

**Review of selected areas of research
on the Caribbean subregion in the 2000s:
identifying the main gaps**

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Abstract

This study has been prepared to assist the French Development Agency (AFD), as part of the implementation of its Framework for Action Regional Caribbean, to identify the main development issues of the Caribbean region and areas of future research.

The study focuses on the state of the research in the Caribbean region and proposes areas for future collaboration between the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the AFD. The areas of enquiry cover economic, social and cultural, environmental and international relations, with an emphasis on public policy. The study also presents the key institutions driving the research and the main outcomes of the publications. It also identifies, subject by subject, the main research gaps which emerge despite the considerable body of research done in the region.

Caribbean countries have many similarities such as their relatively small size and high vulnerability to external shocks and environmental disasters, however, beneath these similarities can be found different approaches to growth and development.

In terms of coverage, this study focuses principally on the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)¹ member States as well as the CARICOM countries plus the Dominican Republic (CARIFORUM)², the associate CARICOM member States³, the Caribbean observer members⁴ and countries of the French Caribbean territories⁵.

¹ CARICOM includes: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² CARIFORUM: CARICOM plus Dominican Republic.

³ Associate CARICOM members include: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands Turks and Caicos Islands.

⁴ Caribbean observer members include: the United States Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico (however, in 2007 the United States Virgin Islands announced it will be seeking ties with CARICOM), the Dutch territories (Saint Martin, Curacao, Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles) and Cuba.

⁵ French Caribbean Territories include: Sint Maarten, Saint Barthélemy Guadeloupe Martinique and French Guiana.

I. Introduction

The AFD began working in the Caribbean islands in the 1980's, principally in Haiti, Dominican Republic and the French overseas departments. Since then, it extended its activities to a number of Caribbean and Latin American countries. According to its different intervention mandates and through several financial instruments, AFD has also financed projects in Cuba, the Eastern Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago) and Jamaica. Recently, renewed interest by the AFD in the Caribbean has been motivated by their interest in sustainable growth and development (cf. www.afd.fr). Caribbean countries often claim a shared heritage, principally based on their historical experience, which translates into a Caribbean identity. While there are similarities there are also differences based on differing models of growth and development. They have also followed various development trajectories depending on their comparative advantages (raw commodities, tourism, energy etc), institutional frameworks and internal/external politics, shaping both their economy and their society.

The study finds that despite the region's relatively small size a large number of organizations, programmes and agencies engaged in regular systematic research into developmental issues, especially in the fields of economics, social and cultural development, environment, public policies in the widest sense (macroeconomic, sectoral, technological, enterprise management and entrepreneurial), as well as external relations and international development. A cross-cutting feature of this research effort has been a dedicated focus on the opportunities, scope and potential gains from pursuing regional integration and cooperation.

A key feature of the region's most prominent research is that there is a strong policy oriented element. Moreover, research in the fields of economic and public policy, social and cultural, environment and international relations is routinely policy-based. For this reasons, this study does not consider policy studies as a separate area of analysis.

This analysis of Caribbean issues, which constitutes a concrete expression of the partnership agreement signed between AFD and ECLAC in July 2010 has been devised as a two phase process. The first phase which forms the basis of this report focuses on the state of the research in the Caribbean region and proposes areas for future collaboration between the two institutions. The second phase of the study will provide an in depth analysis of the different development paths followed by Caribbean countries and explore the tension that exists between competition and integration in the region.

II. Classifying the leading research-producing bodies

In this section we categorize the main research-producing bodies. No order of ranking is intended (see table 1 in annex 1).

A. Category A: National research-producing bodies whose work routinely embraces a regional perspective

Included in this category are the national universities such as the University of Guyana (UG), University of Suriname and the University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica. This category also includes the local campuses of the regional university: The University of the West Indies (UWI). All the universities have both teaching departments producing research in the thematic areas of this study and in several instances, dedicated research departments, programmes and bodies like the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the Women's Studies Unit at UG. Similarly, the regional universities have teaching departments dedicated to servicing region-wide research. These latter may have branches at the main campuses, such as the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) or they may be only established in one territory: the Institute of International Relations (IIR) at the Trinidad and Tobago campus of UWI, to service the entire region.

Under this category, we also include research work produced by high-powered national agencies such as the Planning Institute of Jamaica and in particular the research departments of the region's central banks.

In several instances these bodies have their own means of dissemination for their research findings and may also provide outlets for relevant peer reviewed research in the areas of their focus. These outlets are varied and cover the full gamut from working papers, proceedings of conferences/workshops/seminars to the publication of books, monograph series, invited special lectures and the regular publication of peer reviewed academic journals. The published material from the universities has been very broad. The publications of the central banks, however, have focused on macroeconomics policy, international monetary and financial systems, domestic and international business cycles, regional cooperation in coping with the issues of size and central banking management, capital and financial market development, capital flows (short-term and foreign direct

investment (FDI), the management of key prices such as the interest rate and foreign exchange rate, remittance flows and sovereign indebtedness. Generally, the considerable research work coming out of this category enjoys a well-deserved reputation for quality among scholars engaged in research on the Caribbean and plays an influential role in policy formulation.

B. Category B: Research originating from established regional organizations/agencies

Generally, where public funds are involved these organizations fall directly within the ambit of CARICOM as affiliates or associate institutions or they are non-governmental and autonomous quasi-governmental institutions which are independently funded. The latter, however, are sometimes treated as affiliated institutions of CARICOM. Examples of the former include the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), especially its economics and research department and the CARICOM Secretariat itself. Examples of the latter include the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL), the Caribbean Centre for Money and Finance (CCMF), the Caribbean Tourism Organization and the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce.

CARICOM is a major research generating body in the region. It produces research from several specialized agencies (for example in the area of external trade negotiations, formerly the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) and now the Office of Trade Negotiations (OTN)), as well as under its own dedicated research programmes executed by departments of the Secretariat such as its Economic Intelligence and Policy Unit (EIPU).

The state of research output in this category is basically guided by the remit of the organization. As might be expected for CARICOM this is reflected in the intense exploration of issues related to regional integration. Research ideas in this organization distinguish between integration through market access mechanisms (the pursuit of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME)), and non-market modalities of functional integration (cooperation at the institutional and policy level). In the case of the CDB, its research concentrates on the broader challenges of financing for development.

The same set of considerations holds true for the non-governmental regional bodies. Thus, the CCL focuses on labour issues, while the CCMF, which is financed by the regional central banks, focuses on research in the areas of money and finance, broadly interpreted. Of note, the CCMF, along with the regional central banks are responsible for the region's longest standing annual research and academic conference; this year it will celebrate the 43rd Annual Regional Monetary Studies Conference.

The research work produced by this category of organizations has come from two main sources: research conducted by the professional staff of these bodies and external research, (consultancies and other studies funded by the organization concerned). CARICOM and its affiliated institutions, represent the strongest body of research emanating from within the region.

C. Category C: Intergovernmental bodies with dedicated regional agencies engaged in research

There are several examples of these: ECLAC is an outstanding example, which is discussed more fully later. Other regional-based agencies of intergovernmental bodies include the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

For the areas to be addressed in the state of research survey, ECLAC stands out for the range of coverage of its research subject areas. Much of its research is demand-driven and guided by the requirements of regional institutions, including governments. The research work of the other bodies is also very closely tailored to the remit of the particular agency and is strongly driven by policy considerations.

D. Category D: The national-based units of intergovernmental organizations

Some of the intergovernmental agencies mentioned above operate formally, at both the regional and national levels, for example PAHO. However, there are several agencies that operate exclusively at the national level in the formal sense, although they may cooperate across the region in an informal manner. Important examples of these are United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Despite their relatively limited research resources these agencies are able to operate as a catalyst for generating additional resources to cover research into the priority areas they have identified. Thus, the UNDP mainly focuses on development issues in the broadest sense, including social and cultural development, while UNESCO focuses mainly on cultural and historical issues; UNICEF focuses on issues related to children and mothers, and PAHO concentrates on health and health-related concerns.

E. Category E: International organizations based outside the region with a substantial research focus on the Caribbean

Based on its research output over the past decade, this category has made the most important contribution to the quantity and quality of the research work completed, as well as its dissemination across a heavily segmented regional market. In this category we include the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). There are also other important international organizations like UNDP, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, FAO, ILO and non-governmental international bodies like the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Transparency International, which provide a considerable amount of data on the region, in their areas of focus. A great deal of this research is survey-based.

The World Bank and IMF are clearly at the forefront of global development policy research since the 1950s. The Caribbean area features in that research. These institutions combine research with data gathering and operational practice in a unique way. Thus, the World Bank Indicators, which include hundreds of entries, covers countries in the Caribbean area. It is estimated that, as a category, these institutions have the best endowment of research resources of any currently focussing on the region.

F. Category F: Institutions linked to the technical assistance/aid activities of key advanced economies

In this category there is the United States of America (United States Agency for International Development), United States International Trade Commission, the United States Congressional Research Service (CRS), the United Kingdom (Department for International Development (DFID)), Canada (Canadian International Development Agency and International Development Research Centre), as well as a number of bodies of the European Union (EU).

Most of the research conducted in this category is linked to policy, institutional and operational considerations in support of regional development; some of this is considered to be seminal and among the best produced in the region in recent times. There is little doubt that the status of the governments behind these bodies has given them preferred access to data and information, lack of data access continues to be one of the strongest impediments to research work in the Caribbean. In this sense, therefore, this category shares the advantages of Category E institutions. The institutions in this category are also, on a comparative basis, well endowed with resources (see table 1 in annex 1, summarizing the information given above).

A broad schematic indicates the manner in which the research may be assessed. This procedure is not founded on an objective measurement of research impact, but based on both the preparation of this study and long research experiences in the region.

The procedure used is to identify the broad constituent features of research undertaken in the region, in order to establish indicators of its quality. These indicators are placed in five categories (numbered 1*, 2*, 3*, 4*, 5*). The higher numbers incorporate the features captured in the lower numbers, so that 5* is the sum of 1* to 4* plus the added features of 5* (see table 2 in annex 1).

The organizational coverage of the state of the region's research in this section indicates the surprisingly prodigious variety and volume of research output in the region. This is a striking feature of the panorama of regional research. In general, it is found that the quality of the research output is impressive.

