



PARTNERSHIPS FOR RESILIENCE HIGHLIGHTED AT CDM10 LAUNCH



L-R: Mr. Jack Thompson, Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, Govt. of The Bahamas; Ambassador Joshua Sears, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister, Govt. of The Bahamas; Ms Maria Corbin, Executive Assistant, CDEMA; Ms Tanya Woodside, Area Coordinator and Membership Chair, Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas; Hon. Peter Turnquest, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Govt. of The Bahamas; Mr Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA and Captain Stephen Russell, Director, NEMA, The Bahamas.

The importance of partnerships in building a more resilient region against the impact of disasters was the highlight at the official launch ceremony of the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM10). The launch was held on June 30th 2017 at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort in Nassau, The Bahamas.

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA – The Bahamas), will host the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management under the theme “**CDM: The Road to Resilience. Check Point 2017 – Building Resilience through Partnerships**” at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort in Nassau, The Bahamas December 4 – 9, 2017.

The 2017 Conference will report on the progress of implementation of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy 2014-2024 and to build on the Strategy’s overall goal of realizing safer, more resilient and sustainable CDEMA Participating States through Comprehensive Disaster Management. Utilizing the ‘checkpoint’ approach to monitoring the progress of the 2014-2024 CDM Strategy, participants will be presented with the Caribbean Assessment Report (CAR), which will provide decision-makers with information related to progress, gaps and lessons learnt towards the achievement of CDM.

“The road to resilience will require investment...as we face more frequent violent storms we must also

include substantial financing for disaster resilience”, said the Honorable Peter Turnquest, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, The Commonwealth of The Bahamas during his delivery of the keynote address at the launch ceremony. The Hon. Deputy Prime Minister Turnquest also emphasised that despite our vulnerability to disasters and the fact that we cannot prevent them, the importance of being prepared and building resilient infrastructure cannot be overstated.

In his opening remarks, Captain Stephen Russell, Director of NEMA reiterated the value of partnerships in disaster management. “We, in the government system, cannot do it alone, therefore, we must partner with our local and regional partners to help us with our efforts. CDEMA has been of tremendous support to the Bahamas’ disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programs over the years”, said Captain Russell.

The Conference will also create a space for reflection on the impact of the CDEMA System in advancing disaster resilience over the past 25 years.

CDEMA’s Executive Director, Mr. Ronald H. Jackson, acknowledged partners’ commitment and continued support, including the private sector, government agencies, development partners and regional institutions, into the realization of national resilience and the wider CDM

Strategy. “As partners in this venture, we continue to invest time and resources in this event because we believe the knowledge, ideas and results shared not only serve to advance our collective efforts to provide a safe and harmonious environment for our citizens but also a mechanism for us to keep our resilience agenda on track.”

CDM10’s programme will be structured around the four priority areas of the CDM Strategy and within the context of the conference theme. These include: building and reflecting resilience through institutional partnerships; building resilience knowledge; building resilience through ongoing professional development; partnering with communities and youth for resilience and building sector partnerships for resilience.

Positioning the Caribbean's Interest in a Changing Humanitarian Landscape



By Ronald H. Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA

The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) held in Istanbul Turkey in May 2016 was an initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General, which aimed at bringing the global community together to commit to saving lives and

reducing hardship around the globe. This event was the first global summit on humanitarian action and can be considered a very important component of the driven agendas by the United Nations, which impacts citizen's rights to a fair, secure, just and sustainable society. The WHS was, therefore, designed to address poverty by creating a secure living space through reduction of disaster risk and the protection against climate change. More specifically, the intent was to create a New Humanitarian Architecture.

Leading up to the event, CDEMA advocated for CARICOM Member countries to give input into the framing of the new architecture. Subsequently, consultations were convened in Jamaica, Barbados, Antigua Barbuda and Trinidad yielding the following key recommendations:

- Strengthen the National Emergency Management Offices as the National Focal Points for coordination of humanitarian response actions at country level. Foster greater coordination between Local Government Authorities, Non Government and Civil Society Actors.
- Build relationships with key private sector partners to find innovative ways that they can support humanitarian causes.
- Persons with disability and other challenges need to be considered more for risk reduction and capacity building.
- Recognize, enable and strengthen Sub-Regional Institutions in Regional and International Scale Responses.
- Increase investment into technologies to predict outcomes (early warning systems for multiple hazards including tsunamis, earthquakes etc.) as a means of strengthening humanitarian response.
- Strengthened existing disaster legislation to include coverage for humanitarian actions where required.
- A financial system for DRM assistance needs to be put in place to improve national capacity's preparation and response to the humanitarian needs of persons affected by crisis.
- Integrate humanitarian and development financing and programming.

