



Climate change adaptation in the fisheries of Anguilla and Montserrat

Project in brief

Target countries: Anguilla and Montserrat

Results:

- a. Improved resilience and sustainability of fisheries, associated livelihoods and conservation of the marine environment
- b. Adaptation to climate change and variability mainstreamed into fisheries governance and management, using EAF

Lead: Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)

Partners: Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources - Anguilla, Fisheries and Ocean Resources Unit - Montserrat and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies of the University of the West Indies

Budget: £367,110

Duration: April 2017 to March 2020

Project page: <http://www.canari.org/climate-change-adaptation-in-the-fisheries-of-anguilla-and-montserrat>



Photos courtesy: Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Anguilla

Background

The fisheries sectors in Anguilla and Montserrat make significant contributions to livelihoods and national food security. In Anguilla, fish production in 2014 was 438.3 metric tonnes (mt), valued at US\$ 6 million, with 92 licensed fishers operating 63 fishing vessels. In Montserrat, fish production in 2017 was approximately 75 mt, valued at US\$ 0.7 million, with over 100 fishers operating 27 fishing vessels. The contribution of the fisheries sector to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for Anguilla in 2014 was 2.26%, while it was 2% for Montserrat in 2017.

The fisheries sectors of both islands are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and variability. Increased sea surface temperature, intensity of storms and sea level rise are expected to trigger a complex series of biophysical and socio-economic impacts on fisheries. Needs assessments for Anguilla and Montserrat, commissioned by the Department for International Development

(2012), showed that resilience activities are hampered by weak planning and adaptive capacity. Mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) in the fisheries sectors is therefore crucial.

CANARI is working in partnership with the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources - Anguilla, Fisheries and Ocean Resources Unit - Montserrat and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies of the University of the West Indies to implement a 3-year project Climate change adaptation in the fisheries of Anguilla and Montserrat. This will contribute to mainstreaming CCA into fisheries governance and management, using an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF). This will deliver enhanced stewardship of the resource and livelihood benefits.

Achievements

Key output	Activity
Local and scientific knowledge combined to assess vulnerabilities and potential adaptation actions for the Anguilla and Montserrat fisheries sectors, including priorities for institutional strengthening	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducted assessments of institutional readiness for CCA in the fisheries sectors using the World Resource Institute's Adaptation Rapid Institutional Analysis (ARIA) toolkit. 2. Conducted vulnerability assessments using participatory three-dimensional modelling (P3DM) to capture and integrate local and scientific knowledge of climate change vulnerabilities and priorities for action in areas critical for fishing (e.g. fishing communities, landing sites, fishing grounds and supporting ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves). 3. Prepared summary reports on key findings and recommendations with priorities for action for CCA and institutional strengthening for the fisheries sectors. 4. Held public events to present the 3D model of each island and key findings to policy makers and other key stakeholders to build consensus on priorities for CCA and mainstreaming into fisheries management.
Knowledge mobilisation strengthened on key vulnerabilities and institutional readiness for CCA in the Anguilla and Montserrat fisheries sectors among policy makers, resource managers and users to catalyse changes in policy and practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designed and implemented a communication strategy to increase knowledge mobilisation and information exchange among policy makers, resource managers, fisherfolk, coastal communities and the wider public about key vulnerabilities and institutional readiness for CCA in the fisheries sectors. 2. Facilitated and reported on one capacity building workshop in each island for resource managers and users, including fisherfolk, on communicating effectively about climate change, its impacts and adaptation for the fisheries sectors. 3. Developed and disseminated awareness and advocacy products on priorities for action for CCA and institutional strengthening to empower fisherfolk, resource managers and policy makers, including participatory videos featuring Anguilla and Montserrat fisherfolk, posters and policy brief. 4. Facilitated peer exchanges between fisherfolk and national fisheries authorities in Anguilla and Montserrat, and with other Caribbean islands.
Actions taken to mainstream adaptation to climate change and climate variability in fisheries-related policies and plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitated and reported on one capacity building workshop in each island for key policy makers, resource managers and users, including fisherfolk, to mainstream CCA and disaster risk management into fisheries-related policies and plans using the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) EAF Toolbox.
Capacity of fisherfolk and their organisations strengthened to undertake practical CCA actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducted one workshop in each island to strengthen the capacity of fisherfolk, fisherfolk organisations (FFOs) and fisheries extension officers to promote ecosystem stewardship to improve climate resilience and livelihoods.

Upcoming activities

March 2019:

Launch small grant facility to support CCA actions by Anguilla and Montserrat FFOs

January-March 2020:

Document and share best practices and innovations in CCA and stewardship for fisheries sector

June-December 2019:

Implement and report on 2-4 practical CCA projects by Anguilla and Montserrat FFOs

March 2020:

Lessons Learned workshop held in each island to evaluate impact of project

The **Climate change adaptation in the fisheries of Anguilla and Montserrat** project is being implemented by CANARI under its Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction programme, in partnership with the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources - Anguilla, Fisheries and Ocean Resources Unit - Montserrat and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies of the University of the West Indies. The project is funded by the UK Government from the Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund under the Darwin Initiative.