III. Development research and policy studies

A. Economic and public policy issues

1. Economic and public policy research

In the literature searches for this section of the report we have come across literally thousands of items of completed research work, all of which in one way or another add either information, insight or analysis to our understanding of developmental issues facing the region. Selected references for this are presented in annex 2. In order to impose an organizing principle on this prodigious volume of work, it was decided to begin with first identifying and focussing on the leading contributors to this research. Located outside the region but working in very close communication with regional public authorities as well as private and non-government sectors are the World Bank and its Bretton Woods twin, the IMF. The latter's contributions have been more or less concentrated on the area of its remit and the ideas it has developed are related to these. Broadly interpreted, these centre on (a) the promotion of sound macro-economic management; (b) the promotion of efficient capital and financial market development; (c) the maintenance of sound exchange rates; and, (d) the pursuit of balance-of-payments practices that confirm to international standards and agreements. These features are considered by both the IMF and World Bank as necessary, if not sufficient, for the successful development of the small open fragile economies of the Caribbean. The World Bank's research work and theoretical inquiries, however, are more centrally located in the mainstream of economic development research and policy studies. Parenthetically, it should be observed that the work of these two organizations has been amply supplemented by the contributions of two other intergovernmental bodies, ECLAC and IDB. In the next section the contributions of these two latter bodies is addressed. Similarly, we have found that, located within the region, CARICOM and its wide range of associated institutions have been the most important autonomous and region-centred agency researching on regional economic issues (development) and related policy studies. Among the key associated institutions are OTN (formerly CRNM, the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCC) and CDB. UWI and its affiliate bodies such as SALISES and UG together with its affiliate, IDS, produce research that are both highly theoretical and policy oriented in a wide range of areas. A significant body of their policy oriented research is often sponsored by other agencies both local and international including ECLAC and the World Bank. Much of this work is of the highest quality given the range of publications in high level local and international refereed journals.

(a) The World Bank and IMF

Surveying the panorama of regional research it is clear that the Bretton Woods twins (and in particular the World Bank) have enjoyed a distinct comparative advantage within the region both in the analysis of its developmental problems and policy formulation.

Much of the World Bank data are routinely provided in its World Development Indicators database and its Global Economic Prospects series. It should be noted that IMF on a similar basis includes the region in its international fiscal, financial, exchange rate and balance of payments databases, as well as its World Economic Outlook series.

Over the years of their long experience in the region, IMF and the World Bank have shown flexibility and adaptability, emphasising different development and policy focuses as circumstances change, (although IMF much less so than the World Bank). IMF research agenda in the past focused on protectionism and as such emphasized capital controls, direct intervention by national authorities, the targeted use of credit policies and fixed exchange rates. More recently, the focus has been on a far more open, market-based financial system with little or no regulation at the national, regional or international level. The recent global financial crisis has led to negative reactions to excessive de-regulation and free unrestricted financial markets. The paradigm has once again shifted. Greater concern is now being expressed over risk management, capital adequacy and financial accounting/reporting standards. Today, these are at the forefront of their consideration. The global response by IMF to the global situations has been reflected in its regional policy proposals, which have always found strong favour with the public authorities and private sector in the region, but much less so in academic circles.

The World Bank's theoretical and policy evolution has been far more varied and complex than that of IMF over the last few decades. It has generally sought to adapt to the broader development challenges facing the region. As a consequence several distinct shifts can be observed in the evolution of the World Bank's ideas for the region's development. Because of the important role the organization has played in defining the state of regional research these shifts are outlined below (the shifts indicated are not intended to be hard and fast or so tightly compartmentalized for all countries of the region to suggest that there has been no overlap, they remain broadly indicative).

In the early years, as a large number of Caribbean countries became independent and fully fledged members of the World Bank, the World Bank emphasized efforts to subject state investments to economic efficiency tests. As the financier of most of these projects (public utilities, airports, harbours, roads, bridges and so on) the Bank had considerable leverage in ensuring that this was done. As a result in the earliest period (1950's to 1960's) Phase (1), the regional research focus was on conducting feasibility studies, cost-benefit analyses and project evaluations as standard tool-kits for Bank economists operating in the region. Alongside this the World Bank provided generous training opportunities for technicians employed in the public sector/State enterprises across the region.

In the subsequent period (the 1970s and early 1980s) phase 2: there was emphasis on the assessment of development progress as the World Bank began to play a far greater ad hoc advisory role to several Caribbean countries. In this phase there was an initial emphasis on poverty analysis, but this did not develop in this period to the now famous World Bank formal poverty models. Instead, reflecting the economic structure of the region at the time, the emphasis was on rural poverty and the development of the peasantry.

Subsequently, (the 1980s and 1990s) phase 3: the World Bank worked in close tandem with the IMF because this was a period of global crisis, where high external indebtedness, huge government budget deficits, monetary inflation, and exchange instability plagued several Caribbean countries. Huge black-markets for foreign currency and large underground economies also characterized some regional economies in this period. Not surprisingly the role of macroeconomic adjustment became the top theoretical and policy concern. It was in this period that the famous

Washington Consensus and “getting prices right” emerged as the main development focus in the World Bank and IMF.

Theoretical and policy reaction to the impacts of the global crisis on the region during this period was replaced in the late 1990s to early 2000s with a considerably more systematic assessment of poverty in the region than that undertaken in Phase (2) (the social face of adjustment). In the 1990s and early 2000s development research and policy studies focussed on (a) issues of inequality (b) social engineering, basic services (health and education) and (c) reducing corruption in public life. Indeed, the World Bank had proclaimed on its website at the time that corruption was the single greatest obstacle to development. In this phase social and poverty surveys (Surveys of Living Conditions and Living Standards Measurement Surveys) attained enormous prominence as areas of research interest and policy application.

In the mid to late 2000s phase 4, the World Bank advanced the regional development priorities as:

- infrastructure development
- the role of finance in development with special emphasis on micro-finance in rural areas
- development management.

Most recently in phase 5: the World Bank has advanced three further areas of emphasis in its regional research and policy. These are (a) education and health in order to strengthen the region’s human capital stock (b) environmental concerns and challenges and (c) promoting aid-effectiveness.

From our review of the literature, the World Bank and IMF’s research output on regional matters (like its research output around the world) has been of an unusually high quality. Generally, we have found that most of their work reaches the 4* level (see table 2 in annex 1). In our view “A Time to Choose” and “An Agenda for Growth”, together form perhaps the most influential research work to date produced by the World Bank on the region’s development. A short analysis of these two reports is attached at the end of the study (see table 7 in annex 1), also, a matrix analyzing the two main publications on economic development issues within the Caribbean (see table 8 in annex 1).

Lists of selected references on works published/prepared by the World Bank and IMF are attached in annex 2. These references have been the primary source material for our presentation in this report.

(b) CARICOM

CARICOM, along with its numerous associated institutions, has been comfortably, the most important regional body engaged in development research and policy studies over the past decade. CARICOM’s research is centred on strengthening regional integration and functional cooperation as a platform for greater benefits from insertion into the global economy. This is a strategy of open regionalism (CARICOM Secretariat, 2002). There are six areas of this work that highlight the underlying theoretical ideas behind CARICOM’s work. These are:

- (a) The preparation of the Strategic Plan for Regional Development (SPRD)
- (b) The implementation of the CSME
- (c) The UWI/CARICOM research publications project
- (d) Seven major research projects organized under the auspices of the CARICOM Secretariat
- (e) The research for trade negotiations coming from OTN, formerly CRNM
- (f) Research on environmental issues. This is mainly executed through CCCCC and this item will be addressed in the environment section of this report.

SPRD

The critical idea that drives CARICOM's effort to produce the SPRD is that the region as a group lacks a clear official strategic direction to guide its development. Where national strategic plans exist, the proposed SPRD is intended to complement and add value to these: Barbados (2006-2023), Jamaica (Vision 2030) and Trinidad and Tobago (Vision 2020). The preparation of the SPRD was mandated by the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community four years ago (2007), and is being prepared through CARICOM. The plan entails (a) a thorough situational analysis of the region over the past decade (b) the microeconomic examination of key sectors of the regional economy (c) the elaboration of a regional implementation framework for the plan and (d) associated elements like institutional and macroeconomic arrangements. The SPRD would elaborate what has been described as a vision and mission, building on earlier intellectual efforts, particularly the Grand Anse Declaration and Professor Girvan's baseline document, "Towards a single development vision and the role of the single economy". The goal is to provide a roadmap for specific policies to guide the region's development in light of rapid changes in the global environment and to strengthen the institutional capacity for implementing these policies.

A driving idea behind the SPRD appears to be that both macroeconomic policies and programmes and microeconomic analyses of key sectors, including agriculture, tourism and financial services, among others should be jointly addressed.

After reviewing the state of this research we conclude that the major research gap which exists is elaborating a workable, efficient, simple and cost-effective implementation framework for the SPRD.

Implementing the CSME

The second key research idea driving CARICOM is how best to implement CSME. Our analysis has shown that the CSME is still very much a work in early progress. Although there is a CSME Implementation Unit in the CARICOM Secretariat, which is responsible for its implementation the slow progress decades later, has led us to identify an implementation deficit as one of the most important challenges facing the advancement of regionalism.

The key elements of the agenda for implementing the CSME (see table 3 in annex 1).

The CARICOM-UWI Research Publications Project

This project is a collaboration between UWI, Mona and the CARICOM Secretariat to promote a mechanism for encouraging and disseminating scholarly analysis of the regional integration process.

The main research themes under the project include an analysis of the Caribbean Festival of Creative Arts as an embodiment of Caribbean integration, CDB as an instrument for financing and accelerating growth and development in the region and cricket as a vehicle of Caribbean cohesion and unity, among others.

The project's success can be seen in the impressive number and range of issues covered in its published volumes since it started in 2000. Importantly, the project has produced dedicated volumes to honour the work of two of the region's most outstanding thinkers, Lloyd Best and Rex Nettleford. Under its special studies, the project also commissioned a landmark publication, the CARICOM System: Basic Instruments, which was produced by a former Judge of the Caribbean Court of Appeal, Justice Duke Pollard. Overall, research under the project is of a high quality and essential reading for regional development practitioners. As a result these works are 5* based on the quality index (see table 2 in annex 1).

CARICOM – Research Implementation Projects

The fourth area of CARICOM's development and policy studies research listed above refers to the major research projects it has undertaken. The first of these is the publication of the CARICOM Trade and Investment Reports, which are the organization's flagship studies produced by EIPU, on a quinquennial basis. Three issues have been made available since 2000. A brief review of these provides an indication of the central ideas that drive the institution's research.

The 2000 report focussed on the dynamic interface of regionalism and globalization. The thesis was that the deepening and widening of the regional economic integration must be guided by the challenges and opportunities that are presented by the global integration process.

