







Strategic planning for sustainable development in the Francophone Caribbean: capacitybuilding for sustainable consumption and production

Regional workshop

January 30th 2012, Bay Gardens Hotel, Saint Lucia

1. Introduction

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The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) facilitated a regional project entitled "**Strategic planning for sustainable development in the Francophone Caribbean: a capacity building programme for sustainable consumption and production**" in the three Francophone countries of the Caribbean (Dominica, Haiti, and Saint Lucia). This was coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the *Institut de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie* (IEPF), a subsidiary body of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF).

The overall objective of the project is to enhance the national policy framework for sustainable development in the three member countries of the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (Francophonie), namely Dominica, Haiti and Saint Lucia, by strengthening the capacities of the main actors involved in the formulation and implementation of policies and instruments towards the adoption of sustainable patterns of consumption and production in selected sectors and support for strategies and actions designed to reduce poverty.

A first phase of work under this project involved the establishment of a Steering Committee (*Comité de Pilotage*) by IEPF in 2007 to design and guide this initiative, comprising stakeholders from the three countries, regional agencies such as CANARI and representatives of other members of the Francophonie. Regional meetings in April 2008 (in Saint Lucia) and April 2009 (in Haiti), established the interest of the main stakeholders in the three countries, defined the broad context for sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in each of them, and developed the outline of a larger project to support national and regional capacity building including the selection of specific sectors of the economy to implement pilot SCP projects.

In the second phase of the project, IEPF, in conjunction with UNEP, commissioned CANARI to conduct more in-depth studies of the status of sustainable consumption and production in Saint Lucia and Dominica¹; facilitate national workshops in both countries; establish a regional Action Learning Group (ALG) with representation from the three project countries, regional agencies and other francophone countries and institutions; and facilitate the first meeting of the ALG in Dominica in April 2010, which validated the usefulness of a regional project and the sectors selected for pilot projects in each country. Draft proposals were developed for three national projects (on sustainable tourism in Saint Lucia, sustainable housing in Dominica, and sustainable energy in Haiti) and a regional Sustainable and Consumption Action Learning Group.

A third phase of the project was started in August 2011, designed to launch the regional project. This phase includes:

- development of a national strategy on green economy (including SCP) in Saint Lucia through consultations with national stakeholders and facilitation of a national workshop;
- refinement of a regional proposal on SCP in the three countries through consultations with stakeholders in each of the three countries and a regional workshop.

The draft proposals were refined in consultation with national stakeholders in the three countries and this regional workshop was being held to further refine and validate the proposals and develop a plan for moving towards implementation.

2. Objectives

The one day regional workshop was designed to:

- review and validate the proposal for a regional programme (including three national components) on SCP;
- agree on a strategy and next steps to initiate the regional programme, including fundraising.

3. Method

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The meeting agenda is attached as Appendix 1. Following a general overview of the project and updates on each of the three countries, Mr Felix Finisterre and Mr Perry Polar gave updates on relevant regional initiatives. Representatives of each of the three countries worked in small groups to refine the national components of the proposals, followed by general discussion and analysis in plenary. Final sessions looked at developing a strategy to take the proposals forward and develop linkages with other initiatives. Slide presentations are attached as Appendices 2 and 3.

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¹ Haiti was excluded at the time because such a study could not be deemed a priority, or even feasible, in the immediate aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake.

4. Participants

Representatives from Dominica, Haiti and Saint Lucia involved in the first two phases of the project were in attendance, as well as country representatives from the IEPF and additional key Saint Lucian stakeholders from government, private sector, and civil society. Members of the Caribbean Green Economy Action Learning Group being facilitated by CANARI were also present as observers. The list of participants is attached as Appendix 4.

