

DIRECTORATE FOR COOPERATION AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

3rd EDITION OF THE ACS REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION CATALOGUE

**8th INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CONFERENCE
MAY 2024**

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Message from the Chair of the Special Committee for Cooperation and Resource Mobilization 2023/2024, the Republic of Costa Rica

With the objective of fostering the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices among Member States, Associate Members and the International Community, the ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue was created three years ago.

This tool is an effort by the region for the Greater Caribbean region to strengthen the links between our peoples through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. In this context of solidarity and interconnection, both modalities of cooperation take on special relevance, as they allow our countries and territories to complement their strengths and work together to generate new opportunities based on the experiences and capacities of each, in order to meet the challenges of development and build better conditions for the well-being of our people.

Likewise, the annual updating of this catalogue is part of the objectives pursued by the Directorate for Cooperation and Resource Mobilisation in its quest to promote more and better cooperation opportunities, both for ACS members among themselves, and between ACS members and our extra-regional partners and friends, interested in collaborating with our region in the task of consolidating the common vision that unites us to achieve a more egalitarian, inclusive and fairer sustainable development.

Costa Rica, in its capacity as Chair of the ACS Special Committee on Cooperation and Resource Mobilisation, invites you to read, review, socialise and share within your countries and territories, this third edition of our regional co-operation catalogue. Let us take advantage of the opportunities for collaboration that it offers us, allowing us to create greater spaces, not only to learn from each other through the transfer of knowledge for the benefit of our communities, but also to bring our cultures and our peoples ever closer together.

About the ACS

On 24 July 1994, the signing of the **Convention Establishing the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)** lay the foundations for the ACS as a vehicle for **consultation, cooperation and concerted action for the Greater Caribbean**. With almost **30 years** of experience, the ACS continues to position itself as a platform for exchange and dialogue oriented towards practical and complementary cooperation among the twenty-five (25) Member States and ten (10) Associate States in our Membership. Cooperation efforts have been primarily on five (5) key areas of great importance to the region, namely:

- the protection and preservation of **the Caribbean Sea**
- **disaster risk reduction**
- **sustainable tourism**
- **transportation**
- **trade development and external economic relations**

South-South Cooperation was highlighted under Pillar D of the **ACS Action Plan 2022-2028** as a **vehicle for the transfer of technology and capacity building** and the **promotion of other forms of support for developing countries**. To this end, the **ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue** was designed as a tool for the enhanced cooperation and collaboration among the Member States of the Greater Caribbean through the sharing of information on best practices implemented in the areas of strategic interest to the region.

The Importance of South-South Cooperation to the Greater Caribbean

The United Nations refers South-South Cooperation as technical cooperation among developing countries in the Global South. It is a tool used by states, international organizations, academics, civil society and the private sector to collaborate and share knowledge, skills and successful initiatives in specific areas of common interest.

Current social, environmental, economic and political dynamics have led to States that have traditionally been recipients of North-South cooperation, being able to offer to the international community practices in which they have achieved a high level of product performance with region-specific features.

The ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue is both an informative tool, and a steady platform for the ACS Membership to share successful and transformative projects in the priority areas of interest to the Greater Caribbean, namely **the preservation and protection of the Caribbean Sea, disaster risk reduction, sustainable tourism, transportation and trade development and external economic relations**.

About the ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue

The ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue is a compilation of the best practices from ACS Member States and Associate Members in the priority areas of interest for the Greater Caribbean region. The 21st Century has demonstrated that the countries of the Greater Caribbean continue to face shared challenges from climate change to transportation connectivity. This Catalogue was developed in recognition of South-South Cooperation as a platform for collective action for the Greater Caribbean in finding shared solutions to these common challenges. The Catalogue serves as a conduit through which a diverse range of actors can stimulate cooperation in the region and bring fresh air to the efforts driven in each area globally.

The ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue is also a precedent for South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean region, as it opens a window of opportunity for the enhanced integration and cooperation in the Greater Caribbean Region powered mainly by those who engage in it. Convinced of the power of South-South Cooperation (SSC), the Catalogue poses a major step on evidencing the capacity of the region to contribute to the prosperity of the world, by sharing the transformative efforts achieved by each country in promoting sustainable development.

