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**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2018-2019 PROGRAMME OF WORK
SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), headquartered in Santiago, Chile, is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. Originally established by Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI) of 25 February 1948, it aims to contribute to the economic and social development of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. In June 1951, the Commission established the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City, which serves the needs of the Central American subregion, as well as Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti; and in December 1966, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean was established in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. ECLAC also maintains country offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Bogota, as well as a liaison office in Washington, D.C.

2. Pursuant to Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2000/5, entitled "Organization of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean", the ECLAC secretariat (a) provides substantive secretariat services and documentation for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; (b) undertakes studies, research and other support activities within the terms of reference of the Commission; (c) promotes economic and social development through regional and subregional cooperation and integration; (d) gathers, organizes, interprets and disseminates information and data relating to the economic and social development of the region; (e) provides advisory services to Governments, at their request, and plans, organizes and executes programmes of technical cooperation; (f) formulates and promotes development cooperation activities and projects of regional and subregional scope commensurate with the needs and priorities of the region and acts as an executing agency for such projects; (g) organizes conferences and intergovernmental and expert group meetings and sponsors training workshops, symposiums and seminars; (h) assists in bringing a regional perspective to global problems and forums and introduces global concerns at the regional and subregional levels; and (i) coordinates ECLAC activities with those of the major departments and offices at United Nations Headquarters, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations with a view to avoiding duplication and ensuring complementarity in the exchange of information.

3. This report highlights the activities carried out by ECLAC in the Caribbean subregion between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2019. Subprogramme 12 of the ECLAC programme of work 2018-2019 ("Subregional activities in the Caribbean") covers the Commission's work in Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands. Subprogramme 11 ("Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America") includes activities conducted in the Caribbean member States of Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In addition, countries of the Caribbean were included in activities organized under the 12 other substantive Subprogrammes of the ECLAC programme of work 2018-2019, namely: (a) linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation; (b) production and innovation; (c) macroeconomic policies and growth; (d) financing for development; (e) social development and equity; (f) mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development; (g) population and development; (h) planning of public administration; (i) sustainable development and human settlements; (j) natural resources and infrastructure; (k) statistics; and (l) Support to regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations.

A. SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

4. Subprogramme 12, “Subregional activities in the Caribbean”, seeks to promote and strengthen development within the Caribbean subregion and enhance the subregion’s cooperation with Latin American countries by achieving (a) improved capacities of policy makers from countries in the subregion to formulate, implement and monitor measures to overcome development challenges and promote economic diversification and social transformation; (b) enhanced capacity and technical expertise to follow up on the major international agreements in the economic, social and environmental fields, including follow up to the Mauritius Strategy for implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action; and (c) enhanced capacity of Caribbean governments and institutions to promote intra- and inter-regional cooperation and integration. In the light of this overall objective, normative as well as technical cooperation activities, in line with the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, were implemented by the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in collaboration with United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, subregional organizations and other development partners.

5. Within this framework, the core functions of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean are (a) to conduct research on economic and social development in the countries of the Caribbean and formulate proposals and recommendations relating to such studies (see annex I); (b) to formulate proposals and render technical cooperation to the countries and institutions in the subregion on a wide range of issues related to economic, environmental and social development (see annex II); (c) to provide secretariat services to the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC); and (d) to prepare country notes on the subregion and contribute to studies and reports prepared by ECLAC (ST/SGB/2000/5). Activities were implemented in collaboration with, as well as with input from other divisions and offices of ECLAC, United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, and various other development partners in the Caribbean. These included the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), CANARI, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company (CCRIF SPC), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Commonwealth Secretariat (ComSec), the Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC), the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

1. Research on economic, social and sustainable development

6. The subprogramme furthered its efforts to facilitate and support the shaping of subregional perspectives on key issues of interest and concern through the conduct of research on a range of issues related to the economic, social and sustainable development, and the convening of meetings, seminars and workshops of relevance to the Caribbean subregion. Many of the research studies, which provided recommendations to policymakers and decision-makers, were reviewed at ad hoc meetings of experts convened in programme areas which included the economy, ICT for Development, disaster risk management, the environment, gender, social development and statistics.

