Caribbean Programme* implemented by PAHO/ WHO in Guyana 2016 with the Ministry of Health. The project focused primarily on retrofitting and redesigning 5 health facilities across the country comprising: Lethem and Mabaruma Regional Hospitals, Leonora Cottage Hospital, Diamond Diagnostic Centre and Paramakatoi Health Centre. The retrofitting and redesign of these facilities resulted in increased energy and water efficiencies, lower operating expenditure, reduced breakdowns and facility downtime and enhanced safety standards for equipment. In addition to investment in the physical aspects of building and equipment, the projects have helped to strengthen capacity in operations and maintenance along with the development of a hospital safety index and green checklist conducted on 89 facilities across the country.

Whilst the project was successful in strengthening the operation of the five health facilities, its main contribution was in demonstrating the value of smart design and effective O&M in the health sector. This is significant to Guyana because it is making substantial investments in new hospital construction which will include the application of smart standards. Going forward, however, investments in the health sector will need to focus on closing gaps in the sector which primarily relate to the lack of capacity and human capital across a number of functions and specialities, including hospital management, to ensure that investments in the sector are effectively managed in future.

Forestry is a key component of the LCDS and the work of the Commission is supported by national policy, plans and law. Management of Guyana's forests is recognized internationally, and because under REDD+ the forest is monitored by third parties this has allowed Guyana to sell carbon credits on the international market, including a recent sale of some US$750 million in 2022[1]. In 2024, the country made credits available to airlines for offsetting their emissions[2]. There have been strong efforts to ensure that the governance and development of the forest sector fully includes the input of stakeholders. This has been greatly assisted by the production and use of the Stakeholder Engagement Guide produced by the Forestry Commission and funded by the EFITAP and FCDO. UK funding for the Forestry Commission supports building the capacity to ensure compliance of forest products with EU and UK markets. A benefit of road projects such as the Linden project is that increasing the quality of roads decreases transport costs for the lumber sector and can improve the value of the product.

The Commission is investigating the potential of methods to reclaim forest areas after mining takes place and valuing forest to support Payments for Ecosystem Services. There is also concern about increased risk of fire due to increased droughts and interest in the use of mangroves as a nature-based solutions to floods and sea defence. Maintaining the forest cover and biodiversity while ensuring development goals are met is not a simple undertaking and requires scientific and technical expertise and

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access to data. Access to drones and remote sensing data and expertise in its interpretation is needed to support forecasting and preparation for fire events and valuation of the resource. Links to regional technical entities such as the 5Cs in Belize and the Caribbean institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH[3]) may be able to assist with this.

Future needs in forestry. Valuing the ecosystem services provided by the forests is key, as is the need to develop effective nature-based solutions to reduce flooding and improve sea defences. This will require building the capacity for scientific research and monitoring of the forests. This would include:

- Capital items such as drones and vehicles
- Access to, and the capacity to interpret digital data at the level of communities to support local forest management and involvement of stakeholders in forest management, particularly indigenous persons living in high biodiversity forest areas
- Capacity building through long term training, scholarships and short-term training especially in remote sensing monitoring and use of IT

1.2.3 Recommendations for FCDO

Flood control and drainage

Investment in sea defences and flood protection is an on-going specific priority for GoG given that much of the coastal region containing over 80% of the population, almost all economic assets and most of the country's agricultural land, is below sea level. GoG has spent substantial sums on enhancing drainage through investment in canal restoration, pumping stations and sluice gates including investment in the Mahaica canal to address flooding and land development. In spite of these projects there is a need for substantial new investments in sea defences, including mangrove restoration, flood control, drainage, irrigation and O&M practices. 4

Human capital

Alongside capital investment in flood control and drainage, GoG has prioritised investments in human capital to strengthen resilience in critical sectors such as health care and technology. This is especially significant as developed countries including the UK seek to recruit trained health professionals and teachers from the Caribbean, including Guyana. GoG has also prioritised the need for a University teaching hospital as part of a plan to build resilience of human capital in the health sector. Some international agencies indicated the need to build human capital so that resilient infrastructure, once built, could be maintained and that solutions to climate-related issues could be developed and implemented with local expertise. Support of the CSME (to improve the movement of labour and human capital within the region) at CARICOM along with the use of digital technology could assist in filling some capacity gaps.

Information technology

Continued training in the use of IT and remote sensing to monitor and manage the forests and assist in implementing the LCDS is required. This could be done in association with local, regional and foreign universities.

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Case Study: Jamaica

CAPITAL	Kingston
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	2,827,377
GDP	US$17.1B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$11,700PPP
HDI	0.709

1.3 Jamaica

1.3.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

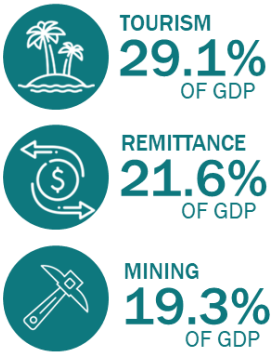
Jamaica is a lower middle income island country situated in the middle of the Caribbean Sea. Physically, it is the third largest island, and the largest English-speaking Island of the region. First colonized by the Spanish empire in the 1500s, and fell under British occupation in the mid-1600s for approximately three centuries before gaining independence in 1962.

Following this, the country had quickly achieved middle-income status, but had found itself in severe debt distress as a result of its stagnated growth and the 1990s and 2008 financial crises. Since then, it has made great strides in halving is debt-to-GDP ratio from an all-time high of 147% in 2012 to 77% in 2022. However, the degree of its indebtedness and inadequate resilience to shocks paved way for a myriad of social issues, particularly in crime and brain drain, which still plagues Jamaica today.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

Prior to its independence, Jamaica's economic activity was centred around the production of agricultural goods for export, and subsistence.



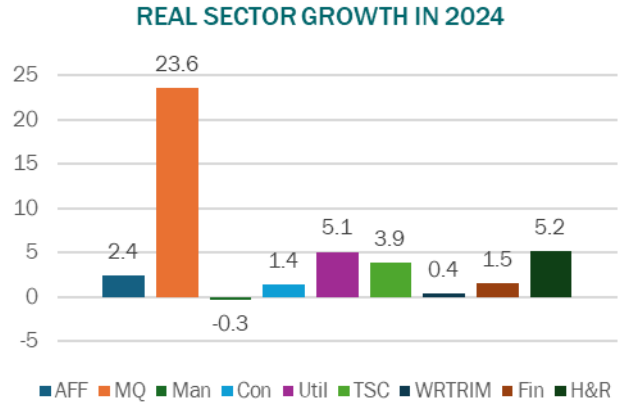
After gaining its independence, the Government of Jamaica (GoJ) pushed for the growth of more lucrative sectors, as extreme weather events and new trade arrangements drove down agricultural production. The tourism and mining sectors expanded, becoming the country's main economic sectors.

Today, the Jamaican economy is driven largely by services, which contribute over 70% of GDP. Tourism, along with remittances, is the country's top source of revenue, driving up to 15% of construction, 10% of banking and financial services, 20% of manufacturing, and 21% of agriculture, fisheries, and utilities.

Since the lifting of COVID-19 related restrictions, economic performance has surpassed pre-pandemic levels, attributed mostly to exports in tourism and mining.

In spite of the drought-induced decline in agricultural production in 2023, the performance of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing sector improved, expanding by 2.4%, driven primarily by greater output,

production in traditional export crops, and in post-harvest activities. Mining and Quarrying, and Construction demonstrated the greatest growth, with increases of 23.6% and 1.4%, respectively.



AFF: Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries; MQ: Mining and Quarrying; Man: Manufacturing; Con: Construction; Util: Electricity and Water; TSC: Transport, Storage, Communication; WRTRIM: Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair and Installation of Machinery; Fin: Financial Services; H&R: Hotel and Restaurants

Economic growth outlook remains positive, albeit conservative with projects declining to 1.6% for 2025 onward. The Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) identified the following productivity gaps that will need to be addressed in order to improve and sustain growth for the country:

1. Innovation
2. Education
3. Efficiency
4. Infrastructure
5. Institutions

Fiscal Resilience

The country has a history of high indebtedness and vulnerability to external shocks, given its reliance on tourism, remittances, and imports. The implementation of its fiscal consolidation measures, and institutional reforms have gradually strengthened its fiscal management and position, bringing its debt-to-GDP ratio from a high of 144% in 2012 to 77.1% in 2022.

Jamaica has demonstrated unprecedented fiscal discipline even across administrative shifts between the opposing political parties.

Inflation increased in 2024, which the World Bank attributes to increases in food prices resulting from drought, public transport fares, communication rates, and minimum wage.

Workforce Resilience

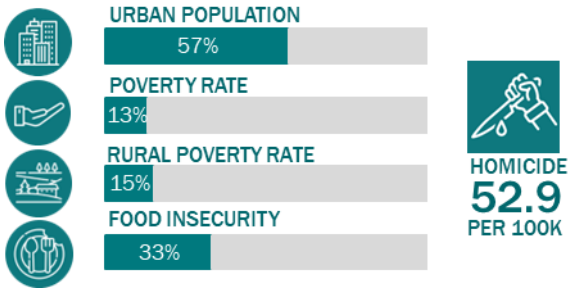
Although unemployment has continued to decrease with the economy's post-COVID-19 recovery, the quality of such remains a pressing concern with the high levels of informality in employment. This is observed particularly amongst non-agricultural jobs, of which approximately 46% of employment is on an informal basis. Interestingly, the labour informality has remained largely unchanged by economic growth trends, at least from 2011 to 2018. As the country's largest source of revenue, the tourism sector directly employs 6.1% of the population, and another 12.5% indirectly through construction, banking and finance, manufacturing, utilities, agriculture, and fisheries.

Labour productivity and human capital development continues to lag behind, given the focus on low-productivity services, limited technological adoption, innovation, and poor educational performance caused by the pandemic disruption and other factors.

Clerks and Service Workers / Shop and Market Sales Workers positions accounted for the increase in employment in the labour force. With the former increasing by 23.8% and the latter by 7.9%. On a sectoral basis, the greatest increase in employment was observed in the Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities sector, with women accounting for over 75% of the increase for the industry; and the Accommodation and Food Serve Activities sectors, for which women accounted for over 90% of growth.

Brain drain continues to be a major problem, particularly in the healthcare and education sectors.

Social and Democratic Resilience



Jamaica has a Human Development Index (HDI) score of 0.706, ranking 115 out of 193 territories. Its government offers a number of social protection systems, which were strengthened over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic to provide additional support to vulnerable households and individuals. The primary schemes include its National Insurance Scheme (NIS), Public Pension Scheme (PPS), universal health coverage, and the anti-poverty Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH).

Much work still remains to improve service delivery, access, and integration of what is still a largely fragmented and, in some areas, contradictory social protection system, with some elements being more regressive than redistributive.

Unlike most of its neighbours, Jamaica is not ethnically diverse. Over 90% of its population is of African descent and English-speaking. Thus, inequality is rooted more in class, gender, and colourism. With a Gini coefficient of 46.7, and with 60% of the nation's wealth in the hands of 10% of the population, the historical legacy of slavery is evident in nature of inequality. A more recent examination of inequality also revealed the wider influence of race and colourism in inequality, noting that darker-skinned individuals had less access to amenities and educational attainment than their lighter-skinned counterparts.

Jamaica's crime rate is very high, with murder (the *per capita* homicide rate has long been among the highest in the world), gang-violence, trafficking, scamming (lottery scam being the most prevalent one) and the drug trade being the main crimes. The delivery of justice-related systems and support is inadequate, and more pronounced in rural areas. One of the main drivers of crime is inadequate education for boys[4].

Regional Integration

Jamaica is a member of the Organisation of American States (OAS), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), and a leading member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

Outside the Caribbean, Jamaica also enjoys trade arrangements with the USA, EU, and Canada. Exports and imports are valued at over 50% of GDP.

Although the GoJ has not been leading the charge on greater regional integration initiatives, Jamaica has served an important purpose in guiding and informing development partners' programming approaches to neighbouring nations. As Jamaica usually has more technical capacity than other countries, projects implemented in-country can provide strong lessons for the region. This is best captured if a regional approach is followed.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

Six months out of the year, Jamaica is subject to tropical cyclones, heavy rains, and storm surges. With 24.2% of the population residing within 5km of the coastline, and with over 20% living in informal settlements, the country's inhabitants and settlements face high levels of exposure and risk to natural hazards. From 2001, around 72-86% of total damage. and loss from natural hazards was in infrastructure, specifically, roads and bridges.

Since 2016, the country has been developing natural gas systems, reducing reliance on oil and oil imports in electricity generation. The transition has been slow, with oil still accounting for 64.8% of total energy supply (TES) in 2021, followed by natural gas at 23.7%. In the case of electricity generation, however, natural gas has already overtaken oil, accounting for 58.8% and 28.4% of generation sources, respectively. Wind, hydro, and solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation altogether make up 12.3% of the mix.

Under its Vision 2030 national development strategy, Jamaica aims to grow the contribution of renewable energy (RE) into its energy mix to 30% by 2030. However, in the last five years, RE development has been sluggish and inconsistent, with a reported zero net capacity change across solar, hydro, wind, bioenergy, and geothermal sources in 2022.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

As an island state with 90% of its GDP produced along the coast, Jamaica is highly exposed and vulnerable to weather and climate-related hazards. From 2000 to 2021, storms and storm surges have been the most common disaster type plaguing the country, affecting over 869,000 people, and causing US$1.5B in damages in that same period.

Lately, drought incidences have also been worsening, threatening both water supply and agricultural production, further driving food insecurity exposure.

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[4] Boys that drop out of school before grade 9 are 10 times more likely to become members of a criminal gang than those that stay in school Educated boys less high-risk than drop-outs - Gayle | News | Jamaica Gleaner (jamaica-gleaner.com)

The country's targets for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience are outlined in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan. However, with the pandemic, weather-related disasters, and macroeconomic consolidation challenges, the Government of Jamaica appears to have lost momentum in climate action.

Blue Economy and Biodiversity Resilience

Jamaica is known to be a biodiversity hotspot, with over 25% of its plant species being unique to the island. It contains two International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) recognized Centres of plant diversity, the Blue and John Crow Mountains (a World Heritage site) and the Cockpit Country, one of the country's most inhospitable regions. Its marine and coastal terrains are also rich, housing a variety of ecosystems along the irregular coastline, including mangroves, coral reefs and seagrass beds.

The country's Ocean Health Index (OHI) sits just below the global average at 74, ranking it 82 out of 220 territories. The potential for the blue economy has yet to be explored beyond its value outside tourism and fisheries. However, Jamaica's reefs have been historically overfished and percentage of live coral cover is low. In 2023, the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) prepared a blue economy roadmap exploring its investment and productive potential, highlighting no less than 58 actions to lay the groundwork for harnessing and unlocking the potential of the blue economy.

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	Comprises the Head of State, King of Jamaica; Governor-General; and the Prime Minister
LEGISLATIVE	Parliament comprises the Senate and House of Representatives
JUDICIAL	Modelled after the British System of law

Jamaica operates under a representative parliamentary democracy led by the Head of State, represented by a Governor-General, and the Head of Government. The two primary parties that presided over the country are the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) mainly representing capitalist interests, and People's National Party (PNP) advocating democratic socialism, with their lines of distinction blurring over time. Party politics is deeply embedded in political culture. Voting is based on party loyalty, and membership in either span across all societal segments, with no distinct divisions of support across race, class and gender. 2016 voter turnout was less than 50%.

That is not to say, however, that all members of society enjoy adequate representation, or equal access to government. The private sector and business elites hold significant sway in policy decisions, whereas civil society groups and entities representing the interests of more vulnerable groups, or those of less social and economic affluence, are locked out of government, and are often without the means to apply effective and consistent pressure on political leadership.

Administrative structures are often weighed downed by their own ineffectiveness, inefficiency, and low levels of accountability, further driving citizen disengagement and disillusionment.

A predominantly Christian nation, churches maintain influence over matters believed to fall under their authority, such as gender identity, sexual orientation, gambling, abortion and sexual health.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	69 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	44 (100 being lowest)

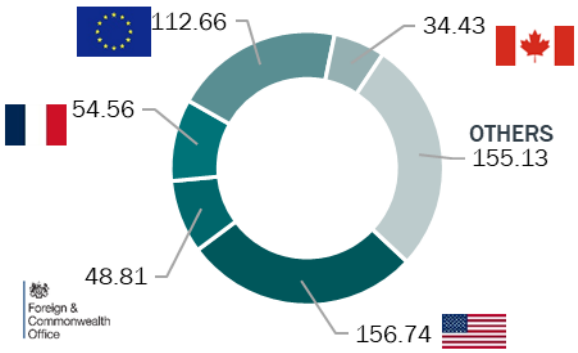
There is a perceived class bias within judiciary handlings, resulting in widespread distrust in the efficiency and reliability of the justice system, particularly amongst those of lower socio-economic groups.

Corruption in politics and business affairs is expected, however, with the GoJ's strengthening of anti-corruption organisations, the Integrity Commission and Anti-Corruption Agency have been emboldened to crack down on blatant regulatory breaches.

Transparency and access to information can still be improved, as there remain challenges in accessing official information. Although deemed as free, self-censorship occurs amongst journalists out of fear of retaliation from powerful interest groups.

1.3.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country



Jamaica has access to a fairly large pool of overseas development assistance (ODA) funding. From 2018 to 2022, the country received approximately US$562M from bilateral and multilateral development funders. During that time, the USA was Jamaica's largest contributor to ODA, focusing on addressing gaps in disaster resilience, crime, violence, security, health, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Key programmes include enhancement of democracy through institutional strengthening, investment in disaster resilience, and the emergency plan for AIDS relief.

Its other top donors have also prioritised climate and disaster resilience, human development, institutional strengthening, and in the case of Canada, security and crime. On an institutional-level, development partners are exploring ways to take on a more regional approach to their respective interventions and programming for the greater Caribbean area.

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Dedicated 2023-2025 Country Plan structured around the following priorities:

6. Reducing the impact of serious and organised crime and violence on the UK
7. Growing mutual and inclusive prosperity through trade and investment, while enhancing Jamaica's economic resilience
8. Promoting resilience on climate change
9. Promoting respect for common values: UK and Jamaica support each other in international fora, international justice, human rights, elections and cybersecurity
10. Deploy UK defence assets and resources in support to Jamaican defence
11. Effective and efficient delivery of consular services to visiting and resident British nationals

Key FCDO Programmes

- UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund - UKCIF
- Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitals)
- Caribbean Economic Development Programme
- Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean
- Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3
- UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership
- Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020
- Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme 2020-2025

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Case Study: Dominica

CAPITAL	Roseau
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	72,737
GDP	US$607.4M
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$13,500PPP
HDI	0.74

1.4 Dominica

1.4.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

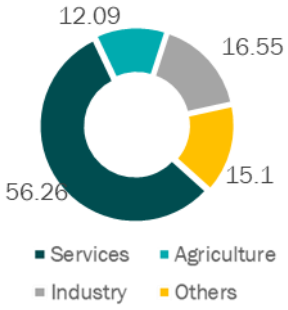
Dominica is a lower middle income island country situated in the Lesser Antilles archipelago in the Caribbean Sea. It houses the world's second largest hot spring, and is home to swathes of mountainous rainforest. It was the last island of the region to be colonized: first by the French in 1715, then by the British half a century later in 1763, before gaining its independence in 1978.

The country's economy is predominantly driven by tourism and it has leaned into an eco-tourism edge in marketing itself as 'the Nature Island of the Caribbean.' Prior to the boom of the tourism and services sectors, agriculture had been its primary driver. Presently, bananas, citrus fruits, coffee, and cocoa are its primary exports.

