



Environmental sustainability and the Canada-CARICOM Expert Deployment Mechanism

Catalyste+ collaborated with Caribbean governments through the Canada-CARICOM Expert Deployment Mechanism (CCEDM) to advance environmental sustainability and climate-resilient governance. By supporting national partners to strengthen and modernize policies, systems, and environmental management, CCEDM helped turn sustainability priorities into practical action.

About Catalyste+

Catalyste+ is a global hub for economic development. Currently delivering programs in over 40 countries, we connect Canadian expertise with public and private sector partners. Since 1967, we have worked in over 120 countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and with Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

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Project Numbers

The project advanced environmental sustainability through targeted assignments that increased climate awareness, strengthened national planning, improved resource management, modernized data systems, and supported climate action. Although the assignments were implemented in partnership with government and public institutions, the most significant impacts were realized at the community level.

18

government organizations reported innovative **policies, regulations, norms, and practices** that are **environmentally sensitive**.

535

people have enhanced their ability to **pursue funding opportunities** that **promote sustainability**.

2,719

people have **increased their capacity to consider sustainability issues** when developing and implementing policies, regulations, norms, and practices.

18,902

people have benefited from **environmentally sensitive policies, services, and public goods**.



Protecting Jamaica's Forests: Building a Climate-Resilient Future

Strengthening forest-fire prevention, preparedness and recovery to protect biodiversity, watersheds, and rural communities.

The Partner

The Jamaica Forestry Department is the government body responsible for managing and conserving Jamaica's forest resources. But Jamaica's forests are a shared landscape: only about a quarter is under direct departmental management, with the remainder managed by private landowners and other organizations.

25%

75%

*25% Direct Forestry Department management
75% Other landowners and organizations*

The Challenge

Jamaica's dry seasons are growing longer and more severe, increasing the frequency and impact of forest fires.

These changing climate pressures called for a more proactive approach to prevention and response, as well as stronger coordination among the many stakeholders who share responsibility for Jamaica's forests. At the same time, Jamaica's National Forest Fire Management Plan was more than a decade old and needed to be updated to reflect current climate risks and local realities.

Catalyste+ in Action

A Catalyste+ Advisor worked alongside Forestry Department staff, engaging stakeholders and visiting fire-affected areas to bring together local knowledge, technical expertise, and international best practices. Together, they modernized Jamaica's National Forest Fire Management Plan and developed a training manual tailored to Jamaica's context.



By embedding prevention, preparedness, monitoring, and recovery into a coordinated national approach, the Forestry Department is better positioned to protect Jamaica's forests, and the ecosystems, communities, and livelihoods they support, as the climate changes.

"We will have a modernized integrated fire management plan in place, and our staff will have significant increased capacity in fire management techniques."

The National Forest Fire Management Plan

Risk Assessment & Planning

Identifies high-risk areas and communities so prevention efforts and resources can be targeted before fires occur.

Training Manual & Capacity Building

Provides Forestry Department staff, other key Fire personnel, and rural communities with practical, shared guidance on how fires start and spread, how to reduce risks, and who is responsible.

Prevention & Mitigation Systems

Strengthens early-warning monitoring and coordinated land-use practices to reduce fire risk and severity.

Preparedness & Response Systems

Clarifies roles, protocols, equipment, and coordination so stakeholders can respond quickly when fires occur.

Post-fire Recovery & Restoration

Guides post-fire assessment, ecosystem recovery, and restoration while generating data to strengthen future fire management.



The five interconnected components that comprise Jamaica's National Forest Fire Management Plan.

What Changed

Stronger Forest Protection

The plan shifts the forest-fire management system from reactive to proactive, emphasizing prevention and helping stakeholders identify and address risks before fires occur.

Better Ecosystem Monitoring

Post-fire assessments now capture biophysical information, including impacts on biodiversity and wildlife, creating a stronger foundation for monitoring ecosystem recovery and informing future restoration.

Shared Stewardship

Clearer roles across government, landowners, partner organizations and rural communities strengthen shared responsibility for protecting forest resources and reducing fire risk across Jamaica's landscape.

Greater Capacity & Reach

The updated training manual has been shared with Forestry Department staff, partner organizations, and rural communities. Community sessions are helping farmers and rural residents build practical knowledge of fire prevention, preparedness and safe response, while feedback indicates that the manual is clear, accessible, and helpful.

Smarter Water Management for a More Sustainable Saint Lucia

Strengthening water treatment operations in Saint Lucia to improve resource efficiency and build the systems needed to deliver safer, more sustainable water services.

The Partner

The Water and Sewerage Company Inc. (WASCO) is Saint Lucia's national water utility, responsible for treating, distributing, and managing potable water across the island, as well as providing wastewater services. Its mission is to deliver consistent, safe, and reliable water and wastewater services through skilled people, teamwork, and appropriate technology.

The Challenge

Saint Lucia's water systems are increasingly stressed by heavier rainfall, flooding, and longer dry periods caused by climate change. To maintain reliable and safe water services across the island, WASCO needed stronger systems for plant operations, monitoring, data collection, and resource management.

Catalyste+ in Action

1

Assessment

A Catalyste+ Advisor worked alongside WASCO staff and visited three treatment plants across the island to assess operations, identify gaps, and understand the systems needed to improve plant management.

2

Training

The Advisor delivered practical training on water management, documentation, monitoring and plant operations, building staff capacity to manage the systems independently.

3

Implementation

Catalyste+ provided support to WASCO through training and advisory services. With SCADA already in place, Catalyste+ helped WASCO strengthen the rollout and optimize the use of its SCADA monitoring and control systems and bulk meters, enhancing real-time monitoring, measurement and management of water treatment operations.

4

Sustainability

The Advisor also worked with WASCO to explore solar energy as a potential sustainable power source for treatment plants, supporting longer-term energy efficiency.

SCADA: A Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system is a common wastewater treatment system that monitors and controls plant equipment, treatment processes, and data in real time.

Bulk meters are a measurement device used to track high-volume fluid flows, such as water.

What Changed

Less Waste

SCADA monitoring and control have reduced wasted chemicals and water at treatment plants.

Cleaner, Safer Water

Earlier detection of contaminants helps WASCO prevent pollution and protect water quality for communities.

Better Data

Bulk meters let WASCO track raw and potable water flow and quality more accurately, so staff find and fix distribution network problems sooner.

Stronger Teams

Better supervision, planning, and communication have improved day-to-day efficiency across WASCO.

“Service, reliability, and safety are improving, assisting in the delivery of better-quality water... Some of the environmental benefits include pollution prevention, early detection of contaminants, and improved energy efficiency.”

By improving how water is measured, treated, and managed, WASCO is helping protect Saint Lucia’s water resources and building a system that can stand up to a changing climate, while protecting public health and supporting overall community well-being.

Who Benefitted

30+

staff trained

10,000+

residents served

Island-wide service strengthened



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Canada

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