



**CARIBBEAN**  
CLIMATE-SMART  
**ACCELERATOR**

**Led by the Caribbean, For the Caribbean**

---

# CREATING THE WORLD'S FIRST CLIMATE-SMART ZONE

An unprecedented coalition of 27 countries and over 40 of the world's largest global companies, financial institutions and foundations, joined together to create a resilient, low-carbon future for the Caribbean -- and a beacon for nations around the world.



***“For us the time to talk has elapsed.”***

-- Prime Minister of Dominica, Hon. Dr. Roosevelt Skerrit

The IPCC predicted in its landmark 2018 report that we have only **12 years** to implement transformative climate action, keeping within the limit of 1.5°C global temperature rise, **to avert catastrophic climate disasters.**

The Caribbean and other small island developing states (SIDS) are **especially vulnerable**. Potential effects on Caribbean SIDS:

1. Mass displacement
2. Decreased access to freshwater
3. Ocean acidification, mass coral bleaching & species extinction
4. Increased risk of drought
5. Negative impacts on GDP

## THE CLIMATE-SMART CHALLENGES IN THE CARIBBEAN



- High vulnerability to effects of climate change
- High dependence on fossil fuels
- Outdated infrastructure
- High government debt
- Lack of fiscal space
- Barriers to accessing international finance
- Complex regulatory environments
- Limited capacity and bandwidth

## THE CLIMATE-SMART PURPOSE

The Accelerator is an **entrepreneurial engine** that accelerates priority initiatives toward a Climate-Smart Zone, **delivering resilience, social development and broad based economic growth** for the Caribbean.

Our objective is to help transform the region's economy through **fast-tracking sound public and private investment** opportunities, supporting climate action and economic growth.

It was the first **high-impact** project to come out of French President Emmanuel Macron's 2017 "One Planet Summit".

*"We are not going fast enough."*

- Emmanuel Macron,  
President of France,  
"One Planet Summit",  
Dec 2017



## THE CLIMATE-SMART TIMELINE

### Incubation

**December 2017- August 2018**

Establishment of the Accelerator and governance body; built up partnerships, strategy, deliverables, and implementation of initial 'quick win' projects

### Official Launch

**August 9<sup>th</sup> 2018**

Launch with full cohort of Caribbean government, public, and private sector partners. Hosted at UWI, Mona Campus with Keynote speech from Prime Minister Holness

### Finalization of Operations

**August 2018 - Jan 2019**

Finalizing operational model, recruiting permanent team and working on initial projects

### Main Work

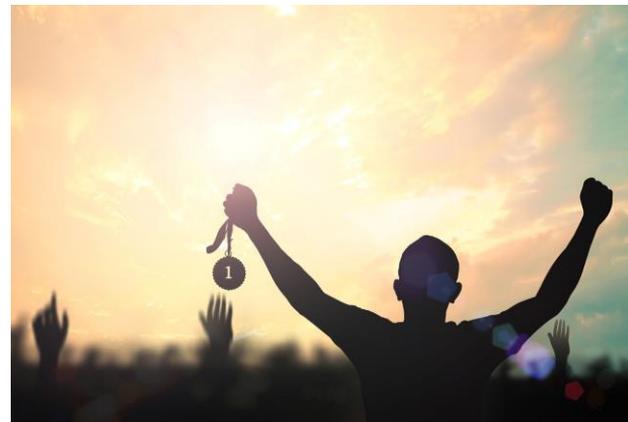
**Feb 2019 -- onwards**

Execution of partnership projects and investments across multiple sectors in Caribbean, expanding initial focus on resilient infrastructure and clean energy to match needs identified

## THE CLIMATE-SMART 2022 TARGETS

The Accelerator has a five-year mandate to:

- ❖ Catalyse at least 5 transformative projects, which:
  - Provide permanent solutions to climate challenges
  - Create jobs
  - Contribute to knowledge
  - Benefit citizens (economic, social & environmental)
  - Have transparent procurement and funding mechanisms
- ❖ Act as the convener to aggregate at least 10 multi-country opportunities/projects
- ❖ Execute at least US\$1 billion in projects, utilising innovative financing mechanisms which can blend funding from public, private and multilateral sources, with measurable results.
- ❖ Achieve recognition of the Caribbean as “the world’s first climate-smart zone”
- ❖ Demonstrate the region’s ability to work together, which can be applied to other challenges



## THE CLIMATE-SMART MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

**Our future economy is climate-smart.** A more resilient Caribbean offers our partners new, untapped and/or invisible markets and at a time when carbon financing is going global:

- New growth sectors forging diversification and resiliency in the **blue and green economies** (ocean & marine industries), and **advanced energy economy** (green technology and power generation)
- Higher value of **energy savings** from renewables
- Access to new **carbon financing**
- **Business resilience** amid increasing risk from climate shocks
- **Low-carbon innovation**
- **Improving policy** support and regulatory framework

## THE CLIMATE-SMART FOCUS SECTOR AREAS

The Accelerator has initially identified the following priority climate-smart sectors to assess selection of future project proposals:

- ▶ Resilient Infrastructure & Smart Cities
- ▶ Renewable Energy (RE) & Energy Efficiency (EE)
- ▶ Electric Vehicles (EV)
- ▶ Innovative Financing
- ▶ Agriculture + Oceans

# THE CLIMATE-SMART CATALYST

## Break Barriers

Clearing impediments to implementation of climate-smart initiatives in the Caribbean region.

