



CARIBBEAN REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

Supporting Economic Performance in the Caribbean by Strengthening Capacity

QUARTERLY BULLETIN: APRIL – JUNE 2021

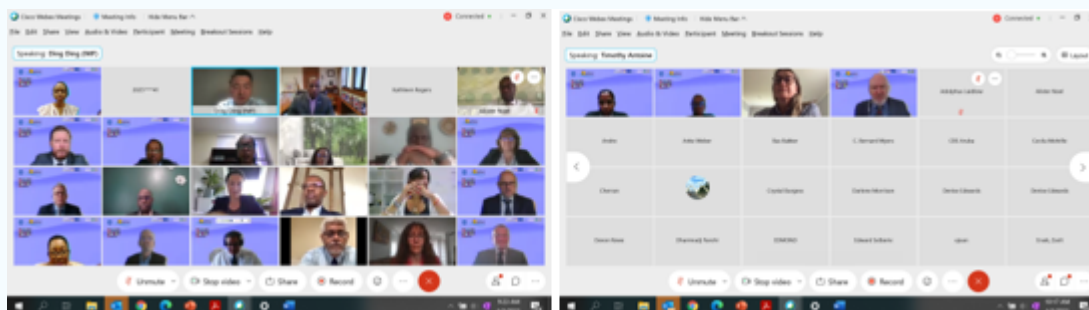
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Message from the CARTAC Director



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Director
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Meeting of CARTAC's Steering Committee June 3, 2021



On June 3, the Steering Committee welcomed its highest attendance ever. Indeed, 113 persons representing 22 of the 23 CARTAC members, six of CARTAC's seven development partners, three observers, IMF and CARTAC staff attended CARTAC Steering Committee meeting.

The Steering Committee endorsed CARTAC's work program for fiscal year 2022 (May 2021-April 2022),

which is expected to double in size compared to execution in fiscal year 2021 because CARTAC is now fully staffed and travel will gradually resume as the pandemic hopefully wanes.

The Steering Committee also took stock of the assessments and recommendations of CARTAC phase V mid-term independent evaluation. CARTAC demand-driven activities are very relevant, i.e. attuned to the needs of member countries. But their sustainability, i.e. the sustained implementation of CARTAC recommendations over time by member countries, is an area prone for improvement. To improve CARTAC sustainability, CARTAC operations need to be embedded in country development strategies and subject to rigorous results-based management.

Further information on CARTAC's last Steering Committee meeting, including the independent evaluation, can be accessed at the following [IMF Box](#) folder.

Hurricane Elsa reminded us of the importance of improving disaster resilience in the Caribbean.

The first hurricane of the 2021 Atlantic Hurricane season, Elsa did not leave the region unscathed. With wind gusts recorded up to and exceeding 80 mph at its strongest, Elsa made its first landfall over our host country of Barbados, which had not experienced the impact of such a hurricane in over 60 years. Also affected were our island neighbours of St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and further north the islands of Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic where Elsa passed as a tropical storm dumping inches of rainfall. Sadly, three deaths were reported, one in St. Lucia and two in the Dominican Republic.

We extend our sincerest expression of support to those who have been directly impacted by the passage of Hurricane Elsa and urge us all to be prepared for what is projected to be a very active hurricane season.

EXECUTION OF THE FY21/FY22 CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORK PROGRAMME

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