7. The first edition of the *Caribbean Outlook* provides a comprehensive assessment of the subregion’s critical challenges and constraints, and proposes a future to be attained through a holistic and forward-

looking response to these challenges. The *Outlook* identifies key policies and priorities in the economic, social and environmental spheres which, properly implemented, can facilitate the fulfillment of the subregional vision, and highlights cross-cutting issues which are integral to multisectoral policy planning and decision-making - gender mainstreaming; the role of information and communication technology (ICT) of development; and the importance of evidence-based decision-making.

8. The annual *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* presents a comparative analysis of macroeconomic trends in the Caribbean member States against a background of national, regional and international developments. The most recent edition provided policymakers with an in-depth discussion of the economic performance in the subregion and noted that average real growth in the Caribbean increased from the previous year, despite the effects of hurricanes in the subregion. The *Survey* also reported a modest increase in employment levels as well as the shrinking of the average fiscal deficit relative to the previous year. The annual *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean* examines the main factors which influenced the economic performance of the subregion and on that basis makes short-term projections. The latest edition noted that, while downside risks from inherent vulnerabilities exist and high debt levels remain a threat, consistent fiscal consolidation efforts have seen fiscal deficits shrink and debt ratios fall across the subregion. The *Preliminary Overview* therefore projected a slight improvement in economic performance in the Caribbean.

9. The study entitled “*Using Universal Service Funds to increase access to technology for persons with disabilities in the Caribbean*” examines how Universal Service Funds (USFs) can be utilized in Caribbean small island developing States to increase access to technology for persons with disabilities. It sets out the background, challenges and achievements of existing Caribbean USFs, identifies best practices, and proposes recommendations for Caribbean SIDS wishing to establish or improve existing USFs to increase access to technology for persons with disabilities in the subregion.

10. “*Strengthening ICT and Knowledge Management capacity in support of the sustainable development of multi-island Caribbean SIDS*” investigates the role that ICT and knowledge management (KM) are playing in supporting sustainable development across multi-island jurisdictions. With special attention given to health, education and governance, case studies of select multi-island Caribbean countries explore inter-island differences in ICT and KM capacity, identify the scope for strengthening this capacity, and provide a series of recommendations for multi-island Caribbean governments working to strengthen these capacities across islands.

11. A second volume of “*Mainstreaming disaster risk management strategies in development instruments*” offers new profiles of disaster risk management (DRM) policy in five Caribbean countries. The document analyses their interaction with broader development issues as well as with planning and development instruments such as national development plans and climate change adaptation strategies. It also presents policy recommendations to strengthen the role of DRM and to improve the use of resources through multisectoral projects that build resilience to disasters and climate change.

12. Flooding as an extreme event has become progressively evident in the Caribbean and often results in significant disruption of economic and social life. “*An economic analysis of flooding in the Caribbean*” takes a case study approach using Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago to investigate the potential economic impacts of recurrent flood events and the potential cost saving benefit of specific flood control interventions. The study also seeks to highlight the importance of systematically collecting data related to such events to facilitate recovery and reconstruction, as well as to provide an evidence-based approach to planning and selecting flood mitigation measures.

13. The recurrence and ubiquitous nature of sargassum blooms in the Caribbean has resulted in significant disruptions of economic and social life in the affected areas, as well as negative impact on the

ecological equilibrium of coastal regions. The initial findings of the ECLAC study “*Preliminary Scoping Assessment of the Impact of Sargassum on the Economies of the Caribbean*” were presented at an international conference on sargassum in Guadeloupe in October 2019.

14. “*Gender mainstreaming in national sustainable development planning in the Caribbean*” explores gender mainstreaming as a key factor in national development planning, and describes subregional experiences and trends in mainstreaming gender. It highlights the frameworks and commitments which guide gender mainstreaming in national development planning, and articulates the goals and challenges of mainstreaming gender in planning. The study offers policy recommendations for advancing gender equality through effective mainstreaming of gender in national development planning, and as part of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

15. While noting that population and development issues are clearly considered during national development planning in the Caribbean, a study entitled “*Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development in the Caribbean*” suggests that implementation over the last five years remains a challenge. The study provides an overview of the status of implementation of the Montevideo Consensus in the Caribbean, highlighting areas of measurable progress including universal access to sexual and reproductive health services, reduction in adolescent fertility, and reduction in children under-five and infant mortality. It also points to areas where progress was more difficult, including efforts to reduce youth unemployment, crime and violence.

