

Saint Lucia

National Emergency Management Organisation

Annual Report 2002/2003



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*National Emergency Management Office
Prime Minister's Office*

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Photo Credits:

A. L. Dawn French / Choiseul Disaster Committee / Donovan Gentles / Steve R. Pollonais / Franklin MacDonald / Rober Harewood / Pan American Health Organisation (Caribbean Office) / Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority



NEMO Staff List

(As of March 31, 2003)

	NAME	<u>POST</u>	RESPONSIBILITIES
1.	Dawn French	Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall Management • Coordination • Operations • Finance • Training
2.	(VACANT)	Deputy Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Preparedness • Public Education and Information • Training
3.	Verina Calderon (Part Time)	Training Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training
4.	Marinus Pascal (Seconded)	Project Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAHO Mass Causality Training
5.	Maria Mombelli	Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration • Documentation and Information
6.	Anne Noel	Cleaner/Office Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning • Collating documents • Delivery of Mail
7.	Arturo Lopez-Portillo	Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of the 1996 National Emergency Response Plan

Part 1
Annual Report of the
National Emergency Management Office
April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003

The National Emergency Management Organisation Office is that organ of the Public Service charged with the responsibility of orchestrating all aspects of preparedness and response to disasters and other emergency situations affecting the State. The Office coordinates the activities of the National Emergency Management Organization. This is a two –tiered network of committees, which function at the National, and Local levels respectively.

The National Committees are:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 - Emergency Works | 6 - Information |
| 2 - Welfare | 7 - Transportation |
| 3 - Telecommunications | 8 - Oil Spills |
| 4 - Hospitality Industry Crisis Management Unit | 9 - Supply Management |
| 5 - Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis | |

The Local Committees are:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 - Gros Islet | 5 - Castries/E | 9 - Micoud/N | 13 - Choiseul |
| 2 - Castries/NW (Babonneau) | 6 - Castries/N | 10 - Micoud/S | 14 - Soufriere |
| 3 - Castries/Ctrl | 7 - Dennery/N | 11- Vieux Fort/S | 15 - Canaries |
| 4 - Castries/SE | 8 - Dennery/S | 12- Laborie | 16 - Anse la Raye |

There remains to be created Vieux Fort North and Castries South. Significant progress has been made in the creation of the Castries South Committee.



*Shelter Management Training
with the SDA*

The Disaster Preparedness and Response Act No. 13 of 2000, Part V: Obligations of Other Public Officers

Annual Report to Director in section 12 states that *“Every Permanent Secretary and Head of a Department of Government shall supply annually to the Director in such form and by such date as may be required by the Prime Minister such information as may be requested by the Director for the purposes of sections 4(2)(a) and 8(2).”* In keeping with the act, part 2 of this annual report includes an assessment of the state of readiness of the Government of Saint Lucia for a disaster as reported by the Government Liaison Officers.

During the year under review NEMO continued its collaborative efforts with various agencies. With the assistance of the multi-copier donated in 2000 by the French Government; NEMO embarked on a dissemination of information campaign that saw over thirty (30) subject areas being distributed into the community through the collaborative efforts of Local Committees, Government Offices and the Private Sector. It is a campaign that in the upcoming year that NEMO hopes to intensify as well as expand.

NEMO’s collaborations extended to the Diplomatic Corps as the Embassies assisted in the translation of certain documents for the agency. Some of the information assisted NEMO in its education campaign.

Education in its varied forms is an area that comprises a significant component of NEMO's programming. The following matrix details the training and workshop activities for the period under review, with training for over nine hundred persons in areas ranging from Shelter Management to Stress Management. The training was conducted in partnership with agencies such as GTZ, PAHO and CDERA.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Collaborative Agency</i>	<i>Number of persons trained</i>
Community Disaster Preparedness	Red Cross through the Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project	330
Shelters and Emergency Shelter Management (4 sessions)	Ministry of Education through the Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project	102
Shelters and Emergency Shelter Management (4 sessions)	SDA	12
Introduction to Disaster Management (Hazard Inspectors)	NEMO	94
Introduction to Disaster Management (NEMO Volunteers)	NEMO	17
First Aid Training	Red Cross	50
Mass Causality Management (3 sessions)	GTZ through OECS/NRMU	36
Learning to use Telecom Equipment (3 sessions)	GTZ through OECS/NRMU	36
Developing an Education Campaign (3 sessions)	GTZ through OECS/NRMU	36
Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management	CDERA	8
Interactive Class Materials for Secondary School teachers.	CDERA	30
Upgrading Documentation Center	CDERA	1
Stress Management In Disasters (SMID)	PAHO	18
Mass Causality Management	PAHO	107
Conducting Disaster Management on the Internet.	PAHO	15
	TOTAL	902

HIGHLIGHTS

NEMO attended or planned the following:

- Meetings with District Disaster Committees as well as with Government Liaison Officers.
- 12th Board Meeting of Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)
- Workshop - UNDP Caribbean Regional Seminar On The Use Of Information Technology In Comprehensive Disaster Management (Jamaica)
- Region Rap - a telecommunications exercise conducted annually to test telecommunications procedures, plans and networks of National Disaster Organisations across the Region.
- Annual General Meeting of the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC)
- Workshop - Geographic Information Systems
- Caribbean Hazard Mitigation Capacity Building Program (CHAMP)
- Workshop - Stress Management In Disasters (SMID)
- Workshop - Internet and Disaster Management
- 682nd Wilton Park Conference Preparing For Natural Disasters: Reducing The Risks (England)
- Health Care under the Draft Labour Code
- Seminar on Disaster Management and Recovery (Washington DC)
- First Bi-Annual General Meeting of NEMO/NEMAC
- Stakeholder Meeting on Natural Hazard Risk Management in the Caribbean - The Way Forward (Barbados)
- Seminar on the Design of Health Facilities to Resist Natural Hazards (Barbados)
- Integrated Decision Support System Workshop (Barbados)
- Regional meeting on Supply Management (Barbados)
- Regional meeting on Caribbean Hazard Mitigation Capacity Building Program (Grenada)
- FA HUM 2003 (Nicaragua)
- Workshop on the Production of Flood Hazard Maps and their Utilization For Community Disaster Management Planning (Barbados)
- LEADERS Conference (Jamaica)
- Facilitators Pilot Course (Costa Rica)
- International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds meeting (Grenada)
- Public Relations/Corporate Communications Conference (Puerto Rico)



Members of the CDERA Board



Wilton Park Conference

NEMO hosted consultations on:

- Emergency Housing Policy
- Disposal of Cadavers
- Mass Events

Consultations were held on the following plans and policies:


- Hurricane Plan (adopted in June 2002 by NEMAC)
- Oil Spill Plan (adopted in February 2003 by NEMAC)
- Stress Response Plan (adopted in February 2003 by NEMAC)
- Policy on the treatment of dead bodies in a disaster (adopted in February 2003 by NEMAC)
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Mass Events Policy
- Anse la Raye Evacuation Plan

SPECIAL EVENTS:

June 17 – 21

Earthquake & Volcano Awareness Week

<i>DATE</i>	<i>ACTIVITY</i>
Monday June 17 th , 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening ceremony and launch of “Our Moving Earth” exhibition. Venue - University Centre, Morne Fortune, Castries.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sir Arthur Lewis Community College – Castries. Students of Construction, Geography and other interested persons. ● Venue – Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, Morne Fortune, Castries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting with the Crisis Management Unit (Emergency Operations Centre of the Hospitality Industry), Government Liaison Officers, Ministry of Planning representatives, Chairmen – National Disaster Committee. ● Venue – Red Cross Meeting Room, Vigie, Castries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Live radio talk show “In The Public Interest”
Tuesday June 18 th , 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Lecture, “Volcanoes & Earthquakes in the Eastern Caribbean”. 4th & 5th Form secondary school students from Castries. (9 secondary schools – 20 students per school). A film will be shown ● Venue – Entrepot Human Resource Development Centre, Castries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Live radio talk show “Constitution Park: Inside Government” on Radio Saint Lucia.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Town Meeting at Castries, “Living with Volcanoes & Earthquakes”. A film will be shown. Venue – Castries Town Hall
Wednesday June 19 th , 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Five-minute recording at the Government Information Service
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation of the history of the hazards in the region. National Trust, National Archives, Folk Research Centre and Archaeological and Historical Society, representative – Local Disaster Committee. Venue – Civil Service Auditorium, Sans Soucis Castries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Live television talk show “News Maker Live”. DBS

<p>Thursday June 20th, 2002</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Lecture, "Volcanoes & Earthquakes in the Eastern Caribbean". 4th & 5th Form secondary school students from Vieux Fort, Micoud and Laborie. A film will be shown. Venue – Vieux Fort Comprehensive, Campus B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Lecture, "Volcanoes & Earthquakes in the Eastern Caribbean". 4th & 5th Form secondary school students from Choiseul and Soufriere. A film will be shown. Venue – Soufriere Comprehensive, Soufriere • Orientation programme for Soufriere Tour Guide Trainers, Soufriere Development Foundation. Venue: Soufriere Development Foundation • Town Meeting at Soufriere, "Living with Volcanoes & Earthquakes". A film will be shown. Venue – Soufriere Town Hall
<p>Friday June 21st, 2002</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open House at "Our Moving Earth" exhibition, Town Hall, Castries. SRU representative on hand to answer question. Good for school groups. Venue – Castries Town Hall
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live talk show "Straight Up" on HTS. (SRU scientist and NEMO rep)

July 25th - Region Rap

Exercise Region Rap is a telecommunications exercise conducted annually to test telecommunications procedures, plans and networks of National Disaster Organisations across the Region.

This year's exercise was based on the scenario of a hurricane approaching and then striking the Commonwealth of Dominica. During the exercise, disaster management authorities in Dominica along with National Disaster Organisations of CDERA's Participating States, the CDERA Coordinating Unit and regional and international disaster response agencies engaged in the dissemination, receipt and use of emergency information related to the scenario.

In Saint Lucia the following Agencies took part: Saint Lucia Red Cross, Saint Lucia Air and Sea ports Authority, Saint Lucia Met Services and NEMO, while the Ministry of External Affairs monitored the traffic.

The lessons learned by Saint Lucia were that...

- The radios need to be in good working condition with a radio operator
- Signals need boosting
- The e-mail needs an 'operator' same as radio

EVENTS

Gros Piton Fire June/July 2002



Boulder from Gros Piton

On June 10th 2002 the National Emergency Management Office and the Saint Lucia Fire Service received a report of a fire at Gros Piton. The fire had been burning for about three weeks and that a number of trees that had held the rocks in place were now burnt.

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency had been alerted and was placed on stand-by for any possible request for assistance.

An aerial review of the impacted area revealed that the rains had put the fire out and based on the weather conditions it was unlikely that there would be a re-ignition. NEMO together with the Soufriere and Choiseul Disaster Committees and with the assistance of the deputy Chief Forestry Office put in place a strategy where if needed an immediate evacuation was possible. It was also agreed with the community that the shelter needs were only for nighttime and as such a full activation of the shelter mechanism would not be required.

Hurricane Season for the period June 2002 – November 2002

For the period under review the National Emergency Management Organisation was activated for:

- Tropical Storm Lili: September 22/23, 2002 – Tropical Depression Number 13 became the twelfth named storm of the season. A pre-strike meeting was held on September 22 where the full National Organization was activated. Reports indicated that Dennery was flooded; roofs were lost in Vieux Fort. Emergency Shelters were opened in Dennery, Vieux Fort and Anse la Raye.



Dennery Waterfront – Flooded during TS Lili

Fire Season for the period January - December 2002

- One of the major fires for the season occurred when a Commercial House caught fire threatening other Commercial Houses. The Fire Department reported that for the period under review they dealt with five hundred and twenty one (521) fires.

Domestic	95
Commercial	73
Vehicle	26

Bush/Rubbish	168
False Alarm	102
Other	57

The Service also had to respond to a number of bomb threats. For the preceding period the Service responded to thirty-five (35) threats. For the present period under review the Service responded to forty-one (41) and increase of six (6) cases.

School	11
Commercial	12
Government Building	9

Publications:

In collaboration with UNIMEDIA, NEMO assisted with the production of Disasters – A Survival Guide. It is a collaboration that the Organisation hopes to repeat.

The September 9th, 2002 issue of the Government Gazette carried the list of emergency shelters. The list is also available at the Government of Saint Lucia Web site at <http://www.stlucia.gov.lc>

While the December 16th, 2002 issue of the Government Gazette carried the membership of the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee as well as the members of the National Emergency Management Organisation.



NEMO increased its profile in the community with an increase in the number of Press Releases issued. This was further complimented by the use of e-mails. Links were made with a number of District Committees and it is the hope that links will be established with the remainder. A news group was also established where the press releases are distributed and archived. Persons are invited to join by sending an e-mail to: slunemo-subscribe@yahoo.com while the archive is available at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/slunemo/>

In 2003 NEMO intends to continue with the imparting of information, with topics ranging from attendance at conferences to the reconviction of anniversaries. 2003 will mark the following anniversaries in Saint Lucia.

- March 19, 1953 - 50th Anniversary: 7.5 Earthquake
- September 25, 1963 - 40th Anniversary: Hurricane Edith
- October 29, 1973 - 30th Anniversary: Plane Crash at Mount Gimie

Article nine of the St. George's Declaration of Principles of Environmental Sustainability in the OECS states...

Each Member State agrees to:

- (a) Establish at the community, national and regional levels appropriate and relevant integrated

frameworks to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the causes and impacts of natural phenomena on the environment and to prevent man-made disasters;

(b) Exchange information with each other, relating to the experiences and lessons to be learnt from the causes and impacts of natural and man-made hazards and phenomena on the environment.

Through NEMO and its other departments it is the intension of the Government of Saint Lucia to continue with the mandate of preparedness.

.....
A. L. DAWN FRENCH
Director - NEMO

Report

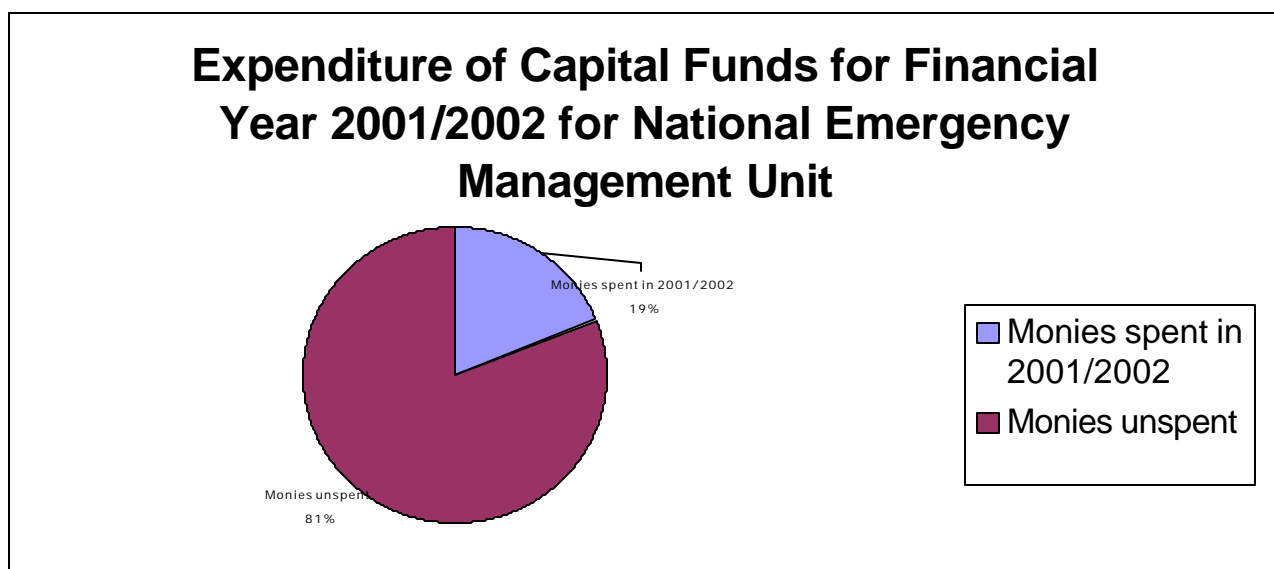
National Emergency Management Office Capital Funds for Financial Year 2002/2003

Two Capital Accounts were established for the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) by the Accountant General's Office.

An amount of EC\$56,000.00 was received from the OECS Natural Resource Management Unit in January 2002 as per agreement and deposited in the first account named Decentralised Disaster Preparedness Account Number 901029840. During the period January to February of 2002 an amount of EC\$10,289.32 or 19% was spent in 2001/2002 of the EC\$56,000.00. (See Appendix I)

Also, as per agreement a further EC\$14,000.00 was deposited in the account thereby increasing the overall monies available to EC\$70,000.00.

As per Appendix II, an amount of EC\$59,669.61 was spent in 2002/2003 or 0.86%.



Appendix I

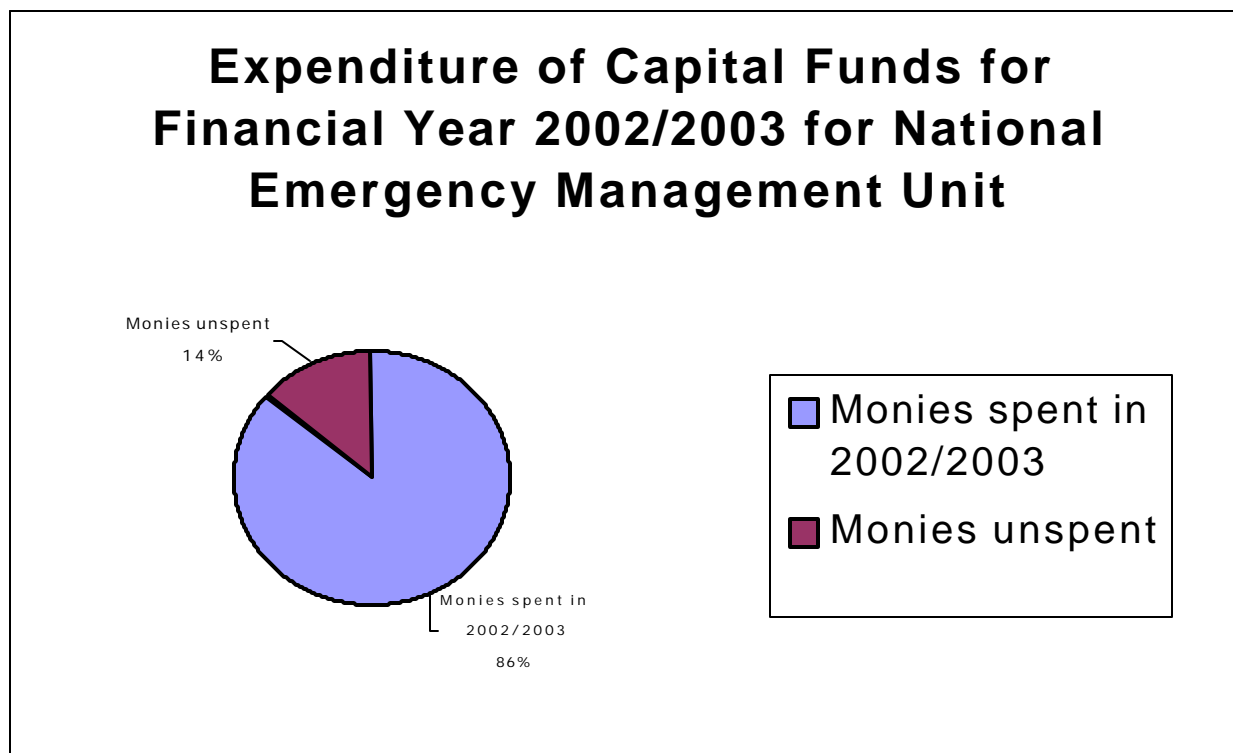
The major expense incurred was reported in 2002/2003 of EC\$45,525.11 or 0.6504%. The expense was associated with the purchase of hand held radios for the National Emergency Management Office.

