Terms of Reference

For

First Joint Mission for the

Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience

(PPCR)

In

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

CIF	Climate Investment Fund
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
MTESP	Medium-Term Economic Strategy Paper
NEMO	National Emergency Management Organisation
NESDC	National Economic and Social Development Council
NESDP	National Economic and Social Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group

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Background

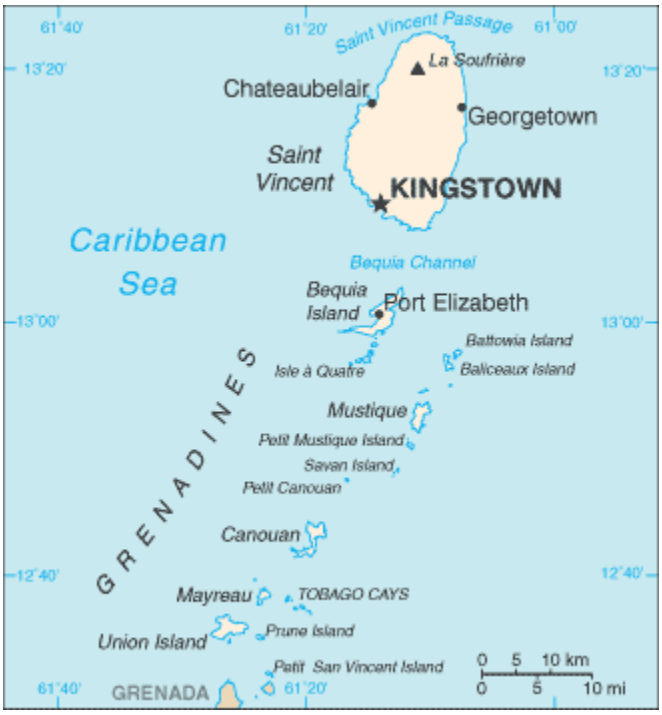
St. Vincent and the Grenadines is a multi-island state located in the Eastern Caribbean. It lies approximately 61° west of the Prime Meridian and 13° north of the Equator; approximately 1, 508 miles (2,427 kilometres) to the south of Miami, Florida, 415 miles (667 kilometres) to the north of Venezuela and 109 miles (175 kilometres) to the east of Barbados, 21 miles (34 kilometres) to the south of St. Lucia.

Figure 1: Map of the Caribbean.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The total land area is 150 square miles, approximately 96,000 acres and is seen as one of the biodiversity hotspots of the Caribbean. In addition, the country has an exclusive economic zone covering 10,000 square miles.

Figure 2: Map of St. Vincent and the Grenadines



The islands that comprise St. Vincent and the Grenadines are volcanic in origin. As a result, mainland St. Vincent, the largest of the chain (133 square miles) is especially rugged, and not much endowed with flat lands. Consequently, the vast majority of the settlements lay along coastal areas.

The rugged terrain of St. Vincent is covered with wet upland forests, numerous rivers and black sand beaches reflecting their volcanic origin. The island's soils are fertile with rainfall supporting a wide variety of agricultural commodities of which bananas are the most important cash crop. Yet, a scarcity of flat agricultural land, among other things, has caused encroachment into steep slopes at higher elevations, contributing to land-slides and increased sediment transport. At the same time, the pattern of coastal settlements has enhanced our vulnerabilities to storm surge.

The Grenadine islands are much smaller and less rugged than St. Vincent. They are lined with white sandy beaches due to coral reef deposition. These islands are severely vulnerable to rising sea-levels. In addition, the marine biodiversity, which is important to our livelihood, is hampered by changing water temperatures. This

change in temperature has contributed to coral bleaching and other adverse effects to the underwater habitat. Meanwhile, more intensive tourism development is affecting water quality and placing stress on near shore coral reefs in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. As an initial response, the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has instituted measures to protect the biodiversity Tobago Cays, an area heavily visited by yacht. The area was also designated as a marine sanctuary.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines has an open, developing economy which is heavily dependent on tourism and agriculture, which along with the following make St. Vincent and the Grenadines vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. These include:

(a) geographic location within the hurricane belt and with strong observed fluctuations on rainfall seasonality;
(b) small size. The total land mask is 150 square miles (389 km^2);
(c) location of main population centers, 85 percent of the population, lie on a narrow coastal strip less than 5 m above sea level and less than 5 km from the high-water mark;
(d) location of infrastructure to support these population centers -- roads, telephone and electricity lines, transmission centers, water lines, airports, and marine centers accounting for more than 80 percent of the island's total infrastructure base -- fall within this area;
(e) rugged and steep topography. As a result, the islands are prone to landslides and sediment flow.
(f) limited access to international financial resources.

