Montserrat

Interim feedback on the RESEMBID formulation mission
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RESEMBID Formulation Mission

Interim Feedback - Montserrat

Purpose of the feedback

This note provides an overview of the trends and potential areas of support that were gleaned from the consultation mission recently held in Montserrat. It also reconfirms next steps to stakeholders. It seeks to provide interim feedback pending the next phase of work to develop the programme pipeline in further detail.

Consultation mission

During the period 28 October to 1 November 2019, RESEMBID team members and sectoral experts consulted with stakeholders working in the thematic areas of Resilience, Sustainable Energy, and Marine Biodiversity.

How could RESEMBID support Montserrat’s priorities in Renewable Energy, Marine Biodiversity and Resilience?

Further to extensive consultations held with Montserrat government authorities and various stakeholders (government ministries, departments and agencies, international aid organizations, civil society organisations, fisherfolk associations, tourism entities) the RESEMBID team identified an initial suite of intervention opportunities identified below. This is an exhaustive list of opportunities requested by stakeholders, which also fall within the scope and means of the ReSEMBiD Programme. This list will be further refined by the OCTs according to their individual priorities.

Energy

- Devise a strategy for the phase-in of energy efficient commercial and residential appliances, including a roll-out strategy, in conjunction with the Customs department and the Energy Unit.
- Support the diversification of electricity generation mix on Montserrat based on proven studies, contributing to the resiliency of critical assets.
- Provide support in the development of an energy audit programme for public buildings in Montserrat, including schools and government buildings, and the application of green public procurement throughout government processes.
- Support a national awareness campaign on energy efficiency, paying specific attention to the development of Renewable Energy materials
Ridge to Reef initiatives can bolster waste-water management efforts in island environments such as Montserrat.
as an educational topic in conjunction with The National Trust and Ministry of Education, Health and Social Services.

- Development of a strategy to integrate energy efficiency and renewable energy in the hospitality/tourism sector.

- Capacity building for staff of the energy unit in project management and technical themes.

- Support the reduction of road transport emissions in Montserrat by developing an electric mobility uptake and roll-out programme.

- Provide assistance in the review of the Financial incentive policy for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Marine Biodiversity

- Support the mapping, monitoring and safeguarding of the different marine biocoenosis (reef, seagrass, etc.) around Montserrat, so to create successful integrated coastal zone management plans.

- Conduct feasibility studies and assessment for low technology FADs targeting large pelagic fish offshore to lower fishing pressure off reef species.

- Develop and implement integrated environmental awareness campaigns, e.g., to link watershed management and marine biodiversity conservation, targeted campaigns for the adult population on island, targeted climate change sensitisation campaigns, etc.

- Support survey on drivers of tourism in Montserrat to allow the tourism board to cater better to their visitors and develop sustainable tourism strategies.

- Develop Ridge to Reef initiatives to support integrated wastewater and runoff management strategies.

- Promote the sustainable use of marine resources by supporting on-going and new projects, e.g., analyse fisheries data to develop and implement a fisheries management strategy, fisherfolk identification cards, foster ocean governance programs such as the OECS ECROP (OECS Eastern Caribbean Regional Ocean Policy), etc.

- Develop science based decision-making tools, especially related to the economic benefits of improved sustainable management of natural resources on land and on sea, and how healthy ecosystems will benefit the island’s economy.

Resilience

- Support for public education and outreach on disaster risks for: General public, Teachers and students, and Policy-makers.

- Capacity building for mainstreaming DRM into sectoral policies, plans and practices (risk-informed/ evidenced-based programming) within government (policymakers/senior technocrats).

- Strengthen the existing capacity to address psycho-social and mental health support post-disaster.

- Support the strengthening of multi-hazard 24/7 early warning systems and enhance existing common alerting protocols for first responders.
• Supporting the identification and management of hydrological resources including Ghauts (expand the use of GIS and hydrological and stormwater management plan).

How could Montserrat benefit from the RESEMBID regional approach?

The RESEMBID programme in Montserrat will be a mix of national and regional interventions. The regional programme components will address strategic and thematic areas common to OCTs in the Caribbean including climate smart and sustainable development and capacity building. This regional approach will contribute to tackling the identified needs of Montserrat. In particular, this approach will support Montserrat’s local and national stakeholders with:

• Enhancing capacity building in Proposal and Grant Writing and Management; Monitoring and Evaluation, Reporting and Communication.

• Training and capacity building in integrating science and technical studies into policy and local plans developments.

• Supporting the gathering, collection, systematization and analysis of baseline data for climate change, energy, and marine biodiversity.

• Supporting technical exchanges among OCTs and the Caribbean region to share best practices, lessons learnt and to conduct in-situ trainings (e.g. adoption of best practices on building codes, reef management and monitoring, safe schools and resilient development, aspects of resilient agriculture).

• Capacity building for integrating SDGs indicators and targets in long-term strategic planning.

RESEMBID timeline: January - June, 2020

The following activities are planned for January to June 2020:

• Design of national and regional activities in relation to RESEMBID mandate.

• Call for proposals - OCT stakeholders have the opportunity to submit concrete project concepts using the “Project concept note template” to add and prioritise proposed activities. Additional guidelines on this submission process will be communicated with the RESEMBID Focal point.

• Identification of best implementation options and partners in each OCTs.
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