The second account named was established by the Accountant General for the Prime Minister's Office in the name of "Emergency Response Imprest Account".

The Account Number 901019793 received a deposit of EC\$150,000.00 for the Financial Year 2002/2003.

As per Appendix III, total expenditure incurred is EC\$149,771.51.

During the course of the financial year, the expenditure covered three (3) disaster events.



Appendix II

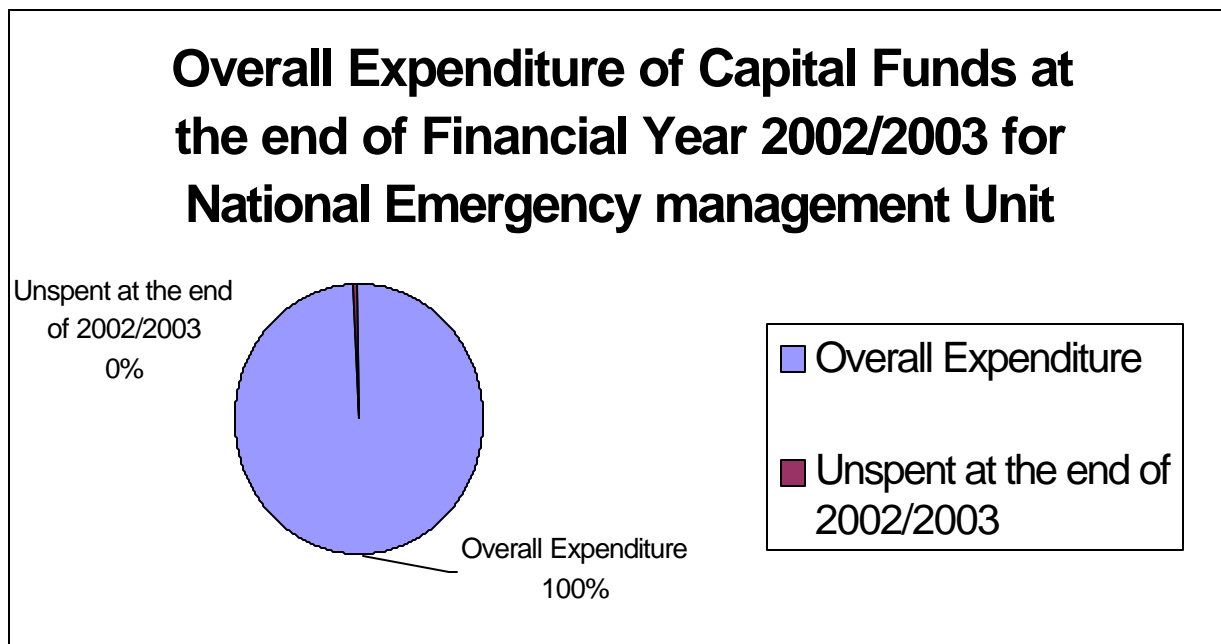
<i>Event</i>	<i>Amount (EC\$)</i>
Gros-Piton (Soufriere)	\$1,457.50
Topical Storm Lili	\$59,462.41
Oil Spill	\$350.00
Warehouse at the Blind Welfare Association	\$58,500.00
Renovation works at the Prime Minister's Official Residence	\$30,000.00

The first one was, the fire at Gros-Piton (Soufriere) followed by Tropical Storm Lili, and finally an oil spill response.

It is important to note that two (2) major transfers were made from the Imprest Account as follows: Funds of EC\$58,500.00 for capital works to prepare a warehouse at the Blind Welfare Association for the National Printing Corporation and for renovation works at the Prime Minister's Official Residence (Vigie). These funds were transferred out of the account to facilitate the Ministry's activities.

- An amount of EC\$30,000.00 was transferred out of the account to facilitate further renovation works at the Prime Minister's Official Residence (Vigie).

The balance on the account is only EC\$127.39 being recorded as unspent.



Appendix III

.....
Zita Sookwa
Accountant
Office of the Prime Minister

Part 2
Government Liaison Officers

Annual Report Office of the Prime Minister

During the period under review a new Liaison Officer was appointed at the Office of the Prime Minister. As a result, of the new appointment, which was done toward the end of 2002, the only activity conducted at the Office of the Prime Minister by the Officer is an inspection of the Greaham Louisy Administrative Building and the various offices housing staff of the office.

Plans for 2003

1. Training of staff in Fire Preparedness (Fire Department)
2. Training of staff in First Aid (Saint Lucia Red Cross Society)
3. Placing of posters on walls in the various departments
4. Place arrow indicting location of exit(s)
5. Installation of First Aid Kit and Manual
6. Walk through the Greaham Louisy Administrative Building with the Fire Department
7. Schedule monthly 15 minute talk to staff.
8. Visit to various departments

WILLIAM HILAIRE
Liaison Officer – Office of the Prime Minister

**Report of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
for the period 2002 and for the next six (6) months**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries during the period January 2002 to date has been fortunate in that the hurricane season left no damage to the building and infrastructure of the Ministry, added to the fact that emergency procedures had been in place.

There were personnel representing the Ministry even at community level, to provide assistance in monitoring of damage done to the Agriculture and Fisheries Sectors.

Having said that there was no damage, the Ministry has plans that it is hoping will materialize in the next six (6) months:

A fire drill for the Sir Stanislaus James Building located at Waterfront that hopefully will be co-ordinated with the Ministry of Tourism and other Government Agencies who are likely to occupy the building.

It is also intended that similar drills will be carried out in the other Department of the Ministry.

ANTHONY THOMAS
Liaison Officer

**ANNUAL REPORT FROM LIAISON OFFICER TO THE NEMO FOR THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES
AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

LIAISON OFFICER: Jean E. Mathurin

General Administration Division

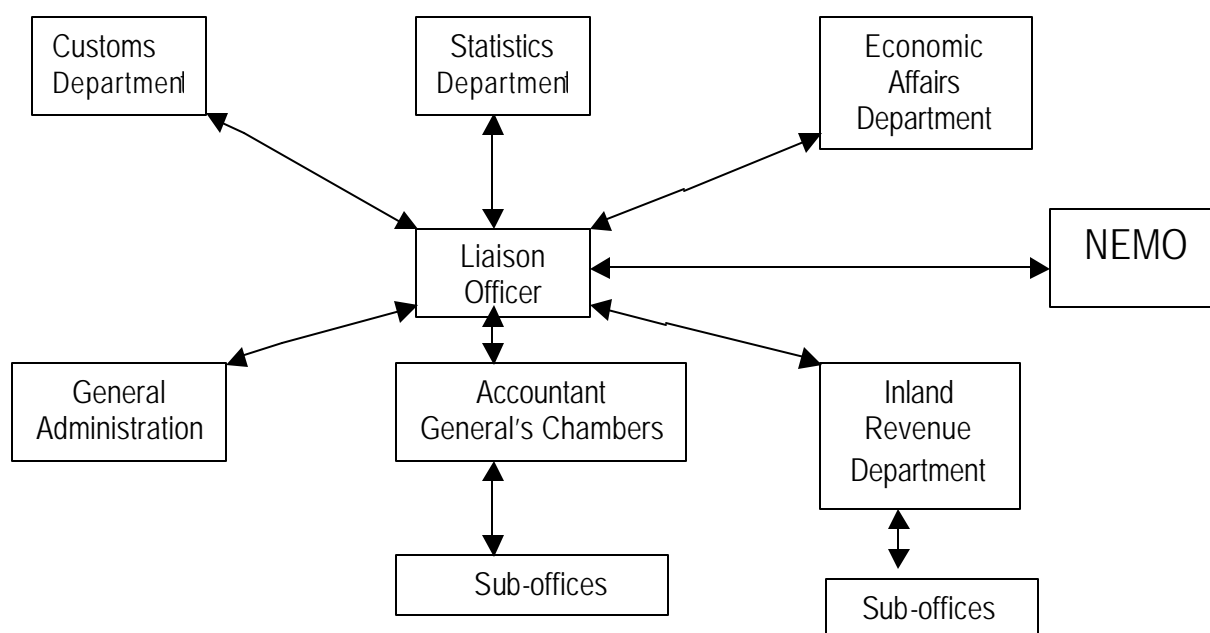
Tel. No. 468-3951

The year 2002 was one to be marked by modest progress in terms of Disaster Management activities within the Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services and Economic Affairs.

The key areas of these activities focused on the design stages of a suitable means of escape for the Parliament Building on Laborie Street, which houses the Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services and Economic Affairs (General Administration Department), Accountant General's Department, Parliament Office and Budget Office.

An engineering firm has been commissioned to prepare the Architectural Drawings for the fire escape at the building and ongoing efforts are being made to source the funds this year to commence and complete this very essential project.

The Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services and Economic Affairs has undertaken to set up a standing committee, consisting of appointed representatives from each of the various departments/buildings which comprise the Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services and Economic Affairs. This expanded approach would ensure continuity in Disaster Management activities, which spans the entire Ministry, as, this committee is expected to meet regularly and effectively deal with the peculiarities of the individual units.



This committee would be better able to mobilize staff and resources needed to deal with preparation and post-disaster management, at the individual unit/department level; thus allowing for more effective and timely responses to situations/events which may arise.

The Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services and Economic Affairs and Economic Affairs has also been at the forefront in lobbying the Director, NEMO, Ms. Dawn French, for assistance in bringing on the national agenda, the need for Cabinet to consider a broad based policy position, which governs the management of "Back-up" of vital information which is crucial to enabling continuity of Public Services in the aftermath of any disaster. This would allow for a more organised approach to current practices, which are not necessarily guided by any mandatory requirements.

.....
Jean Mathurin
Liaison Officer

Highlights from other Ministries:

All the Ministries were activated for Tropical Storm Lili.

Prime Minister's Office

- New Liaison Officer appointed.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

- Review continues on the International EOC and Operating Procedures for Saint Lucian Missions Overseas.

Ministry of Physical Planning, Development Environment and Housing

- Coordination continues on the Black Mallet Landslide.

Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation

- New Liaison Officer appointed.

Ministry of Health, Human Services, Family Affairs and Gender Relations

- Attended seminar on the Design of Health Facilities to Resist Natural Hazards

Ministry of Establishment

Ministry of The Public Service

Home Affairs and Labour

Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Local Government and Cooperatives

Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport and Public Utilities

Ministry of Commerce, International Financial Services and Consumer Affairs

Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports

Part 3
Reports of the Standing Committees:
National Committees
District Committees
Others

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

National Oil Spill Committee Report on Activities for the period 2002 - 2003 April 2002 to March 2003

Below is a summary of the Committee's activities for the period

1. On April 29th 2002 members of the Oil Spill Committee received an invitation from Hess Oil Saint Lucia to visit aboard the M/V Perseverance, which was berthed at port Castries. The Perseverance, a vessel specifically designed to combat oil spills, displayed its facilities for oil containment and recovery.
2. The team conducted a response to the Rodney Bay Marina on August 28, 2002.
3. On 18th to 20th September 2002 the Chairman of the Oil Spill Committee attended a training course for trainers in Trinidad and Tobago on the "Incident Command System".
4. The Oil Spills Committee met on 30th September 2002 to review and finalise the National Oil Spill Plan. The plan was accepted by the committee and submitted to NEMO for approval.
5. On 25th October 2002 Chairman Oil Spills represented the Committee at a regional consultation on the Draft OECS Strategy on the Management of used Oil in the OECS.
6. The final payment for Clay Products of Cul-de-Sac remains pending.
7. The Deputy Marine Police Commander and the Divisional Officer South of the Saint Lucia Fire Service received training in "oil pollution preparedness response and cooperation supervisors and on scene commanders course" in Curacao from December 9th to 13th 2002.
8. The Deputy Chairman received training in Telecommunications on 25th November 2002.
9. Members of the Oil Spill Committee participated in a simulation exercise organised by Hess Oil St. Lucia Ltd., which took place from the 10th to 11th December 2002.
10. There was a diesel spill of an unknown origin on the Castries Highway on 12th February 2003. The Saint Lucia Fire Service attended to the spill, the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force (Traffic Branch) is investigating the matter.
11. The Committee conducted an inspection of the Copra Manufactures facilities and made recommendations.
12. The Chairman together with the On Scene Commander – Marine attended the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Funds Conference in Grenada from March 13 - 14, 2003.

Dermot Saltibus
Chairman Oil Spill Committee

**National Telecommunications Committee
Report on Activities for the period - 2002
Jan 2002 to March 2002**

The Director, of the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) is in the process of reviewing the activities of this Committee and is being assisted by the interim Chairman to develop a plan of action to revamp this Committee.

Steps are on the way to convene a meeting with key agencies in an attempt to reactivate the Committee.

In the meantime, NEMO has engaged the services of a private company to oversee the maintenance of the telecommunications equipment.

On 17th January 2003 NEMO loaned a total of six (6) transceivers to the Management of Bordelaise Prison. An additional of nine (9) transceivers was also supplied on 22nd January 2003.

Dermot Saltibus
Interim Chairman
National Telecommunications Committee

Report of the Emergency Works Standing Committee of NEMO April 1st 2002 to March 31st 2003

Activities

- Draft Ministry of Works Response Plan (MWRP) prepared by World Bank Consultants to NEMO, formally adopted by MCWTPU in July 02.
- The Committee was represented at the pre-strike meeting called by the Chairman of NEMO for Tropical Storm Lili in September 02.
- Meetings convened in July 02 and January 03 for MCWT&PU Technical Services Division to further review and update Disaster Response Plan.
- Inspection of 315No hurricane shelters undertaken during April / May 02. Signs to be installed on all shelters by end April 03 in sum of \$22,400.
- Chairman attended Introduction to Disasters workshop in June 02.
- MCWT&PU Liaison Officer attended numerous (14No) meetings / workshops organized by NEMO between April/December 02.

Mitigation Works:

- Annual desilting of rivers and watercourses completed (41No) in June (\$600,000).
- Post Lili rehabilitation works undertaken in conjunction with Dennery Village Council (\$25,450).
- Shanty Town Drainage Project substantially completed in November.
- OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project comprising Hewanorra Flood Protection (\$1,705,435); Marc and Caico Bridges (\$1,164,880); Installation of Gabion Walls island wide (\$2,534,570), completed.



Barre de L'Isle

Future Plans

- Regular committee meetings to be scheduled on annual or half yearly basis as required.
- New MWRP to be further reviewed / updated and submitted to NEMO to be formally adopted for 2003.
- Meeting to be convened with MCWTPU staff to identify resource and training requirements.
- Training workshop in Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation and First Aid to be organized with NEMO and Red Cross.
- MCWTPU representation on all District Disaster Committees to be provided.
- Co-ordination with Damage Assessment Committee with respect to Damage Assessment Teams, evaluation and reporting.
- Co-ordination with Transport Committee with respect to updating/format of public/private equipment lists.

Issues

Communications capabilities of MCWT&PU during a disaster both internally and externally are severely compromised by inadequate radio and mobile phone availability.

Dalton Cenac - Chairman Emergency Works Standing Committee

National Emergency Shelter Sub-committee

Report for the Period April 2002 to March 2003

1.0 Introduction

During the period January 2001 to February 2003, the Ministry of Education continued to work feverishly to place all schools/emergency shelters in a state of preparedness in the event of a disaster. This report outlines the activities undertaken and presents recommendations for further improvement where necessary. The main activities included retrofitting of schools, training of personnel – shelter managers, supplying emergency equipment and strategic planning. Of course, the first three were funded by the World Bank under the OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project.

2.0 Retrofitting of Schools

Under the OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project the following schools, which also function as emergency shelters were retrofitted: Bogius Combined, Bexon Infant, Monchy Combined, Micoud Secondary, Richfond Infant, Plainview Combined, Ave Maria, Clendon Mason, George Charles, Odsan Combined, Mangouge Combined

3.0 Training

Workshops to train the shelter managers were conducted in Castries, Vieux Fort and Soufriere. Approximately 98% of all school principals attended. Items provided by the Ministry of Education to facilitate these workshops include:

- Training manuals
- Hand books for shelter managers (2 volumes)
- Flyers and posters
- Allowance for transportation to and from workshop venues

4.0 Emergency Equipment

The Ministry of Education provided emergency tools and equipment to ensure that all schools designated, as shelters were adequately prepared in the event of a disaster. Items provided include: Plastic sheets Tarpaulins, Fire extinguishers (A total of 330 units were provided. The Fire Department is presently assisting in distribution and installing these items. To date 88% has been installed) and Electric generators: Thirteen electrical generators – eight standard units and five portable ones were procured. The standard generators were delivered to the following Secondary schools: Vieux Fort Comprehensive, Castries Comprehensive, Leon Hess, Babonneau, Clendon Mason, Piaye, with one unit reserved for the Union Primary School.

One portable unit was placed at the Vieux Fort Comprehensive Secondary School Campus B. The others are stored temporarily at the Castries Comprehensive Secondary School. These portable units will be placed at strategic locations island wide, where the respective community disaster committees may access them as the need arises.

The Ministry of Education is in the process of procuring the following additional items:

- a) 110 polythene water tanks of 1000 gallons of 1100 gallons capacity
- b) 200 flash lights

- c) 80 table top cookers
- d) 105 hurricane lamps
- e) 200 water filter
- f) 105 first aid kits
- g) 210 coolers

5.0 Strategic Planning

A committee of seven members was selected to plan and implement activities deemed necessary or desirable for disaster mitigation. During the period January 2001 to February 2003 members of the committee participated in the following:

- Registration of evacuees at the shelters during Tropical Storm Lili
- Training sessions in the use of radio
- Meetings with the Prime Minister during the passage of Tropical Storm Lili
- Visiting shelters to determine their needs
- Assisting in relocating residents of Anse La Raye prior to the passage of Tropical Storm Lili
- Helping the Red Cross distribute food and equipment before and during the passage of the storm
- Attending meetings with the World Bank officials, to discuss matters relating to the Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project
- Visiting schools designated as shelters

6.0 Recommendations

The Ministry of Education wishes to recommend that:

- i. A mobile kitchen be procured to assist in feeding the evacuees at the emergency shelter.
- ii. The list of emergency shelters be revisited and all schools that are not suitable for the purpose be deleted.
- iii. Training provided in first aid for selected teachers and members of district disaster committees to empower them to assist the shelter managers.
- iv. Total kits be provided for each schools/shelter.

Plans for 2003

1. First Aid Training for Shelter Managers.
2. Workshop of Disaster Committees.
3. Training for other designated Shelter Managers.
4. Training for Caretakers/Managers.
5. Use of Generators (on site training)



Fortuna Anthony-Husbands
Chairperson

Emergency Shelter Sign to be
installed in 2003

Report from the National Supplies Management Committee

During the period April 2002 through to March 2003 the Supply Management Committee was engaged in several activities, as follows:

2002

July - welcomed back the Chairperson of the committee who was out of state on study leave.

