



1ST ANNUAL MEETING OF CORE TEAMS

The Dominican Republic (DR) is the second largest country in the Caribbean with 48,442 Km² and a population of 10.5 million. It occupies the eastern two-thirds of the island of Santo Domingo (also called Hispaniola) and is the largest economy in the Caribbean and Central American region. Although DR is recognized as middle-income economy, vastly driven by tourism, agriculture, construction, financial services, manufacturing and mining, Gini index is 41.9 and HDI is 0.753.

The DR territory consists of steep mountains and highlands, interspersed with fertile valleys. The climate, typically tropical, presents great diversity due to the orographic characteristics of the territory, spacing from the per humid of the areas exposed to the trade winds, to the arid-pre-desert of the leeward areas to the main mountain chains. Over 80% of the people live in cities.

The Dominican Republic is one of the most exposed countries in the world to disasters caused by natural phenomena and, as such, is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Natural disasters have had a huge impact in DR economy and population, since individual hurricanes have cost up to 14% of GDP in loss and damages. Climate change is anticipated to increase the risk of extreme events, variations in precipitation, sea level rise, destruction of marine habitats, and rising temperatures. These changes could have significant direct and indirect detrimental effects, among which are: impacts in terms of food and water insecurity, in the generation and supply of electricity, population displacement, death, injuries and mental health due to extreme weather events, loss of livelihoods and the spread of vector-borne and waterborne diseases.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The DR Government recognizes the country's vulnerability to climate change and is actively working to increase its resilience. In 2015, the government submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Despite a well-developed political and regulatory framework, with which the country demonstrates its orientation towards adaptation and resilience, the country still needs to strengthen the implementation of these instruments, guaranteeing the fulfillment of the established goals, whose temporal scope is 2030 up to now. In fact, long-term visions, beyond 2030, have not been elaborated, either at national or sectorial scale.

Nevertheless, the analysis of the national context (in terms of socioeconomical development, quality life standards and climate change vulnerability and risks) allows to say that a potential 2050 country vision could be the following one: "The Dominican Republic is a 2050 carbon neutrality society, which implements models of sustainable development based on a competitive, circular and equitable economic management of natural resources, the use of clean energy, solutions that promote climate change adaptation and resilience, while guaranteeing wellbeing with dignity for its people, respecting its identity, sovereignty and culture".

To implement this vision, priority areas of intervention are:

- Capacity building at all levels.
- Development ambitious targets in key sectors, like tourism, forestry, transport, agriculture, water and infrastructure.
- Generation of synergy between mitigation and adaptation, at all levels of intervention.
- Promotion and implementation of models of circular economy.