Resilience has been a central development focus for the small island nation since the destruction caused by Hurricane Maria in 2017, placing it on the path to being the world's first climate resilient nation.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience



Dominica is the 9th most tourism-dependent economy in the world (Mooney and Zearra, 2020); it is driven largely by the services sector, followed by industry and agriculture. Partly because of this, the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) for Dominica is 43.2, just below the average score for the Pacific and much higher than the Caribbean average.

In 2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) concluded that its economy had fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels, with real GDP growth rates of 5.6% in 2022, and 4.7% in 2023, attributable to tourism's bounce back (contributing 26.8% of the GDP), and strong agricultural activity (exports of cash crops, and diversification efforts). It should be noted however, that when the pandemic hit, the country was still recovering from the impacts of the 2017 Hurricane and floods of 2015. Tourism and agriculture are key growth areas that are also incredibly vulnerable to climate change impacts—moreso considering the sectors make up approximately 51% of the population's employment combined.

Fiscal Resilience

The country faces a high likelihood of debt distress, with its debt-to-GDP ratio of 105%. Unlike GDP growth, public debt remains high relative to pre-pandemic

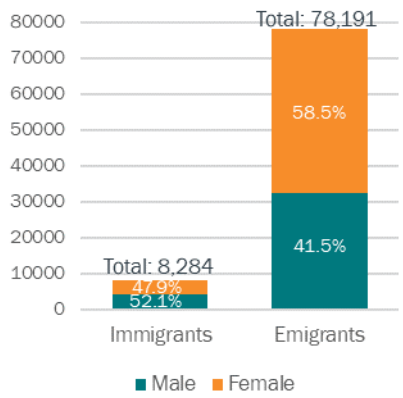
levels. On a more positive note, outlook does appear positive as the debt deficit has declined in the last year. This improvement in fiscal position can be attributed to the increase in revenues from the CBI scheme, tourism exports, and decline of fuel and investment goods import.

Dominica still faces a sizeable level of risk given its dependence on tourism, climate change exposure, and reliance on CBI inflows to bolster government revenue. It was estimated that up to 40% of the country's National Resilience Development Strategy depends on the CBI scheme. Shocks in any of these areas could significantly hinder fiscal stability, and the implementation of planned public works and programmes.

Workforce Resilience

Information on workforce demographics is limited, with the most recent and publicly available census data dating 2011. Most recent demographic data published by DataReportal, drawing data from Meta Analytics, show that as of 2022, Dominica has a fairly young population with approximately 67% under the age of 45.

International Migration in and out of Dominica, mid-2020

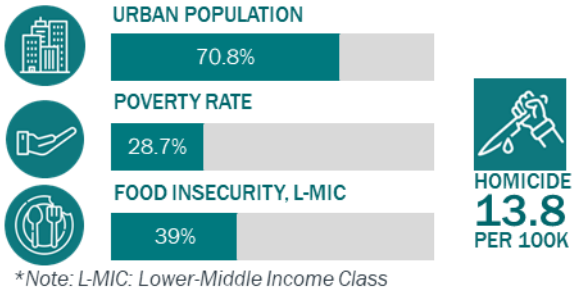


Both immigration into and emigration out of Dominica has increased since the 1990s. As a member of the CARICOM Single Market Economy (CSME) and Eastern Caribbean Economic Union (ECEU), Dominica and fellow participating states enjoy a fair degree of free movement within covered areas. Immigration was into Dominica was made even easier with the passing of the Caribbean Community Skilled Nationals Act (2015 and 2022) and Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (2001). Emigration increased after Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Unemployment has been trending downward since 2020, but remains high at 13.1%. Opportunitines are not abundant, and a sizeable proportion of workers are believed to be engaged in the informal sector. In mid-2020, emigration significantly outpaced immigration by a ratio of 9 to 1. Personal remittances accounted for 8.7% of GDP.

Presently, there is no formal mechanism for monitoring labour market demand.

Social and Democratic Resilience



**Note: L-MIC: Lower-Middle Income Class*

Of its population of 72,737, 4.1% are of the Carib (*Kalinago*) indigenous population (based on most recently conducted census in 2014). The community has a history of being treated as second class citizens, which is reflected in the prevalent higher rates of poverty, unemployment, and substance abuse within the community.

There is significant income inequality in the country, the GINI coefficient averaged 0.38 from 2010-2022. The poverty rate is 28.7%, and amongst the Carib (Kalinago community, climbs up to a whopping 49.8%. Efforts have been made to improve engagement to better support and address these challenges more meaningfully.

A 2022 survey conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP) found that 40% of the Caribbean region faces food insecurity. Country-specific data is limited, however, the World Bank estimate for food insecurity exposure within the lower-middle income class for Dominica is 39%.

Social protection is fragmented—with both gaps and overlaps in service provision. Whilst it does have a national insurance scheme, national health system, and pension scheme, there is much to be improved in terms of terms, coverage, execution, and accessibility.

Regional Integration

Dominica is a full and participating member of CARICOM and the OECS, and by extension, enjoys the market access and benefits of the CSME and Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU).

Outside of the region, it is a part of the Caribbean basin Initiative in partnership with the United States of America (USA). Through this, participating Central American and Caribbean states are granted trade and tariff benefits equivalent to those provided under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)—so as to maintain a degree of competitive standing with Mexico.

Apart from political and trade arrangements, it is also a part of region-wide initiatives and strategies focused on biodiversity and expanding the region's energy self-sufficiency through collaboration and just transition.

REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES

- Eastern Caribbean Gas Pipeline
- Intra-Caribbean Gas Pipeline
- Caribbean Sustainable Energy Roadmap and Strategy
- CARICOM Biodiversity Strategy for the Implementation of the Biodiversity Cluster of Multilateral Environmental

In 2015, the Transnational Qualifications Framework for the Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth was developed to encourage small states of the Commonwealth to ensure quality of standards in education, the transferability of qualifications to further facilitate movement across the Commonwealth states, the development of post-secondary and skills-centred learning material virtually, and enhanced access to education across the region.

Overall, however, synergies in sectoral, political, and general management could still be improved to create a more resilient, collaborative, aligned, and unified Caribbean region.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

As Dominica is a small island state with a rugged, mountainous inland, most developments, and thus most of the population are found along the coast. It is also located within the 'hurricane belt,' an area which is frequented by extreme weather events that often leave settlements in their path devastated.

As is the case with its neighbours, Dominica is heavily reliant on fossil fuel and its import to meet its energy demands, with 94% of its Total Energy Supply (TES) still being fulfilled by oil. Electricity generation figures are similar with oil constituting 80% of generation sources, and hydro and marine making up the remaining 20%. The renewable energy (RE) mix has not changed significantly over the last decade despite the country's renewable energy potential, particularly in solar, wind, and geothermal.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

With 90% of the country's settlements and population situated along the coast, the country is extremely vulnerable to weather events and the impacts of climate change. In 2015, the damage caused by Hurricane Erika amounted to US$483M—equivalent to 90% of Dominica's GDP at the time. In 2018, Hurricane Maria had damaged 90% of all buildings in the country, caused the relocation of the large medical university in the town of Portsmouth[5] to Barbados and created damage and loss amounting to US$1.3B—223% of GDP.

LAC INFORM RISK

Strengthening its overall resilience to the impacts of climate change has thus become one of the country's development priorities, with its Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP) 2020-2030 and National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS) 2030 at the centre of its target of becoming the world's first climate resilient nation by 2030. It has since been making significant progress in resilience targets and boasts a high ND-GAIN ranking.

CRRP 2020-30	Identifies 3 resilience pillars: o Climate resilient systems o Disaster management systems o Effective disaster response and recovery
NRDS 2030	Highlighting 3 key focus areas to build the world's first climate-resilient nation: o Environmental protection o Social development o Economic development and transformation

Notable milestones in this pursuit include improved data systems for disaster management, increasing carbon sequestration capacity through forest

[5] Some sources claim it was responsible for than 20% of the island's GDP

conservation, water accessibility, and more inclusive human development. In 2022, Dominica set even more ambitious targets for its NDC, particularly in its emissions reduction commitment by tapping into its high geothermal energy potential, amongst others.

Despite its progress, much remains to be achieved to hit its target, especially in the mobilisation of the resources required. The UN OCHA estimated that Dominica will require somewhere in the range of US$1.4-1.8B in financing.

Blue Economic and Biodiversity Resilience

Dominica's marine ecosystems are important to both its tourism industry, and resilience to storm surges. Despite that, Dominica's Ocean Health Index (OHI) sits at a low 52, ranking it 205 out of 220 territories. As of 2023, only 0.006% of its territorial waters are classed as marine protected areas. This may be reflected in the loss of live coral cover (10-15% from 2006-2015), sediment run-off, and overgrowth of invasive species threatening native seagrasses that house the country's fish stocks.

Known as the region's "Nature Island," the country's lush rainforests such as the Morne Trois Pitons World Heritage Site are a key tourist attraction. The Forestry Division of Dominica's Ministry of Agriculture continues to make progress in forest conservation and resilience efforts through nature-based solutions. Activities also include infrastructure rehabilitation and development in existing and potential eco-tourist destinations to expand livelihood opportunities.

The limited regional cooperation and policy coordination, particularly on vessel passage, fishing, and oil spill management among others, will remain a key threat to Dominica's marine health and biodiversity, and for the entire region.

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	Comprises the President and Prime Minister
LEGISLATIVE	Two-party system
JUDICIAL	Based on English common law

Dominica's system of governance operates under a parliamentary representative democracy. It is led by a Prime Minister, designated as the Head of Government, with an elected non-executive President as the Head of State. The President serves for a term of four years and is responsible for the appointment of both the Prime Minister, and with the latter's guidance, the Cabinet of Ministers.

For the last 24 years, the Dominica Labour Party (DLP) has been the dominant governing party with no significant opposition presence. The Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) is historically the other primary political party but has not been re-established since losing its seats in 2004. The DLP's political alignment is placed along the centre-left whilst the DFP sits at the centre-right to far right. Ideologically, however, there does not appear to be significant difference despite the polarization between its supporters.

Decision-making is highly centralized, but there is a formal system of political decentralization where local councils are granted a degree of responsibility over local revenue collection and community management. These responsibilities are split across three Municipal councils, thirty-eight village councils, and the Carib Council, representing the interests of the indigenous Kalinago population. The forty-two councils are overseen by the Ministry of Community Development and Gender Affairs, which manages local spending and policymaking.

Under its constitution, there is no explicit provision separating the church and state. The provisions for freedom in its people's choice of religious practice, or lack thereof, and protection against discrimination on those grounds, however, does imply a degree of secularism in the government's non-interference and endorsement.

The Church maintains a significant level of influence over the population, with most of its leaders belonging to a Christian denomination or practice with overlapping beliefs. As of 2022, 61.4% identified as Catholic, 28.6% as Protestant, 1.3% as Rastafarian, and 1.2% as Jehovah's Witnesses. Despite the implied separation of church and state, the Catholic Church and other dominant Christian Churches enjoy a degree of access to government, and thus leverage, over decision-making on matters relevant to their interests, such as gender, sexual orientation, and Sunday work hours. This influence is strengthened further with the formation of coalitions of associated churches.

Business elites and organized professional groups also enjoy access to the government, but these entities tend to focus on issues specific to their interests, and do not tend to stray far from business and regulatory matters.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	45 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	55 (100 being lowest)

As is the case with much of the greater Caribbean, there are high levels of corruption in Dominica. However, unlike most of its neighbours, it has no local chapter for Transparency International.

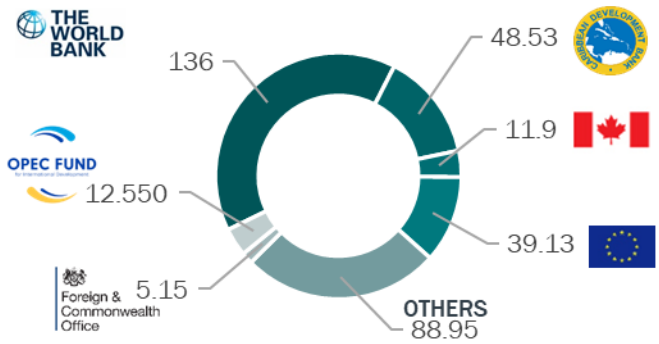
State activities tend to revolve around the Prime Minister's agenda. Patronage networks and petty corruption amongst the social elite and figures in the political sphere are seen as social norms. This is commonly observed in the preferential treatment and benefits received by landowners, business owners, and the like in the selection and granting of contracts despite public procurement laws; receipt of funds from non-traditional donors; almost non-existent reporting and transparency in fund receipt and expenditure; and notably, the CBI scheme (though note the new 2024 regulations).

Formal systems of accountability are limited, and there appears to be little incentive to improve transparency and accountability. The Integrity Commission was established in 2008 to investigate allegations of corruption but appears to be tokenistic and of questionable independence.

Information on trafficking is limited, but from what is available, there are few cases of human smuggling. The criminal trade for arms and drugs is estimated to be larger, with Dominica serving as a transit country for arms, cocaine and cannabis, feeding into violent crime.

1.4.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country



A lower-middle income country, Dominica is eligible to receive overseas development assistance (ODA). Based on data available on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS), the country received approximately US$342.21M from 2018 to 2022, averaging US$68.44M annually.

During that period, the World Bank Group was by far the country's largest donor—providing 39.7% of ODA received.

Most donors tend to operate independently, in pursuit of their respective institutional objectives and development priorities for the country and region. Some bilateral donors also partner with local or multi-lateral entities to carry out the implementation of certain programmes.

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Business Plan 2022-2025:

1. Shared values and security: to win regional support for UK policies
2. Prosperity and trade: to contribute to mutual and inclusive prosperity in the region
3. Climate resilience and biodiversity: to promote UK climate resilience and biodiversity and priorities in the region
4. Consular and crisis: assisting British nationals in disaster distress
5. Corporate services

Key FCDO Programmes

- UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund - UKCIF
- Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean
- Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitals)
- Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean
- Caribbean Economic Development Programme
- Emergency Assistance for the Relief Effort in Dominica as a Result of Tropical Storm Erika
- Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica - CREAD
- Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean
- Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020
- Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica (CREAD)

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Case Study: the Bahamas

CAPITAL	Nassau
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	409,984
GDP	US$12.9B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$38,820PPP
HDI	0.82

1.5 The Bahamas

1.5.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

The Bahamas is an archipelagic country in the West Indies by the Atlantic Ocean, and a former British colony that gained independence in 1973. The country is predominantly tourism-focused, and is home to approximately one-third of the region's coral reef systems.

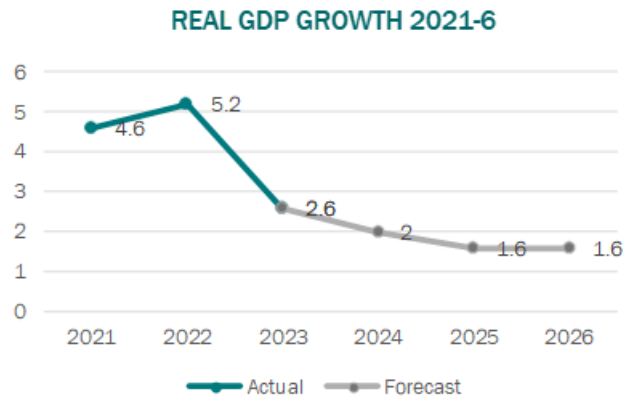
Majority of the population is of African heritage, with some minority groups of mixed descent, including a community of Haitians—also of African descent—that make up approximately 12% of the total population.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

Tourism and the financial services sectors are the primary drivers of the Bahamian economy, with the former contributing to 40-50% of the GDP directly, and up to 60-70% indirectly through tourism-propelled construction and manufacturing activities. As a result, the Bahamas was ranked as the fifth most tourism-dependent economy in the world in 2018 (IDB, 2020). The MVI of The Bahamas is 59.9 which is above the world median.

In 2011, the country positioned itself as a jurisdiction for international financial and business services, with the passing of its International Financial Services Authority (IFSA) bill. Since then, the sector has grown significantly, overtaking agriculture and industry, and making up 15-20% of the annual GDP, and employing just under 4,000 skilled Bahamian workers.



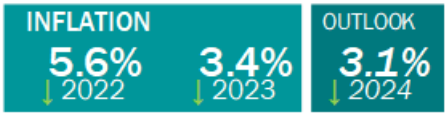
The agriculture and fisheries sectors are significantly smaller, typically fulfilling subsistence needs for coastal and rural communities, and small-scale food security. Most (~70%) food requirements for consumption and local processing are met by imports.

Fiscal Resilience

The IMF notes that the economy's rebound from COVID-19 has been 'vigorous,' with GDP growth going up, with unemployment continues to fall alongside inflation and the account deficit.

Debt had jumped from 2020 to 2021 as a result of Hurricane Dorian and the COVID-19 pandemic. It has since been on a downward trend, now sitting at a debt-to-GDP ratio of 84.2% in 2023 from 100% in 2021, which the Government of the Bahamas (GoB) aims to bring down even further to 65% by 2026/7. It also seeks to take advantage of the favourable economic environment to continue improving upon its debt and fiscal management—identifying legal, administrative, and tax reform as strategic priorities for 2022. In its 2023 annual staff report the IMF also recommends domestic debt market strengthening to further reduce dependency on international markets to create the fiscal space for sustainability, climate, and social resilience pursuits.

Recognised as an international tax haven, the Bahamas is also vulnerable to tax evasion and related instances of fraud, requiring additional anti-money laundering (AML) provisions and strengthening.



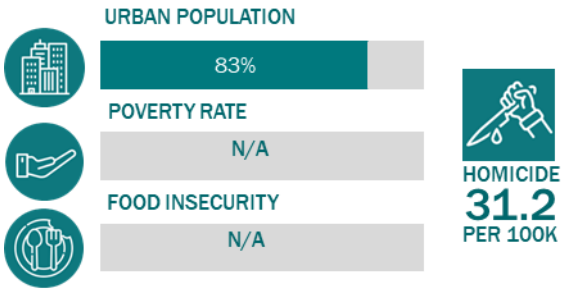
Workforce Resilience

The tourism sector employs over half of the population (directly and indirectly) and has been the driving force behind the country's economic recovery and unemployment reduction. This leaves it incredibly vulnerable to external shocks, as was observed with its US$7.9B loss in tourism, impacting 14.7% of the workforce from 2020-2022 alone.

On paper, the proportion of low-skilled workers has been in decline, with 90% having at least completed secondary schooling, and 35% having completed studies at the tertiary level and beyond. This, however, has not had any practical carryover into the workforce. Private sector employers, which employ over 60% of the workforce, report a significant skills gap affecting both performance and productivity. Enrolment to tertiary and vocational education is low compared to similar countries.

The country has an aging population of which less than 67% is under the age of 45. Noting this, the IMF has made recommendations for additional social protection provisions to be made to accommodate and respond to this.

Social and Democratic Resilience



Regionally, the Bahamas has comparatively greater opportunities and wages within its tourism industry, thus attracting a plethora of migrants. The country also has a positive net migration of 2.44 per 1000—a figure that becomes significantly higher when instances of illegal immigration and trafficking are taken into account. Although no official figures can be confirmed, it is estimated that approximately 12% of the population are undocumented migrants.

Social assistance and services are limited, leaving much of the vulnerable and at-risk population without social support or safety nets. This also includes those working in the informal sector, which before COVID, comprised 6.9% of the workforce whilst contributing to 20-30% of the economy.

