



Synthesis of Country Strategy and Programme Evaluations:

Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, Suriname, and The Bahamas

Executive Summary

- This report synthesises evaluations of the Caribbean Development Bank's (CDB) support to five Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs) from 2010 to 2023.
- It assesses the effectiveness of CDB's strategies and programmes in reducing poverty and achieving development objectives.
- The report identifies commonalities, strengths, and weaknesses in CDB's operations and provides recommendations for enhancing future strategies and programmes.

Key findings

 Relevance and adaptability Initially aligned with country needs, adapted to crises like COVID-19, but relevance declined due to delayed implementations.	 Challenges in delivery Delivery hindered by capacity constraints in public sectors and executing agencies, with specific challenges in Suriname, Jamaica, and Belize.	 Efficiency issues Significant slow implementation and disbursement due to in-country and CDB-related challenges.	
 Strategy and realism Early strategies were too broad; a shift toward more realistic, achievable goals is underway.	 Follow-through on strategies Lack of systematic follow-through, with poorly designed and inactive Results Management Frameworks (RMFs).	 Risk management Risks identified but mitigation often overly optimistic, especially inadequate for climate events.	 Impact of COVID-19 Severely impacted strategies and operations but accelerated the shift to electronic processes.
 Comparative advantage Strong regional knowledge, but limited engagement reduced effectiveness in some areas.	 Gender and social protection Understanding of needs but limited follow-through and integration due to low BMC awareness.	 Regional cooperation Potential for leveraging regional cooperation underutilised in CSPs.	

Recommendations

	1. Stronger engagement	Regular CES missions and potentially employing Resident Implementation Officers in countries without an office.
	2. Become more realistic and prioritise to the context	Realistic appraisal and design stage with achievable goals.
	3. Strengthen RMFs	Develop utility-focused RMFs for better monitoring and adaptive management.
	4. Improve coherence via partnerships	Align with other IDPs to improve results and develop synergies.
	5. Improve gender integration	Develop responses to gender issues with specialist technical assistance.
	6. Increase Risk Planning	Ensure sufficient risk mitigation measures at the CSP design stage.