5. Findings

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i. Country updates and review of the project and activities to date

In reviewing the project and activities to date, as well as the current status of SCP in the three countries, the following was noted:

- **Saint Lucia:** General elections were held in Saint Lucia on November 28th, 2011, and a new government was appointed in early December. Broadly speaking, the opportunities identified previously for moving towards SCP in the hospitality sector, and the tourism laundry sector in particular, were still relevant, even though there may be a need to reassess whether the key activities still are. In so doing, the key role that energy plays in development will have to be considered.
- *Haiti:* The appointment of a government, after a long period of uncertainty, was seen as a positive step, and the fact that a number of public sector officials came from the private sector seemed to represent a stronger potential for collaboration between the public and the private sector. The capacity of the judicial system to enforce existing laws and regulations remained a challenge, with corruption remaining an underlying concern; it was felt that if rules cannot be enforced, any positive technical initiatives towards SCP will not be sustainable. Donors' interest to work in Haiti was still very high, and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), did express its willingness to do so. However, the January 2010 earthquake resulted in a shift in priorities. Two years later, it was still too early to envisage work at the national level in a project of this kind, so it was recommended that the activities under the SCP proposal should be implemented at the level of a watershed, or a small number of watersheds, as previously agreed upon. This would also allow local authorities to develop competencies and capacities towards greater decentralisation.
- **Dominica:** The issue of the loss of agricultural lands in Dominica was of concern. Starting in 2006, the Government of Dominica was implementing a housing revolution, which offered free materials and contractor services, or squatter regularisation. If the housing revolution was still relevant, it would require additional resources, while the buy-in from a

wide range of stakeholders was not complete yet. It was also noted that there was potential for making this broad initiative truly sustainable.

ii. <u>Regional initiatives</u>

Participants reviewed a number of regional initiatives relevant for the SCP agenda in the Caribbean, as indicated below:

- Green Economy initiatives: It was recognised that SCP fits under the broader context of green economy, and the two appear to be inextricably linked, even though there may be different opportunities under each topic. A number of Caribbean countries, namely Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, as well as Grenada, were represented at the highest level at the 6th Regional Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production and its contribution to Resource Efficience of the United Nations Environment Programme, held November 24-25 2011 in Panama. Mr. Felix Finisterre represented CANARI and the Caribbean SCP project. It was agreed there that green economy and SCP should be considered as complementary. Participants therefore concluded that it may be useful to design a broader green economy agenda to include the three target countries, but this will of course depend on funding availabilities under each initiative.
- Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management (CNULM) initiatives: The network was working towards the strengthening of urban planning in the region. One initiative was to create or strengthen national planning associations, which would come under a Caribbean planning association (to be launched in March 2012 in Jamaica). More information was available at www.bluespaceCaribbean.com. The link with green economy can be made in looking at science and technology, particularly at ways to create and promote adaptation innovation. Urban agriculture, the development of sustainable cities, can also be promoted to transition to a green economy. It was further noted that while the skills may be available to move forward with such initiatives, the enabling environment, in terms of policy and resources, still needs to be strengthened. Urban planners, for instance, should be targeted as they may have a critical role to play, as well as engineers, among others.

iii. <u>Review of the three national components of the regional proposal</u>

In the framework of the regional proposal, a number of issues were considered as cross-cutting, namely energy, livelihoods, gender, forestry, capacity building, vulnerability, communication, science technology and innovation. The SCP ALG, designed to promote and encourage communication, sharing of experiences and best practices among the three project countries, and beyond the region, should seek to refine the terms of reference of the national steering committees to be set up in each one of the three countries. These steering committees will operate as national ALGs and will have an advisory role, thus playing a key dual role in each national project.

Participants all agreed that the SCP project and process was still relevant for Saint Lucia, Haiti and Dominica. It was noted that agriculture had the potential to offer opportunities across all three countries, with a number of traditional practices to build on. However, this can only be done if there is a shift away from the banana production industry. Also, the link between agriculture and tourism, as well as how science is applied in agriculture should be looked at. In the specific Haitian context, however, at the local level, municipalities are responsible for managing natural resources. Including a component on agriculture might derail the process, as it will require working with government agencies at a higher level.

Specific refinements of the three national components are presented below.

