

# U.S.-CARIBBEAN PARTNERSHIP TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS 2030 (PACC 2030)

Climate change and rising energy prices are ongoing threats to the Caribbean region. The [U.S.-Caribbean Partnership to Address the Climate Crisis 2030](#) (PACC 2030) is the U.S. government's flagship partnership with the Caribbean to advance climate adaptation and resilience and clean energy cooperation through 2030 as we work toward meeting the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Through PACC 2030, USAID is committing over \$100 million in development funding and over \$40 million in humanitarian funding to partner with the people of the Caribbean to advance PACC 2030 objectives.

Through PACC 2030, USAID renews its commitment to climate resilience and clean energy investment in the Caribbean, namely in Haiti, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and the Eastern and Southern Caribbean. These efforts contribute to USAID's Climate Change Strategy goals on mitigating and adapting to the negative impact of climate change, and build upon USAID's long-standing relationships with governments and communities of the Caribbean to enhance adaptation capacity and resilience across key economic sectors and livelihoods, including tourism, fishing, and agriculture.

USAID contributes to PACC 2030's objectives that are based around 4 pillars: 1) Improving Access to Development Financing; 2) Facilitating Clean Energy Project Development and Investment; 3) Food Security and Enhancing Local Capacity for Climate Adaptation and Resilience; and 4) Deepening Engagement with Caribbean Partners. USAID programs cover countries in the Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, The Bahamas, and Trinidad and Tobago. Below describes some of USAID's existing PACC 2030 initiatives and achievements to date.

# PACC 2030 USAID COMMITMENTS

## I. CLIMATE FINANCE

USAID works with its U.S. government partners to increase partnerships with the public and private sector to stimulate climate financing and investment.

**Barbados Blue-Green Investment Corporation:** In January 2023, USAID announced financial and technical support to help the Government of Barbados set up the Blue-Green Investment Corporation. With an estimated initial capitalization of \$30 million by non-U.S. government partners, this public-private “green bank” is expected to unlock up to \$210 million over three years to finance projects such as climate resilient housing, renewable energy, clean transportation, and water conservation firstly in Barbados, and later expanding to other Caribbean countries.

**Caribbean Climate Investment Program:** USAID is supporting private sector investments in the region for renewable energy, energy efficiency, natural climate solutions and climate adaptation projects by facilitating access to finance, de-risking instruments, and lending products to climate finance seekers. The program provides technical and financial support to private sector enterprises that work with clean energy and climate adaptation projects to help them advance or complete their projects. This program was launched in August 2023.

## 2. RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCING AND REFORM

USAID recognizes that key reforms are needed to remove barriers to private sector investment in the renewable energy sector and unlock new sources of financing.

**Energy Sector Reform Program:** Launched in March 2022, this program works with partners across the region—in the form of technical assistance for energy utilities, ministries, and regulators—to improve utility performance and reduce policy, regulatory, and legal constraints to private investment in clean energy. Through this program, USAID has initiated the first in a series of energy cybersecurity training workshops in the Dominican Republic in December 2022, with the intent to replicate across the region; launched an assessment of the potential for rooftop solar energy expansion in Jamaica in December 2022 and for the Dominican Republic in June 2023; and held a forum in Barbados to forward battery storage systems regulation and adoption in February 2023.

**Strengthening Energy Sector Resilience in Jamaica:** USAID launched a Global Development Alliance with U.S. and Jamaican firms that aims to boost energy sector resilience and enhance business continuity across the island. As of September 2023, the program has engaged more than 100 local companies interested in installing solar, of which 14 have signed contracts to install solar and 5 have solar systems installed and operating, saving thousands of dollars per month in reduced electricity costs. The program engaged 28 financial institutions to link businesses interested in solar investment with relevant financial products, and trained 70 Jamaican energy sector professionals through three internationally-recognized short courses.

### 3. FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

USAID's work aims to build the region's capacity to produce and trade food; improve resilience in the Caribbean to climate change; facilitate access to climate-smart services, tools, and technical assistance; improve disaster risk management; and support the design and development of climate-resilient infrastructure, key economic sectors and livelihoods.

