



WORLD TSUNAMI AWARENESS 5 NOVEMBER 2016 DAY

COMMEMORATION IN THE CARIBBEAN

20 OCTOBER 2016, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Best Practice – St. Kitts and Nevis

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National Emergency Management Agency
(NEMA)

20th October 2016



1. Objectives

- ~ Overview
- ~ Tsunami Readiness SKN
- ~ Stakeholders
- ~ Strengths
- ~ Challenges
- ~ Sustainability
- ~ Acknowledgements



2. Overview

~ In 1960 a massive earthquake destroyed the then Jamestown (St. Thomas) on the island of Nevis recording significant damage from a Tidal Wave.

~ No response mechanisms (National)or Regional

~ No technology to monitor Seismic Activities

~ Government legislated Emergency response

~ Establishment of Disaster Management Offices on both Islands

2. Tsunami Readiness SKN

- ~ **Develop draft SOP's (revised) 2016**
- ~ **Revise National Disaster Plan**
- ~ **Stakeholder Consultation**
- ~ **Develop Inundation Maps**

Stakeholders

- ~ The Physical Planning Department
- ~ Police
- ~ Volunteer Consultant
- ~ Public Works Department
- ~ Local Media



Challenges

- ~No Nation wide alerting system
- ~ Lack of Funding
- ~ Dwellings located along coastline
- ~ Extended waiting periods for Government approval of maps
- ~ Lack of Bathymetric Data
- ~ High cost related to PSA/education

Strengths

- ~ **Strong collaboration with Disaster Management Offices and Physical Planning**
- ~ **Ongoing PSA's via local media**
- ~ **Support of Government, UNESCO, CDEMA, CTWP**
- ~ **Good Building Codes/Monitoring**
- ~ **NEOC Headquarters in safe zone**

Sustainable Actions

- ~ **Establish nationwide alerting**
- ~ **Strengthen partnerships with Ministry of Education via School Safety Program**
- ~ **Erecting more signs, train stakeholders in tsunami map use; Staff, Districts, Media**
- ~ **Continued partnership with regional partners eg CDEMA, CTWP**
- ~ **Enhance public awareness**



**NEOC (upstairs)
NEMA Headquarter**



**24hr Tsunami Monitoring
Police Headquarters, Basseterre**



**EOC – Nevis
NDMD Facility, Long Point**



3. Recommendations and Conclusions

- ~ Encourage governments to invest in Early Warning Systems
- ~ Communications service providers to partner with Disaster Management Offices for Mass Texting
- ~ Lobby for Governments to budget for DRR related matters in National Budgets



THANKS FOR LISTENING

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Commemoration in the Caribbean
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