16. The United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS) provide “a solid basis for all ethical and quality-related conceptual documents throughout the world”, and adherence to these principles is a necessary precondition for good practices in official statistics. “*A review of Caribbean national statistical legislation in relation to the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics*” provides a comprehensive appraisal of 26 statistical legislative frameworks in 24 Caribbean countries vis-à-vis their incorporation of the UNFPOS. It offers recommendations on how countries might fully incorporate the UNFPOS in their legal frameworks; this is especially important since the requirements for effective monitoring of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has renewed interest in official data and statistics.

17. One of the priorities of the subprogramme was to support the small island developing States (SIDS) agenda and the SAMOA Pathway in the subregion and globally. To this end, the Caribbean SAMOA Pathway mid-term review report – prepared by ECLAC with wide stakeholder consultation – was used as a supporting document to inform the outcome of the San Pedro Declaration for Caribbean SIDS at a meeting convened in Belize in August 2018 by UNDESA and ECLAC. The report also informed outcomes of the SAMOA Pathway Inter-regional mid-term review and the 74th United Nations General Assembly SAMOA Pathway high-level review.

18. Annex I lists the research publications produced by the subprogramme during the reporting period.

2. Technical cooperation for sustainable development

19. The subprogramme responded directly to specific requests of member States, offering technical and advisory services for capacity-building and institutional strengthening.

20. Technical missions were undertaken in Aruba, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Sint Maarten, to assist with the establishment of an institutional framework for SDG implementation and the integration of the SDGs in the national development planning process in these

countries. Technical assistance was provided to Dominica in integrating and aligning sectoral strategic plans with long-term national development plans. Technical support was also provided to Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in making their 2010 census data available online using REDATAM.

21. In collaboration with the Natural Resource and Infrastructure Division, the subprogramme completed the BIEE Caribbean project to develop energy efficiency indicators for Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. The project focused on the agricultural, energy, services and transportation sectors, and enables the countries to better address energy-related issues including energy security, the economic and social impact of high energy prices and climate change concerns.

22. ECLAC provided technical support to the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) in Jamaica in convening the 19th Annual SALISES Conference in Montego Bay, Jamaica in April 2018, to discuss the challenges to sustainable development in the Caribbean and recommend practical options for implementing the 2030 Agenda in the subregion.

23. The Government of Saint Lucia benefitted from ECLAC's technical assistance in preparing its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) for presentation at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). Saint Lucia also received technical support in developing a national gender policy statement and strategy, as well as in strengthening the production and management of gender data and statistics. Demographers and statistics officers in the Demography Unit of the Central Statistical Office were also trained on processing and compiling of key national demographic indicators.

24. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago (GOTT) benefitted from ECLAC's technical assistance in developing a new trade policy and strategy which addressed avenues for economic diversification, expanding existing and exploring new markets for goods and services export, and achieving trade-related SDGs. ECLAC also provided technical assistance to the GOTT in reviewing the Standard Means Test to enhance the efficiency of targeting mechanisms of eligibility for access to social protection programmes, grants and schemes.

25. The subprogramme contributed to the building of national capacities in the Caribbean through training workshops and seminars. Over 270 government and UN officials from across the region were trained in the conduct of post-disaster assessments using the DaLA methodology. Further, the subprogramme conducted a disaster assessment in Guatemala following the eruption of Volcan de Fuego in June 2018, and undertook another in the Bahamas following the passage of Hurricane Dorian in September 2019. In addition, a Disaster Methodology Assessment Exercise Guide (both in English and Spanish) was published jointly with ILPES. This educational material explains the key concepts contained in the Handbook for Disaster Assessment.

26. ECLAC, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), convened a Regional Workshop on Integrated Policies and Policy Coherence for the SDGs. The workshop - which brought together 32 country participants from Ministries of Planning and Finance, National Statistical Offices, line ministries, as well as representatives of international organizations - aimed at strengthening the participants' capacities for integrated planning and policy coherence in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the subregion. It also included a "train-the-trainer" component to facilitate the transfer of knowledge to other representatives involved in planning and policy development.

27. In preparation for the 2020 round of censuses, ECLAC collaborated with UNFPA and CARICOM to organize a regional workshop on strengthening statistical capacity for census and SDGs in the Caribbean. Participants from more than 20 countries attended the event, which covered key aspects of the different

stages of the census process: planning, data collection, producing census outputs and the utilization of census data.

28. Annex II lists the seminars and workshops conducted by the ECLAC, while Annex III provides the full scope of technical assistance provided to the countries of the Caribbean by the subregional headquarters.