**Caribbean Agricultural Improvement and Production Activity:** Launched in June 2023 for the Eastern and Southern Caribbean, USAID will promote sustainable agricultural practices, increase farmer knowledge via improved extension, formalize smallholder market access by building micro-, small and medium-sized enterprise capacity, and improve the region's access to locally produced food. Support will focus on Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago, while virtual capacity building and knowledge sharing events will be held for stakeholders throughout the Eastern and Southern Caribbean.

**Resilient Agriculture Activity:** This activity supports 1,500 farmers in the Dominican Republic with focused activities on soil fertility and fertilizer best practices, climate-smart agriculture, and local organic fertilizer production to reduce dependence on international markets.

**Climate Adaptation and Biodiversity Conservation in the Dominican Republic:** The Caribbean region faces critical challenges such as watershed degradation, deforestation, and sedimentation which impacts water supply, agriculture, and ecosystems. This program focuses on conserving marine and coastal habitats, including coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds, to benefit biodiversity and the wellbeing of communities residing near Marine Managed Areas (MMAs) in the Dominican Republic.

**Accelerating Climate Change Adaptation:** USAID is supporting the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs) to accelerate climate action and access to finance by strengthening regional institutional capacity through the provision of climate data, data management and modeling tools, and technical assistance to public and private sector organizations involved in the development and execution of climate projects. This activity is expected to directly benefit 500,000 people and indirectly benefit 3,000,000 regionally.

**Advancing Climate Resilience Planning:** USAID supports the Caribbean Islands Higher Education Resilience Consortium (CIHERC) with Northeastern University to advance community-driven climate and economic resilience planning among three vulnerable communities in Barbados and Dominica.

**Sustainable Financing for Regional Conservation:** USAID is working with the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund to support conservation organizations with sustainable resources and capacities for nature-based interventions that support resilience and green-blue economic development opportunities.

**Building Community Resilience in the Eastern and Southern Caribbean:** This program helps coastal communities in the Caribbean become more resilient to the impact of natural hazards by providing grants to local, community organizations undertaking disaster mitigation and resilience related work and capacity building that strengthen local systems.

**Caribbean Climate Resilience Initiative:** Under this program, USAID partnered with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) to reduce countries' vulnerability and improve resilience to disaster risks by supporting the institutionalization of comprehensive disaster management (CDM). CDM is used as the Caribbean's platform for achieving risk reduction by improving the capacity of regional and national institutions to respond to natural disasters and strengthening community systems to manage risks and build resilience to climate-related hazards.

**Strengthening Disaster and Climate Resilience with Meteorological Offices:** USAID partnered with the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) and meteorological offices in the Eastern and Southern Caribbean region to strengthen the region's ability to respond to natural disasters while building climate resilience by improving systems for disaster recovery and response to natural disasters, and strengthening early warning systems to improve response to hydro-meteorological and hydrological systems. Results included improved early warning systems, procurement of drones with LIDAR technologies, development of community-based hazard maps, and installation of water quality and groundwater monitoring stations.

**Policy and Regulatory Reform for Resilience:** USAID helps build capacity for Eastern and Southern Caribbean governments by working closely with CDEMA and specific government ministries to integrate comprehensive disaster into national policies, legislation, and regulations to protect and mitigate risks impacting priority sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and the blue economy. USAID will support public-private partnerships in disaster management and climate change adaptation policy, and will work with National Emergency Management Agencies, youth and other vulnerable groups, civil society entities, and private sector associations.

**Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience:** USAID, through a partnership with the World Food Program, will enhance the capacities of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and its 19 member states and territories to strengthen social protection systems and better prepare for and respond to disasters. USAID partners with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards and climate change by building local response and preparedness capacities, strengthening mechanisms for volunteer engagement in community-led disaster response and contingency planning, and establishing Community Disaster Response Teams across the region. The Ayiti Pi Djanm Resilience Food Security Activity in Haiti will leverage private sector resources and markets to increase and sustain consumption of nutritious foods and create new agricultural livelihood opportunities. In Haiti, USAID also partners with Miyamoto International to increase seismic and storm-resilient infrastructure and with the Pan American Development Foundation to support better watershed management in urban areas.