The 2005 report pushed the analysis forward to assess corporate integration and cross-border flows and their implications for regional integration. This report focuses on (a) trade and investment trends, policies and prospects; (b) the evolving corporate integration structures and cross-border development; and (c) enhancing corporate development. The theme which pervades the entire report is the challenge to strategic policy formulation created by maximizing cross-border corporate opportunities in the widening space afforded by the CSME, in the context of a highly competitive global trading, financing and investment environment.

The most recent report (2010) focuses on surveying four issues vital to the workings of the CSME, namely: (a) trade and investment issues in the private sector (b) facilitating the macroeconomic and regulatory environment (c) understanding the region's evolving corporate structures, strategies and practices and (d) enhancing export competitiveness in a globalized environment.

Policy studies have also been produced through other projects (excluding its work on environment and climate change, which is dealt with as a separate item in the section of the report dealing with environment and climate change issues). These other research projects are:

- (a) The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Development project, which is aimed at creating a single ICT space for the region, and creating an information/knowledge economy by 2015.
- (b) Regional food security
- (c) Agribusiness development
- (d) Pan-Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS
- (e) The Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme

The fifth area of research is located in the OTN. The OTN provides external trade advice to ministers to inform trade negotiation positions. It also coordinates and formulates the regional strategy in different theatres of negotiations and helps to build trade capacity in member States. The OTN is also the lead institution responsible for promoting public awareness in these areas, while also providing research and advisory services not only to governments, but to private sector and non-governmental bodies as well.

At present the major external negotiating theatres are the World Trade Organization (WTO), the EU, the United States and Canada and the extension of some of the existing free trade areas either through including services or widening their country coverage. In preparation for negotiations the CRNM/OTN has commissioned and produced a number of microeconomic studies on trade opportunities for the region. These can be accessed through the CARICOM website, which holds its digital library.

Major university and affiliate Institutions

UWI, UG, the University of Trinidad and Tobago, UTech, the University of Northern Caribbean, the University of Suriname, the University of the French West Indies & Guiana and other regional academic institutions and their affiliates are an important vehicle for regional and country level research. In addition, a number of their scholars contribute to the work of other high level institutions in all the areas identified above. Many of the universities have specialized departments of economics

and sustainable development which are engaged in specific research on all areas of economic policy formulation and like members of the World Bank/IMF group, distinguished faculty offer policy advice to decision makers on a regular basis.

While not identifying the research projects undertaken by these various institutions, since they are quite broad, institutions such as UWI, have earned the well deserved reputation for excellence in both academic and policy oriented research on the region.

A significant body of that research is published in high quality academic journals and many of the university scholars are engaged as consultants in work commissioned by major funding institutions such as ECLAC, IDB, CDB and the World Bank to name a few, plus governments of the region. In the case of the World Bank many university scholars contribute vital inputs to their regional flagship publications. While no specific focus or particular area of economic research is identified, the key issues emerging in the region are often the subject of research along topics similarly identified in the work of the World Bank and other related institutions.

Thus, the universities make an important contribution to the economic thinking and analysis of the region and much of that work feeds into the policy discourse and policy formulation over time.

(c) Selected supporting research organizations

While the World Bank and IMF stand out as Category E organizations based outside the region, which have made the greatest contributions to the state of research in the region on economic issues, both in terms of volume and quality, other organizations are also making significant contributions, particularly ECLAC and IDB (Category C and Category E organizations, respectively). In this section we briefly review the main contributions of these bodies to the state of research on economic issues in the region.

ECLAC

The enormous scope of ECLAC's research involvement is revealed in the eleven divisions and work units. The research and policy objectives of ECLAC are: 1) helping to coordinate regional actions promoting economic development, 2) reinforcing ties among countries of the region, and 3) promoting relations with other regions worldwide. This broad agenda has led to studies in a number of areas including gender analysis, international trade and integration, economic development, production, productivity and management, social development, sustainable development and human settlements, statistics and economic projections; population; natural resources and infrastructure; economic and social planning and development studies. Most importantly these areas were added in 1996 when member States of ECLAC committed the organization to become a centre of excellence responsible for the advancement of research and analysis of the development process in the Caribbean. This marked a qualitative advance to the state of research in the region.

From the evidence, ECLAC ideas have emphasized 1) the design, monitoring and evaluation of regional public policies 2) the provision of expert advisory services 3) training 4) providing forums for analytical dialogue among stakeholders on development matters (intergovernmental function) and 5) supporting regional and international cooperation and coordinating actions with research and policy advice.

Because ECLAC's services are provided to governments, public and private bodies, non-governmental organizations and a range of other entities, its influence on the panorama of regional research has been enormous. ECLAC's ongoing concerns have remained concentrated on the state of research in regards to growth, technical progress, social justice and democracy, emerging global issues (sustainable development, climate change and natural disasters, and energy security), as well as social issues related to gender equity, youth and ethnic minorities.

When disaggregated ECLAC's research contributions have been in six distinct areas:

- First, it has provided Caribbean research support in those areas where the region has global commitments (for example, the region's obligations as members of the Association of Small

- Island States (AOSIS); the region's obligations to fulfil the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and, the region's participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)). In these areas ECLAC has played a lead role in the preparation of the required technical papers, negotiating briefs, and the evolution of common regional positions.
- Second, in support of cooperation and integration efforts across the wider Caribbean. (The promotion of a common regional trade policy and the enhancement of its export competitiveness have been key research concerns).
 - Third, ECLAC's research has targeted social and cultural development (advancing regional research on such issues as rights of peoples with disabilities, HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, women and gender concerns, youth, schooling, migration, urbanization and social expenditures/safety nets).
 - Fourth, ECLAC's research has focussed on macro-economic analysis of Caribbean economies (debt dynamics, exchange rate behaviour, fiscal sustainability, price inflation, capital inflows, the balance of payments, responses to external shocks, interest rate mechanics and what it has termed the "fundamental determinants of regional economic growth").
 - Fifth, given the state of regional economic data ECLAC has emphasized data gathering and dissemination, linked to its research activities. (Thus, the agency has produced 1) perhaps the best inventories of disaster and catastrophic events in the region; 2) user friendly databases on regional trade; and, 3) a number of specialist surveys on social and economic topics like population, ICT, taxation, and inequality).
 - Finally, ECLAC's research has developed a strong focus on the regional impact of global warming, climate change and the utilization of renewable energy. (These will be considered later in the section dealing with environment.)

IDB

IDB was established more than five decades ago to support Latin America and Caribbean economic and social development. Today it is the largest source of financing for regional development.

A brief look at the output of the IDB research department shows that it finances and mentors a considerable amount of research work, which is conducted by other distinguished regional organizations. Thus, it works closely with the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean (INTAL) and the Institute for Economic and Social Development (INDES). The staff of the research department has concentrated on the following fields of research:

- macroeconomic trends;
- macroeconomic foundations of growth;
- equity and poverty issues,

As well as other cross-cutting and long term development issues. Very importantly, also, the department is responsible for the Bank's quantitative and analytical databases.

The Bank has produced thousands of research items in the form of books, working papers, policy briefs, monographs, technical notes, discussion papers as well as the serials and special works produced by INTAL and INDES. Well over fifty research topics have been covered in these outlets.

Annex 2 provide lists of selected references for the research output of IDB and ECLAC. These references are the primary source we have consulted in the preparation of this report.

2. Identifying the gaps: economic and public policy issues

Based on the review of the state of regional research on development and policy studies examined in the previous sections a number of promising clusters for further research support. Brief comments are added in the list of research gaps both generally and for each of the items identified in the clusters.

These comments are to be read in conjunction with the clusters. The clusters are divided into four areas for convenience and these are the areas of macroeconomic management, sectoral issues, trade issues and socio-economic issues.

Three areas are identified under economic management the areas are as follows: ways to improve macroeconomic management so as to promote growth with equity; Strategies to promote economic resilience to reduce the impact of external shocks, building capability for improved public finance management. These three areas are interrelated and reflect the decline in growth in many economies, increasing indebtedness and a general deterioration in fiscal balances.

In terms of sectoral issues, the importance of tourism as a major industry in the region requires a great deal more research on ways to improve the contribution of the sector. In addition, given the small size of many Caribbean States, regional strategies on how States and markets can interact is important.

Financial sector development also remains critical to the region. Despite a considerable amount of research and policy interventions, the region still lacks an effective and efficient capital market linked to the real sector. An important piece of work is therefore, needed which should offer recommendations for more effective capital market development in the region.

Trade issues are of considerable importance to the region and despite the considerable research in this area, little work has been done on factors limiting implementation of regional agreements. It is also the case that there are considerable barriers to the flow of labour within the CSME.

A number of socio-economic issues also impinge on economic relation and vice versa. The proposal is that micro-economic research is needed in the areas of access, discrimination (gender, race, political affiliation), improved availability and quality of basic services (health, education, training), with better monitoring/evaluation and review of social services delivery systems. Finally, more research is needed to examine the link between culture, institutions and economic behaviour. For example, understanding the role of the informal sector in Caribbean economies.

B. Social and cultural issues

1. Social and cultural research

While Caribbean research has generally assumed a multidimensional approach to development, so that even standard economic analysis tended to incorporate social issues, social and cultural researches have been very integral to research programmes and projects in the region. In addition, while social and cultural issues have been researched by institutions outside of the Caribbean, the bulk of high quality research on social and cultural issues have been done by regionally based institutions.

Leading this group are institutions like UWI and its specialized departments such as the Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), SALISES, and the Health Economics Unit. Other smaller outfits attached to UWI are the Institute for Caribbean Studies and the Centre for Caribbean Thought, UWI, Mona, and the Institute of Critical Thinking, UWI, St. Augustine, which offer a variety of courses for students and are engaged in research aimed at deepening the understanding of Caribbean culture.

The IGDS is a multi-disciplinary department of UWI, engaged in teaching, research, outreach and publication on issues relating to women, men/masculinities and gender, particularly in Caribbean society. In its outreach activities, IGDS embraces institutions and organizations at all levels throughout the region, sensitizing educators, policy-makers and the general public and providing strategies to enhance awareness of the critical role played by the study of gender in personal life and national development.

Institutions such as CDB, CARICOM and the Sir Shridath Ramphal Centre, UWI, Cavehill have also been involved in pursuing social and cultural research especially in the areas of work on poverty and inequality studies. A number of United Nations agencies such as UNDP, UN Women, Joint United

Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNESCO and UNICEF have focused on different dimensions of social research including research on youth and children. Within the area of health research Caribbean Epidemiology Centre has been a major regional organization. In addition, the Caribbean Health Research Council is the regional health institution with the mandate to promote and coordinate health research in the Caribbean. It serves countries that are members of CARICOM, providing advice to their ministries of health and other stakeholders and generally supporting research related activities. A matrix analyzing the two main publications on social and cultural issues within the Caribbean can be found (see table 9 in annex 1).

