

# THE BAHAMAS POST HURRICANE DORIAN RECONSTRUCTION

## CROSS-CUTTING

### *Preparing The Bahamas For Long-Term Disaster Recovery*

#### **1. BACKGROUND**

Preparedness for recovery involves a number of essential steps. This includes assessing recovery needs, developing institutional arrangements, preparing sector plans, implementing recovery interventions, and ensuring peoples' participation. The benefits of preparedness for recovery can be far-reaching: strengthening capacities to carry out needs-assessments allows a country to quickly determine human, economic and infrastructure needs in the event of a disaster; putting in place information sharing and participatory systems strengthens the community ties to the recovery process; better recovery planning allows communities to identify innovative solutions for expected challenges; and enhanced institutional coordination and information management expedites early action that enables well-planned, well-executed reconstruction and recovery.

This present proposal aims at building the resilience of The Bahamas by strengthening its national capacities to plan and manage recovery processes in a sustainable and inclusive manner ("Build Back Better").

#### **2. PREPARING THE BAHAMAS FOR LONG-TERM DISASTER RECOVERY**

The project intends to build capacities of The Bahamas to prepare for long-term recovery processes by establishing institutions and systems to "build back better" and through it, promote an inclusive process to reduce vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience to future risks. The initiative includes activities to support institutions, policies, recovery implementation, community-level preparedness for recovery and improved knowledge and experience sharing through Regional cooperation.

The change expected through this project is that The Bahamas is better prepared to manage future recovery processes in an effective, sustainable and inclusive way. Roles and responsibilities for leading and managing recovery will be clarified. Policy, legal and financial frameworks for recovery will set out the blueprint for future recovery processes. Technical skills, knowledge and tools for disaster assessment, recovery planning and implementation will be available and widely utilized at the national and the community-level. Vulnerable and affected people will be empowered to participate in recovery planning and implementation.

The overarching objective of this initiative is to contribute to building the resilience of The Bahamas in the face of increasing climate hazards by strengthening the capacities of the Disaster Management Authority to plan and manage sustainable and inclusive recovery processes.

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- **Support the retrofitting and the building back better of public infrastructure.**

**Amount: US\$750,000.00**

This activity will support the structural assessment, the development of hazard resistant and green prototypes and the demonstrative retrofitting of selected public buildings to ensure they are hazard resistant. Awareness raising and trainings for construction workers (masons, engineers) and local communities in green and hazard resistant construction technologies will be organized to better prepare communities and local construction experts to recovery while ensuring their effective role in recovery and reconstruction.

Amount

- **Link Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in national/local development plans.**

**Amount: US\$ 250,000.00**

Linking DRR and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) is essential for addressing the ever present, complex and increasing risks. Moreover, climate change adaptation is more and more addressed in recovery programme and disaster risk reduction measures.

- **Strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems**

**Amount: US\$ 240, 000.00**

This activity will focus on strengthening the response and evacuation mechanisms in place, providing warning equipment and setting up shelters, to make sure that remote communities are warned, instructed and in safety in case of a disaster, on facilitating public education and awareness of risks and disseminating messages through text-messages or local community radios. To be effective, local communities at risk will have to be actively involved.

- **Enhance implementation of sustainable recovery at community-level.**

**Amount: US\$16,875,000.00**

This activity is designed to prepare communities to play an effective role in recovery and reconstruction. The activities undertaken to build capacities of communities will be to train them in developing community-based recovery plans and developing the skills of the community in disaster resilient construction technologies, with a specific focus on youth and women. Moreover, this activity will target 25 communities spread across the islands and invest in community adaptation projects aimed to assess the existing vulnerabilities to climate change and how these coincide with the risks that the communities face daily.

- **Review existing institutional arrangements, policies and practice for recovery.**

**Amount: US\$ 225,000.00**

Development of policy and institutional arrangements specifically for recovery while mainstreaming climate and disaster resilience in economic and social development and supporting the definition of roles and responsibilities for recovery among government entities.

- **Develop country specific recovery guidelines, case studies, document lessons learned and best practices**

**Amount: US\$ 160,000.00**

This activity will include the development of guidelines for recovery covering main sectors of the economy. The project will also support the collection of case studies and best practices on recovery.

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- **Improve recovery implementation and monitoring:**

**Amount: US\$ 1,450,000.00**

Build on the existing knowledge and strengthen the capacities of government officials (national and sub-national), NGOs, academic institutions, private sector and other relevant stakeholders in the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF) methodology. A database will be created to guarantee the collection of disaggregated data.

- **Support Regional collaboration including the Green Climate Fund**

**Amount: US\$ 500,000.00**

Organization of cross-country study visits of Government officials of disaster-prone countries, including Small Island Developing States such as Barbados and British Virgin Islands. GCF

**TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THE PROJECTS: US\$20,450,000**