These recommendations have promoted a greater connection between humanitarian actions and development.

Implications for the Caribbean

The Agenda for Humanity is now being advanced globally however, the central principles of the Agenda will most likely shift focus towards parts of the world where the risks for crisis incidents are more apparent. Tools such as the INFORM (used by the European Union and their European Commission Humanitarian Organization) presents Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in a disadvantaged position for consideration of humanitarian financing. A deeper drill down into the five core responsibilities of the Agenda and the associated "Grand Bargain" has raised the following key issues for consideration by the Caribbean Community:

1. How best to situate the Caribbean within a new humanitarian architecture where greater focus on issues related to armed conflict, terrorism and internal displacement and increased migratory flows exist? A scenario that could potentially further reduce aid flows both for development and humanitarian assistance from areas that do not generate similar numbers of affected population such as Asia and Africa.
2. Whether humanitarian actors within the Caribbean are ready for the changed operational environment for humanitarian assistance? The Grand Bargain may usher in some opportunities and some challenges. Is the Caribbean in a position to maximize those opportunities or mitigate the challenges? Caribbean regional organizations have made considerable progress in establishing DRM policy frameworks and institutional structures over the last 15 to 20 years. Still, these organizations could do even more to support Member States in developing DRM capabilities.
3. 'Financing for Development' 2015 conference in Addis Ababa and the various Climate Financing mechanisms should be counted on to provide resourcing of the regional and national humanitarian actions of SIDS. Not many climate change resources are being channelled into financing operations readiness for response as a climate change adaptation solution for SIDS. In fact, the climate change implications for these SIDS will likely result in more humanitarian demands due to increase severity of climate driven disasters.

To better manage the operating environment at the national level, CARICOM Small Island Developing and Coastal States must harmonize all the development related agendas under the UN umbrella. The new Agenda and all other recently established global agendas in 2015 will require better efficiency in financing and implementation. To ensure inclusivity is realized within the Agenda for Humanity, the Caribbean leaders will need to utilize the tools of diplomacy and the negotiating space within the Global forum to ensure equity in addressing the challenges presented by all forms of crisis (including those driven by natural hazards), whilst the region works to enhance its capacity to cope with the present and future risks.

CDEMA hosts 12th Meeting of the Education Sector Sub-Committee



Members of the Education Sector Sub-Committee L-R: Unai Sacona, Education Manager UNICEF Barbados and OECS; Reynette Royer, Head of CADRIM, IFRC; Gayle Drakes, Education and Training Specialist, CDEMA; Dr. Barbara Carby, Chair of ESSC & Director of DRRC UWI; Dr. Paulette Bynoe, Vice Chair of ESSC & Head of Faculty, SEES, University of Guyana; Lawrence Neufville, Head of Faculty, Built Environment, UTECH and Latoya Burnham, Communications Specialist, CROSQ.

The 12th meeting of the Education Sector Sub-Committee, of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Harmonisation and Coordination Council (CDM CHC) was held on 31 May 2017 at the CDEMA Coordinating Unit. The meeting, supported by UNICEF, was chaired by the Head of the Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRCC) of the University of the West Indies (UWI). In attendance were representatives from other regional partners including the University of Guyana, University of Technology (UTECH), Jamaica, CARICOM Secretariat, Caribbean Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC).

The meeting provided a space for regional partners to leverage synergies by collaborating resources and experiences gained in the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) field. Updates were shared on initiatives that are being undertaken to advance DRM in the education sector and towards achieving the Regional Outcomes of the CDM Strategy 2014-2024. In keeping with the mandate of the CDM CHC, the members also explored opportunities for harmonising their DRM related work. Discussions focused on methods of creating safe learning spaces for children and young people in the context of disaster risk.

Developing a Regional Competency Framework for DRM

In an effort to enhance the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) profession, a workshop focused on developing a regional competency framework for DRM was held on 19-20 June 2017 in Barbados. The workshop, which was generously supported by the Government of New Zealand and led by the CDEMA CU, examined critical issues, opportunities and challenges around developing competency standards for DRM in the region. The two days workshop was facilitated by consultants Dr. Jane Rovins and Dr. Steven Jensen. Participants included regional stakeholders in education, industry, public service, tourism and emergency management.



