



Experience by BlueEnergy (bE) and Bluefields Indian and Caribbean University (BICU)

in South Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region, NICARAGUA

During the last decade, an increase of extreme climate events was observed. This is due to Climate Change (CC) and has negative affects on the quality of live and vulnerability of the local population.

The **solution** was to create an initiative within the cooperation of bE and BICU under the principle of “real participation” to increase the capacities of the local population responding to the CC

IMPACT

- Increasing the capacities of the vulnerable population of the region responding to the affects of CC
- Citizen participation in the development of strategies
- Better cooperation between local organisations and civil society

Experience description

The main goal was to increase the capacities of the local population to respond to CC. BE and BICU started to run a first version of the initiative with participatory methods in a pilot phase in 2014. They mainly worked with the benefiting families of bE. In a second phase, the initiative began to work with model families and implemented concrete methods for the adaption to CC. Because of the initiative’s success, they began to include more families and communities in the third phase. After the three phases were finished, the local population started to adapt methodologies to improve the quality of life and strategies of resistance responding to CC.



Other characteristics



BENEFICIARIES

- Local families
- Civil society organized in neighbourhoods and communities
- Local authorities
- Consortium of bE and BICU together with the Humboldt Centre



CHALLENGES

- The funding of integrated initiatives
- The articulation and coordination with governmental authorities and institutions
- The politicization of the initiative’s processes by different groups of interest



LESSONS LEARNED

- The “long-term” strategy for the initiative was very important
- The “real participation” and involvement of the communities was fundamental
- The integrated and crosscutting process working with different topics of CC was essential