

# Canada

CANADA CARIBBEAN DISASTER  
RISK MANAGEMENT FUND



**Snapshot Document**  
Grenada

# About The CCDRMF

The Canada Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Fund (CCDRMF) is one component of Global Affairs Canada's larger regional Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Program. The CCDRMF is a competitive fund designed to support community-driven projects that enhance the resilience of communities and reduce risks from natural hazards (e.g. floods, droughts, tropical storms, hurricanes) and climate change.

Established in 2008 as a small grant facility, the CCDRMF finances projects ranging from CAD \$25,000 to CAD \$75,000, and up to CAD \$100,000 in exceptional cases. The target audience is community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations, civil-society organisations, and government agencies wishing to undertake community projects in the following beneficiary countries<sup>1</sup>: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

For the purposes of the CCDRMF, a 'community' is defined as 'a group of people living in the same geographical area (such as a neighbourhood, district, city or town)' or 'a group of people

with similar interests (such as youth and women) or livelihoods (such as farmers or fishers)'.<sup>1</sup>

Between 2008 and 2015, there have been nine (9) Calls for Proposals and in total, the Fund received 212 project applications. Only forty-three (43) projects, 20%, from thirteen (13) countries, met the criteria and were eligible for consideration.

Following a rigorous development process, the Fund has supported thirty-four (34) sub-projects in 11 countries valued at just over CAD\$2.2M. The projects have strengthened disaster risk management through improved emergency communication systems, shelter retrofits and safer building practices, flood mitigation and land stabilisation, water storage, food security and climate-smart agriculture, and mangrove restoration.

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<sup>1</sup>In addition, one small community project was approved for the British Virgin Islands



Grenada  
National Flag

# Island Overview

The volcanic island of Grenada is the southernmost of the Windward Islands and a tri-island State consisting of Grenada (312 km<sup>2</sup>), Carriacou (34 km<sup>2</sup>) and Petite Martinique (2.3 km<sup>2</sup>) as well as a number of smaller uninhabited and semi-inhabited cays. Grenada has a humid tropical climate with distinct rainy and dry seasons. Carriacou and Petite Martinique generally receive lower levels of rainfall and during the dry season can experience severe drought conditions. Freshwater resources are found in the many rivers, streams and lakes on the main island of Grenada. This is in marked contrast to Carriacou and Petite Martinique, where no permanent freshwater streams exist.

Historically, Grenada has been affected by a range of hydro-meteorological (hurricanes, tropical storms, tropical depressions, storm surges, droughts, floods) and geological (landslides, rock falls, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis) hazards.

Although Grenada's southerly location makes hurricane landfall uncommon, the country has experienced substantial damage during such encounters. In 2004 Hurricane Ivan resulted in the death of approximately 39 persons. Overall damages were estimated at

twice Grenada's GDP at the time (US\$889 million). Almost one year later, the country was hit by Hurricane Emily which further damaged infrastructure and retarded recovery.

Grenada is regularly exposed to the risk of landslides especially during the rainy season with much of the impact along the road network. Storm surge is also problematic in exposed coastal areas either through localised flooding in low-lying reaches or through cliff side erosion.

There are two active volcanoes, Mount St. Catherine in the centre and the submarine volcano Kick-'em-Jenny. Kick-'em-Jenny has erupted 12 times since 1939, with the 1939 eruption recorded as the strongest, producing a tsunami estimated at 2 m. While earthquake risk is moderate to low, seismic events associated with Kick-'em-Jenny pose a significant risk of earthquake impact.

Of course, like other small island developing states (SIDS), Grenada is also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including changes in temperature and precipitation, intensified hydro-meteorological events and associated hazards, and sea level rise.

# CCDRM Fund Projects in Grenada

The CCDRMF has received eighteen (18) project applications from Grenada. Of these, two (2) community-based projects were approved. These projects support disaster risk management through safer building practices and improved accommodation of people with disabilities in shelters.

## Reducing risk and improving living conditions through community involvement in safer building practices & lifesaving skills

The communities of Pearls and Telescope had been negatively impacted over the years by a number of factors including poverty and unemployment. Poor economic conditions have given rise to substandard construction techniques and utilization of inferior materials resulting in inadequate shelter and protection for families. This project aimed to increase the capacity of these communities to adopt safer building practices and lessen the impact of flooding and soil erosion by designing and implementing a mitigation initiative. With support from the project, 30 persons were trained in safer housing practices, 31

houses were renovated to increase their resilience against flooding, approximately 100 feet of drains were cleared, 700 trees were planted on individual family plots, and 25 persons were trained to function as part of a Community Disaster Response Team. Houses in the communities are now safer and more resilient because of safer housing building techniques. Vulnerable families feel a sense of pride and improvement in their way of living. Families are also benefiting from the fruit trees planted which is also supporting a healthier lifestyle among residents.



Project	Organisation	Objectives
Reducing risk and improving living conditions through community involvement in safer building practices & life saving skills	<b>Grenada Red Cross</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To increase the capacity of communities through the adoption of safer building practices.</li> <li>2. To reduce the risk of flooding by designing and implementing a mitigation initiative aimed at lessening the impact of flood water and slowing down the rate of soil erosion.</li> </ol>
<b>Project Period</b> 2014-2016	<b>GAC Contribution</b> \$87,537.04	<b>Total Project Cost</b> \$111,936.04

**Retrofit and Upgrade to Emergency Shelters (for persons with disabilities and the elderly)**

Grenada is susceptible to many hazards including droughts, floods, fires, landslides, tsunamis, volcanoes, earthquakes, storm surge and hurricanes. There are several buildings, used as emergency shelters located across the island; however, the needs of differently abled persons and the elderly was not considered during the design of most of these buildings, including those used as emergency shelters. This project aimed to upgrade the buildings used as Emergency Shelters (schools and community centres) in most parishes throughout Grenada to ensure that they provide ease of access and comfortable accommodation for the elderly, and physically challenged persons. With support from the project, wheel chair access was provided at several shelters including St. John’s Christian Secondary School, Marian Community Centre, Westerhall Secondary School, and Corinth Community Centre. Upgrades of washrooms were executed at St. John’s Christian Secondary School and Dover Government School. Water tanks with Stands were installed at the Chantimelle Community Centre, Maran Community Centre, Mt Granby Seventh Day Adventist Church, Clozier Community Centre, St James

Community Centre and Pearls Community Centre. This project sets a precedence for future public sector projects to follow in ensuring that the needs of persons with disabilities and special needs are incorporated.



**Project**

Retrofit and Upgrade to Emergency Shelters (for persons with disabilities and the elderly)

**Organisation**

**National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA)**

**Objectives**

To upgrade Emergency Shelters (schools and community centres) in most parishes throughout Grenada to ensure the emergency shelters provide access and accommodation for elderly, and physically challenged persons.

**Project Period**  
**2017-2019**

**GAC Contribution**  
**\$99,173.00**

**Total Project Cost**  
**\$116,754.67**

## References

GFDRR. (2010). Disaster Risk Management in Latin America and the Caribbean Region: GFDRR Country Notes - Grenada. Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

NaDMA. (2014). Country Document on Disaster Risk Reduction for Grenada, 2014. National Disaster Management Agency

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