The country sits along the Medusa route and historically has been a transit point for illicit substances. Cannabis is grown in the wild and is the

most consumed drug, especially amongst at-risk communities. Synthetic drug use is significantly less common, but local usage has been seen to increase--likely due to tourists who are the primary consumers of illicit substances in the country.

Incidences of firearms-related murders have been increasing. Although it hasn't necessarily been a point for illegal firearms and ammunitions smuggling, it has been a destination market for weapons, with gunrunners reportedly directing firearms purchased from American manufacturers into Nassau.

Regional Integration

The Bahamas is a member of the Organisation of American States (OAS), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), and a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). As is the case with its neighbours the country participates in a number of trade agreements with North America and the EU. With a generally negative structural trade balance, the GoB's focus has been on strengthening domestic trade, and diversifying exports.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

Being an archipelagic island state, over 80% of all settlements and infrastructure are situated within low-elevation zones, with the entirety of the population residing within 25km of the coast. Due to climate variability, extreme weather events are likely to occur more frequently with increasing intensity, placing the population and built infrastructure at greater risk.

Coastal resilience measures are largely funded and supported by IDB initiatives to reduce vulnerability and risk exposure long-term. IDB is also assisting the Government to track its climate change and disaster management expenditure.

The Bahamas is nearly completely dependent on oil, with it providing 99% of its Total Energy Supply (TES), and virtually 100% of all electricity generated in-country. There is much to be done to grow its renewable energy (RE) potential, and its energy strategy focuses on achieving greater reliability, strengthening and establishing institutions for energy efficiency and RE development, and to grow the RE share to 30% by 2030. In tapping into its significant solar potential, the GoB can seek to lower power costs and improve supply reliability.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

Located along the Atlantic hurricane belt, hurricanes, storms, surges, and ultimately, sea-level rise are the country's greatest weather and climate-related threats. The storms and cyclones typically take place between June to November, placing the country at risk for high winds flooding, storm surge and soil loss for over half of the year.

From 2000-2019, the Bahamas experienced at least 15 severe storms, affecting around 53,000 people, and causing US$7.16B in damage with single events causing damage and loss equivalent to significant fractions of the GDP. Hurricane Dorian alone had resulted in a whopping US$3.5B of loss and damage, leaving the northwestern Bahamas completely devastated—further emphasising the very real existential threat the country faces as weather events continue to increase in frequency in intensity in the face of climate change.

The University of the Bahamas Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research Centre	Founded after Hurricane Dorian to serve as a resource centre for research and knowledge sharing to facilitate the formation of solutions for SIDS and at-risks regions
Climate Change and Environmental Advisory Unit	Technical advisory arm to the Office of the Prime Minister tasked with addressing all concerns and matters relating to climate change and resilience
Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act 2022	Enable the government to incentivise initiatives supporting GHG reductions targets, ensure Paris Agreement compliance, and establish a Carbon Market
The Bahamas Sustainable Investment Program	Programme to mobilise and accelerate climate financing for resilience and sustainable, equitable development
Disaster Management Act 2022	Prepare and implement a disaster risk management framework that is holistic, improves multi-sectoral resilience, and involves all relevant stakeholders at all levels of society.

Blue Economy and Biodiversity Resilience

The Bahamian coastal and marine landscape spans a maritime area of over 258,000km^2, and is home to incredibly rich and biodiverse ecosystems that are a

pivotal to the populations' livelihoods and the country's economy. The blue economy as it stands, contributes to 21.5% of the GDP, which can go up to 50% if indirect contributions are also considered. As of 2022, the country was given an Ocean Health Index (OHI) of 77, ranking it 45 out of 220 regions. Although well above the global average, it is paramount for the GoB to continue building upon its conservation, management, and development, not just for its productivity value, but also for the role they play (mangroves, coral reefs) as buffer systems against cyclones, storm surges, and flooding.

Unfortunately, with ongoing economic recovery and growth, coral and mangrove systems have been in decline over the last few years. Harm caused and existing vulnerabilities have only been compounded further with increasing climate variability, unregulated fishing, and persistent weaknesses in management and regulatory enforcement of protective laws.

Effort is also being made for on-land ecosystems with the amendment of the Forestry Act to strengthen protective mechanisms, develop sustainable forestry livelihoods, tap into climate finance, and to build greater resilience.

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	Cabinet of nine ministers, including the Prime Minister and Attorney General
LEGISLATIVE	Parliament, Senate, and House of Assembly
JUDICIAL	Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, based on British Common Law

The Bahamas is a commonwealth nation that operates under a parliamentary constitutional Monarchy based on the Westminster Model. It recognises the King as the Head of State, with the Governor-General as the King's representative within the nation, and the Prime Minister as the head of Government. The multi-party system is dominated by the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) and the Free National Movement (FNM).

The US Report on International Freedom on the Bahamas notes that religious actors have a fair amount of access to the government through the Bahamas Christian Council (BCC), which represents leaders of the Christian denominations. The BCC is often consulted by the government on social, economic, and political issues. Smaller religious groups, such as the Baha'i, Rastafarian, and Jewish communities are also consulted on various issues, but mostly around religious freedom and tolerance.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	30 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	64 (100 being highest)

Lately, there has been a rise in the prosecution of state-embedded actors for cases of corruption and related financial crimes. Officially, there is limited evidence against these claims, but it is widely accepted amongst the public that corruption in public dealings, particularly in procurement is widespread.

Being a tax haven, corruption within the private sector is related mostly to financial crimes and money laundering activities.

Although consumption of synthetic drugs is slow, the Bahamas has a long history of serving as a transit point for the cocaine trade. The substance trade is run primarily by foreign criminal actors, many of whom have a significant presence in the local criminal landscape. Gang activity has been on the rise, with its members and actors taking advantage of the high rates of youth unemployment and poverty.

1.5.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country

Given its upper-income status, the Bahamas is not eligible for overseas development assistance (ODA). Nevertheless, it continues to receive much support from regional development partners, notably the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Caribbean Development Bank (CDB); bilateral development partners, the EU and USAID; and multi-lateral institutions such as the World Bank and United Nations Systems.

Much of the support it receives is in exogenous shock mitigation; be it through contingent credit lines (through IDB), disaster insurance provision (through Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), Disaster Relief funds, coastal protection and risk management, and disease and pandemic management, and developing reef-positive business and financial mechanisms (The Nature Conservancy).

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

Key FCDO Programmes

FCDO presence and activity within the Bahamas is low, with just a regional Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme for 2015-2020 being its most recent in-country involvement.

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Case Study: Belize

CAPITAL	Belmopan
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	405,273
GDP	US$2.83B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$17,480PPP
HDI	0.70

1.6 Belize

1.6.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot

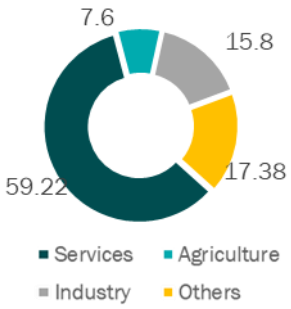
Belize was the last British colony of the region, having only achieved independence in 1981. The population is ethnically diverse, comprisingly largely of *Mestizos* (mixed Mayan and Spanish immigrant heritage), and to a lesser degree, Creoles (mixed African and British heritage) living along the central coastal areas. The indigenous Maya and *Garifauna* (mixed indigenous and African heritage) communities live in the less densely populated inland areas, as well as on the coast.

The country is covered in swathes of mountains, forest, and swamps, with forest land covering approximately 60% of its land area. Its coastal and marine life is just as rich, with its vast mangrove swamps and coral colonies, the second longest barrier reef is offshore Belize.

highly vulnerable to weather and climate-related disasters. In 1970, Belmopan was made the new capital city after Belize City had been devastated by Hurricane Hattie.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

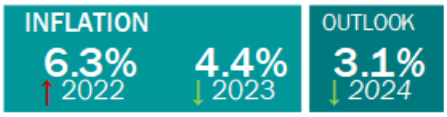


Belize's economy is incredibly tourism dependent, ranking 18th in the world for its sector dependency. Although reported figures appear to differ across publications, the UN OCHA Belize Profile report and IDB estimated that the tourism sector alone makes up 43.75% of the GDP and 33.9% of total employment. Whilst Agriculture also contributes significantly, particularly with several foreign-owned large-scale farms producing export crops, any shocks or interruptions to the tourism sector would have severe implications on the livelihoods of the population. As was the case during the COVID-19 pandemic (Moody & Zegarra 2020). Belize's Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) is 53.0, which is about the world median.

Belize's real GDP growth plummeted to -13.7 in 2020 but recovered in 2021 onwards with the resumption and expansion of activities within the tourism,

construction, trade, transport, business process outsourcing, and retail sectors. The IMF forecasts that GDP will continue to grow from 2024 onwards as the output gap closes.

Fiscal Resilience



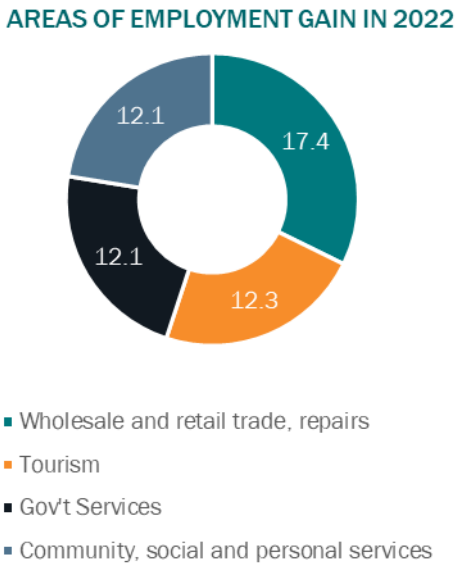
The fiscal policy had largely been expansionary, driven by massive infrastructure spending to stimulate GDP growth. In the last 13 years, approximately US$2B was spent in capital expenditure, resulting in a nominal GDP growth of US$1B—most of which is anticipated to be lost to mismanagement, pandemic recovery, and public debt repayment.

That being said, Belize has done well in reducing its debt to GDP ratio from 101% in 2020 to 64% in 2022. This was driven largely by high inflation, expenditure restraint, a debt discount from Venezuela, and notably, a marine protection swap with The Nature Conservancy. The swap not only reduced public debt by 12%, but also served to strengthen marine protection moving forward.

Key risk areas are the ever-increasing food and fuel prices, interest rates, and frequency and intensity of climate-related disasters.

Workforce Resilience

The median age has steadily been on the rise since 1970 and as of 2023, sits at 26. The fertility rate has also declined from above 6 from the 1950s-70s to 2. Belize's population remains fairly young, with a 78.4% of the population being under 45, based on DataReportal's 2022 report.

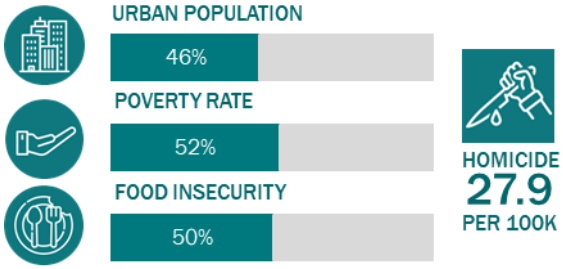


The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) conducts a labour force survey (LFS) twice a year, and for October 2022, their findings were as follows:

- Unemployment reached its lowest recorded rate for the country at 5%
- Participation rate stood at 58.7%, which fell slightly from the previous year's 61.9%
- There is a wide disparity in female and male participation rates, with a rate of 44.4% and 73.4%, respectively
- Informal employment accounted for 35.3% of employed population

Belize's immigration and emigration rates are both high. From 2009 to 2019, the country's population increased by 24%; and in 2022, had a net migration figure of 1.48 per 1,000. Although SIB has no firm figures on undocumented migrants, they note that the country is a source, transit, and destination for victims of trafficking, individuals fleeing conflict areas or gang-related violence, or workers simply in search for economic opportunity.

Social and Democratic Resilience



Belize has an ethnically diverse population comprising Mestizos, Creole, two Indigenous groups: the Maya and Garifuna communities, and a large group of immigrants. As is the case with most of the region, wealth and income distribution skew disproportionally in favour of the wealthy elite. Crime, corruption, unequal economic opportunities, and high cost of living continues to drive income disparities further.

Despite its middle-income status, the poverty rate is at an alarming 52%, and is even higher at 77% amongst the Maya community. The indigenous population are already exposed to a high level of vulnerability to climatic shocks given their dependency on agriculture. Their livelihood, wellbeing, and culture continue to be threatened by the industrial elite infringing on indigenous land with logging and petroleum development activities.

Gang-related activity is high across the country, with murder, rape, burglary, and robbery being the major crimes taking place.

As of 2024, Belize does not have a defined Social Protection Floor (SPF), but do have established, albeit limited, systems for healthcare, pension, and various programmes aimed at supporting those in need. Some examples being its Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (BOOST), Food Support Programme, or #Plan Belize. Many of these programmes suffer similar weaknesses in effectiveness of execution, data on target beneficiaries, stakeholder involvement and awareness, scalability, and resourcing.

Although there is no prescribed minimum allocation on social assistance, the UNICEF recommended minimum is approximately 3.3% of GBP. An item-by-item analysis estimates that Belize's social protection expenditure is <1% of its GDP.

The GoB seeks to close the gaps in service provision and quality through a more coherent, comprehensive, and institutionalised approach, with the development of its National Social Protection Strategy, to more meaningfully and sustainably advance targets for human development, poverty alleviation, and overall resilience. This pursuit is currently being supported the United Nations (UN) System, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Joint Fund, and UNICEF.

Regional Integration

Although a mainland central American State, Belize is a full participating member of CARICOM and the Organisation of American States (OAS), and by extension, enjoys the market access and benefits of the CSME. Through CARICOM's negotiated bilateral trade agreements, Belize also enjoys free trade arrangements with the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Colombia, Cuba, and Venezuela. It is also a Central American Integration System (SICA) member politically, but not a part of the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SEICA).

Outside of the region, it is also a part of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), granting it greater access to the EU market. Through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Belize (MFA&FT), the country has bilateral relations and partnerships across the Americas, Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

Belize has a territorial dispute with Guatemala, which was voted to be resolved by the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Proceedings were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and there have been no further developments since instruction was given on the reply and rejoinder. The dispute remains a sensitive topic for locals.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

Most of Belize's denser settlements are situated along low-lying coastal zones at elevations of <10m, leaving it particularly vulnerable to flooding and storm surges that come with the hurricanes, storms, and weather events that frequent the region.

Although most of its total energy supply (TES) is still met by imports, Belize's reliance is comparatively smaller than that of its neighbours'. Energy import share sits at 64.1% of TES, with the rest being met by its indigenous energy generation supply. As of 2022, renewable energy (RE) sources contribute to over half of total gross electricity generation comes from renewable sources (52.9%), which is equivalent to 93% (57% attributed to bioenergy, 33% to hydro, and 2% to solar) of in-country electricity generation.

Energy demand, however, continues to outpace indigenous generation capacity, keeping Belize reliant on its interconnection with Mexico. Despite this, mean

energy prices have remained relatively stable over the last decade—indicating notable resilience in the face of both internal and external shocks and disruptions.

Climate and Disaster Resilience

Belize is very vulnerable to tropical storms, hurricanes, flood, and drought. Belize City is on the coast and below sea level. From 2000-2021, storms had been the most common disaster type affecting the country, resulting in approximately US$552M worth of damage.

LAC INFORM RISK

National Climate Change Policy, Strategy & Master Plan 2021-2025	Serves as the country's roadmap for short-, medium-, and long-term climate change objectives and processes in priority sectors, aligned with regional and international commitments.
Climate Finance Strategy of Belize 2021-2026	Proposes an integrated approach to access and mobilise resources required, and maximise cross-sectoral synergies and partnerships to support climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience objectives.

With an ND-Gain score of 43.9 (out of 100), the country is not only deemed highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, but is also found to exhibit inadequate readiness and capacity for building climate resilience. In its climate finance strategy, it was estimated that of the required US$1.9B to meet NDC targets by 2030, only US$261M has been mobilized, leaving a fairly large finance gap of US$1.65B.

Blue Economic and Biodiversity Resilience

The country is home to the second longest barrier reef in the world. Since 1996, the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, under which are seven protected marine reserves, national parks, and natural monuments. It has an Ocean Health Index (OHI) greater than the global average, and ranks 68 out of 220 regions.

Inland, it has maintained much of its forest coverage, which sits at 56%. Belize maintains its status as a net carbon sink for emissions, but its own GHG emissions continue to increase. Within the energy sector, it appears that emissions are growing disproportionately to Total Energy Supply (TES), increasing by 20.3% from 2018 to 2019.

In 2023, efforts to strengthen biodiversity protection and blue economy endeavours continue to expand, with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank, World Wildlife Fund, the UN System, The Nature Conservancy, and various other development partners. Notable strategies in these pursuits include:

Resilience Strategy for the Belize Barrier Reef System, launched in 2023—improving water quality through watershed management, coral restoration, livelihood diversification.

Resilience Strategy for the Belize Barrier Reef System	improving water quality through watershed management, coral restoration, livelihood diversification.
National Landscape Restoration Strategy for Belize 2022-2030	Sets out the objectives and actions to meet its Bonn Challenge pledge of restoring 130,000ha of forest and agricultural landscapes

Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	Head of Government, the Prime Minister Cabinet
LEGISLATIVE	Bicameral National Assembly comprising the House of Representatives and Senate
JUDICIAL	Based on the Westminster Model

Belize's government operates under a parliamentary democratic system, with the King as the Head of State, represented by a Governor General, and a Prime Minister as the Head of Government. The Prime Minister and the cabinet work together and provides guidance and advice from which the Governor General acts upon.

The Cabinet ministers are drawn from Senate or from the major Parliamentary political parties. These ministers can also be elected into the National Assembly concurrently. Members of the Senate, on the other hand, are appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Council of Churches and Evangelical Association of Churches, Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Business Bureau, and the National Trade Union Congress and Civil Society Steering Committee.

The system is dominated by the United Democratic Party (UDP), which is made up of the Creole elite and middle class, with some representation of the elite and middle class from other ethnic groups; and the People's United Party (PUP), which is largely made up of professional, elite, and middle-class Mestizo or mixed-Creole, and are currently the Opposition.

As the largest ethnic groups, the Mestizos and Creoles enjoy significant representation in government, and in positions of power and influence. Other ethnicities, especially indigenous communities, remain under-represented, which reflects in the provision of public services. The population are predominantly Christian, with Roman Catholics (40%) and Protestants (32%) being the two largest denominations.

The church holds a significant degree of influence over public matters, as noted in their representation in the Cabinet, and more notably, in education. Similarly to many Caribbean countries, this can be traced back to its time as a British colony, where missionary groups established schools to both fill a gap in primary education and forward their respective evangelisation pursuits. As the British empire did not support non-Anglican schools, this practice carried on until the churches expanded into secondary schooling.

