

RIDASICC project intervention experience in Central American and Caribbean countries (COSEFIN-SICA - ECLAC -COSUDE).

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Content

RIDASICC project intervention experience in Central American and Caribbean countries (COSEFINSICA - ECLAC - COSUDE)	3
Global context of the experience.....	3
Description of the experience	3
Age of implementation	6
Systematic Applicability	6
Main Results/Findings/Recommendations	6

Experience RIDASICC project intervention in Central American and Caribbean countries (COSEFIN-SICA - ECLAC -COSUDE).

The member countries of the Council of Ministers of Finance or Treasury of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN)- Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama and the Dominican Republic have been working since 2020 with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on the project "Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable and Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation in Public Investment" (RIDASICC,) funded by the Swiss Cooperation (COSUDE). The main objective of the project is to strengthen the SNIPs of the countries of the region by incorporating elements of disaster risk reduction and sustainable and inclusive climate change adaptation (DRR-ASICC).

Global context of the experience.

Project framework

The RIDASICC project acknowledges public investment as a strategic approach to address the challenges of sustainable and inclusive economic and social development in the region's countries. It recognizes the positive impact that public investments can have on productive activities, job creation, domestic stimulation, and the development of other productive sectors. Furthermore, it acknowledges its role in facilitating human mobility and promoting equitable and sustainable development.

The project aims to incorporate both of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and sustainable and inclusive climate change adaptation (ASICC) elements in a comprehensive and practical manner throughout the project processes, from identification to formulation and evaluation. Its components are focused on enhancing the following aspects of the SNIPs:

- Training programs for national and regional project formulators and evaluators.
- Strengthening of national and regional methodological guides for project identification, formulation, and evaluation, as well as the development of tools for incorporating DRR-ASICC.
- Pilot projects using the developed guides and tools.
- Implementation of a Geographic Information System for identify socio-environmental threats and potential measures for DRR-ASICC

Description of the experience

The RIDASICC project aims to strengthen various components of the SNIPs by incorporating elements related to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Sustainable and Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation (ASICC) into the processes of project identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation.

Based on the information provided by each country, the following actions have been carried out or are in progress through the RIDASICC project:

Costa Rica: A National Technical Group, coordinated by the Investment Directorate of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN) has been established, and the following progress has been made:

- In 2022, a Workshop-course on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC was conducted.
- The General Methodological Guide for the Identification, Formulation and Evaluation of Public Investment Projects at the profile level, incorporating DRR-ASICC, was strengthened and published in May 2022.
The identification of Pilot projects in the drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure sectors is in progress.
- The development of the Geographic Information System platform, which will provide information for the identification of threats and DRR measures for project identification, formulation and evaluation is in progress.

Guatemala: A National Technical Group, coordinated by the Pre-investment Directorate of SEGEPLAN has been established, and the following progress has been made:

- Two workshop-courses, one online in 2022 and one in person in 2023, on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC were conducted.
- The sectoral guide for the formulation of drinking water and sanitation projects is being strengthened.
- The identification of pilot projects in the road infrastructure sector is in progress.
- The development of the Geographic Information System platform, which will provide information for the identification of threats and DRR measures in project identification, formulation, and evaluation of is in progress.

El Salvador: A National Technical Group coordinated by the General Directorate of Investment and Public Credit has been established, and following progress has been made:

- Training through online courses-workshops in 2022 on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC, as well as an in-person workshop on defining the project's area of influence and socioeconomic evaluation incorporating DRR-ASICC in 2022.
- Support in the development of a general guide for the identification, formulation and evaluation of investment projects.
- The identification of Pilot projects in the drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure sectors is in progress.
- The development of the Geographic Information System platform, which will provide information for the identification of threats and measures for DRR in project identification, formulation and evaluation is in progress.

Honduras: A National Technical Group coordinated by the General Investment Directorate of the Ministry of Finance has been established, and the following progress has been made:

- Training through Workshop-Courses, one online in 2022 and another in person in 2023, on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC.
- The strengthening of the General Methodological Guide for the Formulation and Evaluation of Public Investment Programs and Projects incorporating DRR-ASICC is in progress.
- The identification of Pilot projects in the drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure sectors is in progress.

Nicaragua: A National Technical Group, coordinated by the Public Investment General Directorate of the Ministry of Finance has been integrated, and the following progress has been made:

- Development and publication of the "Situation Analysis of National Systems of Public Investment: Nicaragua 2020".
- Training through Workshop-Courses, one online in 2022 and another in person in 2023, on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC.
- The strengthening of the General Methodology for the Preparation and Evaluation of Public Investment Projects incorporating DRR-ASICC is in progress.
- The identification of Pilot projects in the drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure sectors is in progress.
- The development of the Geographic Information System platform, which will provide information for the identification of threats and DRR measures in project identification, formulation and evaluation is in progress.

Panama: A National Technical Group, coordinated by the Investment Programming Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) has been integrated, and the following progress has been made:

- Development and publication of the "Situation Analysis of National systems of Public Investment: Panama 2020".
- Training through Course-Workshop, one online in 2022 on the identification, formulation and socioeconomic evaluation of investment projects incorporating DRR-ASICC.
- The strengthening the General Methodology Guide for the Formulation and Evaluation of Public Investment Projects is in progress.
- The identification of Pilot projects in the drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure sectors is in progress.
- The development of the Geographic Information System platform, which will provide information for the identification of threats and DRR measures in project identification, formulation and evaluation is in progress.

Dominican Republic: A National Technical Group has been established for the development of the Geographic Information System, with the following scope:

- Development of the Geographic Information System platform, with will provide information for the identification of threats and DRR measures in project identification, formulation, and evaluation.

In addition, the RIDASICC project is centrally developing tools for the identification of socio-natural threats, the assessment of disaster risk, and the identification of DRR measures. It is also developing training materials that will be available to public officials in the region, as well as two sectoral guides for drinking water and sanitation and road infrastructure, which can serve as a reference for the preparation of projects in these two sectors.

Age of implementation

This project began in 2020 and is expected to conclude in December 2023. The participating countries will be strengthened with new methodological tools and training, which is expected to generate synergies and successful exchanges of experiences during its implementation.

Systematic Applicability

The ongoing methodologies and various training programs aim to generate a knowledge base within the public sector. The objective is for these methodologies, pilot projects, and training initiatives to permeate institutions, allowing for the adaptation of investment processes and strengthening of the SNIPs in the region. This, in turn, promotes projects with a greater vision for development, resilience and adaptation to climate change.

Main Results/Findings/Recommendations

The RIDASICC initiative can be distinguished by its comprehensive approach to incorporate disaster risk and climate change throughout the entire project cycle, starting from identification, through formulation, and finally concluding with evaluation. This approach acknowledges that socio-natural threats incur socioeconomic costs and that DRR-ASICC measures generate benefits associated with avoided damages by having more resilient infrastructure. Consequently, these costs and benefits should be included in the socioeconomic profitability indicators of projects and, therefore, be considered in the decision-making process regarding project implementation.