



Tobagonians to build model of Tobago to plan for impacts of climate change and extreme climatic events

Laventille (CANARI) 28 August 2012 – Over 200 residents of Tobago will come together in early October 2012 to build a three-dimensional model of Tobago that can contribute to formulating responses to the impacts of climate change and extreme climatic events.

The process will be facilitated by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), the University of the West Indies (UWI), the Tobago House of Assembly, Division of Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment (DAME) and the Partners with Melanesians (PwM). The project is funded by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP).

The project will pilot, for the first time in the region, the use of participatory three-dimensional modelling. Participatory three-dimensional modelling is a tool that can be used across the Caribbean islands to facilitate effective participation by local communities and other stakeholders in the identification of general policy priorities, as well as specific policies and actions needed on the ground at the landscape and site level to address the impacts of climate change and extreme climatic events. This tool will allow inclusion of relevant knowledge (including traditional / indigenous knowledge), increase capacity, facilitate coordination and collaboration across sectors, and build buy-in for implementation of plans for resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events.

In this regard, 15 trainees from the region (including five from Tobago) will be trained to facilitate the building of the model, and nearly 50 observers from the region will visit during the construction of the model. Lessons learned and experiences will be documented and shared using a variety of media including participatory video, blogs and policy briefs.

On Wednesday 5th and 6th September 2012, UWI, DAME and CANARI will host mobilisation meetings in east and south-west Tobago to sensitise the residents in Tobago about the project and to confirm participation of civil society groups in the exercise.

About CANARI

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is a regional technical non-profit organisation which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for more than 20 years. Our mission is to promote and facilitate equitable participation and effective collaboration in the management of natural resources critical to development in the Caribbean islands, so that people will have a

better quality of life and natural resources will be conserved, through action learning and research, capacity building, communication and fostering partnerships.

For further information, please contact:

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Submitted on 28 August 2012