Climatologists have warned that climate change is likely to affect the intensity and frequency of Natural disasters such as hurricanes. Further, according to the World Development Indicators 2006, and as cited in the St, Vincent and the Grenadines Article IV consultation by the IMF, the country is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters. Using data from 1970-2005, the researchers compiled an index to convey and rank vulnerability of countries across the globe to natural disasters. In terms of land area, SVG was ranked as 2nd most disaster prone country in the world. In terms of population, it was ranked fifth. *See Table 1.* Combined with our small size, a single disaster event can be devastating to an entire country.

Table 1: World Incidence of Natural Disasters, 1970-2005

Worldwide Incidence of Natural Disasters, 1970-2005

	All Recorder Disasters				
		Number of Events Divided by Land Area		Number of Events Divided by Population	
	Number of Events	Index	Rank	Index	Rank
All countries	7,963	100	93	100	93
Advanced economies	1,601	10	103	37	113
Caribbean	272	631	23	400	29
ECCU	50	784	7	786	7
Antigua and Barbuda	7	679	7	717	6
Dominica	9	512	12	1,037	3
Grenada	6	753	5	467	11
St. Kitts and Nevis	7	829	4	1,210	2
St. Lucia	9	619	10	451	12
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	**12**	**1,312**	**2**	**836**	**5**
Other Caribbean	222	540	34	168	43
Other	6,090	55	98	77	96

Sources: EM-DAT for data on natural disasters; World Bank Indicators for data on land area and population

In light of the aforementioned, the Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience is an excellent mechanism to allow St. Vincent and the Grenadines to create an effective climate resilience framework. It also allows St. Vincent and the Grenadines to enhance existing climate change programmes thereby improving its resilience to climate change.

Timeframe

The first joint mission for the PPCR project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is scheduled for the period **August 26th to 27th 2010**. This period should be sufficient to undertake this joint mission, given the magnitude of work already conducted by stakeholders and the level of consensus built.

Objectives of Mission

The objectives of this joint mission are:

1. To build consensus between the goals of the CIF funding team and the PPCR stakeholders in St. Vincent and the Grenadines;
2. To highlight the prerequisite actions to aid St. Vincent and the Grenadines to formulate a Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR);
3. To finalize Terms of Reference for the Consultant(s) for Phase 1 of the PPCR;
4. To consult with the TWG and other Stakeholders on the Phase 1 proposal;
5. To finalize phase 1 proposal.

Scope of Work

In light of the aforementioned objectives, the joint mission is expected to, *inter alia*:

1. Conduct a preliminary assessment of activities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines as it relates to climate resilience.
2. Assess the institutional capacities of the implementation stakeholders of the PPCR.
3. Conduct discussions with the focal point of the PPCR in St. Vincent and the Grenadines as well as members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) and other stakeholders.

Expected Mission Outcomes

1. Phase 1 proposal would be finalized;
2. An Aide memoire on activities undertaken with details of consultations held during the joint mission in St. Vincent and the Grenadines would be produced;
3. Documentation of input for the development of an Investment Plan;
4. Documentation of input for SPCR component of this project;
5. Enhanced awareness and clarity of the PPCR project;
6. Consensus on goals and objectives of the PPCR project between financiers and implementation partners;
7. Identification of areas of overlap between the PPCR project, the World Bank funded Disaster Reduction project, and the Sustainable Financing Mechanism of Eastern Caribbean Ecosystems project;
8. A schedule of target areas of cooperation between these three (3) above-mentioned projects;
9. Establishment of collaborative mechanisms between the three (3) above-mentioned projects.

Composition of Mission

St. Vincent and the Grenadines anticipates that the cadre of personnel that comprise the mission team should, among other things, include the following skills:

1. Geographic Information System mapping;
2. Storm Surge monitoring and modeling;
3. Meteorological modeling;
4. Coastal Zone Management;
5. Climate change monitoring;
6. Disaster Management.

Composition of Local Accompanying Team

1. Representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
2. Representatives from the Ministry of Health and the Environment
3. A representative from the National Emergency Management Organisation

Local Agencies for discussions

1. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
    - Director of Planning
2. SVG Hotel and Tourism Association
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
    - Chief Agricultural Officer
    - Forestry Division
    - Fisheries Division
4. Ministry of Health and the Environment
    - Environmental Management Department
5. Ministry of Tourism
    - St. Vincent and the Grenadines' National Parks Authority
    - St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Tourism Authority
6. Ministry of Social Development.
7. National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO)
8. Ministry of Housing, Informal Human Settlements, Physical Planning, Lands and Surveys.
9. Central Water and Sewage Authority
10. St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Meteorological Office

11. St. Vincent and the Grenadines' National Trust