3. Caribbean Development and Cooperation

29. The subprogramme successfully convened the 27th Session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) held at the Ministerial level in Gros Islet, Saint Lucia in April 2018. Representatives from thirteen member States¹ and six associate members² attended the Session. The Committee: (i) endorsed the recommendations of the Caribbean Development Roundtable, and welcomed the establishment of a Task Force to further advance the debt for climate adaptation swap proposal; (ii) agreed to enhance support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean; (iii) supported the promotion of awareness of the economic impact of de-risking in the Caribbean; and (iv) agreed to ensure synergy in the implementation of the SDGs and the SAMOA Pathway in the Caribbean. The CDCC also considered the report of the eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee and summary of conclusions and recommendations of its technical-level meeting and adopted the programme of work for the year 2020, which was subsequently approved by ECLAC at its thirty-sixth session, held in Havana in May 2018.

30. The nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC - convened in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in May 2019 - engaged 11 CDCC member States³ and seven Associate Members⁴, as well as delegates from other organizations, in discussion around repositioning the vulnerable and highly indebted Caribbean SIDS on a path to sustainable development, as well as revitalizing the Caribbean Regional Coordinating Mechanism by re-shaping its mandate to embrace responsibility for supporting at the technical level implementation of both Agenda 2030 and the SIDS sustainable development agenda.

31. Policymakers and experts from member countries and partner institutions also attended meetings convened by the subprogramme on global fora and regional development issues affecting the subregion. The fifth Caribbean Development Roundtable (CDR), a forum for development experts to explore innovative responses to the challenges to the sustainable development confronted by the small island developing states of the Caribbean, was convened ahead of the 27th Session of the CDCC with the theme "Promoting climate resilience and sustainable economic growth in the Caribbean". The Roundtable explored issues critical to Caribbean sustainable development, including financing green investment for resilience building and structural transformation; promoting both fiscal and financial responsibility in efforts to moderate the subregion's high debt burden; addressing the vulnerability of Caribbean economies caused by de-risking; and advancing the ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative.

32. The seventh meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) for the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was convened in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in March 2018. One of the key decisions of the meeting was to undertake a more in-depth

¹ Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Martinique, Montserrat and Sint Maarten.

³ Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

⁴ Anguilla, Aruba, the British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

analysis of the mechanics of strengthening the TAC/RCM, with a view toward expanding the mandate of the RCM to include monitoring of the SDGs and the SIDS-specific agenda. In September 2019 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, ECLAC prepared a document and convened a meeting with key stakeholders of the TAC/RCM. The meeting aimed at revitalizing the RCM as a critical vehicle for identifying SIDS priorities, developing SIDS-SIDS cooperation, and facilitating a more effective synergy in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Caribbean SIDS Agenda through the SAMOA Pathway. The meeting identified a new structure and functioning for the coordinating mechanism, to ensure an integrated approach to sustainable development in the Caribbean by enhancing the coherence, complementarity and congruence of development activities.

33. The subregional preparatory meeting of the XIV session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in June 2019. The meeting provided a forum to identify the main challenges to gender mainstreaming in climate resilience and mitigation as well as in disaster risk reduction. The meeting reaffirmed synergies between the Montevideo Strategy and the Beijing +25 Review.

34. Youth Directors and other senior level government officials responsible for youth affairs from 15 countries and other organizations engaged in a high-level subregional dialogue in Georgetown, Guyana in July 2018, around the issue of youth and development in the Caribbean. During the dialogue, they reviewed the state of youth policies and programmes and the level of youth engagement in the development process in the Caribbean, and identified several major gaps, including the limited role of youth in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

35. ECLAC, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), convened the Learning Conference on Implementing the 2030 Agenda in the Caribbean in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in May 2019. The Conference focused on practical learning and the exchange of knowledge and experiences among participants involved in the process of integrating the SDGs in their countries' national development plans and budgets.

36. A meeting of the Task Force formed to advance the ECLAC Debt for Climate Adaptation Swap Initiative was convened in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in February 2018. The meeting discussed the conceptual framework and design of the initiative, and explored engaging the Green Climate Fund as a potential partner. The subregional headquarters for the Caribbean subsequently conducted scenario analyses on debt sustainability, which led to the development of practical debt reduction options for three pilot countries⁵. Further, at a meeting of experts held in St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda in October 2019, the strategy was reformulated to incorporate the initiation of a Caribbean Resilience Facility, designed to attract large scale funding for climate resilience building while addressing debt reduction in the Caribbean.

