

# **Doubts about Droughts? Elements of a Suitable National Drought Policy for Trinidad and Tobago**

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FIFTH CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM (CEF-5),  
SECOND CARIBBEAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FORUM &  
15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WIDER CARIBBEAN WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

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- Introduction
- Review of the Socioeconomic Impacts of Droughts
- Drought-prone Country Case Studies
- National Drought Policies: Country Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Introduction

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- **Date:** March 14<sup>th</sup> 2010
- **Individual:**  
Former Minister of Public Utilities Honourable  
Mustapha Abdul-Hamid (Trinidad and Tobago)
- **Organization:**  
Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service
- **History:** Meteorological Drought

# Pre-2010 Drought Scenario

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- **Natural Disaster Profile of Trinidad and Tobago for 1900 to 2009:**

Storms (6);

Floods (2);

Earthquake (1);

48 Deaths;

est. 53,000 people affected; and

est. US\$64m in total damage.

# Pre-2010 Drought Scenario

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- **Incidence and Occurrence of Droughts in Caribbean Countries for 1900 to 2009:**

22 Droughts;

7 Caribbean Countries;

Haiti (7), Cuba (6), Jamaica (3);

est. 4 million people affected;

(?) Deaths;

(?) Homeless; and

est. US\$226m in total damage.

# Economic Impacts of Droughts

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- Agricultural Producer
  - Livestock Producers

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- Timber Production
  - Fishery Production

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- Food Production/Disruption in Food Supply
  - Tourism Industry

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- Water suppliers
  - General Economic Effects

