



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



CariSECURE

Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making
for Citizen Security in the Caribbean

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
AUGUST - OCTOBER 2020

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CariSECURE's Work Continues with Additional US\$1.45 Million in Funding from USAID

The “Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean” (CariSECURE) project has made significant strides in enhancing the way data is used to reduce crime and improve crime prevention in the region. The project, which started in 2016, was recently extended until September 30, 2021, through additional funding from USAID of US\$1.45 million, bringing the total implementation budget to US\$9.16 million.

This additional funding will be pivotal in allowing the project to continue its worthwhile work to advance data-driven policing through digital platforms in the Caribbean. Data is one of the most essential, enabling and empowering tools in identifying vulnerable youth, understanding the factors causing them to become involved in crime, and designing targeted programs that will reduce their involvement in delinquency. As such the CariSECURE team is poised to effectively utilize this extension to solidify the impact of its work in the region.

Through partnering with governments and local law enforcement, CariSECURE focusses on refining the way crime data is collected, analyzed and used for decision making. Thus far, the project has inspired changes in attitudes, beliefs, awareness, and expectations. Combined with more tangible gains, this progress could move countries closer to the ultimate objective of ensuring a comprehensive and sustainable system for crime and violence data collection, analysis and use for effective policymaking.

CariSECURE is a component of the USAID Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Project and represents a partnership between USAID and UNDP, and contributes to the attainment of U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 16 – promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies – and by extension, U.N. Agenda 2030.



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AMOUNT: USD 1,450,000

DATE: September 29, 2020

Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean Extended to September 30, 2021

CariSECURE
Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making
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CariSECURE Initiates Project Working Groups (PWGs) in Target Countries

Over the last quarter, CariSECURE has commenced the introduction of Project Working Groups (PWGs) within target countries. The newly introduced forum seeks to advance the implementation of the project's activities and outputs at the national level by combining the expertise of national partners within the citizen security ecosystem, other key stakeholders and the CariSECURE Project team. More specifically, the objective of the PWG is to address the data and system gaps of CariSECURE at the national level and to complement the efforts of the National Task Force (NTF) to implement CariSECURE's activities in beneficiary countries.

CariSECURE's Team Leader John Walcott introduced the PWG concept during the recently held series of National Task Force (NTF) meetings and urged beneficiary countries to set about establishing these bodies with haste. To guide countries in the commencement of their working groups, the project has created a draft Terms of Reference for PWGs, that outlines their objectives, responsibilities, proposed membership and sustainability arrangements.

Since Mr. Walcott's call to action, the teams in St. Kitts and Nevis have been proactive in establishing their PWG and have held two meetings on September 1st and October 6th respectively. Terry Morris, CariSECURE's National Officer in St. Kitts and Nevis spoke on members' collective sentiment about the PWG and its usefulness in strengthening their level of commitment and providing an opportunity for a more involved and active approach towards their contribution to the project. "It was hailed by all agencies present as a welcomed move to ensure accountability with the delivery of expected project outputs, sharing of ideas, more 'hands on deck' and a greater sense of sustainability," said Morris.

PWG Member Mr. Pierre Liburd, echoed Morris' sentiments stating "The PWG provides a valuable opportunity to note and inform the progress of the project. It allows for stakeholders to ensure that their program perspectives and needs are considerate and that the project is ultimately success."

Similarly, Guyana's PWG convened its first meeting on October 7th and is already reaping the benefits of the new working group. The forum facilitated an opportunity for Guyana's Technical Working Group (TWG) for the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) to present United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) report on the country's draft ICCS Correspondence Table. Following this presentation to the PWG, concrete steps have been taken towards implementing some of UNODC's recommendations, including the commencement of coding of the Sexual Offenses Act; and the dispatch of official correspondence from the Ministry of Home Affairs to the Office of the Attorney General for support with the review of the tables with a timeline of December 2020 for resubmission to UNODC.

Guyana's TWG leader Ms. Rianna Cumberbatch in her remarks to the PWG explained, "the ICCS process is a dynamic one and based on UNODC's feedback, additional work is required. The PWG was an excellent opportunity to share our experience with the ICCS and garner further support for the completion of this important exercise."

Saint Lucia has scheduled its first PWG for October 29th and the remaining beneficiary countries have committed to convening their working groups in the near future. The CariSECURE team is excited about the establishment of these national working groups and their prospect for facilitating discourse around national crime and security data management, constraints and opportunities for improvement in country.





