

Climate-Resilient Water Sector in Grenada (G-CREWS) Project Summary

Without decisive action to enhance the water sector's climate resilience, the people and ecosystems of Grenada will face increasingly serious climate-induced water scarcity over the next three decades. Climate change poses a severe threat to Grenada's water supply because the small island developing state (SIDS) relies on surface water sources and rainwater catchment. Water is a scarce resource in Grenada and climate change has already begun to aggravate the problem with an increasing average temperature and more erratic rainfall. More frequent heavy rainfall events make water supply outages more common due to high turbidity in the raw water supply. Saltwater intrusion in coastal groundwater aquifers due to sea level rise will further reduce the availability of freshwater in the future. The Vulnerability Assessment (VA) undertaken as part of the G-CREWS project preparation also indicates the water sector's high level of exposure, sensitivity and limited adaptive capacity to cope with climate change impacts. In order to avoid critical climate-induced water shortages in the future, this project supports Grenada's water sector in both reducing its water demand and improving water availability so that Grenada is able to ensure resilience to climate variability and expected future climate change until 2050. The main objective of the G-CREWS project is to increase systemic climate change resilience in Grenada's water sector.

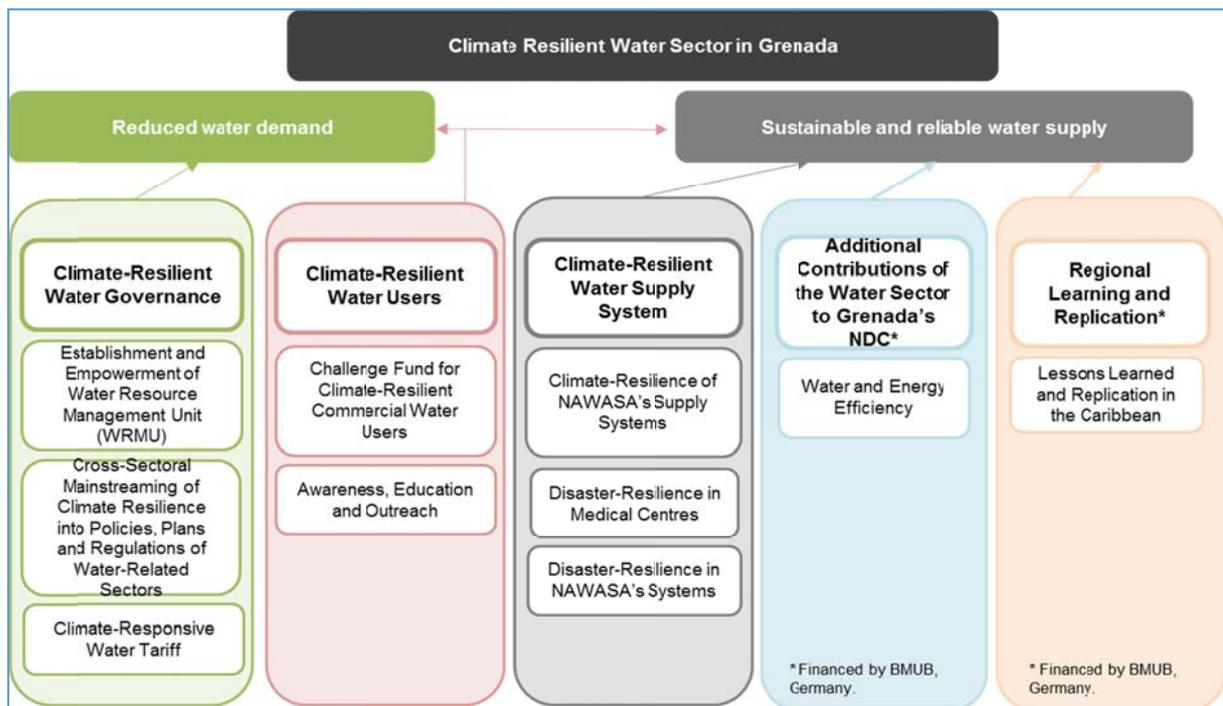
To achieve its objective, the project supports the water sector's comprehensive transformation on multiple levels, which represents a nationwide 'paradigm shift' for Grenada's overall resilience. This paradigm shift will include citizens and businesses as water users, the public sector as provider of potable water and infrastructure, and behavioural changes triggered through appropriate governance, regulation, economic incentives and raising awareness.

As part of the water governance component, a Water Resources Management Unit (WRMU) will be set up to manage water resources. One of the tasks of the WRMU will be to define regulations for water allocation, for water resource protection and more efficient water use e.g. in building. These new regulations which will integrate the impacts of climate variability and climate change.

Almost 2/3 of the GCF grant will be used to upgrade the existing water storage infrastructure, as well as the implementation of a climate resilient management plan for existing and new infrastructure in all parishes in Grenada, and the provision of water storage at medical facilities. It will also upgrade the water supply infrastructure on Carriacou through connecting water users with a piped system to the existing Craigston desalination plant. Overall, 45'000 people in Grenada will be directly benefitting from water infrastructure improvements.

Finally, the project will include a comprehensive package to help water users better manage their water needs. The project will see the set-up of a fund to provide grants for part funding of investments in water-efficient equipment and appliances for the tourism and agricultural sectors, as well as measures for household and community awareness and education. Approx. 350 farmers and almost 50 hotels and guesthouse which will be able to receive grant subsidies for water efficiency measures. And all people in Grenada will benefit from the improved regulatory framework conditions, which will support water resources protection and hence help to ensure long-term availability of sufficient water resources.

This translates into the following five components: (see graph below): (1) Climate-Resilient Water Governance; (2) Climate-Resilient Water Users; (3) Climate-Resilient Water Supply System; (4) Additional Contributions of the Water Sector to Grenada’s NDC (financed by BMUB, Germany); (5) Regional learning and replication (financed by BMUB, Germany).



The expected total costs of the G-CREWS project are EUR 42.300 million. This includes the GCF financing of EUR 35.533 million, Grenada’s contributions of EUR 4.267 million, and the contribution of the Germany’s Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) of EUR 2.500 million.

The German Development Cooperation, GIZ, acts as the Accredited Entity which submitted the project to the GCF. It will work closely with Ministry of Finance, the Grenada Development Bank, the Environment Division and NAWASA for the implementation of G-CREWS.

The project proposal has been written by the Government of Grenada and the GIZ under the “Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Strategies (ICCAS)”, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) under its International Climate Initiative (IKI). ICCAS is implemented jointly by the Environment Division at the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The development of the project proposal also benefited from additional direct financial support from GIZ Headquarter in Germany.