This arrangement was eventually formalised under the Ordinance of 1962, under an agreement where schools in Belize would essentially be administered, financed, and operated by the churches. Outside of financial management, community inclusions, and denomination management, little has changed since then.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	N/A
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	N/A

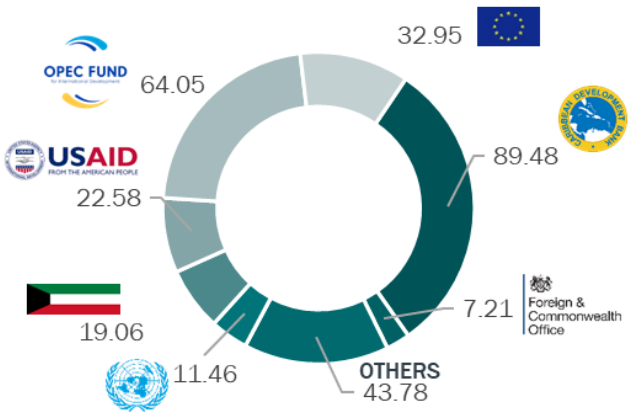
Belize has not been listed or ranked on Transparency International's roster as the former has yet to signal its intention to meet the requirements for TA assessment.

Corruption in the country is at an all-time high, with the GOB setting a historical record for the abuse of public funds and resources (GoB, 2020). It is prevalent across many public functions and institutions, notably in the police, government, security services, the business community, and the social elite. Powerful political leaders and entities continue to undermine the functions of oversight and accountability offices through the withholding of appointments, limiting access to adequate resourcing, and potentially various other methods.

Corruption is considered common practice, and is evident in public procurement, the over-valuation of infrastructure contracts, campaign contributions, mismanagement of litigation and settlement, illegal sale and issuance of permanent residence, land compensation payments, and public funds spent without legislative approval.

1.6.2 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country



Belize is classified as a lower-middle income country and is an eligible recipient of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). Based on data available on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS), the country received approximately US$290.55M from 2018 to 2022, averaging US$58.11M annually.

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) had the greatest contribution, funding programmes and projects focused on building social, economic, and environmental resilience.

Most donors tend to operate independently, in pursuit of their respective institutional objectives and development priorities for the country and region. Some bilateral donors also partner with local or multi-lateral entities are partnered with to carry out the implementation of certain programmes.

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Belize Business and Country Plan 2023:

12. Secure funds and strengthen bilateral relationship for climate and biodiversity
13. UK position as responsible reliable and effective international partner
14. UK seen as a key partner on gender, diversity and equity
15. Defense and resilience
16. Effective and efficient delivery of consular services
17. To contribute to mutual and inclusive prosperity through strengthening and increasing efficiency in the trade and investment relationship between the UK and Belize, and enhance economic resilience, including through critical economic infrastructure

Key FCDO Programmes

- UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund - UKCIF
- Strengthening Health Faclities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitas)
- Caribbean Economic Development Programme
- Strengthening Disaster Resilience in the Caribbean
- UK Humanitarian Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa

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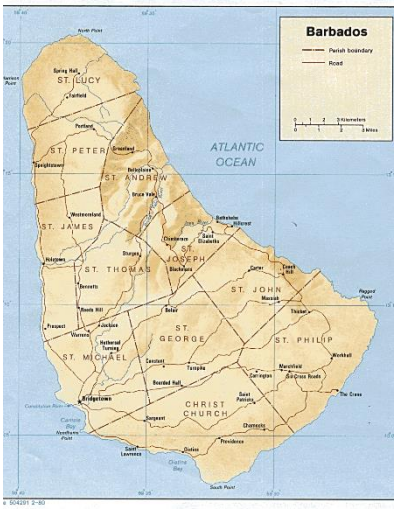
Case Study: Barbados

CAPITAL	Bridgetown
MEMBERSHIPS	Caribbean Community Organisation of American States Association of Caribbean States
POPULATION	281,635
GDP	US$5.7B
INCOME PER CAPITA	US$17,480PPP
HDI	0.81

1.7 Barbados

1.7.1 Resilience Profile

Country snapshot



Barbados is one of the most developed and wealthiest economies in the region. It is one of the few territories that remained solely under British occupation until gaining its independence in 1966. Having maintained much of colonial architecture, and systems of law, the country had been considered the 'Little England' of the region, until it transitioned from its parliamentary monarchy to a pariliamentary republic.

The country is predominantly low-lying, with the highest point sitting at 340m above sea level. No significant freshwater bodies other than streams and ponds exist in-land, thus water is source mainly from groundwater sources.

Sugar production had previously been the country's primary economic activity, but this has diminished in importance owing to increasing drought conditions, declining soil fertility, and the development of tourism, and the industrial and financial services sectors.

Over 90% of the population are of African and African-European descent, with a mix of minority groups of Chinese, European, American and Lebanese descent.

Country resilience profile

Economic Resilience

As one of the Caribbean's leading tourist destinations, the economy of Barbados is a services-driven, tourism contributed an average of 39% of GDP from 2014-2018 (IDB 2020), and the country ranks 14th in the tourism dependency rankings. Tourism is followed by offshore banking and international financial services. The severe contraction in 2020 (marked by a 17.5% drop in real GDP), and the present-day recovery were both led largely by changes in the tourism sector, highlighting the need for economic diversification. Barbados MVI is higher than the world median.

The Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Plan 2022 was created to succeed BERT 2018, and continues to build on eight key pillars: incentivization of the green transition and climate resilient infrastructure; incentivizing low and middle income housing; investing in skills, training, and education; financial stability; productivity improvement and public service excellence; establishing the country as a logistics hub; economic diversification; adopting open labour market policies.

Fiscal Resilience

Barbados is highly indebted, with a debt-to-GDP ratio of 121%, as of 2022. Prior to the pandemic, it had made great strides to improve its fiscal position through policy reform, debt restructuring, and commitment to clearing accumulated arrears. This was achieved through the BERT Plan 2018, which had seen the reduction of the debt-to-GDP ratio to 117.4% from 176.3% in just three years (2017 to 2020). This returned the country to a more sustainable fiscal position with more space for education, healthcare, and infrastructure. This was of particular import amidst the pandemic, as it allowed the Government of Barbados (GoB) to focus on the protection of lives and livelihoods.

Its successor, BERT 2022, seeks to carry on the path of public sector reform and sustainable debt management to enable greater private sector investment in green growth, and continue growing the fiscal space for investment in social development and social cohesion. It aims to continue on its debt reduction path, targeting a ratio of 60% by 2035/6.

Workforce Resilience

The tourism sector employs over a third of the work force. Since the end of the pandemic, although employment levels increased, participation rates were found to have fallen, contracting by approximately 2%. The Central Bank of Barbados' labour market report attributes this to the country's aging population, which is anticipated to strain social protection systems and pension funds if left unchecked.

In 2017, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) carried out a study estimating Barbados' informal sector to be as large as 30-40% of GDP. Although no recent follow up analysis was undertaken, this could explain the populace's difficulty in accessing the market, social support, and the general growing concern of being able to afford basic necessities (further discussed in the Social and Democratic Resilience section).

Social and Democratic Resilience

Barbados ranks highly on the Human Development Index (HDI), and is considered one of the most developed islands of the Caribbean with its high mean life expectancy, access to education and healthcare, and literacy rates.

This, however, has not been able to protect its population from external shocks and price fluctuations, to which the import-dependent country is particularly vulnerable.

IMPORT DEPENDENCIES

- 92% of Total Energy Supply (TES) met by imported oil (2020)
- 78% of food requirements (excluding fish) met by imports (2022)
- US$4.86M water imported from across the region and globally (2022)

Barbados is in a cost-of-living crisis, which, based on CARICOM's 2023 livelihoods and food security survey, continues to negatively impact the population despite the economy's recovery to pre-pandemic levels. The survey found at least half of the population continue to face significant challenges to their livelihoods and future. Notable findings include:

- Limited market access, with 95% of respondents reporting an inability to access markets
- Job loss or salary reductions affected over 25% of households in the last year
- Increase in number of individuals having to resort to alternative and secondary income sources to make ends meet
- Declining food consumption patterns, with 68% skipping meals, going an entire day without eating, or eating less preferred food
- 28% of households reporting having no food stock at home, and 36% reporting having less than a week's supply stocked
- Growing concern on the ability to meet essential needs
- Following disaster events, over 50% of respondents reported having their source of income moderately to severely affected

Healthcare provision is universal, and various forms of social assistance are offered to the vulnerable in need, however only 14% reported receiving some form of government assistance (dropping from 33% during the peak of the pandemic). Overall, only 6% of respondents reported having a high perceived resilience capacity.

Crime, gang activity, and violence have been on the rise. The GoB has responded by fast-tracking related legislation and disbursed resources to improve

enforcement. Gangs in particular have been growing in influence across Barbados, recruiting from the at-risk and disadvantaged youth demographic, which experiences higher poverty rates compared to other age groups.

Although there is no evidence of organised networks of human trafficking, it takes place on a large enough scale that Barbados is recognised as a source and destination for sex tourism. On the matter of illicit substances, the country serves mostly as a transit point as no significant market for synthetic substances exists outside the tourism industry.

Prevention and support mechanisms for substance users and trafficking victims are not remarkable.

Regional Integration

Barbados is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Organisation of American States (OAS), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), and although geographically a part of the Eastern Caribbean, it is not a member of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). As is the case with its neighbours, it participates in trade arrangements with various states, notably the United Kingdom, Canada, the EU, and the USA.

The country is also party to several treaties to do with organised crime, working closely with the EU, UK, and USA in training initiatives and information sharing.

Through its Roofs to Reefs programme, the country aims to create a model from which other vulnerable island states may learn from and build to accelerate their respective resilience strategies.

Infrastructure, Settlement, Energy Resilience

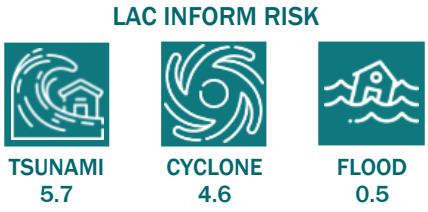
Although hurricanes frequently travel within 20-100miles of the country, they rarely make landfall / directly impact Barbados--that is until recently. In 2021, the country was hit by Hurricane Elsa which had been the first incidence of direct landfall in 65 years (Buckholtz, 2023). Combined with the impact of the then recent La Soufriere eruption left the country in disarray. In 2024, Category 4 Hurricane Beryl made landfall in St Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, and Barbados, significantly impacting the fisheries industry along the southern coast, toppling power lines, and tearing rooves from houses on the island state (IFRC, 2024). While much of its infrastructure is considered to be of good quality, recent events have made clear that existing structures are unable to hold against the extreme weather events that appear to be taking place with greater intensity and frequency. Like many SIDS, most settlements and infrastructure are located on the coast, or within 5km of the coastline, also exposing key civil and tourism infrastructure to resulting storm surges, floods, and rising sea levels.

The same is the case for its water supply infrastructure. Given its limited surface water supply, the country relies heavily on groundwater aquifer sources and more recently, on imports from CARICOM to meet its water requirements.

Total Energy Supply (TES) and electricity generation is met mainly by oil. In 2022, Barbados' renewable energy (RE) capacity grew by 6MW, bringing up its share of electricity generation to 7%. Although commendable, greater effort must be made to meet its National Energy Policy target of becoming a carbon neutral, 100% RE-powered island by 2030. Notably

Climate and Disaster Resilience

Barbados is highly exposed to natural and climate-related hazards, with tropical storms being its most commonly experienced hazard. From 2000 to 2021, floods and tropical storms caused approximately US$5.2M damage to critical infrastructure, loss of lives and livelihoods, and displacement. This is likely to worsen with current sea-level rise and increasing storm intensity projections.



CARICOM's livelihoods survey showed that residents felt they had good access to early warning information in anticipation of natural hazard events. However, information and data generated can be optimised further to better guide policies and programmes improving upon disaster management, response, and adaptation.

The country's Roofs to Reefs programme is frequently cited as the nation's cross-cutting national resilience strategy bringing together community-based and national approaches to create and implement nature-based solutions and facilitate low-carbon development and the energy transition.

Blue Economic and Biodiversity Resilience

Barbados has an Ocean Health Index (OHI) of 66, ranking 173rd out of 220 regions. The pollution of

coastal waters continues to be an issue with the passage of passenger and cargo ships, soil erosion, and illegal waste disposal. Given that its maritime space is nearly 400 times larger than that of its land area, its conservation, management, and sustainable development is no small task.

As of 2023, the GoB has committed US$50M into ocean conservation efforts through a Blue Bond, developed with the IDB, The Nature Conservancy, Credit Suisse and the First Caribbean Bank. The Bond Aims to develop a marine spatial plan which will include provisions for the protection of 30% of marine territory, sustainable development of fisheries and tourism, and improving its conservation and management efforts around ongoing human activities.

1.7.2 Overview of political economy context

Governance

EXECUTIVE	President, advised by Prime Minister and Cabinet
LEGISLATIVE	Prime Minister, Cabinet, two chambers of Parliament
JUDICIAL	Based on the English Common Law

Since independence, Barbados had been a constitutional monarchy until 2021, at which time the country renounced the monarchy and transitioned into a parliamentary republic. This shift was implemented by the Democratic Labour Party, which had been in power since 2018, under Mia Amor Mottley.

As the birthplace of the British slave society, Discussions surrounding reparations are frequently raised in national, regional—and with the leadership's renewed vigour—and international dialogue.

Corruption and Democracy

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION RANK	29 out of 180
CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SCORE	65 (100 highest)

Barbados has the best corruption perception index score in the region, ranking just below the United Kingdom and just above the USA. However, gun violence, crime, and gang activity have been on the rise, possibly enabled by corruptible public officers and figures. Although evidence is limited, it is widely believed amongst the population that extortion, protection racketeering, and corruption is common within the political leadership and enforcement officers, given the scale of sex tourism, drug transit, and to a lesser extent, drug use.

Customs, police, politicians and state authorities have been found complicit in the drugs trade, with some accounts suggesting a notable level of influence is held by drug rings and gang leaders over communities and political groups.

Though the corruption rating is low, the issue has become a growing cause for concern and source of mistrust in politicians.

1.7.3 Overview of FCDO Programming in the country

Importance of donor programming in the country

Although Barbados is no longer eligible to receive Overseas Development Assistance, it receives sizeable support from several multilateral and bilateral development partners through loans, finance facility support, and technical assistance across a variety of areas aligned with donor priorities.

Prominent development partners include the IDB, which focuses on the provison of policy-based loans to improve water management, disaster risk management, ports and energy; and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), focused on water supply and infrastructure, and more recently, airport rehabilitation and immigration services upgrading.

On the international front, are the EU and World Bank, providing respective support to progress green development and transitions, digital transformation, and climate resilience; and Canada with its support to strengthening public and institutional systems, private sector development, and access to justice. The IMF also provides financial support through its Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF).

FCDO resilience-building efforts in the country

In-Country Programmatic Priorities

Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Business Plan 2022-2025:

1. Shared values and security: to win regional support for UK priorities

2. Prosperity and trade: to contribute to mutual and inclusive prosperity in the region

3. Climate resilience and biodiversity: to promote

4. Consular and crisis

5. Corporate services

Key FCDO Programmes

- Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020

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Annex 2. Programmes in the CDT portfolio

Table 1. FCDO programmes in the Caribbean Resilience Portfolio

	Programme	Description	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key regional organisations & government partners
1	UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund (UKCIF)	The UKCIF was a £330 million investment by the FCDO, administered by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). It was launched in 2015 and implemented starting from 2016. The fund aimed to invest in critical economic infrastructure across nine Caribbean countries and territories (Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines). These investments sought to boost economic growth, reduce poverty, increase climate resilience, and promote gender equality and social inclusion. With an extended end date to March 2026 and a budget increase to nearly £350 million, the programme focused on various sectors such as roads, ports, agriculture, water, sanitation, and energy. However, delays in implementation and slow disbursement were noted, partly attributed to factors like the impact of COVID-19. Despite challenges, UKCIF aligned with national policies, climate commitments, and gender equality strategies across its portfolio.	Initially £330 million, increased to £349,786,067	Launched in 2015, implemented from 2016, extended to March 2026	Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua & Barbuda	CDB
2	Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean	The UK's International Climate Fund (ICF) allocates £19.35 million to boost renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) in the Eastern Caribbean. High electricity costs in the region, averaging US$ 0.25 per kWh, strain economies and hinder sustainable development. This programme aims to diversify the energy mix with affordable, green solutions. It provides financial aid in the form of grants, low-interest loans, and technical assistance (TA) to facilitate RE development and EE implementation. Key components include the Sustainable Energy for the Eastern Caribbean (SEEC) initiative, managed by the CDB in partnership with the European Union, and support for geothermal projects in St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Lucia, and Dominica. While the programme generally met expectations, challenges persist in procuring qualified consultants and timely implementation. Recommendations include exploring program extension, enhancing procurement practices, and securing adequate support for project implementation.	£19.3m	2015-2023	Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia,St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua & Barbuda	CDB European Union World Bank Governments of St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Lucia, and Dominica
3	Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Health Care Facilities Project, Phase II)	The SMART Health Care Facilities Project, Phase II, aimed to enhance disaster resilience and climate change adaptation in health facilities across Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. By incorporating green principles into hazard safety measures, the project sought to increase infrastructure protection from disasters and climate change, ensuring reliable health services during	£46.3m	2015-2023	Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia,St Vincent	Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the World Health Organisation (WHO) arm for the Americas

		emergencies. Implemented from June 10, 2015, to December 2022, the project assessed 415 facilities and made structural, non-structural, and functional improvements to 54 facilities, benefitting approximately 800,000 people. Key achievements included establishing a blueprint and gold standard of resilience (A/70) for health facilities and demonstrating the benefits of retrofitting over new builds. Further investment tripled despite challenges in maintenance and institutional uptake, the project laid the groundwork for future resilience initiatives.			and the Grenadines	Ministries of Health (MoH) of Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines
4	Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean	Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean, also known as Skills for Youth Employment (SkYE), operated in Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, aiming to address the lack of skills and high unemployment among disadvantaged youth aged 15-30. The programme, led by a consortium led by Mott MacDonald/Cambridge Education Ltd, focused on developing relevant labour market skills and promoting youth employment, productivity, and inclusion. It consisted of three components: high-quality training in priority sectors, basic and work readiness training for disadvantaged youth, and capacity building for national training agencies and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) providers. Over five years (2018-2023), it received £8,232,027.67 in funding from the FCDO, resulting in skills training and certificates for 5,778 graduates. The programme exceeded its target employment rate, with 54% of graduates employed, including 387 young people with disabilities and 1,300 from disadvantaged backgrounds. Tracer study results showed increased weekly incomes and utilisation of skills learned during training in the workplace.	£8,232,027.67 (full life)	2017-2023	Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia,St Vincent and the Grenadines	Caribbean Association of National Training Agencies (CANTA) Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Council (DTVETC) Mott MacDonald/Cambridge Education Ltd Grenada National Training Agency (GNTA) Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Sector Skills Development Agency (SSDA)
5	Caribbean Economic Development Programme (CEDP)	The CEDP is a nine-year initiative with a budget of £21 million aimed at fostering economic growth and job creation in seven ODA-eligible Commonwealth countries: Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. Launched in March 2016 and scheduled to conclude in April 2025, CEDP focuses on enhancing competitiveness and sound public finances through technical assistance to governments and the private sector. Amidst the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Caribbean economies, CEDP's objectives gained added significance, including promoting sustainable public finances, improving the business climate, and supporting job creation by productive and inclusive firms. The programme consists of four components, including support to initiatives like COMPETE Caribbean, Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC), a Flexible Response Fund, and the Strengthening Public Expenditure Management and Digital Governance Project Trust Fund. Despite challenges presented by Covid-19, CEDP scored an A in its annual review, highlighting its strong performance in meeting output targets and delivering crucial technical assistance.	£21m	March 2016 to April 2024	Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia,St Vincent and the Grenadines	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) - for the COMPETE Caribbean Programme II International Monetary Fund (IMF) - for the CARTAC World Bank - for the Strengthening Public Expenditure Management and Digital Governance Project Trust Fund Global Affairs Canada (GAC) - for additional resources supporting a new blue economy workstream

