

**OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-BRB\_D\_2.1**

**More productive and competitive business ecosystems designed to improve people's standards of living (MSCDF Outcome 1)**

Under the UN Joint Programme (JP) supported by the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), "Building Effective Resilience for Human Security in the Caribbean Countries: The Imperative of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in a Strengthened Agriculture (and related Agri/Fisheries Small Business) Sector, UN Women has lead the collaboration to deliver an integrated programme aimed at informing and advance developments within the agriculture and fisheries sectors aimed primarily for women and youth towards achieving the following outcomes: Outcome 1: Gender responsive and disaster risk resilient agricultural, fisheries and small business extension services, programmes, and techniques available and accessible to the most marginalized; Outcome 2: Gender responsive social protection, insurance and financial products are available and accessible to marginalized and impoverished groups (specific emphasis will be placed on women headed households with high dependency ratios, women in agriculture (fisherfolk) and unemployed young men); Outcome 3: Increased market access readiness and resilience for smallholder farmers and agriculture related small business; Outcome 4: Community resilience is strengthened through advocacy and community engagement with farmers, fisherfolks and young people to engage in agriculture and the blue economy; Outcome 5: Integration and Mainstreaming of the Human Security Approach. UN Women led the completion of key knowledge products and supported dialogue through strategic forums, to inform decision makers, and programme planners and beneficiaries, of critical considerations aimed at increasing awareness and transformational development towards a greater understanding of how gender equality and human security impact on women's economic empowerment within this sector and ultimately of the key considerations for enabling greater economic viability, resilience and sustainability of women, girls and youth. Increasing knowledge and access to information and services: How-to-Guide for Women Farmers and Small Businesses Entrepreneurs on Land and Small Business Registration Advocacy tools: The link of Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment & Human Security Toolkits for Parliamentarians and other decision makers hosted on the ParlAmericas website as ParlGender Tools : Structural Adjustment Programmes: Integrating Gender Equality and Human Security and Agricultural Policy: Integrating Gender Equality and Human Security Additional KPs are under development and will be completed in 2023. In addition, the KPs produced will contribute to the creation of content to inform the creation of digital Help Desks, linking beneficiaries with greater access to information and providing agricultural extension officers and business coaches with an additional tool by which to engage with small holder farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs and provide them with information, tools and resources in real time, hence increasing their access to information and ultimate uptake of opportunities for business growth and development through new market opportunities and financial stability. In 2022 two programmes were started with the view to increased and sustainable financing for GEWE in the Caribbean. UN Women MCO received funding from the SDG Fund to implement a programme, 'Building Back Equal through Innovative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment' in the Bahamas and Bermuda and the Government of Canada funded, 'Build Back Equal' programme in Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines. Due to internal and external delays there have not yet been many activities implemented under this programme however, in July 2022 the MCO hosted a Training for Gender Lens Investing for Fund Managers with the view to increased and sustainable financing for GEWE in the Caribbean. In 2023 additional activities will be implemented in order to satisfy this indicator.

### **People in the Caribbean equitably access and utilize universal, quality and shock-responsive, social protection, education, health and care services. (Outcome 4)**

The results of an evaluation of the UN Joint Programme on Adaptive Social Protection in the Eastern Caribbean (Co-Led by WFP and UNICEF, with UN Women, FAO and ILO as PUNOs) with confirmed that social protection can be adapted to be shock-responsive in both ‘vertical’ and ‘horizontal’ dimensions – as well as over time (for example, through supporting childcare services that enabled women to access job/skills training and access the labour market in St. Lucia. UN Women successfully led the component of this project on reducing unpaid care work through supporting access by women beneficiaries of public assistance through providing stipends from 2020 to 2021. In 2022, UN Women built on the results of these experiences by successfully mobilizing further resources from the Government of Canada to continue this pilot and St. Lucia and extend it to 4 more countries (Dominica, Grenada, and St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines). Institutional arrangements to support this initiative were initiated in 2022 and it is expected that there will be further progress towards this outcome in 2023, the result of which should lead to increased access by women to shock and gender-responsive social protection services.