Saint Lucia

The national component for Saint Lucia was initially designed to improve understanding of how the application of SCP principles can reduce the negative impacts of the tourism laundry sector on the environment and human health in Saint Lucia while improving profits for the operators, and how the policy framework for sustainable development might be adapted to stimulate SCP approaches in other parts of the tourism industry and the wider economy.

The national component was revised based on the group discussion, to include the agricultural sector. The proposed title for this revised project is "Promoting sustainable use of water and energy resources in the agricultural and hospitality/tourism sectors in Saint Lucia". This revised project for Saint Lucia recognises the importance of the agricultural sector in Saint Lucia, particularly for rural livelihoods. It is also a large consumer of water arising for irrigation practices and high levels of evapo-transpiration. Both the tourism laundry and the agriculture industries discharge effluent which can have an adverse impact on the quality of water. Both also have high recycling potential, are intensive energy users, and provide tremendous opportunities for cleaner energy production, adaptation to climate change, and mitigating climate change impacts. The revision to the national component also recognised that there is little donor interest in supporting initiatives that are seen to benefit tourism private sector, and a focus on agricultural linkages would be more relevant and acceptable.

Project activities

The activities as outlined in the laundry project would still apply, and the following were agreed upon as pilots:

- 1. Water recycling (laundry)
- 2. Waste (water and more) treatment in both sectors (agriculture and tourism)
- 3. Cogeneration in the laundry sector, solar water heating in agro-processing (chicken and pig), solar photovoltaic
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- 4. Biogas in agriculture
- 5. Use of waste as fertilizer
- 6. Technology aspects of agro-processing (chicken & pig)

Dominica

The national component for Dominica was designed to catalyse the development of more sustainable policies and practices in the housing sector, and particularly the public housing sector, and to provide lessons that can be applied to other sectors of the economy.

After extensive debate on whether the project would still be feasible in the current political climate in Dominica, with the government representatives from Dominica expressing grave concerns about this, it was recommended that the project could still be relevant but that it should also include ways in which housing can contribute to poverty reduction, and how to encourage access to land and sustainable financing. Also, because of the vulnerability of the housing sector, and based on the impacts of climate change, adherence to standards and climate proofing of constructions should be included to reduce vulnerability.

It also appeared that more information would be needed on the Dominican culture for housing, to come to a better of understanding of expectations people may have, and whether or not there may be a need to find a compromise between the ongoing "housing revolution", and traditional practices.

Project outcomes

The main three project outcomes were thought to be achievable, but it was suggested to include an additional outcome for testing of a pilot project, in the form of a public-private partnership, to be tied to existing initiatives, such as the Strategic Programme for Climate Vigilance.

Project activities

Recommendations were that:

- 1. The steering committee should be multisectoral.
- 2. Civil society organisations should champion the process and coordinate efforts especially because the action of public servants can be limited to the political context they have to operate in.
- 3. There is a critical need for building public awareness and support to create an enabling environment.
- 4. Capacity building is needed for policy makers.
- 5. A consensus should be negotiated on SCP principles and their relevance in Dominican culture. Indigenous technologies or other innovation need to be assessed for identifying what is relevant for Dominica.

- 6. Pilot projects should be selected based on needs and opportunities (e.g. Dukesville is one initiative to be considered).
- 7. Evaluation and communications of lessons learned will be critical.

Haiti

The national component for Haiti was designed to catalyse the development and implementation of more effective energy policies and sustainable energy consumption and production practices in Haiti through the implementation of a pilot project in a selected watershed, combined with a national advocacy campaign for changes in the national policy, institutional and legal framework for energy consumption and production.

The project goal was said to still be in alignment with the government programme and planned actions for the Ministry of Environment in particular, and no major changes were suggested.

Project objectives

Recommendations were that:

- Objective 5 should seek to clarify which specific partners should have their organisational capacity strengthened, since not all can benefit based on the limited budget.
- Objectives 2, 3 and 4 seem redundant. The first two could be removed.
- The regulation of charcoal production, a key project outcome, should be added.

Additionally, the following recommendations were made:

- In order to get the proposal endorsed by the new government, the reference to the nongovernmental organisations which would be implementing the project should be removed.
- The budget seems unrealistic for the proposed activities and the small grants component should be approximately \$50,000.
- At the regional level (within Haiti), video documentaries produced for public awareness for TV may be useful.