CariSECURE Signs Contract for Police Records Management Information System (PRMIS)

CariSECURE announces its contract award for the Police Records Management Information System (PRMIS) to software development company, Softengi.

CariSECURE recently concluded its in-depth review and selection process for the procurement of a software partner to develop PRMIS. The PRMIS platform will be a robust web enabled Integrated Management Information System in support of automated data collection, analysis, and sharing, governed by data security protocol, amongst beneficiary police forces. The PRMIS solution emanates from a Caribbean-wide Human Development Report (CHDR) on Citizens' Security looking at the social aspects of security which impact on citizen safety, youth violence, education, unemployment, inequality, inclusive economic growth, migration, and substance abuse. One of the primary recommendations from the study was the urgent need for the Caribbean to shift from traditional concepts of state security to a broader multidimensional concept that focuses on citizen security and safety and wellbeing of Caribbean citizens.

Therefore, CariSECURE intends to achieve two components: 1) improving the quality, comparability and reliability of data and information on youth crime and violence; 2) strengthening regional collaboration and networking on youth crime and violence. These components are to be achieved by improving regional and national institutional capacity to collect, monitor, and analyze citizen security and apply it to decision-making and policy formulation at both regional and national levels.

Softengi is a project-proven technology partner for private and public organizations as well as transnational institutions and NGOs from around the world. Their portfolio includes more than 950 successfully implemented projects in Europe, CIS, North America, Caribbean, Asia and Australia. These projects, along with the company's international certification and clients' recognition confirms the highest quality of service and qualifications of their business and technology experts. Softengi also satisfies international quality standards for software development confirmed by their Information Security

Management Standard ISO/IEC 27001 and Quality Management System ISO 9001:2015 Certification, and regular listings to the Global Outsourcing 100 by IAOP.

CariSECURE is hence committed to strengthening evidenced-based decision making for citizen security in the Caribbean, and welcomes this strategic partnership for the development and delivery of PRMIS which will be available and implemented in Q3 2021 to all CariSECURE beneficiary countries.

Speaking on the implementation of the system, CariSECURE Team Leader John Walcott stated,

“The accelerated nature of this development combines both the urgency and the necessity of digital transformation for the rule of law and CariSECURE’s lead for the framework of an Integrated Justice Management Information System for the Caribbean.”

The PRMIS platform facilitates citizen security data collection for Incident/Crime Reporting; Warrants, Arrests and Bookings; Firearms; Traffic Incidents and Wanted Person/Persons of Interest; to name a few.

In receipt of the contract award, Softengi CEO Gennadiy Axion said,

“On behalf of the large Softengi family I would like to greet all the participants of the PRMIS project. I am excited that our company has become a part of such a remarkable project for the Caribbean region. Moreover, I am absolutely positive that together we will make a significant contribution in ensuring and maintaining global security.”



PRMIS now has the green light for its development to impact and standardize crime data collection for target countries in their policing and citizen security needs.

Suriname One Step Closer to ICCS Completion



First phase finalized

During September the CariSECURE Suriname team completed the first draft of the extraction and coding process required for the completion of Suriname's ICCS Correspondence Tables. Participants met virtually to design a work plan and remained on schedule, despite the country's COVID-19 related lockdown. Police Forces provided information on the 50 most commonly reported offenses through police stations and participants worked together to determine the best-suited ICCS category and description.

Renewed commitment to ICCS completion

After general elections held earlier in 2020, the newly appointed Minister of Justice and Police, Kenneth Amoksi, expressed his commitment to resolving the delay in program implementation and ensuring more attention

was paid to the completion of the coding and mapping exercise. With this reaffirmation from the leader of justice in Suriname, the team continues to be engaged and is convinced that with the renewed commitment of the Government, the process will be finalized and country-approved in the first weeks of December 2020.

The ICCS coding and mapping exercise will especially be beneficial for the country as it will lead to improved quality of data on crime and criminal justice at the national level and will effectively facilitate more efficient analysis of crime.

CariSECURE PIF Featured on National Radio in Saint Kitts and Nevis



The CariSECURE Project was given a boost in visibility as part of a Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF)-initiated special education and awareness campaign to increase public knowledge of the recently introduced Police Incident Form (PIF). Readiness Manager, Superintendent Cromwell Henry, and Data Manager, Sargeant Winston Thompson, were guests on the weekly Radio Program of the RSCNPF “Policing with You” aired August 20th, 2020 live on National Radio ZIZ.