Under social and cultural issues, we can identify the following main research areas:

- Monitoring the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Caribbean

Poverty

- Poverty reduction strategies
- Labour market and unemployment
- Pension systems

Crime and violence

- Violence among youths
- Crime prevention

Health

- Governance, equity and health
- HIV/AIDS workplace policy
- HIV stigma and discrimination
- Preventing and combating HIV
- Improving public health systems

Gender

- Gender equality
- The rights and status of women
- Gender earning gaps
- Gender and HIV/AIDS
- Main streaming gender in trade policy

Culture

- Culture and identity, nation and society

Education

- The state of education
- Improving the quality and access to education
- Gender and education
- Early childhood care
- Tertiary education financing in the Caribbean

C. Environmental issues

1. Environmental research

Two major drivers have guided Caribbean environmental research and policy studies. The first is located in the environmental and developmental concerns, which came to the fore in the 1970s as a global priority that the region fully shared. The second derives from more recent concerns about the global climate change and its impact on economies and societies.

The region has witnessed a steady evolution of environmental concerns and policies over the last four decades. This has been marked by a movement from broad to more specific concerns and an increased appreciation of the impact of environmental degradation on economic and social development. The modern awakening to environmental concerns in the region began with the 1972 World Conference on the Environment. The conference focused on broad issues of relevance to the region, including conservation, the protection and development of the region's marine, coastal and forestry resources disaster preparedness, prevention and mitigation. Later, governments also decided to give priority action to the health concerns arising from environmental fallout and this led to the establishment of the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute in 1982.

The report of the World Commission on the Environment and Development (1987) was seminal to environmental awareness and thought. It anchored environmental concerns in the wider framework of sustainable development. Sustainable development was defined by the report as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". The big ideas were the concept of needs, especially the demand for greater focus on the needs of the poor in different regions and the importance of limitations posed by the state of technology and socioeconomic organization on environmental sustainability. In the Caribbean, this implied that social issues of poverty and marginalization that influenced land and other resource use were important to environmental conservation. Also, new, but appropriate technologies such as solar technologies were also important. Inspired by the World Commission's report, the region articulated the Port of Spain Accord on the management and conservation of the Caribbean environment issued in 1989.

Coming out of the landmark United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) held in Brazil in 1992, the region prioritized a few important areas. The main issues of focus were the protection of the region's biological diversity in keeping with the Framework Convention on Biological Diversity, the sustainable management of the region's forests and a call for more resources to be allocated to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to help them deal with environmental challenges. These developments spurred the formation of AOSIS in 1990, which functions as the negotiating forum for the grouping of SIDS.

The watershed event on environmental issues for the region was the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of SIDS held in Barbados in 1994. At that Conference the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) was adopted. The main issue was the consideration of SIDS as a special case of vulnerability to climate change and sea level rise. Ten years later in 2005 a review of the BPoA took place in Mauritius. At that time as part of the regional effort to meet its obligations in SIDS, CCCCC was established and officially opened in August 2005. Later, key intergovernmental agreements including the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Wider Caribbean (Cartagena Convention) were brokered. Through these agreements, three major pan-Caribbean research projects were started: the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife project; the Assessment and Management of Environmental Protection and the Communication, Education, Training and Awareness projects. The declared purpose behind these was two-fold: to promote regional cooperation for the protection and development of the environment in the wider Caribbean region and to serve as a regional clearing-house for marine-coastal environmental data. To further promote these objectives, the Cartagena Convention has been reinforced with three protocols addressing: oil spills, special protected wildlife, and marine pollution.

The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) regional office has been at the forefront of environmental research, focusing on climate change, disasters and conflicts and resource efficiency, among other areas. The Caribbean Environment Programme (1974) is in fact best known as one of the UNEP flagship regional seas programmes and, in the research, ultimately derives its *raison d'être* from this origin. (The Caribbean Sea is the world's second largest at approximately 2.65 million km²). The research has been designed to explore the challenges posed by several cultures and languages making their livelihoods from dependence on a sea, hence the focus on making it a special zone.

The creation of CCCCC represents the modern evolution of environmental policy in the region. This was marked by relatively firm evidence for climate change and its impact on countries and regions, especially SIDS and called for an integrated approach to mitigating its impacts. The main issues tackled by CCCCC are climate change and sea-level rise. This has centred on key projects including the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Climate Change project. The goal of the project is to build capacity in the Caribbean for the adaptation to climate change impacts, particularly sea level rise (table 4 in annex 1, summarizes the reported achievements of the project).

Underscoring the importance of research in the area, CCCCC has partnered with the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) to promote environmental research and policy development. CCRIF is a risk pooling facility, which is a novel policy development in that Caribbean governments have made a paradigm shift to pre-disaster planning. CCRIF and CCCCC have recently published (with the support of ECLAC) a major study under the auspices of the CCRIF Economics of Climate Adaptation Initiative entitled "Enhancing the climate risk and adaptation fact base for the Caribbean". The study notes that the current climate risk in the region is already high with expected losses of up to 6% of GDP anticipated over the longer-term. However, some countries can avoid up to 90% of damage by implementing risk mitigation and transfer measures now.

Another important theme in the modern environmental strategy is the use of measures to contain the fall-out of climate change on tourism, agriculture and the livelihoods of vulnerable communities through sustainable livelihood approaches. The CARIBSAVE Partnership (2008) is one such initiative. It aims to model climate impacts on the tourism sector and provide practical mitigation and adaptation strategies for the sector.

The most recent evolution of environmental policies and issues in the region have focussed on the development of renewable sources of energy, the use of carbon credits and other environmental trading instruments by countries such as Guyana and the mainstreaming of environmental and climate change mitigation in the development strategies as a critical public good. This has been exemplified by two important projects; first the World Wildlife Fund Guianas Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project launched in 1988 covers Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana, which aims to slowdown the degradation of forests in the Guianas. Second, Guyana's low carbon strategy that aims to sell carbon credits to countries that are willing to pay in exchange for the preservation of its forests.

The selected references in annex 2, set out a selection of research undertaken in environmental research. There is a matrix analyzing the two main publications on environmental issues within the Caribbean (see table 10 in annex 1).

(a) Summing Up

It is clear that contemporary Caribbean environmental research and policy studies are being shaped by the ecological condition of the region, which makes it very vulnerable to climate change and sea-level rise. The region's heavy economic dependence on (a) primary and natural resource based products (ranging from sugar and bananas to mineral ores, petroleum and natural gas) and (b) sand, sun and sea-based tourism heightens this vulnerability. The small size of individual countries, their low incomes and centuries old practices of deforestation in places like Haiti compound their difficult environmental circumstances. The island territories are further compromised environmentally due to their reliance on cruise lines, extensive air-travel and the transiting of ships carrying hazardous materials.

CARICOM Heads of State and Government in the Liliendaal Declaration on climate change and development in 2009 expressed grave concerns that efforts to promote sustainable development are already under severe threat from the devastating effects of climate change and sea level rise as witnessed by increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events, damage to bio diversity, coral bleaching, coastal erosion and changing precipitation patterns. The declaration also cited World Bank estimates of the annual impact of potential climate change on all CARICOM countries at US\$9.9 billion in total GDP in 2007 or about 11.3% of the total annual GDP of all 20 CARICOM member States and associate member States.

Significantly, the leaders committed to work within the UNFCCC framework to seek the long-term stabilization of atmospheric green house gas concentrations at well below 1.5° C of pre-industrial levels. The declaration strongly endorsed the value and potential of standing forest and affirmed Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation. It stressed that forest conservation or avoided deforestation and sustainable management of forests are important mitigation tools against climate change and endorsed Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy.

2. Identifying the gaps: environmental issues

Reflecting on the trajectory of environmental research described in this section we identify three areas for future research and policy emphasis:

- Expand rigorous research to determine the impact of climate change effects on development while stressing social, cultural, economic and governance dimensions.
- Undertake research on the impact of climate change in specific sectors and tailored to promote adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Strengthen databases and indicators on environmental impacts and climate change to measure effects.
- Facilitate the implementation of results already obtained via syndication and national and subregional (district/localities) workshops, consultations and seminars.
- Develop regional programmes of mitigation and adaptation to reduce climate change effects.

Climate Change:

- Expand rigorous research to determine the impact of climate change effects on development while stressing social, cultural, economic and governance dimensions.

Facilitation:

- Facilitate the implementation of results already obtained via syndication and national and subregional (district/localities) workshops, consultations and seminars.

Regional Programmes:

- Develop regional programmes of mitigation and adaptation to reduce climate change effects.

D. International relations

1. International relations research

For the region the primary source of research and policy studies in the field of international relations has been university departments and programmes at regional institutions, which have teaching and research programmes and other instructional courses in the fields of political science, international affairs, international law and history. The IIR at UWI, St. Augustine Campus is the region's leading academic department. It was established to provide professional training in the field of diplomacy, international law and international relations. This has been complemented with faculty research, as well as research theses produced at both the master's and doctoral levels by students of the institute. Over the years, the published research work in international relations has been quite wide and varied. The key topics covered include issues in plurilateralism, multilateralism and global governance, hemispheric relations, preference erosion issues and the political economy of trade agreements. (See table 5 in annex 1, regarding the selected topics covered in international relations research and policy studies).

A major recurring theme in the coverage of these topics has been the effort to locate the region's small size in a very big world, where the options for autonomous development continue to diminish at an accelerating rate as the processes of globalization seem to advance in an unstoppable manner. This fundamental problematic has been addressed in two different ways.

The older more traditional mainstream approach has focused on subjects like the erosion of regional preferences, the effects on the region of external economic policy shocks, the scope and effectiveness of regional diplomacy and the weaknesses of recently negotiated agreements like the CARIFORUM-EC, Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), 2008. A crucial feature of this earlier approach is the conviction that, without closer and faster advance in regional cooperation and integration, the countries of the region will never succeed on their own and will become increasingly marginalized in the international system.

The newer and more recent approaches stress the inevitably pan-Caribbean nature of the problematic posed by global climate change and sea-level rise. This provides an unprecedented opportunity to place this pan-Caribbean problematic at the centre of forging a truly unified development strategy for the region.