6	Emergency Assistance for the Relief Effort in Dominica as a Result of Tropical Storm Erika	The Caribbean faces significant risks from natural hazards, particularly during the hurricane season from June to November. In 2015, Tropical Storm Erika wreaked havoc on Dominica, causing severe flooding, landslides, and extensive damage to infrastructure. The UK played a crucial role in the response, supporting emergency health assistance, relief efforts through the Red Cross, and deploying the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship, RFA Lyme Bay, for humanitarian aid. The Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility, backed by the UK and other donors, provided US$2.4 million to Dominica in response to the storm. The overall response, coordinated by national and international entities including the UK, was deemed successful in restoring basic services and meeting the needs of affected areas, including evacuations. The UK is investing further in long-term reconstruction efforts in Dominica through two major regional programs: the £300 million UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund (UKCIF) to rebuild roads and bridges, and a £38 million Smart Hospitals programme to fortify health facilities against future storms. This response highlights the importance of disaster preparedness and collaboration between nations to mitigate the impact of natural hazards and aid in recovery efforts.	£530,000	2015-2016	Dominica	PAHO: The UK provided £240,000 for emergency health assistance through PAHO. PAHO focused on restoring health services, providing access to treatment, emergency sanitation measures, safe water access, disease surveillance, and vector control activities. International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC): The UK supported the IFRC's appeal to the Dominica Red Cross with £60,000. This support facilitated the distribution of relief supplies, provision of emergency health services including psychosocial support, water and sanitation promotion, cash transfers, and medium-term support for displaced individuals in shelters. The UK Humanitarian Response Group / Ministry of Defence. The UK collaborated directly with the Government of Dominica in coordinating and implementing the response efforts. This would have involved communication, resource allocation, and logistical support to ensure an effective response to the disaster. Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility: Although not a government entity, this regional organization is crucial in providing financial support in the event of disasters. The UK, along with other donors, supported the establishment of this facility which provided US$2.4 million to the government of Dominica in

						response to Tropical Storm Erika.
7	Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica - CREAD	The Support for the Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica programme aimed to assist Dominica in its recovery and reconstruction efforts following the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria. The programme supported the establishment and operationalization of the Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica (CREAD), which was tasked with managing the country's Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP). Funded by the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and GAC, the programme provided financial aid to CREAD's operations from 2019 to 2023. It consisted of two components: Component 1 focused on meeting staff and operational expenses for CREAD, while Component 2 supported third-party monitoring through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Dominica office. The programme aimed to enhance Dominica's capacity for managing recovery and reconstruction effectively, contributing to the country's vision of becoming the world's first climate-resilient nation. It also sought to provide lessons applicable to other Caribbean countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) facing similar challenges. Ultimately, this initiative aimed to enhance Dominica's ability to rebuild effectively after Hurricane Maria and swiftly recover from future disasters.	£3.8m	2019-2023	Dominica	Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica (GoCD) GAC UNDP
8	Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica - CREAD	Hurricane Maria's devastating impact on Dominica in September 2017 prompted the recognition of the urgent need for effective reconstruction and resilience building efforts. With damages equivalent to 226% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the Post Disaster Needs Assessment estimated recovery needs at USD1.35 billion. The UK, through the National School of Government International, provided crucial support to the GoCD in designing the CREAD. It provided £350,000 to assist in setting up a Transition Office to establish CREAD and manage immediate recovery efforts. The Canadian government also provided support. Despite delays, the Transition Office successfully established CREAD, outfitted its office, and recruited senior management. It contributed to the development of the Climate Resilience Act and the Dominica Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP). DFID and Global Affairs Canada agreed to continue their collaborative support for CREAD, with DFID pledging a further 3m (refer above). Key programme achievements included: ▪ The establishment of a functioning CREAD governance structure including the Executive Management Committee (EMC), a Parliamentary Oversight Committee (POC), a Supervisory Committee (SC), and an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC). This included securing and equipping an office space for CREAD. Senior CREAD staff were recruited and put in place.	£435,000	2018-2019	Dominica	GoCD: The UK collaborated directly with the government of Dominica throughout the process. This included supporting the establishment of CREAD and providing financial assistance for its operations. National School of Government International: This organization, likely affiliated with the UK government, provided critical support to the GoCD in designing CREAD. UNDP: Played a role in the implementation of the programme funded by the UK, including assisting in setting up a Transition Office and supporting the development of the Dominica Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan.

		▪ The provision of technical support for the development of the CRRP. Subsequently, assistance embedded the set-up of key policies, strategic plans and regulations of relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies revised to support effective CRRP implementation. ▪ The effective implementation of a stakeholder engagement and communications strategy reflecting principles of inclusiveness and securing national buy-in for CREAD's work. ▪ The establishment of a Major Capital Projects Unit (MCPU) with organisational and systems transformation for managing infrastructure projects. ▪ The set-up of a CREAD Transition Office identifying priority recovery activities and supporting the completion of key initiatives.				Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) GAC
9	Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean Programme (R&R)	The programme, as part of a broader £19 million aid package, aimed to enhance disaster recovery and resilience in the Caribbean region, particularly for vulnerable populations. It focused on bolstering preparedness, recovery, and reconstruction efforts post-disaster, ensuring gender-responsive and inclusive actions. By collaborating with ODA-eligible Caribbean governments, the initiative sought to expedite recovery processes, improve financial planning, and deliver more efficient emergency responses. Implemented from February 2019 to March 2023, the programme targeted eight independent ODA-eligible Caribbean countries, including Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia, Antigua & Barbuda, and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines. Key areas of intervention included climate and disaster risk financial protection by improving public financial management processes (Climate Public Investment Management Assessment (PIMA); financial Analysis and Risk Assessment model), as well as Disaster Preparedness plans for Tax and Custom authorities), recovery planning improvements with development of model national recovery framework and Caribbean recovery facility, as well as inclusive resilience actions like strengthening shock responsive social protection systems .	£3,463,737	2019-2023	Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, St Vincent and the Grenadines	CARTAC UNDP CDEMA UN Women World Food Programme (WFP) Ministries of Finance and National Disaster Offices Centre for Global Disaster Protection (London) World Bank IMF's CARTAC CREAD
10	Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3	The Citizen Security and Justice Programme (CSJP3), valued at £11 million, aimed to address Jamaica's high levels of violence and crime in fifty of its most violent and vulnerable communities. Operating from October 2014 to August 2019, the programme focused on improving community security through tailored interventions targeting individuals, families, and communities at risk of involvement in violence. Despite facing a challenging national context, with a rise in the murder rate, CSJP3 achieved positive results. Surveys conducted in 2017 showed increased feelings of safety and decreased crime rates in CSJP communities. However, attributing these changes solely to CSJP remains uncertain due to potential external factors. The programme encountered implementation challenges, including delays in resolving delivery issues and transitioning to long-term sustainability. Recognizing the need for stronger governance and government leadership in	£11m	2014-2021	Jamaica	Ministry of National Security (MNS): The CSJP3 programme is implemented within the Ministry of National Security, indicating direct collaboration with the Jamaican government. IDB: The CSJP3 programme is co-funded by the IDB, which also provides technical and fiduciary supervision. Government of Jamaica (GoJ): The programme aims to improve coordination and capacity within the

		the transition process, CSJP3 aimed to strengthen coordination and communication across initiatives addressing crime prevention. CSJP3 built upon the successes and lessons learned from its predecessors, adapting its approach based on evidence and strategic shifts. Co-funded by the Inter-American Development Bank, DFID, and Global Affairs Canada, the programme operated under the Ministry of National Security with technical supervision from the IDB. Additionally, DFID administered a flexi-fund to support innovative projects aligning with CSJP's objectives. Despite its complexity, CSJP3 aimed to contribute to a significant reduction in violent crime in Jamaica by addressing root causes and strengthening community resilience.				Government of Jamaica for service delivery in vulnerable communities. CSJP3 seeks to transition services to relevant ministries, departments, and agencies of the GoJ. Public Health Sector: The CSJP3 programme employs a public health approach to violence prevention, suggesting collaboration with the public health sector in Jamaica. Global Affairs Canada (GAC): CSJP3 is co-funded by Global Affairs Canada, indicating collaboration between the UK and Canada in supporting the programme.
11	Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme (CACP)	The CACP aims to address corruption and organized crime in Jamaica and the OECS. Initiated in 2015 and scheduled to conclude in 2020, CACP targets better governance by reducing corruption and crime. In Jamaica, grand corruption and organized crime, including drug and gun trafficking, perpetuate violence and money laundering. The programme supports law enforcement and asset recovery agencies like the Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA) and the Financial Investigations Division (FID). By enhancing governance, CACP seeks to combat corruption and serious organized crime more effectively, particularly focusing on law enforcement approaches. The programme is relevant and adaptive, though facing challenges in addressing major corruption. Recommendations include strengthening partnerships, enhancing communication strategies, and advocating for judicial reform.	£16,812,881	2015 to 2020	Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia,St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua & Barbuda, St Kitts & Nevis, Barbados	Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA) Financial Investigations Division (FID) Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) Office of the Contractor General (OCG) Resident Prosecution Division (RPD) Jamaican Constabulary Force (JCF)
12	Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme 2020-2025	To counter serious and organised crime, FCDO is supporting the development of investigative capacity of select partners and close the loopholes in the justice system that hinders the prosecution of cases.[6]	£17.25m	2020-2025	Jamaica	Jamaica Accountability Portal Limited MOCA Media Institute Of The Caribbean

[6] https://devtracker.fcdo.gov.uk/programme/GB-GOV-1-300970/summary Accessed 12.04.2024, Information from website only. The evaluation team could not find any annual reviews or supporting documentation on Dev Tracker to build evidence.

						National Integrity Action Public Administration International The Independent Commission Of Investigations Wilton Park Executive Agency Integrity Commission Ministry Of Finance And Planning - Jamaica Ministry Of Justice - Office Of The Director Of Public Prosecutions
13	UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership	VPP is a £15 million programme aimed at supporting the GoJ in developing and implementing more effective responses to address the underlying risk factors contributing to high levels of violence. The programme focuses on piloting a multisectoral and integrated approach in seven volatile communities, utilizing low-performing schools as entry points. It aims to strengthen state leadership in violence prevention, improve coordination and delivery of evidence-based programmes, and enhance engagement with civil society and community stakeholders. The ultimate goal is to empower the Jamaican government to lead and deliver an integrated, coordinated, and multi-sectoral violence prevention strategy nationally, resulting in sustained reductions in violence levels, including gender-based violence, and victimization across homes, schools, and communities. Despite the challenges of addressing deeply rooted socio-economic and cultural risk factors exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the VPP aligns with the UK's IDS by promoting safer and more prosperous communities, empowering vulnerable groups, and advancing UK priorities on preventing violence and safeguarding.	£15m	2023-2029	Jamaica	Jamaica British Council
14	UK Humanitarian Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa	The UK provided £60,000 for urgent home/ shelter repairs (lumber and flooring supplies) to vulnerable families displaced or who had their houses damaged because of Hurricane Lisa (Category 1) which hit Belize on the 2nd of November 2022. These funds contributed 80% to the repair of 202 homes/shelters and helped with restoration of safety, dignity and undertaking of daily activities in and around the home.	£60,000	2022-2023	Belize	

15	Caribbean Humanitarian Assistance - Emergency Cash and Voucher Support in Response to the Volcano Eruption in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Earthquake in Haiti.	The Caribbean Humanitarian Assistance Programme addressed urgent humanitarian needs arising from the April 2021 eruption of the La Soufriere volcano in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) and the August 2021 earthquake in Haiti. These disasters exacerbated existing challenges, including the impacts of COVID-19 and food insecurity, particularly in Haiti, which is the poorest country in the region. The programme, implemented by the UK government, allocated £850,000 from the ODA Central Crisis Reserve (CCR) to provide emergency cash assistance. The funds supported distribution through the WFP country offices for Haiti and SVG, assisting displaced persons and those affected by property damage or loss of livelihoods. Key achievements included digitizing beneficiary registration, strengthening call center support, and collaborating with government agencies to enhance social protection systems in both countries. Despite challenges such as gang violence in Haiti and logistical obstacles, the programme effectively delivered aid to targeted populations, exemplifying adaptability and cooperation between government and humanitarian partners.	£850,000	2021-2022	SVG & Haiti	WPF: Implemented cash assistance distribution and provided technical support to strengthen social protection systems in SVG and Haiti. Ministry of National Mobilisation (SVG): Collaborated with WFP to enhance registration processes and data management for cash assistance programmes.

Annex 3. Programmes and achievements from documentary evidence

Table 2. Programme rating and achievements from documentary evidence

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
	UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund – UKCIF	A (2023 AR; B in 2022 and 2021 ARs)	Initially £330m, increased to £349,786,067	Launched in 2015, implemented from 2016, extended to March 2026	▪ Belize ▪ Dominica ▪ Guyana ▪ Grenada ▪ Jamaica ▪ St Lucia ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines ▪ Antigua & Barbuda	▪ The UKCIF portfolio consists of 15 projects, of which 13 are in the capital phase. Of those 13 projects, civil works are ongoing or completed in 10 projects. Two projects were closed after the TA phase due to resource constraints (the Guyana Coastal and River Infrastructure project and the Grenada Western Road Corridor Upgrade project). ▪ Port infrastructure improvements were evident through the Kingstown Port Modernisation Project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, with designs completed and capital works progressing, despite slight delays. ▪ The Belize Coastal Highway Upgrade was completed in April 2023 benefitting over 49,000 road users, in line with iRap 3-star safety standards. The Goldson Highway is on track to be completed in the first half of 2024, and is projected to benefit over 55,000 road users. ▪ Steady progress was made with regard to the Essex Valley Agriculture Development Project	**CDT:** Potential synergy: There will be some continuity between CREAD and the PIU if some of the CREAD staff who are very familiar with the UKCIF projects are retained. (AR 2023) DFID Caribbean's Governance and Security team have a work stream to work with civil society on anti-corruption projects, and could support the anti-corruption aspect of the work from its current programme **CMPs:** The programme sits alongside (former) DFID Caribbean's wider programmes on growth and offers opportunities for linkages to work on skills and energy (particularly related to	Synergistic efforts have not been consistently leveraged to promote the transformative potential of individual projects, although there have been intentions to do so and it has been recommended by Annual Reviews. At baseline, while reference was made to complementary investments in some of the project documents, this was relatively limited. The most comprehensive reporting on complementary investments is in the two agriculture projects in Jamaica, the energy project in Barbuda, the St Lucia Millennium Highway project and the Belize Philip Goldson Highway (Baseline ER 2022) ▪ In Jamaica, the Essex Valley team has requested supplementary funding from the

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						(EVADP) and the Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (SPADP) in the development of irrigation and farm roads. Both projects faced procurement delays for pumps, but implementation is expected to resume in early 2024. SPADP is set for completion by December 2024 and EVAPD by December 2025. ▪ Barbuda Energy Resilience Project's solar PV installations on 3 key public buildings are close to completion and the underground cabling component was completed in July 2023. ▪ Sustainability efforts were reinforced by establishing Operations and Maintenance (O&M) plans for projects including the Millennium Highway and the West Coast Road Upgrade in Saint Lucia, to aid with long-term infrastructure viability. ▪ To build capacity, the UKCIF programme trained 35 individuals on claims and dispute resolution mechanisms under FIDIC (The International Federation of Consulting Engineers) Contracts.	economic planning and budgeting, public sector procurement (in partnership with the World Bank) and private sector development (in partnership with the IDB) Applies the Gender and Social Inclusion and Women's Economic Empowerment framework, supported through (former) DFID's CMP 'Infrastructure and Cities for Economic Development' (ICED) Complementary with SIDAR which supports capacity-building for SIDS to access funding and technical solutions at scale	Jamaica Social Investment Fund to assist farmers with irrigation equipment. ▪ In Belize, a complementary CDB loan was provided in 2018 to expand work on road safety that will also benefit the Philip Goldson Highway. ▪ In St Lucia, the Millennium Highway complements other government initiatives (i.e. the redevelopment of the seaport, airport, and the Castries City redevelopment); bridge investment funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is also reliant on the upgrade of the connecting road segments. ▪ In Barbuda, the energy project is reinforced by a separate investment by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, and the Government of New Zealand, to

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
								implement a new power source CDB should continue to explore synergies with other initiatives that are part of new Country Engagement Strategies (MTR 2021) FCDO and CDB participate in donor coordination working groups, together with other major players such as Canada, the European Union, and the World Bank which creates opportunities to build the external coherence of UKCIF investments with other financing by development partners (Baseline ER 2022)
	Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean	A (2023 AR; B performance in 2022 AR and A performance in 2021 AR)	£19.3m	2015-2023	▪ Dominica ▪ Grenada ▪ St Lucia ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines ▪ Antigua & Barbuda	▪ In SVG, the following were completed: 0.5MW plant, three 15-30kW plants to be installed on government buildings and the VINLEC 1.2MW PV plant and battery storage project. This is in addition to the 0.4MW solar PV previously completed in Grenada. ▪ Supported a regional workshop to start dialogue intended to assist CDB's Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs) in ensuring an adequate regulatory framework is in place for the electricity	**CDT** Synergy with CREAD: UK support for the operation of CREAD from 2019-2023 to implement Dominica's climate resilience and recovery plan has also supported progress on further geothermal development in Dominica. Potential synergy: In collaboration with	Linkages with overseas models (e.g. Carbon Trust) Woking in collaboration with key partners in the region (the European Union, Caribbean Development Bank and World Bank) for greater coordination with other initiatives (such as work on regulatory reform) Discussions with the Government of St Lucia, The World Bank and the

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						sector which is key for encouraging RE investment. ▪ The programme target for increased lending by local financial institutions for small scale renewable energy and energy efficiency was achieved in 2021 with USD661,642 in loans approved through Line of Credit Facilities to fund RE/EE measures for MSMEs in Grenada and Dominica. ▪ Completion of the work in Dominica has allowed them to negotiate for construction of a 7MW geothermal plant. The support to SLU is now at the stage of developing the drilling programme and contracting the drilling company. This project has the potential to give SLU access to up to 30MW of geothermal resources.	UKCIF team, discuss with the FCDO International Financial Institutions Department what procurement/policy changes in MDBs could better address the challenge of attracting qualified consultants in the context of the Caribbean (AR 2023 Recommendation) **CMPs:** Promote lesson sharing with other relevant programmes (e.g. former DFID and KfW on the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility programme). DFID has also been keeping up to date with other developments in the energy sector through working with CMPs such as the Climate Innovation Centre	Government of New Zealand have identified a clear opportunity for our support to have a catalytic impact on the development of the country's geothermal resource by helping finance exploratory drilling.
	Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean	A (2023 PCR)	£46.3m	2015-2023	▪ Belize ▪ Dominica ▪ Guyana ▪ Grenada ▪ Jamaica ▪ St Lucia	▪ Vulnerability and adaptation assessments were done at over 415 health facilities and 55 health centres and small hospitals upgraded in seven countries (Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana; Jamaica; St	Smart Health Care Facilities in the Caribbean (2012-2014) (implemented by PAHO)	Complementary work is being planned or undertaken under the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience, the EU Global Climate Change Alliance and