August -- Attended the NEMAC meeting at the Cable and Wireless training room San Souci with the Deputy Chair who had been acting Chair.

Attended pre strike meeting for Tropical Storm Lili with the Prime Minister at the Cabinet Room.

During the first three weeks in the month of September the committee was activated and in action during Tropical Storm Lili. The committee meet and it was decided that the entire cadre of volunteers was not needed as the relocation exercise was restricted to only two communities namely Anse la Raye on the West and Dennery on the East of the island.

The Committee along with teams from the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society, Emergency Shelter and Transportation Sub-committee were charged with the relocation exercise. The exercise highlighted several deficiencies in some of the Emergency Shelters, which were used. Those finding have been communicated to NEMO.



SUMA workshop in January 2003

2003

January - Alison Jean a member of the SUMA sub-Committee attended a three-day PAHO workshop for SUMA Instructors held in Barbados.

February - The committee met to discuss training need and plans for the next six months.

In 2002 the Committee presented a proposal to the Ministry of the Public Service through NEMO for SUMA to be introduced to the Government Ministries. In 2003 as part of the OECS Disaster Recovery Project, the team shall be conducting training with the fifteen ministries and seventeen disaster committees in SUMA. The next step by the Committee is to request of the Government of Saint Lucia the adoption of SUMA as the computer program for the accounting of all Government supplies both during a disaster and in regular non-disaster circumstances.

Andre Mathurin
Chairman – National Supplies Management Committee

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION DAMAGE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT - 2002

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report covers the activities of the Damage and Need Assessment (DANA) sub-committee of the National Emergency and Management Organisation (NEMO) for the year 2002. It also includes some of the recommendations that have emanated from meetings held among its members.

2.0 ACTIVITIES

Honduras

The first set of major activities in which some DANA's members (including the Chairman) were involved, were the training and simulation exercises of FA HUM held in Honduras, during the period February 2nd to March 8th 2002. The two-week session began with a one-week training course in various aspects of emergency management. The second week involved an intensive and revealing simulation exercise with most dates of effective participation being pre-empted by a briefing and development of several scenarios.

The daily routine during that second week ended with a review and brainstorming by members of NEMO. At those nocturnal sessions, DANA sub-committee members participated fully and the Chairman provided his insights as to the way forward for NEMO. Upon return to Saint Lucia, DANA sub-committee was again involved in post FA HUM evaluation.

3.0 HURRICANE SEASON

The month of June 2002 began with meetings of the DANA sub-committee in preparation for full activation for the Hurricane season. With the season being relatively quiet, attendance at the meetings was acceptable and frequent. However, the DANA sub-committee Chairman is still not satisfied with the level of response; with the decision to have two deputies, greater participation is envisaged for 2003.

The 2002 Hurricane Season was characterised by several planning meeting of NEMO and the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC), at which a DANA sub-committee representative was present. During the Season, the National Emergency plan was activated only once was. Tropical Storm Lili threatened severe activity, but on approach to Saint Lucia it reduced out into a tamed storm with some damage caused to the Banana Industry and to the coastline village of Dennery, to a lesser extent.

4.0 DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

The DANA Evaluation Team was called into action on the morning of September 24th after the passage of Tropical Storm Lili. The Evaluation Team witnessed village crews in action, already clearing drains, canals and streets at the site assumed to be most affected. During the time spent at the scene, notes and measurements were taken; also photographs were taken to capture the vivid perspective of the damage. The Evaluation Team, as a norm, was thoroughly briefed by the chairman of the Dennery Disaster Committee, who also accompanied its assessment members throughout the visit.

The Evaluation Team's visit to Dennery was followed by another stop in Vieux Fort. With the plan being to contact all district committees before arrival, the Evaluation Team was able to by-pass Micoud as no significant damage was reported. Throughout the trip around the Island, no significant damage was reported in any of the remaining districts.

Equipped with its damage assessment kit and consequent upon the competence of the Evaluation Team, a preliminary evaluation of damage to the Dennery coastline was reported at the National Meeting held at the Red Cross Building in Castries.

5.0 ASSESSMENT REPORT

Later on during the year, the Evaluation Team was able to provide a completed and comprehensive report of the damage inflicted by Tropical Storm Lili. This submission was made despite the lack of promised information from certain Government ministries. The Report revealed a total assessed damage of EC\$21 million; with the Banana Industry having suffered the most as a result of toppled plants.

6.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Evaluation Team must commend the wider membership of DANA for the support during the assessment exercise. Information supplied by key DANA member/organizations was timely and accurate.

However, the team needs to point out one of its major concerns; it is the view that District Committees should not be reporting estimates on the value of damages to the press or other media sources. The understanding is that DANA's sub-committee should be the only source for the provision of damage evaluation/estimation. The large variance between the values released by DANA and the Dennery Disaster Committee is a manifestation of the problem that could surface in District Committees reporting estimates on the value of damages. As the NEMO plan suggests all assessments must emanate from DANA Sub-committee, which obviously depends on information obtained from the different districts. Essentially, there is the need for continual training, re-training and sensitisation of the District Committees as to their role within the wider picture of NEMO. The Island is too small to create several satellites of NEMO. The existing resources of the Saint Lucia do not allow for the expertise that reside within DANA Sub-committee to be resident in every District Committee.

Egbert Louis
Chairman.

Annual Report of the National Information Committee

Tropical Storm Lili, which began as a Tropical Storm, threatened to affect Saint Lucia on Monday September 23, 2002 when it was down graded to a Tropical Depression.

On Sunday evening September 22, 2002, after attending the Pre-strike meeting called by the Chairman of the National Emergency Management Office NEMO, Prime Minister Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony, the GIS was activated.

On that same Sunday the Managing Director of Communications Systems and Services Limited was contacted for communication purposes. He provided the GIS with six CB radios and chargers for use during the passage of the weather system.

On Monday morning an emergency meeting was convened of all GIS staff members, including officers on vacation leave to test the GIS's readiness in the event that the island should be affected. The daily operations were thus disrupted and all scheduled assignments were postponed.

All precautionary measures were instituted and staff were assigned various tasks. The Prime Minister recorded a message to the nation at 9:00 am, which was simultaneously broadcast on all radio and television stations at 11:00 am that same day. Promos promoting precautionary measures were broadcast regularly on NTN as well as the names and locations of emergency shelters.

On Tuesday morning after the passage of Tropical Storm Lili, which was upgraded from a Depression. The Prime Minister toured the affected areas on the east coast of the island. A crew from the GIS accompanied the Prime Minister. Later that same day Prime Minister Anthony called an emergency meeting of all Disaster Committees.

The all clear being given the GIS returned to normal.

OTHER

During the 2002 Hurricane Season, a new chairman was appointed to head the National Information Sub-Committee. Mr. Embert Charles, Director of Information Services became the new chairman after Principal Information Officer Roger Joseph departed on Study leave.

It was also during that time that Mr. Richmond Felix of the GIS accompanied the Director of NEMO Miss. Dawn French to Jamaica to attend a three-day workshop in Jamaica on the Use of Technology in Comprehensive Disaster Management from May 29 – 31, 2002.

During the 2002 Hurricane Season, an emergency line was installed at the National Disaster Management Office for Joy FM a new Radio Station which would allow the GIS or the National Disaster Management Office to contact the Radio station during an emergency by just lifting the receiver.

FUTURE PLANS FOR THE NATIONAL INFORMATION SUB COMMITTEE

The National Information Sub committee would like to see the establishment of quicker links of starting information on line with the various members and especially media houses.

There should also be continued training for selected senior personnel in the areas of broadcasting in disaster and other such areas of specialisation

There is need for a broad workshop for persons involved in Public Relations and other areas of broadcast to enable them to have a clear sense of how best to relay information during the time of a national disaster.

The GIS is in the process of putting together a Disaster Management Plan for the Office.

Embert Charles
Chairman

National Transport Committee

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 2002 TO NOVEMBER 2002

	ACTIVITY	DATE
1.	Beausejour Inspection – inspecting of grounds	April 2002
2.	Gros Piton Fire – aerial inspection	June 2002
3.	Anse La Raye evacuation – general response	Sept 2002
4.	Oil Spill, Choc Road – general response	Feb 2003

PROJECTIONS FOR THE PERIOD TO NOVEMBER 2002 TO MAY 2003

	ACTIVITY	TIME FRAME (DATE)	COLLABORATIVE AGENCY	ACHIEVED "√"
1.	Call 2 general meetings	Apr/Aug	NEMO, Transport Sector	
2.	Review 2002 Disaster Plan	April	NEMO	
3.	Nat'l Flood simulation Nat'l Flood simulation	April 8	NEMO	
4.	Meet with District Transportation committees	4th quarter	NEMO	

Hildreth Augustin
Chairman

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Report of the Soufriere Committee

Over the past few months, Soufriere benefited from a series of training with NEMO. In June we formed a committee with persons being nominated, however the most eventful months were June and September. During the months of June we received reports from the community of Morne La Croix, near the Gros Piton area in Soufriere, that someone had set a fire on the piton. As a result rocks were reported falling off and causing minor damage on one of the residents homes. This continued for a couple of months and to date, there are still some small rocks that continue to fall. The fire ceased after 3/12-4weeks mainly because of heavy rains.



Soufriere Committee meet with Communities near Gros Piton

The incident was reported to NEMO and the matter has been dealt with temporarily. a more Long term and permanent plan needs to be discussed in regard to the safety of the persons who live in that community. During tropical storm Lily we sustained some minor damage in Soufriere, where four houses had their roofs blown off and the Soufriere Infant school lost part of its roofing. Some of our small farmers reported losing crops and in one instance a nursery was destroyed. Other than these incidents we had quite a bit of debris removed from the town including fallen coconut trees.

FUTURE PLANS:

The Soufriere Disaster Response Committee continues to strengthen the organisation with a series of training in CPR/First Aid and Mass Casualty Management scheduled for December. In addition we will be reactivating and establishing sub committees in Fond St. Jacques, Etangs, Bouton, Chateau Belair, with assistance from the Ministry of Social transformation within the next six months.

Committees Plans for the upcoming year:

December: Workshop- CPR First Aid Mass Casualty.

January: 1. Community Education (Etangs)

2. Re-Location of Radio

February: Community Education (Chateau Belaire)

List of Elderly persons

Hazard mapping

March: Community Education (Bouton) schools

Continue Hazard mapping

April: Continue Education (Fond St. Jacques) schools

May: Workshop for supplies Committee

Workshop for welfare Committee

Promotion of Disaster information at Health Education Office.

Simone Mondesir

Chair – Soufriere Committee

Canaries Disaster Preparedness Committee

During the period under review the committee held several meetings. One meeting was held at the beginning of the hurricane season with the Chairpersons of the different sub-committees and the Executive. The state of preparedness of the committee was discussed during the first meeting. Additionally, the Deputy Chair attempted to discuss some standard operating procedures to be followed pre and post hurricane Emergency Operations Centre activation, but in the final analysis, the standard operating procedures provided by NEMO was adopted.

During the month of June to August 2002, several attempts were made by the Saint Lucia Red Cross to organize a workshop on Community Disaster Preparedness. This was not successful and there is uncertainty as to whether this opportunity will ever present itself again in the near future. During that same time period, the committee's database was completed and installed on the network at NEMO. The database contains the list of elderly persons, a full inventory of relief items, which the committee possesses, and information on the emergency shelters in the community.

It must be noted that the Deputy Chair received invitations from NEMO to attend the following workshops:

- a) Emergency Operations Centre Management Workshop organized by NEMO in collaboration with PAHO
- b) Use of the Internet in Disasters organized by NEMO in collaboration with PAHO
- c) Planned Participatory Project Development (approach in community projects) organized by the Ministry of Social Transformation

During the month of February 2003, approximately thirty (30) persons received training in Mass Casualty Management organized by NEMO in collaboration with PAHO. Some of the persons trained are not members of the committee, but have indicated their interest in becoming full fledged members of the Health Sub-committee.

Although the committee has benefited through the training of its members, there is still a need to improve the other key areas. Increasing public awareness, strengthening and testing the linkages, and the operations of the committee must be ensured. These areas need to be dealt with immediately and/or in the short term, in order that the committee operates at an optimal level of preparedness, should the need arise to take action.

Plans for 2003

1. Mobilize committee members
2. Mass Casualty Flood full scale simulation
3. Renewal of contracts with suppliers
4. Public meeting
5. Primary school assembly – Fire Safety
6. Review Organisation Structure
7. Training of rescuers in drowning and bandaging
8. Establish Hurricane Plan
9. Table top Simulation
10. Explanation of Disaster Act



11. Hazard Mapping of Canaries and Environs
12. Infant School Assembly
13. Public Awareness through meetings with mothers and other public service groups
14. Demarcate shelters

Ansil Ian Frederick
Deputy Chair

Castries North Disaster Preparedness Committee

*For the Period
April 2002 to March 2003*

The Castries North Disaster Committee was established on August 14th 2002, following a series of general community public awareness meetings. To engage participation of a wide cross section of persons within the district, letters of invitation to attend the meetings were sent to churches, school principals, business houses, health center, mothers and fathers group and clubs.

The Executive committee was selected to serve on a voluntary basis with the exception of the Chairperson, who because of her role (in collaboration with the District Representative) in establishing the committee, was nominated by the general meeting. Total membership is twenty-five (25) persons.

During the period under review the committee undertook the following activities:

1. Committee Meetings

Five meetings of the Executive were held during which members embarked on achieving projects as follows:

- a) Understanding the role and functions of the National and Local Committees
- b) Establishing respective Local Sub-committees
- c) Zoning of the Castries North District
- d) Establishing a communications chain
- e) Adopting the Constitution
- f) Reviewing the Model Disaster Plan in preparation for adoption
- g) Developing an action plan for the period November 2002 to April 2003
- h) Identifying resources within the communities e.g. temporary warehousing facilities, temporary District Emergency Operations Centre

2. Training

- a) The Chairperson attended a one-day training in the Use of the Internet in Disasters conducted by NEMO in collaboration with PAHO (Sept. 11, 2002).
- b) The committee attended a two-day Community Disaster Management training conducted by the Saint Lucia Red Cross under the World Bank Project (Nov. 19 & 26, 2002).

3. Prevention and Mitigation Activities

- a) Members undertook a familiarization tour of the district (Oct. 5 & 12, 2002) to identify possible hazards in the area and to begin mapping of the areas
- b) Members participated in the National Clean up Activity organized by the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (Nov. 9 & 10, 2002). Area of clean up activity was along the Allan Bousquet Highway
- c) The Chairperson liaised with the Community Development Committee of Star City, Morne du Don in an effort to engage residents in community clean up activities. This was done in

collaboration with the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority. The clean up activity was a success.

4. Achievements

- a) Adopted the Constitution for Castries North
- b) Obtained permission from the National Research & Development foundation for the use of its conference room as a temporary DEOC during an emergency.
- c) Successful response by committee members in preparation for Tropical Storm Lili, September 2002 (Report on activities submitted to NEMO).
- d) Obtained permission from the Seventh Day Maranatha Church and the La Clery Roman Catholic church for the use of their premises as a temporary warehouse facility during an emergency.
- e) Organised a Public Awareness Strategy Workshop for committee members, facilitated on a voluntary basis by Communications Consultant, Mr. Jerry George (October 27, 2002)
- f) Commenced deliberations on developing strategies for public awareness activities targeted at young children and focusing on likely hazards that may affect the Castries North district (preventative and mitigation measures).
- g) Identified additional shelters in the Castries North District
- h) Identified sit for the Castries North satellite warehouse. We are currently awaiting certification for use of lands identified, with the hope that the warehouse could be completed by June 2003.

5. Plan for 2003

- a) Engage in membership drive through meetings with existing Community Development Committees (will visit two communities) and write invitations to various business houses requesting their affiliation (January 2003 – May 2003).
- b) General district meeting, to inform residents of the activities of the committee.
- c) Gather information and prepare database of people and resources of the district.
- d) Work along with NEMO and school principals in the preparation of comprehensive and sustained public awareness education.
- e) Collaborate with an existing school club to include disaster awareness activities in their programme of activities.
- f) Network with other district disaster committees in an attempt to bond and share information wherever possible.

Allison Joseph
Chairperson

Castries East Disaster Committee

During the year under review, the committee held monthly meetings outside the hurricane season and fortnightly meetings during the hurricane season.

Tours were carried out along with Zone Managers. During the tours the committee was able to achieve the following:

1. Identify and inspect high risk and hazardous areas.
2. Locate senior citizens and other persons who are incapable of assisting themselves during evacuation activities.
3. Discuss and advise households on disasters and the formulating of a household disaster plan.
4. Inspect existing shelters and identify new buildings, which could be used as shelters.
5. identify and recruit new members for the various Zone Committees.

The following observations were made during the zonal tours:

1. The river bank to the north of the public stand pipe located near the Entrepot/Bagatelle junction is a threat to life and property. Tree roots are exposed due to continuous soil erosion.
2. The ravine located at the eastern end of the Marchand Combined School, continues to wash away the soil near the toilet facility of the school.
3. The exits from the top floor of the Marchand School are located on the eastern and western ends and may become impassable should the Castries River overflow its banks.
4. The main drain at the dead-end of the road at Trou Rouge and the one in the vicinity of the Bagatelle/Entrepot junction are heavily clogged, and has become a health hazard.
5. The Marchand School water tank situated on the roof of the toilets is in need of immediate attention, there are no connections to the tank.

Members of the committee attended training and meetings organized by NEMO. The Chairman of the committee conducted training with committees members on the "Basics in Fire Safety and Means of Escape".

A number of activities and incidents occurred during the reporting period as follows:

1. There were for (4) house fires. All houses were completely destroyed. There was no loss of life.
2. A house at Ravine Toutrelle collapsed under the pressure of high winds. There was no record of injuries. Temporary shelter was found for the displaced family.
3. During the passage of Tropical Storm Lili there was no record of loss of life nor was there any major damages. There were minor damages to some house due to fallen trees.

Plans for 2003

1. Intensify the recruitment drive.
2. Continue zonal tours.
3. Training in Mass Casualty and to participate fully in other training programs organized by NEMO
4. Fund Raising activities.
5. Further training in Fire Safety.

6. Organise First Aid training through the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society.
7. Commissioning of an Auxiliary Fire Unit in the area.

HAYNES CYRIL
Chairman

Castries North West (BABONNEAU) Disaster Preparedness Committee
Annual Report
Period covered: April 2002 to March 2003

Members of the group met in June 2002 to discuss among other things an action plan for the group. One month later, the group met and put together an action plan, which will serve as a guide in the event of a disaster. The Secretary was asked to submit this document to NEMO.

A site was identified for the construction of a warehouse in the area and information concerning the subject forwarded to NEMO.

The Disaster Preparedness Committee received a battery to power the radio at the DEOC. The radio has been reinstalled and is now operational.

In January 2003, twenty-nine (29) persons representing seven (7) communities in Babonneau were trained in Mass Casualty Management, C.P.R. and First Aid. The training sessions were conducted by NEMO, with sponsorship from PAHO.