The existence of institutions and systems to support the development of a competency framework for DRM in the Caribbean, such as the CARICOM Human Resource Development Strategy and the CARICOM Vocational Qualifications mechanism, were acknowledged as providing a suitable structure for the development of DRM competencies responsive to the needs of the regional workforce.

Through the staging of this workshop, the CDEMA CU continues to fulfill its mandate to promote standards for DRM in the region and to support building and maintaining requisite capabilities for implementing CDM at the national and regional levels.

8th Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)



Back Row L-R: Captain S. Russell, NEMA, Bahamas; Mr. F. Pascal, ODM, Dominica; Major C. Davis, ODPEM, Jamaica; Major K. Craig, CDC, Guyana; Mr. C. Herbert, NEMA, St. Kitts & Nevis; Colonel J. Slinjgard, NCCR, Suriname; Dr. R. Robertson, UWI-SRC; Front Row L-R: Ms. S. Dickenson, NaDMA, Grenada; Mr. P. Mullin, NODS, Antigua & Barbuda; Ms. K. Hinds, DEM, Barbados; Mr. R. Jackson, CDEMA; Senator the Hon. W. Garraway, Parliamentary Secretary, Govt. of Grenada & Chair of the TAC; Ms. E. Riley, CDEMA; Dr. E. Inniss-Springer, DDM, Virgin Islands; Ms. M. Forbes, NEMO, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Colonel (Ret'd) D. Williams, ODPM, Trinidad & Tobago.

The 8th meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of CDEMA was held between June 12th - 16th, 2017 in Barbados. The TAC was presented with reports and updates highlighting major results, achievements and challenges of the work advanced by the CDEMA Coordinating Unit over the 2016-2017 period. The TAC also shared advancements in the implementation of the Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy as well as matters relating to disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, resilience approaches and preparedness & response capabilities at the national and regional levels.

Key among the discussions was the development of the Caribbean Assessment Report (CAR), which will be produced to articulate the region's progress towards the achievement of CDM results and presented at the 10th CDM Conference in December 2017. The status of readiness of Participating States (PSs) was also discussed, noting that the results from a National Readiness Checklist identified gaps and presented recommendations to address them. The checklist audited seven (7) of the eighteen (18) PSs and revealed that only 2 of the 7 were within the realm of the highest tier of readiness, while one (1) was moderate and four (4) were low. PSs were, therefore, encouraged to utilize the readiness checklist results and implement the emerging recommendations to improve their overall state of readiness.

The review of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) was also discussed and endorsed by the TAC. It was agreed that a comprehensive review of the RRM is necessary and worthwhile at this juncture, to identify the key issues which

need to be addressed to strengthen the mechanism. The review will encompass a strategic, operational and tactical focus.

The TAC also received technical exchanges from Regional Institutions including the University of the West Indies Seismic Research Centre (UWI-SRC), University of the West Indies Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRRC) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH).

The UWI-SRC noted that the most likely source for a tsunami is from one of the areas which generate large earthquakes such as the Trough North of Puerto Rico. UWI-SRC also noted that the Grenada's Kick Em' Jenny underwater volcano is capable of generating a tsunami of around 1 metre.

The DRRC acknowledged the need for a comprehensive resource mobilization effort to address the area of risk assessment and recognized the potential of the CaribViz software application for modelling potential loss from earthquakes.

The CIMH highlighted the range of interventions by CIMH in support of the work of disaster managers including training and modelling and reiterated the importance of Early Warning Systems (EWS) investment within the context of the Strategic Direction of the Early Warning Systems Consortium. The TAC recognised the CIMH for the improved modelling products being developed for 2017.

The TAC also acknowledged and applauded the outstanding work of Mr. Philmore Mullin, Director, National Office of Disaster Services, Antigua and Barbuda as this was his final TAC meeting before proceeding on retirement. Mr. Mullin served in the disaster management field for over 20 years.

Disciplined Forces trained for CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit—CDRU

Thirty-one (31) participants from the disciplined forces, including police, military and fire services took part in the annual CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) training, held at the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Coordinating Unit and the Headquarters of the Regional Security System (RSS) in Barbados from May 29 – June 2, 2017.

The CDRU is a specialised humanitarian response team equipped to provide assistance to any of the eighteen CDEMA Participating States, affected by natural or technological hazard.

Members of the disciplined forces have been tasked to be bold, courageous and innovative in harnessing the capabilities required to respond. This challenge was issued by CDEMA's Executive Director, Mr Ronald Jackson in his address at opening ceremony.

