

**Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk  
Reduction  
In Poverty Reduction Strategy  
Papers  
And National Development  
Instruments**



**Presented To The ISDR's Global  
Platform On DRR**

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# PROFILING THE CARIBBEAN



# Tropical Storm Emily

July 12, 2005

11 AM EDT Tuesday

NWS TPC/National Hurricane Center

Advisory 7

Current Center Location 11.0 N 51.3 W

Max Sustained Wind 50 mph

Current Movement W at 20 mph

● Current Center Location

● Forecast Center Positions

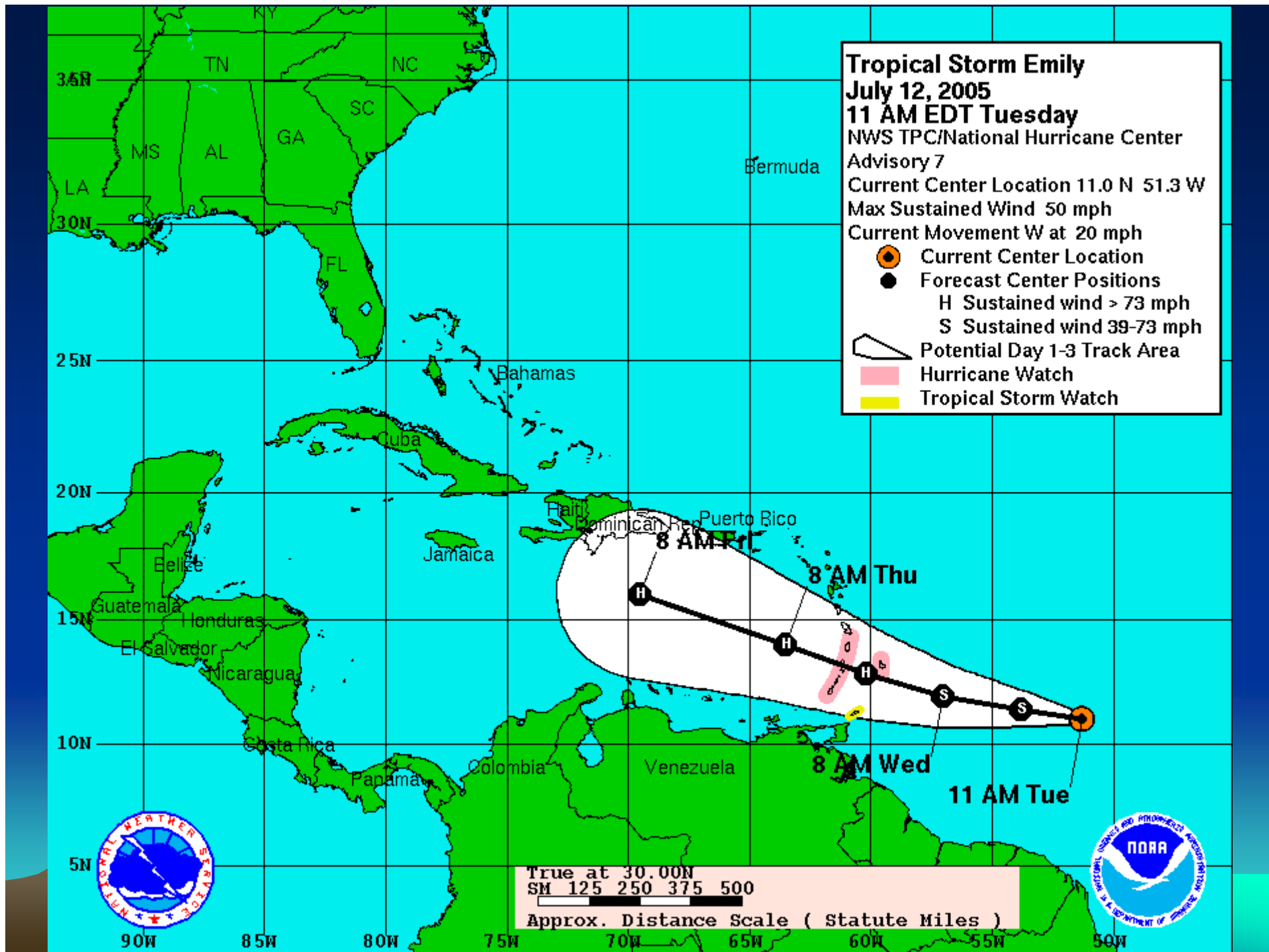
H Sustained wind > 73 mph

S Sustained wind 39-73 mph

▭ Potential Day 1-3 Track Area

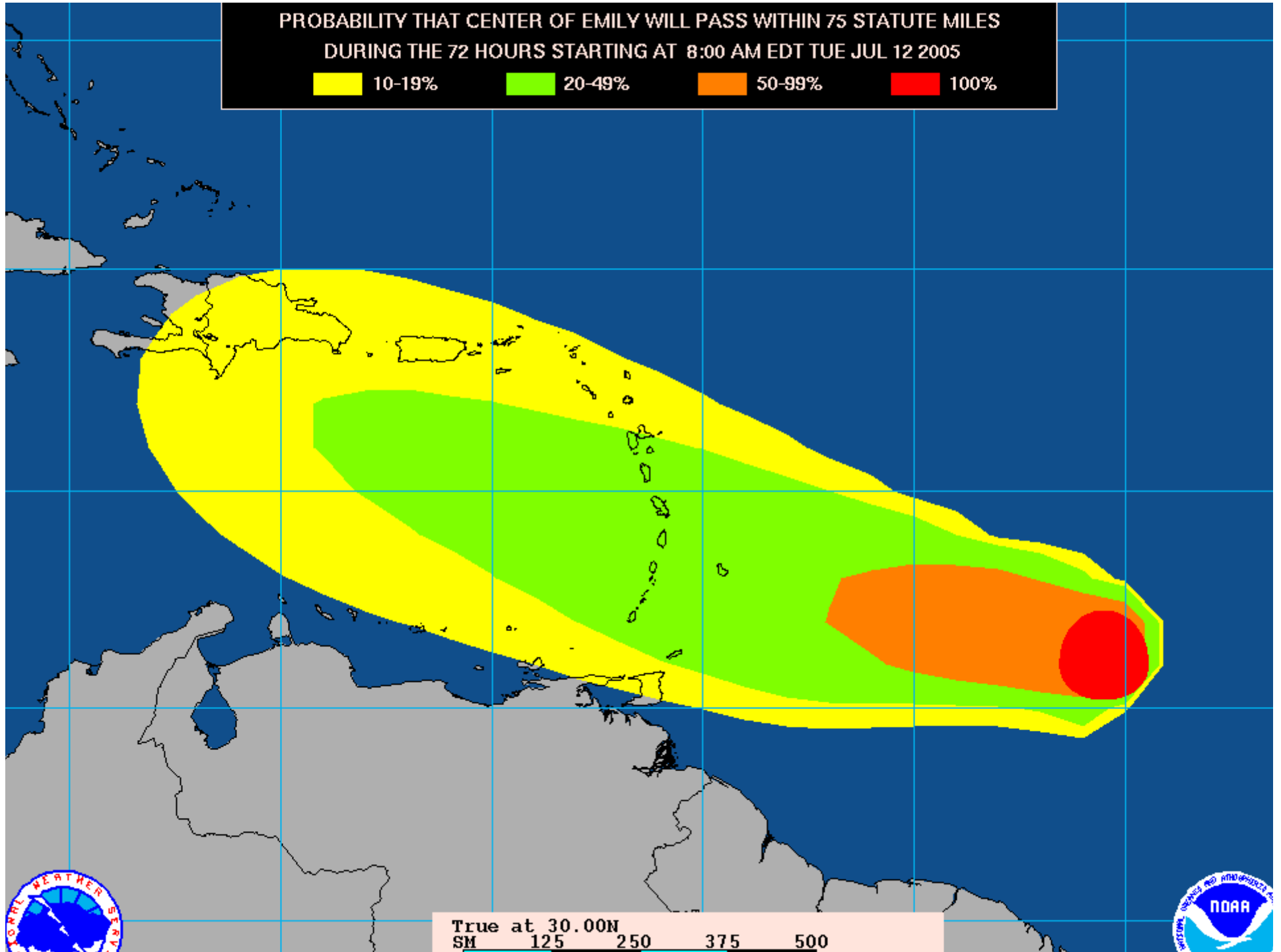
▭ Hurricane Watch

▭ Tropical Storm Watch



PROBABILITY THAT CENTER OF EMILY WILL PASS WITHIN 75 STATUTE MILES  
DURING THE 72 HOURS STARTING AT 8:00 AM EDT TUE JUL 12 2005

10-19%    20-49%    50-99%    100%



True at 30.00N  
SM 125 250 375 500



# Hazards of the Caribbean

- Hydro-meteorological
  - Storms, hurricanes
  - Floods
  - Landslides
- Seismic
  - Volcanic Eruptions
  - Earthquakes
  - Landslides



# Hazards of the Caribbean

- Biological
  - The Usual
  - Exotic Plant and Animal Diseases
- Technological
  - Oil and chemical spills
  - Explosions (accidental, human induced)
- Many more outside the 'box'



# Regional Networking

- CARICOM
  - Priorities
    - CSM&E
    - Disaster Management
      - Established CDERA