Plans For Next Year

1. The committee will mobilize the various communities to elect a new executive in late April or early May. It is expected that the recently trained group will take part in this exercise.
2. Inspection of all shelters will be done in May.
3. The new executive will meet in June to revise the action plan

Mary Francis
Chair

Dennerly South Disaster Preparedness Committee

*For the Period
April 2002 to March 2003*

The Dennerly South Disaster Preparedness Committee in its 20th year of existence was able to accomplish most of the projects planned for the period under review.

On September 22nd to 23rd, 2002 the committee was activated for Tropical Storm Lili. Members of the committee and villagers assisted with the evacuation process and sensitizing residents on the upcoming storm.

During the year under review the following activities were conducted on a monthly basis:

April 2002

- Monthly meeting attended by members
- Joint venture cleanup campaign with the Public Health Unit of the Ministry of Health

April to June 2002

- Fund raising roadside bar-b-que held every Sunday

May 2002

- Committee monthly meeting
- Committee executive members attended the opening ceremony of the 12th CDERA Board Meeting
- The Deputy Chair and Secretary attended a meeting with the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society and the Director of NEMO regarding a proposed trip to Martinique
- Village tour undertaken by committee members

June 2002

- Public Health Education on Dengue Fever
- Emergency Operation Center training workshop, attended by the Secretary
- Committee members visited Martinique

July 2002

- Mr. Victor Edward attended meeting at NEMO to revise Stress Response Plan

August 2002

- Committee monthly meeting

September 2002

- Committee monthly meeting
- Committee activated for Tropical Storm Lili
- Committee meeting to evaluate performance during Tropical Storm Lili



Dennerly Team
Tropical Storm Lili

October 2002

- Committee monthly meeting
- Mr. Victor Edward attended meeting at NEMO to revise Stress Response Plan

Plans for 2003

1. Monthly meetings and Election of Officers
2. Meeting with District Representative and NEMO
3. Revisiting Disaster Plan
4. School Debate Competition
5. Anniversary Celebration
6. Public Education on Fire Prevention
7. Constituency Tour
8. Sign Posting on Designated Shelters
9. Formatting of Sub-committee for La Caye and Limiere
10. Fund raising Dance

Theresa Howell
Deputy Chair

Laborie Disaster Preparedness Committee

*For the Period
April 2002 to March 2003*

The Committee met twice during the year under review and held area meetings at eight (8) locations in the village. Supplies contracts were completed and submitted to NEMO.

Names of members of the committee who required time off from work to attend a training session organized by NEMO were posted as requested. The Mass Casualty Management Training was conducted from December 9-12, 2002 at the Laborie Parish Hall. Participants came from Laborie, Banse and Piaye. The community of Augier did not participate.

Six (6) boxes of food ration were delivered to unit Commander Etheldred James of the Cadets for his camping expedition. The boxes of food ration were transferred from the community center to the Laborie Abattoir due to demolition of the building.

The Director of NEMO and officials of the Ministry of Planning visited Laborie with the hope of identifying a spot for construction of a satellite warehouse for the committee. The committee was not notified of such a visit.

Plans for 2003

1. Monthly meetings of the committee will be held every last Thursday of the month.
2. Quarterly public awareness meetings especially in areas that are prone to flooding.
3. Sensitization of school children to disaster preparedness at Laborie, Augier and Banse.
4. Update list of elderly persons.
5. Simulation exercise to be undertaken as soon as radio becomes operational.
6. Elections – Chairperson has indicated his intention to relinquish his position after serving for seven (7) years.

Laura Collymore
Secretary

MICOUD NORTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Report for the Period April 2002 to March 2003

The Micoud North Constituency comprises of six (6) committees, viz: Micoud Village, Malgratoute, La Pointe, Patience and Lombard, Mon Repos, Mamiku and Praslin.

The Committee, which is designated to serve all the above communities, has a representative of at least two (2) persons from each of the community on the Committee.

Because of the staggering attendance at meetings and other activities of the Committee, compounded by the lack of commitment of some members, it was necessary to re-activate the Committee for efficient and effective functioning for the welfare of the entire district. On June 6th 2002, the following persons filled the following positions:

Gregor Biscette	Chairperson
George Spencer James	Deputy Chairperson
Lina Modeste	Secretary
Marcellina Newton	Assistant Secretary
Armelle Mathurin	Treasurer
Bruce Augustin	Public Relations Officer
Anthony Emmanuel	Chairperson, Transportation Committee
Bruce Augustin	Chairperson, Information and Telecom Committee
Emmanuel Mathurin	Chairperson, Supplies Management Committee
Armelle Mathurin	Chairperson, Shelter & Welfare Committee
Cynthia Desroses	Chairperson, Immediate Works Committee
Gilbert Charlery	Chairperson, Damage Assessment Committee

During the period under review a number of meetings were held where the following activities were undertaken:

1. Study of the Draft Constitution with special reference to the role of the different sub-committees before, during and after a disaste and the role of the Committee in general.
2. Distribution and study of flyers relating to disasters distributed by NEMO e.g. Community Disaster Preparedness Programme, List of personal items to be taken to a shelter, Weather Features, Extract of Laws re: Offences affecting public comfort, convenience, health, safety and right of way.
3. Workshop – Assessment of and Suitability of Recommended Buildings for use as Emergency Shelters (local).
4. The committee was represented at the training workshop for Emergency Operations Centre Management.
5. Fund Raising activity – not very successful.

6. Re-organisation of the La Point Disaster Committee.
7. Clean up campaign.

ANTICIPATED PROJECTS FOR 2002-2003

The following are some of the activities/projects the Committee plans to undertake for the period November 2002 to June 2003.

Training

1. First Aid
2. Community Disaster Preparedness
3. Hazard Mapping
4. Community Disaster Profile
5. Shelter Management
6. Mass Casualty

Fund Raising

1. Sponsored Walk, etc.
2. Physical Survey for re-identification and suitability of Emergency Shelters
3. Supplier/Contractors – Review of Contracts for the supply of groceries, fuel , hardware, etc.
4. Simulation exercise and preparation of shelter signs
5. Demarkation and zoning of the constituency: Patience, Lombard, Mon Repos, Mamiku, Praslin
6. Networking exercise for contact of communication with reference to obtaining assistance
7. Educations Tours – Met Office, other committees, etc.
8. Meeting with Chairpersons of National Sub-committees
9. Assembly/Consultation of all local chairpersons
10. Exchange visits

GREGOR BISCETTE
Chair

Micoud South

During the period under review the committee conducted a series of meetings in the various communities in Desruisseaux and met with the following groups:

- Principals and teachers
- Clubs
- Mothers and Fathers Groups
- Churches

At the meeting with principal and teachers of the Anse Ger School, the committee was informed that there is no stand by generator and that the security for the school only has access to the porch and the keys are locked in the office. Since the school is being used as the Emergency Operations Centre for the committee, the committee is of the view that there should be a stand by generator and that the keys should be made accessible to the security on duty. At the time of reporting the committee was reliably informed that the school has been furnished with a generator and that a spare key is available to the security.

Most of the shelters are intact, but there is a need to repaired and upgraded some of the shelters and water tanks should be supplied. The committee conducted a tree cutting exercise in the community; the exercise was done for three days only due to the chain saw defect.

The committee was represented at most of the workshops by NEMO. In December 2002 committee members and other interested persons in the community participated in four-day Mass Casualty Management Training.

At the NEMO Volunteer Awards night, which was held in December 2002, seven (7) members of the committee received certificated for their dedication towards disaster mitigation/preparedness.

The committee was activated during the passage of Tropical Storm Lili on September 23, 2002.

The committee is in need of telecommunication system and storage facility. All projects to be undertaken by the Ministry of Works are still on hold.

The committee is still awaiting the presence of the Parliamentary Representative at the monthly meetings.

The committee could have performed better during the reporting period, but with the letter from the Chief Fire Officer regarding the Chariman's responsibilities his time to disaster preparedness will be limited.

Victor Jn Baptiste
Chairman

Vieux Fort South Disaster Preparedness Committee

*For the period
April 2002 to March 2003*

The factors contributing to the acceptable management of the Vieux Fort South Disaster Committee in 2002, was the true spirit of volunteerism exercised, expressed, experiences and exhibited by members of the core committee; and this in itself allowed for the effective functioning by committee members.

During the period under review, the committee embarked on a number of activities which on all accounts could be considered successful though of course, there were a few set backs, which did not deter members advances.

A core of ten (10) persons committed to the service of disaster mitigation, with very good support by stakeholders, particularly during the hurricane season. A new committee was elected in June 2002.

During the year under review the following activities were conducted on a monthly basis:

April 2002:

- Committee met to discuss problems and the way forward. There was serious feed back from members about inactivity and need to reorganize the committee.

May 2002

- Committee reorganized with the assistance of NEMO and a new executive was elected on May 29.

June 2002

- Lecture organised by the committee at the Vieux Fort Comprehensive School, Campus A and at the Vieux Fort Primary School on "Evacuation Plan for certain Disasters".
- Lecture at the Vieux Fort Infant School on the "Role of parents in a Disaster".
- Committee members attended workshops held by NEMO.

July 2002

- Committee pursued members drive and successfully recruited three (3) new members.
- Tour of Vieux Fort community with NEMO to identify an ideal area for the storage of the satellite warehouse.
- Facilitated a 2-day workshop for teachers and principals on "Shelter Management". The training was funded by the Ministry of Education through NEMO.
- Committee established to review the committee Disaster Plan. The deadline date for completion was December 2002.
- Training for members in "Radio Operations" by committee members "Radio Expert".

August 2002

- Programme of activities to end of year distributed to members.

September 2002

- Pre-strike and post-strike meetings for Tropical Storm Lili held.

- Damage assessment following the Storm was done.
- Post mortem from the Storm, feedback forwarded to NEMO.
- Distribution of mattresses to needy persons in Vieux Fort community and environs.
- Shelter Managers Workshop held on September 22.

November 2002:

- Assistance sought from community business places to replenish local stock. Commitment from Lubeco to assist.
- Tree (Hazard) cutting exercise with assistance from NEMO and Forestry Department.
- Workshop attended by members of committee at NEMO.

December 2002

- Tour of Hazard areas with official of Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport and Public Utilities.
- Social activity held on December 30 for all members.

February 2003

- Assisted fire victims on February 9, through Saint Lucia Red Cross, Hobie and Lubeco.
- Plans for up-coming year to be implemented.
- Issues to be addressed at NEMAC meetings.

Winston Lubin
Chairperson

Choiseul Disaster Committee

The period under review could have been a very quiet year for the committee or even dormant had it not been for two fires which destroyed two residential homes.

Mrs. Clara Edwards has been elected as the new Chairperson for the committee, but she has not taken up full responsibility of the position.

Participation at workshops and meetings organized by NEMO were poorly attended by the committee members. In spite of the lack of participation, the committee was not left out and all relevant information was supplied by NEMO.

The annual inspection of emergency shelters was conducted and new buildings were added to the list. As a result of the two separate fires, the fire hydrants were inspected for any faults.

Development Committees and sub-committees for disaster management were created and they were charged with the responsibility of overseeing their community. The committee encouraged residents to take measures to mitigate against disasters

The Committee captured three (3) Awards namely: Most Outstanding Community, Outstanding School, and Outstanding Individual during the first Volunteer Awards night held by NEMO.

Concerns

1. The Choiseul Police Station is presently being used by the Committee as the official headquarters. Upon completion of the new station, the committee would like to have the basic equipment placed at the station for use by the committee when the need arise.
2. NEMO to take a tour of the site for the Japanese Fisheries Project. The committee is of the view that the area is vulnerable to a number of hazards.

Williana St. Rose
Secretary

Annual Report -2002 Castries South East Disaster Preparedness Committee

No formal meetings of the Committee were held during the year however the Committee was activated during the Hurricane Season providing information on the status of the community during that time.

Various zonal meetings were held to reactivate the organization and begin election proceedings towards a new Executive and expanded body, however the outcomes were at most times inadequate to guarantee a full-fledged organization. As a result the Committee continued to experience its functional pains.

Committee members participated in various training activities, which included:

- Disaster Preparedness Training
- Communications Training
- Shelter Management Training
- Community Disaster Management Training with the Red Cross

Two members of the community were recognized for their outstanding contributions towards Disaster Management. Mr. Frederik Jongue in the Distinguished Individual Category and Mr. Stephan Philomene whose Heroism Award was received by his mother Stephanie Philomene. Stephan died in a fire, which destroyed the family home. Stephan was again recognized in the 2003 Independence Anniversary Awards.

The premises of the community center at Labbayee have been identified as the location to house the Warehouse for the committee.

The Committee in the New Year continues to be committed to Disaster Management and after two years attempting to revitalize and elect a New Executive will work towards achieving that goal in 2003.

2003 began with the Community Development Officer for the area attending a Disaster Preparedness workshop in Barbados and some thirty-seven persons from the Castries South East community participating in a four day Mass Casualty Workshop sponsored by PAHO.

Community organizations continue to make Disaster Management a priority in their communities as seen in the Bexon community.

The Committee hopes to experience a more fruitful year in 2003.

Linus Deterville
Chairman



Front row center:
Castries SE Committee Member at the
Official Opening of the Deglos Sanitary
Landfill

Castries South District Disaster Committee Report
Year Ending December 31st 2002

In early September 2002 invitations from the National Emergency Management Organisation were extended to representatives from a wide cross section of the Castries South Constituency to attend a series of workshops geared towards empowering participants with the requisite knowledge with respect to disaster mitigation and to ultimately elect an executive for the Castries South Disaster Committee.

The workshops were held at the Ciceron Combined School and were conducted by Mr. Hubert Pierre of the Saint Lucia Red Cross the with Ms Dawn French of NEMO and Ms Margaret Lubrin of the Ministry of Social Transformation in attendance. The initial session was followed by three subsequent Tuesday Evening classes, which were well attended and generated active group participation. The sessions dealt with a diverse range of disaster scenarios including HIV/AIDS and the identification of the human and physical resources available from all sectors of the community. It was emphasized that central to achieving maximum response to any possible disaster was the need for:

- Training in radio communication.
- Readily identifying designated shelters.
- Establishment of an 18 x 36 warehouse, easily accessible and visually recognised by the moving public.
- Further training in emergency procedures e.g. First Aid and use of Fire Extinguishers.

Following the successful conclusion of the training workshops, a meeting was convened on the 5th December 2002 primarily to put in place the Castries South Disaster Committee at which the following persons were elected to serve:

Vaughn Louis Fernand - Chairman
Patrick Glasgow - Vice Chairman
Maxius Mongroo - P. R. O
Bianca Alexander - Supply Officer
Monica Deterville - Assistant Supply Officer

On the heels of this exercise, NEMO convened a Radio Training workshop, at its Headquarters, Vigie, which was attended by representatives from the Vieux Fort South, Castries SouthEast and Castries South Disaster Committees and adequately conducted by Mr. David Ferdinand in Dec 2002.

Anxiously awaiting the opportunity to have the executive Committee fully constituted, a meeting convened on March 10th 2003 by the Community Development Officer, Ms. Lubrin supervised the election process to complete the cadre of persons to serve on the executive.

Richard Carton - Secretary

Elizabeth Carrington - Assistant secretary

Clara Paul – Treasurer

On conclusion of the above exercise a meeting was immediately called to order with members of the executive by the Chairman, Vaughn Louis Fernand who suggested procedures regarding how and where

the committee should meet. Contact telephone numbers for members was noted while the need for members to undertake their role with ought most seriousness was ighlighted. Members expressed the urgency for the establishment of the proposed warehouse possibly incorporating an office as a regular meeting place.

The committee also looks forward with some urgency to relevant training for its members, and to meet with established subcommittees in order to ascertain the extent of their membership and levels of commitment.

Castries South Disaster Preparedness Committee

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| April 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Familiarizing the district ● Identifying a site for warehousing. |
| May 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting (2) of executive Committee ● Collecting and Installing Radios appropriately. ● Meeting with all committees. |
| June 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visit to all Shelters. ● Radio Publicity ● Ensuring the establishment of warehouse. |
| July 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initiate First Aid Training. |
| August 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meetings (2) of Executive Committee. |
| September 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training in use of Fire Extinguishers. ● On going First Aid Training |
| October 2003 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fund Raising Activity |

Vaughn Louis Fernand
Chairman

Highlights from other committees:

All Committees were activated for Tropical Storm Lili.

Welfare Committee

- The Committee was restructured and the Health component was surrendered completely to the Ministry of Health.
- The Stress Response Team was officially formed and added to the Welfare Committee.
- Training held on Level 1 - Stress Management In Disasters (SMID)

Gros Islet

- New Executive in stalled
- Community Disaster Management Training

Anse la Raye

- First Responders in Mass Causality Training
- Telecom Training
- Community Development Officer attended FAHUM 2003

Denery North

- First Responders in Mass Causality Training
- Telecom Training
- Attended AGM of the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC)

OTHERS

**2002 Hurricane Season:
Hurricane Report
By Saint Lucia Met Services**

In the first quarter the department focused on primarily on reviewing and strengthening its plans in area of disaster preparedness in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO). These activities were undertaken in an effort to meet the Department's responsibility within the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC). Steps were also taken to ensure that the necessary facilities were available to enable the Met Officer to provide early warnings on severe weather, especially in the case of tropical cyclones.

During the period under review only two instances of significant adverse weather were reported. On April 8th and 9th a quasi-stationary frontal system in association with the sub-tropical jet stream produced moderate to heavy rainfall over the island. The Met Officer at Hewanorra recorded 14.1mm on the 8th and 98.4mm on the 9th. At George F L Charles Airport 90.2mm of rainfall was recorded on the 8th. On September 23 Hurricane Lili crossed over the Windward Islands south of Saint Lucia as a Tropical Storm.

After a relatively quiet first three months of the 2002/2003 hurricane season (no storms in June, one in July and three in August) eight named storms formed in September 2002: this is the highest number on record for any month. Four of these storms strengthened into hurricanes and in addition, one tropical storm "Dolly" which formed in late August lasted into September.

Only one tropical cyclone formed during October – Tropical Depression 14. Hurricanes Kyle and Lili, however, both formed in September and continued into October. It is unusual for no storms or hurricanes to form in October.

There were twelve named cyclones in the Atlantic basin in 2002, of which four became hurricanes. Two of these became major hurricanes (category 3 or higher on the Saffir/ Simpson hurricane scale – 111mph or higher). Even though the number of named storms in 2002 was above the long-term average (ten), the number of hurricanes was below average (long-term average is 6). There were also two tropical depressions that did not become storms. The tropical cyclones that formed in the Atlantic basin were:



Rough seas at Mabouya Bay

<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>MAX wind</i>
TS Arthur	14-16 July	60 mph
TS Bertha	4 – 9 Aug	40 mph
TS Cristobal	5 – 8 Aug	50 mph
TS Dolly	29 Aug – 4 Sept	65 mph
TS Eduoard	1 – 6 Sept	65 mph
TS Fay	5 – 7 Sept	60 mph
TD # 7	7 – 8 Sept	35 mph
H Gustav	8 – 12 Sept	90 mph
TS Hanna	11 – 14 Sept	50 mph
H Isidore	14 – 26 Sept	125 mph
TS Josephine	17 – 19 Sept	40 mph
H Kyle	20 Sept – 12 Oct	85 mph
H Lili	21 Sept – 4 Oct	145 mph
TD #14	14 – 16 Oct	35 mph

The only tropical cyclone to affect Saint Lucia was Hurricane Lili. Hurricane Lili crossed over the Windward Islands south of Saint Lucia as a tropical storm on September 23, 2002. The impact of the storm on the island was threefold: prolonged strong winds, storm surge and periods of locally heavy rainfall. Much of the damage caused by Lili was due to strong winds with the agricultural sector being the hardest hit.

