

# Counter Trafficking Strategy

Recognising the threat to regional crime and security, caused by the illicit trafficking in drug, arms and ammunition and humans, a Caribbean Counter Illicit Trafficking Strategy (CCITS) is being developed by CARICOM IMPACS in collaboration with its regional and international stakeholders. The goal of the CCITS is to deny illicit traffickers the ability to exploit the Caribbean as a route for the movement of illicit commodities and to promote security within the Caribbean.

The CCITS is consistent with the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy (CCSS), the White House Strategy to combat transnational organised crime and CARICOM Member States' National Security Plans. Development of the Strategy involves the utilization of tools including a horizontal scan, risk assessment and probability matrix. Overall it is intended to articulate a framework policy that is designed to increase regional coordination, maritime and aerial domain awareness, and information and intelligence sharing among the 15 CARICOM Member States and their international partners.

The strategy incorporates five (5) major objectives -

- Increase trans-border intelligence and information sharing;
- Establish appropriate legal frameworks;
- Strengthen Partner Nations Security Institutions and Enhance Partner Nations Ability and Capabilities to Detect, Monitor, Investigate, Interdict and Prosecute Illicit Trafficking;
- Target Criminal Assets and Prevent the Criminal Facilitation of TOC Activities; and
- Reduce demand for illicit commodities.

The strategy also highlights six (6) pillars as follows:-

- Functional Cooperation;
- Legal Framework;
- Interoperability;
- Institutional Strengthening;
- Sustainability; and
- Prevention.

## **Key Components**

- Establishment/strengthening of existing National Joint Coordinating Centres (NJCCs);
- Establishment of a Central Coordinating Hub (U.S. Southern Command JIATF-South) with the requisite maritime and airspace awareness capabilities; and
- Strengthening of Regional Coordinating Centres: IMPACS; RIFC/JRCC and RSS.