



SMART HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN PROJECT - PHASE II

PROJECT DURATION:	June 2015 to June 2020
TARGET COUNTRIES:	Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:	Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) Department of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief in partnership with the Ministry of Health in each target country
DONOR SUPPORT:	United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)

BACKGROUND

Natural hazards and climatic extremes, like hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and storm surge can cause significant disruption of health services and economic losses. Downtime, during and after an extreme event, limits the ability of health facilities to provide emergency care to victims and ongoing healthcare for their communities.

Many health facilities in the Caribbean are located in areas of high risk and need strengthening in the face of repeated damage or increasing climate threats. Health care facilities can also be large consumers of energy, with a significant environmental footprint. With energy prices in the Caribbean among the highest in the world, savings could be better used on improving services.

The 'Smart Health Care Facilities in the Caribbean' project, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) was implemented by PAHO/WHO in partnership with the Ministries of Health in target countries. A regional building code annex, guideline and toolkit for retrofitting existing or new facilities was developed and tested in two countries. The toolkit provides a step by step guide and includes the Hospital Safety Index (HSI), Baseline Assessment Tool (BAT), Green Checklist and utilises cost-benefit analysis to support investment decision making. Scale up of the project, also supported by DFID, will be implemented in seven (7) Caribbean countries: Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

AIM: To provide safer, greener health facilities to deliver care in disasters

RESULTS

Output #1:

All healthcare facilities will be assessed for disaster safety, water and energy consumption. This will provide a roadmap for risk reduction investment as well as green measures and be incorporated into the national risk exposure database of each country.

Output #2:

SMART Standards will be implemented in selected health care facilities in Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Output #3:

National and regional capacity will be developed to promote climate smart health facility standards. This includes:

- Health workers and users of the facilities;
- Other sectors and climate change platforms or programmes;
- Technical stakeholders (construction, engineering; architects etc.); and
- Media.

For more information, please visit: www.paho.org/disasters/caribbean