In 2001, the island experienced its worst drought on record. This resulted in the Senior Met Officers doing some research on drought by obtaining and monitoring an index for the beginning and end of the drought period. Using the Mc Kee Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) on a monthly, three monthly and six monthly intervals thrown back and the thirty year average (normal) of rainfall the following results were noted for 2002/2003. Using six (6) months (SPI thrown back the island received near normal rainfall (deficit) from September to November 2002 and drought conditions from December 2002 to until now.

Note: Meteorological drought occurs when the rainfall received in a time period (one month) is 60% or less of the 30 year average. 30 year average – climatologically normal. If the 30 year average is say 1931 – 1960 or 1961 – 1990 – standard normal

- The Meteorological service was represented at meetings both locally and overseas. These fora provided opportunities for sharing information on tropical cyclone activity, drought, hydrology and other technical areas, thereby maintaining the important links with other partners for local regional and international cooperation in disaster related matters, water resources, etc.\
- Two Met Apprentices were employed during 2002/2003. One of these Met Officers has successfully completed the Entry Level Technicians Training.
- **OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project**
 - **Procurement of GVAR Direct Satellite System:**

System Installed and operational (April 2002)

- **HAM Radio Network Observation Network:**

Three of the four weather stations installed and operational. We are awaiting permission from the Ministry of Home Affairs & Gender Relations in order to install the fourth weather station outside the perimeter fence of the correctional facility at Bordelais.

- **Local Flood Warning System:**

A contract was awarded to the US firm Hydrolynx Systems Inc. for the procurement, shipping and installation of the system. Hydrolynx Systems Inc. will also train Met Office and Water Resources Management Unit staff in the use of the equipment. The equipment had been shipped and is expected to arrive in Saint Lucia by the middle of March.

- **Media Training for Senior Met Staff:**

TORs were prepared and sent out. Two firms responded but their fees were many times the budgeted amount. The NMS & PCU have agreed to let a local person/firm conduct the media training. This component should be completed before June 2003.



Bamboo down at Barre d'Isile

- Web Page for Met Services: The web page is completed and is online. However, at present we are unable to use satellite photos from the GVAR direct satellite-receiving station on the site. We use photos taken from the NOAA site and manually update the pictures. The OECS ERDMP has agreed to network the computers at the Hewanorra Met Office. This will facilitate automatic updating of the satellite pictures on the site.
- Restructuring proposals for the Met services were submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers. We have been informed that the restructuring proposals were accepted then rescinded. With the present structure the Met Service will be unable to retain its graduate officers and the trend of Met Officers not choosing meteorology as an option when pursuing undergraduate studies will continue.

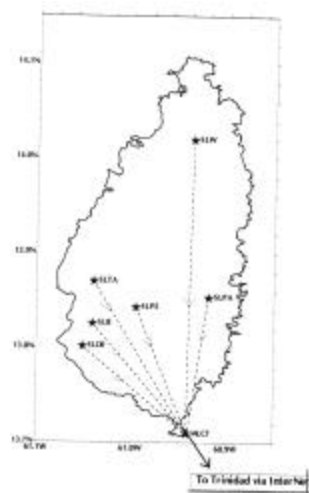
Hubert Regis
Director – Met Services

Earthquake Report By The Seismic Research Unit

Volcanic Hazard in Saint Lucia

The escalation in earthquake numbers in southern Saint Lucia, which was noted in the annual report for 1999-2000, continued to November 21 2000 when 21 local earthquakes were recorded. About half of these were felt causing some concern. Prompted by this, we intensified the level of volcanic monitoring in Saint Lucia. The first step was to reinforce the local seismograph network. Up to January 2001 the seismograph network on Saint Lucia was essentially part of the St. Vincent seismograph network. Signals from four seismograph stations in Saint Lucia transmitted their signals to the Belmont Volcano Observatory in St. Vincent. All stations in Saint Lucia were single vertical component seismographs. In January-February 2001 we established a modern digital three-component broadband seismograph station at Moule-a-Chique in southern Saint Lucia. Six newly equipped short-period stations were linked to Moule-a-Chique by UHF radio telemetry.

Map at left shows the new seismograph network established in Saint Lucia in early 2001. The station at the southern tip of Saint Lucia is at the Moule-a-Chique telephone relay station. Space for our instruments is provided through the generosity of Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. The other six stars are single vertical- component seismograph stations linked to Moule-a-Chique by UHF radio telemetry. The Moule-a-Chique base station retransmits the seismograph signals through the Internet to Seismic Research Unit Headquarters in St. Augustine, Trinidad. At times of increased activity it can be operated as an independent seismograph base station. In addition to the increased seismic monitoring a network of ground deformation stations using GPS, precision leveling and EDM techniques was established and extensive measurements were made on the Saint Lucia hot springs. These additional measurements are described elsewhere in this report.



Dr. Lindsay carried out extensive geological investigations in Saint Lucia in April 2001. She was assisted by Dr. David and by Mr. Daniel Goode and Ms. Linda Brown, students from the Universities of Cardiff (UK) and New Mexico (USA) respectively. They collected a total of 50 samples: 45 lava and pumice and 5 charcoal samples. Approximately 30 selected lava and pumice samples were sent to the GeoForschungsZentrum in Germany to geochemical analysis. These analysis were carried out at no cost to us (other than rock shipment) as part of our ongoing collaboration with Dr. Robert Trumbull at the GFZ. A report on volcanic hazard in Saint Lucia has been prepared and submitted to the government. At the time of writing it is confidential to the government of Saint Lucia.

Extract from "Detailed Report for the Period July 1 2000 to July 1 2002" pages 30 & 31

**Report of the Emergency Planning and Mitigation Advisor to NEMO,
Arturo López-Portillo y Contreras (April, 2002- February 2003.)**

Under the World Bank/OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project, and under the 'Technical Assistance to NEMO' component, the Emergency Planning and Mitigation advisor to NEMO, Arturo López-Portillo y Contreras, started his activities in August 12th, 2001. The assignment of the advisor was an eighteen-month assignment and finished in February 14th 2003. The terms of reference for the advisor include the following activities: 1.- Revision of statutory instruments and recommendations for improvement; 2.- Revision of the National Disaster Management Plan and to produce a new version; 3.- Revision of the National Mitigation Plan and recommendations for improvement; 4.- Assessment of additional human resources for NEMO; 5.- Design of a National Disaster Management Training Programme, and 6.- To prepare a Public Awareness Campaign.

During his consultancy the Emergency Planning and Mitigation Advisor produced the following documents:

1. Initial Diagnosis and Implementation of a New National Emergency Plan and Planning Process.
2. Diagnosis and Recommendations for National Disaster Committees
3. Guidelines for the Revision of Emergency Plans
4. Writing Emergency Procedures
5. Revision and comments on the Oil Spill Plan
6. Revision and Comments on the Hospitality Industry Plan
7. National Disaster Management Training Programme
8. Assessment of Human Needs for NEMO and Terms of Reference for Additional Permanent and Temporary Personnel.
9. Donations and Importation of Relief Supplies Policy
10. Emergency Shelter Management Policy
11. Emergency Housing Policy
12. Mitigation Policies
13. Travel Policy
14. Policies and Guidelines for the Adequate Management of Dead Bodies after Disasters
15. The Saint Lucia National Hurricane Plan
16. The Saint Lucia National Earthquake Response Plan
17. The Saint Lucia National Volcanic Eruption Response Plan
18. The Saint Lucia National Oil Spill Plan
19. The Saint Lucia National Hazard Mitigation Plan.
20. The Saint Lucia Stress Response Team Plan
21. The Hospitality Industry Crisis Management Plan
22. The Mass Crowd Events Plan
23. Model Plan for District Disaster Committees
24. Recommendations for the Improvement of the Disaster Preparedness and Response Act, # 13 of 2000 and the Emergency powers Act, # 5 of 1995.
25. Disaster Management Public Awareness Campaign



The Stress Management
Response Team in session

For the preparation of this documents, the consultant met with all the key persons involved in the activities of preparedness, response and recovery considered in the plans and policies ensuring, thus, the establishment of a permanent planning process in Saint Lucia.

The Consultant also revised, amongst several other documents, the following plans and policies:

- The Contingency Plans Seaports Division Volumes 1 and 2.
- The Ministry of Works, Communications, Transport and Public Utilities Disaster Response Plan.
- The George F.L. Charles Airport Emergency Orders.
- The Red Cross Plan
- CDERA Model Search and Rescue Plan
- CDERA Flood Model Plan
- CDERA Mitigation Policy

New version will be prepared by the organisations responsible for these plans under the co-ordination of NEMO.

The consultant also was involved in training activities. The consultant trained National and District Disaster Committees' members and hazard inspectors in Basic Disaster Management and Emergency Operations Centres Management.

The consultant participated in simulation exercises (FAHUM 2000 Exercise in Honduras) and in response to real events in the case of oil spills in Saint Lucia and, specially, during the impact of Tropical Storm 'Lili' in September 2002 which tested the excellent level of preparedness of the NEMO organisations and the recently approved plan, proving that the plan and its emergency procedures are adequate, effective, useful and made according to reality.

The consultant also assisted NEMO in everyday activities such as preparation of presentations, translations, and proposals.

What has been done in Saint Lucia has not been, as far as the consultant knows, done in any other part of the world. Saint Lucia has now not only revised and updated policies and emergency plans, but has established an emergency planning process that should not stop. The main immediate task of the NEMO is to keep this process alive, thus keeping plans and policies updated and maintaining the level of preparedness and response at the highest possible level. The plans have to be updated regularly (once a year) and tested through simulation exercises. The main recommendation is that this has to be done by permanent staff in NEMO.

Finally, the documents and experiences had with this year-and-a-half project must be shared with regional organisations (CDERA) and with Caribbean countries so disaster management paradigms, organisations, policies, emergency plans and policies would be homogeneous in the whole Caribbean region in order to improve disaster management activities and to make them easier and more effective. Similar projects should be reproduced in other countries within and without the Region and the Continent with the assistance of the World Bank.

Arturo Lopez-Portillo

FINAL REPORT OF THE OECS EMERGENCY RECOVERY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROJECT - COMMUNITY BASE DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

Under the World Bank/OECS Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project the Saint Lucia Red Cross conducted the above. The project came to an end with training conducted at fourteen out of the eighteen committees with approximately three hundred and thirty persons trained.

Trained committees are: Gros - Islet, Castries South East, Micoud North, Micoud South, Castries South, Castries East (Marchand), View Fort, Laborie Choiseul, Soufriere, Anse - La - Raye, Canaries, Dennery North, Castries North.

Training included:

- Introduction to Disaster Management
- Working in the community
- Preparing a community Disaster Plan
- Preparing a family disaster Plan
- Hazard Analysis and Mapping and in some cases introduction to First Aid.

Committees are now better equipped to perform their duties before, during and after disasters.

Untrained Committees are: Castries Central, Dennery South and Babonneau.

Many attempts were made to organize training sessions for the above committees but to no avail. An Instructor was paid for time and travel to Dennery three times, only to be told that the venue was changed, or the training was canceled for some reason the night before and they forgot to inform the Red Cross. A Final attempt was made to conduct the training at Red Cross Headquarters at Vigie, for a two day period, however since meals and transportation would not have been provided to would be participants – the training was canceled by the Dennery Committee.



Central Castries is only on paper – the Deputy Chairman was contacted on many occasions, but he was unable to get the membership together for meetings or training. Our many attempts at setting meetings with Babonneau failed. Whilst some committees are active year round and avail themselves to all training and meetings, others await for the hurricane season or when a hurricane or storm is approaching to get them-selves together.

During the training period two new committees were born – Castries South and Castries North, as new Committees the training was well accepted as this served as an eye opener to their responsibilities in the community. The eighteenth Committee View Fort South has not yet been formed.

Committees need to be better supervised and maintained, providing training is not the answer to the many problems faced by some committees.

Committees need to understand that they are over all Disaster Committees and not merely "response" or hurricane Committees, that disasters can strike anytime and should be prepared for all eventualities year round and not only during the hurricane season.

The responses were very encouraging, most participants thought that the program was timely, should be offered to the entire community to include Police and Teachers and a full First Aid Course should be included as part of the course.

.....
Terrencia Gaillard
Director General – Saint Lucia Red Cross Society.

Part 4
Work program



***National Emergency Management Office
Prime Minister's Office***

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WORK PROGRAMME – 2003/2004

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2. Critical Assumptions
3. Objectives
4. Outputs

5. Programme Areas

6. Comprehensive Disaster Management



***National Consultation
On Interactive Class Materials***

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Hazard analysis and experience have confirmed that Saint Lucia is at risk from numerous hazards, both natural and technological, these include:

- ❖ Metrological Hazards: hurricanes, tropical storms, tornadoes, storm-surge, floods and drought.
- ❖ Geological Hazards: earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides.
- ❖ Environmental Hazards: marine pollution, oil and hazardous material spills.
- ❖ Transportation Accidents: air – aircraft; land – vehicular; marine – ships.

The role of the National Emergency Management Organisation [NEMO] is to develop, test and implement adequate measures to protect the population of Saint Lucia from the physical, social, environmental and economic effects of both natural and man-made disasters.

Its responsibility is to ensure the efficient functioning of preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response actions.

This Work Programme therefore seeks to promote a comprehensive integrated approach to disaster management by bringing about greater partnership between government, the private sector, non-governmental organisations, donor agencies and regional organisations in an effort to enhance the institutional and human resource capacity, improve national coordination of comprehensive disaster management programmes and activities and provide for the incremental acquisition of the necessary resources.

2.0 CRITICAL ASSUMPTIONS

In order to successfully implement this programme, the following critical assumptions have been made:

- (1) That emergencies in Saint Lucia may be categorised in two ways. Those that are preceded by a build-up [slow onset] period, which can provide the National Emergency Management Office with advance warnings, which is used to facilitate timely and effective activation of national arrangements.
- (2) That other emergencies occur with little or no advance warning thus requiring mobilization and almost instant commitment of National resources. That the event may require prompt support from Regional and International assistance just prior to or after the onset of such emergencies.
- (3) That the Government of Saint Lucia will endorse the programme and seek to provide the financial and human resources and administrative facilitation required for its implementation
- (4) That the private sectors, non-governmental organisations and other donors will provide support in a spirit of partnership.

- (5) That the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency will endeavour to provide technical support, wherever possible, for the programme.
- (6) That key government and private sector agencies will continue to develop their individual disaster management plans, support the development of sectoral disaster management plans and provide tangible support to the Director and National Emergency Management Office.
- (7) That community disaster management planning will become an integral part of the national effort so as to empower communities to take greater responsibility for their protection and safety.
- (8) That the lessons learnt from past hazard impacts would influence the review and updating of disaster management plans and procedures.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the administration of the National Emergency Management Office to provide leadership and coordination in disaster management in Saint Lucia.
- To provide specialised training in Disaster Management for local committees.
- To provide specialised training in Disaster Management for relevant sectors and agencies.
- To educate and inform the population about the hazards facing the island by improving the public education and awareness programmes.
- To improve and strengthen the shelter management programme.
- To develop and implement a system of Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis following a major hazard impact.
- Increase the level of preparedness of the response organisations and the population of Saint Lucia.
- Promote the reduction of vulnerability of infrastructure in Saint Lucia.
- Strengthen the links with academic and research institutes.



4.0 OUTPUTS

At the end of this programme it is expected that the following would have been accomplished:

- 4 A cadre of trained personnel in specialised areas of disaster management.
- 5 Established Damage Assessment, Needs Analysis and Relief mechanisms, which would facilitate the identification of damage and needs and orderly distribution of supplies following a hazard impact.
- 6 Establish Community Disaster Management System within each constituency with personnel trained to adequately manage disaster/emergency events in their community.
- 7 Improved Public Education and Information Programmes about all hazards.
- 8 Greater cooperation, coordination and information sharing at the national and regional level.

5.0 WORK PROGRAMME AREAS

<i>ADMINISTRATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING</i>	<i>PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</i>	<i>MITIGATION AND RESEARCH</i>	<i>INFORMATION AND EDUCATION</i>
Secretary on placement at CDERA/CU.	Review of the National Emergency Management Response Plan as required by Law.	Creation of After Action Reports for Past Disaster Events that NEMO has responded to.	Distribution of Annual Report.
Appointment of Acting Deputy Director.	Collaborate with Agencies for increased Safety Protocols at Mass Crowd Events.	Creation of After Action Reports on future Disaster Events that NEMO must respond to.	Collaborate with local Music Industry and GIS to produce music videos.
National Consultation on Comprehensive Disaster Management.	Convene the Bi-Annual Meetings of NEMO.	Collate and distribute resource information to District Committees.	Collaborate with private sector to distribute information brochures.
Annual Renewal of supply contracts for emergency response supplies.	Collaborate with the Government Liaison Officers to review the Ministry's Continuity Response Plans.	Shelter Identification by labeling.	Publication of Children's workbook.
Annual Awards Night.	Collaborate with regional and international agencies to conduct training of response organisations and volunteers.	Annual Inspection of Emergency Shelters	Publication of 2003 National Emergency Response Plan.
Staff to learn a second language.	Collaborate with regional and international agencies to implement projects.	Preparation of NEMO Annual Report.	Improvement of collection at NEMO Documentation Center.
Provision of material resources for the NEMO through programmes like the HAP	Planning and participation in simulation exercises.		Collaborate with Media Houses to produce the annual Newspaper supplements
Increase financial resources through donations.			Meet with National and District Committees

Construction of a National Warehouse and EOC		Distribution of information to partner agencies.
Introduction of the resource monitoring computer program SUMA to the Public and Private Sector.		Planning and production of a regular newsletter.
		Attendance at Local, Regional and International meetings.

6.0 COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The development objective of the project is to begin to effectively realize and embed comprehensive disaster management (CDM) into the development process of the Caribbean countries and to strengthen CDERA to help achieve this. Achievement of the development objective of the project will be measured by the number of countries in the region that begin the process of incorporating CDM into their overall development strategies. (CDERA – May 2002)

The 2002/2003 Work Plan of NEMO dovetails into CDM under the following Intermediate Results of the Strategic Framework.

<i>NEMO Work Programme:</i>	<i>ADMINISTRATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING</i>	<i>PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</i>	<i>MITIGATION AND RESEARCH</i>	<i>INFORMATION AND EDUCATION</i>
<i>Comprehensive Disaster Management:</i>	<i>IR -1: Stronger regional and national institutions to promote CDM</i>	<i>IR-2: Research and training to support CDM.</i>	<i>IR-4: Preparedness, response and mitigation capacity is enhanced and integrated.</i>	<i>IR-5: Hazard information is incorporated into development planning and decision-making.</i>

.....
A. L. DAWN FRENCH
Director - NEMO

Part 5

*Minutes of the 2002 bi-annual meetings of
The National Emergency Management
Advisory Committee and
The National Emergency Management
Organisation*

AGENDA FOR
 THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NEMAC)
 ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON
 SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2002
 CONFERENCE ROOM, CABLE AND WIRELESS – SANS SOUCI
 AT 9:00 A.M.