In their introductory remarks, which provided general information about the Police Incident Form, the Officers also acknowledged the contributions of UNDP Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean and USAID as implementing and funding agencies, respectively. The program, which extended way past the usual forty-five minutes period, because of immense interest, evolved into discourse with the general public who asked questions via a live call-in segment. Many calls were entertained from listeners; some of whom welcomed the introduction of the PIF, while others sought more details on the merits of the innovative feature.

Reports from the Police Public Relations Officer indicate that this first feature on “Policing with You” reached a wide cross section of Kittitians and Nevisians at home and across the diaspora. In addition to the many individuals who tuned in via radio, the listenership included approximately 2,000 persons from ZIZ’s Facebook page and over 900 more on the Police Force’s page.

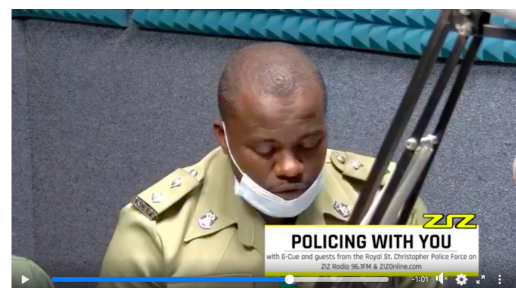
The broadcast certainly piqued the interest of listeners and evoked the need for follow-up programs to increase public awareness. This augurs well for further validation of the Police Incident Form as an innovative outcome of the CariSECURE project.



NATIONAL
New Police Incident Form To Be Introduced [Read](#)
On Aug 21, 2020



Policing with You - August 20, 2020 [Watch](#)
ZIZ Broadcasting Corporation was live. August 20



Policing with You - August 20, 2020 [Watch](#)
ZIZ Broadcasting Corporation was live. August 20

Nine Caribbean Countries Leading the Way in Data-Driven Crime Prevention

Everyone has a role to play in ensuring the Caribbean is crime-free and that citizen security remains an important facet of development. As such the CariSECURE project is committed to strengthening evidenced-based decision making for citizen security throughout the region. Under the project's purview nine Caribbean countries are leading the way in data-driven crime prevention and are now certified in Crime Analysis.

Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago recently participated in a 7-month Regional Crime Analysis Training Course from the Arizona State University to bolster their individual and collective competencies to enhance regional citizen security and employ reliable data to crime prevention efforts. The thirty-one newly certified officials who include Police, Statistical Officers and other Government Officials, are now equipped to generate crime intelligence and analytics that will strengthen their country's response to combating youth crime and violence.

The program covered topics such as evidence-based policing; pattern recognition; intelligence and social network analysis, and geographic data and crime mapping.

The teams were overjoyed that their hard-work and dedication were rewarded, specifically the Saint Lucian team who won "Best Overall Team". In celebration, Delvin Mathurin expressed his gratitude for the training stating, "the training has indeed enhanced our capabilities in crime analysis and we are now better able to develop reports which will allow our executives to effectively execute their plans." Members from other teams relayed their thanks to CariSECURE, UNDP and USAID, "even during the COVID-19 lock-down period, tremendous assistance was provided and that I believe, is noteworthy" said Jefferson Blackman from Barbados. The Crime Analysis Component, made robust through the completion of the certification, is a key activity under the CariSECURE and strengthened the capacity of participants to analyze data, increased their ability to overcome the challenges faced when collecting reliable data and has enhanced regional police forces' competence in the development of citizen security policies and strategies based on evidence extracted from Crime Analysis Reports.

Several countries and agencies received Honorary Mention and Special Awards for case studies and course projects including:

- **Saint Lucia: Awarded "Best Overall Team"**
- **Guyana: Honorary Mention for "Strategic Analysis Report on Gangs"**
- **St Kitts and Nevis: Honorary Mention for "Tactical Analysis Report"**
- **Trinidad and Tobago: Honorary Mention for "Administrative Analysis Report"**
- **Barbados: Honorary Mention for "GIS Analysis"**
- **Antigua and Barbuda: Honorary Mention for "Administrative Analysis Report"**
- **Grenada: Honorary Mention for "Strategic Analysis Report Homicide"**
- **Regional Security System (RSS): Honorary Mention for "Tactical Analysis Report"**
- **CARICOM IMPACS: Honorary Mention for "Link Analysis"**

