**Project: “Climate Change and Transfer of Best Practices: Vulnerability in the Caribbean”**

For more than two decades organisations all over the world have been issuing warnings about the disastrous effects climate change would have on the entire world. In a lot of instances, these warnings have been ignored. Now that the effects of climate change have begun to negatively impact so many countries, there is a clamour for assistance.

Main aim is to find, identify and adapt successful experiences implemented in other parts of the world, with similar conditions to the Greater Caribbean and so formulate a catalogue of practical steps that can be actioned as part of national and regional strategy.

Climate change will impact a wide range of sectors of Caribbean economies and societies. There is the need therefore, to adapt measures that would assist communities in addressing those impacts and such measures should target priority development sectors and be guided by policies and strategies that integrate with broader national planning processes.

The Fifth Intergovernmental Panel of Experts on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment was completed earlier this year and its Report readied. Participants included scientists, environmentalists, researchers and inter-disciplinary experts from all over the world. The report assessed “needs, options, opportunities, constraints, resilience, limits among other aspects associated with adaptation.” Risk has become a new focus of the report and it articulates several that are easily pertinent to the Greater Caribbean Region.

Some of these risks include: death, injury, ill health or disrupted livelihoods in low lying coastal zones, small islands developing states and other small islands; systemic risk due to extreme weather events leading to the breakdown of infrastructure networks and critical services like electricity, water supply and health and emergency services.

The need to adapt best practice is inevitable and should be embraced because if they have yielded positive results in regions similar to ours, then it has to be one of the most important subjects on the agendas of all Member Countries and Associate Countries of the ACS.

***Overall objective:*** *Identify best practices in capacity building and institutional strengthening for climate change adaptation and mitigation to strengthen capacity at national, sub-regional and regional levels to ensure the Great Caribbean region’s people to respond and build their capacity to reduce vulnerability and develop resilience to the risks and impacts of climate change through the articulation and improvement of action plans, frameworks, policies and measures into a single comprehensive platform highlighting commonalities and differences.*

***Strategic Objectives:***

*• Reduce Vulnerability in the region*

*• Build resilience in the region*

*• Identify best practices to adapt these to the region*

*• Build capacities and institutional strengthening of regional organizations to respond to climate change therefore stronger more effective regional organizations to respond to climate change*

*• Joint action plans and frameworks at all levels*

*• More effective national, sub-regional and regional response to climate*

*• Integration of Climate Change within National, sub-regional and regional Sustainable Development Strategies*

*• Stronger Caribbean – Central and Latin America relationship*

*• Strengthened Technical capacity in climate change*

*• Adoption of TICs will be a key enabler of the organizations capacities to combat climate change*

*• Improve understanding of climate change*

*• Education, training and awareness*