

Effecting the Citizen's Agenda in Climate Change

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) was represented at the **UNESCO Experts Meeting on Climate Change Education for Sustainable Development and Adaptation in Small Island States**, held September 21-23 2011 in Nassau, Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

This meeting provided an opportunity for exchange of experiences and best practices as well as recommendations for action. Participants came from three main regions: the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific and included scientists, researchers, educators, universities and civil society groups. This will provide key contributions to the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012 and the End-of-Decade Conference of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in 2014.

CANARI's presentation at this meeting was made by Senior Technical Officer, Celeste Chariandy. The presentation underscored the need for continuous public education and engagement to understand the impacts of climate change. This will help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change and build on work already undertaken by CANARI.

CANARI also contributed to regional recommendations from the Caribbean team of participants, one of which was the establishment of a Regional Action Learning Group addressing climate change communication, to be coordinated and facilitated by CANARI. This group will provide strategic direction, share information and lessons on what is being done, spearhead research and reflexive action to enable effective and coordinated efforts to address this global challenge.



Fig. 1: Celeste Chariandy, Senior Technical Officer, CANARI presenting at UNESCO Experts Meeting



Fig. 2: Participants at UNESCO Expert Meeting on Climate Change Education with President of the General Conference of UNESCO, Dr. Davidson Hepburn at centre.