37. Annex IV lists the meetings organized for the Caribbean under the subprogramme.

4. Resolutions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

38. During its 27th Ministerial Session, the CDCC adopted the following resolutions: Resolution 97 (XXVII), "Further advancing a debt-swap initiative for the Caribbean"; Resolution 98 (XXVII), "Enhancing support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean"; Resolution 99 (XXVII), "Promoting awareness of the economic impact of de-risking in the

⁵ Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Caribbean”; Resolution 100 (XXVII), “Ensuring synergy in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway in the Caribbean subregion”; and Resolution 101 (XXVII), “Support for the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Caribbean”.

39. Several parallel activities were undertaken to advance the debt relief initiative. The subprogramme held consultations with the GCF in Grenada, during which the GCF recommended that ECLAC seek accreditation in order to receive support for the initiative. The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean also worked to develop more fully the first phase of the Debt Swap initiative, which involves Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. This work included a comprehensive review of the debt profile of the three countries and their priorities with respect to the Debt Swap initiative. The strategic approach to the initiative was also reformulated to incorporate the initiation of a Caribbean Resilience Facility, designed to attract large scale funding for climate resilience building while addressing debt reduction in the Caribbean (resolution 97 (XXVII)).

40. [Reported in section B] Consistent with the commitment to renew the delivery of assistance to member States towards strengthening their capacity for risk assessment and resilience building, and further to resolution 91 (XXVI), the subprogramme engaged in capacity-building of over 270 disaster management specialists from seven countries, including five Caribbean countries. The subprogramme also presented policy recommendations - through a multi-country policy brief - to strengthen the role of DRM and to improve the use of resources through multisectoral projects that build resilience to disasters and climate change. Other activities have been incorporated into the 2020 programme of work of the subregional headquarters (resolution 98 (XXVII)).

41. [Reported in section B] In line with the mandate of resolution 100 (XXVII), the subprogramme, through the development account project “*Strengthening institutional frameworks in the Caribbean for an integrative approach to implement the 2030 Agenda and the SIDS Sustainable Development Agenda*” and other mechanisms, is supporting the synergizing of the Sustainable Development Goals and Caribbean SIDS agendas by improving the capacity of Caribbean countries to integrate the SDGs and the SIDS agenda into coherent national development plans. The project is also assisting in improving the institutional capacity of Caribbean SIDS to review and follow-up on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SIDS agenda. To date, several countries⁶ - including three CDCC Associate Members - have benefitted from technical missions towards these objectives. ECLAC also sought to reposition the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) as a critical vehicle for identifying SIDS priorities, developing SIDS-SIDS cooperation, and facilitating a more effective synergy in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Caribbean SIDS Agenda through the SAMOA Pathway.

42. The subprogramme continued to support the development of the Associate Members, as noted in the previous paragraph. Anguilla and Montserrat continue to be included in the research and analysis undertaken for the *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean*; efforts are underway to include other Associate Members (resolution 101 (XXVII)).

43. Promotional activities of the subprogramme served to extend the reach and awareness of the organization in the various communities as a development partner in the subregion. These activities included an International Women’s Day event, hosting a series of dialogue sessions on Caribbean Youth issues, an event marking World Population Day themed “*Family planning is a human right*”, and an event

⁶ Aruba, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Sint Maarten.

under the theme “*Positive Community, Positive Role Models*” related to International Men’s Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (resolution 101 (XXVII)).

B. ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN UNDER OTHER SUBPROGRAMMES

44. Countries of the Caribbean participated in a wide variety of activities implemented under the eleven other subprogrammes of ECLAC during the reporting period.

1. Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean

45. Member States from the Caribbean attended intergovernmental meetings organized by ECLAC for Latin America and the Caribbean (see Table 2).

