INDEPENDENT COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATION
BARBADOS & THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN

EVALUATION PERIOD: 2017-2020

COUNTRY PROFILE

Population: 954,000 people
Debt to GDP ratio: 40% (2018)
Natural disasters recorded in the region: 4,000+ (since 2003)
Gender gap in income: 33% (2019)
Unemployment: 13%

PROGRAMME OUTCOME AREAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome Area</th>
<th>2017-2020 Expenditure</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation</td>
<td>$33.6</td>
<td>$128.3 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social protection</td>
<td>$7.7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizen security</td>
<td>$5.9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural resource management</td>
<td>$6.3</td>
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Total budget: 128.3 M
ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE
By generating evaluative evidence, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) supports UNDP to achieve greater accountability and facilitates improved learning from experience. The IEO enhances UNDP’s development effectiveness through its programmatic and thematic evaluations and contributes to organizational transparency.

ABOUT ICPEs
The IEO of UNDP conducts Independent Country Programme Evaluations (ICPEs) to assess UNDP’s performance at the country level. These evaluations support the formulation of a new UNDP country programme strategy in facilitating and leveraging national efforts to advance inclusive and sustainable development.

CONCLUSIONS

1. UNDP has enhanced its programme, expanded its presence and promptly responded to the priorities and needs of Governments.

2. UNDP appropriately focused on environmental vulnerability and climate change. Insufficient resources were made available to support inequality reduction and reduce economic vulnerability.

3. UNDP engaged in a high number of projects, stretching its operational and programme capacity.

4. The multi-country coverage of the office in Barbados challenged effectiveness and sustainability of results. Project implementation was too activity-oriented, with limited attention to theories of change.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNDP

1. Maintain strategic engagement in the subregion with a stronger focus on inequality reduction and sustainable employment.

2. Improve project delivery by strengthening operational support and procurement.

3. Better account for local context, with project activities to promote outcome-level change and sustained institutional strengthening.

4. Further leverage partnerships with UN agencies and non-state actors in areas of shared interest.

5. Take measures to ensure the financial sustainability of the MCO.