



# SAFER BUILDING PROGRAMME

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Strengthening resilience in residential construction in CARICOM countries, through training in the CRCP 10:2023 code of practice





# INTRODUCTION

**The Safer Building Programme, is a CARICOM project which seeks to reduce the number of damages in the housing sector related to natural hazards and to increase the resilience of the housing stock to climate change through the application of a Code of Practice (COP) for the Construction of Houses.**

The programme was originally developed by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), with the assistance of the Organisation of American States (OAS) and with the funding support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), under the Caribbean Hazard Mitigation Capacity Building Programme (CHAMP).

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) has since collaborated with the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and the Caribbean Association of National Training Authorities (CANTA) to implement the Safer Building programme..

Funded by the Government of Norway, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Caribbean Climate Resilience Initiative (CCRI) project and the Building the Resilience of the CARIFORUM States to Disaster Risks and Climate Change Impacts project, financed by the European Development Fund, the Safer Building programme unites stakeholders from governments, training authorities, and local builders to create a resilient housing sector.

With the support of international and regional bodies, the project is positioned to not only improve construction standards but also to transform the future of housing in the Caribbean.

**The Safer Building Programme is a vital step in protecting communities and ensuring a safer future for all.**



# BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH STANDARDISED TRAINING

## LEVEL 3 CVQ QUALIFICATION IN CONSTRUCTION SITE SUPERVISION OF HOUSES & CRCP 10:2023

The **Level 3 Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) qualification in Construction Site Supervision of Houses**, which incorporates the CARICOM Regional Code of Practice standards for the Construction of Houses (**CRCP 10:2023**), is a significant step toward ensuring safer and more resilient housing throughout the Caribbean. The course curriculum establishes a uniform code of practice for house construction in CARICOM Member States.

The CRCP 10:2023 training is specifically designed to cover houses up to 7.62m x 12.19m in size, with either hollow block masonry or timber-framed walls and timber or concrete roofs. It gives clear technical guidance on supervising construction, ensuring that houses meet stringent safety and durability standards.

By completing the training, participants not only gain a **regionally recognised qualification** but also contribute to a larger goal of reducing housing vulnerability in the region.



As natural hazards such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods continue to threaten the region, the CRCP 10:2023 Code of Practice for the Construction of Houses' provides essential guidance on building standards that improve the strength and durability of homes. This CVQ qualification aims to equip builders and construction supervisors with the technical skills and knowledge to construct safer houses, contributing to the overall disaster resilience of the Caribbean.

Through the curriculum, delivered initially as a short-course, with the opportunity to advance to full CVQ certification,

participants gain essential skills and gain hands-on experience in constructing homes that adhere to the newly established building standards.

Training is not just theoretical; it ensures that participants understand the technical aspects of post-construction maintenance, climate resilience, and the specific needs of vulnerable groups. By integrating these essential elements, the training in CRCP 10:2023 standards prepares the next generation of builders to meet the challenges posed by natural disasters and climate change.



# WHO IS THE CRCP 10:2023 FOR?

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## CONSTRUCTION ARTISANS

Elevate your career and income with the CRCP 10:2023 training course, designed to give builders and construction artisans the knowledge and skills to lead the industry in resilient residential construction.

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## HOMEOWNERS

Ensuring that you entrust your building project with a contractor that has completed CRCP 10:2023 training, offers a simple yet effective way to help safeguard your investment. Building to this code contributes to the resilience of communities, ensuring that homes are secure and ready for the future.

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## POLICY MAKERS

As stakeholders in the public sector, you may be in the position to help shape a safer, more resilient future for our region. By advocating for the widespread adoption of the CRCP 10:2023 code of practice and its associated CVQ certification, you can help mitigate the risks posed by natural hazards and elevate the resilience of our housing stock.

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## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Mitigating risks is key to ensuring stable and secure investments. By making CRCP 10:2023 certification a core requirement for financing home construction projects, the risks associated with poorly built structures that are vulnerable to natural hazards can be significantly reduced.

# WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

## CRCP 10:2023 CODE OF PRACTICE AND TRAINING

Detailed course material is available to all, including:



### CRCP 10:2023 CARICOM REGIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES

A Regional Standard which specifies the standards for constructing houses in CARICOM Member States.



### OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS FOR CARIBBEAN VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CVQ)

A revised regional certification that establishes the skills and competencies to meet the CRCP 10:2023 standard.



### CURRICULUM

Detailed course support and resource guide for the attainment of certification in the short course for Construction Site Supervision CVQ



### LEARNER'S GUIDE

Training guide for the short Course in the CVQ Construction Site Supervision to support course participants



### POCKET GUIDE

On-site reference guide for builders

Visit [buildsafe.cdema.org/resources](https://buildsafe.cdema.org/resources) to view available documents.



# FAQS

## GENERAL

### ✦ What is CRCP 10:2023?

The CARICOM Regional Code of Practice for the Construction of Houses (CRCP 10:2023) is a standardised set of guidelines for building safe and resilient at minimum single storey-residential homes in CARICOM Member States. It addresses structural safety and resilience, and best practices in construction. CRCP 10:2023 provides a common standard of strength and durability for houses being built in the Caribbean. It provides construction details up to the strength of Category 5 hurricane winds from Irma (which struck Anguilla in 2017), Maria (which struck Dominica in 2017), and Dorian (which struck the Bahamas in 2019), as well as Magnitude 7 earthquakes (to extent of what struck Haiti in 2010 and 2022).

### ✦ Why was CRCP 10:2023 developed?

The Code of Practice was developed to address the high economic and human losses resulting from the impact of extreme weather events such as hurricanes and earthquakes in the Caribbean, particularly in the housing sector, by improving construction practices and ensuring consistency in building standards across the region.

### ✦ Who developed the CRCP 10:2023?

The Code was developed by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) under the authority of the CARICOM Regional Organization of Standards and Quality (CROSQ) with support from regional and international stakeholders.

### ✦ What problems are addressed by this Code of Practice?

CRCP10:2023 tackles deficits in construction practice and provides training for persons to up skill to the latest house construction practices for resilience to hurricanes and earthquakes. It provides a standard across the region for building durable houses which complements national building standards and provides the basis for national policy, legislation, and compliance measures in support of safe house construction.



# FAQS

## TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

### ✦ What is the CVQ in Construction Site Supervision – Level 3?

The Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ)(CCBCM 30123)- Level 3 in Construction Site Supervision is a revised Occupational Standard that addresses the requirements of CRCPI0:2023. It defines the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for effective workplace performance. It specifies what a person should know and do in order to effectively carry out the functions of construction supervision in the context of the work environment. This Standard is the agreed minimum best practice in Construction Site Supervision to train builders, forepersons, and artisans in safe and resilient construction practices..

### ✦ Who provides the CVQ training?

Training is delivered through vocational training institutions in CARICOM Member States, coordinated by national technical, vocational education and training (TVET) councils, the Caribbean Association of National Training Authorities (CANTA).

### ✦ How does the CVQ benefit construction professionals?

It provides formal certification of skills, enhances employability, and facilitates the free movement of certified workers within the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME).

## IMPLEMENTATION & USE

### ✦ Is compliance with this Code of Practice mandatory?

The implementation of this Code of Practice depends on national legislation in each CARICOM Member State. Building contractors are encouraged to undergo CVQ training to enhance their skills and knowledge and the adoption of the training practices are strongly encouraged to improve regional resilience. Policy dialogues are in the pipeline to support national requirements related to legislating compliance with CRCPI0:2023.

### ✦ Are there financial incentives for building to CRCP 10:2023 standards?

Some financial institutions may offer support for resilient housing projects. Check with local banks and credit unions for specific programmes.



# CONTACTS

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## CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (CDEMA)



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## THE CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITIES (CANTA)



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