

Interreg Caraïbes

INTERAMERICAS GATE



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Press kit
May 11, 2021

Project partners



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The first interport economic observatory from the Guiana shield to the Caribbean

Led by the Antilles-Guiana Interport Coordination Council (CCIAG), INTERAMERICAS GATE is a multi-partner economic observatory project that brings together the Grand Port Maritime of Guiana, the Grand Port Maritime of Guadeloupe, the Grand Port Maritime of Martinique, the Galisbay Port of Saint-Martin and the Caribbean Maritime University (through its Center for Digital Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing).

This grouping aims to develop an interport cooperation tool and will be managed by the Grand Port Maritime of Guiana, designated as leader.

Great ambitions

By setting up an economic observatory, INTERAMERICAS GATE has several objectives:

- Improving mutual knowledge of the ports of the Greater Caribbean and Guiana,
- Facilitating interport cooperation to build responses to common challenges,
- In the long term, promoting the development of trade and economic exchanges between the territories of the zone.

More specifically, it will:

- Share reliable information between ports to get to know each other better, compare and improve,
- Pool business intelligence resources,
- Assess the weight of the maritime and port economy in this area

In the longer term, thanks to these comparative studies, INTERAMERICAS GATE will provide a tool for strategic decision-making on common themes, to optimize interport governance and increase the performance of each member.

More specifically, the Antilles-Guiana interport economic observatory will focus on the following priorities:

- inventory of maritime routes in the area, statistical aggregation of ports, regulatory, fiscal, customs and health developments,

- market studies for cruises, containers, bulk, cabotage, new sectors,
- socio-economic benefits, port transit costs.

In addition, the observatory's study themes will be extended to the environment, climate and operating techniques, in addition to the priorities set.

The ambition will be to extend the agreements to other ports in the Caribbean, Latin America and Central America, in order to integrate them into the Observatory and ensure synergy and development.

How

The observatory's mission is to provide each of its current and future members with various information:

- Regular updating of maritime routes in the area,
- Reliable, detailed and aggregated port traffic,
- A cartographic visualization tool, useful to other partners in each territory,
- Bi-annual notes by sector.

To be effective, the Observatory will have to collect a great deal of data:

- Characteristics of the ports: plans, port regulations, lengths of docks, draft, tools ...
- Environment: water quality, biodiversity, ship emissions
- Regulatory watch: safety, security, health watch..

Interreg : funding for a clear ambition



INTERREG Caribbean is a European Territorial Cooperation program allowing operators in Guadeloupe, Guiana, Martinique and Saint-Martin to implement win-win projects with their neighbors in the Caribbean, i.e. more than forty countries and territories.

The INTERREG operational program makes it possible to finance numerous cooperation projects between Caribbean territories.

Thus, thanks to INTERREG Caribbean funding, the INTERAMERICAS GATE project was extended to the Greater Caribbean and made it possible to integrate an extra-community partner, the CMU-CDIAM (University of Jamaica).

The program is broken down into six strategic priorities (to which technical assistance for the implementation of the program is added):

1. Strengthening the competitiveness of businesses through the implementation of joint Caribbean-wide projects involving actors in research, training and businesses.
2. Strengthening the response capacity to natural hazards by improving knowledge of natural hazards and setting up common risk management systems, in particular the development of shared observation tools or geographic information systems (GIS) adapted to crisis management.
3. Protecting the cultural and natural environment by improving the management of vulnerable or protected areas and jointly developing sustainable tourism in the Caribbean.
4. Responding to common health issues across the Caribbean through joint measures for the prevention and management of pandemics, in particular innovative actions in e-health.
5. Supporting the development of renewable energies with the OECS countries.
6. Strengthening human capital by developing training in Caribbean languages (English, Spanish, French) and student and professional mobility within the Caribbean.

Expected results:

- creating an environment conducive to the development of a business flow between the territories in the area
- establishing about twenty systems for observation, management and response to natural hazards in the Caribbean,
- developing ecotourism,
- the regression of HIV and vector-borne pathologies such as dengue, chikungunya or leptospirosis,
- developing electricity production capacities from geothermal energy and increasing renewable energies in the electricity mix, in particular in the OECS countries, Guadeloupe and Martinique,
- the participation of around 3,500 people in cross-border mobility initiatives or in joint education and training programs.

Total cost of the project: € 585,625.00

ERDF funding: € 387,768.75

History

INTERAMERICAS GATE is backed by the common strategy of the Antilles-Guiana Interport Coordination Council (CCIAG) which validated it on February 8, 2019, under the chairmanship of Mr. Emmanuel Berthier, Director General of Overseas.

The CCIAG was formalized in June 2016 in the prefecture of Martinique. This committee reaffirmed the will of the State to promote the emergence of cooperation between the major seaports of America on subjects of common interest. It was already focusing on three immediate areas of cooperation:

- Defining a common brand
- Modernizing handling
- Creating a common economic observatory.

After various workshops under the rotating presidency of Martinique and then of Guadeloupe in 2017 and 2018, the CCIAG presented in 2019 its updated roadmap for 2019-2024, which confirmed the major stake of inter-port collaboration and coordination, for an upmarket move and the development of each port.

INTERAMERICAS GATE is a concrete response to this common ambition of the CCIAG.

The process of creating this interport economic observatory was presented to the management boards of the ports in the area in June 2019, in Cayenne.

Since then, various actions led by the Grand Port Maritime of Guiana have been carried out in order to make this project a reality. After the definition of a name and the elaboration of an application file with a budget, the project was presented to the Joint Secretariat of the Interreg Caribbean program.

An extra-community partner has joined the project: the Caribbean Maritime University's Center for Digital Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing, based in Kingston, Jamaica. An influential university in the Caribbean, it has 6,000 students and has an R&D laboratory on Industry 4.0.



The Caribbean Maritime University's Center for Digital Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing

The Digital Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing department is driving Jamaica's digital transformation to transition to the 4th industrial revolution.

It provides cutting edge technologies to help in product development, predictive analytics, artificial intelligence and robotics and finally virtual education.

This department driven by engineering philosophy and expertise has many engineering disciplines combined with years of experience in the cyber-physics field.

Some key figures

- 6,000 students across the University.
- 10 employees within the department

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