## Advocate

Raising awareness of the climate agenda and ensuring that Caribbean's Small Island Developing States (SIDS) receive assistance to become more resilient.

## Package

Identifying and packaging a pipeline of projects that are ready for funding and implementation immediately.

## Scale

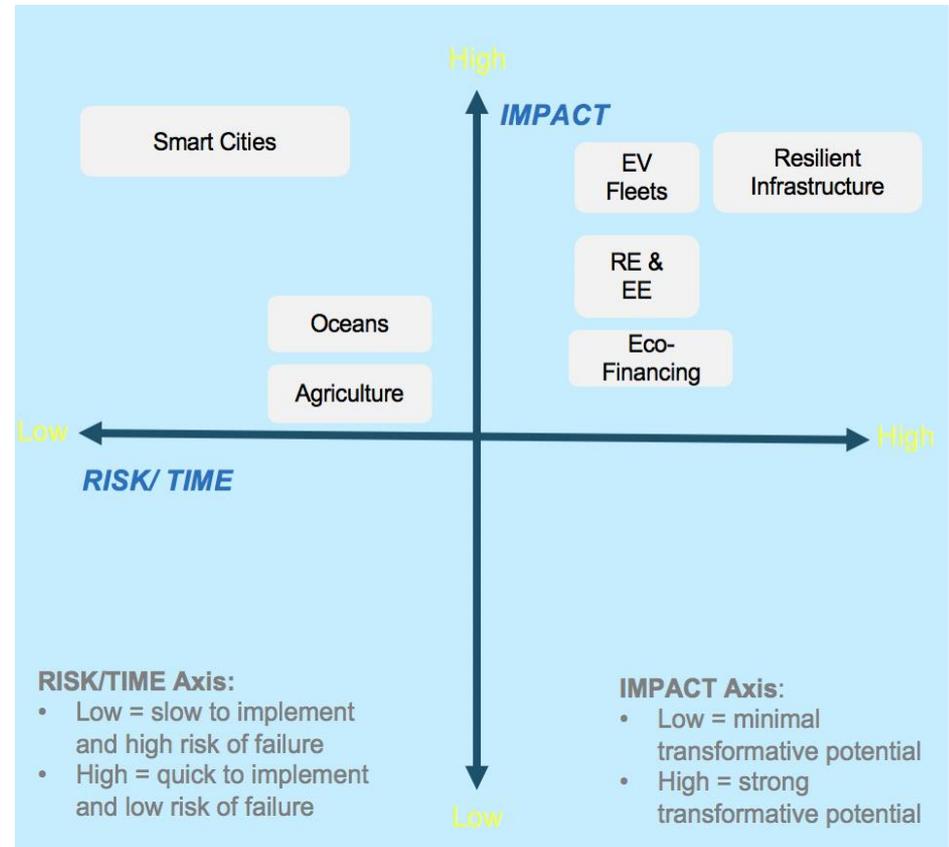
Match-making investors and projects;  
Structuring innovative financing for climate-smart projects.

## Monitor

Monitoring implementation of activities to ensure solutions are faster, more sustainable and have a high positive impact.

## THE CLIMATE-SMART PROJECT CRITERIA

- ▶ **High impact projects will be prioritised:** Does the activity have **high, positive, transformative potential** across areas aligned with the Accelerator's strategy: (1) Economic, Social and Environmental; (2) Resiliency; and (3) Climate Mitigation & Adaptation?
- ▶ **Lower risk projects will be prioritised:** Is there strong **political will** and sponsorship? Is there **local ownership**? How **strong** are the Execution Partners to implement?
- ▶ **Projects with a defined and realistic timeline will be prioritised:** What is the state of **readiness**? How long will it take to implement? How long will it take to see **results**?



# THE CLIMATE-SMART **PROJECT TEMPLATE**

INSERT HEADLINE & PURPOSE STATEMENT INCLUDING PROJECT GOAL & FOCUS SECTOR AREA

OBJECTIVE and/or STRATEGY:

STAKEHOLDERS:

MEASUREABLE:

TIMELINE:

BUDGET:

NEXT STEPS:

Ambassador (Ret.) Dr. Neil Parsan

[neil@caribbeanaccelerator.org](mailto:neil@caribbeanaccelerator.org)

+1 202 322 0218

[www.caribbeanaccelerator.org](http://www.caribbeanaccelerator.org)

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION:**  
**#CARIBBEANACCELERATOR**

**THANK YOU**