Table 2. Intergovernmental meetings organized by ECLAC for Latin America and the Caribbean

Meeting	Venue	Date
Ninth Meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean	San José	28 February – 4 March 2018
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development	Santiago	16–20 April 2018
Seventh Meeting of The Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation	Santiago	17 April 2018
Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	Cartagena de Indias	18–20 April 2018
Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee	Gros Islet	27 April 2018
Thirty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Havana	7–11 May 2018
Fifty-Seventh Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santiago	30-31 July 2018
Third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Lima	7–9 August 2018
Twenty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)	Santo Domingo	30 August 2018
Second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama City	12 September 2018
Eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation	Santiago	3 October 2018
Seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Santiago	3–4 October 2018
First regional dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean “On the road to equality”: 30 years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Santiago	27–29 November 2018
Fifty-Eighth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santiago	22–23 January 2019
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development	Santiago	22–26 April 2019
Third Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santiago	23 April 2019
Caribbean preparatory meeting of the XIV session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Port of Spain	18 June 2019
Preparatory meeting of the XIV session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean with Mexico, countries of Central America and Spanish speaking countries of the Caribbean	Santiago (online)	26 June 2019

Meeting	Venue	Date
Preparatory meeting of the XIV session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean with the countries of South America	Santiago (online)	27 June 2019
XVII Meeting of the Regional Council for Planning	Montevideo	29–30 August 2019
Third Meeting of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico City	1–3 October 2019
Fourth meeting Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santiago	9-10 October 2019
Thirty-fourth session of the Committee of the Whole	New York	15 October 2019
Tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Santiago	19–21 November 2019

46. The report of the twenty-seventh session of CDCC was submitted to the thirty-seventh session of ECLAC, held from 7-11 May 2018 in Havana. Consequent on that report, ECLAC adopted resolution 727 (XXXVII) (“Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee”), in which it took note of the resolutions adopted during the twenty-seventh session of the CDCC, the recommendations formulated during the eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of CDCC, and the conclusions reached at the fifth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable, and urged the Executive Secretary to employ all measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the respective resolutions, recommendations and conclusions.

2. Activities for the Caribbean

47. Various technical cooperation activities in the Caribbean were conducted by the substantive divisions at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago as well as by the subregional headquarters in Mexico between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2019, and are included in annex V.

C. CONCLUSION

48. The programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 focused on regional issues in economic, social and sustainable development, as well as in statistics and knowledge management. The 2020 activities undertaken have been/will be organized in collaboration with a range of ECLAC divisions and development partners in the Caribbean, and continue to focus and build upon the achievements of this and previous biennia, with particular attention given to supporting the progress of CDCC countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the SIDS development agenda.

Annex I

**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS UNDER
SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN
1 JANUARY 2018 - 31 DECEMBER 2019**

- Análisis retrospectiva de las inundaciones: lecciones y recomendaciones – Argentina (LC/CAR/TS.2018/1)
- The Caribbean Outlook 2018 (LC/SES.37/14/Rev.1)
- Preliminary overview of the economies of the Caribbean 2017–2018 (LC/CAR/TS.2018/2)
- Mainstreaming disaster risk management strategies in development instruments – Policy briefs for Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago (LC/CAR/TS.2018/3)
- Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development in the Caribbean: A review of the period 2013-2018 (LC/CAR/TS.2018/4)
- Economic Survey of the Caribbean 2018 (LC/CAR/TS.2018/5)
- An economic analysis of flooding in the Caribbean – the case of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago (LC/CAR/TS.2019/1)
- Using Universal Service Funds to increase access to technology for persons with disabilities in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2019/2)
- Preliminary overview of the Caribbean 2018–2019 (LC/CAR/TS.2019/3)
- Strengthening ICT and knowledge management capacity in support of the sustainable development of multi-island Caribbean SIDS (LC/CAR/TS.2019/4)
- Economic Survey of the Caribbean 2019 (LC/CAR/TS.2019/5)
- Synthesis of the Caribbean subregion midterm review report of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (LC/CAR/TS.2019/6)
- The enhancement of resilience to disasters and climate change in the Caribbean through the modernization of the energy sector (LC/CAR/TS.2019/7)
- Industrial upgrading and diversification to address the competitiveness challenges in the Caribbean: the case of tourism (LC/CAR/TS.2019/8)
- A review of Caribbean national statistical legislation against the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (LC/CAR/TS.2019/9)
- Gender mainstreaming in national sustainable development planning in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2019/10)
- A preliminary review of policy responses to enhance SME access to trade financing in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/TS.2019/11)

- Promoting debt sustainability to facilitate financing sustainable development in selected Caribbean countries: a scenario analysis of ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative (LC/CAR/TS.2019/12)
- Proposal for a revitalized Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee – Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Sustainable Development (CDCC-RCM) LC/CAR/TS.2019/13)
- Caribbean synthesis report on the implementation of the Lisbon Declaration on youth policies and programmes (LC/CAR/TS.2020/1)
- Gender data assessment in Saint Lucia: challenges and recommendations (LC/CAR/R.2019/1)