Overview of the 3rd Edition of the ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue

The 3rd Edition of the ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue compiles 28 best practices from 12 ACS Member States and Associate Members, categorized by the priority areas established in the Plan of Action for 2022-2028. The 3rd Edition Catalogue builds on the breadth of knowledge shared in the 1st and 2nd editions and integrates 11 new additions.

ACS Participating Members to the 3rd Edition of the ACS SS Catalogue



List of the Best Practices by Thematic Area

Thematic area	Best practices
Preservation and Protection of the Caribbean Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for water resource management/Mexico • Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC)/Colombia • Mangrove rehabilitation at the coast of Suriname/Suriname • Strategies and frameworks for the protection of natural areas and biodiversity/Mexico
Trade Development and External Economic Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Innovation Entrepreneurship Programme (AIEP)/Guyana • Development of a bio-fortified rice variety/Guyana • Dr. Agro®/Colombia • IT system for simplifying tax collection processes/Guatemala • Marketing Studies on Fruit and Vegetable Products at the Wholesale Level/Costa Rica • Strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem/Panama • Techniques for Agricultural Capacity Building/Mexico • Training project in agricultural production systems in mountain areas for agricultural and forest technicians from the Republic of Haiti/Dominican Republic
Sustainable Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Tourist Guide Programme/El Salvador • Technical Procedures for the development of a Tourism Master Plan/Panama • Tourism quality and sustainability label Green Q Seal “Sello Q Verde”/Guatemala • Tutorial support for candidates, college and high school student, as well as workers, wanting to achieve certifications in hospitality, tourism or culinary arts/Jamaica
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a free automated bicycle loan system at the Institution (BiciTEC)/Costa Rica • ISPS Code Certification/Honduras • Strengthening technical and regulatory capacities in the hydrocarbon sector/Mexico
Disaster Risk Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building in Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF)/El Salvador • Caribbean Territorial Information Platform for Disaster Prevention (PITCA)/Mexico • Henry Reeve International Contingent of Doctors Specialised in Disasters and Severe Epidemic/Cuba • National Search and Rescue Program/Colombia • Natural Hazards Analysis Methodology and Natural Phenomena Impact Database in Costa Rica/Costa Rica • Strengthening of national geospatial data infrastructure/Mexico
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Physical Activity Project "Por la Vida" (For Life)/Cuba • Update and Improvement of the Digital Literacy Program “Yes, I can: Cuba’s offering to Agenda 2030”/Cuba • Urban Centres for Wellbeing and Opportunities (UCWO)/El Salvador



PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE CARIBBEAN SEA



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - MEXICO



Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources / Mexican Institute of Water Technology (IMTA by its acronym in Spanish)

Training focused on the quantification, monitoring, collection, harnessing and sanitation of national water resources.

■ Objective

Strengthen national capacity for the management of available water resources, including monitoring, procurement and sanitation.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, workshops, courses, seminars.



FOREST AND CARBON MONITORING SYSTEM (SMBYC) - COLOMBIA



Sub-Directorate of Ecosystems and Environmental Information, Cooperation and International Affairs – Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM- by its acronym in Spanish)

The Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMBYC by its acronym in Spanish) is the official scientific TOOL for continuous, frequent monitoring of forested areas and deforestation in Colombia. The data generated by the SMBYC is based on the digital processing of satellite images and the analysis of this available primary and secondary information on the causes of deforestation that considers their relative importance in economic and sociocultural terms, among others. As a result of the implementation of the SMBYC, two protocols have been developed for the national and subnational estimation of carbon biomass in Colombia, as well as unique methodologies related to carbon monitoring in natural forests, proposed guidelines for participatory community monitoring, a series of technical documents, and 10 scientific articles, all since 2010.

■ Objective

To issue early warning reports for deforestation, estimate the Carbon content in natural forests and provide technical support for the development of the System of National Emissions Accountability GEI (especially related to REDD+).

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, workshops, courses, and seminars.



