Regional Institutions Managing Disaster Risk
A CDEMA Perspective

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OUTLINE

• Vulnerability of the Region
• Role of Regional Institutions
• The evolution of Regional Disaster Risk Management
• CDM Strategic Framework
• Challenges
DISASTER RISK IN THE CARIBBEAN
Vulnerability of the Region

- Caribbean countries have inherent vulnerabilities to natural hazards due to small size, limited resource base, concentration of coastal development.
- The magnitude, timing, location and impacts of a hazard event are difficult to predict.
- Changing climate is increasing the unpredictable nature of weather patterns.
- Increasing urbanisation of our societies are placing greater burdens on our environmental resources.
- Changing societal dynamics - work-life patterns, lifestyle expectations, demographic changes, community fragmentation are increasing community vulnerability.
- Disaster impacts can set back or reverse development gains.
Vulnerability of the Region

It is now strongly believed that climate change has increased the frequency and intensity of extreme natural hazard events.
THE ROLE OF REGIONAL INSTITUTION
Why Regional Institutions

- Treaty of Chaguaramas
- In principle they are able to create effective links between national and international systems
- They would have more flexibility and responsiveness in address the needs of their Participating States
- Able to maximize the principles of solidarity regional co-operation and South South given culture and shared risks and experiences.
Why Regional Institutions

- Broad consensus amongst most stakeholders that regional organizations have a key role
- Appreciation of culture and context
- HFA and now the SFA championing the creation and expanded role of Regional DRR Institutions
The Role of Regional Institutions

DRM Regional Institutions are able to:

• Provide regional public goods and services
• Allows for economies of scale
• Provide human resources, skills and services not necessarily easily maintained in small states given the many competing priorities.
• Countries are often grappling with responding to smaller scale, repetitive events below the international radar
• In 1981 the Pan-Caribbean Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Project (PCDPPP) was established to spearhead a regional effort to improve disaster preparedness in the Caribbean.
CDERA

- CDERA was established in 1991 as an intergovernmental organization. Its main functions were:
  - Make immediate and coordinated response to its participating state after a disaster
  - Mitigate disaster consequences in a participating state
  - Promote the establishment, enhancement and maintenance of adequate disaster response capabilities
  - Securing, coordinating and channeling reliable information
In 1992 The Caribbean Community considered the establishment of the Caribbean Disaster Mitigation Organization. Its objective was to reduce the impact of recurring disasters by 80% in 15 years. Its role was to plan, coordinate, promote and evaluate the programme for disaster reduction.
CDEMA

- CDEMA created in 2009 to replace CDERA and to advance the work of CDERA to ensure the sustainable development of resilient communities within the Caribbean Region.
- Additional to the functions of CDERA:
  - Encouraging
    - The adoption of disaster loss reduction and mitigation policies and practices at the national and regional level
    - Cooperative arrangements and mechanisms to facilitate the development of a culture of disaster loss reduction
  - Coordinating the establishment, enhancement and maintenance of disaster response capabilities
CDEMA PRIORITIES

Centre for DRM Excellence and Preferred partner for a Safe Caribbean

- Strategic Planning M,E & R
- Enhanced Operational Readiness
- Integrated Risk Management
Key CDM Priorities

Pathway to Resilience

- Reacting
- Crisis Management
- Changing public policy
- Rethink, Retool, Evaluate, Rebuild
- Resilience
Benefits of the CDM Approach

- Empowering Sector Partners
- Hazard Risk Reduction
- A culture of Safety
- Transparency and Accountability
- Strengthening Disaster Preparedness for Better Response
- Strategic Partner Alliances
Evolution of the CDM Strategy

2001-2006
• Linked development decision–making and planning initiatives to a comprehensive disaster management approach. i.e., taking a sustainable development approach to disaster risk management.

2007-2012
• Emphasized disaster loss reduction through risk management.
• Designed to follow a more program based approach (PBA) with an emphasis on RBM.

