



# Summary of DFID's work in the Caribbean 2011-2015

June 2013

## Why we work in the Caribbean

The Caribbean region matters to the UK. There are strong historical and cultural links and twelve Caribbean countries are Commonwealth members. Many countries in the Caribbean have reached middle-income status and are on track to achieve most of the Millennium Development Goals. But the Caribbean is particularly vulnerable in three main areas:

- High levels of debt, slow economic growth, and having to adjust to the loss of historical trade preferences;
- The effects of climate change and impact of natural disasters – 60% of the population, and nearly all tourism, is located within 1.5 km of the coast; the severity of frequency of severe weather events is increasing;
- Organised crime, drug trafficking and gang violence have resulted in the highest regional murder rates in the world. Well established criminal networks threaten stability and hinder investment.



A trainee carpenter helps refurbish the All Saints community centre in New Amsterdam, Guyana, along with other women workers as part of a vocational training course funded by DFID through UNDP's Enhancing Public Trust, Security and Inclusion programme

## What we expect to achieve

Between 2011 and 2015, our £75 million development programme is expected to deliver the following results:

- Create 10,000 new jobs, 50% of them for women;
- Increase the number of people living in Jamaica with trust and confidence in the police by 11%;
- Enable 228,000 people in coastal communities, including small farmers, to better cope with the effects of climate change and natural disasters;
- Increase the average score of Caribbean countries in the World Bank 'Ease of Doing Business Index' by 20%;
- Empower communities to demand better services and greater accountability from decision makers

## What's our approach

Our programme during 2011 - 2015 is focused on the region's main vulnerabilities:

- The **wealth creation** programme is helping to create business opportunities and jobs by enabling the private sector to develop innovative products and services to strengthen regional exports. DFID helps to implement trade agreements, promote business environment reforms that improve competitiveness and reduce the cost of doing business in the region.
- The **security and governance** programme supports the Jamaican Government in its fight against corruption and crime and help to restore good police/community relations. DFID offers alternatives to crime to those people in Jamaica (mainly young men), who live in some of the

world's most violent communities. DFID is also helping Caribbean governments to tackle organised crime by using existing legislation to seize criminals' assets.

- The **climate change** programme is helping people in vulnerable, coastal communities prepare for and cope with the impact of natural disasters and climate change - 60% of the population lives within 1.5 km of the coast. DFID is supporting the development of affordable insurance products for small businesses and farmers to protect their incomes when a disaster strikes, and is giving practical support to protect homes from flooding, storms and rising sea levels. We are also providing support to strengthen the Caribbean's position in global negotiations and its access to resources from global funds.



A banana farmer in St Lucia making his way to town to sell his produce. In the Caribbean region, the income and livelihood of farmers are most vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters.

## Who we will work with

DFID Caribbean is working with Caribbean Governments and other bilateral donors such as the Canadian International Development Agency and the US Agency for International Development to improve governance and security. Our UK partners include the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Home Office, the Serious Organised Crime Agency, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Metropolitan Police.

Our wealth creation initiatives are being implemented through multilateral and regional partners, such as the Inter-American Development Bank, Caribbean Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund. DFID is building on existing relationships with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency to deliver our support for climate change and disaster risk reduction. We also continue to work with the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the Department for Energy and Climate Change.

## How we will work

In the current financial climate, we have a duty to show that we are achieving value for money in everything we do. We are determined to get value for money for every hard-earned taxpayer pound spent on development in the Caribbean.

**Value for money:** DFID Caribbean will develop a value for money strategy to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness throughout our programme.

**Transparency:** DFID regards transparency as fundamental to improving its accountability to both UK and Caribbean citizens. We will publish clear, concise information about our programmes, providing the opportunity for those affected by our projects to provide feedback.

## More information

For a more detailed breakdown of DFID's Operational Plan for the Caribbean, please visit

[www.gov.uk/government/world/organisations/dfid-caribbean](http://www.gov.uk/government/world/organisations/dfid-caribbean)

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