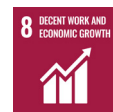
MANGROVE REHABILITATION AT THE COAST OF SURINAME

Anton de Kom University of Suriname

The low-lying coast of Suriname, a country at the north-east coast of South America, is very vulnerable to sea level rise and climate change. Increasing sea level and worsening climatic conditions have tremendous negative impacts on the mangrove zone bordering the Atlantic Ocean. Strong waves and high winds result in uprooting of the mangroves, putting properties of the coastal communities at risk, degrading and eroding fertile land through salt intrusion in very rapid temp. To address this adverse development, Suriname rehabilitated its mangrove at different locations, such as the coast of Paramaribo North. Losing the mangrove ecosystem means losing the natural protection and putting the capital at risk. Protection, conservation, and planting mangroves are presently being exercised.

Objective

The main objective is to create best conditions for mangrove to grow and hence to rehabilitate the natural protection of the coast, thereby enhancing the resilience of the coast and its ability to respond to sea level rise. New technologies are developed, and awareness raised.





STRATEGIES AND FRAMEWORKS FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL AREAS AND BIODIVERSITY - MEXICO

Sub-Directorate of Ecosystems and Environmental Information, Cooperation and International Affairs – Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM- by its acronym in Spanish)

Training focused on generating or strengthening strategies for the protection of natural areas and terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, such as forests, jungles, mangroves and coasts. Also for the protection of flora and fauna species.

■ Objective

Strengthen the capacities of institutions responsible for the protection of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, as well as public organisations responsible for biodiversity conservation.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, workshops, courses.





TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS



AGRICULTURE INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME (AIEP) - GUYANA

Ministry of Agriculture through the National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute

The Agriculture Innovation Entrepreneurship Programme (AIEP) was launched by the Government of Guyana in January 2022 as a means to enable young entrepreneurs, both women and men, in the production of high valued vegetable crops. The programme aims to construct 300 shade houses that will benefit farmers across the country. Specifically, the project is engaging former and current students at the University of Guyana (UG), The Guyana School of Agriculture (GSA) and other budding agriculture entrepreneurs.

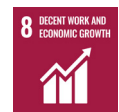
As part of the horizontal technical cooperation among member states of the Caribbean Community and in keeping with the 25% by 2025 agreement, the Government of Guyana has trained eight students from Barbados on location in Guyana, to build shade houses, as well as prepare crops for planting. The Government of Guyana continues to receive numerous requests for similar training opportunities, from various other Member States.

■ Objective

To support young female and male farmers and young entrepreneurs' access to climate-adaptative agricultural techniques and materials in order to reduce their vulnerability and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange experiences with other countries, equipment donation, training.





DEVELOPMENT OF A BIO-FORTIFIED RICE VARIETY - GUYANA

Guyana Rice Development Board (GRDB)

Biofortified rice is an efficient and cost-friendly approach in mitigating micronutrient deficiencies for a healthier population, and also provides an export opportunity to capitalize on the higher prices, given that its nutritional properties are higher than that of regular rice.

This new Zinc Enriched Rice Variety which has several special characteristics such as being:

- High Yielding (6-8 t/ha)
- Tolerant to lodging (0-5%)
- Zinc enriched-naturally (approx. 18 ppm)
- Emerge well from standing water in field (7.6 cm to 15.2 cm)
- Tolerant to delayed harvesting (7-14 days).
- Excellent Milling and cooking Qualities and
- Resistant to Blast Disease
- Excellent grain filling on panicle (100% approx.)
- Good tillering

This project is a component of the COTED approved project for production, adoption and consumption of biofortified crops as part of a strategy to address non-communicable diseases in CARICOM.

Objective

To develop and evaluate a nutrient (zinc) enhanced/ Biofortified rice variety adapted for the growing regions of Guyana along with its recommended production practices in keeping with curbing hunger and nutrient deficiencies in the Americas.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, studies and research.





■ DR. AGRO® - COLOMBIA

Colombian Agricultural Research Corporation – AGROSAVIA

Dr. Agro ® is a free mobile application developed to support farmers, crop growers, agricultural extension workers, agricultural technical assistants and producers in making management and control decisions about pests, diseases or nutritional deficiencies of specific crops. In operational terms, the user, based on the information related to the crop, the stage of the phenological cycle and the affected part of the plant, will be able to consult the application from a list of causative agents accompanied by representative images of the organism, damage or symptoms together with the main characteristics for their identification and access to detailed information including: scientific name, common names, identification parameters, description, geographical distribution, damage, plant hosts, dissemination, life cycle, behaviour, spatial distribution in the lot, prevention measures and control methods (legal, cultural, biological, mechanical, chemical, among others).

