



## Caribbean initial activities

November 2024

### Focal Points EL PACCTO 2.0 a long-term cooperation strategy between the European Union and the Caribbean justice and security institutions

#### Caribbean Focal Point Event A look back

Reflecting on our first Caribbean Focal Point Event, in Barbados, 09-11 July 2024, we are proud of the insightful discussions, presentations, and productive bilateral meetings with participants from across the Caribbean and leading regional institutions. We sincerely thank each of you for your presence and contributions, which were crucial to the success of this event. The ongoing success of EL PACCTO 2.0 in the Caribbean is due to your invaluable participation. Below you will find a short recap video of the event:



#### 11 Caribbean countries

Antigua and Barbuda , Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago



#### 42 Focal Points

#### Participating regional institutions:

- CARICOM Implementation Agency For Crime And Security (IMPACS)
- The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)
- The CCJ Academy for Law
- The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC)
- The Regional Security System (RSS).



## EL PACCTO 2.0 Caribbean strategy

Following the event, we have been diligently processing the feedback and input provided by all participants to ensure that the needs and priorities of each country and institution are reflected in our future actions. Over the past few months, we have been working on finalising the Caribbean Strategy for EL PACCTO 2.0, which will serve as the guiding framework for future activities throughout the remainder of the programme.

The strategy will be presented to the European Commission on December 2nd, after which it will be reviewed. While the document outlines overarching themes and challenges for EL PACCTO 2.0, specific actions will be developed in close collaboration with you. Furthermore, we have commenced drafting the Operational Action Plan for 2025, which will set out the specific steps to be taken based on the feedback received.

## Initial activities in progress

Although we are finalizing the Caribbean Strategy 2025 – 2027 and the 2025 Operational Action Plan, we have already begun implementing initial activities. Recently, members of our team have reached out to some of you to identify suitable representatives from your country or institution for upcoming events, such as the *First Bi-Regional Meeting on Artificial Intelligence and Crime* in Costa Rica (December 2-4) and a *Youth Protection Seminar* scheduled for March 2025.

Please consider this document as a reminder to help us connect with the appropriate representatives for these events.

Furthermore, on November 27 and 28, an EL PACCTO 2.0 study visit will take place in Paris and The Hague, bringing together a delegation of around 15 participants, including police officials and magistrates from Brazil, Guyana, French Guyana, and Suriname. The visit will focus on environmental crime, with an emphasis on improving the (inter)national coordination of efforts to combat it. This is a first example of an bi-regional exchange of best practices between the Caribbean and the European Union.



Next to this, the EL PACCTO 2.0 team and dedicated Key Expert on cybersecurity has been involved in consultations CARICOM's Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Action Plan (CCSCAP), to ensure fundamental cooperation with one of the region's most important institutions.

The First Bi-Regional Meeting on Artificial Intelligence and Crime, set to take place in December 2024 in Costa Rica, will bring together technical civil servants with expertise in artificial intelligence, technology, computer science, cybercrime, and cybersecurity from justice and security institutions across the Caribbean, Latin America, and Europe. This event will serve as a platform for dialogue and debate on emerging trends in both criminal activity and AI, aiming to address the challenges faced by judicial and security authorities in utilizing AI tools, as well as the growing use of AI by organized crime groups.

Finally, EL PACCTO 2.0 recently carried out a joined training together with PACE Justice Program on Restorative Justice, Criminal Mediation and Juvenile Justice in Dominica. Due to the success of the training and the fruitful cooperation between both programs, a similar training will be conducted in Trinidad and Tobago on December 9-11.







## Introducing the Caribbean Desk

Due to the extensive scope of EL PACCTO 2.0 and the numerous planned initiatives, we will be contacting you more regularly in the coming months. To guarantee smooth communication and tailored support for Caribbean countries, we have established the Caribbean Desk, which is led by our Strategic Key Expert (Maite Verhoeven) and Project Officer (Luuk Bruijn). The Caribbean Desk will be responsible for the coordination of all activities in the region and will serve as the main point of contact for any inquiries or requests.

The Desk plays a crucial role in ensuring that our programme remains responsive to the unique needs of the Caribbean, fostering stronger partnerships and facilitating the long-term success of EL PACCTO 2.0 in the region.

The Caribbean Desk serves as a central hub, actively using its expertise and points of contacts in the region to ensure that all

activities in the region are informed by strategic insights into timing, local dynamics, potential opportunities, and risks. By maintaining close coordination with the Desk, stakeholders can avoid duplication of efforts, capitalise on synergies, and enhance the overall impact of their initiatives in the Caribbean.

Furthermore, we invite you to engage with us directly if you would like to express any concerns, demands, ideas, or anything else. To make sure that the EL PACCTO 2.0 programme is tailor made to the demands of the region and its most important stakeholders, we are always open to active engagement and discussing ideas.

## What Lies Ahead

As previously stated, we are currently finalising the key documents that will form the foundation of our activities going forward. Further details will be provided in a more detailed newsletter in January, including insights into the Caribbean Strategy and the Operational

Action Plan for 2025. In the meantime, we are continuing to plan country missions and implement our first activities. We may also contact you to request your support.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to work with you and look forward to continuing this collaboration. Together, we are developing a successful EL PACCTO 2.0, and your continued involvement and expertise are essential to its success.

Should you require any further information or wish to discuss any aspect of the programme in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always available to provide assistance:  
**[luuk.bruijn@elpaccto.eu](mailto:luuk.bruijn@elpaccto.eu)**



**WATCH VÍDEO**



**WATCH FOTOS**



**NEWS**



**X @ELPACCTO2.0**