The major theme and approach in tackling the challenges and opportunities presented by the changing global is a harmonized strategy to maximize the influence of the region. This approach recognizes the commonalities among countries, in spite of differences in size and capabilities. Research issues in the area have focussed on how the region can jointly negotiate more favourable trade and investment arrangements with Canada, EU, the United States and other trading partners. Moreover, in recognition of the need for capacity building to facilitate trade, research has been done to point the region to key areas for capacity building to enable their firms to penetrate external markets. Importantly, efforts have been made to get the major trading partners to include stronger development components in trade deals that focus on strengthening productive capacity, marketing and the movement of natural persons in areas such as entertainment services.

There is a matrix analysing the two main publications on international relations issues within the Caribbean (table 11 in annex 1).

2. Identifying the gaps: international relations issues

(a) Research gaps: international relations

This newer approach to research in international and policy studies mentioned above, with its emphasis on climate change and sea-level rise, seems to be a very promising priority area, which is deserving of support. Additionally, the report identifies two other security issues which are priorities for further research. The first of these is the long-standing issue of land border and maritime boundary disputes and

the second is the growth and influence of organized criminal networks. The research gaps are as follows:

Cooperation:

- Ways to advance pan-Caribbean cooperation and strategizing for a suitable development strategy, which mainstream concerns about climate change and other threats.

Integration:

- Political factors limiting the pace of regional integration.

Disputes:

- Land border and maritime disputes (among member States and between member States and third parties).

Criminal networks:

Studies to examine the impact of organized criminal networks, enterprises and endeavours on the region's security

IV. Summary of the gaps

A summary of the research gaps are provided in the table below under the various subsections.

TABLE 1
LIST OF IDENTIFIED RESEARCH GAPS

Area of Research	Research Gaps
Economic research	<p>Macroeconomic management Improving macroeconomic management to promote growth with equity and reduce external shocks. Building capacity for improved public finance management. Capital and financial market development and management.</p> <p>Sectoral Issues Examining and quantifying the leakages and linkages in the tourism sector and its environmental sustainability. Examining regional strategies for growth and state market relations.</p> <p>Trade Issues Research on implementation deficits in CARICOM. The need for formalization of a regional labour market.</p> <p>Socio Economic Issues Micro-economic research in the areas of access, discrimination (gender, race, political affiliation), improved availability and quality of basic services (health, education, training), with better monitoring/evaluation and review of social services delivery systems. Examining the link between culture, institutions and economic behaviour.</p>
Social and cultural research	<p>Education Identifying and examining the drivers for the non interest in the pursuit of formal/structured education among young males.</p> <p>Health and social protection systems The impact of obesity on health outcomes. The impact of non communicable diseases and HIV/AIDS on labour productivity.</p> <p>Crime Crime especially among the youth and the links to social and economic development. Examination into whether government expenditure on security/crime outstrips expenditure on social well being.</p> <p>Poverty Structural causes of poverty that affect efforts to reduce poverty (causes of persistent poverty).</p> <p>Gender Gender and the economy (not only employment issues but issues of business development and trade) and the impact on social development.</p> <p>Cultural Issues The impact of social media on the development potential of young girls and boys. Cultural industries as a vehicle for growth.</p>
Environmental research	<p>Climate change Expand rigorous research to determine the impact of climate change effects on development while stressing social, cultural, economic and governance dimensions.</p> <p>Facilitation Facilitate the implementation of results already obtained via syndication and national and subregional (district/ localities) workshops, consultations, and seminars.</p> <p>Regional programme Develop regional programmes of mitigation and adaptation to reduce climate change effects</p>
International relations research	<p>Co-operation Ways to advance pan-Caribbean cooperation and strategizing for a suitable development strategy, which mainstream concerns about climate change and other threats.</p> <p>Integration Political factors limiting the pace of regional integration.</p> <p>Disputes Land border and maritime disputes (among member States and between member States and third parties).</p> <p>Criminal networks Studies to examine the impact of organized criminal networks, enterprises and endeavours on the region's security.</p>

V. Conclusion, recommendations and future areas of collaboration

A. Conclusion

In surveying the vast literature on the five areas covered in the report, namely, economic and public policy issues, social and cultural development, environmental issues and international relations it is clear that a significant body of high quality research has been done in the Caribbean by a range of institutions located both within and outside of the Caribbean. According to the categorization about a third of this research falls into category 5* (see table 2 in annex 1). That is, they are relevant to policy, there is a regularity with which the output is produced and they are innovative and supported by a dissemination infrastructure. A significant body of this research tends to be multidisciplinary with a view to achieving sustainable development. For this reason while it is useful to classify many of the publications in the five areas, in fact, several deal with cross cutting issues which reflect all areas simultaneously.

The issues in the economic sphere have shifted since the 1980s from preoccupations with liberalization, privatization and structural adjustment to issues of competition, long-term growth and public private sector partnerships. Issues of open regionalism and competitiveness in the face of globalization and less preferential trade arrangements have forced policy-makers in the region to examine existing structures of production and management and to consider developing new sectors and activities for growth and development.

The negative fall out from the recent economic crisis suggests that the region was by and large ill unprepared to face significant and prolonged external shocks, given the state of its public finances and the heavy reliance on a few markets and products. Programmes to build capacity for improved fiscal management are important to address the challenge of creating economic resilience among small States.

The regional integration project under the CSME with all its promise seemed to have stalled and there are huge implementation deficits. Research into the factors which inhibit implantation is vital if the integration process is to be deepened and become more effective. In many instances the problem is not unwillingness to fulfil obligations, but a lack of the capacity to meet the requirements and obligations through public institutions.

A variety of regional and international organizations and programmes support regionalism as an important strategy to allow small States to prosper in an increasing globalized world. A variety of United

Nations programmes such as the Mauritius Strategy for the implementation of the Barbados Plan of Action also emphasize regional cooperation and any agency that provides the resources to build capability to enhance integration will be helpful in strengthening resilience among Caribbean countries.

In the social sphere the continuing problems of poverty, unequal access to public goods and social protection continue to persist. The demands for greater investment in human capital through investment in education, health and other complementary goods face a trade off in terms of tight public finances and other competing needs. Managing public resources in ways that deliver public goods more efficiently and with greater quality is the great challenge of this era for Caribbean policy-makers.

Issues of youth violence and gender imbalances are challenges that must be overcome and many countries are meeting some elements of the Millennium Development Goals while slipping back in others. These issues are complicated by lifestyle changes which often give rise to susceptibility to HIV/AIDS and other diseases. Research into the effectiveness of existing programmes to fight HIV/AIDS and new ways to reach those affected continue to be important. Other issues such as obesity and how it affects overall health and health costs are also important.

In the area of the environment, the problem of climate change and ways to mitigate and adapt have risen to the top of the regional research agenda. The nascent research in this area is of uneven quality but capacity building is moving apace. The issue of mainstreaming the results from existing research and encouraging credible plans for adaptation are still in their infancy. These plans by definition are best conceived of at the regional and sectoral levels, but unlike plans and programmes for disaster assessment and preparedness they have not fully engaged the attention of policy-makers at all levels.

In terms of international relations the issues are clear since small States as those in the Caribbean must negotiate within a regional framework to be effective. Such frameworks help to articulate the views of small States and help to project their particular interests as in the AOSIS and other forums. Apart from some aspects of functional cooperation, however, the region still lags behind tackling a range of issues jointly and as a group, including the response to the global economic crisis.

Several research areas identified offer important areas for participation of AFD in helping to bring about sustainable development in the region. The lists identified are not exhaustive, but they reflect some key areas that require attention or those that have had little research input over time. They also identify important areas for collaboration in the future.

B. Recommendations and future areas of collaboration

In terms of recommendation we will identify some key areas which are not only urgent but will have implications for the long term viability of Caribbean States.

TABLE 2
AREAS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION

Area of Research	Areas for Future Collaboration
Economic research	<p>Macroeconomic management Improving macroeconomic management to promote growth with equity and reduce external shocks. Building capacity for improved public finance management.</p>
Social and cultural research	<p>Trade Issues Research on implementation deficits in CARICOM. Health and social protection systems The impact of non communicable diseases and HIV/AIDS on labour productivity.</p> <p>Crime Crime especially among the youth and the links to social and economic development.</p> <p>Poverty Structural causes of poverty that affect efforts to reduce poverty (causes of persistent poverty).</p> <p>Gender Gender and the economy (not only employment issues but issues of business development and trade) and the impact on social development.</p>
Environmental research	<p>Cultural Issues Cultural industries as a vehicle for growth.</p> <p>Climate change Expand rigorous research to determine the impact of climate change effects on development while stressing social, cultural, economic and governance dimensions.</p> <p>Facilitation Facilitate the implementation of results already obtained via syndication and national and subregional (district/ localities) workshops, consultations and seminars.</p> <p>Regional programme Develop regional programmes of mitigation and adaptation to reduce climate change effects.</p>
International relations research	<p>Criminal networks Studies to examine the impact of organized criminal networks, enterprises and endeavours on the region's security.</p>

In the economic and public policy sphere we recommend collaboration in two key areas:

- Helping to build capacity in the public sector for improved fiscal management and the efficient delivery of public goods. One approach which has been pursued in some jurisdictions is to support the Fiscal Services Unit to provide monitoring services for governments. This is a genuine gap for collaboration since no other international agency is primarily involved in this area. It is both focused on capacity building and creating economic resilience in the region.
- Helping to determine bottlenecks in implementation of regional agreements in order to promote the deepening of regional integration. AFD could examine a few of these agreements for example, the free movement of labour as an approach to tackling this issue.

In the social and cultural sphere four important issues stand out:

- The first is crime among youth in the Caribbean and the apparent indifference of young men to pursue formal education in a number of countries. Both issues are related as they have a strong relationship to building the human capital in the region.

- Helping to develop effective programmes to help prevent HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean. Although a number of agencies are already involved in this area sources of funding by governments of the region are imperilled due to their fiscal situation.
- How to help develop the cultural industries which have enormous potential for broad based development because of their potential linkages to other sectors.
- Poverty and gender imbalances are areas that require continuing research and resources since they inhibit development in all other areas in the Caribbean.

In the sphere of the environment three areas are identified:

- Expand rigorous research to determine the impact of climate change effects on development while stressing social, cultural, economic and governance dimensions.
- Facilitate the implementation of results already obtained via syndication and national and subregional (district/localities) workshops, consultations and seminars.
- Develop regional programmes of mitigation and adaptation to reduce climate change effects.

In the sphere of international relations one area is identified:

- Enhancing and developing regional security agreements to prevent cross border criminal activity.

