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THE REGIONAL CLIMATE SCIENCE INITIATIVE

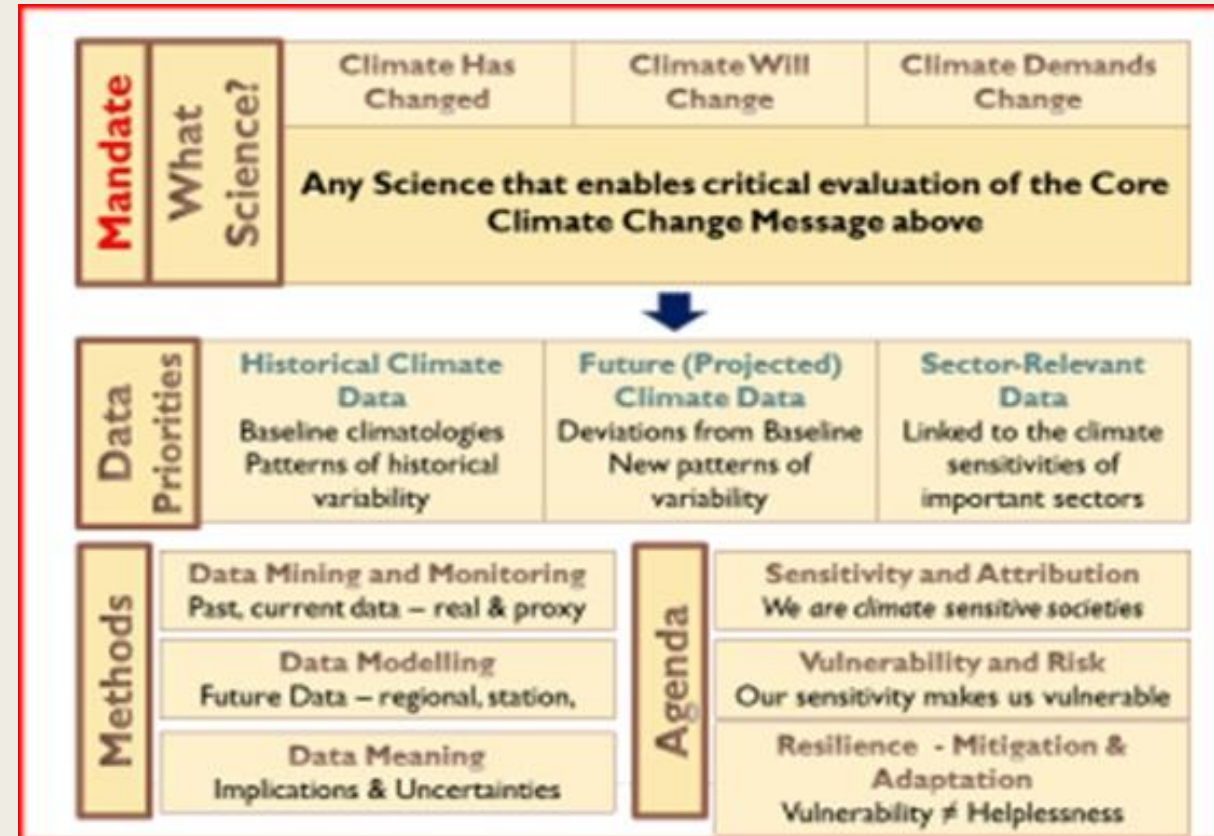
THE CARIBBEAN EXPERIENCE
VALUE ADDED AND LESSONS LEARNT

Background

- Began in Havana, Cuba in 2003- workshop funded by GEF, MACC, World Bank
- Response to:
 - *data gaps, growing climate vulnerability in the Caribbean region, increasing demand for scientific information that was contextually relevant*
- 3 Major outcomes of the initiative:
 - Caribbean Climate Modellers' Consortium
 - Regional climate science agenda
 - Higher resolution climate projections relevant for small Caribbean islands
- Consortium now includes partners from Jamaica, Cuba, Barbados, Suriname, Belize, and others
 - *Modelling primarily conducted by INSMET, UWI, CCCCC, AdeKUS*
- Science agenda and collaborators has expanded beyond physical climate emphasis to include researchers and practitioners in climate sensitive sectors of relevance for the Caribbean (e.g. agriculture, tourism, biodiversity, economics, etc.)

Value Added

- Science relevant to the region
 - Caribbean as focus
 - Understanding of Caribbean climate dynamics and impacts
- Science that is up to date
 - Higher resolution projections
 - RCPs, integrated models
- Science for Society
 - Both responds to and is driven by policy
 - Implications of 1.5°C vs 2.0°C
 - Climate tools to support decision-making, e.g. SMASH, CariDro



Lessons Learnt

NECESSITIES

Cross-section of
interests and
disciplines

Collaboration and
shared workload

Regional focal
institutions

Institutional will

CHALLENGES

Data

Duplication

Communication/
translation

Demand

Reanalysis

Effort to
understand

Funding