Regional NDC Dialogues for Latin America and Caribbean

Shifting the Caribbean paradigm towards a climate and disaster risk- resilient tourism industry

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Considering the events that have affected the Caribbean region, building resilience in the tourism sector is vital, an activity that is responsible for the economic development of many of the areas that are continuously devastated by disasters.

ECLAC indicates that, although for Latin American, tourism revenues are only equivalent to 1.8% of their GDP (1980-2008 period), for the Caribbean sub-region this percentage rises to 16.6%.

Considering the effects of the 2017 hurricane season alone, the Caribbean was affected in the following:

• Over $1 billion lost in tourism revenue
• A decrease of 826,100 visitors in 2017, which could have generated $741 million, and supported 11,005 jobs

Source: World Travel & Tourism Council: The Impact of the 2017 Hurricane Season on the Caribbean’s Tourism Sector
Economic losses related to disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones and floods are reaching an average of 300 billion dollars per year. For many countries, the potential economic losses related to climate disasters is growing faster than their GDP.

**Figure 1. Disaster impact trends over the last 45 years**

Source: CRED EM-DATA database.
Disaster Risk Expected to Increase in the Caribbean due to Climate Change: AAL for the Caribbean and Central America without and with Climate Change (right).

More needs to be done at all levels to reduce climate and disaster risks. We must prepare for unprecedented weather events, which are likely to grow in severity and frequency.
• Risk-informed Sustainable development based is an absolute necessity and should be considered in our investment policies and criteria.

• Face to climate change, the resilience gap will only grow unless there is an investment that reduces the existing risk, and sound policies are implemented to ensure that new risks are not generated through poorly informed investments in areas as in the tourism, transport, public services and public & private sectors.

Opportunities:
- Sendai Frameorktargt indictors aligned to SDGs and Paris
- Suporting linking NAPS-CWPs (CDM) /National DRR Strategies
- ARISE Caribbean Regional Mechanism: Chambers of Commerce from Caribbean.
- Regional Network for Climate Change and DRR (Sectors Economy and Finance)
- Global Frameworks cannot be implemented in separate boxes, or sequentially.
  Unacknowledged, unaddressed and unknown risks sit at the heart of the global threat to sustainable development.
Thank you

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