■ Objective

The application aims to provide tools that allow agricultural extension service providers and producers, to identify problem areas that arise in the field and on the basis of research based findings, discern and make decisions that allow for effective prevention, identification, management and control of pests, diseases and nutritional deficiencies.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training.





IT SYSTEM FOR SIMPLIFYING TAX COLLECTION PROCESSES - GUATEMALA

Superintendency of Tax Administration

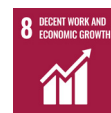
Implementation of electronic badges that identify land vehicles and transit authorities, in addition to simplifying and streamlining tax collection processes.

■ Objective

To provide legal certainty, ease and security to taxpayers who own land vehicles and transit authorities, in addition to simplifying and speeding up tax collection processes.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries.





MARKETING STUDIES ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTS AT THE WHOLESALE LEVEL - COSTA RICA

Comprehensive Agricultural Marketing Programme (PIMA)

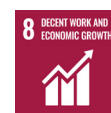
Defining, structuring and implementing marketing strategies for agri-food products, by conducting a preliminary investigation of problems, opportunities and needs (together with the related actors), presenting the findings and suggesting a set of solutions. All in strict compliance with the project design technique. This research provides strategic inputs to guide future actions.

■ Objective

Development of studies, projects and marketing strategies for agri-food products, including the operation and management of wholesale centres.

■ Cooperation offered

Internships, research studies, receiving and sending experts, exchange of experiences, training, workshops/courses/seminars, technical assistance, consultancies etc.





STRENGTHENING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM - PANAMA

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Authority (AMPYME by its acronym in Spanish)

Convinced of the importance of strengthening entrepreneurship and its inclusion in Panama's agenda, since January 2016 work has been done to improve systemic conditions and develop entrepreneurship, within the framework of the public-private partnership to position the issue of entrepreneurship in Panama as part of the National Development Agenda, considering that it is one of the most important drivers for economic growth, overcoming poverty and social cohesion.

To have a well-established and organised entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country, which unifies efforts around responses to entrepreneurs and programmes for them, within their actual reach. In addition to generating a debate on the subject, generating collective awareness of the importance of taking entrepreneurs to the next level. Work on entrepreneurship issues within the framework of the country's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem, as the natural space from which all actors offering services to entrepreneurs, from public/private entities and academia, are articulated, in order to make entrepreneurship in the country a reality.

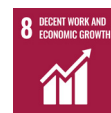
The objective of the programme "Strengthening the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem" is to bring together the efforts and vision of key actors from the public and private sectors and academia, in order to position the issue of entrepreneurship as part of the National Development Agenda and thus support the country's economic growth to be more equitable and help reduce poverty.

■ Specific Objectives

- Identify the key actors of the public, private, financial and academic sectors that are most relevant to the entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Unify the efforts and vision of key actors from the public, private, financial and academic sectors in order to promote the necessary conditions to stimulate entrepreneurship and an entrepreneurial ecosystem through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the actors.
- Create a National Entrepreneurship Council with the signatories of the Agreement, whose function is to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the actions proposed in the framework of the Agreement, as well as the evaluation and presentation of results to the wider public.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, short, medium and long term training, consultancies.





TECHNIQUES FOR AGRICULTURAL CAPACITY BUILDING - MEXICO

National Institute of Forestry, Agricultural and Livestock Research

Training focused on strengthening the agro-industrial sector, including the cultivation of products such as corn, wheat, cocoa, coffee, avocado, chilli, coconut, etc., as well as livestock breeding and the development of beekeeping.

■ Objective

Strengthen the capacities of agricultural development institutions to generate better solutions that contribute to the resilience of agriculture and food security in their countries.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, workshops, courses, seminars.





TRAINING PROJECT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS IN MOUNTAIN AREAS FOR AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST TECHNICIANS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI (PROAMOH BY ITS ACRONYM IN SPANISH) - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

University ISA

Consists of the implementation of training programmes for farmers in the Republic of Haiti.

■ Objective

Improve living conditions and the conservation of ecosystems in the area, thus mitigating the effects of agriculture on the massive degradation of the environment.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, training, workshops, courses, seminars, other.