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
	(SMART Hospitals)				▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines). ▪ Over 1,284 people (621 females) were trained in the use of 'SMART' hospital implementation tools and over 858,005 people now have access to more reliable health services in a time of disaster. ▪ The model has proven successful. 'Gold standard' resilient sites survived hurricanes in 2017 and 2022 and a volcanic eruption in Saint Vincent in 2021. ▪ Although the effectiveness of the concept 'Safe + Green' is now proven, the 'SMART' model policy is not yet fully or formally adopted by governments and the programme did not result in a significant change of attitude at individual level.	Support for priority actions to operationalise the implementation Plan for Development Resilient to Climate Change in the Caribbean (2011-2016) (implemented by Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre) Integrated Water Stewardship Programme (2015-ongoing) (implemented by GIZ) **CDT:** No documentary evidence on synergies with UK Caribbean resilience portfolio	European Development Fund, through GIZ & KfW (Germany), through the Caribbean Disaster Risk Management initiatives by DFATD (Canada) and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB).
	Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean	A (2023 PCR C performance in 2020 AR and B performance in 2018 and 2019 ARs)	£8,232,027.67 (full life)	2017-2023	▪ Dominica ▪ Grenada ▪ St Lucia ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	▪ Delivered skills training and awarded recognised certificates to 5,778 graduates across four countries (certification rate of 83%). ▪ The Training Fund leveraged an additional £1,480,225, 30% of the total cost of delivering the SkYE training projects. ▪ The TVET training institutions were strengthened through the training of 114 assessors and verifiers, and certification in CBET of 67 TVET instructors.	**CDT:** Lessons learnt from the Citizen Security and Justice Programme in Jamaica (e.g. high demand for training in areas with weak employment prospects such as beautician and hairdressing training). The programme has addressed this by carefully tracking the	Complements work of other development partners in the region: ▪ The World Bank strategy for the OECS and Jamaica, which includes work on skills. ▪ The EU is providing support to Grenada (€7.4mn / £5.7mn) with a specific focus on education, including an apprentice

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						▪ The programme also resulted in an improvement in employers' perceptions of the value of TVET qualifications to their business. ▪ SkYE tracer survey data reports that 1,901 (54%) young graduates were employed, which exceeded the SkYE target of 25%	job market to scope-out future needs, for instance in the maritime sector, and encouraging participants to seek jobs in these areas. **CMPs:** No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	programme for youth and training for women. ▪ Canada has contributed Cn$20mn (£9.7mn) to improving the national training system in the region through their CARICOM Education for Employment Programme (C-EFE).
	Caribbean Economic Development Programme	**A** (2023 AR; A+ performance in 2022 AR and A performance in 2021 AR)	£20m	March 2016 to April 2024	▪ Belize ▪ Dominica ▪ Guyana ▪ Grenada ▪ Jamaica ▪ St Lucia ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	▪ Strong performance against output targets despite the ongoing challenging external environment (e.g. COVID-19) ▪ COMPETE Caribbean delivered against its output milestones by strengthening 7 institutions that support private sector competitiveness, including the Belize Shrimp Grower's Association, and supporting the submission of two regulatory reforms to government. COMPETE also supported the development of 88 innovation plans including for blue economy sectors, and directly supported 315 Caribbean firms (35% of which are women owned firms). ▪ CARTAC met or exceeded five of its six milestone targets, including supporting five additional countries to rebase their GDP, and continues to deliver crucial technical assistance on economic	**CDT:** Synergies with UKCIF investments linked to wider economic development reforms. This programme helps to ensure that funding from UKCIF is sustainable, effective and well managed. The programme supports UKCIF through its assistance to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in the management of public finances including the strengthening of public investment. The programme helps countries identify and	▪ The Government of Canada provides TA to promote economic development (incl. through co-financing two flagship UK supported programmes CARTAC and Compete Caribbean) ▪ The European Union under EDF10 is providing about €45m of finance for public financial management (PFM) and private sector development ▪ The key IFIs (The Caribbean Development Bank, World Bank, IADB and IMF) provide some TA in support of their lending programmes

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						management. For example, CARTAC's support on tax audits in Guyana, led to an additional $210M (USD) of tax collection or 4% of GDP.	address key constraints to private sector led growth including the absence of key infrastructure. A Steering Committee with implementing partners and beneficiaries under both programmes created to ensure that this programme is providing the envisaged contribution to the UKCIF's impact. **CMPs:** Complementary with SIDAR which seeks to address capacity constraints related to climate finance	
	Emergency Assistance for the Relief Effort in Dominica as a Result of Tropical Storm Erika	A (2016 PCR)	£530,000	2015-2016	▪ Dominica	▪ The overall outcome was met, with the UK contribution being proportionate and appropriate. The focus on health services, water and sanitation (WATSAN) and basic needs was sensible and based on previous experience of similar events. ▪ Overall, the outputs were achieved. Health services were available, with help from regional and international organisations, and there was no major outbreak of disease. ▪ Basic services like water supply were reinstated relatively quickly	**CDT:** Synergies with two other major UK-funded regional programmes to invest in longer term reconstruction in Dominica ▪ A £300m from UKCIF to help rebuild damaged roads and bridges	Complements work of the Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility which was set up with UK and other donor support to provide support in the event of disasters

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						and needs were met in the interim through supply of bottled water ▪ Provision of cash transfers seems to have been particularly effective. ▪ Some caution about defining clear attribution in all cases. National agencies, such as the water authority, played a very proactive role in re-establishing water services. Even without UK or project support, a major outbreak of disease may not have actually happened.	▪ A £38m Smart Hospitals programme to strengthen health facilities in the event of future storms and hurricanes **CMPs:** No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	
	Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD	A (2023 PCR)	£3.8m	2019-2023	▪ Dominica	▪ CREAD governance structure established and functioning in line with legislation: Executive Management Committee (EMC), Parliamentary Oversight Committee (POC), Supervisory Committee (SC), Audit and Risk Committee (ARC). ▪ Transparent, robust and well-structured systems and policies for CREAD established and operating in line with legislation and governance requirements. ▪ Partly achieved implementation of capital projects assigned as CREAD Lead by Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan on time and within budget. ▪ Effective implementation of stakeholder engagement and communications strategy reflecting principles of inclusiveness and securing	**CDT:** The programme was designed in synergy with UKCIF in that: ▪ £25 million were allocated through the UKCIF Reconstruction Window to repair and strengthen the water supply system across the island ▪ A further £25m were allocated to re-build the road from Loubiere to Bagatelle and make it more climate resilience **CMPs:**	FCDO and Global Affairs Canada agreed to co-fund the establishment and operationalisation of CREAD following a request by the GoCD by contributing up to £3m and CAN$3m

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						national buy-in for CREAD's work. ▪ Key policies, strategic plans and regulations of relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies revised to support effective CRRP implementation. ▪ Major Capital Projects Unit (MCPU) established with organisational and systems transformation for managing infrastructure projects for whole of government. ▪ Effective oversight of CREAD operations and broader DFID portfolio in Dominica.	No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	
	Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD	A (2019 PCR)	£435,000	2018-2019	▪ Dominica	▪ CREAD office secured and equipped. Senior CREAD staff recruited and in place. ▪ CREAD Transition Office identified priority recovery activities and supported completion of key initiatives ▪ Prepared priority policies, analyses and systems to ensure CREAD is fully operational upon becoming a statutory agency ▪ Technical support provided to develop the Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan.	**CDT:** In synergy with Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD **CMPs:** No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	(former) DFID and Global Affairs Canada (GAC) agreed to continue the relationship established and use a coordinated approach to project delivery given that both donors are providing support to the operations of CREAD through separate bilateral agreements with the GoCD GAC contribution has complemented (former) DFID's by supporting a broad process of national consultation as well as engaging additional expertise in the area of gender and inclusiveness

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
	Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean	A+ (2023 PCR)	£3,463,737	2019-2023	▪ Belize ▪ Dominica ▪ Guyana ▪ Grenada ▪ Jamaica ▪ St Lucia ▪ Antigua and Barbuda ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	**CARTAC:** ▪ By March 2023, climate related activities were executed in 8 out of its 11 work programs. CARTAC, and by extension the IMF, have incorporated climate resilience work in most of its workstreams, partially informed by work done under this programme. ▪ Incorporated Climate Modules into tools such as the Agile Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability [Agile PEFA] assessment and PIMA, ▪ Designed business continuity plans in revenue administrations, assessed climate risks in the financial system, incorporated climate shocks in the financial programming models, and provided training on green financing instruments ▪ To capture the progress of any projects that include a climate component, there are now climate-specific objectives and outcomes in the IMF results framework, which indicates a clear strategy to better incorporate climate in project results. **EnGenDER**: ▪ Outputs such as the update of CDEMA's Model National Recovery Framework (MNRF); the enhancement of national	**CDT:** Synergies with UKCIF and other TA through the Caribbean Economic Development Programme Learning from recovery in Dominica / Support for the Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica to complement this work (e.g. £3m to support early recovery systems in Dominica through CREAD) **CMPs:** Part of broader package of HMG support following Hurricanes of 2017 in the Caribbean	Advice, innovation and access to finance through the Centre for Global Disaster Protection in London and World Bank will complement this work and be a key link to increasing investment in financial resilience and disaster resilience.

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						Shock-responsive Social Protection (SRSP) systems and the completed recovery audit assessments using an updated Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Tool and Post Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA) help to strengthen systems and integrate gender mainstreaming at national and regional levels. ▪ In some countries, government agencies changed the staffing of departments to support policy work, based on training and exposure to gender mainstreaming and climate resilience.		
	Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3	A (2019 AR)	£11m	2014-2021	▪ Jamaica	▪ Evidence that CSJP was successful at diverting youths from violence; reduction by 40.5% of clients' risk levels of perpetrating violence. ▪ Other successes include: the shift to target high risk individuals through case management and timely and tailored service provision; mainstreaming of professional monitoring and evaluation; effective interruption of gang violence through the Peace Management Initiative (PMI); and provision of restorative justice and other justice services. ▪ While CSJP is having a positive impact at microlevel, the programme is not resourced or implemented at the scale	**CDT:** No documentary evidence on synergies with UK Caribbean resilience portfolio **CMPs:** No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	The UK co-funds the programme with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB, US$20 million loan) and Canada's Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (CAN$20 million grant).

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						required to deliver the unrealistic macrolevel impacts (i.e. reducing Jamaica's national homicide rate) set at outcome level ▪ Some progress has been made on transition: the Ministry for National Security and Ministry of Education, Youth and Information made policy commitments to continue the public health approach in their violence prevention interventions; the National Security Minister publicly committed to continue central elements of policy, including case management and the provision of psychosocial support after CSJP funding ends; and the Ministry of Justice operationalised Child Diversion legislation and incorporated other CSJP activities into its strategic plans. ▪ Weaknesses in programme governance continue to impact on delivery and the pace of decision-making, particularly relating to transition (no Steering Committee meetings held in 2019)		
	Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020	N/A	£16,812,881	2015 to 2020	▪ Dominica ▪ Grenada ▪ Jamaica ▪ St Lucia ▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	▪ Almost 250 politically exposed persons (PEPs), high value targets (HVTs) and police officers charged, as a result of the work of the CACP partners. ▪ The percentage of police shootings adjudicated by INDECOM as 'suspicious' has	**CDT:** In synergy with the Citizen Security and Justice Programme **CMPs:**	No documentary evidence on synergies with other donor-funded programmes

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
					▪ Antigua & Barbuda ▪ St Kitts & Nevis ▪ Barbados	been steadily decreasing over time, to a rate of 18% in 2018. ▪ Out of the total number of cases charged, MOCA has successfully achieved 81 convictions. ▪ TA has enabled CACP partners to build their functional capacities in a number of critical areas, such as criminal investigation and forensic examination strategies; evidence identification, analysis and recovery; case management; financial crimes and, to some extent, legal awareness ▪ While CACP's technical assistance model was effective, it may not be replicable in other contexts given the CACP technical assistants' established position and reputation in Jamaica over many years which has led to their unique access and trust by the Government	No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	
	Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme 2020-2025	A (2021 AR; 2022 AR; 2023 AR)	£17.25m	2020-2025	▪ Jamaica	▪ Institutional strengthening work is starting to show real impacts in terms of improving the operational efficiency of these agencies (INDECOM, MOCA, FID, Integrity Commission). ▪ Political support and funding from Government is assured, as is evidenced by increased funding from GoJ. This is leading to some important cases being taken to court and others under serious investigation expected to come to court in due course. This is evidenced by all four	**CDT:** No documentary evidence on synergies with UK Caribbean resilience portfolio **CMPs:** The programme is complemented by other DFID programmes supporting violence prevention through social interventions	Work closely with key bilaterals, the US and Canada, to coordinate technical and political engagement Multilateral engagement in this space is minimal, due to the nature of the work (e.g IADB assistance to digitalise Jamaican Government systems (case management) and World Bank and IMF support for the regulation

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						institutions broadly on track against their log frame targets and good progress recorded on building capacity.	and illicit financial flows (regional) Strong synergies with CSSF programme The programme is complemented by other HMG Departments, particularly the NCA and CPS. For example, the NCA works closely with MOCA to support local action against organised criminal elements effecting the UK. Discussions are also ongoing for UK Immigration Enforcement International to support a specialised unit of MOCA, to target organised immigration crime in a key Jamaican entity. In line with a CMP supporting: big data in anti-corruption efforts (working with the Jamaican Integrity Commission since January 2020); cutting edge research on effective methods to combat organised crime (linking Global Integrity with local academic partners);	of sectors critical to money laundering).

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
							efforts to strengthen specialist capabilities and Jamaica's (and regional) supreme audit bodies, led by INTOSAI, the global supreme audit body;	
	UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership	N/A (programme just started)	£15m	2023-2029	▪ Jamaica	N/A	**CDT:** Complemented by the Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme (SOCAP) and in synergy with the Citizen Security and Justice Programme **CMPs:** No documentary evidence on synergies with CMPs	No evidence on synergies with other donor-funded programmes
	UK Humanitarian Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa	A (2022/3 PCR)	TBC*	2022-2023	▪ Belize	▪ The UK grant support was expected to go toward shelter relief for at least 200 impacted vulnerable families. A total of 202 vulnerable households (60% female headed) were supported with lumbar supplies. ▪ Over 6011 pieces of pine lumbar were procured which were primarily used for smaller roof damage and wall repairs.	No documentary evidence on synergies with UK Caribbean resilience portfolio or with CMPs	No documentary evidence on synergies with other donor-funded programmes
	Caribbean Humanitarian Assistance - Emergency Cash and	A+ (2022 PCR)	£8,50,000	2021-2022	▪ St Vincent and the Grenadines	▪ The outputs for SVG (output 1) moderately exceeded expectations in terms of persons reached, digitisation of beneficiary onboarding and	No documentary evidence on synergies with UK Caribbean	No documentary evidence on synergies with other donor-funded programmes

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
	Voucher Support in Response to the Volcano in SVG and Earthquake in Haiti					accounting systems as well as improved user complaint systems. ▪ Haiti targets (output 2) met expectations despite a spike in gang violence and fuel shortages which compounded access issues and required a change in target area to meet project timelines, as well as a slight reduction in beneficiaries reached due to exchange rate variations and increases in country delivery costs. ▪ WFP assisted the government of SVG to digitize the registration process and data as well as strengthen the existing call centre and other support measures of government by establishing a hotline and email address to manage queries related to the cash assistance programme and to troubleshoot challenges that beneficiaries may experience in accessing transfers e.g., registration name discrepancies etc. This was instrumental in monitoring of the cash assistance programme and helped to improve its delivery and the accuracy of data. ▪ The work of WFP with the Ministry of National Mobilisation created an effective platform for further Soufriere relief grant support through World Bank and the improvements will benefit the country in the long term as these strengthened social	resilience portfolio or with CMPs	

#	Programme	Performance	Budget	Duration	Countries covered	Key achievements	Link to FCDO programmes	Link to other donor-funded programmes
						protection systems will be used in future disaster events.		

Annex 4. CDT programmes and covered thematic areas

Table 3. CDT programmes and covered thematic areas

#	Programme	Budget	Economic resilience	Fiscal resilience	Workforce resilience	Social and democratic resilience	Regional integration resilience	Infrastructure, settlement and energy resilience	Climate and disaster resilience	Environmental resilience	No. of resilience thematic areas covered
1	UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund – UKCIF	Initially £330 million, increased to £349,786,067									4
2	Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean	£19.3m									1
3	Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitals)	£46.3m									3
4	Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean – SkYE	£8.2m									1
5	Caribbean Economic Development Programme – CEDP	£20m									4
6	Emergency Assistance for the Relief Effort in Dominica as a Result of Tropical Storm Erika	£530,000									1
7	Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD	£3.8m									4

8	Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD	£435,000	4
9	Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean	£3,463,737	3
10	Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3	£11m	2
11	Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020	£16,812,881	1
12	Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme 2020-2025	£17.25m	1
13	UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership	£15m	1
14	UK Humanitarian Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa	£60,000	1
15	Caribbean Humanitarian Assistance - Emergency Cash and Voucher Support in Response to the Volcano in SVG and Earthquake in Haiti	£8,500,000	1

Table 9. Programme coverage in English-speaking ODA countries targeted by CDT

#	Programme	Belize	Dominica	Grenada	Guyana	Jamaica	St Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines	Non-ODA countries & non-English speaking ODA	No. of countries covered
1	UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund – UKCIF								Antigua & Barbuda	8
2	Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean								Antigua & Barbuda	5
3	Strengthening Health Facilities in the Caribbean (SMART Hospitals)									7
4	Youth Skills for Economic Growth in the Eastern Caribbean – SkYE									4
5	Caribbean Economic Development Programme – CEDP									7
6	Emergency Assistance for the Relief Effort in Dominica as a Result of Tropical Storm Erika									1
7	Support to Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD									1

#	Programme	Belize	Dominica	Granada	Guyana	Jamaica	St Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines	Non-ODA countries & non-English speaking ODA	No. of countries covered
8	Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica – CREAD									1
9	Strengthening Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Caribbean								Antigua & Barbuda	8
10	Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3									1
11	Caribbean Anti-Corruption Programme 2015-2020								Antigua & Barbuda, St Kitts & Nevis, Barbados	8
12	Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Programme 2020-2025									1
13	UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership									1
14	UK Humanitarian Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa									1
15	Emergency Cash and Voucher Support in Response to the Volcano in SVG and Earthquake in Haiti								Haiti	2

Annex 5. ESQs summary tables

Table 4. EQ1 – Relevance & Coherence Assessment Snapshot

SEQs	Assessment	Portfolio evidence
1.1 What are the resilience challenges in country? How have these shifted over time? Is FCDO support adapting to shifts in a timely way?		▪ Caribbean resilience is multi-dimensional and the diversity of the FCDO Caribbean resilience portfolio is seen as covering salient thematic areas including: infrastructure development, sustainable energy transition; climate and disaster resilience; macro-economic stability and workforce development; governance, accountability and rule of law. The weight of the portfolio in the infrastructure space is positively appreciated as a critical pillar given the infrastructure deficits across the region. ▪ Whilst the portfolio is in part a reflection of the bundling of legacy programmes there is some evidence of programmes attempting to work across thematic areas and build on each other. For example: ○ The R&R Programme includes a component mobilising CARTAC to assist countries to strengthen the management of fiscal resources that they may receive following a disaster. As such, this illustrates how efforts to enhance macro-economic and fiscal capacity can support disaster resilience and recovery. ○ Similarly, through the support provided to the IDB COMPETE Caribbean facility as part of CEDP, efforts are focusing on how the private sector can be leveraged for climate action, i.e. jointly push for action in private sector development and addressing climate challenges. ▪ Overall, the 15 programmes have a fairly high degree of ownership among the principal stakeholders and align with their priorities. Programme delivery has been flexible and responsive to demand and changing circumstances. At country level, ownership was high and aligned to policy priorities. The portfolio has demonstrated capacity to adapt and combine long-term efforts in infrastructure development with institutional strengthening and capacity building and rapid response to disaster and emergency relief, rehabilitation and recovery. ▪ The portfolio integrates mechanisms to respond to specific resilience needs as articulated by countries across thematic areas. Salient examples include: ○ UKCIF project selection was demand driven, subject to acceptable eligibility criteria (using CDB systems). ○ CARTAC is a demand driven TA support instrument that addresses key macro-economic stability / PFM needs.

