GUIDELINES FOR WORKING GROUP A

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Q 1: What are the national (or sub-regional climate change policies, projects, or messages that you most want to gain support for and why?

Regional Policies:

- ☐ Policy framework for environmental education (St. Lucia and St. Kitts/Nevis)

- ☐ Development of a national policy that deals holistically with environmental issues (National Environmental Policy) – Incentives, enforcement of legislation, planning and building codes should be written into such a policy, long-term for sustainable livelihoods for communities at risk

- ☐ Development of a Disaster Mitigation Policy

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- ☐ **Sub-regional level**
  - ■ Other environmental polices should be consistent with the OECS/St. George's Declaration
  - ■ CARICOM countries to recognise that the CCC in Belize is the clearing house for CC information

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☐ **PROJECTS:**

- ■ Coordination of environmental education at the national level (e.g. St. Lucia and)
- ■ Develop and implement a national PEO project which should include KEAP studies (Belize and St. Kitts/Nevis)
- ■ A successor project to the MACC which will the executed by the CCC
- ■ Financial support for more vulnerability and risk assessment studies

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☐ **PROJECTS:**

- ■ Classification of communities at risk throughout the region
- ■ Support for MSc in Climate Change Project and expansion to distance learning to expand the curriculum, offer other courses and accommodate more students to build a cadre of trained persons with relevant skills in

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- ☐ **PROJECTS**

  - ■ Managing all Climate Change-related issues. In this case, the training and certification would be under the aegis of a recognised Tertiary institution, the University of the West Indies.

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☐ **MESSAGES:**

- Design environmental messages for the Caribbean

- A project to bring together an expert group (technical, educators and communications specialists) to work on the design templates for environmental messages for consistent usage, both at the national and regional levels.

Q 2: What are the key target groups that you need to communicate your climate change message to and why?

- ☐ Public servants other than those involved in environmental issues
- ☐ the Youth
- ☐ Cabinet
- ☐ FBOs (Faith-based Organisations e.g. churches
- ☐ NGOs
- ☐ the Media,
- ☐ Private Sector, in particular financial institutions
- ☐ Communities at risk
- ☐ Teachers in training
- ☐ The general public

Q 2: What are the key target groups that you need to communicate your climate change message to and why?

☐ **WHY?**

- ■ Ability to influence change
- ■ Create supportive environments
- ■ Reduce risk and vulnerability
- ■ Develop a sustainable solution to adaptation to climate change

strengthen your public awareness strategy for encouraging the public and/or key stakeholders to support your priorities?
What are the main barriers you face and what are the potential solutions?

- ☐ **ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN YOUR PUBLIC AWARENESS STRATEGY**
  - Broad-based National Committee with representatives of all stakeholder groups
  - Sub-committees of key stakeholder groups
  - Identify clear mandates for the national committee and sub-groups
  - Policy-level support for climate change adaptation activities
  - Train-the-trainers approach to influentials in each stakeholder group

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- **ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN YOUR PUBLIC AWARENESS STRATEGY**
  - Definition of ideal behaviours for each stakeholder group
  - Harmonisation of activities and approaches at regional and national levels through the MACC and the Centre.
  - National KAP for identifying gaps in knowledge, attitudes and behaviour and developing programmes to deal with those gaps.
  - Mobilise internal or national resources from the private and voluntary sectors.

Q3: How would you proceed to establish or strengthen your public awareness strategy for encouraging the public and/or key stakeholders to support your priorities? What are the main barriers you face and what are the potential solutions?

- ☐ **ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN YOUR PUBLIC AWARENESS STRATEGY**
  - ■ More face-to-face or interpersonal communication
  - ■ Ensuring that policy level and public sector managers understand the importance of incorporating climate change considerations into national financial management, planning, tourism, agriculture, health and other vital sectors.
  - ■ Make greater use of National Communications process as an integrative device/mechanism

Q3: How would you proceed to establish or strengthen your public awareness strategy for encouraging the public and/or key stakeholders to support your priorities? What are the main barriers you face and what are the potential solutions?

- ☐ **MAIN BARRIERS:**
  - ■ Financial resources
  - ■ Cooperation, coordination and communication within the public sector
  - ■ Capacity building- lack of trained human resources
  - ■ Scepticism about climate change as an urgent issue

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☐ **MAIN BARRIERS:**

- ■ Lip service at the policy level
- ■ Climate change issues competing with more important national priorities
- ■ Legislation and policies
- ■ Clearly defined roles of focal points, committees and specialist functions e.g. need for a PEO focal point in addition to national focal point

Q3: How would you proceed to establish or strengthen your public awareness strategy for encouraging the public and/or key stakeholders to support your priorities? What are the main barriers you face and what are the potential solutions?

☐ **POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS:**
  ■ Convince the government policy sector to devote more resources to climate change adaptation
  ■ Mobilise external resources from bilateral, international lending agencies, UNFCCC etc
  ■ Make greater use of National Communications process to mobilise resources

Q3: How would you proceed to establish or strengthen your public awareness strategy for encouraging the public and/or key stakeholders to support your priorities? What are the main barriers you face and what are the potential solutions?

- ☐ **POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS:**
  - ◼ Mobilise more internal resources e.g. media
  - ◼ Use the KAP process for effective resource management
  - ◼ Involve more people
  - ◼ Identify channels of communication and authorities for credibility

Q4: How important is public participation and access to information on climate change? What further steps if any need to be taken in this area?

- Public participation and access to information are two different things.
- Public participation is the only way to guarantee sustainability and is a process in which all stakeholders are involved in all aspects of policy development to implementation.

Q4: How important is public participation and access to information on climate change? What further steps if any need to be taken in this area?

- ☐ Access to information is important is not a guarantee of, or substitute for, public participation. It will help to put climate change on the public information agenda, and provide sources of information when needed, but by itself does not lead to behaviour change. Participation is a means of achieving behaviour change that creates supportive environments and sustainable developments.

Q4: How important is public participation and access to information on climate change? What further steps if any need to be taken in this area?

- ☐ **FURTHER STEPS:**
  - ■ More behaviour based programmes
  - ■ More attempts to ensure public involvement
  - ■ More feedback mechanisms and response to feedback

Q 6: How successful is your government in reaching out to media? What could be done to improve your performance?

- ☐ HOW SUCCESSFUL IS YOUR GOVERNMENT IN REACHING OUT TO MEDIA?
  - ■ Media are an important stakeholder group but there are many issues that intervene including training, competition and politics. Governments generally want tame media and that is not possible in the region.

Q 6: How successful is your government in reaching out to media? What could be done to improve your performance?

- ☐ **What could be done to improve your performance?**

  - ■ More resources, better support from policy and public service sectors, clearer definition of functions and responsibilities, training.

That's all folks!!!

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