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



NATIONAL TOURIST GUIDE PROGRAMME EL SALVADOR

Ministry of Tourism of El Salvador - COSATUR

There are three (3) modalities that are developed on the profile of the National Strategy Surf City El Salvador and Specialised Destinations:

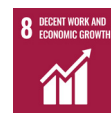
- a. National Tourist Guide: with knowledge of the national territory and proficiency in at least one second language;
- b. Local Tourist Guide: with knowledge focused on one of the four geographical zones of El Salvador (Western, Central-Paracentral, Northern and Eastern zones) and proficiency in at least a second language;
- c. Site Tourist Guide: With specialised knowledge of the cultural environment -material and immaterial (Historical Memory, Archaeological Parks, Museums, Theatres and similar); Parks (Thematic and Aquatic) or Environmental (Natural Parks and Natural Protected Areas - Terrestrial and Marine-) of the country and proficiency in at least a second language.

■ Objective

Strengthen the competitiveness of Specialised Tourist Destinations; highlighting the importance of serving tourists with warmth, friendliness and professionalism in order to position El Salvador as a competitive and sustainable destination in the global tourism market.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training.





TECHNICAL PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TOURISM MASTER PLAN

Panama Tourism Authority (ATP)

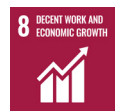
National Tourism Policy Planning.

■ Objective

To provide information on the methodology that should be followed for the development of a Tourism Master Plan, establishing key development interfaces, identification of key actors, working tools, mechanisms for consensus building and the general minimum scope of coverage.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance.





TOURISM QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY LABEL GREEN Q SEAL “SELLO Q VERDE” - GUATEMALA

Guatemalan Institute of Tourism

System that generates favourable conditions for the implementation of a tourism quality and sustainability system in 3 areas: administrative, sustainability and social responsibility, and occupational health and safety, which contributes to increasing the competitiveness of the tourism sector.

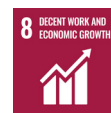
■ Objective

To generate a quality management and tourism sustainability system that contributes to the protection and conservation of natural and cultural attractions in order to develop tourism activities.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries.





TUTORIAL SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES, COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, AS WELL AS WORKERS, WANTING TO ACHIEVE CERTIFICATIONS IN HOSPITALITY, TOURISM OR CULINARY ARTS - JAMAICA

Jamaica Centre for Tourism Innovation, a Division of the Tourism Enhancement Fund

All candidates completing certifications facilitated by the JCTI receive tutorial support from certified tutors.

Objective

The goal is two-fold: to ensure that candidates have the best chance of success and to ensure that the programmes are completed in a timely manner. JCTI has better than 80% pass rate.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance.

TRANSPORT



IMPLEMENTATION OF A FREE AUTOMATED BICYCLE LOAN SYSTEM AT THE INSTITUTION (BICITEC) - COSTA RICA



Costa Rica Institute of Technology (ITCR- by its acronym in Spanish)

A free automated bicycle loan system was implemented for the institutional population of the Costa Rica Institute of Technology (ITCR). A smart electronic device was designed and installed on a standard bicycle and connected using a mobile application. With the application, the user scans a QR code and unlocks or locks the bicycle to use it. This project took approximately 3 years to develop as it involved studies, designs and prototypes until the final product was achieved. Since its implementation, 97% of its users have been students and 3% have been ITCR staff. This was the first automated bicycle loan system created and designed in Costa Rica.

■ Objective

Between now and 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all and improve road safety, in particular by expanding public transport, paying special attention to the needs of people in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly. By 2030, reduce the negative environmental impact per capita of cities, including by paying particular attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.

■ Cooperation offered

Internships in Costa Rica, sending officials/experts, consultancies, and training.



■ ISPS CODE CERTIFICATION - HONDURAS

National Commission for Port Security (CNPP)

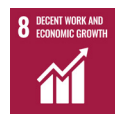
The National Commission for Port Security (CNPP) has a Training Centre in the city of Puerto Cortes, Department of Cortes, whose general objective is to keep certified and updated personnel with security responsibilities for Honduran port facilities that are applicable to them under Chapter XI-2 of the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS).