        - Regional Disaster Management Agency
        - 16 Participating States





# CDERA AND DRR

- CDM Initiated in 2001
  - Tied to International Ideals
    - Millennium Development Goals
    - ISDR Strategic Framework
- Enhanced CDM Strategy 2007 – 2012
  - Directly tied to Hyogo Framework
  - Created on a platform for enhanced performance management system



# Goal of the CDM Strategy

- To strengthen regional, and national community level capacity for mitigation, management and coordinated response to natural and technological hazards and the effects of climate change



# Main Outcomes of the CDM Strategy, Outcome 1

- 1) Enhanced institutional support for CDM implementation at the national and regional levels
  - 1.3 Governments of Participating States support CDM and have integrated CDM into national policies and strategies
  - 1.4 Donor programming integrates CDM into related environmental, climate change and disaster management programming in the region



# CDM Outcome 2

- An effective mechanism and programme for management of comprehensive disaster risk management knowledge has been established
  - 2.1 Establishment of a regional disaster risk reduction network to include a DRR centre
  - 2.5 A strategy and curriculum for building a culture of safety is established in the region



# CDM Outcome 4

- 4) Enhanced community resilience in CDERA States to mitigate and respond to the adverse effects of climate change and disasters
  - 4.3 Communities more aware and knowledgeable on disaster management and other related procedures including safer building techniques



# CDM Outcome 3

3) Disaster Risk Management has been mainstreamed at national levels and incorporated into key sectors of national economies (including tourism, health and agriculture)

- 3.1 CDM is recognized as the roadmap for building resilience and Decision Makers in the public and private sectors understand and take action on (mainstreaming) Disaster Risk Management



# The Caribbean Accepts CDM

- Speech by the Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines on June 1, 2007, to mark the start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season
  - ***“...we took our cue from the UN’s ISDR which established useful goals and activities to reduce disaster risks at all levels. We embrace fully also, CDERA’s CDM Strategy which we have used and will continue to use to guide and gauge our development and to reduce our risk...”***



# Proactive Hazard Risk Management Pillars and Mainstreaming in the Caribbean

- 1 Risk Assessment
  - SVG, like most CDERA Member States is fast tracking the process of risk assessment and mapping
  - Govt of SVG has established a National Land Management Unit (NALIM) with responsibility for national hazards mapping and for establishing a land use plan.
  - Legislative Framework created with amendments to the Central Planning Act and enactment of the SVG Emergency and Disaster Management Act, 2006