- I. Welcome Remarks
- II. Apologies
- III. Errors and Omissions from Minutes of August 27th, 2001
 (See Section Five of Annual Report)
- IV. Confirmation of Minutes
- V. Matters Arising
- VI. Reports:
 1. Met Services
 2. The Police Force
 3. The Police Force /Special Service Unit
 4. The Fire Service
 5. Ports Police
 6. Saint Lucia Red Cross
 7. Ministry of External Affairs
 8. Ministry of Health/Public Health
 9. Ministry of Works
 10. Ministry of Planning/Environment
 11. Ministry of Social Transformation/Local Government
 12. Ministry of Finance
 13. Oil Spill Sub-Committee
 14. Transport Sub-Committee
 15. Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis Sub-Committee
 16. Welfare Sub-Committee
 17. Supply Management Sub-Committee
 18. Shelter Sub-Committee
 19. Telecommunication Sub-Committee
 20. Information Sub-Committee
 21. Crisis Management Unit of Tourism
 22. Consultant to NEMO
- VII. Any other Business

**National Emergency Management Advisory Committee/
National Emergency Management Organisation
BI-ANNUAL MEETING**

**Held on the
5th Floor National Insurance Corporation, Conference Room
November 27, 2002**

Present:

Mr. Victor Poyotte	Deputy Chair, NEMAC
Ms. Dawn French	Director, NEMO
Mr. Martin Satney	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Physical Development, Environment and Housing
Hon. Menissa Rambally	Parliamentary Representative, Castries South East
Hon. Felix Finisterre	Parliamentary Representative, Babonneau
Mr. Herbert Regis	Director, Met Services
Mr. Dalton Cenac	Chair, Emergency Works Sub-committee
Mr. Dermot Saltibus	Chair, Oil Spill and Telecom Sub-committee
Mr. Gregor Biscette	Chair, Micoud North Disaster Preparedness Committee
Mr. Urban Glace	Chair, Dennery North Disaster Preparedness Committee
Ms. Allison Joseph	Chair, Castries North Disaster Preparedness Committee
Mr. Winston Lubin	Chair, Vieux Fort South Disaster Preparedness Committee
Ms. Simone Mondesir	Chair, Soufriere Disaster Preparedness Committee
Ms. Theresa Howell	Deputy Chair, Dennery South Disaster Preparedness Committee
Mr. Augustin Jimmie	Deputy Chair, Micoud South, Disaster Preparedness Committee
Ms. Albertina Phillips	Member, Micoud North Disaster Preparedness Committee
Mr. Victor K. Edward	Member, Dennery South Disaster Preparedness Committee
Ms. Tryce Lactor	Member, Damage and Needs Assessment Committee
Ms. Rose Marie Harris	Member, Information Sub-committee
Ms. Dorothy Agard	Member, Transport Sub-committee
Ms. Renee La Grenadee	Member, Transport Sub-committee
Mr. Peter Calderon	Liaison Officer, Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport and Public Utilities
Mr. Anthony Thomas	Liaison Officer, Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. Augustin Compton	Liaison Officer, Ministry of Health

Mrs. Perpetua James	Community Development Officer, Dennery South
Mrs. Norma Herman	Community Development Officer. Babonneau
Mr. Faustinus Faisal	Community Development Officer, Dennery North
Ms. Jacqueline Allain	Community Development Officer, Soufriere
Mr. Lester Arnold	Water and Sewerage Company Inc.
Ms. Maria Mombelli	Recording Secretary
Ms. Patricia St. Croix	Recording Secretary

Absent

Hon. Dr. Kenny Anthony	Chair, NEMO/Parliamentary Representative, Vieux Fort South (out of State)
Mrs. Jacintha St. Helene	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Transformation, Culture and Local Government
Mr. Trevor Braithwaite	Ag. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance
Mr. Cosmos Richardson	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs
Mr. Wilbert King	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour Relations, Public Service, and Co-operatives
Hon. Mario Michel	Member of Parliament, Gros Islet
Hon. Ignatius Jean	Member of Parliament, Castries North
Hon. Sarah Flood-Beaubrun	Member of Parliament, Castries Central
Hon. Phillip Pierre	Member of Parliament, Castries East
Hon. Cyprian Lansiquot	Member of Parliament, Anse La Raye/Canaries
Hon. Walter Francois	Member of Parliament, Soufriere
Hon. Ferguson John	Member of Parliament, Choiseul
Hon. Velon John	Member of Parliament, Laborie
Hon. Cecil Lay	Member of Parliament, Vieux Fort North
Hon. Arsene James	Member of Parliament, Micoud South
Hon. Marius Wilson	Member of Parliament, Micoud North
Hon. Damian Greeves	Member of Parliament, Dennery South
Hon. Marcus Nicholas	Member of Parliament, Dennery North
Mr. Augustin Gaspard	Chief Fire Officer
Mr. Francis Nelson	Chief, Ports Police
Mr. Brian Bernard	Police Commissioner
Mr. Andre Mathurin	Chair, Supply Management Sub-committee
Mr. Kenneth Monplasil	Chair, Welfare Sub-committee
Mr. Hildreth Augustin	Chair, Transportation Sub-committee
Ms. Terencia Gaillard	Director General, Saint Lucia Red Cross Society
Mr. Leonard Motoute	Chair, Gros Islet Disaster Committee
Mrs. Mary Francis	Chair, Babonneau Disaster Committee
Mr. Irvin John	Chair, Castries Central Disaster Committee
Mr. Lenus Deterville	Chair, Castries South East Disaster Committee
Mr. Joseph Samuel	Chair, Anse La Raye Disaster Committee
Mr. Gregor Deterville	Chair, Canaries Disaster Committee
Mrs. Clara Edwards	Chair, Choiseul Disaster Committee
Mr. Primus Duplessis	Chair, Laborie Disaster Committee
Mr. Ivan Gaspard	Chair, Dennery South Disaster Committee

Mr. Jahto Mahal	Community Development Officer, Gros Islet
Ms. Margarete Lubrin	Community Development Officer, Castries South
Ms. Martha Blanchard	Community Development Officer, Castries South/East
Mrs. Urania Joseph	Community Development Officer, Anse La Raye/Canaries
Mr. Mc Arthur Phillip	Community Development Officer, Choiseul
Mr. Julian Dubois	Community Development Officer, Laborie
Mr. Augustus Cadet	Community Development Officer, Vieux Fort South
Mr. Sylvester Monroe	Community Development Officer, Micoud South
Mrs. Velda Octave-Joseph	Community Development Officer, Micoud North

The meeting was called to order at 1:25 p.m.

1. WELCOME

The Deputy Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted on behalf of the following persons:

- i. Mr. Haynes Cyril, Chairman Castries East Disaster Preparedness Committee - had previous engagement.
- ii. Dr. Mc Donald Chase, Chief Medical Officer - ill-health.
- iii. Mr. Egbert Louis, Chair Damage and Needs Assessment Sub-committee – had previous engagement.
- iv. Mr. Victor Jn Baptiste – Chair, Micoud South Disaster Preparedness Committee – on duty.

3. ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

There were no errors or omissions.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes were confirmed by Mr. Urban Glace and seconded by Mr. Dermot Saltibus.

5. MATTERS ARISING

- i. Dennery North Disaster Committee is in receipt of hand held radios under the OECS/NRMU Decentralized Disaster Project.
- ii. The representative from the Ministry of Health attended a meeting with the NEMO Director and Chairman, Telecom Sub-committee to discuss matters relating to telecommunication system for Health Centres.
- iii. Members of the district committees expressed concern about the unavailability of government vehicles during a disaster.
- iv. Members suggested that personnel who are assigned to drive government vehicles should be used during a disaster.

6. REPORTS

a) *Meteorological Services*

The Director of Meteorological Services reported that the 2002 hurricane season was relatively quiet.

Tropical Storm Lili hit the island on September 23, 2002 and damage was in excess of \$20 million. The agricultural sector was hardest hit.

b) Damage and Needs Assessment Sub-committee

The committee was activated during the passage of Tropical Storm Lili on September 23, 2002. As is customary a team conducted an island wide tour to assess damages, but encountered a number of problems with district committees. While the committee was in the process of conducting the preliminary damages for submission to the Prime Minister, district committees had already furnished the media with damage assessments.

The meeting Agreed that:

- i. The National Committee should liaise with the district committees when conducting assessments.
- ii. All damage assessment reports should be sent to NEMO and NEMO in turn will make them available to the media.

Concerns Raised:

The Parliamentary Representative for Castries South East express concern on the estimates provided for Tropical Storm Lili. She was of the view that this was not a true picture of the damages since members of her constituency responded to quite a few landslides days and even weeks after the event.

c) *Vieux Fort South*

During the passage of Tropical Storm Lili the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was activated at the Vieux Fort Town Council. Members were very active and took a keen interest in the activities. Some residents from Bruce Ville were evacuated during the passage of the Storm.

There were reports of dead fishes found in the sea, but there have been no reports on the cause.

Activities for 2002

July to August

- Public awareness drive

September

- Distributed 150 mattresses to the needy
- Workshop for Shelter Managers (assistance received form NEMO)

- November
- Hazard Mapping
 - Revision of Committee Disaster Plan

Concerns Raised:

The Chairman for Vieux Fort South Committee expressed the following concerns:

- i. The need to set up a specific budget for district committees.
- ii. Committees should have access to an office in which to function when performing disaster related activities.
- iii. Committees should be supplied with necessary equipment and other supplies to perform disaster related activities.

The Director informed the meeting that NEMO presently have in stock emergency equipment, which will be distributed to district committees once construction of satellite warehouses is completed.

d) Babonneau

The Community Development Officer informed the meeting that the Chairperson of the Committee had requested a report from the Secretary, but no committee member was present to report on behalf of the committee.

The Parliamentary Representative felt that during a crisis, a distinction should be made between minor and small damages. He also indicated that there is now better coordination between the Parliamentary Representative and the Disaster Committee.

e) Castries South East

The Parliamentary Representative expressed her concern regarding the non-representation of the committee at the meeting. She also expressed her appreciation for the dedication of members. This was evident during the passage of Tropical Storm Lili.

Concerns Raised:

The Parliamentary Representative had the following concerns:

- i. There is need for a fully functional communication system for the committee.
- ii. There is no communication link with Committee members and Shelter Managers.
- iii. The inaccessibility of the Bexon Primary School during a flood.
- iv. She was called upon on many occasions to deal with landslides and fallen trees days and even weeks after the passage of Storm Lili
- v. The Committee was able to manage with limited resources during the 2002 hurricane season.

f) Castries North

The Castries North Disaster Committee was established on August 14th 2002, following a series of general community public awareness meetings.

An Executive Committee was selected to serve on a voluntary basis with the exception of the Chairperson, who because of her role (in collaboration with the District Representative) in establishing the Committee, was nominated by the general meeting. Total membership is twenty-five (25) persons.

Committee Meetings

Five (5) meetings of the Executive were held during which members embarked on achieving projects as follows:

- i. Understanding the role and functions of the National and Local Committees
- ii. Establishing respective Local Sub-committees
- iii. Zoning of the Castries North District
- iv. Establishing a communications chain
- v. Adopting the Constitution
- vi. Reviewing the Model Disaster Plan in preparation for adoption
- vii. Developing an action plan for the period November 2002 to April 2003
- viii. Identifying resources within the communities e.g. temporary warehousing facilities, temporary District Emergency Operations Centre

Training

- i. The Chairperson attended a one-day training in the Use of the Internet in Disasters conducted by NEMO in collaboration with PAHO (Sept. 11, 2002).
- ii. The committee attended a two-day Community Disaster Management training conducted by the Saint Lucia Red Cross under the World Bank Project (Nov. 19 & 26, 2002).

Prevention and Mitigation Activities

- i. Members undertook a familiarization tour of the district (Oct. 5 & 12, 2002) to identify possible hazards in the area and to begin mapping of the areas
- ii. Members participated in the National Clean up Activity organized by the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (Nov. 9 & 10, 2002). Area of clean up activity was along the Allan Bousquet Highway
- iii. The Chairperson liaised with the Community Development Committee of Star City, Morne du Don in an effort to engage residents in community clean up activities. This was done in collaboration with the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority. The clean up activity was a success.

Achievements

- i. Adopted the Constitution for Castries North

- ii. Obtained permission from the National Research & Development foundation for the use of its conference room as a temporary DEOC during an emergency.
- iii. Successful response by committee members in preparation for Tropical Storm Lili, September 2002 (Report on activities submitted to NEMO).
- iv. Obtained permission from the Seventh Day Maranatha Church and the La Clery Roman Catholic church for the use of their premises as a temporary warehouse facility during an emergency.
- v. Organised a Public Awareness Strategy Workshop for committee members, facilitated on a voluntary basis by Communications Consultant, Mr. Jerry George (October 27, 2002)
- vi. Commenced deliberations on developing strategies for public awareness activities targeted at young children and focusing on likely hazards that may affect the Castries North district (preventative and mitigation measures).
- vii. Identified additional shelters in the Castries North District
- viii. Identified sit for the Castries North satellite warehouse. We are currently awaiting certification for use of lands identified, with the hope that the warehouse could be completed by June 2003.

Plan for 2003

- i. Engage in membership drive through meetings with existing Community Development Committees (will visit two communities) and write invitations to various business houses requesting their affiliation (January 2003 – May 2003).
- ii. General district meeting, to inform residents of the activities of the committee.
- iii. Gather information and prepare database of people and resources of the district.
- iv. Work along with NEMO and school principals in the preparation of comprehensive and sustained public awareness education.
- v. Collaborate with an existing school club to include disaster awareness activities in their programme of activities.
- vi. Network with other district disaster committees in an attempt to bond and share information wherever possible.

g) Castries East

The committee was activated during Tropical Storm Lili. The EOC was set up at the Entrepot Human Resource Development Centre with the Chairman operating from his home. The member also commended the Police Force for work done during the storm.

Committee members received training from NEMO in the following areas:

- i. Search and Rescue
- ii. Telecommunications
- iii. Community Disaster Preparedness
- iv. EOC Management

Community Disaster by the Saint Lucia Red Cross to be completed at the end of December 2002.

Concerns Raised:

- i. Limited communication equipment. The member commended NEMO for supplying the committee with a phone card.
- ii. There is need to reactivate the committee, but the member lamented the fact that the area is divided into several zones and it is sometimes difficult to get individuals together to form a central committee.

h) Dennerly North

The Chairman reported that the Committee is quite active. Hand held radios received from NEMO were quite helpful during Tropical Storm Lili. Committee members were able to communicate with members of the Dennerly South Committee. He commended LUCELEC and Cable and Wireless for their prompt response for assistance requested during the passage of the Storm.

Although the committee is blessed for having access to hand held radios, they are still unable to communicate freely with NEMO since a base station has not been installed. For that reason, a system has been negotiated with the Dennerly South Committee where the Committee will communicate with Dennerly South who in turn will update NEMO on the events in the North.

i) Dennerly South

The Committee was activated during the passage of Tropical Storm Lili. Members of the committee and villagers assisted with the evacuation process and sensitizing residents on the Storm.

The Committee was involved in a series of activities during the year 2002 which included:

- i. Regular monthly meeting
- ii. Cleanup campaign with the Public Health Unit of the Ministry of Health
- iii. Fund raising activities
- iv. Tour to Martinique – this was accomplished through the assistance of NEMO and the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society
- v. Education Programs
- vi. Training conducted by NEMO

Plans for 2003

- i. Monthly meetings and Election of Officers
- ii. Meeting with District Representative and NEMO
- iii. Revisiting Disaster Plan
- iv. School Debate Competition
- v. Anniversary Celebration
- vi. Public Education on Fire Prevention
- vii. Constituency Tour

- viii. Sign Posting on Designated Shelters
- ix. Formatting of Sub-committee for La Caye and Limiere
- x. Fund raising Dance
- xi. Installation of Emergency Shelters in the community

j) Micoud South

The Committee was activated during Tropical Storm Lili. The Committee encountered problems with the security denying members access to the Blanchard Combined School. The security had not been furnished with a key to the school.

The Committee is in need of telecommunication equipment in an effort to communicate with NEMO and other committees during a disaster.

k) Micoud North

The Micoud North Constituency comprises of six (6) committees, viz: Micoud Village, Malgratoute, La Pointe, Patience and Lombard, Mon Repos, Mamiku and Praslin.

The Committee is designated to serve all the above communities with a representation of at least two (2) persons from each of the community on the Central Committee.

Due low attendance at meetings and other activities of the Committee, compounded by the lack of commitment of some members, it was necessary to re-activate the Committee for efficient and effective functioning for the welfare of the entire district. A new executive was elected on June 6th 2002.

The Committee is still awaiting the construction of the satellite warehouse and emergency equipment.

Concerns Raised:

- i. The meetings expressed concern over the lack of provisions for legal status of local committee members. There is need for Regulations to be in place.
- ii. NEMO to find out for Telecommunication Company which areas service can be provided free of charge once the all clear is given after a disaster.

Plans for 2003

Training

- i. First Aid
- ii. Community Disaster Preparedness
- iii. Hazard Mapping
- iv. Community Disaster Profile
- v. Shelter Management
- vi. Mass Casualty

Fund Raising

- i. Sponsored Walk, etc.
- ii. Physical Survey for re-identification and suitability of Emergency Shelters
- iii. Supplier/Contractors – Review of Contracts for the supply of groceries, fuel , hardware, etc.
- iv. Simulation exercise and preparation of shelter signs
- v. Demarkation and zoning of the constituency: Patience, Lombard, Mon Repos, Mamiku, Praslin
- vi. Networking exercise for contact of communication with reference to obtaining assistance
- vii. Educations Tours – Met Office, other committees, etc.
- viii. Meeting with Chairpersons of National Sub-committees
- ix. Assembly/Consultation of all local chairpersons
- x. Exchange visits

I) Soufriere

The Committee benefited from a series of training with NEMO. A new Executive was elected in June 2002. The Committee responded to a call from residents of Morne La Croix, near the Gros Piton area in Soufriere. It was reported that someone had set fire on Gros Piton and as a result rocks were falling off and causing minor damage to property. Up to the time of reporting, the member informed the meeting that the rocks were falling continuously but no damage has been reported.

NEMO was informed of the situation and the matter has been dealt with temporarily. The member suggested that there is need to have a Plan in place for residents of the community.

The Committee was activated during Tropical Storm Lili with minor damages reported in Soufriere. Some small farmers reported loss of crops and in one instance a nursery was destroyed.

Plans for 2003

- i. CPR First Aid Mass Casualty.
- ii. Public Education (Etangs)
- iii. Re-Location of Radio
- iv. Establishment of sub-committees in the surrounding communities
- v. Community Education (Chateau Belaire)
- vi. Update list of elderly persons
- vii. Hazard mapping
- viii. Community Education (Bouton) schools
- ix. Continue Education (Fond St. Jacques) schools
- x. Workshop for supplies Committee
- xi. Workshop for welfare Committee
- xii. Promotion of Disaster information at Health Education Office.

The meeting **Agreed** that:

- i. NEMO should request permission from the Management of the Bureau of Health regarding use of the telephone by the Chairperson of the Committee for disaster related matters.
- ii. A Plan should be in place for persons living at Morne La Croix regarding rocks falling off Gros Piton.

