

CANARI assists in climate smart community disaster management

Laventille (CANARI) 23 August 2012 – The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), has contributed to the development of new resources for guiding community action to build resilience to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters. These resources, developed under contract with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), represent CANARI's committed focus to awareness building and helping Caribbean people in its Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (http://www.canari.org/climate.asp).

Under the umbrella of the Climate Smart Community Disaster Management Programme (CSCDM) which is managed by CDEMA, CANARI took the lead role in producing two tools - a Module and Facilitator's Handbook and a Participant's Handbook for the CSCDM Programme. The two documents when used together, provide guidance to communities to incorporate climate change adaptation considerations in their disaster planning.

The tools enable facilitators to build understanding among people in communities of the impacts of climate change, and helps them to identify areas of weakness so that they can develop the types of adaptation measures that are necessary to address these impacts. In this way, therefore, people will have a sharpened awareness, understand the contributions of exposure, risk and resilience to vulnerability assessment, and strategize on practical measures to reduce the elements of risk. The CSCDM tools are now available on the CDEMA website.

In addition to this project output, CDEMA also developed a <u>video feature</u> with the assistance of the Civil Society Sub-Sector Committee of its Comprehensive Disaster Management Harmonization Council which is already available for viewing on YouTube. CANARI looks forward to the rolling out the training in disaster management at the community level to contribute to the greater enabling of community resilience to climate change impacts in the region.

About CANARI

For further information, please contact:

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is a regional technical non-profit organisation which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for more than 20 years. Our mission is to promote and facilitate equitable participation and effective collaboration in the management of natural resources critical to development in the Caribbean islands, so that people will have a better quality of life and natural resources will be conserved, through action learning and research, capacity building, communication and fostering partnerships.

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