

# Strengthening Climate Resilient Health Systems in the Caribbean



EUROPEAN UNION



CARICOM/  
CARIFORUM



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

## Programme Overview

The 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund is financing this five-year regional programme.

### Beneficiary

Caribbean Forum of ACP States (CARIFORUM) + Cuba

### Implementing Agency

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

### Funding



EUROPEAN UNION  
EUR 8.60 M

EUR  
**7.00**  
MILLION

### Duration

Start Date 8 April 2020

**5**

End Date 8 April 2025

**YEARS**

### Policy Alignment

The programme aligns to the following policy documents:

- *Joint Caribbean-EU Partnership Strategy*
- *Strategic Plan for the Caribbean Community 2015-2019: Repositioning CARICOM*

## Contribution to SDGs

The programme contributes to the following Sustainable Development Goals:



*Regional Health Systems in the Caribbean* and populations remain highly vulnerable to impacts from climate change causing: extreme weather; negative effects on food and water security; impacts to health and wellbeing; lost/reduced work capacity – migration; economic impacts; and inability to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Programme Summary

Using a one-health approach, within the Caribbean Cooperation in Health Phase IV (CCH IV) Framework, this programme will contribute to **reduced mortality and morbidity** from expected health consequences of climate change in Caribbean countries. It includes linkages to the environmental determinants of health, and COVID-19 prevention and control.

## Programme Objectives

The **overall objective** of this programme is to improve the capacity of Caribbean countries to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on health.

The **specific objectives** are to increase the capacity of Caribbean countries to adapt to, and to reduce, the effects of climate change on public health, using the One Health approach within the CARPHA's Caribbean Cooperation in Health, phase IV (CCH IV) framework.

There are four main expected outputs (EOs):

- **EO 1:** Adaptation and test of PAHO/WHO tools to estimate health benefits of Climate Change related policies and interventions, in selected countries.
- **EO 2:** Comprehensive Health Chapter in National Adaptation Plans for climate change prepared.
- **EO 3:** Improved surveillance capacity of professionals working in the health sector and health-determining sectors, including through the development of climate-informed integrated systems and protocols to monitor selected determinants of health (e.g. heat, water and sanitation) as well as health outcomes (zoonosis, vector borne diseases, foodborne diseases and antimicrobial resistance).
- **EO 4:** Strong, effective Climate Change leadership among government officials, civil society, communities, and private sector, championing and implementing the One Health Approach.

## Key Outputs & Actions

### COMPONENT 1: ADAPTATION AND TEST OF PAHO/WHO TOOLS TO ESTIMATE HEALTH BENEFITS

- Share, update or develop **health situation profiles** including, inter alia, the epidemiological profile, determinants of health, current national investments and recurrent costs in healthcare, financial gaps, coverage of the benefit packages, and cost-effectiveness of prevention schemes.
- Conduct **Health-Climate Change impact, vulnerability and capacity analysis**.

### COMPONENT 2: COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CHAPTER IN NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS

- Support to countries for the preparation and publication of their health chapters in **National Adaptation Plans** for climate change, which have to be coherent and consistent with applicable health laws and regulations.

### COMPONENT 3: IMPROVED SURVEILLANCE CAPACITY OF PROFESSIONALS WORKING IN HEALTH AND HEALTH-DETERMINING SECTORS

- Strengthen **inter-sectoral surveillance systems** including the development of climate-informed integrated systems and protocols to monitor selected determinants of health (e.g. heat, water and sanitation) as well as health outcomes

(zoonosis, vector borne diseases, foodborne diseases and antimicrobial resistance).

- Improve **routine data collection, systems analysis, and spatial-temporal relationship** of weather, and climate variability and climate change environmental determinants of health.
- Develop dedicated **long-term surveillance capacity and instruments** to strengthen in-country expertise to use, maintain and implement the climate resilient health systems including by developing or updating surveillance curricula (e.g. updating of monitoring aspects in UWI's two-year curriculum in the One Health Leadership Series).

### COMPONENT 4: STRONG EFFECTIVE CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP

- Support **high-level advocacy** to CARICOM Councils for Human and Social Development (COHSOD), Trade and Economic Development (COTED), and others as relevant, to operationalize the One Health approach and The Safe Hospitals Initiative.
- Conduct **training of multi-sectoral stakeholders** in "One Health" approach, "The Safe Hospitals Initiative" and other strategies, using the Climate Change and Health Leadership Series, to develop strong effective climate change leadership.

## Key Outcomes & Targets

The programme is expected to attain the following targets by 2025:

- Number of countries with **estimates of health benefits of mitigation policies and actions** and using these estimates for policy decisions
- Number of countries with a **comprehensive health Strategy and Action Plan** in their National Adaptation Plans.
- Number of countries with integrated (multi-sectoral-One Health) timely **surveillance reports** that include

climate sensitive diseases and conditions as well variability and climate change indicators, disaggregated by sex, age and vulnerable groups

- Number of **pilot projects** implemented and reported upon by graduates from Climate Change One-Health leadership series
- Number of **regional policymakers** advocating the One Health approach with support of this Action (disaggregated by sex and country).

## Geographical Scope

The programme provides support to the 16 Member States of CARIFORUM and Cuba:



For further information:

Donna GITTENS, Programme Manager

Delegation of The European Union To Barbados, The Eastern Caribbean States,  
the OECS and CARICOM/CARIFORUM

Hastings Christ Church BB15156 Bridgetown BARBADOS

Email: [delegation-barbados@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-barbados@eeas.europa.eu) | Phone: +1 (246) 434 8501