

# First AFD-CARPHA Project

## Strengthening Strategic Intelligence and Partnership Approaches to Prevent and Control NCDs and Strengthen Regional Health Security in the Caribbean

Implementation period: 2019 - 2023



For more information scan the QR codes:



AFD  
PROJECT WEBPAGE



CARPHA  
PROJECT WEBPAGE

### PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

**26** CARPHA Member States (CMS)  
**2** French Caribbean Overseas Regions (FCORs)

- Anguilla
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Aruba
- The Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Bonaire
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Curacao
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe (FCORs)
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Martinique (FCORs)
- Montserrat
- Saba
- St. Eustatius
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- St. Lucia
- Sint Maarten
- St. Vincent and The Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turks and Caicos Islands

### REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT

#### Regional Health Security (RHS)

RHS refers to the public health and related systems and workforce capacities to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats which may cross national boundaries, and potentially impact on lives and livelihoods in the Caribbean Region. The Project supported building laboratory and workforce capacity, improving disease surveillance systems, strengthening outbreak response capacities, and facilitating regional forums to share strategies for assessing and combatting infectious disease threats.

#### Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)

In the Caribbean Region, NCDs are the leading cause of death and disability. These chronic diseases may result from a combination of genetic, environmental, behavioural and metabolic risk factors, such as, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet, harmful use of alcohol, air pollution, stress and overweight/obesity. This Project contributed to the development of regional NCD and risk factor surveillance systems and capacities, as well as facilitated regional advocacy, capacity-building and development and dissemination of tools to implement standardised clinical guidelines to prevent, manage and control Diabetes.

#### Partnerships

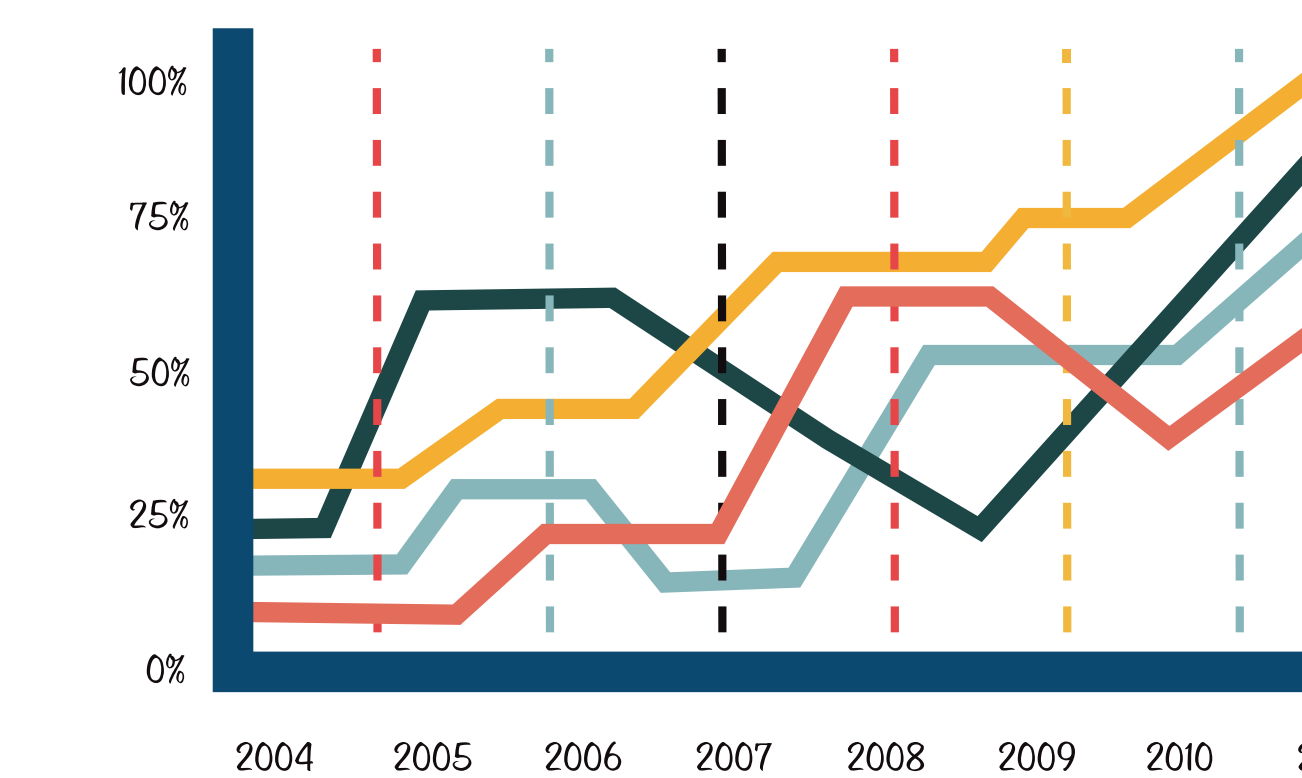
Regional public health requires coordinated action across all segments of society to address underlying social and environmental determinants of health. The Project provided the opportunity to equip key regional public health stakeholders with partnering skills, tools and opportunities to collaborate with health and non-health sectors. Key stakeholders included CARPHA, its 26 Member States, and various French public health institutions in the French Caribbean Overseas Regions of Martinique and Guadeloupe, such as the Regional Health Agencies (ARS), French Public Health Agency (SPF) and University Hospitals (CHU).

### PROJECT ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS



#### Regional Health Security Coordination

The Project facilitated meetings of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Health Security to assess, prepare for and share strategies, challenges and lessons learnt during the regional response to COVID-19. An RHS framework was developed and consultations of key stakeholders from CMS and partner health agencies, regional entities and international development partners were conducted.



#### NCD Surveillance

Through an evidence-informed process supported by consultation with CMS, partner health agencies and regional entities, a framework for the regional surveillance of NCDs and risk factors was developed and approved at regional levels. A regional data reporting and management system was developed and CMS focal points received training on its use, along with a data dictionary.



#### CARPHA NCD Guidelines

Advocacy, sensitisation and capacity building for the regional implementation of CARPHA Diabetes Guidelines were conducted. Tools for NCD management teams were developed and disseminated to all CMS, including a pocket guide, posters of key algorithms, and a nutrition toolkit. The CARPHA Hypertension Guidelines were updated. Regional capacity for the development of guidelines was increased.



#### Surveillance and Laboratory Capacity

Regional data systems to enhance disease detection, monitoring and control of communicable including vector-borne diseases were strengthened. Support was provided for courses under the Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme. The CARPHA regional reference laboratory also received support for COVID-19 and other public health testing with equipment and supplies.



#### Partnership for Public Health

Technical meetings and engagements between CARPHA, CMS and public health institutions in Martinique and Guadeloupe facilitated exchanges and identification of opportunities for partnership. Training was provided in Effective Partnering and Brokering. The CARPHA Partnering Policy was updated along with relevant tools, and model partnering agreement templates were developed.



#### Strategic Information

The Project supported the first virtual CARPHA Health Research Conference in 2021, facilitating dissemination of research relevant to and coming from the Caribbean Region. Following advocacy efforts and language facilities, there was a significant increase in FCOR participation. Project support facilitated CARPHA COVID-19 Situation Reports, and exchange of surveillance reports with FCORs.

### KEY PROJECT FIGURES



GRANT AMOUNT  
**1.5 million** Euros



PROJECT DURATION  
**4 years** | **7 months**



DIRECT BENEFICIARIES  
**1,035** persons



WORKSHOPS / MEETINGS SUPPORTED  
**45**



PRODUCTS DELIVERED  
**54**