# Climate Smart & Ready New Approaches: Sustainable Building

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## What does SUSTAINABLE mean?

Three (3) Standards



### What is Sustainable Development?

Sustainable development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is from *Our Common Future*, also known as the Brundtland Report:

#### "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

### What is Sustainable Development?

Where? What? And How?



Praslin Bay, St. Lucia 2000 – 2010 Future Needs?

### •Why Build Sustainably + Climate Conscious?

The Caribbean is inherently climate sensitive – Our life and livelihoods are inextricably linked to our environment and climate.

- Our reality is one of recurring, pervasive and growing vulnerability
- New ideas are needed to address the vulnerability Implementation of the new ideas will result in Resilient societies.

Vulnerability + Innovation = Resilience

## •Effects of Climate Change



## Effects of Climate Change

Hazard	Impact	Built Environment Implications
Sea level rise	Coastal flooding and erosion, land lost, seawater intrusion	Damage to coastal infrastructure and pollution of underground water resources
Category 4 and 5 hurricanes	Storm surge, inland flooding, wind related damage, coastal erosion	Damage to infrastructure including electricity and water
Torrential rainfall events	Inland flooding	Damage to infrastructure including electricity and water
Prolonged drought	Limited water resources	Water supply restrictions
Increased temperatures	Heat stress Coral bleaching Increased emergence of vector borne diseases	Increased energy and water use. Coastal erosion (damage to coastal infrastructure). Vector habitats

#### The Caribbean Context



- The region produces less than 1% of the global greenhouse gas emissions but is one of the most vulnerable to the effects of the resulting effects climate change.
- The cost of inaction in the areas of hurricane damage, loss of tourism revenue & infrastructural damage is projected to be US\$22B by 2050 & US\$46 B by 2100 – 10% and 20% of the current regional GDP.



#### Jamaican Context



- Jamaica listed a having the Second Highest economic risk exposure to 2 or more climate change related hazards.
- J\$113 Billion Storm damage estimates covering 2004-2012;
- Hurricane Ivan benchmark Jamaica J\$35 billion in 2004 from extensive damage to agriculture, housing, mining, electricity, transport, telecommunications and tourism.

#### New Approach

Sustainability + Climate Change Resilience

<u>climate change resilience</u> is the ability to survive, recover from, and even thrive in changing climatic conditions.
 It includes the ability to understand potential impacts and to take appropriate action before, during, and after a particular event, such as a storm, major flooding or prolonged drought, to minimize negative effects and maintain the ability to respond to changing unpredictable conditions

Examples?

# New Approach

Learn from the past

- Pitched Roof
- Verandah
- Fretwork
- Louvers
- Rainwater collection
- Elevated Structure
- Cross Ventilation



## Bella Verde – Private Residence

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

- Aims to be 1<sup>st</sup> Caribbean
  LEED Gold Certified Building
- Designed with sun, wind and shade considerations
- Natural Mangrove Buffer
- Saline Infinity Pool
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Photovoltaic Array
- Indigenous Landscaping



# Hôspital Universitaire de Mirebalais

Mirebalais, Central Haiti

- 200,000 sq. Ft building
- 1,800 solar panels
- 100% of energy collected daily.
- Excess power sent to national grid.
- Saves 210 metric tons of carbon emissions annually
- Natural ventilation
- Motion sensor lights

Haiti opens world's largest solar powered hospital, saving lives and money.



## The Barbados Boardwalk

Christchurch, South Coast, Barbados

- Location: south coast from Accra Beach in Rockley
   1.5KM to Needham's Point.
- **Project:** breakwater 6-12ft deep designed to connect beaches, prevent erosion and protect the coast from winds in excess of 170 km per hour.
- New project launched



#### The Barbados Boardwalk

"...shows that it is possible to achieve positive synergies between the disaster risk prevention and mitigation and a strategic sector such as tourism, to maximize the economic benefits for the country" – Héctor Malarín, IDB



- Title: 'Developing Design Concepts for Climate Change Resilient Buildings'
- Technical Cooperation: IDB and UWI ISD
- Financing: Inter American Development Bank
- Duration: April 2012 September 2013
- Value: US \$500,000
- Focus: The Built Environment in Jamaica and the Caribbean region



#### **Technical Components**



- Technical Assessment Technical, Legal & Economic Reviews, ERA Green Paper Review, Building Code Review
- GIS Mapping Climate Change vulnerability mapping
- Dissemination & Public Awareness

**Project Goals** 

- to improve the assessment of climate change related risks as it relates to infrastructure;
- to increase knowledge about climate resilient and resource efficient construction concepts, designs and materials in the building sector;
- to increase awareness and information about resilience to climate change in the general public – Jamaica and the Caribbean.







#### Developing Design Concepts For Climate Change Resilient Buildings

The Institute for Sustainable Development 13 Gibraltar Camp Way University of the West Indies Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica

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### Can Jamaica Develop Sustainably?



Phase 2

- Promoting Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy in Buildings in Jamaica
- UNEP + GEF Trust Fund
- September 2013 2017
- Financing: US\$2.3M
- Total Value: US\$7.4M
- UNEP Priority: Climate Change
- Prototype Building + Retrofit Elements



#### •Build Better Jamaica Phase 2



#### Learning from the past, preparing for the future...

#### Conclusion

Vesta

#### "Do the best you can until you know better.

#### Then when you know better, do better."

Maya Angelou

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