2014-2024
• Results based Strategy and Programming Framework that emphasises the nexus of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction in building resilience in the Caribbean.
Regional Goal: Safer more resilient and sustainable Caribbean States

Institutional Strengthening
- DM Organizations (national and regional) Strengthened for Supporting and monitoring the advancement of DRM
- CDM Integrated into policy, strategy, legislation
- Development Partner Programming aligned
- Strengthened Coordination for preparedness, response and recovery
- Adequate resourcing of CDM Programming

Knowledge Management
- Regional Network for Risk Informed Decision Making
- Integrated System for fact based decision making at all levels
- Incorporation of Community and Sector Knowledge in Risk Assessments
- Education and Training materials, standardized, improved and applied

Sector Integration
- Strategic Disaster Risk Management Programming for Priority Sectors
- Hazard Information integrated into development planning and programming for priority sectors
- Incentive programs developed and applied for the promotion of risk reduction/CCA in infrastructure investment

Community Resilience
- Standards for safe communities developed and applied
- Community Based Disaster Management Capacity built/strengthened
- Community EWS integrated, improved and expanded
- Community Livelihoods safeguarded

Gender
- Climate Change
- Information Communication Technology
- Environmental Sustainability
LONG TERM GOAL

Integrating the concept of resilience

Safer more resilient and sustainable States

- Disaster Risk Reduction Linked to Sustainable Development
- Secure Livelihoods
- Vulnerability Addressed
- Lives saved property damage reduced
Priority Area #1

Strengthened institutional arrangements for CDM

Regional Outcomes

1.1 National Disaster Organizations and CDEMA CU strengthened for effective support of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CDM in Participating States

1.2 CDM is integrated into policies, strategies and legislation by Participating States

1.3 CDM is integrated into policies, strategies and legislation by Participating States

1.4 Strengthened coordination for preparedness, response and recovery at the national and regional levels

1.5 CDM Programming is adequately resourced

2.2 Integrated Systems for fact-based policy and decision making established

3.1 Strategic Disaster Risk Management programming for priority sectors improved

3.2 Hazard information integrated into development planning and work programming for priority sectors

4.2 Community-Based Disaster Management capacity built/strengthened for vulnerable groups
Priority Area #2

Increased and sustained knowledge management and learning for CDM

REGIONAL OUTCOMES

2.1 Regional Disaster Risk Management Network for informed decision-making at all levels improved

2.2 Integrated Systems for fact-based policy and decision making established

2.3 Incorporation of community and sectoral based knowledge into risk assessment improved

2.4 Educational and training materials for CDM standardized, improved and applied in the region

1.2 CDM is integrated into policies, strategies and legislation by Participating States

1.4 Strengthened coordination for preparedness, response and recovery at the national and regional levels

3.2 Hazard information integrated into development planning and work programming for priority sectors

3.1 Strategic Disaster Risk Management programming for priority sectors improved

4.2 Community-Based Disaster Management capacity built/strengthened for vulnerable groups

3.2 Hazard information integrated into development planning and work programming for priority sectors
Priority Area # 3

**Improved integration of CDM at sectoral levels**

**REGIONAL OUTCOMES**

3.1 Strategic Disaster Risk Management programming for priority sectors improved

3.2 Hazard information integrated into development planning and work programming for priority sectors

3.3 Incentive programmes developed and applied for the promotion of risk reduction/CCA in infrastructure investment in priority sectors

1.2 CDM is integrated into policies, strategies and legislation by Participating States
Priority Area # 4

Strengthened and sustained community resilience

REGIONAL OUTCOMES

4.1 Standards for safe communities developed, agreed and applied
4.2 Community-Based Disaster Management capacity built/strengthened for vulnerable groups
4.3 Community Early Warning Systems, integrated, improved and expanded
4.4 Community livelihoods safeguarded and strengthened through effective risk management

1.1 National Disaster Organizations and CDEMA CU strengthened for effective support of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CDM in Participating States
1.4 Strengthened coordination for preparedness, response and recovery at the national and regional levels

2.1 Regional Disaster Risk Management Network for informed decision-making at all levels improved
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2.4 Educational and training materials for CDM standardized, improved and applied in the region

3.1 Strategic Disaster Risk Management programming for priority sectors improved
Governance and Partnership

- Finance and Economics
- Physical and Environmental Planning
- Agriculture
- Education
- Tourism
- Civil Society
- Health
# The Regional System

### Prevention

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<th>Development Community</th>
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### Operations

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KEY CHALLENGES FOR REGIONAL DRM INSTITUTIONS
Challenges

• Uncertainty regarding the readiness of Regional DRM Institutions
  – Unwillingness to share space and partner
  – Lack of confidence

• Access to Sustainable Financing
  – Core as well as programme financing

• Uneven Political Support

• Competing interests and priorities

• Capacity of the National Institutions

• Status Quo – Existing International Organizations
THANK YOU
Should you have any queries, please contact:

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