



CHILE – CARICOM

The Role of Chile and International Cooperation



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Chile's International cooperation aims to promote and obtain general public wellbeing, placing particular emphasis on development needs and vulnerabilities.

Chile conducts this type of cooperation mainly with Latin America and the Caribbean, under a South-South cooperation system. Our efforts are focused on transferring capabilities and knowledge on public policy issues, which together with intense horizontal dialogue, works in different regional spaces promoting cooperation, coordination and joint synergy programs and projects.

Chile is a country of medium/high income, and as such, faces a double dimension on issues of cooperation. First, it supports countries that are equally or less developed through the transfer of capabilities and knowledge in order to find solutions that can improve the quality of life for their inhabitants. We, in turn, receive technical assistance from third parties to strengthen specific areas which are less developed.

Chilean cooperation is characterized by bilateral programs based on technical assistance, training for human capital through scholarships, and triangular cooperation projects.

The latter is conducted either with OECD countries or with other nations in the region, supporting development for those whose progress has been slower, preferably through innovative financing instruments, such as triangular cooperation funds.

Recently, the role of Chile in international cooperation has mainly involved active participation in regional and international platforms for cooperation, development and efficacy of aid, as well as supporting the political dialogue of the OECD, G20, SEGIB, UN, etc. Within the region, Chile has collaborated coordinating work plans and programs between different countries, in bodies such as CELAC, SICA, the Pacific Alliance, etc.

In order to face the challenges of international cooperation, triangular cooperation has been highlighted as the form and instrument with which we can support cooperation for development and fulfill our role as a country of medium/high income within the region.

Chile has a strong commitment in promoting the integration of CARICOM within the hemisphere.

Our History : Chile-CARICOM

|1996:

The Joint Commission on Consultation, Cooperation and Coordination between Chile and CARICOM is established. This same year a Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement is signed in Kingston, Jamaica on 13th May. The agreement has enabled technical cooperation in areas such as agriculture, natural resources, healthcare, foreign languages, international relations etc.

|2007:

AGCICHILE signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the OAS that establishes a fund of one million US dollars contributed by Chile to finance regional projects for CARICOM countries. This program has supported projects promoting public policies in the areas of gender, sanitation certificates for exported products, and social protection. Since 2007, AGCICHILE has also offered Spanish as a second language courses to teachers with full annual scholarships, involving more than 400 CARICOM professionals.

|2012:

January: As part of the Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement, AGCICHILE met with CARICOM member states and senior officials of the CARICOM Secretariat in the field to identify areas in which Chile can offer cooperation programs on the basis of the needs seen directly during the mission.

February: The Second Meeting of the Chile-CARICOM Joint Commission was held in Santiago de Chile, in which the Cooperation Work Plan 2012-2014 was presented. This plan was immediately put into action with the coordination of training internships, technical assistance, courses and diplomas to begin operating during the second quarter of 2012.

March: The President of the Republic of Chile, Sebastián Piñera, participated in the 23rd Inter Sessional Meeting of the CARICOM Conference of Heads of Government held in Paramaribo, Suriname on 8th March 2012, where other requests for cooperation were presented.



Priority Areas in CARICOM

Teaching Spanish

The influence of Hispanic culture in the English-speaking Caribbean is seen in the desire of the CARICOM countries to learn Spanish as a Second Language. Many of these countries have approved regulations to make Spanish a mandatory part of education for primary and secondary school. Some countries have schools with Latin American Spanish teachers, while others with more limited resources, require assistance in this area.

The growing political, economic and commercial interrelations of CARICOM with Spanish-speaking countries has highlighted the strategic aim of teaching the Spanish language, while bringing the organization closer to other regions which are also seeing growth in the language, such as the USA and Brazil.



Agriculture

Agriculture contributes more than 10% of total production in CARICOM Member States, and in the case of Guyana, this figure reaches 40%. Food exports constitute 20% or more of total exports of nine of the 15 countries that currently make up the Community, from 6% in the case of Trinidad and Tobago, up to 85% for Belize. Similarly, food imports are equivalent to more than 10% of all imports for all countries in the Community, from 11 % for Trinidad and Tobago to 29% for Haiti. The main agricultural products for exportation are bananas, with 34%; sugar, 33%; and cereals, mainly rice, with 8%. Other important crops for export are coffee, cocoa, spices, citrus fruits, tropical fruits and vegetables, ornamental plants and cut flowers. The contribution of agriculture as a source of employment in the community is equally important, accounting for 20% of the labor force in six of the countries.





| Prevention and management of natural disasters

The geographical location of the Caribbean is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters such as hurricanes and flooding, as well as extreme seismic events.

