

The Caribbean Basin Security Initiative

Jamaica



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A SHARED REGIONAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP

Working together through the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), the United States and the nations of the Caribbean are combating the drug trade and other transnational crimes that threaten regional security. This partnership fulfills the commitment to deepen regional security cooperation that President Barack Obama made at the Fifth Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago in April 2009. CBSI is one piece in an integrated effort that includes the other citizen security initiatives in the Hemisphere. The United States, CARICOM member nations, and the Dominican Republic are improving citizen safety throughout the Caribbean by working together to:

- Substantially reduce illicit trafficking
- Increase public safety and security, and
- Promote social justice.

Regional Cooperation

CBSI partner nations have collectively identified several priority areas for cooperation. These include building a regional information sharing network, improving maritime interdiction coordination, and developing regional training capacity. Effective solutions to these challenges will require a sustained commitment from all CBSI partners. The United States and its CBSI partners also welcome the assistance of other international donors.

United States Support Under CBSI

The United States is making a significant contribution to CBSI, committing more than \$263 million in funding for CBSI since 2010. This contribution includes assistance in the following areas, all developed through the CBSI cooperative dialogue process:

- **Maritime and Aerial Security Cooperation.** Support regional maritime and aerial coordination by improving radar coverage in strategic locations and sharing radar information. Provide equipment and training that will enable Caribbean governments to carry out maritime and aerial operations.
- **Law Enforcement Capacity Building.** Enhance law enforcement effectiveness through police professionalization, anti-corruption training, community-based policing, and sharing regional ballistics and fingerprint information.
- **Border/Port Security and Firearms Interdiction.** Provide technical support, technology upgrades, and training on techniques for intercepting smuggled narcotics, weapons, bulk cash, and other contraband at commercial airports and seaports.
- **Justice Sector Reform.** Reform and strengthen juvenile justice systems through alternative sentencing and rehabilitation services.
- **Crime Prevention and At-risk Youth.** Increase educational opportunities and provide workforce development and entrepreneurship training for at-risk youth as an alternative to crime and other harmful behavior. Funding also will support drug demand reduction through the training of treatment and rehabilitation professionals.

Jamaica

Jamaica benefits directly from several of the programs described above, including:

- Training, equipment, and technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of the government to: increase maritime interdiction capability; investigate, seize, and forfeit criminal assets; counter public corruption; combat organized and transnational crime; prevent terrorists from entering or transiting Jamaica en route to other countries, particularly the U.S, and enhance the efficacy of prosecutors and the criminal courts;
- U.S. Regional Firearms Advisers, now stationed in Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica, are working non-stop with the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) and have already started making visits to other countries in the region;
- Training and technical assistance in support of the investigation of violent crime, to include the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF)'s Scene of Crime Unit, the JCF Forensic Sciences Laboratory, and the Independent Commission on Investigations (INDECOM);
- Technical assistance in modernizing and improving customs procedures and tax administration, promoting legislative reform, and drafting anti-corruption laws;
- Support to strengthen youth workforce development and increase youth participation in economic growth programs;
- Support to strengthen community policing practices by building community-based partnerships that prevent violence and crime, support rule of law, and increase citizen participation;
- Support to strengthen diversion/alternative sentencing (to jail) and other youth-friendly rehabilitative, preventative and reintegration programs for at-risk youth.

More information regarding U.S. assistance to the Caribbean and the CBSI partnership is available at: www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/cbsi.