	○ CREAD provided flexible and demand responsive support that is evolving towards full institutionalisation with the Government of Dominica and wider civil society. ▪ Whilst the legacy programmes map reasonably well to a multi-dimensional concept of resilience, there is a need to more clearly articulate how the programmes *explicitly* embed a multi-dimensional approach to resilience and how they *collectively* build resilience at a regional scale.
1.2 Is FCDO striking a coherent balance between regional and bilateral programming to address resilience challenges across the Caribbean?	▪ In a complex and diverse Caribbean, FCDO provides direct support to 7 English-speaking ODA eligible countries within a regional context that includes 8 non-ODA eligible or non-English speaking ODA eligible countries, with CARICOM federating all countries. There is an acknowledgement that resilience-building challenges are regional (albeit more accentuated in some countries than others) and that SIDS do not always have the technical capacity to engage with donors through bilateral channels. ▪ The structure of FCDO's network in the Caribbean is partly based on a regional approach working with organisations that enhance coverage and legitimacy, alongside specific bilateral relationships (e.g. Jamaica). The combination of a regional articulation supplemented by bilateral efforts whenever relevant enables the UK to take a regional lens channelling support through organisations that have been set-up with clear resilience-building mandates across the region (and not differentiating between ODA eligible and non-ODA eligible countries). In line with this rationale, while FCDO directly supports regional programmes (e.g. CARTAC, Compete Caribbean) that direct funding to ODA-eligible countries, these programmes do not follow the ODA / non-ODA fault line when providing assistance. This means that through funding such programmes, FCDO can indirectly provide assistance to non-ODA eligible countries, which expands the UK influence sphere. ▪ Given the complexity that characterises the Caribbean, CDT programming has taken on a regional character: 7 out of the 15 portfolio programmes are multi-country and aim to address varied resilience challenges that have been defined as regional (although there is recognition regarding how these are translated differently at the national scale). Out of the 8 programmes that just cover 1 or 2 countries, there are 4 programmes that intervene following a specific climate shock or disaster, illustrating a strong regional dimension to wider programming. ▪ Regional programming efforts are complemented by specific bilateral engagements that privilege a specific country and / or aim to address a salient theme particularly affecting the targeted country. This approach has notably involved Jamaica (and Dominica to a lesser extent) and is perceived to contribute to portfolio coherence by balancing regional efforts with bilateral engagement whenever relevant. This is all the more the case given that a regional lens (i.e. how lessons from the specific country experience could be transferred or scaled to other countries) is maintained in bilateral engagements. ▪ In a situation where there may not be a perfectly suitable solution that would allow a simultaneous response to critical needs, whilst maintaining strong UK visibility and influence among non-ODA

	countries, evidence points to FCDO attempting to strike a coherent balance through its programming by adopting a regional lens complemented by country specific engagements to respond to specific stresses and shocks (with the exception of the anti-corruption work in Jamaica). ▪ Going forward, there is a need for FCDO to more clearly articulate why a regional programming approach is preferred, and how this is complemented by bilateral engagements. Portfolio relevance and coherence could be strengthened if this articulation was more clearly detailed.
1.3 To what extent are FCDO programmes designed to have an impact on the resilience and livelihoods of marginalised or vulnerable groups, especially women and girls?	▪ There is clear intent to integrate a focus on the specific needs of marginalised and vulnerable groups as part of portfolio programmes, although this is more evident in some projects and countries than others. ▪ All UKCIF investments on resilient infrastructure will necessarily entail robust feasibility assessments including Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) (see bullet below). In some projects as evidenced by the Linden to Mabura Hills road project in Guyana the project development process included a Social and Gender Action Plan as a mandatory feature and this is now in the process of being implemented through entrepreneurship training and micro-enterprise development initiatives for local communities and women living along the road corridor. ▪ Portfolio programmes working in governance and the rule of law generally integrate a strong focus on vulnerable and marginalised groups. For example, the Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3 and the UK Jamaica Violence Prevention Partnership place working with women, girls and youth-at-risk at the core of their programme approach. Action to underpin links between organised crime, violence and corruption is placed as a key means to enhance social cohesion and the living conditions of women, girls and youth-at-risk – which are disproportionately impacted on by widespread violence. ▪ Programmes that are not *explicitly* focused on social development have made an attempt to embed an inclusion dimension as part of their approach. Evidence indicates that there has been a strong consideration of the needs of vulnerable and marginalised groups with Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) considerations being integrated into most parts of the portfolio. ○ The R&R programme embedded a strong inclusion dimension in its approach to enhancing disaster risk management and recovery. Through efforts in recovery planning, it aimed to improve national shock response systems for the most vulnerable , which includes expanding transfer mechanisms and effective use of national social protection data and tools. It also set to strengthen responses from national climate change coordination bodies through ensuring they incorporate strategies for inclusive (gender and vulnerable persons) and rights-based approaches to resilience. This is described as Inclusive and 'EnGenDER-ed' resilience action. ○ The support provided to Dominica as part of the CREAD experience embedded a strong community resilience perspective, through an acknowledgment that there cannot be island-wide resilience without community resilience (as communities are the first respondents when shocks

	occur). This approach involved a close articulation with local government to work with youth and vulnerable groups, including the *Kalinago*. ○ UKCIF aimed to enable a shift in the approach to infrastructure by mainstreaming GESI and more rigorous ESIAs as part of project design and appraisal. This includes a consideration on how infrastructure development impacts on vulnerable groups. GESI, ESIA and climate risk assessments were hallmarks of the UKCIF and also were a key part of the Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean. ○ One of the SkYE components focused on providing basic and work readiness training for disadvantaged youth.
1.4 How is FCDO programming complementing and creating added value to on-going efforts from development partners in the Caribbean? Is there evidence of FCDO driving resilience-building agendas in the region?	▪ There are very positive and effective working relationships between FCDO and the majority of the development partners in the Caribbean. FCDO is seen as a trusted partner and praised by the technical excellence it seeks and by placing regional and country resilience needs at the core of programming. ▪ Evidence points to FCDO programming in the Caribbean resilience portfolio building on existing donor efforts and / or jointly working with donors (particularly GAC and the IDB) to design programmes addressing relevant resilience challenges. This has involved an appropriate use of multi-donor trust funds and illustrates how FCDO is placing efforts to approach Caribbean resilience-building in a coherent manner. Salient examples include: ○ The Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3 in Jamaica was jointly designed, co-funded and co-implemented through a multi-donor trust fund set-up by the IDB and the Canadian Government. ○ The SMART Hospitals programme was jointy designed and implemented with PAHO. Building on the 2012 PAHO pilot initiative around Safe Hospitals, the SMART Hospitals effort added a "green" dimension to safety considerations in the resilience of health infrastructure. ○ The CREAD effort in Dominica came about through a multi-donor trust fund with the Canadian Government, with FCDO and Global Affairs Canada jointly co-funding the establishment and operation of CREAD. ○ CEDP was structured in 3 components through which FCDO closely worked with IDB (providing funding to COMPETE Caribbean) and the IMF (through the provision of funding to CARTAC). ○ The UKCIF financed portion of the Guyana–Brazil corridor (Linden to Mabura Hills) will help to leverage further major funding by IDB to complete the corridor to the Brazilian border. ▪ There is some evidence pointing to the UK spearheading interest and organising development efforts in specific resilience topics, such as disaster risk financing.

1.5 To what extent is the FCDO resilience programming in the Caribbean region compatible with regional resilience frameworks and a global narrative of resilience building?	▪ The weight of FCDO programming broadly aligns with global and regional frameworks around the multi-dimensional nature of resilience (which has many common themes with the SDGs generally). ▪ FCDO programming is aligned with the multi-dimensional nature of regional resilience-building frameworks and works in the priority areas put forward by them (see **Figure 3** for further detail): ○ UKCIF, the R&R programme, the CREAD efforts and the energy efficiency programme jointly worked in climate change adaptation, renewable and cleaner energy and the reduction of vulnerability of natural and human settlements. These are priority areas put forward by the 2009 Regional Framework, developed by the 5C. ○ UKCIF, CEDP, SkYE, SMART Hospitals, the CREAD efforts and the 3 CDT humanitarian assistance (support Following Tropical Storm Erika in Dominica, Support to Belize Following Hurricane Lisa, Humanitarian Assistance in SVG and Haiti) programmes jointly worked in safeguarding infrastructure, enhancing economic opportunity as well as operational readiness and recovery. These are priority areas put forward by the 2017 Caribbean Resilience Framework, developed by CDEMA. ○ UKCIF, SMART Hospitals, CEDP, SKyE, the R&R programme and the CREAD efforts jointly work in the five priority areas[7] outlined by the World Bank in its 360° approach to resilience and used as support to map progress in resilience building. ○ While the above points demonstrate that CDT programming is very much in alignment with regional resilience-building frameworks and works in the areas defined by them, more clearly detailing how the FCDO resilience definition / approach to the Caribbean builds on regional frameworks and outlined in a strategic document would strengthen coherence. ▪ FCDO programming is sensitive to the specificities of the challenges facing SIDS, and the interventions generally relevant to regional and local contexts. ▪ CARTAC, UKCIF, Increasing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in the Eastern Caribbean all aim at building longer term capacities to manage risks and deliver more sustainable investments and services.

[7] The five priority areas defined by the World Bank are: (1) Facilitate risk reduction decisions by firms and households; (2) Design resilient infrastructure systems, urban and coastal plans; (3) Build resilient health and education systems; (4) Help people and firms manage residual risks and natural disasters, and; (5) Anticipate and manage macro-fiscal and financial issues.

Table 5. EQ2 – Effectiveness Assessment Snapshot

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
2.1 To what extent has FCDO supported the delivery of enabling reforms that have the potential to or have improved resilience?	Emerging results are modest	▪ The rating reflects that a significant part of the portfolio as measured by planned expenditure is not fully completed hence the enabling reform process is still on-going. UKCIF projects have successfully introduced more robust project preparation procedures including screening, selection, feasibility and design as well as enhanced ESIA and Social, Gender Action Plans and O&M planning. Whilst capacities have been built in stakeholder Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), project related reforms are yet to be institutionalised by Ministries, Departments and Agencies. ▪ The main programming by share of planned expenditure, with UKCIF and Increasing RE and EE in the Eastern Caribbean all have promulgated reforms, institutional innovations and new ways of working that are valued by partners and participating MDAs. Interview evidence was positive on lasting reforms and change (e.g. Jamaica UKCIF, Guyana UKCIF, Dominica – Renewable Energy). ▪ Complementing efforts in infrastructure development and upgrading, programmes working in economic development and macro-economic stability, governance and the rule of law as well as climate and disaster resilience have had a degree of success in enabling reforms. Achievements to note include the following: ○ Through COMPETE Caribbean, CEDP has supported reforms in the regulatory environment governing private sector competitiveness, with results perceived across institutions in 7 countries. ○ CARTAC, financed through both streams in CEDP and the R&R programme, has promoted reforms supporting macro-economic stability, revenue collection and budgeting as well as strengthened financial management systems when disasters hit. ○ The support provided under the two CREAD programmes enabled reforms allowing CREAD to materialise as a functional body and for the vision set by Dominica to become the first climate resilient nation to materialise. Dominica's legislative and institutional frameworks were amended (passing of the 2018 Climate Resilience Act) so that CREAD enshrines a resilience-building mandate. This was subsequently supported materialised by the 2018 National Development Resilience Strategy (NDRS), which is given full effect by the Dominica Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan 2020-2030 (DCRRP)
2.2 How is the choice of delivery partners		▪ The rating is biased by the UKCIF programme; progress has proven much slower and more challenging than perhaps originally envisaged given the capacity deficits in the stakeholder

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
contributing to programme effectiveness? How could FCDO strengthen partnerships to enhance the effectiveness of programming?		MDAs in the region and capacity constraints of the CDB as the primary implementing partner. However, CDB has strong political support from countries within the region, is recognised as a committed development partner and ensures broad and comprehensive geographic coverage. ▪ Choice of delivery partners for most of the other 14 programmes appears to have been sensible and appropriate at the time (e.g. PAHO on Smart Hospitals, IDB for Citizen Security and Justice Programme 3; WFP in Caribbean Humanitarian Assistance – Emergency Cash and Voucher Support in Response to the Volcano Eruption in SVG and Earthquake in Haiti; UNDP in Support for the CREAD). Engaging suppliers from within the region contributes to maintaining relevance, generates efficiency gains and enhances effectiveness. ▪ FCDO could strengthen its partnerships with MDBs in the region by broadening its TA service offer to support select World Bank funded resilient infrastructure projects. This would extend the depth and breadth of its resilience portfolio in the region. FCDO could also help to build new partnership links such as PAHO and IDB to provide CDB with necessary health sector expertise to support its social sector investments.
2.3 To what extent is FCDO capitalising on donor coordination / resilience-building (existing) donor structures in the Caribbean?		▪ The evidence suggests that FCDO generally aims to work collaboratively and flexibly across its wide ranging Caribbean programming. FCDO is perceived as a trusted and like-minded partner (e.g. Canada, US, WB, UN, CARTAC) and there seems to be common thinking across many dimensions of resilience. ▪ There is evidence of strong donor coordination around the delivery of large scale/ high value infrastructure projects such as the Guyana – Brazil corridor. UKCIF and CDB has supported one of 3 main phases of construction with the initial phase funded by Islamic Development Bank and the final phase likely to be funded by IDB. ▪ Joint FCDO partner technical review missions are widely appreciated by government stakeholders and partner agencies as an effective means of communication, relationship building and joint monitoring. For instance, in the set-up of CREAD, the accountability framework that was put together to track progress was strongly appreciated by both government stakeholders and participating donors (UNDP, Global Affairs Canada). The framework – structured by Quarterly Reporting as well as the presence of an Audit Committee, a Policy Board and a Supervisory Committee – was seen as an enabling effort allowing government to manage its own system better, complemented with the support of regular check points. ▪ Formal and non-formal co-ordination and communication mechanisms are widely used. Stakeholders consulted (e.g. PAHO, IDB COMPETE, CARTAC) strongly appreciated the openness

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
		and willingness of FCDO to use both formal and informal channels to keep track of programme progress. This was seen as a positive approach that enhanced programme effectiveness. ▪ Efforts to strengthen formal co-ordination mechanisms among donors are generally viewed as positive, if difficult. For example, if the efforts undertaken by the UN Resident Coordinators to ensure that all donors in the Eastern Caribbean sit on the same table and talk through activity progress, a mechanism ensuring a more efficient allocation of resources / thematic areas between donors and allowing to better understand how various donor efforts work in synergy may be missing.
2.4 To what extent is FCDO capitalising on (existing) resilience-building government structures in the Caribbean? To what extent has FCDO strengthened the capacity of governments to address resilience challenges?	Emerging results are modest	▪ FCDO has developed strong partnerships with multi-lateral institutions active in financing and supporting resilient infrastructure and services in the Caribbean such as CDB and PAHO. These arrangements have helped to strengthen the resilience capacities of government stakeholders in respective sectors: ○ In Guyana, Dominica and Belize, UKCIF has enhanced project design, ESIA criteria, as well as gender and social action plans as part of the road projects preparation processes. ○ The SMART Hospitals initiative has encouraged a shift in thinking beyond resilience aspects to also embed sustainability and environmental performance criteria when developing health infrastructure. ▪ In the governance and rule of law sphere, the interview evidence from Jamaica is encouraging. CACP / SOCAP have contributed to meaningful and sustained changes in law enforcement and project planning, preparation, and management. ▪ In the economic development sphere, CEDP has brought about results in strengthening existing government structures or regulatory bodies in revenue collection, or private sector competitiveness, with impact observed in both ODA and non-ODA countries. The lasting impacts of SkYE are less clear given national budget allocations for similar follow-on youth and skill support. ▪ In the case of Dominica, the contributions of CREAD were noteworthy at national and local levels in facilitating and embedding better DRM practices; these have since evolved to a national level major projects office within the Ministry of Finance. ▪ At national government level, the evidence is mixed in terms of lasting reforms within the relevant MDAs. This in part reflects “too early” to tell:

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
		○ SMART standards in upgrading health facilities have mostly been carried out by individual officials/technical experts across the region and have not yet been institutionalised in national strategies/health regulations which limits their effectiveness; ○ Likewise, not all project development resulting from UKCIF processes have been institutionalised in the Ministry of Public Works in Guyana. In Belize, as a result of the UKCIF investments, the Project Execution Unit at the Ministry of Infrastructure is keen to incorporate learnings (e.g. pre-construction trainings) as part of day-to-day government processes but this is yet to fully materialise.
2.5 To what extent has the private sector been meaningfully engaged in implementation?	Emerging results are modest	▪ On balance, although the overall portfolio is not centred on private sector engagement and participation, the portfolio programmes that are geared towards strengthening macro-economic stability (notably CEDP) have included a dimension of support to private sector development. The IDB COMPETE Caribbean, which provided specific assistance to the private sector as one of the CEDP components, successfully delivered against its output milestones, strengthening 7 institutions that support private sector competitiveness. ▪ The geo-thermal project in Dominica has also progressed on an innovative PPP arrangement to develop the energy potential. ▪ In some cases, it has been reported that UKCIF procurement and contract management requirements have helped to raise standards of private contractors engaged in various aspects of project implementation with a particular focus on the quality of construction as well as materials and safeguards. However, much more needs to be done on this front and could be a focus of future programming.

Table 6. EQ3 Impact & Sustainability Snapshot

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
3.1 What have been the most transformational impacts and why? How should FCDO build on them to ensure sustainably and inform future programming?	Emerging results are modest	▪ As things stand it is premature to claim that transformational change has occurred and been sustained – primarily due to the fact that the big programmes have yet to mature (UKCIF and EE/RE). There are signals on how UKCIF is slowly transforming government processes (e.g. ESIA or gender considerations) when designing infrastructure projects but the changes are yet to be fully integrated by Caribbean countries. ▪ It is fair to claim, however, that almost all programmes have contributed to positive incremental improvements most of which provide a good foundation to leverage future transformational opportunities: ○ CEDP has laid out reforms in regulatory environments governing taxation, revenue collection and PFM. The challenge is to now see how reforms are properly integrated and support in building a base for a more responsible use of financial resources that promotes resilience-building. ○ In a similar light, the SMART Hospitals initiative has proven the effectiveness of the smart and green paradigm when developing, maintaining and upgrading health facilities in the region. However, while governments have appreciated the project and recognised the importance of the SMART approach, its full integration into government processes and policy is yet to materialise. ○ The R&R programme has taken a holistic approach and framed how PFM and disaster response are intertwined, i.e. how strengthening PFM systems can help countries better manage cash flow and approach budgeting when disasters hit. ▪ The support provided to CREAD in Dominica evidences the efforts needed to craft policy and institutional foundations enabling a transition from emergency relief and response to a vision for long-term resilience building. It can be argued that the CREAD experience is transformational in that it fostered a cultural change from a reactive to a proactive approach and led to carefully think about the legal and institutional arrangements that are needed for this approach to fully materialise. However, despite the positive achievements, there are concerns raised regarding the sustainability of the initiative now that external financial support has ended and the effectiveness of the framework that was put in place (disappearance of CREAD and transfer of resilience activities to line ministries) as an exit strategy.