# Social Impacts of Droughts

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Health Impacts

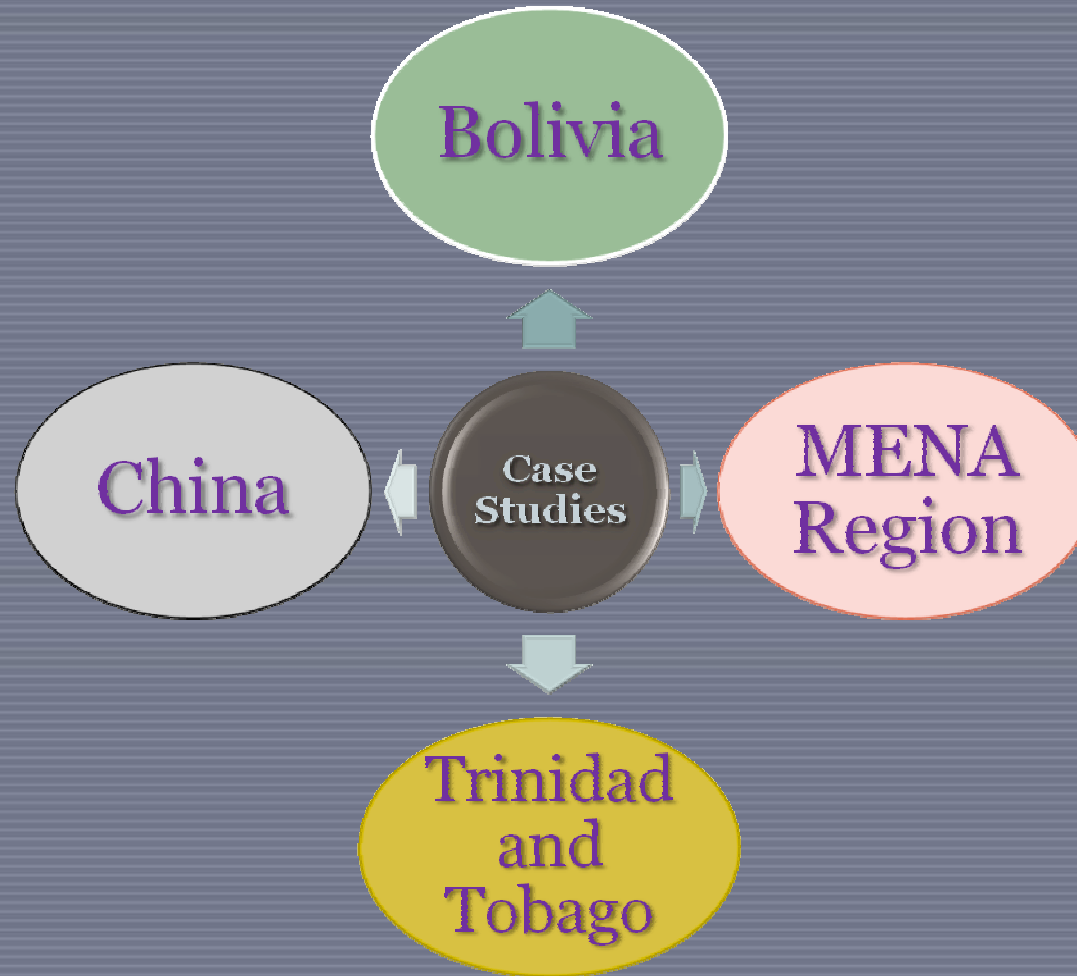
Water Conflicts

Quality of Life

Other Social Impacts

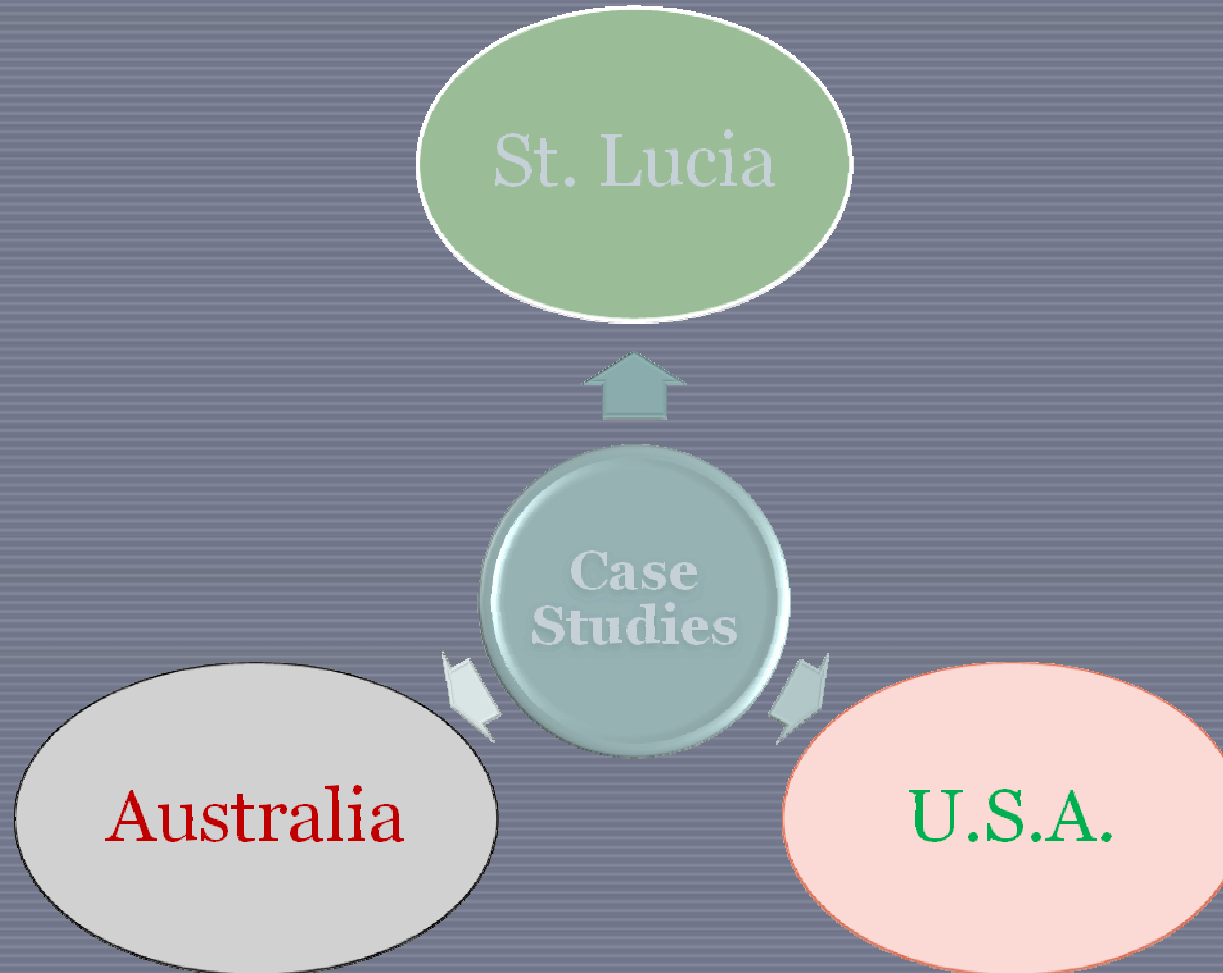
# Drought-prone Country Case Studies

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# National Drought Policies

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# Conclusions

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- **Supplement** the existing National Integrated Water Resources Management Policy of 2005 with a National Drought Policy for Trinidad and Tobago.
- **New** drought-specific legislation, necessary expertise and collaboration among governmental organizations to enhance the institutional capacity of organizations linked to water resources.
- **Active consultation** between diverse local actors and governmental organizations.

# Contact Information

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**THANK YOU**