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Annexes

Annex 1

Tables

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATIONAL COVERAGE OF REGIONAL RESEARCH

Category	Organizational Coverage	Comments
A	National universities and local campuses of UWI (teaching and research departments), National research-oriented agencies (PloJ), research departments of central banks.	Well deserved reputation for high quality research.
B	Established regional bodies: CARICOM, CDB, CCL, CCMF, CRNM/OTN.	Combination of own research and commissioned studies. High quality output.
C	Regional agencies of intergovernmental organizations, e.g., ECLAC, PAHO, ILO, FAO.	Strategic role in shaping region's research agenda.
D	National-based agencies of intergovernmental organizations e.g., UNDP, UNICEF, ENESCO.	Research catalyst.
E	Overseas based international organizations e.g., IMF, World Bank, IADB (inter-governmental), WEF and Transparency International (private).	Best endowed category (research resources).
F	Institutions linked to "developed economies" technical assistance/aid programmes, e.g., USAID, DFID, CIDA and IDRC.	Strong links to operational requirements of technical assistance/aid delivery.

TABLE 2
RESEARCH QUALITY (INDICES)

Index	Content
1*	Relevant to the policy and practice environment. Methodologically sound. Basis for further research
2*	<i>plus</i> Definite regularity of the research output. Effective means of dissemination
3*	1* + 2* <i>plus</i> original, innovative, high quality with significant policy and theoretical impacts.
4*	1*, 2*, 3* <i>plus</i> supported with very strong research and dissemination infrastructure.
5*	1*, 2*, 3*, 4* <i>plus</i> very strong scientific, societal, research and process impacts. Some studies considered seminal. Exceptional research influence. These have been the subject-matter of high-powered organized discourses (seminars, workshops, colloquia)

Notes:

1: Scientific impact refers to discernible contributions to knowledge; empirical understanding; method of analysis and application. Following the literature, this impact may be i) instrumental (influencing policy choice, legislation, behaviour and forms of social practice including service delivery) ii) conceptual (improved understanding and re-framing of debates) iii) capacity building (leading to skill development and enhancement of institutional memory).

2: Societal impact refers to discernible improvements in i) policy-making (design, execution and appraisal) and ii) the role of evidence-based research in advocacy. In turn both lead to better societal performance and quality of life.

3: Research influence on policy practice is a function of i) research content ii) the process (mode) of research dissemination and iii) the context in which the research is delivered

4: Process is a function of i) pre-existing networks and relationships (these act as amplifiers) ii) the two-way interaction of research on policy and policy on research and iii) the extent to which intended beneficiaries/subjects of the research are also participants.

TABLE 3
KEY ELEMENTS OF THE CSME

Free movement of goods and services (eliminating barriers to intra-regional trade and harmonizing standards).
Right of establishment (for CARICOM owned businesses, without restrictions).
Common external tariff (against third countries).
Free circulation (of imports from extra regional sources).
Free movement of capital (removal of exchange controls, full currency convertibility, integrated capital market leading to a regional stock exchange and eventually a common currency).
Common trade policy (joint negotiations for a coordinated external trade policy).
Free movement of labour (staged measures to remove obstacles to intra-regional movement of labour (skills); the harmonization of social services and the transferability of social security benefits).

These key elements are to be supplemented through the harmonization of regional laws and the coordination of macroeconomic policies.

TABLE 4
PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS (CPACC)

The establishment of a sea level and climate monitoring system (a total of 18 monitoring systems, along with the related data management and information networks have been installed in 12 countries).
Improving access and availability of data (an integrated database for the monitoring of climate change effects through the inventory for coastal resources and the institutionalization of coral reef monitoring has been prepared).
Increased awareness of climate change issues at the policy-making level (enabling more coordination among regional parties and better articulation of regional positions for negotiations under the UNFCCC).
Addressing individual country needs for expanded vulnerability assessment (pilot vulnerability studies were carried out in Grenada, Guyana and Barbados).
Preparation of coral reef monitoring protocols (this has resulted in increased monitoring and early warning capabilities).
Wider country participation in climate change adaptation policies and implementation plans (such policies and plans have been formulated in 11 participating countries).

Establishing a network to promote regional harmonization.

TABLE 5
TOPICS COVERED IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS RESEARCH
AND POLICY STUDIES

NUMBER	SELECTED TOPICS
1	The Caribbean area in the context of multilateralism and global governance.
2	Caribbean area relative with strategic regions/powers: United States, Europe, Africa, Asia (particularly India and China) as well as hemispheric and Latin American areas relations.
3	Decolonization/non-aligned and South-South issues as they affect Caribbean States.
4	The emergence of a unipolar world and the decline of socialism in Europe and the Third World as the diplomacy and politics of the region.
5	Contemporary international development, issues, crises and the transmission of shocks to the region.
6	The role of international organization in the development of Caribbean States.
7	The formulation, design, administration and management of Caribbean external relations.
8	Case studies of the impact of preference-erosion on particular commodities, particularly, bananas and sugar.
9	The political economy of trade agreements and their impact on international affairs, particularly the Continuo Agreement, the CARIFORUM-EC, EPA, the Caribbean Basin Initiative and Canada West Indies trade.
10	The role of the diaspora.
11	The role of gender in international relations.
12	Migration.
13	Remittances.
14	The role of corruption.
15	The trials and tribulations of the regional integration/cooperation process.
16	The role of diplomacy in negotiating the international system.
17	The impact of globalization.
18	The politics of small independent States and issues of sovereignty in global affairs.
19	Border and other conflicts.
20	Law of the sea issues.
21	Border disputes and conflicts.
22	The Caribbean Court of Justice.
23	A nuclear-free Caribbean Sea.
24	Utilizing the resources of the Caribbean Sea.
25	Bridging cultural and racial boundaries in the region.

TABLE 6
LIST OF SELECTED PUBLICATIONS ANALYZED

Area	Publication Chose	Other Publication
Main texts	(2005), "A Time To Choose, Caribbean Development In The 21 St Century", World Bank, Washington DC. Report No. 31725-LAC.	
Economic	(2005), "OECS - Towards a new Agenda for Growth", World Bank, Report No. 31863-LAC. Girvan, Norman (2007) Towards A Single Development Vision And The Role Of The Single Economy. UWI and CARICOM Secretariat and the Special Task Force on the Single Economy.	(2011), "Creative Industries in the Caribbean – A New Export Niche", ECLAC.
Social and cultural	(2005), Caribbean Trade and Investment Report: Corporate Integration and Cross-Border Development, CARICOM Secretariat. (2010), "The Millennium Development Goal Report –Caribbean-", United Nation.	
Environmental	(2010), "Biennial Social Development Report 2010", CDB. (2010), Environment Outlook GEO LAC 3, UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme).	
International relations	(2010), Regional Climate Modelling in the Caribbean, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), LC/CAR/L.265. (2010), Kenneth, O. Hall and Myrtle, Chuck-A-Sang, "CARICOM: Policy Options for International Engagement". (draft version 2011), UWI, IIR with the support of the UK department of International Development (DFID), "Caribbean Regional Integration".	(2010), The Impact of Climate Change on Tourism sector in the Caribbean, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), LC/CAR/L.263.

TABLE 7
ANALYSIS OF THE TWO MAIN PUBLICATIONS WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
Main texts	(2005), "A Time To Choose, Caribbean Development In The 21 St Century", World Bank, Washington DC. Report No. 31725-LAC	<p>The report issues a challenge to the Caribbean to choose a better path that would ensure sustainable growth and long-term development. This is important because despite a number of countries achieving middle income status, the region has not fulfilled its potential. Moreover, without reform, past development gains are not guaranteed.</p> <p>The report notes that the Caribbean faces special development challenges, owing to small size and vulnerability to economic shocks and natural disasters. Specific challenges include a slowdown in growth in the last few decades, on account of a sharp decline in productivity. Moreover, the hike in public debt is a major hindrance to growth in a number of Caribbean countries.</p> <p>The report notes that region needs to focus on making its investment climate more attractive to private investment. This requires tackling binding constraints in the areas of infrastructure, labour markets and the policy environment. It notes that adjusting to the new international trading environment is probably the most significant challenge facing the region. At the domestic level, high wages and inadequate programmes for upgrading the skills of the workforce also weaken competitiveness.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the report notes that the region faces good opportunities in information and communications technology (ICT-based) services, high-end tourism, offshore education and health services. It recommends that a proactive policy framework be developed to convert these opportunities into real gains.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arising from the challenges, the report puts forward a number of recommendations for sustaining growth and development in the Caribbean. ● The recommendations centre on policies to improve productivity growth and macrostability. The report also offers proposals for public sector reform, improving the investment climate and enhancing the quality of human resources. Finally, it recommends a proactive trade agenda anchored on a deepening regional integration and capability building for competitive exports. ● To improve productivity, the region will need to implement better systems for adapting technology and for upgrading the level and quality of skills of its workforce. ● With respect to macrostability, the report recommends that countries focus on reducing their high average debt levels, by targeting high primary surpluses through better expenditure management and tax administration. ● In addition, privatization efforts should ensure robust competition to reduce costs and improve the quality of service offered to consumers. ● Public sector reform should aim to create a streamlined State that is confined to its comparative advantage, including creating a stable macroeconomic environment and better regulation. ● It is also recommended that reform emphasize higher cost efficiencies in government expenditure through public private partnerships. ● A serious effort should be made to create a high quality investment climate rather than focussing on tax incentives to attract investors. ● Human resources development in the region needs to focus on upgrading the quality of education at all levels. In addition, enrolment at the tertiary level needs to be increased and education needs to be made more relevant to the workplace. ● The region needs to adopt a pro-active trade agenda that promotes competition and entrepreneurship and stimulates the production of competitive exports. ● Finally, the report notes that regional integration should be strengthened and widened to include free movement of all forms of labour and increased functional cooperation. ● In addition, the systems for dealing with natural disasters need to be strengthened to build up resilience.

