**Extract from Saint Lucia National Climate Change Policy and adaptation Plan**

***Terrestrial Resources, Terrestrial Biodiversity and Agriculture***

**Terrestrial Resources, Terrestrial Biodiversity.**

St. Lucia’s soils, forests and biodiversity are among the key resources which support human existence on the island. Government accepts the scientific evidence indicating the likelihood of significant impacts on terrestrial resources including soils, forests and biodiversity. These impacts are expected to include, *inter alia*:

Changes in the composition of natural vegetation due to changing climatic, hydrological and

edaphic conditions;

Increased vulnerability of threatened ecosystems due the same conditions;

Increased soil fragility and hence, erosion;

Alterations in plant-plant, animal-animal and plant-animal associations. Government is fully

cognizant of the fact that terrestrial resources are essential for the continued existence of human

populations.

In addressing the foregoing and related issues, the Government of St. Lucia, in collaboration with other relevant entities, will:

1. Develop or improve the basis for sound decision making by promoting and fostering the developing of

capacity to undertake research into and analysis of the relevant climate change processes (including

forecasting and data collection);

2. Undertake measures in the short medium and long term to increase the resilience of terrestrial resources.

Measures shall include soil conservation, agro-forestry and the establishment of special conservation/

management areas;

3. Develop a comprehensive national land use and management plan, which, *inter alia*, incorporates climate

change concerns and which based upon such concerns, makes prescriptions regarding the location

of future settlements and urban development without compromising water supply and other such requisites

for the sustainability of settlements;

11

4. Develop or strengthen a national adaptation strategy for the forestry sector to address impacts over the

short, medium and long term;

5. Ensure the inclusion of Climate Change considerations during the implementation of strategies and

plans including the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan; the National Action Plan for the

Desertification Convention, the National Land Policy and the National Forest Action Plan;

6. Ensure the effective operation of the National Land Conservation Board and other relevant bodies.