

# Gender in Dominica

Promoting Gender Equality through UNDP's work



Welcome to the 2nd edition of the monthly Dominica Gender Bulletin where we highlight gender specific developmental activities and gender work embedded in UNDP Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean projects in Dominica.

## SUPPORTING WOMEN IN FARMING

UNDP strengthens the capacity of Dominica's female farmers in Disaster Management. During the month of March 2021, 16 female and 2 male farmers from the parishes of St Patrick, St. Paul and St. David received tools to assist them in preparing for, mitigating against, and adapting to pending farm disasters. This is one of three microfinance initiatives under the Strengthening Disaster Management Capacity of Women in the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and Dominica project, and these 18 farmers are the first of 200 targeted to receive tools and materials.



The other aspects of the microfinance facility are grants to female farmer groups, and the creation of a microfinance facility. The project supports all farmers but targets female farmers to ensure that their needs are duly met as they are often first respondents

during disasters, yet their contributions are not sufficiently recognized or acknowledged; and consequently their specific gender needs are not met.



This project is funded by the government of Japan and implemented in close collaboration with the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica. Key partners are the Ministry of Blue and Green economy with Extension Officers playing a vital and positive role; the Dominica Meteorological Office; Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology; University of Reading; and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

## GENDER MAINSTREAMING: A SMALL GRANTS PROJECT (SGP) REQUIREMENT



Among the current SGP projects, is a women-led bay leaf operation, women-led greenhouse project, a care home catering to the needs of women and men and two environmentally-friendly tourism projects, both led by women. These ventures, like all SGP approved community projects must address core elements, namely:

1. Gender leadership audit: assessment of decision-making process and control over/access to environmental, political and economic resources
2. Identification and addressing of gender gaps or existing inequalities within the community.
3. Identification and addressing of gender sensitive issues through the design and proposed implementation plan
4. Explicit mechanisms in place to ensure that the project is participatory and benefits both females and males throughout the project cycle.



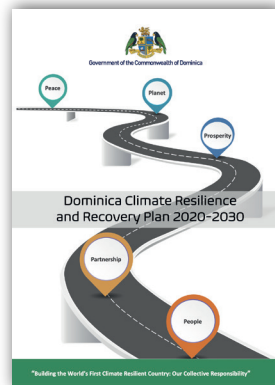
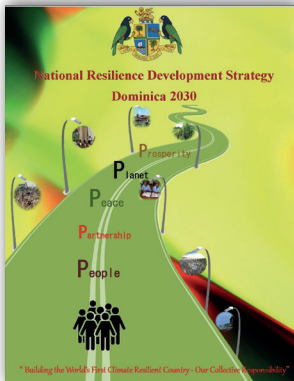
SGP works from the principle that mainstreaming from the project design stage will lead to improved gender participation and empowerment of women at all project stages – implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

## GENDER ON THE BOOKS

CREAD shares two gender inclusive guiding documents

The National Resilient Development Strategy (NRDS) and the Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP) of the Commonwealth of Dominica are two documents developed with gender equity outcomes as part of their aims.

These two documents are at the heart of Dominica's plan to become the first Climate Resilient Country in the world. The Climate Resilience Execution Agency for Dominica (CREAD) has ensured that not only are the documents gender inclusive, but that gender is also integrated in the monitoring plan with the ultimate goal of gender mainstreaming. This goal of Gender Mainstreaming is in keeping with the requirements of CREAD's donor agencies.



## INCLUDING GENDER IN



Gender-focus in the management of protected areas in Dominica.

The Supporting Sustainable Ecosystem by Strengthening the Effectiveness of Commonwealth of Dominica's Protected Areas System (SSE) project supports the Forestry Division with the management of the protected areas within Dominica. This support includes coordinating and monitoring projects in the protected areas. Two project outcomes have been a Co-management Plan and a Biodiversity Assessment of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park, World heritage Site. Both documents have been developed with the input of female professionals and the co-management plan ensures that the needs of female users have been integrated in provisions. The SSE comes to an end on 14 April, 2021

## DOMINICA MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER TO ENGENDERING ITS NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC) COMMITMENTS

Through the support of the EnGenDER project, the Government of Dominica moves one step closer to engendering the country's NDC commitments. With the upcoming NDC Gender Mainstreaming Roadmap: Virtual Validation Session in May 2021, the Government of Dominica stands ready to translate its gender ambitions into concrete goals and actions. This is because the Roadmap supports the institutional strengthening of interagency and inter-ministerial coordination across Ministries and departments to support effective gender mainstreaming of climate change actions in the Commonwealth of Dominica.

## GENDER SENSITIVE LIVELIHOODS PROJECT LAUNCHED IN THE KALINAGO TERRITORY

The UNDP Project Office in Dominica has launched a new project in the Kalinago Territory, with an opening ceremony at the Kalinago Barana Autê on April 15th 2021. "Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience in the Kalinago Territory" officially started in February 2021 and will run for 18-months



ending in June 2022. The initiative which is funded by the Government of India under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund is facilitated by UNDP Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean and lead implementing local partners including the Ministry of the Environment, Rural Modernisation and Kalinago Upliftment and the Kalinago Council, with the support of the Ministry of Blue and Green and Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and the Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives. The project received USD 1 Million from the Indian Government with the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica contributing approximately USD 331,000 and allocating approximately 11.9 acres of land.

The four focal areas of the project include strengthening sustainable agricultural production and practices; designing and implementing gender balanced community reforestation programmes to protect livelihoods and water catchment areas; developing a comprehensive gender-sensitive tourism strategy and Kalinago brand; and boosting institutional capacities of the Kalinago Council for inclusive decision making and planning. Gender is highlighted in each of the four focal areas with a view to securing equitable opportunities for women and men and ensuring that they are equally involved in decision making and design.