In the Caribbean, the capacity to respond to natural disasters has evolved on all levels, including actions taken immediately before, during or after a catastrophic event to reduce economic damage or loss of life. However, in recent years risk management for natural disasters, preparation, response, and recovery planning and organization have also been included. In this context, it is predicted that exposure to dangers will be fully incorporated and added to all aspects of development planning and political definition.

| International Relations

One immediate consequence of the global economic and financial crisis has been a reduction of Official Development Assistance (ODA), since donating countries have drastically reduced their contributions.

This reduction in conventional North-South cooperation has forced the South-South cooperation (SSC) model to take a more active role, allowing countries with more economic and technical capacity in the region to transfer these tools to nations in which these two areas have not reached significant levels of development.

It is therefore important for Chile to be able to contribute, from its experience, methods, tools and processes to facilitate SSC and, above all in the case of CARICOM, as the region has a great deal of potential for cooperation between countries and contribute to its own development.

| Training for Human Capital

Scholarships to study in Chile are aimed at developing training and education programs offered to professionals in order to develop their skills and abilities within an academic and professional framework, and transfer the knowledge acquired within their country of origin.

Cooperation Plan Programs 2012 - 2014

| Education Program

General objective: Promote the development of the CARICOM region by creating Spanish immersion and diplomacy programs in order to facilitate inclusion in the Spanish-speaking Latin American region and strengthen the institutions and professionalism of all staff. The regional counterpart in this program is the University of the West Indies, UWI, whose main campus is in Mona, Jamaica, with branches in various CARICOM Member States.

There are three lines to follow in the course of this program:

- Diploma in "Methodologies for Teaching Spanish as a second language for Spanish Teachers from the English-Speaking Caribbean". Active since 2006.
- Spanish Teaching Program for CARICOM Diplomats.
- Program to strengthen foreign language officials in local Ministries of Education in the Caribbean.

Apart from the UWI, local Ministries of Education and Ministries of Foreign Affairs are also participating in this program. Work on the program for teaching Spanish to diplomats is being carried out jointly with Mexico through a triangular cooperation project programmed for 2013.

| Agriculture Program

General objective: Knowledge exchange of the programs supporting the Chilean agriculture sector, with regards to

sanitation and phytosanitation measures, and agricultural health and support for small farmers and family agriculture, for subsequent application in CARICOM.

There are three lines to follow in the course of this program:

- Phyto-zoo-sanitation systems.
- Agricultural Extension Services.
- Institutional Enhancement of CAHFSA (Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency).

The Ministries of Agriculture of the CARICOM countries are the main participants in these projects, and together with the CARICOM SECRETARIAT they provide support for implementing CAHFSA operations throughout the region.

| Natural Disaster Prevention and Management Program

General objective: Integrate a systemic perspective of the preparation for possible natural emergencies that may arise in the Caribbean region. The regional counterpart for this program is the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency, CDEMA, located in Barbados and with representatives in all English-speaking Caribbean countries.

There are three lines to follow in the course of this program:

- SIIE Emergency Integrated Information System.
- Study Internship Programs in Chile.
- Mapping technology (cartography) in Jamaica.

| International Relations Program

General objective: Provide CARICOM countries with tools and processes to create and develop inter-regional south-south cooperation projects and programs with CARICOM Member States, from the perspective of the experience of Chile with these types of programs and projects.

There are three lines to follow in the course of this program:

- Strengthening focal points for South-South Cooperation between CARICOM countries.
- Strengthening South-South Cooperation activities of the CARICOM SECRETARIAT.
- Training and education on issues of commercial negotiations and diplomatic relations.

This program has the support of AGCI from Chile, the Economic Office of the Ministry of Foreign Relations, DIRECON, and the Andres Bello Diplomacy Academy, (ACADE).

| Other Initiatives

In addition to the programs that have been developed as part of the 2012-2014 cooperation plan, there are other initiatives that have been carried out to comply with the specific needs of CARICOM countries, for example, in the sectors of fishing, mining and health.

Some examples of these initiatives are:



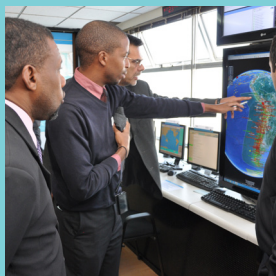
- Support for the mining sector in Suriname and Guyana.
- Support for the fishing sector in some CARICOM countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica and Saint Lucia), prioritizing small-scale fishing enterprises.
- Support for health policies on the issue of Non-communicable Diseases.
- Healthy Living Program.

| International Scholarships and Courses

Scholarships to study abroad are aimed at developing training and education to allow individuals to develop their skills and abilities within an academic and professional framework and transfer the knowledge acquired to their country of origin.

The scholarships available are as follows:

- Scholarships for long-term masters programs.
- Scholarships for short-term diplomas.
- International courses on specific subject areas.



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