6. Next steps and recommendations

The objectives of the meeting were met, and participants agreed on the following next steps:

- i. CANARI will lead on revising the regional proposal and its national components (by March 2012)
- ii. Country teams will then review and validate the revised versions
- iii. A position paper will be prepared to advocate a Caribbean perspective at the next Francophonie meeting

 iv. Potential francophone partners, such as the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (*Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maitrise de l'Energie* ADEME), will be identified to provide technical assistance and collaborate in fundraising.

It was also decided that:

- National endorsements at the highest level in the three countries will be critical, and will need to be very specific, clearly expressing support and willingness to implement the programme.
- There is a need to identify existing projects, national initiatives and policies that will link with the SCP programme for Haiti, Dominica and Saint Lucia.

Next steps would need to clarify roles and implementation of the three national as well as the regional project components.

Appendix 1: Regional workshop Agenda

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| 9:00 a.m. | Welcome and introductions | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI | |
|------------|--|---|--|
| | | Crispin D'Auvergne, Government of Saint Lucia | |
| | | Marcia Symphorien, Francophonie representative from Saint Lucia | |
| | Review of workshop objectives and agenda | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI | |
| | Review of the project and activities to date | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI | |
| 9:45 a.m. | Informal update from participants and discussion on national or sectoral initiatives on SCP and/or green economy | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI | |
| 10:30 a.m. | BREAK | | |
| 11:00 a.m. | Update on regional and international initiatives on SCP (and links to green economy) | Felix Finisterre, CANARI | |
| 11:30 a.m. | Presentation of regional proposal Presentation of three national components Discussion | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI | |
| 12:30 p.m. | LUNCH | | |
| 1:30 p.m. | National groups refine proposals | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI | |
| | | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI | |
| | | Felix Finisterre, CANARI | |
| 2:30 p.m. | National groups report on updates to proposals | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI | |
| | Review of regional proposal | | |

| 3:00 p.m. | Mapping other regional initiatives to coordinate SCP work with: Caribbean Action Learning Group on Green Economy Caribbean Network for Urban Land Management Others | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| 3:30 p.m. | Development of strategy and next steps to initiate the regional programme, including fundraising | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI |
| 4:15 p.m. | Confirmation of next steps | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI |
| 4:30 p.m. | Thanks and close | Loïza Rauzduel, CANARI |



Caribbean Natural Resources Institute



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Review of the project and activities to date

2 national studies on the status of sustainable consumption and production in Dominica and Saint Lucia were conducted (June 2010).

• Both studies provided an in depth analysis of the key sectors of the 2 countries national economies (agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, water, transport, energy).

CANARI

Review of the project and activities to date (cont'd)

Some of the issues faced as well as some of the progress made in the integration of SCP approaches in sectoral strategies, policies, laws, regulations, programmes and projects, were also identified.



Status of SCP in Dominica

Initiatives

- Organic farming: the Dominica Organic Agriculture Movement (DOAM) promotes organic farming, with support from the Ministry of Agriculture, which has an extension officer dedicated to organic farming.
- Hydro electricity the country depends on hydro power from the Roseau River for the generation of 50 per cent of its domestic electricity.



Status of SCP in Dominica (cont'd)

Eco-lodge resorts - consistent with Dominica's image as a sustainable tourism destination, a number of ecolodges have been established around the island's natural sites/attractions and incorporating features of sustainable consumption in energy, food, operations etc.



Status of SCP in Dominica (cont'd)

 Petro Casa - in 2008, the government initiated a programme to construct 50 model homes in five locations in Dominica. The houses will be constructed based on a proven Venezuelan/Cuban model of PVC frames with concrete fill. Construction began in 2009 and is currently 75 per cent complete. Residents are expected to occupy them by end of 2010.