■ Objectives

- To comply with IMO Directorates, 22 May 2006, to have certified Port Facility Security Officers.
- Maintain the competencies of Port Facility Security Officers (PFPOs).

■ Cooperation offered

Training, workshops, courses and seminars.





STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL AND REGULATORY CAPACITIES IN THE HYDROCARBON SECTOR - MEXICO



Secretariat of Energy (SENER)/National Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy (CONUEE by its acronym in Spanish)

Training in the creation of regulations and policies for energy efficiency in the hydrocarbon sector.

■ Objective

Strengthen the skills of technical staff for efficient fossil-based energy generation.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, workshops, courses, seminars.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



CAPACITY BUILDING IN IMPACT BASED FORECASTING (IBF) - EL SALVADOR

Guatemalan Institute of Tourism



Translate hazards into sector- and location-specific impacts and develop sectoral responses to mitigate those impacts. Emphasising what the threat will do rather than describing what the characteristics of the threat will be. Through this experience, the aim is to transfer all the knowledge in IBF that the Directorate General of the Hazards and Natural Resources Observatory of the MARN has successfully developed.

Objective

To understand and apply the approach of forecasts that take into account and communicate the potential impacts that may be associated with a natural hazard, in order to contribute to preparedness and response processes.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, trainings.



CARIBBEAN TERRITORIAL INFORMATION PLATFORM FOR DISASTER PREVENTION (PITCA) - MEXICO

National Civil Protection Coordination, through the diplomatic channels established between the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID)

It is a project that has worked on the establishment of a structure dedicated to providing territorial geospatial information from national and regional sources to reduce the vulnerability of the Caribbean, through risk analysis that strengthens decision-making and the development of public policies on infrastructure planning, housing and agriculture, among other strategic sectors.



Objective

Its objective is for the region as a whole to be better prepared and more resilient to face natural and man-made phenomena and to provide support in order to break the vicious cycle of destruction and reconstruction due to the impact of disasters caused by natural phenomena in the Caribbean region.

- Raise awareness among the Caribbean states on the importance of having valid and reliable information for analysis and decision-making for integrated risk management.
- Carry out a preliminary diagnosis of the existing resources and the needs required for integrated irrigation management in the Caribbean states.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, training, workshops, courses and seminars.



HENRY REEVE INTERNATIONAL CONTINGENT OF DOCTORS SPECIALISED IN DISASTERS AND SEVERE EPIDEMIC - CUBA



Ministry of Public Health

This contingent was formed on 19 September 2005 in Havana, Cuba, by the historic leader of the Cuban revolution, Fidel Castro Ruz, whose objective was not only to support a particular nation, but to cooperate directly, with specially trained personnel, in any country that suffers a disaster, especially those facing major hurricanes, floods or other natural phenomena of such severity, as well as epidemics that constitute real natural and social disasters, including within the national territory. It operates under fundamental principles such as: solidarity, humanism, the defence and exercise of the human right to health as well as the promotion of the human right to peace.

■ Objective

To provide humanitarian-medical-health aid to populations affected by natural disasters and epidemics in other countries, and to assist in their recovery.

■ Cooperation offered

Medical assistance, technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training.



NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE PROGRAM - COLOMBIA



National Unit for Disaster Risk Management UNDRR: Disaster Management Sub-Directorate

The National Urban Search and Rescue Programme (PNBRU- by its acronym in Spanish) is a public strategic planning instrument whereby the National System for Disaster Risk Management (SNGRD- by its acronym in Spanish) projects the optimisation of basic service delivery of Urban Search and Rescue, according to the country's needs. Thus, it standardises the response of search and rescue groups with the aim of building the capacity of groups to save lives nationally and internationally.

