

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Assessment of national capacities to support implementation of climate change and health activities.

Background

Caribbean islands and territories are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Climate change affects not only the health and well-being of its citizens, but also their livelihoods, culture, and economies– posing a true existential threat.

In a survey conducted in 2018, several countries indicated a lack of national health and climate change plans or strategies. Countries are at varying stages of formal engagement of the health sector in national climate change committees and have different capacities for integrating health issues in national plans and strategies. Some countries have established national health and climate change committees, but the need exists to strengthen and operationalize them. Others are yet to establish committees and have indicated that the integration of health issues in the national climate agendas need to be improved. The Caribbean Action Plan on Health and Climate Change, which was developed through a “country-driven process,” based on the region’s priorities and capacities, focuses on addressing the gaps identified by countries and strengthening health systems to be prepared and respond to climate threats.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) Caribbean Readiness Project “Enhancing climate change resilience of health systems in seven CARICOM States” focuses on strengthening institutional and technical capacities and increasing collaboration with other sectors, to identify, prioritize, prepare and implement adaptation and mitigation options, generate relevant evidence, and improve frameworks to reduce emissions and increase health system’s climate resilience. One of the expected outcomes of this project is that relevant country stakeholders will have established adequate capacity, systems and networks to support the planning, programming and implementation of GCF-funded activities.

In this regard, the services of a national consultant are required to undertake activities related to achieving the project outcomes. One consultant will be selected from each of the seven countries included in the project – Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago -.

Objectives:

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The objectives of this consultancy are to 1) assist in the strengthening of inter-ministerial committees on climate change and health and 2) conduct assessments to identify gaps and resource needs for the prioritization of health in the climate change strategies.

Scope of Services

The selected Contractor is expected to complete the following Scope of Services:

1. Prepare, or revalidate where they exist, ToRs and workplans for health committees and inter-ministerial and/or technical working groups including the health sector.
2. Organize a high-level virtual workshop to further integrate health and climate change topics, and to elevate the political attention to this process and results.
3. Conduct an assessment of technical and institutional capacity gaps and resource needs to enhance health issues in national priorities, plans and strategies.
4. Conduct virtual workshop with key stakeholders to identify opportunities and technical topics for strengthening inter-ministerial climate change committees.

Deliverables:

Deliverable 1: **i.** Terms of Reference for health committees and inter-ministerial working groups including health. ToRs must be validated by country officials and contain a workplan for its operation.
ii. Report with the process of establishment of the working groups and committees.

Deliverable 2: Report of High-level workshop (include list of participants)

Deliverable 3: Report on technical and institutional capacity gaps, and resource needs, to enhance health issues in national priorities, plans and strategies.

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Deliverable 4: Report of national consultation workshop with key stakeholders (include list of participants)

Payment

Selected contractor will be hired as a National Professional Consultant @ USD\$4,500 per month

Timeframe

- The activities will be undertaken for a period of eight (8) months from 15 May 2023 - 15 January 2024.

Qualification/Experience

- Degree or diploma in Public Health or Environmental Science
- At least 5 years' of experience working in Public Health with focus on climate change and environmental health
- Evidence of experience in climate change and health-related issues
- Strong professional oral and writing skills, including the development of reports
- Fluent in spoken and written English.
- Good communication and facilitation skills.

Technical Guidance:

PAHO Advisor, Climate Change and Health



April 2023

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Expressions of interest and copies of CVs should be sent via email, by **5 May 2023**, to: Dr Karen Polson – Advisor, Climate Change and Health (polsonkar@paho.org). PAHO Unit: Climate and Environmental Determinants of Health (DHE/CE).