



CARIBBEAN POLICY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Call for Abstract Submissions

Equity, Transparency and Resilience: The Guiding Principles for Sustainability in CARIFORUM States

I. BACKGROUND

The Caribbean Policy Development Centre is a legally registered non-profit headquartered in Barbados and established in 1991. CPDC serves as a regional umbrella NGO for organisations comprising of small farmers, women, youth, Indigenous People, rural populations and faith-based organisations located across CARICOM. CPDC also has strong networking partnerships with organisations of persons with disabilities, artisans, micro-entrepreneurs, human rights, and workers. Altogether it serves some thirty-five (35) regional, sub-regional and national (local) NGOs working at the grassroots level in economic, social, and cultural areas in the Caribbean. The Centre also has working relationships with many other NGOs and development partners across the region.

The organisation was mandated to work with NGOs and civil society to understand how policies affecting Caribbean people are made; to share information about policies and decision-making processes; to work to influence and bring change to the developmental process, and to support and to lobby for policies which improve the lives of Caribbean people. In fulfilling its mandate, the CPDC seeks to build the confidence and the ability of the Caribbean peoples to influence public policy. Our main work modalities are research, training, advocacy, publications, public education, and institutional strengthening. CPDC is officially recognised, both regionally and internationally, as the principal representative of Caribbean NGOs working with CARICOM/CARIFORUM, Commonwealth Foundation, and UN System Agencies.

CPDC, with support from the European Union (EU), is implementing a project entitled “Enhancing CARIFORUM’s CSO Capacity to Participate in National and Regional Development Programming and Policymaking” to improve the effectiveness of the strategies and modalities for national and regional CARIFORUM Civil Society Organisations to deliver developmental services and representation that may influence CARIFORUM’s social and economic development programmes and policies for sustainable Caribbean development.

The project covers fourteen CARIFORUM countries, including Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Suriname.

Within CARIFORUM, there has been a deficit in the institutional and implementation arrangements that allow for the participation of CARICOM Civil society in the integration process. This has not been because of a lack of declarations as much as it reflects the state of resources and the effective mobilisation of the Civil Society sector. Moreover, the need for such participation has become more urgent within a COVID-19 environment, increasing the demand for services from the sector from vulnerable populations.



A CPDC 2018 Good Governance Monitor of the relationship between CARIFORUM civil society and policymakers revealed a marginally positive belief by CSOs that policymakers had a minimum level of engagement in many countries. The Monitor confirmed a general lack of formal structures for CSO sector engagement in policy development and recommended that the regional CSOs improve their capacity to engage policymakers. Resources to support CSOs in engaging policymakers were seen as critical to improving the inclusion of CSOs in policy development. It was felt that an improved resource support structure could lead to greater research capacity and improved networking within civil society to collectively lobby for greater inclusion in the policymaking process on behalf of marginalized sectors.

The project will strengthen NGO/CSO institutional structures, augment their human and financial resources, upgrade their technical capacity to address the new challenges brought about by COVID-19, and increase their capacity for evidence-based policy advocacy. As a result, the NGOs/CSOs membership and/or target groups will gain improved capacity to deliver services efficiently and effectively represent themselves and other marginalised social sectors on critical national and regional developmental concerns.

II. PURPOSE OF POLICY MAGAZINE:

The ‘Equity, Transparency and Resilience: The Guiding Principles for Sustainability in CARIFORUM States’ policy magazine explores strategies proposed to tackle the key development concerns and issues affecting the Caribbean. The policy magazine examines the interventions required to improve the lives of the most vulnerable in society and advance sustainable development in the region. In this regard, the magazine will focus on frameworks for food security in the region, the impacts of climate change on economic development, workplace inclusion, sovereign debt and good governance. This publication will provide regional researchers and academics with the opportunity to examine critical development challenges and proffer solutions on the way forward.

III. GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS:

Themes:

1. The Role of Small and Medium-Sized Farmers and Agri-processors in Tackling the Issues of Food Security and Sovereignty in the Region
2. The Impact of Climate Change on the Livelihoods of Citizens and Development of CARIFORUM States
3. Workplace Inclusivity and the Incorporation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)
4. The Role of Good Governance in Sovereign Debt Management
5. How Intraregional Air Travel has Impacted the Free Movement of Goods in CSME
6. Loss and Damage Financing and the Role of CSOs

N.B. As part of the Centre’s programming, gender is of the utmost importance in policy development, therefore we are requesting that it be mainstreamed throughout the relevant themes.

Format:

- Proposals for chapters must be presented in English, in the form of an abstract of maximum 250 words, including key terms.
- Proposals should include the personal data of the authors' names and email addresses.
- Proposals should use the Times New Roman font, size 12 and 1.5 line spacing, with one-inch margins.

Requirements:

- Must be based on one of the six themes highlighted above.
- Include a concise statement of the research under investigation and its objectives. Define all concepts and abbreviations at first use.
- Describe methodology (either qualitative and/or quantitative).
- Provide a PDF version of the applicant's CV.
- Do not submit multiple abstracts on overlapping facets of the same theme unless each abstract has important, novel information and clearly stands on its own. Repetitive abstracts will be rejected.
- Abstracts that have been used previously for published work but include updated information with significant new implications will be considered.
- Must be submitted as a Word Document (.doc or .docx format)

Entries must be submitted to the email address cpdcsubmissions@gmail.com with the Subject Line: **Call for Abstract Submissions - Equity, Transparency and Resilience: The Guiding Principles for Sustainability in CARIFORUM States.** The abstracts will be reviewed, and researchers chosen will be contacted to further develop the full articles.

IV. HONORARIUM

A small honorarium will be provided to successful candidates.

V. IMPORTANT DATES:

- Deadline for Submissions: 7th April 2023
- Proposals' Acceptance Notification: 21st April 2023
- Deadline for Full Articles: 26th May 2023