Status of SCP in Dominica (cont'd)

<u>Constraints</u>

- · Absence of formal written policies
- Capacity of key agencies
- Weak inter-ministerial and interdepartmental coordination
- Inadequate planning laws and regulation and lack of enforcement



Status of SCP in Dominica (cont'd)

Opportunities

Housing sector:

The rapidly-expanding public housing sector offers scope for analysis, comparison and testing of approaches, which could be of wider value to other sectors.



Status of SCP in Saint Lucia

Tourism :

Sandals Farmers Programme: in 2003 the Sandals hotel chain instituted a system to identify farmers involved in the

production of vegetables, ground provisions, condiments and fruits;

→ projected needs for such products over a specified period; and entered into an

agreement with the farmers

guaranteeing purchase of their products.



Status of SCP in Saint Lucia (cont'd)

Waste water recycling is now standard practice for many hotels, which channel their grey water to the gardens and lawn areas

Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and Ministry of Commerce have been involved in a joint project to promote linkages between local producers of agricultural inputs and agro processors and manufacturers.



Status of SCP in Saint Lucia (cont'd)

Manufacturing

Windward and Leeward Breweries which

is a large consumer of potable water, has reduced its water bill and operating costs by instituting a system of augmenting potable water usage by using grey water for operational tasks such as cooling, washing and cleaning.



Status of SCP in Saint Lucia (cont'd)

Constraints

2 main challenges identified:

- Insufficient awareness of and commitment to sustainable consumption by policymakers, key stakeholders and the general public
- A weak policy and institutional framework for development planning



Status of SCP in Saint Lucia (cont'd)

Opportunities

The hospitality sector, and the hotel laundry sector. The operations of laundry services by hotels offer scope for analysis, comparison and testing of approaches, which could be of value to the wider tourism sector since a similar approach could be applied to other sub-sectors, such as food and beverage procurement.



National workshops in Saint Lucia & Dominica

- Both meetings provided an opportunity to introduce, share and discuss concepts and methods, and to analyse the regional and national contexts relevant to SCP. The workshops also reviewed and confirmed the focus and approach of the national pilot project to be carried out in Saint Lucia and Dominica as part of the regional programme.
- There was consensus on the initiatives and their potential to make a valuable contribution sustainable development in Saint Lucia and Dominica.



Action-learning Group on SCP

1st meeting in April 2010 in Dominica.

- Presentation and discussion of the usefulness and relevance of ALGs; and the formulation of decisions, regarding the composition and role of this ALG.

- The meeting reached consensus on various elements regarding the future of this programme, and provided an excellent platform for collaboration among the national, regional and international partners involved.



ALG on SCP

The ALG made several general recommendations:

• it should be kept in mind that the ultimate purpose of the programme and its national components is to help consolidate national policies and strategies for sustainable development.

• action learning should remain at the heart of project design and implementation;

• communication should be in the appropriate language depending on the target audience, primarily Haitian Creole, English and French;



ALG on SCP

The programme should also aim to disseminate its results beyond the region, especially to other SIDS, so a mechanism will need to be identified to do this.

• Fundraising was identified as a priority, and the following steps were suggested to ensure that the programme receives the required endorsements:

• governmental support and endorsement should be communicated to the CDB, especially in the case of Haiti;

• Haiti should also communicate its support of the programme to the CARICOM Secretariat;



ALG on SCP

The Secretary General of CARICOM should be informed of the programme and its national components;

IEPF should communicate formally with the three countries to submit the project document to them, seeking agreement and endorsement.

CANARI

SCP in the Francophone Caribbean: regional proposal

"Strategic planning for sustainable development in the Francophone Caribbean: a project for capacity building in sustainable patterns of consumption and production"

This approach was seen as the best way to address the need to strengthen capacity in the field of strategic planning for sustainable development.

2 levels: regional component and national components in each of the 3 countries.



Regional proposal

The regional component:

- to be implemented over a 3 year period, with collective activities related to action research and capacity building, sharing of experiences and best practices
- will encourage networking and collaboration
- implemented by CANARI, to build on other action research processes facilitated by CANARI (GE for instance).