# St Lucia And Risk Assessment

- Disaster Management Act of 2006 presents a framework for Disaster Management Issues to be imbedded in EIA, areas of Special Vulnerability and Hazards Inspectors



# Proactive Hazard Risk Management Pillars and Mainstreaming in the Caribbean

## 2. Emergency Preparedness

### \* Most active area of DRR

- Government established coordination agency
- Investment in EOC and related equipment
- SOPs well established and publicised
- Early Warning System for prevalent hazards set up
- Community involvement high
- Regional and International Partners and Agreements in place



# Proactive Hazard Risk Management Pillars and Mainstreaming in the Caribbean

## 3. Risk Mitigation

- Many Physical Measures implemented by the Government
  - Sea and River Defences
  - Hazards Mitigation Council (Policy and Plan) established (In Place in St Lucia and other States)



# Risk Mitigation Cont

- Developers now required to consult with National Agencies such NEMO and the Hazard Mitigation Council
  - National Airport
  - Petro-Caribe Fuel Facilities
  - National Electricity New Power Plan
- Building Codes Legislated
  - Regulatory Framework being put in place
  - Construction Sector NOT YET meaningfully engaged



# Proactive Hazard Risk Management Pillars and Mainstreaming in the Caribbean

## 4. Institutional Capacity Building

- World Bank Loan 2002 – 2005 allowed the execution of the SVG Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Project which provided several platforms for institutional capacity building
  - Establishment of Response and Mitigation Policies and plans
  - Creation of NEMO
  - Incorporation of Public and Private Sector Agencies in Disaster Mitigation and Response



# Proactive Hazard Risk Management Pillars and Mainstreaming in the Caribbean

## 5. Risk Transfer

- Less than 20% of private houses are insured
- Even less % of Government facilities are insured
- Insurance Premiums are high, getting higher and prohibitive to many
- In 2007, Government of SVG sign unto the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility



# Caribbean Cat. Risk Insurance Facility

- 15 Countries involved
- \$17M Premium
- \$47M from Donors
- Total fund to date of \$444 USD
- Pay out based on parametrics (of hazards)
  - Earthquakes of high magnitudes
  - Severe Hurricanes



# Challenges of the Caribbean Cat. Risk Insurance

- 1) Available only for catastrophes triggered by high magnitude events
  - Many countries can suffer great losses and disasters of enormous proportion and yet not qualify for assistance
- 2) May lull Governments into a false sense of security resulting in less than necessary emphasis on DRR initiatives





# Mainstreaming DRR in Poverty Reduction Strategy

- Social Investment Fund (EU)
  - Targets vulnerable communities for interventions aimed at employment creation, economic development and social development
  - Disaster Risk Reduction projects such as home retrofitting are strongly encouraged



# Challenges to Mainstreaming DRR into National Development Instruments

- One adverse impact may result in rushed and unsound reconstruction practices
- Changing the cultural mind-set of key players may not be easy
- Too many initiatives unsustainable: project based rather than programme base



# Challenges to Mainstreaming DRR in National Development Instruments

- Need to bring greater focus on the several initiatives
  - Too many focal points for several international interventions with too little information sharing and insight on what others are doing.
  - There is need for capacity building at the national level to plot, manage and monitor our progress in DRR
  - case in point, MACC Project ideal with no real implementation plan



# Opportunities for Mainstreaming DRR into National Instruments

- Better use of the analysis of our own and other countries' catastrophes
- More meaningful involvement of the International Financing Institutions for the revamping of post-disaster borrowing to ensure that risk vulnerabilities are not created during construction
- Meaningful engagement of the construction sector in our dialogues and plans for DRR. They should be at this table too.



# Opportunities for Mainstreaming DRR into National Instruments

- Government can be persuaded to offer tax incentives to artisans, engineers and infrastructure developers for mitigation investments
- Development Instruments are devised by Policy Makers. The mechanisms to reach and convince them must be properly thought out and instituted
- Our education system must evolve to support and ensure structured programmes for DRR at various levels



THANK YOU