### **Regional and national laws, policies, systems and institutions improve access to justice and promote peace, social cohesion and security (MSCDF Outcome 7)**

Regional and national governments, state entities, civil society, and private sector organisations were supported to enhance their capacities, policies and programmes on VAWG. Gender-responsive budgeting was re-introduced within the context of VAWG, and piloted in Grenada. A new and updated, fully costed, Draft National Strategic Action Plan on GBV 2023–2027 was completed for Trinidad and Tobago, along with accountability tools and knowledge products for the police and justice sector, and new gender-sensitive and inclusive training programmes in line with international standards. In Jamaica, UN Women MCO – Caribbean put the victim and survivor at the forefront of discussions, by supporting the development of the first Draft National Victims Rights Policy, along with consultations and assessments to support the strengthening of the Bureau of Gender Affairs to more effectively carry out its mandate. Prevention programmes promoting peaceful resolution of conflicts, increasing knowledge of gender and gender dynamics, dismantling harmful norms and stereotypes, and accompanying advocacy campaigns and events reached thousands of residents across the region, through the MCO’s work on the Spotlight Initiative, and through advocacy and communications during the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, International Women’s Day, and the UN Women Foundations and Partnership for Peace Programmes. UN Women continued to work closely with the justice sector, and undertook a research project on the court-user experience in Jamaica, within a setting that is typically complex and inaccessible to most victims and survivors. The findings will support recommendations to be integrated into the court systems, to improve access to justice and the survivor experience. The capacity of officials across CARICOM in government, civil society, academia and regional intergovernmental organisations to collect and analyse VAWG data have strengthened. National systems to manage VAWG data have strengthened with the completion and launch of national protocols for the management of VAWG data, along with a minimum dataset on VAWG indicators in Jamaica. Institutional partnerships to collect and analyse VAWG data have strengthened with an Agreement signed with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) of the University of the West Indies which will be delivering a Massive Online Open Course on VAWG Data in 2023. The knowledge base on publicly available VAWG data and research is on track to be achieved with research on the economic costs of VAWG completed in Jamaica, Grenada and Guyana. Women’s rights defenders and civil society organisations were supported in new and innovative ways, as the office scaled

up its field presence, reach and support, through comprehensive and accessible capacity building programmes, strategies and events, and through flexible and innovative financing mechanisms. Tailored learning cafes and learning sessions were held in 9 countries throughout the year, and a further 24 CSO organisations were able to network, strategise and develop skills in new areas at a signature CSO Retreat hosted by the MCO in Jamaica in August 2022. Social and public accountability tools and mechanisms were developed and piloted in key sectors, benefitting over 40 CSOs and state actors. The intersectionality of climate change, disaster risk resilience and VAWG was highlighted in the Resilient, Inclusive, Safe and SMART (RISS) Model, following community assessments in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, and this data was used to pivot to increasing resource mobilisation efforts for programmes addressing these critical areas. Overall, the UN Women Multi-Country Office – Caribbean raised its profile as a technical expert and leader on ERAW, with strong presence and an increased footprint in the media, increased requests for programme partnerships, and as technical leads on joint programmes. The Office also participated in several regional dialogues and exchanges in partnership with the IDB, on gender-responsive policing, cyber-bullying and cyber abuse in collaboration with CARICOM IMPACS, support to the Commonwealth Secretariat on Gender and Empowerment training for judicial audiences, and increased use of and reference to the UN Women-supported 5 prevalence surveys in the Caribbean region, Caribbean Women Count, the VAWG Data Hub, among numerous other speaking engagements and technical reviews.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-BRB\_D\_4.1

**Caribbean people, communities, and institutions have enhanced their adaptive capacity for inclusive, gender responsive Disaster Risk Management and climate change adaptation and mitigation. (MSDCF Outcome 5)**

UN Women is collaborating on a joint programme with UNDP and WFP on gender responsive climate action including disaster risk resilience. The programme is entitled Engender and will be completed in 2023. The success of the programme is also reflected in the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) Outcome 4 which states: Caribbean people, communities and institutions have enhanced their adaptive capacity for inclusive gender responsive disaster risk management and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-BRB\_D\_6.1

**Regional institutions, national governments and civil society in CARICOM generate, analyse, publicise and utilise gender statistics to design and adopt laws, systems and policies to eliminate discrimination, address structural inequalities and promote the adoption of attitudes, norms and practices that advance gender equality and women's empowerment in the Caribbean.**

The capacity of officials across CARICOM in government, civil society, academia and regional intergovernmental organisations to collect and analyse VAWG data have strengthened. National systems to manage VAWG data have strengthened with the completion and launch of national protocols for the management of VAWG data, along with a minimum dataset on VAWG indicators in Jamaica. Institutional partnerships to collect and analyse VAWG data have strengthened with an Agreement signed with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) of the University of the West Indies which will be delivering a Massive Online Open Course on VAWG Data in 2023. The knowledge base on publicly available VAWG data and research is on track to be achieved with research on the economic costs of VAWG completed in Jamaica, Grenada and Guyana.