Dominica: SCP in the housing sector

Project goal:

To catalyse the development of more sustainable policies and practices in the housing sector, and particularly the public housing sector, in Dominica and to provide lessons that can be applied to other sectors of the economy.





Dominica nat'l component (cont.)

- To identify, document and promote policies that support SCP in the housing sector in Dominica.
- To identify and, where possible, test alternative design and construction methods in public housing sites that foster more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- To provide a forum for sectoral and national action learning on the role that sustainable consumption and production can play in sustainable development and greening the economy

CANARI

Haiti: SCP in the energy sector

Project goal:

To catalyse the development and implementation of more effective energy policies and sustainable energy consumption and production practices in Haiti through the implementation of a pilot project in a selected watershed, combined with a national advocacy campaign for changes in the national policy, institutional and legal framework for energy consumption and production.



Haiti nat'l component

Project objectives:

- To pilot multi-stakeholder arrangements for watershed management that facilitate the preservation of ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods,
- To introduce more sustainable methods of charcoal harvesting and production in the selected watershed, producing higher quality charcoal that can command higher prices.



Haiti

 To assess the feasibility of using or adapting new technologies and equipment in Haiti, both for existing forms of energy production and consumption (charcoal) and other forms of sustainable energy production and consumption, (e.g. alternative methods of cooking)



Saint Lucia: SCP in the tourism sector

Project goal:

To improve understanding of how the application of SCP principles can reduce the negative impacts of the tourism laundry sector on the environment and human health in Saint Lucia while improving profits for the operators and how the policy framework for sustainable development might be adapted to stimulate SCP approaches in other parts of the tourism industry and the wider economy.



Saint Lucia nat'l component

Project objectives:

- To identify, document and promote policies (including fiscal incentives, certification schemes and standards) that support SCP in the tourism sector in Saint Lucia, and specifically the laundry sub-sector.
- To identify, and where possible pilot, approaches and technologies that improve SCP in four laundry operations.



Saint Lucia nat'l component

 To document lessons learnt, best practice guidelines, and tools and methods that promote SCP in the tourism sector, and specifically in the laundry sub-sector.













Key principles for a green economy in the Caribbean

- Common vision
- Human security
- Good governance
- Well educated citizenry
- Involved young people
- Informed and mobilised civil society
- Commitment to pan-Caribbean cooperation







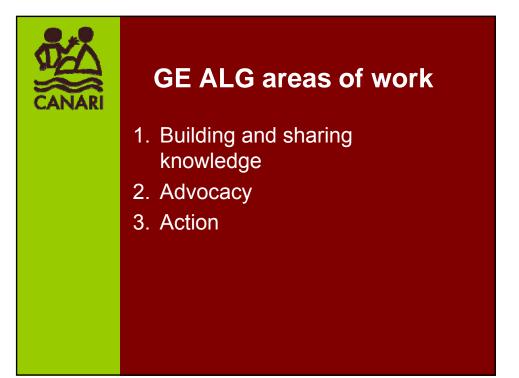


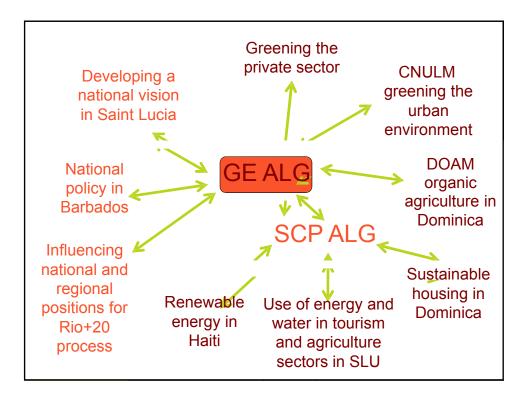




GE ALG overall purpose

- To identify and promote ways in which "green economy" can advance sustainable development in the Caribbean through shaping visions, perspectives, positions and actions.
 - What are the opportunities?
 - What are the potential threats?
 - What could be a Caribbean vision of economic development?





Appendix 4: List of participants

| First Name | Last Name | Organisation | Contact Number | Email Address |
|------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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