Table 7 (continued)

Table 7 (concluded)

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
2/	(2005), "OECS - Towards a new Agenda for Growth", World Bank, Report No. 31863-LAC	<p>The report is a comprehensive analysis and review of the economic conditions in the OECS with a view to identify new impulses for growth. This is a companion study to the report "A time to Choose: Caribbean Development in the 21st Century", which covers the Caribbean region as a whole. The report focused on the subregion and is divided into seven chapters, in addition to several recommendations (1 to 7).</p> <p>This first chapter took stock of the problems of the subregion and identified the challenge of low growth and stagnation as important issues to consider.</p> <p>Examination of the technical issues of exchange rates and loss of competitiveness and the implications of a loss of preference for competitiveness in the region.</p> <p>Examination of the set of agreements and trade rules which have helped to suppress the productive capacity of the OECS.</p> <p>Examination of the governance issues and the role of the state in limiting OECS capacity including the type of investment regime being pursued.</p> <p>Examination of the unemployment problem among youth, the limited skills of the labour force and the need to reorient the system of education to meet the demand.</p>	<p>The report analyzes current social issues and challenges in the Caribbean. Demographic transition shown by increased longevity and declining numbers of children has important implications for the future. It will pose serious challenges to BMCs health systems, but can provide an opportunity for accelerating growth by securing higher savings for retirement, and the longer retention of skills in the labour force.</p> <p>There has been a marked improvement in living conditions and availability of amenities of the housing sector within BMCs. However issues with overcrowding, affordability and lack of finance are present.</p> <p>The report does a great job of cataloguing and identifying some of the well known challenges faced by the OECS in a changing global economic environment. It identified the central concern as the need to develop a long term vision and to push for greater openness, while raising the capacity of labour. The list of challenges facing the OECS was long, and the recommendations were very standard and predictable.</p> <p>They called for increased competition, openness and further regional and subregional integration. While the report accounted for the forces that accounted for periods of expansion and contraction in the OECS, it did not explain why the transition to a new growth model was not taking place. Thus, binding constraints are not identified and the sequencing of reforms cannot be ascertained.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, important points were made including the need to determine how the OECS will engage the world economy in a new era of open competition and reciprocal trade. The report identified some possible areas of growth in services and the opportunities that arise from the EPA and other agreements. The recommendation covered the need for a strategic vision, reductions in barriers to trade, the promotion of fair competition, and building new capacity in the labour force.</p> <p>There were other useful recommendation such as removing the barriers to free movement of labour and the setting up of regional standards that affect all countries. It was not clear however, what sequence of reforms were appropriate and what were the real binding constraints, given the limited capacity of governments on account of limited fiscal space.</p> <p>The report is an important one, however, for it suggested that a strategy of business as usual in the OECS will no longer help to maintain the gains made by the region in the past. It offered, however, the usual shopping list of reforms without a clear notion of which are most important and what institutional change may be implied by these.</p>

TABLE 8
ANALYSIS OF THE TWO MAIN PUBLICATIONS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES
WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
Economic	1/ Girvan, Norman (2007) Towards A Single Development Vision And The Role Of The Single Economy. UWI and CARICOM Secretariat and the Special Task Force on the Single Economy.	<p>This report was approved by the 28th Conference of Heads of Government held in Barbados on July 1-4, 2007. The report is meant to provide a vision for the development of CARICOM to which all stakeholders can give their support. It serves as the basis for decisions by the Heads of Government on a ‘road map’ for the further implementation of the CSME. It is the product of an extensive process of consultation with regional stakeholders and with the relevant organs of the Community over the past two years.</p> <p>In this report, the vision for the development of the Caribbean is that the CSME will establish a single economic space within which business and labour will operate in order to stimulate greater productive efficiency, higher levels of domestic and foreign investment, increased employment and growth of intra-regional trade and of extra-regional exports.</p> <p>The Single Market component consists of freedom of movement of goods, services, capital, business enterprise and skilled labour within an area bounded by a customs union.</p> <p>The articulation of a single development vision offers an opportunity to show the regional public that the CSME can be an instrument for achieving, in a regional framework, certain development goals that are difficult or impossible to achieve individually by member States.</p> <p>The vision should not only be economic, but benefits of integration must be spread across countries and social groups and must take into consideration quality of life issues such as crime, health and education. In other words, the vision should be holistic.</p>	<p>The report outlines a number of pillars of integration. The first pillar is that the CSME vision must be holistic, i.e., there must be “value added” that derives from the existence of the community.</p> <p>The second pillar of integration is functional cooperation. This is not necessarily based on legal instruments or on the operation of market mechanisms which are clearly outlined in the report. It is essentially a process of sharing services and undertaking joint activities in order to reduce costs and achieve synergies.</p> <p>Several kinds of functional cooperation are mentioned in this report; notably health, human resources development, security, foreign trade policies and research and development. Functional cooperation in the economic field has a direct economic benefit in helping to realize the potential of market integration. In social, political and environmental matters, functional cooperation supports economic development by improving labour productivity, systemic competitiveness and sustainability. Just as important, functional cooperation speaks to other aspects of development, helping to provide integration with a ‘human face’ and facilitating broad stakeholder involvement. Hence, it is to be seen as an <i>integral part</i> of the integration process and as an indispensable complement to the CSME.</p> <p>The third pillar of integration is foreign policy coordination. This strengthens the Community in its dealings with the wider world, increases its ability to make external arrangements that support its development objectives and enhances the collective identity and collective capacity of CARICOM States in their interactions with the world community. This is another element of ‘value added’ in integration.</p> <p>The report notes that just as research and development is necessary to encourage the development, adaptation and diffusion of technology in production, so too is SME development, corporate governance, competition policy and regional transport policy (maritime and air). The report offers a suggested sequencing of the single development vision which includes further implementation of the CSME by suggesting implementable actions as well as preparatory activities to ensure success of the CSME development vision.</p>

2/ (2005), Caribbean Trade and Investment report: Corporate Integration and Cross-Border Development, CARICOM Secretariat

This study was undertaken after the launch of the CARICOM Single Market (CSM) in 2005 and as such the focus at that time was towards accelerated development of the CARICOM Single Economy (CSE) and its policy framework.

The CSM dealt with the role of regulators in creating a trade regime in services (to complement that with respect to goods) and the removal of restrictions. Success of the integration process also involved greater representation of both policy-makers and business representation.

Harmonization of macroeconomic policies in monetary, financial, fiscal and investment areas and the harmonization of sectoral policies constitute the core of the CSM. The harmonized policy framework would facilitate and help to accelerate production integration in the Caribbean region, with enhanced cross-border investment and a host of sectoral linkages activities.

The 2005 Caribbean Trade and Investment Report with the theme Corporate Integration and Cross-Border Development which was commissioned by CARICOM is an in-depth analysis of the behaviour and experiences of the larger Caribbean firms in the real and financial sectors who have been taking advantage of the single economy space.

The lessons learnt will assist both policy-makers and smaller enterprises who wish to follow in their footsteps in the future.

The report is divided into three parts. In part 1, chapter 1 argues that during the first five years of the twenty-first century, the intensity of merchandise trade among CARICOM partners was static, even though there were slight fluctuations from year to year. Intra-caricom imports accounted for approximately 11% of imports from all sources and intra-caricom exports account for 20% of exports worldwide. There has been no significant difference between the performance during the early period of the century and the performance of the five year period before. Even the more developed countries and their merchandise trading patterns have not changed significantly with that of the less developed countries. Trade with extra regional partners has also exhibited disconcerting change. The geographic direction of trade became more pronounced. The EU accounts for only 10% of regional merchandise exports compared with 21% in 1995. Trade with north America is now dominant. There has also been the erosion of preferences. Meanwhile, investments in the region has been strong, albeit in a few commodities and concentrated in a few countries.

Section two of the report notes the following:

Integration in the non-financial sector has been occurring but without real production integration.

There has been significant transnationalization of the financial sector.

The availability and the price of credit are far from being optimal

The regionalization of corporate and government bond transactions has filled an important gap in the capital market, but the level of equity market integration remains rudimentary and corporate governance needs improvement.

Finally, section three of the report notes that economic convergence is important to the integration arrangement and mobility is the key in filling regional manpower gaps while harmonization of the fiscal regime is critical for creating a single business environment.

**TABLE 9
ANALYSIS OF THE TWO MAIN PUBLICATIONS ON SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES
WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN REGION**

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
Social and cultural	1/ (2010), “The Millennium Development Goal Report – Caribbean-”, United Nations	<p>The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010 examined the progress made in the Caribbean towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals on the basis of the most recent data available from official country reports and statistics.</p> <p>It also provided a background of the macroeconomic environment that existed in the Caribbean, specifically the impact of the recent global economic crisis on government finances, the economy and the social sector. The social impact of the crisis was, however, dependent on the measures employed by governments to reduce the social impact of the crisis. Focus was also placed on the major issues that supported or impeded progress towards the goals along with a few case studies.</p> <p>The report also identified the areas that require further targeted intervention and made a number of recommendations to support the achievement of these goals</p>	<p>According to the report, the most significant progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals was made in the areas of primary education, child survival, maternal health and combating HIV and AIDS, some aspects of environmental protection and reduction in ozone depleting substances and increased access to telecommunications. However, progress related to poverty reduction, gender equality and women’s empowerment, higher education and debt sustainability remained significantly challenged.</p> <p>A number of challenges were identified:</p> <p>Economic and financial challenge due to vulnerability and size of economies.</p> <p>Cultural barriers on health especially related to HIV and AIDS; crime and violence and the impact of migration on health and education.</p> <p>Governance, processes and institutional barriers. There needs to be higher levels of accountability and a comprehensive approach to planning.</p> <p>Availability and quality of data and inconsistency in methodology.</p> <p>Recommendations and way forward:</p> <p>To sustain progress and mitigate against risk of reversal there should be deeper regional integration and an expansion of South -South cooperation.</p> <p>Maintain fiscal discipline and better manage debt levels to allow for an improvement in public expenditure on social services.</p> <p>Employ comprehensive and proactive disaster risk management.</p> <p>Need for Millennium Development Goals costing which requires comprehensive planning to identify the measures that can, and should, be taken to achieve the Goals, and the quantity and cost of the resources required.</p> <p>Need for greater Public- Private partnerships.</p>
2/	(2010), “Biennial Development Report 2010”, CDB	<p>The Biennial Social Development Report is intended to monitor and chart social progress in CDB Borrowing member Countries (BMCs) and to initiate policy discussion on important social issues.</p> <p>The report profiles social conditions in BMCs and monitors trends in</p>	<p>The report analyzes current social issues and challenges in the Caribbean. Demographic transition shown by increased longevity and declining numbers of children has important implications for the future. It will pose serious challenges to BMCs health systems, but can provide an opportunity for accelerating growth by securing higher savings for retirement and the longer retention of skills in the labour force.</p>

Table 9 (continued)

social development with specific emphasis on the attainment of Caribbean Millennium Development Goals. A wide range of regional social issues has been examined, including: the status of Caribbean Millennium Development Goals; demographic trends; leading causes of morbidity and mortality; the threat of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases; crime and violence; the housing sector, with a focus on the poor; Human Resource Development; quality of education; urban and rural poverty; social exclusion; vulnerability; and inequality.

