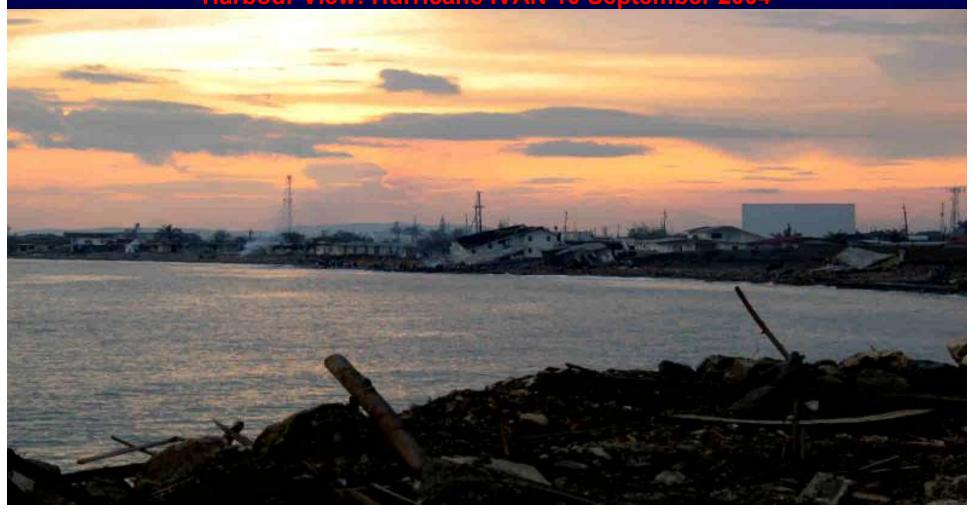
Remarks on EIA-NHIA integration

A CARIBBEAN PERSPECTIVE
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Harbour View: Hurricane IVAN 10 September 2004



Jamaica

- 1980 Initiated systematic comprehensive integrated science based Disaster Mitigation and Emergency Management.
- Reactive to its history, exposure, 'fashion'
 - 79 Floods + EC DR Impacts of David
 - Recent Managua/Guatemala Quakes
- Mitigation effort built initially around Physical Planning / Development Control mechanisms
- Close linkages with emerging National & Regional ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA

High Risk Identification (Scan)

- Areas prone to Landsliding, Ground Deformation, Liquefaction, Riverine Flooding, Coastal Inundation (Storm and Tsunami) identified based on Historic accounts and limited technical assessments
- 'Gaps' Identified & Regulatory powers applied to developers based on the scan expand knowledge base for public safety
- More systematic technical appraisals designed
 - Geotechnical and Flood Plain Mapping

- Detailed discussion of consideration of risk in development planning and project preparation, were addressed over 2 decades ago
- "Incorporating Natural Hazard Assessment and Mitigation into Project Preparation – Report to CIDIE members by the OAS," OAS 1987, and
- Primer on Natural Hazard Management in Integrated Regional Development Planning,
 - Chapter 1 Incorporating Natural Hazard Management into the Development Planning Process and
 - Chapter 2 Natural Hazard Risk Reduction in Project Formulation and Evaluation. OAS 1990

EIAs as Regulatory Tool

- ElAs began to be <u>requested</u> in 1970s under Physical Planning, Mineral and Coastal Management Agencies
- New Environmental (1991) & Disaster Legislation (1993) + FORMAL EIA System based on specific legislation (1996)
- EIA Process req appraisal of Risk/Impacts both TO & FROM the Environment
- LIMITED Success related to National RISK Management

Risk related LIMITATIONS

- Process covers ONLY NEW developments
- LIMITED to categories in Env Act / Regulations
- State Investments / Informal Settlements difficult to capture
- Knowledge of biological / physical processes + Extreme Events + research capacity
- Inadequate capacity/economic tools for resource valuation /risk quantification in monetary terms
- EIAs focus on "Physical Projects" not Policies / Programmes with subtle impacts or long term VULNERABILITY or CUMULATIVE effects
- RESPONSE (+10 yrs) USE Strategic Env Assessments

Current Status

- Currently 30 Year Plan, Updating of Climate Change Communication document is underway
- Principle of using EIAs to assess exposure of new investments accepted
- Review of the EIA process now underway
- HYOGO Framework seen as significant part of solution
- 30 Year National Development Planning Process Team looking actively at HYOGO
- Jamaica actively engaged in DRR MAINSTREAMING initiatives linked to regional partners, other SIDS and facilitated by regional bodies such as CDERA / CDB / ACS
- Need for functional, effective, innovative National Platforms is clear
- EIAs / SEAs do not replace the need for National and Local Risk I Identification Processes (RIPS)

CDBs NHIA - EIA

The Caribbean Development Bank in collaboration with other regional partners has also sought to exploit the EIA process to address Risk related issues

Incorporation of Natural Hazards into the Project Cycle: through the (Banks) EIA Process

- Environmental Impact Assessment assesses
 - impact of the project on the environment (stronger focus traditionally)
 - impact of the environment on the project

Current structure of EIA does not

- explicitly include natural hazards
- address natural hazard vulnerability and risk

Natural Hazard Impact Assessment assesses

- impact of the project on the environment (existing/potential natural hazards) and
- impact of the environment (its hazards) on the project (vulnerability of the project to natural hazards)

Corporate Priority

Promote vulnerability reduction to natural disasters through support for development and adoption of hazard mitigation policies, standards and practices

Expected Outcome 1

Integrate NH risk reduction into CDB's projects and procedures

Expected Outcome 2

Improve national capacity to mainstream NH risk management into the development process

NH-EIA Guide and Sourcebook: Structure

- Guide: Guide to the Integration of Natural Hazards into the EIA Process. A CDB-specific document, in the form of an 'annotated' version of CDB's Environmental Review Guidelines.
 - Target Users; primarily CDB staff
- Sourcebook: Sourcebook on the Integration of Natural Hazards into the EIA Process. A systematic compilation of guidance information for undertaking natural hazard components of EIA. Annexes include checklists, references, examples for each step in the NHIA-EIA process.
 - Target users include EIA Administrators and EIA Practitioners
 - Responsibilities of EIA Administrator and EIA Practitioner are clearly identified for each step in the process

Conclusion

- ElAs and SEAs are vital tools essential to a well run modern state
- Essential for Project / Programme / Policy evaluation and analysis
- They complement but do not replace other RIPs (Risk Id Processes)
- All the above require significant Capacity creation, development and maintainance!
- There is a LOT TO BE DONE by 2015?