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
		▪ The more significant programmes offer springboards for next generation programming – for example UKCIF, EE/RE, CEDP, SMART Hospitals, R&R all offer further regional level programming opportunities. The challenge lies in selecting those that offer the highest probability of impact linked to leveraging the UKs unique selling points and value adds. ▪ UKCIF provides signposts on how to move forward but should not be continued under a business as usual formula. An enhanced and restructured approach is required.
3.2 How should future programming priorities embed graduation from ODA-eligibility? How can FCDO best leverage on available channels to continue supporting non-ODA eligible countries?	Not suitable for rating	▪ The current ODA / non-ODA split is limiting. Key issues / concerns relate to cases where a country is expected to "graduate" but has limited capacity to withstand shocks and risks of major reversals of well – being. ▪ Following the Caribbean Resilience Framework, there is merit in devising a maturity model to assess where resilience can be strengthened; developed at country level and widened to allow wider regional comparisons, identification of common challenges / needs and then formulating at scale interventions where economies of scale can kick in. ▪ FCDO has built positive working relationships with regional organisations (e.g. CARTAC, 5C, CDEMA) that provide support to Caribbean countries irrespective of their ODA eligibility status. Going forwards, FCDO should build on this engagement to more carefully frame how it will work with such organisations in addressing regional resilience challenges and keep assisting non-ODA countries as well as countries that are in line for ODA graduation. ▪ Programming and interventions that create "public goods" focused on shared challenges / needs that are available to all Caribbean countries should be considered for future programming. This could entail supporting regional organisations to provide TA to address common issues and constraints which could be accessed by non ODA countries. One shared area is improving project preparation / pipelines and linking these to climate finance access requirements would be of benefit. Pooled resources, tools and support mechanisms that have open access would assist with economies of scale and perhaps foster shared regional approaches to common problems.
3.3 To what extent has the FCDO programming made a contribution to achieving impact in each of the eight Resilience Thematic Areas	Emerging results are modest	▪ The multi-dimensional nature of the CDT portfolio has enabled FCDO to make an impact in each of the eight Thematic Areas laid out in the Caribbean Resilience Framework. Crucially, there is an effort made to design programming through a holistic approach and understand how impact could be achieved by programming across different Thematic Areas:

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
in the Caribbean Resilience Framework?		○ While UKCIF and EE/RE aim at improving infrastructure and energy resilience, there is a recognition of the trickle down impacts infrastructure development can have for connectivity, energy security and economic growth further down the line. ○ SMART Hospitals worked across the Infrastructure and Social, Democratic Resilience Thematic Areas through the strengthening and upgrading of infrastructure providing health and social care. ○ The R&R programme works across climate and disaster resilience and economic resilience through joint efforts in DRM policy and PFM. The programme component that is implemented by CARTAC illustrates how disasters affect PFM systems and conversely, how strengthened budgeting can improve the management of financial resources when disasters hit – thereby enabling a better response. ○ CEDP and SkYE operated in the Economic Resilience and Workforce Resilience Thematic Areas through strengthening institutions regulating private sector competitiveness, enhancing tax revenue collection and PFM as well as providing young people with skills and training so they better integrate the job market. ○ In Dominica, CREAD has provided an example of a pathway to build resilience and secure political buy-in to national policy shifts. ○ The programming geared towards Jamaica intervene in the Social and Democratic Thematic Area through promoting crime prevention and supporting young people at risk. ▪ If emerging results are modest it is because the overall portfolio is yet to delivery major impacts as many of the key programmes are still being implemented and at early stages of the impact causation chain. Across the board, programmes have generally set the bases for government reform as well as institutional and cultural change but the full materialisation of the changes is yet to take place. FCDO is however recognised because of its multi-disciplinary efforts and how it tries to promote linkages across disciplines and Thematic Areas in resilience building.
3.4 Is the impact more discernible / sustainable in regional or bilateral efforts?	**Emerging results are modest**	▪ The evidence suggests both regional (multilateral and bilateral delivery channels) and bilateral interventions can secure discernible and sustainable impacts. ▪ The UKCIF is the flagship regional programme in terms of scale and covers multiple jurisdictions and is making a difference at both regional level (e.g. strengthening the CDB) and at national level (via the implementing MDAs). The sheer scale offers the potential for wider impacts beyond the immediate programme itself.

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
		▪ Additional regional programmes in the infrastructure space such as SMART Hospitals and EE/RE are also large-scale and, similarly to UKCIF, are working to leave a mark at the regional level (addressing common challenges across countries in one go), strengthen regional implementing bodies (e.g. effectively engaging with PAHO) as well as national level organisations via the MDA counterparts (integrating better standards for health facilities into policy and improving mechanisms in energy corporations when it comes to financing mechanisms to de-risk investments in renewable energy). ▪ The CEDP and R&R programmes illustrate how regional resilience challenges can be effectively addressed through working with organisations with a regional mandate (e.g. CARTAC, CDEMA). Impact is all the more discernible as the organisations that FCDO has engaged with for these programmes do not approach the provision of support following the ODA / non-ODA distinction, which has allowed FCDO to expand its influence sphere and reach non-ODA countries. ▪ Complementing regional efforts, bilateral engagements have also brought about positive, yet modest, results when it comes to support specific / punctual challenges: o In the case of Jamaica, law enforcement interventions are highly dependent on being on the ground and embedded with their counterparts day to day. This contrasts with attempts of more regional approaches which were more problematic to implement and be effective in this delicate area of technical cooperation where trust is non-negotiable to effectiveness. Thus, the relative merits of different approaches need to be appreciative of the problem set being addressed, political economy and local context, and strongly informed by local buy-in and strength of relationships among partners. o The Dominica CREAD experience how FCDO rallied with other development partners to push ahead institutional and cultural change to pave the path for long-term resilience building in the aftermath of a disaster (looking beyond the recovery and reconstruction phase). The rationale for a bilateral engagement in Dominica was clearly laid off. o In a similar light, the three humanitarian / disaster relief programmes successfully intervened through bilateral engagements to provide punctual support in the aftermath of specific events. ▪ Overall, ensuring sustainability remains a challenge as many interventions have yet to be fully institutionalised and replicated.

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
3.5 What are the considerations for future programming? What, if any, are the opportunities for scaling up for FCDO?	Not suitable for rating	▪ There is a benefit in creating a resilience framework (e.g. Caribbean Resilience Framework) supplemented by a Theory of Change *up front* to better set priorities to guide business planning and resource allocation. This can assist in focusing resources on the most pressing challenges and will provide a rationale for these choices. The framework should enable an integrated approach that can bring together regional and bilateral / national level interventions. ▪ The multi-dimensional Caribbean Resilience Framework opens up multiple entry points for programming / interventions – there is a long menu of options. What is needed is a balance between strategic regional programming and the more granular national needs to ensure relevance and effectiveness. This can also be used to bring ODA / non-ODA and all the FCDO actors together around a common definition and approach to resilience subsequently structured around shared "missions" rather than fragmented programming. ▪ When it comes to programming Thematic Areas, the value of a continued investment in infrastructure to anchor the portfolio is proven: o Caribbean resilience will in part depend on putting in place more and better economic and social infrastructure. o Infrastructure backlogs remain high – major maintenance, upgrades, and new assets – and there remain binding capacity and resource constraints that require external TA and FA support. o Scaling up in the infrastructure space is relevant, fits well with the current ODA / IFI / development partner landscape, and tends to have strong local ownership. However, there is a need for a more infrastructure eco-system approach to accelerate implementation and secure greater impact. o The UK is recognised for the expertise and value added it brings in the infrastructure sphere. On the one hand, government counterparts are highly appreciative of the support provided in infrastructure development; on the other hand, investing in infrastructure provides the UK with strong visibility and distinguishes it among other bilateral donors. ▪ Programming narrative is to clearly state how investments in infrastructure development and upgrading are to be complemented by additional investments in climate and disaster resilience, economic development and macro-economic stability, as well as governance and the rule of law.

EQs	Rating	Programme Evidence
		Emphasis is to be placed on how programming across Thematic Areas work as a whole in a joint and integrated resilience-building effort.

Annex 6. How are developing partners working in resilience areas across the Caribbean

This CAnnex discusses trends supporting decision-making that development partners, donors and regional organisations could consider to enhance programming coordination in the Caribbean. It emphasises the effectiveness of the science-policy interface (i.e. how development partners in the region link with science and technical information on problems and solutions); the strengths and weaknesses of development partners engaged in the region; as well as a stocktake on mechanisms for regional coordination among donors and development partners. This Chapter also considers how the FCDO International Development Strategy (IDS), UK-Caribbean Partnership Strategy Summary, and the UK Government resilience definition outline important entry points when it comes to consider resilience in the Caribbean.

1.1 Trends in decision-making and programming coordination that donors and regional organisations could consider

1.1.1 Effectiveness of the Science-Policy Interface

How do donors and countries in the region get access to resilience-relevant research and new knowledge, including the scientific and technical information generated within the Caribbean and relevant information generated by entities outside of the region? Unfortunately, most Caribbean countries are data deficient and need access to more easily obtainable data or need to create more effective ways of data collection and management. On average, SIDS lack statistics for 27 percent of the indicators used to track progress on the SDGs (Massa et al. 2023, p43), so many Caribbean SIDS do not have enough data to track progress towards the SDGs or measure changes in climate resilience.

The Political Economy Analysis (FCDO, 2023) recommended the UK should work with technical agencies in the Caribbean such as the 5Cs in Belize and CDEMA. There are also several climate experts and members of the IPCC in Caribbean universities. Donors addressing Caribbean resilience to climate change should take advantage of the work being undertaken by regional researchers when developing policy. It may be useful to foster links between Caribbean and UK Universities for the purpose of climate modelling, scenario development and projecting climate risk for each country.

The Science-Policy Interface is poorly managed. Scientists are often not good at communicating science and may not appreciate policy makers' needs for specific information, research findings are usually published in academic journals which are usually behind paywalls or not accessible to policy-makers in developing countries; and even when they are, they may not be in a form that can be used to address policy questions (Dookie, Conway, and Dessai 2023). This points to the need for "knowledge brokers" (sensu Hering 2016) or climate science translators (Enenkel and Kruczkiewicz 2022) who could improve information flow between policy implementers, community stakeholders and regional academic and research institutions, including providing clear indications of the questions which donors and Governments need addressed, with governments and development partners supporting research with the financial resources needed to carry it out. Institutions such as the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research[8] (IAI) may be able to assist countries and donors to bridge the gap, however, few Caribbean countries are currently members.

In addition to supporting relevant research by regional research institutions, encouraging linkages with extra-regional or international technical or research entities such as International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and its Resilient and Sustainable Islands Initiative (RESI), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) could increase access to policy-relevant research and build capacity to address complex and complicated issues relating to resilience. This should include facilitating access to remote sensing data and digital data and technology where relevant, see (Khonje et al. 2019) for detailed examples relevant to SIDS.

[8] https://www.iai.int/

1.1.2 Strengths and weaknesses of development partners engaged in the region. Evidence on how partners are working on addressing emerging resilience challenges.

The recently published UN Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index recognises that a country's resilience has three components: Structural economic resilience, structural environmental resilience and structural social resilience. Work to increase resilience in the Caribbean should take this into account and seek results and coordinate activities across all three areas. In a similar vein to the report by the Commission on Economic Performance and Social Progress (Stiglitz, Sen & Fitoussi 2009), the MVI points out that GNI is a poor measure of human wellbeing and development and recommends that when determining access to ODA, GNI per capita should be supplemented with the MVI.

The main challenges to building climate resilience in the Caribbean include:

- Lack of access or difficulty in accessing low-cost funding sources to build resilience, address systemic vulnerability and recover from events, including for non-ODA countries that have high vulnerability.[9]
- Data are lacking on the effects of chronic and slow-moving climate changes[10] (stresses rather than shocks) on vulnerable populations such as young children and older persons (e.g. the effects of consistent increases in daytime temperatures on the health of young children, construction workers or other persons carrying out physical labour outdoors).
- Need for more research on the details of how climate will change, how change will affect society, economy and human wellbeing in each country and the role climate change may have played in specific events.
- Need to identify and address systemic aspects of climate resilience and how they may relate to economic, social and environmental factors.

The work of donors in the region has several strong points. There is good coordination with regional agencies and between donors regarding cyclones and the recovery from these events. Also, there is strong focus and resources looking at building infrastructure that is resilient to cyclones. Other points include:

- Several projects providing funds to build capacity of regional climate and disaster technical organisations. Most notable is the support to CDEMA.
- Mechanisms exist for coordinating donors with regional disaster response agencies for disaster response, application and design of early warning systems and risk management.
- Numerous projects building climate-resilient infrastructure in health, transport and other areas (supported by FCDO, EC, IDB, World Bank) exist.
- Support being given to regional governments to track climate-related expense and disaster-related expenses in national budgets (IDB) will allow countries to monitor expenditure in the climate and disaster risk management areas and evaluate its effectiveness.

Weaknesses in the approach revolve around the need to look at stresses and slow moving changes; this can be hard to do since shocks, such as a destructive hurricane rightly demand attention and planning to reduce disaster risk or to recover in the case of a recent cataclysmic event. However, stresses can create serious risk and have the potential to cause significant economic loss as well. Areas for improvement include:

[9] Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, & Saint Kitts and Nevis are more vulnerable than the world average and non-ODA.

[10] See "What is resilience" https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/57a08955ed915d3cfd0001c8/EoD_Topic_Guide_What_is_Resilience_May_2016.pdf

- Need to coordinate efforts on all three aspects of vulnerability and resilience that are described in the MVI. Several countries in the Caribbean have very high vulnerability, including some that are no longer ODA-eligible.
- Related to the above is the need to focus on socioeconomic (and environmental) aspects of resilience as well as improving infrastructure.
- While the increased amount of resilient infrastructure is important, there is a need to build regional human capital to increase local capacity to implement resilience projects and maintain the infrastructure once it is built by ODA.
- Need to build human capital to increase resilience of citizens and diversify the economy, especially in highly tourism dependent countries.
- More attention needs to be paid to effects of climate change that are not related to tropical cyclones such as the effect of rising temperatures on the health and wellbeing of vulnerable groups, effects of classroom temperatures on scholastic achievement, effects of climate on mental health, the transmission of vector-borne diseases and loss of productivity especially for people who work outdoors.
- Need for much more frequent meetings of climate change-specific regional coordination mechanism between donors (bilateral and multi laterals) and between donors and regional organisations. This should focus on *non-disaster* related aspects of climate change, since climate change influence on specific events (e.g. Hurricanes) is already covered by several mechanisms.
- Need for clearer understanding of how to build resilience to climate effects that are not disaster management related including stresses like the effects of continued rise in temperature on health, education and productivity or the effects of changed rainfall patterns on agriculture.

1.1.3 Working with regional organisations – what can hinder effective programme implementation and what options are available to address weaknesses?

Key messages in the FCDO Political Economy Analysis include supporting innovation and understanding how resilience is defined in the region. Dookie, Conway, and Dessai (2023) found definitions and use of terms by DRM and Climate practitioners within the Caribbean varied and that donors played a strong role in how terms were linked to financial priorities. Care should be taken to ensure that interventions include the concept of "bouncing forward" as a defining concept of recovery in the context of resilience (see CDEMA 2018, 3). In other words, recovery does not mean getting back to where the country was before the disaster took place, it means getting to where it would have been had the event never occurred. This is important to avoid cascading damage and loss due to multiple hazards which occur while recovery from an earlier event is still taking place and which leads to increased inequalities.

Some Governments and donors treat climate change and disaster management separately or sometimes completely conflate the two and ignore slow or less visible effects of climate change. Regional Governments often emphasise the increased hazards due to tropical cyclones, while other effects of climate change are paid less attention. The ability of the region to effectively deal with climate related resilience depends on how well the regional specifics of climate change-related vulnerabilities and effects are understood. Regional entities need more capacity to generate this information, so the PEA recommendation to strongly support the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), 5C and CDEMA is important, as is the need to ensure that basic research is being carried out by regional scientists in the region and that regional universities are supported to carry out relevant research particularly on the chronic or slower acting effects of climate change.

At the regional level FCDO should support strengthening regional organisations and encourage movement of expertise around the Caribbean, supporting Caribbean experts. Regional capacity in the agencies dealing with climate resilience needs to be built and some may need increased technical staff. An example of donor support that could be replicated is the GAC Project "Targeted Support to the CDEMA" which is a grant to CDEMA of $8.2 million. The project aims to improve comprehensive disaster management in the Caribbean for vulnerable populations, particularly women and girls. But components also exist to strengthen CDEMA and increase donor coordination for disaster management. This model could be applied to other regional organisations.

1.1.4 Stocktake on mechanisms for regional coordination among donors and development partners – what could be missing to make regional coordination more effective?

The Eastern Caribbean Development Partners Group (ECDPG), convenes development partners working in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean countries that are part of the OECS and the Northwestern Caribbean Donor Group, formed in 2006 included The Bahamas, Belize, Haiti and Jamaica. Its original mission is "*To coordinate external emergency assistance to client states in the emergency (relief) and recovery phases of a major natural or technological hazards, as well as to assist them to develop the capacity to reduce their vulnerability to such hazards, in pursuance of sustainable development*". The ECPDG provides a forum for information sharing among development partners, and to make strategic decisions regarding programme development and coordination. The ECDPG is chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

The ECDPG has a subgroup that deals with Disaster Management, the *Caribbean Development Partners Group for Disaster Management* (CDPG-DM) which is a sub-regional coordination platform for preparedness and response to disasters. the CDPG-DM[11] is co-chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator of the impacted area and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Executive Director and consists of Development Partners serving Barbados and the wider Caribbean. The CDPG-DM provides a forum for information sharing among Development Partners and to collaborate on strategic decisions regarding programme development and coordination. CDPG-DM facilitates the coordination of external emergency assistance to the countries of the sub-region following a significant natural or technological hazard.

Regional work on disaster resilience is coordinated by the CDM Coordination & Harmonization Council of CDEMA[12] which includes key donors in its membership, however the membership should be reviewed and updated to reflect changes in the financing environment since the Council was designed in 2007. Notably absent are IDB and the World Bank, major donors in the resilience area. The Council does not have many bilateral donors so coordination with this group of donors needs increased support. Another regional group assisting in building resilience is the Regional Early Warning Systems (EWS) Consortium (REWSC) established by CDEMA in 2022. The membership comprises national and regional technical agencies, response agencies, UN agencies and academia. Again the IDB and World bank are absent, as are donors.

Coordination on climate change issues outside of those issues related to disasters appears to be a gap. There does not seem to be a regional coordination mechanism to harmonise donor action regarding climate change or climate resilience that is not tied to disaster management or specific disaster events like cyclones or drought. This means that emerging climate issues or events such as increased temperature and its effects on worker productivity, learning suitability of school classroooms, or the health of vulnerable groups, or how gradual changes in climate affects health, tourism, education, agriculture and other economic sectors may not be discussed by donors and regional institutions on a regular basis. Support should be given to CARICOM or 5Cs to create and manage a suitable mechanism to do this, since one is not included in the 5Cs Strategic Plan.

[11] https://response.reliefweb.int/latin-america-and-caribbean/Caribbean/cdgpm.

[12] https://cdema2.org/governance-mechanism/coordination-harmonization-council.