Annex II**MEETINGS CONVENED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
FOR THE CARIBBEAN, 1 JANUARY 2018 - 31 DECEMBER 2019**

Meeting	Venue and date	Participating members and associate members
Second meeting of the task force to advance the ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative	Port of Spain 23 February 2018	Jamaica, Anguilla
Seventh meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism	Port of Spain 23 March 2018	Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago
Expert group meeting on monitoring frameworks for Sustainable Development Goal reporting in the Caribbean	Montego Bay 25–27 April 2018	The Bahamas, Jamaica, Aruba
Fifth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable	Gros Islet 26 April 2018	Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Martinique, Montserrat, Sint Maarten
Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee	Gros Islet 27 April 2018	Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Martinique, Montserrat, Sint Maarten
Caribbean Forum on Population, Youth and Development	Georgetown 24–26 July 2018	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat
Caribbean consultations in preparation for the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway) Interregional Midterm Review	Port of Spain 12 October 2018	The Bahamas, Belize, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Aruba, Curaçao
Expert group meeting on the enhancement of resilience to disasters and climate change in the Caribbean through the modernization of the energy sector	Port of Spain 26 November 2018	Trinidad and Tobago
Expert group meeting on industrial upgrading and diversification to address competitiveness challenges in the Caribbean	Port of Spain 3 May 2019	The Bahamas, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis
Learning Conference on implementing the Sustainable Development Agenda in the Caribbean Region	Port of Spain 15–16 May 2019	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands
Nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee	Port of Spain 17 May 2019	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands
Subregional preparatory meeting of the XIV session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Port of Spain 18 June 2019	The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, British Virgin

Meeting	Venue and date	Participating members and associate members
		Islands, Cayman Islands, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands
Expert group meeting to review a study on an economic analysis of flooding in the Caribbean: the case of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain 25 July 2019	Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago
Expert group meeting on using universal service funds to increase access to technologies for persons with disabilities	Port of Spain 6 August 2019	Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Bermuda, Cayman Islands
Expert group meeting on strengthening ICT and knowledge management capacity in support of the sustainable development of multi-island Caribbean SIDS	Port of Spain 3 October 2019	Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands
Expert group meeting to advance the ECLAC Debt for Climate Adaptation Swap Initiative	Saint John's 28–29 October 2019	Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
Expert group meeting examining trade financing for small and medium-sized enterprises in the Caribbean	Port of Spain 22 November 2019	Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago

Annex III**SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS CONVENED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN, 1 JANUARY 2018 - 31 DECEMBER 2019**

Title of seminar/workshop	Venue and date	Participating members and associate members
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Eastern Caribbean Central Bank	Basseterre 16–18 April 2018	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Rosario and San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina	Rosario 7–8 May 2018 San Salvador de Jujuy 10–11 May 2018	Argentina
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Tobago Emergency Management Agency	Crown Point 23–25 May 2018	Trinidad and Tobago
Training course on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Guatemala City, Guatemala	Guatemala City 16–17 August 2018 20–21 August 2018	Guatemala
Training course on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Havana, Cuba	Havana 11–13 October 2018	Cuba
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – The Valley, Anguilla	The Valley 24–25 October 2018	Anguilla
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Nassau, the Bahamas	Nassau 14–15 November 2018	The Bahamas
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Tortola, British Virgin Islands	Tortola 6 December 2018	British Virgin Islands
Workshop on climate change adaptation, disaster risk and resilience in the Caribbean – Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain 6–8 February 2019	Trinidad and Tobago
Workshop on the use of the ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology – Buenos Aires, Argentina	Buenos Aires 19–21 February 2019	Argentina
Workshop on gender mainstreaming in national sustainable development planning in the Caribbean	Port of Spain 17 June 2019	The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands
Workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology - Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands	Providenciales 30–31 July 2019	Turks and Caicos Islands
Regional workshop on repositioning of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee Regional Coordinating Mechanism as the Caribbean Small Island Developing States mechanism for sustainable development	Port of Spain 17–18 September 2019	Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago
Training course on increasing access to technology for persons with disabilities	Port of Spain 23 October 2019	Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago,
Regional workshop on Integrated Policies and Policy Coherence for SDGs for Caribbean SIDS	Port of Spain 13-15 November 2019	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, the British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten

Title of seminar/workshop	Venue and date	Participating members and associate members
Workshop on census data dissemination using REDATAM – Dominica, and Saint Kitts and Nevis	Basseterre 18–20 November 2019	Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis
Training workshop on TradeCAN, MAGIC Plus and WITS	Port of Spain 3–5 December 2019	Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago

Annex IV**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
FOR THE CARIBBEAN, 1 JANUARY 2018 - 31 DECEMBER 2019**

Dates	Member or associate member and description of assistance
	Anguilla
24-25 October 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Argentina
7-8 May 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
10-11 May 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
17-21 February 2019	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	The Bahamas
14-15 November 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	The British Virgin Islands
6 December 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Cuba
11-13 October 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Guatemala
20 June – 12 July 2018	Conduct damage and loss assessment in the wake of Volcán de Fuego eruption
16-17 August 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
20-21 August 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Jamaica
24-26 April 2018	Technical support in convening the 19 th Annual SALISES Conference to discuss the challenges to sustainable development in the Caribbean and recommend practical options for implementing the 2030 Agenda in the subregion.
	Saint Lucia
22 October – 2 November 2018	Training on processing and compiling key national demographic indicators.
February - July 2019	Technical assistance in developing a national gender policy statement and strategy, as well as strengthening the production and management of gender data and statistics.
4-6 December 2019	Scoping mission re: Technical assistance on the Personal Youth Development Programme SYNERGY Pathway
	Trinidad and Tobago
July 2018 – August 2019	Technical assistance in the development of a new trade policy and strategy to enhance and diversify the country's economy and exports.
	Turks and Caicos Islands
30-31 January 2019	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB)
16-18 April 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.
	Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)
23-25 May 2018	Training on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology.

Annex V

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY OTHER DIVISIONS OF ECLAC
1 JANUARY 2018 - 31 DECEMBER 2019**

Dates	Member or associate member and description of assistance
Cuba	
14–19 January 2018	To provide technical assistance in the strengthening of the tomato canning value chain at the request of the Ministry of Food Industry.
14–16 March 2018	Dialogue table on the tomato canning value chain, and first meeting on the farmed shrimps value chain. Substantive analysis, elaboration of diagnosis and /or exploratory missions to be prepared at the request of the Ministry of Food Industry.
30 April–4 May 2018	To conduct field visit of two shrimp farms with the objective to prepare a diagnosis of the farmed shrimps value chain.
29–31 May 2018	Training on a methodology to design and implement a medium-term public debt management strategy for officials from the Ministry of Finance and Prices, the Central Bank of Cuba, and the Permanent Commission for Implementation and Development.
30 May–1 June 2018	Workshop on debt sustainability analysis for officials of the Ministry of Finance and Prices, Economy and Planning, and of the Central Bank of Cuba.
17–19 June 2018	Second dialogue table on the tomato canning value chain, and first dialogue table on the farmed shrimps value chain.
27–28 September 2018	To present diagnosis on the value chain analysis of farmed shrimp, programme proposals and strategies to improve the competitiveness of the farmed shrimps value chain.
23–26 October 2018	Workshop on Financial Programming for officials from the Ministry of Finance and Prices, Ministry of Economy and Planning, and the Central Bank of Cuba.
3–6 March 2019	Technical cooperation in support of the National Plan for Economic and Social Development until 2030.
Dominican Republic	
3–8 June 2018	Consultation with the Dominican Coffee Institute (INDOCAFE) and the National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism (CNCCMDL) regarding a publication on coffee and possible new technical cooperation.
29–30 October 2018	Case study on the dairy value chain in the eastern provinces of the country at the request of the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Presentation of the preliminary findings.
Haiti	
3–17 March 2018	To provide technical assistance in the area of social protection.
6–12 May 2018	Follow-up mission re technical assistance in the area of social protection.
3–7 November 2018	Follow-up mission re technical assistance in the area of social protection.
16–20 June 2019	Strengthening government and civil society capacity to incorporate economic and social rights into macroeconomic policy.
10–13 December 2019	Follow-up mission re technical assistance in the area of social protection.
Trinidad and Tobago	
3–5 December 2019	Workshop MAGIC, TradeCAN, and WITS.