

The Development and Use of the Caribbean Risk Management Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation Decision Making

Carlos Fuller

Regional and International Liaison
Officer

Caricom Climate Change Centre

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

Endorsed by the CARICOM Heads of Government in July 2002

An intergovernmental specialized agency of CARICOM with an independent management that is guided by

The CARICOM Council of Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on policy matters.

A board of directors with responsibility for strategic planning.

A technical secretariat headed by an Executive Director with responsibility for tactical planning.

The Centre is mandated to coordinate the regional response to climate change and its efforts to manage and adapt to its projected impacts.

The Centre possesses full juridical personality.

Financially independent



- ◆ **Operational since January 2004**
- ◆ **Located in Belmopan, Belize**

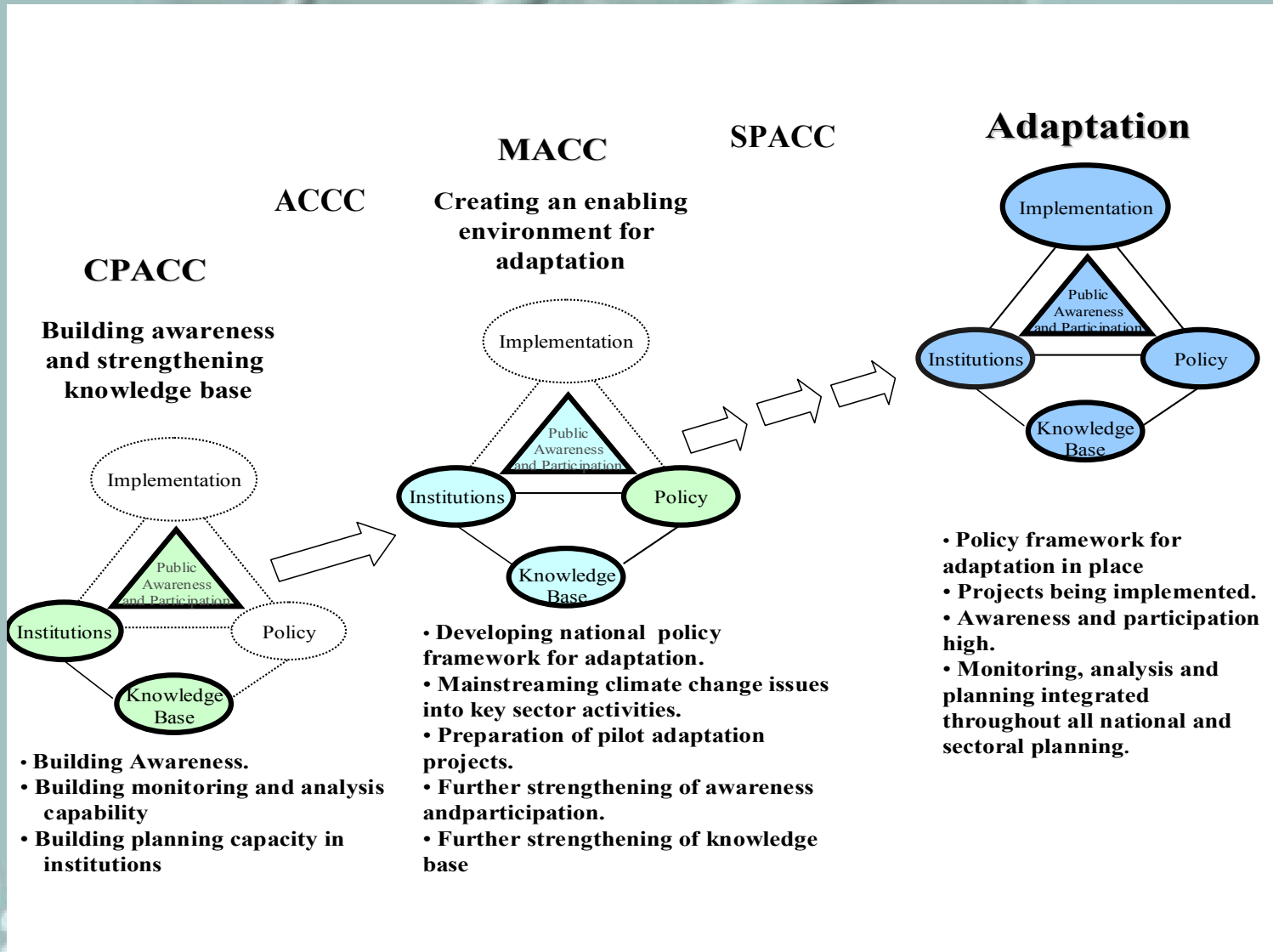
Caricom Climate Change Centre

Members

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Suriname
- Saint Lucia
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago



The Regional Response to Climate Change (1997 – 2011)



Adapting to Climate Change in the Caribbean (ACCC) 2001 - 2004

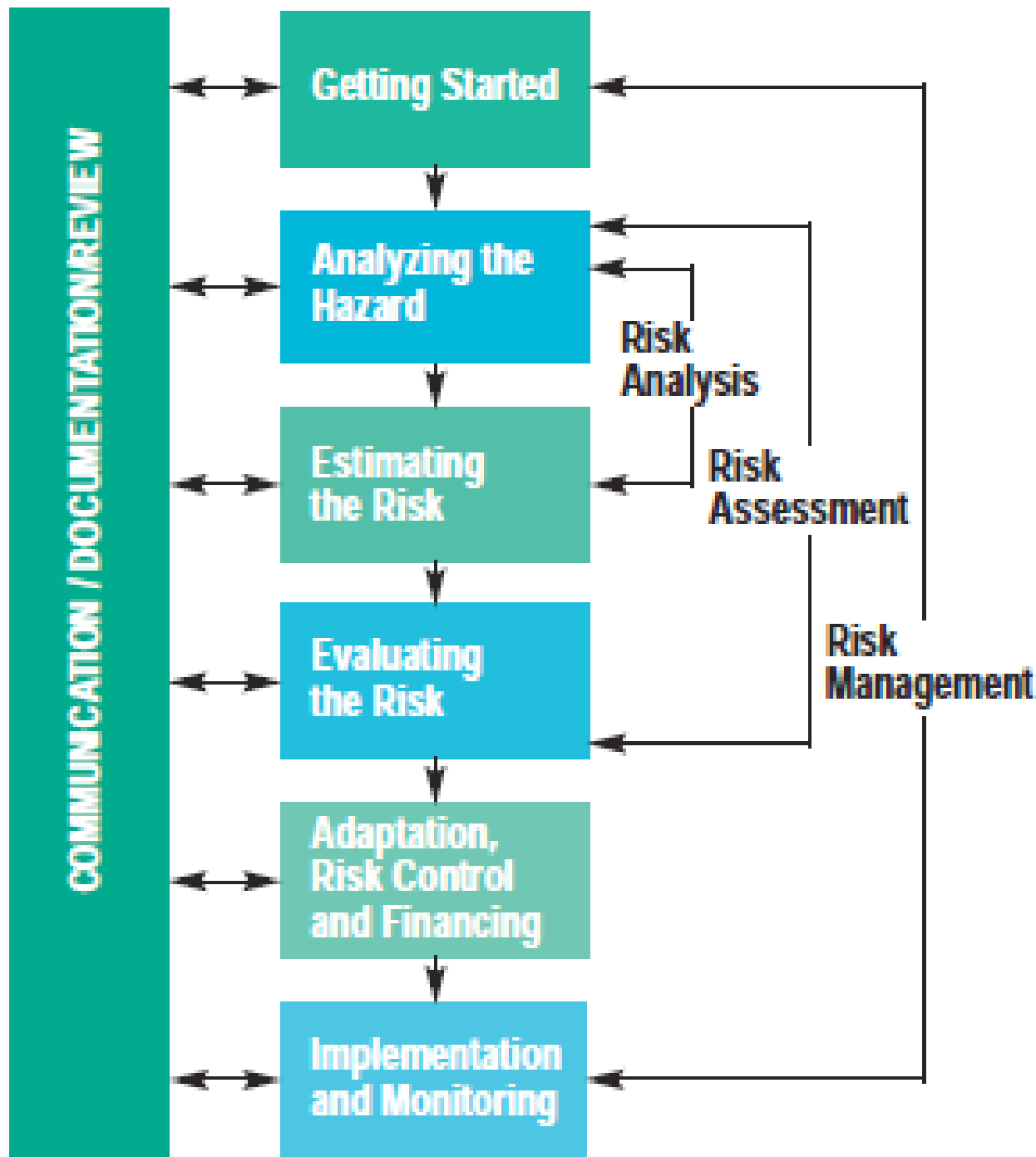
- **Development and distribution of risk management guidelines for climate change adaptation decision making;**
- Development of the business plan and establishment of the basis of financial self-sustainability for CCCCC;
- Development of a guide to assist practitioners in CARICOM countries to integrate climate change in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process;
- Development of a draft regional public education and outreach (PEO) strategy;
- Dialogue established with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) for collaboration on issues related to climate change;
- Successful launch of a Master's Programme in climate change at UWI
- Statistically downscaled climate scenarios development for Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Barbados;
- Staff training and development at the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) in climate trend analysis in order to strengthen climate change capacity;
- Implementation of pilot projects on adaptation studies in the water, health and agricultural sectors.

