

# CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



**GFDRR**  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



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## Strengthening Financial Protection and Emergency Response in the Commonwealth of Dominica

### Country

Dominica

### Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

### Amount Approved

€136,000 / \$150,200

### Duration

12/2021 – 02/2024

### Context and Objectives

Dominica is exposed to overlapping natural hazards that represent a significant risk to its economic and social development; risks which are exacerbated by climate change. In 2017, the country was devastated by Hurricane Maria, which caused damages amounting to more than double the national GDP.<sup>1</sup>

In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, the government established the Climate Resilience Executing Agency of Dominica (CREAD) to coordinate the government's vulnerability reduction and resilience interventions across different sectors. CREAD has already worked with the World Bank on projects to improve data collection, rehabilitating and reinforcing road networks, and the construction of a new meteorological office.

The objective of this project was to support the government in strengthening financial protection measures and implementing select sector policy reforms in sectors vulnerable to climate and disaster impacts.

### Main Activities

- Supporting the government in identifying policy reforms for strengthening resilience, including disaster risk financing, adaptive social protection, and natural resource management.
- Supporting the government finalize reform actions.

### Results

Support provided enabled a more targeted path to physical resilience and strengthened financial protection and the ability to efficiently and effectively respond to financial crisis caused by disasters. Particularly in the context of enhancing disaster risk financing via the formulation of development policy credit with a Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option (Cat DDO). After the Cat DDO was approved, the team also worked with the Government on framework procedures for activating it.

Other activities included ensuring the sustainability of hydromet and seismic monitoring networks through government capacity building and training, as well as improved video documentation of the road construction to ensure that resilience efforts are maintained throughout construction. Similar capacity building efforts, in collaboration with the [Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project](#), supported training for the government on the uses and functionality of the hydromet network and the data it produces, which

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1 [Hurricane Maria Post Disaster Assessment](#)

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can be used in monitoring weather patterns to contribute to early warning systems, or tracking rainfall to inform declarations of emergency.

Ultimately, Dominica is financially better protected against Disasters and able to better target response financing thanks to a strengthened regulatory and institutional framework that underpins Dominica's resilience and DRM agenda.

### **Partnerships and Coordination**

The project was implemented in collaboration with the Climate Resilience Executing Agency of Dominica. The World Bank coordinated its efforts with the EU Delegation in Barbados.