The Director informed the meeting that a Plan will be prepared when the residents climbs the Piton with Forestry Officers.

7. WORLD BANK PROJECT

- i. Schools to be retrofitted.
- ii. Work at the Hewannora International Airport will be completed in December 2002.
- iii. Caico bridge will be done during the first week of December. Other bridges will be completed in January 2003.
- iv. Dennery Coastal Project will be completed in 2003.
- v. Nineteen (19) gabion baskets will be installed islandwide.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. The Community Development Office for Dennery South informed the meeting that the Beachfront Project in Dennery should be reviewed and action taken to alleviate the present problem.
- ii. The Director informed the meeting that NEMO submitted a request for donations of computers and printers for all district committees from a donor agency.
- iii. The Chief Engineer informed the meeting that the Shanty Town Project is substantially completed. The Project is funded under the Caribbean Development Bank Fund.
- iv. Mr. Peter Calderon has been commissioned to NEMO to carry out inspections at seventeen (17) schools, to be retrofitted; and to provide a status report upon completion of the inspection.
- v. The Director informed the meeting that NEMO will be conducting it's first Awards Ceremony in December 2002. Volunteers and other persons who have contributed significantly to disaster management will be recognized.

The meeting **Agreed** that:

- i. The Ministry of Works should clear the Castries River on a regular basis.
- ii. The Ministry of Works should have at least one representative on each district committee.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more matter to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

.....
MARIA MOMBELLI
Recording Secretary

.....
A. L. DAWN FRENCH
Director – NEMO/Secretary - NEMAC

.....
Confirmed

.....
Seconded

Part 6
Special Reports

REMARKS OF THE CDERA COORDINATOR,
 JEREMY COLLYMORE
 AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
 12TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CDERA
 May 9 – 10, 2002: Saint Lucia



Let me say that it is indeed a pleasure to be here in Saint Lucia for our 12th Meeting of the Board of Directors of CDERA. This is not only because of the excellent arrangements made for the hosting of the meeting, the Jazz filled environment or the general beauty of the place.

Indeed history has indicated regional meetings of this kind held in Saint Lucia usually represent defining moments in the institutionalization of disaster management in the region.

The 1979 meeting that led to the establishment of the PCDPPP project, the forerunner of CDERA is legendary. So too were the meetings dealing with preparedness and mitigation in the Agricultural Sector and Civil Aviation.

I am also delighted that this meeting in Saint Lucia, an OECS State, comes at a time when in spite of economic hardships, this sub-region is leading the way in investing in disaster management as a sector. This is evidenced through the World Bank OECS Project, where five (5) OECS states are borrowing approximately US \$100M to support risk reduction and capacity building.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Government and public officials of Saint Lucia for positively responding to our lobby for an increase in the human resources at NEMO. It is this facilitating enlightened leadership that will determine the outcome of our collective general agendas in disaster management and other sectors of the Caribbean Community.



The last four years of CDERA programming were centered on building the platform for transitioning our disaster management agenda from Preparedness and Response to one that is more comprehensive and integrated. I feel confident in acclaiming that the platform has been constructed and the take off is about to begin.

The numerous national institutional capacity strengthening initiatives attest to the growing importance of disaster management in the economic landscape of our Participating States. In almost every Participating State there is increasing political interest in the local response capacity as well as the risk management options available to mitigate the level of losses resulting from hazard impacts in the 1990s.

It is significant that five (5) OECS States have collectively borrowed approximate US\$100M to support disaster management capacity building and loss reduction measures. Additionally the Government of Belize has borrowed approximately US 60M for similar interventions from the IDB and CDB. Donor partners, bi-lateral and multi-lateral have been supporting these efforts. The Governments of Japan,

Canada, European Union, USAID have provided and continue to support loss reduction measures through post event reconstruction financing mechanisms. The financing facilitates of the MFIs for reconstruction and loss reduction about risk management is widespread and far-reaching.

We, emergency management professionals in CDERA Participating States need to prepare ourselves to capitalize on this consciousness and the resources flowing from it. We need to equip ourselves to broker these emerging interests and new players for the better of our countries and the disaster management agenda in particular.

It is in that context that the Coordinating Unit has started dialogue with some of our partners on providing training for National Disaster Coordinators and other NDO staff members in multi-year programme planning, resource mobilization, negotiating, project monitoring and evaluation.

At the Coordinating Unit we are conscious of the anxiety shared by many of you as a result of the changes that will naturally arise from this enlightened vision of social and environmental vulnerability reduction in our Participating States.

I believe that the CDM Strategy and Results Framework hammered out in collaboration with our partners over the last year provides a vehicle for building consensus about roles and responsibilities in the new disaster management era. Indeed I venture to suggest that how the NDC fears in the revised institutional arrangements will be determined in large measures by their familiarity with and readiness to share and promote CDM.

CDM is to the disaster management sector what globalization is to trade and international relations. We must be prepared to manage the process or be overtaken by it.

During the period under review the CDERA Coordinating Unit has been intensively engaged in managing the follow-up to the CDM consensus, promoting and lobbying for its adoption as well as mobilizing resources for its implementation. The CDM Strategy has proved to be an effective medium for engaging donor and programming partners on the resourcing and implementation of our medium to long-term agenda for disaster management.

To consolidate this dialogue the Coordinating Unit has prepared a matrix of CDM related programmes and initiatives to share with our partners. This is being used to identify gaps, focus on areas of potential cooperation and generally benchmark where we are.

The Coordinating Unit has also been very engaged in the drafting of and finalization of several project documents and proposals, the resources from which are critical to the successful implementation of the 2001-2004 Work Programme. To date approximately US \$8M has been secured for programme support up to 2005.

Indeed a very significant percentage of the Coordinating Unit's time, over the last nine (9) months was spent in developing, negotiating and finalizing resource mobilization agreements. Every indication is that increased contributions from Participating States will continue to be at a level below what is required to make meaningful programming interventions. It is against this background that the Coordinating Unit is proposing the establishment of a Technical Services Unit to coordinate and provide technical assistance to partners and Participating States at a cost. This will allow the region to broaden its sphere of influence

beyond the Caribbean, utilize regional expertise and build cooperation mechanisms with other developing countries in the African and Pacific regions.

We are conscious that this level of resource management represents an important step in the Agency's technical support agenda. Participating States will need to be mindful of their obligations under these technical assistance programmes and ensure timely delivery. How these are managed will significantly influence the Coordinating Unit's future efforts at resource mobilization.

The Agency continues to receive recognition as the premier disaster management organization in the Caribbean. This carries with it the associated responsibility of participating in high-level policy making fora, many of which are convened at short notice. The issue of adequate resources to allow the Coordinating Unit's involvement in these fora is something that needs addressing.

The Coordinating Unit has continued to prepare position and discussion papers for its Participating States for multi-lateral and bi-lateral fora. There is every indication that where these are used they can lead to better and more coordinated regional interventions on our side.

We have noted the rapid changes in the economic position of our Participating States exacerbated by the September 11, 2001 crisis. Indeed, the event highlighted the importance of sound emergency planning and response mechanisms. Every effort needs to be taken to ensure that in these economic challenging times, that we do not compromise the gains made in strengthening our disaster management capacity over the last ten (10) years by cutting back on critical commitments. The growing interest in disaster management is resulting in the emergence of new and assertive players in disaster management.

We support this recognition of the importance of disaster management but urge caution on the scope and focus of these initiatives. In these times of scarce and dwindling resources we need to build synergies and avoid duplication. The principle of competitive advantage should inform the nature and the focus of new initiatives.

In this regard the Coordinating Unit has initiated an inter-agency programming matrix, which highlights ongoing initiatives, target beneficiaries and outcomes. Once this process is supported and maintained we can realistically expect more efficient use of scarce resources and more strategic cooperation and collaboration arrangements.

Our programme for the next year 2002-2003 is informed by the need to strengthen the coordination and consultation process. It will build on the partner programming consultations and thematic cooperation groups.

I wish to comment briefly on events affecting CDERA Participating States during the period June 2001-April 2002. The events were very diversified and included tropical systems, flooding, aircraft crash, boat explosions and increased seismic activity around Kick-em-Jenny.

We note that there is the need to address some basic preparedness procedures, which must include:

- Rationalizing national policies on shutdown for tropical cyclones threats to avoid traffic chaos.
- Streamlining arrangements for requesting procuring and verifying receipt of relief assistance.

- Acceleration of Search and Rescue capacity.
- Policy position on declaration of a natural disaster/disaster area.
- Striking a balance between early warning and public confidence in our warning system.

The Agenda of this meeting seeks to elaborate the technical nature of our deliberations through country lead position payers and prepared interventions.

It seeks to engage Participating States in pro-actively putting their issues on the table rather than merely reacting to those of the Coordinating Unit. I truly look forward to the dialogue in our technical discussions.

As we move towards the end of our 10th year of operation, I wish to invite you to reflect on the global uniqueness of this Agency and the part that you have played in its development and would wish to continue to play. Let's dedicate our energies to making CDERA a premiere world-class leader in institutionalized inter-governmental cooperation in disaster management.



12th Meeting of the CDERA Board of Directors Formal Opening,
 Official Residence of the Prime Minister
 Welcome Remarks
 Chairman – Mr. Victor Poyotte
 Wednesday 8th May 2002



The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), an inter-governmental regional disaster management organisation was established in 1991. CDERA comprises a total of sixteen (16) National Emergency Management organisations (NEMOs), from the entire Caribbean region.

You should be aware that the Board of Directors comprises National Disaster Co-ordinators of participating countries and operates in a technical advisory capacity. It meets annually to consider technical issues and makes recommendations to the CDERA Council, the main policy making organ of the Agency. The 12th Annual Meeting starts tomorrow 9th May 2002. Saint Lucia, through its National Disaster Co-ordinator has been an active member of the CDERA Board from the inception of the Agency.

Last year being the tenth year since CDERA has been in full operation, the Council took the opportunity to establish a small committee to review the activities of the Co-ordinating Unit of the Agency. The exercise forms part of CDERA'S objective of integrating Comprehensive Disaster Management strategy into the development processes of member countries.

As Saint Lucia's representative on the CDERA Council I participated in the review activities when the Committee met at the CDERA administrative headquarters in Barbados earlier this year. The Committee conducted the operational review and made several recommendations for the institutional strengthening of CDERA and the consolidation of its work in the region.



Disaster management in Saint Lucia is guided by the National Emergency Powers Act #5 of 1995 and the Disaster Preparedness and Response Act #13 of 2000. The National Disaster Co-ordinator Ms Dawn French, is a leading advocate for change in disaster management policies and practices. Through her persistent efforts we can now boast of having a vastly improved legislative, regulatory and policy framework for effective and efficient disaster management.

Our system of disaster management is largely a voluntary one with the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) being the central co-ordinating body within a network of institutions and Local Committees. In recent years, government has taken a number of initiatives aimed at the institutional strengthening of NEMO. Among these include the review of an Emergency Response Management Plan, the appointment of a Deputy Co-ordinator, the establishment of a network of warehouses for the pre-positioning of response resources, the equipping of local committees with hand held radios and the training of members of the local committees.

In March this year, a contingent of seventeen (17) disaster management officials from Saint Lucia participated in FAHUM 2002 in Honduras. Based on the experience gained from this exercise NEMO is undertaking revision to the National Emergency Response Management Plan.

It is indeed significant that the Board of CDERA is meeting just a few days before the start of the 2002 hurricane season. According to leading Weather Forecasters, preliminary indications are that this year, we can expect up to twelve (12) tropical storms. Of these, at least seven (7) are likely to become hurricanes and three (3) could grow into major hurricanes with top sustained winds of about 111 mph. On 29 June this year, the National Emergency Management Advisory Council (NEMAC) chaired by the Prime Minister will be meeting to review and adopt the 2002 Hurricane Response Plan.

In your deliberations, I urge you to bear in mind the level of damage and destruction that sometimes accompany these storms and the high cost implications for small countries like Saint Lucia. We all look to CDERA and the Board in particular, for technical ideas to improve Disaster Management. Although our resources may be limited but our commitment and resolve to tackle the issues remain strong.

One need not emphasize therefore, the significance of the deliberations to take place here among the National Disaster Co-ordinators over the next two (2) days (9-10 May 2002). It is a period when members of the Board and Council will have to make critical decisions about the continued growth and development of the agency.

In closing, let me take this opportunity to officially welcome all participants especially the overseas officials from CDERA member states to Saint Lucia for the 12th Meeting of the CDERA Board of Directors. It is my hope that you will take some time off from the meeting to enjoy the best Jazz Festival in the world right here in Saint Lucia.

I Thank You

May 14, 2002



ADDRESS TO PARTICIPANTS AT OFFICIAL
OPENING OF
"EARTHQUAKE AND VOLCANO AWARENESS WEEK"
June 17, 2002

By

Ms. Glenda Polius
Deputy Permanent Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister

Thank you Madam Chairlady.

Good morning to all

Members of the Seismic Research Unit
Representative of USAID/OFDA
Members of the National Emergency Management Organization,
Specially invited Persons,
Press
Ladies and Gentlemen

Let me first start by offering the apologies of the Permanent Secretary, within the Office of the Prime Minister - the Ministry responsible for Disaster Management. As the PS he also bears the mantle of the Cabinet Secretary and as Monday is the day that Cabinet meets he is unable to be with us. He however wishes this program every success and will continue to give his full support to any activity that will prepare Saint Lucia for the risks that face us.

First let me welcome all of you here today particularly personnel of the Seismic Research Unit of the University of the West Indies, to the opening of "Earthquake and Volcano Awareness Week". For persons visiting from overseas I trust that you would find the time to enjoy the beauty and hospitality of an island that has remain largely untouched by the phenomenon that is the subject of this weeks' activity.

Madam Chairman, many of our citizens equate only hurricanes with disasters, not realizing that we constantly face potential threats from many other natural and human induced disasters.

We must understand that Earthquakes and volcanic activities are also natural phenomena, which, in their most dramatic forms, could lead to disasters. When disaster strikes, the best protection is, knowing what to do. You must be aware of the likely nature of the disaster and the impact that it may have on human life and the environment. Therefore this public awareness exercise that you are about to embark upon is timely and in sink with the effort of this country's National Emergency Management Office (NEMO).



While this island has not been affected by earthquakes and volcanoes in recent times, we are however constantly reminded of their destructive power from happenings in the region and the wider world. The television and the Internet bring into our homes, those events in graphic form and in real time.

Madam Chair, volcanic eruptions can hurl hot rocks and airborne ash over long distances and spew up disasters such as earthquakes, flash floods, landslides, thunderstorms and tidal waves. I am sure the case of the Montserrat eruption is still fresh in our minds. Mudflows and ash fall caused widespread damage to property and forced many of the inhabitants to evacuate the island. Life is still not back to normal on that island, and it appears that they have a long way to go.

Further a field, we may have seen on television the dramatic eruption of Mount Nyirya Gongo in Africa, Hundred of thousands were affected, there was tremendous loss of Property, food security was undermined and disease outbreaks heightened.

Chair, while it is being said that the Soufrière Sulphur Springs here is dormant, you need to be aware that we are located a short distance between Martinique and St. Vincent, where active volcanoes exist on both islands. Therefore we need to be sensitized as to the potential risk and the measures to be employed in the event of a major eruption.

In the case of earthquakes, we are under a similar threat as with volcanoes. Not only are earthquakes known to be closely related to volcanic activity it is also my understanding that our islands can be affected by seismic activity resulting from contact between continental plates near to us. In short we are vulnerable. Earthquakes are known to strike suddenly, violently and without warning.

Chair, we certainly cannot prevent the occurrence of these events, however identifying potential hazards ahead of time and advance planning can reduce the dangers of serious injury or loss of life from an eruption or a tremor. No doubt, this weeks' awareness program will touch on those preparedness issues that are related to the mitigation of hazards caused by earthquakes and volcanic activity.

At this point I must say a little about NEMO and its activities in disaster mitigation in Saint Lucia. NEMO is a government agency established to coordinate disaster mitigation efforts in the country. As part of its mandate, it undertakes, training of community groups and institutions in disaster management.

Chair, NEMO for its part is relentlessly engaged in a series of meetings with our local emergency committees. These meeting are designed to build capacity within and strengthen these community based organizations to enable them to serve as first responders in the event of a local disaster. NEMO also seeks to reactivate committees, which have been dormant,

NEMO has been able to sustain a rewarding partnership with these committees and there is strong evidence of excitement and enthusiasm among several committees, which we think, augurs well for the future of disaster preparedness in our country. Presently, there are a total of fourteen Local Emergency Committees. NEMO plans to increase this number to eighteen so that every major district in the country will be adequately served by a strong, fully functional committee.

At the National level, NEMO coordinates planning, training and preparatory activities with the respective National Committees, such as the Oil Spills Committee, Telecommunications Committee and Supply Management committees. This is to ensure a state of constant readiness in the event of an emergency.

There are, many items on the Disaster Management Agenda for this year and in the future.

NEMO, in partnership with the Poverty Reduction Fund is finalizing plans for 'implementing a pilot project for disaster management training and project proposal development targeting Local Emergency Committees.

Chair, the National Emergency Management Office in collaboration with the Accident and Emergency Department of Victoria Hospital has also in commenced training of a number of community based organizations in Mass Casualty Management. The initial phase of this program funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, targeted the communities of Dennery, Mabouya Valley, and Anse La Raye. This training exercise equipped these communities with a range of skills in areas such as first aid, incident command and use of telecommunications equipment among others. Plans are on the way to conduct similar training exercises in all major districts during the next few months.

Training in Stress Management, Emergency Operations Centre Management and Emergency Supplies Management are some of the other activities to be conducted by NEMO over the next few months.

The Government of Saint Lucia welcomes this initiative titled, "Earthquake and Volcano Awareness Week" by the Seismic Research Unit of The University of The West Indies. This campaign will no doubt sensitize the public as to the risk associated with our Sulphur Springs and the volcanic centers in the neighbouring islands.

We note the strong emphasis placed on information sharing with senior secondary school students in addition to students of the natural sciences of the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, it's our hope that they will use the information gained to educate friends, family and members of their respective communities.

Chair, we are very much aware that this is only the first phase of wider program. The full benefits of this campaign will not be realized without sustained follow up actions, which will include reinforcement of information received, simulation exercises and a renewed commitment to preparedness and mitigation activities in relation to volcanic and seismic events.

Finally, on behalf of the Government and people of Saint Lucia, I once again extend a very special welcome to the visiting members of the Seismic Research Team and invite you to enjoy the warm hospitality of our people. It is my wish that your stay with us, and your many varied activities will be very productive and mutually beneficial.

Thank you for this opportunity of sharing this brief address.

Statement
United States Agency for International Development
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance Latin America and the Caribbean
 At the opening ceremony
 For "*Earthquake and Volcano Week*" in Saint Lucia
 On June 17, 2002



Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office Ms. Glenda Polius
 Head of the Seismic Research Unit of the University of the West Indies Professor John Shepherd
 Director of the National Emergency Management Office, Ms. Dawn French
 Ladies and Gentlemen
 Good Morning

This Geological Hazards Awareness Week of activities in Saint Lucia, is made possible through an OFDA funded grant awarded to the Seismic Research Unit (SRU) of the University of the West Indies, which presently focuses on implementing a regional Public Information and Education program for the Mitigation of Geological Hazards such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis. We want to thank the National Disaster Office and the SRU for facilitating the implementation of this program.