■ Objective

Its purpose is to strengthen the national response capacity and create the platform whereby support is offered internationally. In turn, the National Accreditation Manual was designed allowing USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) Teams to apply to be Accredited by SNGRD.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, training, workshops, courses, seminars



NATURAL HAZARDS ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY AND NATURAL PHENOMENA IMPACT DATABASE IN COSTA RICA - COSTA RICA

**Executive Secretariat for Agricultural Sector Planning (SEPSA- by its acronym
in Spanish)**



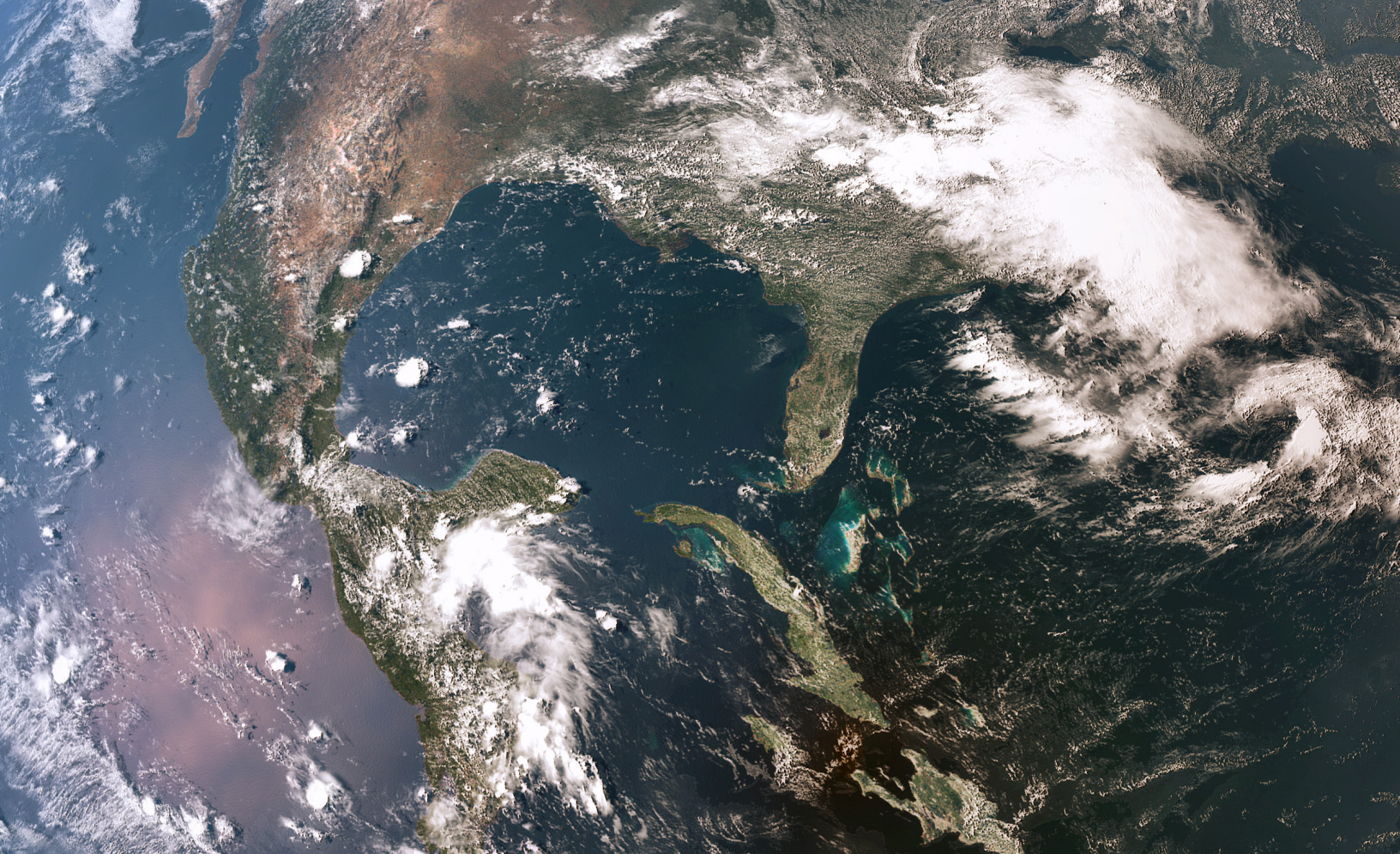
A Database was designed on the Impact of Natural Phenomena based on the reports from institutions that report damage due to natural phenomena. A methodology was then designed that can assess, rate and estimate an index according to the main natural hazards. The conceptual development of disaster risk management and the climate change process was included as a component, which together with the above becomes a didactic module that can be used to train officials of public institutions.

Objective

Disaster and climate change risk management intended for officials of public institutions.

