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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FACT SHEET: IMPROVED CLIMATE INFORMATION PROJECT

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: To increase and improve climate change information for municipal and individual-level decision-making.

COUNTRY SITUATION: The Dominican Republic is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts. The lack of accessible and useful climate-related information, which includes measurements of temperature and rain over time, hampers the ability of local communities and government institutions to plan for and adapt to its negative impacts, such as gross reductions in water for municipal use and electrical generation capacity. At the national, regional, and local levels, there is a lack of technical capacity and systems to obtain, interpret, and analyze climate-related information for decision-making purposes. The usefulness of available climate-related information is also hampered by problems with the quality of data, gaps in coverage, deficiencies in information management systems, and inadequate analytical capacity. Moreover, Dominican Republic-specific climate change-related information is decentralized and not available through a single web-based platform.

OUR WORK

USAID will establish a web-based National Climate Observatory whose purpose will be to efficiently collect, store, and share Dominican Republic-specific climate and climate change-related information. For this purpose, USAID is supporting a study to better understand information and communication technology use, the preferred method for information dissemination, and the potential utility of various types of weather and disaster risk reduction-related information. Additionally, USAID is strengthening the Dominican Weather Office and the Dominican Hydraulic Resources Institute to improve their effectiveness as climate information providers. To support this process, USAID will focus on creating a

cadre of local professionals trained in climate modeling and climate information management for decision-making.

To support municipal-level climate change-related decision-making in Las Terrenas, San Pedro de Macorís, Santiago, and Santo Domingo, USAID will develop a customized tool for climate risk-based decision-making. This tool will facilitate local planning, incorporate public input and gender aspects, and enhance land-use planning.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Technical capacity of municipal planners in the use of climate information improved.
- Needs and capacities for the use of climate information of three municipalities assessed.
- Hydro-climatic information for different timescales available.
- Web page with relevant information that can be used by authorities and the public available.
- Early warning system for hydro-meteorological events in each community developed.
- Climate Change Observatory attached to the Regional Climate Information System available.

RESULTS ACHIEVED TO DATE:

- 45 non-governmental organization and municipal staff trained in topics related to global climate change.
- Drought and heat index analysis for the Dominican Republic developed.

Duration: March 2015 - March 2018

Budget: \$1.3 million

Implementing Partner: Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)



Photo by: Jerry Bauer



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CONTACTS

MISSION

Montserrat Acosta
Climate Change Specialist
USAID Climate Change Office
United States Embassy in the Dominican Republic
Avenida República de Colombia # 57
Santo Domingo, D.N.
Phone +809.567.7775
Email: drinfo@usaid.gov

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Rosaura Pimentel
Chief of Party
Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)
Avenida Los Próceres # 49
Los Jardines del Norte
Santo Domingo, D. N.
Phone +809.567.9271 x-445
Email rosaura.pimentel@intec.edu.do