The underlying assumption of this report is that Human Development, HD, as measured by Human Development Index, involves not only economic growth, but also raising education attainment, improving health status and adequate living conditions, increasing the level of social inclusion and granting equal opportunities to all citizens

There has been a marked improvement in living conditions and availability of amenities of the housing sector within BMCs. However issues with overcrowding, affordability and lack of finance are present.

The report analyzed poverty as a multi-dimensional and complex problem. A pattern of poverty referred to as generational poverty has been observed. Many economic, cultural, historical and infrastructural disadvantages work collectively to reinforce a pattern of poverty for the majority of the poor. In the face of such enormous concurrent challenges, escaping poverty becomes difficult.

These arguments make a link between poverty reduction and HD an important and necessary one. The HD framework is essential as it brings the focus back on people, than income levels and economic growth.

This analysis precedes the assessment of the Millennium Development Goals attainment and the progress that have been made by BMCs.

Part two of this report discusses the education sector with special emphasis on the issue of the quality of education. Across the region, curricula deficiencies, poor parental engagement, inequality in student enrolment rates between urban and rural areas, poorly trained teacher and inadequate infrastructure hampers the attainment of quality learning.

The report brings to light that social data collection and research must be urgently encouraged. Better alignment between data findings and social policy will also have to be pursued. Additionally, the need for national governments to maintain commitment to long-term social policies and poverty reduction strategies is vital.

TABLE 10
ANALYSIS OF THE TWO MAIN PUBLICATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
Environmental			
1/	(2010) Environment Outlook GEO LAC 3, UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme)	<p>This report presents a summary of the current state of the environment in LAC.</p> <p>It examines the existing development models within the context of pressures on the environment.</p> <p>It utilizes the Millennium Development Goals 7 targets and indicators in order to make a determination of progress in management of environmental resources.</p> <p>It continues to highlight the balance between environmental conservation and human wellbeing.</p> <p>It predicts environmental change that may be needed and examines the key driving forces within the context of scenarios that may bring about positive change.</p> <p>Finally, the report puts forward policy options and recommendations for action. In general, the obstacles and challenges to achieving sustainable development are featured throughout the document</p>	<p>This paper reviews the following points:</p> <p>The rich diversity of LAC is under threat as a result of the existing models of development;</p> <p>The increasing tendency towards urbanization brings with it concomitant social, economic, environmental and political challenges;</p> <p>Climate change, loss of biodiversity, increased incidence of natural disasters and water and food scarcity among others, amplify the need for strong environmental management especially the strategies that are mainstreamed into national development plans;</p> <p>The present model of development has not achieved a balance between environmental management and economic development;</p> <p>The need to encourage investment towards achieving sustainable development is a high priority;</p> <p>Increased access to appropriate technology and financing is to be encouraged;</p> <p>Patterns of production and consumption need to be carefully assessed in synchrony.</p>
2/	(2010), Regional Climate Modelling in the Caribbean, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), LC/CAR/L.265	<p>This paper reviews the suite of models that have been used for global climate change modelling (GCM) and the capacity of such models to make future climate change projections.</p> <p>The paper focused also on the attempt by the Caribbean region to build and maintain sustainable regional climate models (RCM) which are more germane to the resolutions of the region and more precise. In this context it describes the different techniques that have been used to model changes in temperatures and precipitation in the Caribbean and compares the model output. The models suggest that temperatures will increase while precipitation may also increase for countries that are in the southerly latitudes, but decrease among countries in the northern latitudes and this could result in drought.</p> <p>The paper is divided into several sections with the first section dealing with models for future climate projection. Among the models reported are the global climate models GCMs which include the Atmosphere-only GCMs (ADGCMs) and the couple Atmosphere-only (AOGCMs).</p> <p>The second section examines the RCM modelling within the</p>	<p>This paper reviews the important work on climate modelling that has been carried out in the Caribbean and discusses additional approaches to future climate projections in the Caribbean.</p> <p>It identified critical gaps in the GCM approach given its high resolution and inability to properly account for extreme events which are important phenomena in the Caribbean.</p> <p>It is clear from the study that the regional work has been substantial in adapting and implementing the PRECIS modelling strategy and its variants in the Caribbean. These variants are based on different assumptions about temperature and precipitation and are referred to as the PRECIS_ECH and PRECIS_Had.</p> <p>The paper makes clear that such models despite their relative ease of application still require a considerable amount of human capital for their full appreciation and further development. At the technical level, this is a first effort at assimilation and use of</p>

Table 10 (continued)

Caribbean, the so called PRECIS initiative. This initiative is largely driven by the CCCCC, the Institute of Meteorology (ISMET) in Cuba and UWI campuses in Jamaica and Barbados. Much of the regional work has been driven by the PRECIS model which is described as a portable which is a portable RCM which can generate climate change scenarios.

The third section examines closely the projections from the regional model and modes of evaluation. This entailed a close look at temperatures, rainfall and uncertainties in temperature. Some discussion is also made of the projection of future extreme events such as tropical cyclones and hurricanes.

The fourth section examines the strategies being pursued to popularize the model results.

The fifth section examines the modes of making PRECIS output available and issues of future GCM in the Caribbean and the use of the data that is already being utilized.

state of the art regional climate model (RCM) developed at the Hadley Centre of the United Kingdom.

One of the important lessons of this project is the extent to which a regional approach is not only necessary but how effective it has been in the first five years of the project.

The paper also considered the level of accuracy of the model results with respect to temperature and rainfall.

The project is also making the findings of the models more accessible to the public through the PRECIS online system which is an important contribution to popularize the findings and creating greater awareness. It is also pointed out that projects like CARIBSAVE are already making use of the data.

Important observations are also made with respect to the future development of climate modelling in the Caribbean. New experiments between the existing team will be planned including downscaling at the subregional level with participation from INSMET, UWI, CCCCC, the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology and will allow for the production of more information.

TABLE 11
ANALYSIS OF THE TWO MAIN PUBLICATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
International relations 1/	(2010), Kenneth, O. Hall and Myrtle, Chuck-A-Sang, "CARICOM: Policy Options for International Engagement".	<p>In "CARICOM: Policy Options for International Engagement", the contributors bring a wealth of experience and knowledge in putting forward the critical questions policy-makers must consider and answer, in charting the course and laying the framework for this coordinated structure and foreign policy plan.</p> <p>Divided into four sections, the document firstly presents the perspectives that corroborate the need for collective action. The second section focuses on the emerging powers and the need for South South Cooperation while the third section discusses the external trade negotiations and the impact of the loss of EU preferences and subsidies; the EPA and trade negotiations in the WTO and the new CARICOM-US trade relations. In the fourth and final section, the volume is rounded out by an examination of the kind of cooperation that is needed at the regional level to sustain economic development.</p>	<p>The analysis contained in this publication, all tend to suggest that CARICOM now, more than ever, needs to transform its experiences over these years into a more structured foundation for maximizing the multiplier effects of collective representation, and for leveraging CARICOM's diplomatic efforts and resources in a more coordinated and integrated manner. This imperative is necessitated by the rapidly changing international environment which has far too often impacted negatively on small developing countries, leaving them increasingly vulnerable and marginalized.</p> <p>In fact, CARICOM success in navigating the global environment calls for a paradigm shift in diplomatic initiatives from a bi-lateral platform towards a collective and synchronized effort at the regional, hemispheric and global levels.</p> <p>The development of a cohesive CARICOM foreign policy would provide a more structured foundation for maximizing the collective efforts, resources and gains. A cohesive CARICOM foreign policy should promote the collective interests of CARICOM in the area of economic prosperity and advancement. It should support political, cultural, religious and social freedoms; it should emphasize peaceful cooperation, regional security and environmental sustainability; it should accentuate the value of human rights, equity, fairness and good governance, and it should seek to integrate the Diaspora into its programming framework so as to bolster its leverage with third States.</p> <p>The need for harmonization of fisheries policies and the prevention of maritime degradation ; the preservation of the environment and the need to reserve the effects of climate change; the need for a cohesive regional security policy and a viable air transportation industry as well as the legal framework to implement multilateral treaties are all examined as imperative to CARICOM's development of a coordinated regional foreign policy plan and analyzed in the different papers underlined in the publication.</p>

Table 11(continued)

Area	Title	Abstract	Analysis
2/	(draft version 2011), UWI, IIR with the support of the UK department for International Development (DFID), “Caribbean regional Integration”.	<p>The purpose of this study was to identify how Caribbean stakeholders perceive the regional integration process and to solicit recommendations for moving the process forward. The project had two overriding strategic objectives:</p> <p>Identifying the key issues/areas and actors within the regional integration process on which stakeholders can focus to drive real change and benefits/results on the ground.</p> <p>Identifying and assessing if/how various stakeholders (development partners, regional institutions, the private sector and civil society) can effectively support the regional integration process.</p> <p>The study underlined the fact that a generalized pessimism exists regarding the regional integration process in the Caribbean. However, the vast majorities of stakeholders remain committed to it in principle, and most wish to see more effective and purposeful leadership on the issue from all quarters.</p>	<p>Numerous recommendations were made about how the region could be brought together more closely and the integration process re-energized. It should be noted that, together, all of these recommendations form a broad package of changes. In a sense, if many of these recommendations were actioned, a virtuous cycle of improvement could occur, with the re-energizing of the regional integration process. Some of these recommendations relate to concrete, practical proposals and others are more abstract. In general though, there was broad agreement around the following. For regional integration to be given new impetus, six broad recommendations came out of the study:</p> <p>More effective political leadership is required at both the national and regional level.</p> <p>Reform is required of the CARICOM machinery, incorporating the Secretariat and organs of decision-making, as well as the wider apparatus of regional institutions. This is an opportune moment for leaders, to engage in a wide process of consultation, review and reform.</p> <p>The implementation deficit that characterizes many regional agreements (and not least the CSME) needs to be overcome. Moreover, this is something which can be facilitated by renewed political leadership and vice versa, which can help political leaders to sell the regional project at home.</p> <p>Sectoral development is critical. In the sense that the region should co-operate rather than compete internally and a serious effort should be made to harness the specific productive capabilities of each member State;</p> <p>Regional infrastructure – in terms of air and maritime transport, ICTs and communications, health and education etc. – is in desperate need of upgrading if the region is to energize itself and create a dynamic regional economy;</p> <p>Research needs to be leveraged to analyze the costs and benefits of integration, as well as to provide policy-relevant, implementable ideas for moving the region forward.</p>

Annex 2: Selected references

A. General Caribbean development

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