In recent times we have witnessed with apparent frequency the devastation often incurred from the effects of Hurricanes, Floods, and their associated incidents such as landslides and debris avalanches. As a result of these experiences, the National Disaster Offices throughout the Caribbean have developed very sound Hurricane response mechanisms. However, in many of the Caribbean states, similar type programs to address what measures the general population ought to be taking before an impending geological hazard or what procedures must be followed after its occurrence, are generally lacking.

The complete destruction of entire cities from volcanic eruptions or the entire coastal zone of an island state from a tsunami can cause huge loss of life as well as severe economic and social setbacks. Montserrat is our constant reminder of how destructive these geological hazards can be. And before witnessing yet another disaster in our midst we must do what is necessary to make ourselves as prepared as is humanly possible for the occurrence of such an event. It is important that we understand the nature and occurrence of these hazards, the extent to which they can effect our lives and our country, if one should occur, and how best to prepare ourselves. To accomplish this we not only need to increase our level of exposure to accurate information but we also need to transform this information into action. Herein lies the role of this public information program and the basis of USAID support for this initiative.

Everyone needs to be sensitized, the policy makers, the media, the disaster managers, our school population and the overall general public. This region has made a significant amount of progress over the years in the disaster management field but there is still a lot to be accomplished. We firmly believe that the progressive policies, practices and behavioral change that form the basis of highly successful disaster reduction programs all begins with effective public information and education.

This week the SRU will attempt to demonstrate the importance of reliable and accurate information and hopefully dispel any myths or misinformation that people may have about geological hazards and the likelihood of their occurrence.

OFDA Caribbean would like to invite all members of society; public officials, the private sector, the media and the general public as a whole to participate in what will be a most interesting and enlightening week of activities. And, to take this opportunity to further educate yourselves on the nature of geological hazards and what can be done to promote public safety. Finally, it must be emphasized that volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis are real threats to us here in the Caribbean and we cannot stop or delay their occurrence, however, we can help lessen their impact and even prevent them from becoming disasters by the informed decisions we make today.



Address by
Prime Minister to the Nation on Tropical Depression #13
on Monday, September 23, 2002



Fellow St. Lucians,
Good Morning,

As you will have known by now, a tropical storm watch is now in effect for St. Lucia. It is therefore, that time again when we have to activate our hurricane preparedness mechanisms throughout the country.

Following the announcement of the first advisory for Tropical Depression No 13 last night, the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) met at the Office of the Prime Minister, under my Chairmanship. The status of each sub-committee of NEMO was reviewed and I directed that all disaster committees be activated with immediate effect.

Some committees actually began meeting last night, some as early as 6am today, some one hour later and even as I speak, some meetings are already over as the relevant committees have sprung into action.

Given the approaching tropical depression, NEMO advised and the Government has directed that all schools remain closed today, until further notice. In addition, the following measures have been put in place:

- All police officers have had their leave cancelled and were to have reported to their respective police stations by 6am today. The same stands for all fire officers, who are to report to their respective stations as of now.
- All fishermen are asked to remain in port and to pull their boats ashore and small craft are urged to remain near port.
- Residents in coastal and marine areas, as well as marine interests are asked to exercise caution.
- Residents in areas prone to flooding and landslides are asked to exercise extreme caution.

Cabinet meets this morning, and it is my intention to notify fellow ministers that all government departments have been ordered closed as of 11:30am today, to allow Public Officers to prepare for the system.

As you will already have heard on the radio and TV, the system is estimated to begin to affect St. Lucia just after midday. As I said last night, that does not give us much time.

The system is expected to produce substantial rain and there could be flooding in some areas. All of St. Lucia must be on full alert, but I am concerned about Anse La Raye, Dennery and Vieux Fort – particularly the Bruceville and Bacadere areas. Therefore, additional measures have had to be put in place specifically for these areas. I have also directed the Commissioner of Police to station more officers in Anse La Raye and Dennery to assist citizens should it become necessary.

Meanwhile, residents of Anse La Raye, Dennery and Vieux Fort, in particular, are urged to follow the advice of their various respective disaster committees.

The following National Emergency Shelters will be open for use, should the need arise, and residents are advised accordingly:

- Anse La Raye residents will make use of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College;
- Residents of Dennery will make use of the Clendon Mason Secondary, the Dennery Boys Primary and the Dennery Girls Primary schools;
- Residents of Coolie Town will make use of the Pentecostal Church and Day Care Centre;
- Resident of Roseau will use the La Croix Maingot School; and
- Residents of Vieux Fort will make use of the following: Bruceville residents will use Campus A of the Vieux Fort Comprehensive Secondary School and residents of Bacadere will make use of the Roman catholic Church and the RC Parish Centre.

All citizens are asked to undertake the usual stocking-up of food, medicine and batteries, etc and to ensure the normal hurricane preparedness precautions are in place.

I know that in the past we have been warned, we have taken measures and we were spared. Therefore, some of us will probably take this current warning lightly. However, I appeal to you: please do not treat this as just another warning. Take this and every other warning very, very seriously. That's because, as we very well know, nothing can be as unpredictable as the weather.

I urge all, once again, to stick to your radio and TV and follow the various advisories, the next of which is due at 11am, after an aircraft will have flown into the system to make more accurate and precise estimates on its strength and location.

Thank You and May God Bless Us All.



NEMO Meeting

FEATURE ADDRESS OF CDERA COORDINATOR AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY OF NEMO,
SAINT LUCIA - December 06, 2002

The Spirit of Volunteerism

Ladies and Gentlemen, first let me express my deepest appreciation of this opportunity to share with you in your moments of recognition and celebration.

When contacted by Ms French to ascertain whether CDERA could be present on this occasion, our response was unhesitatingly in the affirmative. Our position is very simple.



Most of the disaster offices in the CDERA mechanism are so understaffed, and the programming needs for capacity enhancement so great, that any measure of success must of necessity engage volunteer input.

Indeed it is because of a recognition that is heavily dependent on resources generated outside of the formal state financing mechanism, that we launched a Regional Awards Programme in 1996; with the specific intention of recognising those who support our response and capacity building initiative.

The objective of the Awards is to recognise the contribution of individuals who have given significant and outstanding service at the national and regional level in Disaster Management. It is available to all persons resident in CDERA Participating States.

The nominee must have more than five (5) years service in Disaster Management and have experience, which includes:

- Support for disaster response to a major event
- Involvement in disaster programme that has made significant impact of disaster management at the regional or national level
- Significant research
- Planning and organization of simulation exercises

It is our view that with few exceptions the nominees for the regional Awards should be drawn from the pool of awardees within our Participating States. Understandably therefore, we are more than anxious to promote and support occasions such as this.

Unfortunately, I must say the nominations for the available Regional Awards have been very disappointing. It is difficult to fathom how in a region which within the last decade was impacted by more than seven (7) major hurricanes, a severe volcanic eruption, more than 20 episodes of flood disasters at the local/parish level that they are no eligible candidates for nomination for these awards. This is in spite of the relatively low level, of state resources committed to national disaster programmes.

One may therefore ask whether we are clear about who is a volunteer within the context of disaster management.

I wish to posit that in disaster management a volunteer is one who makes their skills and knowledge available, without cost or advertisement, to support a disaster response operation or programme. In the CDERA system it is largely spontaneous and very short-term.

We see it after a hurricane where the members of a community clear fallen trees which are blocking roads or rescue someone who is drowning.

We see it also among the radio ham operators who use their own resources and significant time to access and share information on damages and needs in areas where officials are yet to reach. The Roving Teams in Barbados is another example of a volunteer element, that suggest the diversity of this phenomenon. Additionally there are those who go to the National EOC, to offer their help.

I have raised the examples above to draw attention to the Character of volunteerism in disaster management in our region. It includes:

- a) Spontaneous support based on survival needs
- b) Organised support based on a skill (Ham Radio)
- c) Support based on function (DANA)
- d) Diversified opportunity/event based assistance

You will note that I have not included the many public servants who are required to be engaged in disaster response and relief activities. There is a notion among most of our public and civil servants who are required to be engaged in disaster response and relief activities that their inputs are voluntary.

It is difficult to support this notion in a jurisdiction where the State has moral and constitutional responsibility for overseeing the safety and security of its people. This is especially so when the public service manages the critical assets for effective response and risk intervention.

In this United Nations International Year of Volunteers, we need to reflect on volunteerism in disaster management.

Not only must we deliberate on who are volunteers and how we can utilise them more efficiently but we should also consider what are the socio-economic and cultural constraints to development of the volunteer spirit.

Certainly this reflection must consider how the growth and intrusion of market forces and principles and the individual pursuit of wealth is impacting on volunteer hours. A changing labour force, which is promoting the dollarisation of skills and services, within the framework of small enterprises and consultancies, may change the whole dynamic of volunteerism.

It is within this context therefore that we need to examine the profile of volunteers in our agenda and see how we can structure a mechanism to achieve sustainability and effectiveness of this resource pool. A national disaster management volunteer mechanism would need to embrace the following critical elements:

- i) An inventory of volunteer interests by skills, knowledge and available time.

- ii) Setting and providing orientation for a standard information and knowledge benchmark for all volunteers.
- iii) Structured engagement in national disaster management programmes.
- iv) Insignia and other media for volunteer identification.
- v) Awards and other motivational and recognition programmes; including a possible link to national awards schemes.

I believe that the time has come to move beyond the concept of a volunteer as an individual. We need explore the possibility of targeted organisations, profit or non-profit, committing to an agreed time, a specific activity or programme. We at CDERA have such an arrangement with the Barbados Amateur Radio Society where they man our radios for (2) two shifts a day for up to a week, once we are activated and operational.

Similar arrangements may be had at the local level with professional engineering bodies to support diagnostic audit of damaged buildings or infrastructure.

I am suggesting that in this capitalist oriented environment in which we operate there is need to dispense with the notion of non-solicitation in volunteerism. Organised public information programmes outlining national achievements and highlighting needs will be an important element of Disaster Management volunteer programmes.

Beyond this, there must not be a perception that the state is not committed to the agenda for which we are soliciting volunteers. Whilst the State's inadequate resources for Disaster Management may be palatable in a volunteer community, its indifference can be detrimental.

We believe that the CDERA model volunteer Corps/Mechanism, which is under development will provide a framework on which to build. We must be able to link offers of interest for our needs directly or through some intervening enhancement facility.

I therefore wish to thank you awardees, and the other nominees, for consistently availing your knowledge, skills and time for the NEMO programme. In an era when parents hardly have time for their children this commitment must not be undervalued.

National Disaster Coordinators will need to more fully embrace this resource. They must provide this unswerving group with more opportunities to participate in regional and international training. I need not extol the virtues of such exposure.

Ladies and gentlemen, I look forward to your continued support for Disaster Management in Saint Lucia. Please indulge in this moment of recognition and celebration.

WELCOME ADDRESS

At the inaugural NEMO Volunteers Awards Night

On December 6, 2002 - By A. L. Dawn French

Director, National Emergency Management Office

B.Sc. (Hons.) Arch, MA (EPDC), Post Grad Dip (RCDM), MRTPI, APA, IAEM

Mr. Victor Poyotte – Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. Jeremy Collymore – Coordinator, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

Mrs. Annette John

Mrs. Stephanie Philomene

Fellow Disaster Managers

I would like to welcome everyone here tonight - from the Dennery South Committee who are celebrating 20 years of service in Disaster Management and to the Castries South Committee who were formalized last night.

Tonight is a night of milestones.

There are people here who will attest to the valiant attempts by NEMO to thank our volunteers in a formal manner. Tonight is a night for unashamedly blowing our own trumpet; a night to tap ourselves on the shoulder. The 2002 hurricane season is over and again through your dedication Saint Lucia was able to weather the season.

It is a night of milestones.

- It is the first time that NEMO is holding this appreciation night.
- It is the third year that the United Nations has designated a date: December 5, as International Volunteer Day.
- It is CDERA's 11th Anniversary

And

- The 100th Anniversary of the Salvation Army in Saint Lucia.

It is also:

- 67 years since the MV George overturned with 41 persons drowning.
- Followed two years later by the sinking of the May Rose where 12 persons drowned.
- It is the 64th Anniversary of the Ravine Poisson Landslide.
- The 54th Anniversary of the last Castries Fire.
- 49 years since a 7.4 magnitude earthquake hit the island
- The 47th Anniversary of the Soufriere Fire and Hurricane Janet
- 29 years since the upper floor of the then Teacher's Training College collapsed.
- 28 years since three persons died when a plane crashed at Mount Gimie.
- The 22nd Anniversary of Hurricane Allen.
- 8 years since Tropical Storm Debby.
- 7 years since the oil spill in the Cul de Sac Bay.
- 6 years since the Fire at Victoria Hospital and Patterson's Gap.
- 3 years since the slide at Black Mallet/Maynard Hill and Hurricane Lenny.

AND

- The 2nd anniversary of the attack at Basilica Minor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

I present this historic testimony so that if there was any doubt as to why we are here tonight this shows that we are in the business of providing assistance to our fellow man no matter what.

This is not a night for long speeches. But before I conclude I want to say this: Two people coordinate disaster management on a full time basis in Saint Lucia - Ms Maria Mombelli whom you all know is an exceptional person, and an all round gem whom I want to publicly acknowledge here tonight. The other person is yours truly.

We want you to know - that we know - that you are NEMO. Without your love of country, which manifests itself in the support and dedication you give to us at the Office our island home would not be safe.

So!

Take a bow, clap loudly when a colleague's name is called, enjoy yourself and be prepared for the next time I call you from your home on a Sunday evening for a meeting to plan a response.

Thank you.



Part 7
Appendix

The National Emergency Management Organisation

Saint Lucia is located in the southern section of an archipelago of volcanic islands, which comprise the Lesser Antilles. Due to their unique position, the islands are annually prone to severe weather systems.

The National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) in Saint Lucia is responsible for having the Nation in a state of preparedness for any event. The Mission Statement encapsulates the mandate - *The role of the National Emergency Management Organisation [NEMO] is to develop, test and implement adequate measures to protect the population of Saint Lucia from the physical, social, environmental and economic effects of both natural and man-made disasters. Its responsibility is to ensure the efficient functioning of preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response actions.*

Hazard analysis and experience have confirmed that Saint Lucia is at risk from numerous hazards, both natural and technological:

- Natural: Fire, Seismic, Volcanic, Tsunami, Flooding, Landslide, Storm, Hurricane
- Manmade: Dam Collapse, Explosion, Oil/Chemical Spill, Mass Casualty, Nuclear spill, Civil Unrest
- Slow Onset: Drought, Famine, Plague

The National Emergency Management Office of the Organisation acts as a secretariat assisting local communities with various public awareness campaigns as well as training sessions. One area of constant activity is providing advice to companies and service groups on action that can be taken before, during and after a disaster. The Office also takes part in activities that will heighten awareness with the public e.g. Radio and Television programs, summer school talks, production of telephone cards and the creation of an Internet website at <http://www.geocities.com/slunemo> where certain sections of the National Emergency response Plans are available.

Disaster Management on the island is executed on a voluntary basis, and during an event NEMO becomes part of a larger network. Various Ministries essential to a response action, together with national and local committees collaborate to conduct a response.

During an event NEMO transforms into the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). The EOC is the center from which all commands are issued and to which all demands are made. It is the seat of control for the Prime Minister as Chairman of the EOC and as Leader of the State. All heads of essential services locate at the EOC e.g. Commissioner of Police, Chief Fire Officer, Chief Medical Officer, etc.

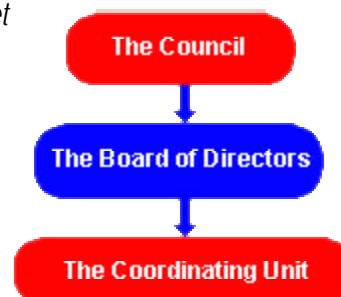
With the permission of the Cabinet of Ministers NEMO has access to the majority of Government's resources during a crisis. These resources are coordinated by NEMO/EOC but are utilized by various agencies. With the cooperation of the private sector NEMO also has access to the resources of individuals and companies. Finally The Emergency Powers Act 5/95 provides the office with the ability to commander DURING A STATE OF EMERGENCY ONLY. Therefore NEMO/EOC has access and control of the resources of the Nation when faced with a disaster. In 2000 the Disaster Preparedness and Response Act 13/2000 was passed thus consolidating and placing in law the actions of NEMO.

The EOC has one final responsibility, and that is to the Tourism Industry. The sector has created the Crisis Management Unit (CMU) which functions out of the Ministry of Tourism. Once the National EOC is activated the CMU is also activated.

Disaster Management is also conducted at the Regional level through CDERA of which Saint Lucia is a member state. *The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) is an inter-governmental regional disaster management organisation established in 1991 by an Agreement of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Its headquarters are located in Barbados.*

CDERA has three (3) principle organs:

- *The Council is the supreme policy making body and is comprised of the Heads of Government of the Participating States or their designated representatives. It meets annually to review the work of the Agency, approve its Work Programme and Administrative Budget and make any other major policy decisions required.*
- *The Board of Directors is made up of the National Disaster Coordinators of Participating States, with the Coordinator (see below) as Chairman. The Board serves in a technical advisory capacity and makes recommendations to Council on matters such as those mentioned above.*
- *The Coordinating Unit is the administrative headquarters of the Agency and is located in Barbados. It is responsible for executing the activities of the Agency and conducting its day-to-day business. (CDERA 2001)*



Descripción disponible en español

Description disponible en français

Hurricane Names for the period 2002 – 2006

For the Daily Weather update call (758)-454-3452

<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Arthur	Ana	Alex	Arlene	Alberto
Bertha	Bill	Bonnie	Bret	Beryl
Cristobal	Claudette	Charley	Cindy	Chris
Dolly	Danny	Danielle	Dennis	Debby
Edouard	Erika	Earl	Emily	Ernesto
Fay	Fabian	Frances	Franklin	Florence
Gustav	Grace	Gaston	Gert	Gordon
Hanna	Henri	Hermine	Harvey	Helene
Isidore	Isabel	Ivan	Irene	Isaac
Josephine	Juan	Jeanne	Jose	Joyce
Kyle	Kate	Karl	Katrina	Kirk
Lili	Larry	Lisa	Lee	Leslie
Marco	Mindy	Matthew	Maria	Michael
Nana	Nicholas	Nicole	Nate	Nadine
Omar	Odette	Otto	Ophelia	Oscar
Paloma	Peter	Paula	Philippe	Patty
Rene	Rose	Richard	Rita	Rafael
Sally	Sam	Shary	Stan	Sandy
Teddy	Teresa	Tomas	Tammy	Tony
Vicky	Victor	Virginie	Vince	Valerie
Wilfred	Wanda	Walter	Wilma	William

Disaster Management Information may be obtained from:

The Director
National Emergency Management Office
P O Box 1517, Castries, Saint Lucia, West Indies

Tel: 758-452-3802 / Fax: 758-453-2152 / E-mail: eoc@candw.lc / URL: <http://www.geocities.com/slunemo>

Emergency Numbers for a Spill

Fire Dept.: 911

NEMO: 452-3802

Police: 999

Coast Guard: 452-2595

You need dial only one number... BUT CALL!!!