



United Nations
Small Island
Developing States
Partnerships Awards

CDRI 

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure



Disaster Resilient Utility Infrastructure in St. Kitts and Nevis



Region:

St Kitts & Nevis



Period:

2025-2027

About IRIS

Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) is a flagship initiative of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) which aims to equip Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with knowledge, tools, and partnerships to build climate and disaster resilient infrastructure.

SIDS face severe climate risks in addition to challenges posed by geographic remoteness, poor connectivity, and limited economies of scale. Strengthening infrastructure resilience is key to sustainable development and safeguarding livelihoods.

Through IRIS, CDRI advocates for resilient infrastructure, deploys experts, shares best practices, and funds technical support to enhance infrastructure resilience in SIDS.

Context and Background

- St Kitts and Nevis, which is among the most water-scarce countries globally, relies entirely on imported fossil fuels, and operates on aging infrastructure, increasing vulnerability to climate impacts and service disruptions.
- Hurricanes and other natural disasters frequently damage fragile infrastructure leading to prolonged outages, economic losses, and costly recovery due to limited resources and system redundancies.
- This project will assess vulnerabilities in water, power, and telecom systems and recommend upgrades and contingency measures to enhance infrastructure resilience and ensure continuity of essential services.

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 <https://cdri.world/sids/>



● St Kitts & Nevis



80% of key infrastructure in St. Kitts and Nevis lies within highly hazard-prone coastal zones

Objective and Outputs

- The project aims to strengthen utility service providers' capacity in St. Kitts and Nevis to manage risks and vulnerabilities affecting critical infrastructure.
- Key activities include mapping vulnerabilities, developing a vulnerability atlas, and establishing a coordination framework to guide resilience efforts.
- These efforts will support targeted infrastructure upgrades, improved disaster preparedness, and sustainable development amid growing natural hazards.

Impact

- The project will enhance decision-making for utility providers, strengthening critical infrastructure resilience for 53,082 residents in St. Kitts and Nevis.
- Its impact will extend to 600,000 residents across the OECS, providing a model for improved disaster management and utility infrastructure resilience.
- Strengthened infrastructure will support the tourism sector, ensuring a safer experience for 800,000 annual visitors and boosting economic stability.
- The project will serve as a blueprint for Caribbean nations, fostering regional coordination, economic resilience, and improved quality of life.



Nodal Government Agency

Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities; Domestic Transport; Information, Communication and Technology; and Posts



Implementing Partner

Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre



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