

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



WORLD BANK GROUP

Strengthening Multi-Hazard, Emergency Preparedness and Response Systems in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Country

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

Amount Approved

€1,650,000 / \$1,866,000

Duration

12/2021 – 12/2023

Context and Objectives

On 9 April 2021, a series of explosive eruptions occurred at La Soufriere volcano on the main island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, displacing over 23,000 people and causing damage to housing, public infrastructure, and agriculture worth up to \$154 million, or 18 percent of the national GDP for 2020. The eruption also heavily impacted tourism, the country's main driver of growth and employment.

This project co-financed the \$40 million World Bank [Volcanic Eruption Emergency Project](#) (VEEP), which was approved in November 2021 by the World Bank Board, and focused on restoration of critical services, and resilient reconstruction. The objective of this project was to strengthen Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R)

systems, by helping the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to improve its capacity to systematically prepare for and respond to compound emergencies, including potential lahars, mudslides, hurricanes, and health impacts associated with dengue fever and the COVID-19 emergency.

Main Activities

- Support for reconstruction planning.
- Investments in rapid restoration and resilient reconstruction of priority infrastructure.
- Strengthening of EP&R systems and capacity.

Results

Through temporary cash transfers to support consumption smoothing in selected displaced populations, this project directly strengthened the institutional capacity of the government to administer and monitor a cash transfer program. Capacity building was then further enhanced via hands-on support to the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) in the development of all procurement documentation and to assess and prioritize investment activities.

Meanwhile, efforts to enhance EP&R systems supported the development of terms of reference specifications and bidding documentation for the upgrade of Belmont Observatory and Dormitory, rehabilitation of the NEMO Campden Park Warehouse, repairs to NEMO satellite warehouses; and upgrades to NEMO Computer and IT equipment.

Partnerships and Coordination

The project was implemented by the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology in coordination with the National Emergency Management Organization.