The Caribbean Risk Management Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation Decision Making

- Methodology based on the Canadian National Standard (CAN/CSA-Q850-97): *Risk Management: Guideline for Decision-Makers*
- Informed to deal specifically with climate change risks by the *Comprehensive Hazard and Risk Management (CHARM)* process developed and utilized by the South Pacific Island countries
- Technical Committee: Intl & regional consultants from GCSI, UWI Faculty of Science and Agriculture, CLICO, CDERA, ACCC project

Workshops

- Risk Management Approach to Climate Change
 - December 11-13, 2001
- Risk Management Training Seminar for the Tourism and Finance Sectors
 - March 5 – 7, 2002
- Risk Management Training Seminar for the Agriculture and Water Sectors
 - July 10 – 12, 2002



Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC) 2004 - 2009

- Further Capacity Building
- Strengthen regional monitoring network: 11 tide gauges & AWSs, CORS stations, CREWS in Jamaica
- Climate Modelling
 - Downscaling (PRECIS)
 - Japanese Earth Simulator
- **Pilot Vulnerability Assessments**
 - Barbados – Tourism
 - Belize – Water Resources (Surface Water)
 - Guyana - Agriculture
 - **Jamaica – Water Resources (Ground Water)**
- Prepare adaptation strategies
- Prepare regional climate change strategy
- Coordinate the region in the climate change negotiation process

Special Programme for Adaptation Climate Change (SPACC) 2007 - 2011

Supports efforts by three island states (Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines) to *implement specific pilot adaptation measures addressing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and land degradation*; thus achieving a high level of integration between these Conventions at a practical field level.

1. Identify, prioritize and evaluate, and design appropriate options and measures that would address biodiversity and land degradation at the community level.
- 2. Support implementation of selected adaptation measures (on a pilot basis) in seven sites in participating countries to enhance the resilience of insular ecosystems under threat from climate change and land degradation**
- 3 .Develop National Sustainable Development Strategy (1 country) which integrates climate change, biodiversity conservation, and land degradation management within national development planning framework.

SPACC Achievement Castries, Saint Lucia

- **Workshop in Castries – Engineering Guidelines**
- **Impact of Climate Change – Increased frequency and strength of tropical cyclones**
- **Adaptation – Development of hurricane wind speed adjustment information and new engineering guidelines for Saint Lucia**



Caricom Climate Change Centre

SPACC Achievement

Castries, Saint Lucia

Benefits

- **Next Steps – Redesign of planned retrofitting of the Marchand Community Centre in Castries using the new Engineering Guidelines**
- **Carrying out the retrofitting (co-financed by the Government of Saint Lucia)**

- Value of building & contents – quantifiable
- Hurricane shelter - ???
- Contribution to national warning and response



Guidelines to be updated

- Delivering transformational change 2011-21:
Implementing the CARICOM “Regional Framework for Achieving Development Resilient to Climate Change” – June 2011
- Risk Management Framework to be revised to take into account the latest developments in climate risk management techniques
- On-line version to be developed
- Supported by comprehensive training for decision-makers
- A standard “stress-test” process and guidance based on the revised guidelines should be developed by the CCCCC and utilized at the regional and national levels
- CCCCC and national govt ministries, CDB, regional organizations, private sector, donors &IFIs