Cooperation offered

Internships, research studies, receiving and sending experts, exchange of experiences, training, workshops/courses/seminars, technical assistance, consultancies.



STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE - MEXICO

National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI by its acronym in Spanish)

Training on the management of geospatial data and geo-referenced information and the strengthening of national databases.

Objective

Contribute to the development and strengthening of national geospatial data systems and statistical data management in order to promote best practices in land planning and shoreline monitoring.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, workshops, courses, seminars



OTHER



COMMUNITY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROJECT "POR LA VIDA (FOR LIFE)" - CUBA

National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation

Cuba's experience of more than 35 years developing community physical activity programmes is encapsulated in the "Por la Vida (For Life)" Project, characterised by its multisectoral and interdisciplinary integration, the minimal use of resources and the achievement of a high social impact, measured through established quality indicators.

It benefits people of all ages, with emphasis on children, adolescents, women and the elderly, as these are the most vulnerable groups, encouraging and promoting the participation of families and communities in an inclusive manner.

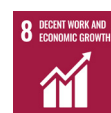
The programme consists of a range of physical-sports-recreational programmes and activities, which respond to the needs, interests and aspirations of the community, with a pedagogical and inclusive approach, which includes the school and community environment.

Objectives

- Improve health indicators, especially in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (hypertension, diabetes mellitus and obesity).
- To provide education with comprehensive training and values, using physical activity and sport as educational tools.
- To offer a diversity of options, within everyone's reach, for healthy recreation, taking into account their tastes, traditions and preferences.
- Strengthen interpersonal relationships in the community, promoting group participation in activities for the benefit of the community.
- Contribute to better management of government and local initiatives.

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, financial cooperation through non-repayable grants, donations of equipment, short-, medium- and long-term training, consultancies, others.





UPDATE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAM “YES, I CAN: CUBA’S OFFERING TO AGENDA 2030” - CUBA

Ministry of Education (MINNED-by its acronym in Spanish), Central Institute of Pedagogical Sciences (ICCP-by its acronym in Spanish), Scientific Educational Exchange (ICE- by its acronym in Spanish)

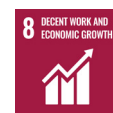
The current proposal of the Digital Literacy Programme “Yes, I can” is designed to teach reading and writing to young people and adults through the use of mobile devices from a virtual platform hosted globally or locally, as well as the association of numbers with the letters of the alphabet, the use of a workbook, a facilitator and tutorials for participants, and the use of computer tools, applications and methodological procedures to be followed for the development of the programme.

■ Objective

To contribute in a short period of time to the reduction of illiteracy, under-schooling and school drop-out rates among the youth and adult populations of the countries that request Cuban programmes. To apply a face-to-face or hybrid literacy methodology through the use of technological supports (radio, tape recorder, television, video player, mobile devices and platform) that will make it possible to reach a larger number of places with fewer human and material resources.

■ Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, financial cooperation through grants, financial cooperation through repayable loans, donations of equipment, short, medium and long-term training programs, consultancies, internships, studies and research, workshops, courses, seminars, advisory services, service sales, and more.





URBAN CENTRES FOR WELL-BEING AND OPPORTUNITIES (UCWO) - EL SALVADOR

Directorate for the Reconstruction of the Social Fabric (DRTS)

Through a training process by means of workshops of the "Youth with Success" programme, the next administrators of the UCWO are prepared to develop, manage, and execute different activities for the community, including computer classes, English, homework club, academic reinforcement, sports, and the dynamization of spaces, among others. The construction, equipment and operation are evaluated with the community according to their needs.

Objective

To develop the planning, intervention, construction follow-up and monitoring of the process of establishment and operation of the Urban Centres for Wellbeing and Opportunities (UCWO).

Cooperation offered

Technical assistance, exchange of experiences with other countries, training, internships.



Become a part of the ACS Regional South-South Cooperation Catalogue

Interested parties should contact the Association of Caribbean States and send a request of information letter, indicating their contact information, other relevant information, and the best practice(s) of their interest. After receiving a request, the ACS initiates the reaching process to contact the offeror(s) of best practice(s).

Previous versions of the Catalogue can be accessed through the following links:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/040c5349-8f1d-409e-ba2c-8094a99168b4>