Mr. Jackson highlighted the importance of the CDRU in light of the increased exposure and vulnerability of the region to hydro meteorological events and potential seismic risks. He also said that there remains a challenge to the Caribbean Community in tackling the humanitarian needs after disaster events, which further underscores the need for a coordinated unit to facilitate response and relief efforts.

The CDRU is one of the specialised teams trained by CDEMA each year as part of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM). The RRM, which is coordinated by CDEMA, is based on the collaboration and cooperation of key regional and international organisations supported by a collection of Agreements and Protocols.

The CDRU comprises military, fire and police personnel drawn from the 18 CDEMA Participating States. The Unit is deployed to provide humanitarian assistance in direct support to the civil authorities of any State affected by natural or technological hazards. The CDRU's mission is to conduct disaster response and relief operations and its main tasks include the management of relief supplies, emergency telecommunications and the provision of appropriate personnel for repairing critical lifeline facilities.

In recent times, the CDRU has been deployed to Haiti in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016 and the devastating 2010 earthquake; Dominica in response to Tropical Storm Ericka in 2015.

The CDRU is activated, mobilised and deployed by the Regional Security System's Central Liaison Office (RSS/CLO) in consultation with and on behalf of CDEMA. Its operations are guided by the CDRU Operational Plan, Standing Operating Procedures and a Memorandum of Understanding between CDEMA and the RSS. The training was funded by the United States Government through the US Southern Command and through resources provided to the CDEMA CU under the African Caribbean Pacific-European Union Natural Disaster Risk Management in CARIFORUM Countries Programme (ACP-EU-CDEMA NDRM).



Integrating Gender Equality in DRM in the Agriculture Sector

In an effort to improve the agriculture sector resilience to disasters in the Caribbean, 25 representatives from 12 countries across the region participated in a regional training workshop for integrating gender equality in disaster risk management programming for the agriculture sector. The workshop was co-facilitated by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and was held on 17-19 May 2017 in Georgetown, Guyana.

Whilst Caribbean countries have made many efforts in disaster risk prevention and mitigation, integrating and mainstreaming disaster risk management in sector operations require the involvement of all people and sectors for greater resiliency at both national and regional levels. Special attention should be given to address the needs and priorities of both men and women, to ensure equal access to resources and opportunities for building their resilience and adaptive capacity.

The overall objective of the regional workshop was to strengthen the capacity of national practitioners in gender responsive disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. Participants included stakeholders from Disaster Risk Management, Agriculture, Academia and Gender Bureau from selected CARICOM States.

Dhanrajie Madray, Assistant Representative Administration, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Guyana Office noted, "In line with the Agenda 2030 and the sustainable development goals, FAO is fully committed to leave no one behind in the support provided to countries for building their resilience and adaptive capacity. This involves also strengthening women's knowledge and capacities to meaningfully involve them in planning and decision-making."



A section of the participants attending the regional training workshop for integrating gender equality in disaster risk management programming in the Caribbean – Courtesy GINA, Guyana

Given the region's vulnerability to climate induced hazards including hydro-meteorological and technological, experiences from the impacts of disasters on Caribbean countries have resulted in major losses in GDP, which are reflected in both the economic and social dimensions undermining food security and livelihoods of citizens.

CDEMA's Deputy Executive Director, Elizabeth Riley also noted, "The mainstreaming of disaster risk management at the sectoral level is one of the priority outcome areas of the regional Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy 2014-2024. In 2007, we deepened our engagement with targeted sector partners including agriculture. We agreed on a medium to long term vision of sector led mainstreaming of disaster risk management with CDEMA playing a facilitating or supporting role. The vision embodied the 'all people' of CDM, where partners could and would be empowered to lead the charge in resilient sector development."

CDEMA & UNICEF Cement Partnership

CDEMA and UNICEF Eastern Caribbean cemented their partnership recently by signing an MOU to pre-position emergency supplies for the Eastern Sub-Region. This initiative follows the Caribbean Safe School Ministerial Forum, which was held in April of this year in Antigua and Barbuda.

Khin-Sandi Lwin, UNICEF's Representative in the Eastern Caribbean Area noted that further work was being done to enhance the initiative. "In April, we partnered together to get the ten Ministers of Education

from the region to declare the Antigua and Barbuda School Safety in the Caribbean initiative. So that's a major political initiative and we are ready to move into getting the education system to take the next step," Lwin commented.

The CDEMA Coordinating Unit has a long history of supporting the integration of disaster risk management into the education sector, through the development of technical resources to support policy, school readiness and resources to support the infusion of disaster risk management concepts into the curriculum.



Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of CDEMA and Mrs. Khin-Sandi Lwin, UNICEF's Representative in the Eastern Caribbean Area during the signing of the MOU at the CDEMA CU headquarters in Barbados.

CDEMA & IAEA Sign Practical Arrangement

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and CDEMA have formalized their cooperation to enhance and strengthen technical support provided to IAEA Member States in the Caribbean in emergency preparedness and response. A Practical Arrangement outlining the terms of the collaboration was signed by Mr. Luis Longoria, Director of the Technical Cooperation Division for Latin America and the Caribbean (TCLAC), and Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of CDEMA. The Arrangement will remain valid for a period of three years.

CDEMA plays a key role in building and strengthening disaster resilience in the Caribbean region, and has a specific focus on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM). Mr. Jackson outlined CDEMA's motivation for framing a partnership with the IAEA, noting the importance of advancing a Caribbean programme that will focus on radiation response readiness. With the IAEA contributing expertise in emergency preparedness and response for nuclear and radiological safety or security related incidents, collaboration between



The CDEMA delegation and the IAEA counterparts discussing their future cooperation. (Photo: S. Manna-Andre/IAEA)

both Agencies will be of great benefit for the IAEA Member States in the Caribbean. The Practical Arrangement will allow for collaboration in capacity building, exchange of lessons learned, and in raising national and regional awareness regarding preparedness and response for nuclear or radiological emergencies.

First Responders in Barbados train in Urban Search and Rescue

Twenty-four participants — including staff from the Barbados Fire Service, Barbados Defence Force, The Barbados Ambulance and Rescue Services and visitor attraction Harrison's Cave — participated in a week-long training to improve their search-and-rescue capabilities. The Urban Search and Rescue Light Level (USARLL) training was held at the Barbados Defense Force's Paragon Base from May 8–13, 2017 and exposed participants to topics such as correct procedures for search and rescue of patients found on the surface of collapsed structures; the use of appropriate tools, equipment, and accessories for search and rescue; and methods for patient classification, assessment, care, stabilization and extraction.

The training, which was facilitated by the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and conducted by the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) was also done in preparation for Exercise Tradewinds 2017.

Since 2007, USAID/OFDA has conducted USARLL training for all Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Participating States under its Regional Disaster Assistance Program. To date, 160 people across the region have been trained as technicians and 46 are certified as course instructors. In Barbados, 36 people have been trained as Rescue Technicians and 12 are now certified as instructors.

The training was financed through CDEMA's Country Directed Fund (CDF) from resources provided to the CDEMA CU under the African Caribbean Pacific-European Union Natural Disaster Risk Management in CARIFORUM Countries Programme (ACP-EU-CDEMA NDRM).



Top and Below: Participants exercising search and rescue techniques during the USARLL training at the BDF's Paragon Base in Barbados.



Launch of the Jeremy Collymore Research Award

Following the endorsement by the CDEMA Council of Ministers in June 2015, CDEMA developed a Research Award to encourage and increase more in-depth study in disaster management, with the aim of strengthening disaster resilience for sustainable development in the Caribbean.

The award, aptly named the **Jeremy Collymore Award for Research in Humanitarian Response and Disaster Risk Management**, is envisaged as a research grant and seeks to support innovative and insightful research for improved emergency response and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in the CDEMA Participating States.

Mr. Jeremy Collymore was the first Coordinator of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) established in 1991 as the lead CARICOM regional agency for disaster emergency response coordination. One of his major “pioneering” achievements included championing and leading the paradigm shift of regional disaster management thinking from a response tradition to a Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) approach. This award is therefore a fitting honour and tribute to Mr. Jeremy Collymore in recognition of his outstanding and sterling contribution to the CDEMA system and disaster



Mr. Jeremy Collymore—Honorary Research Fellow at the Institute for Sustainable Development, UWI.

management in the Caribbean region and beyond.

The inaugural Award will be presented at the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management to be held in Nassau, The Bahamas on December 4 – 9, 2017.

This Award opens opportunities to academics, scientists, practitioners and students (at the graduate level) engaged in research pertaining to humanitarian response and disaster risk management. The Award aims to contribute to enriching the existing body of knowledge, capacity building and best practices in disaster management in the Caribbean region. First consideration will be given to citizens or residents of the 18 CDEMA Participating States.

Furthermore, the Jeremy Collymore Award will be given in support of research that has the potential to significantly impact humanitarian and/or Disaster Risk

Reduction actions to the benefit of the disaster management practice and the people of the Caribbean.

Interested individuals are invited to visit the CDM10 website www.cdema.org/cdm10 for more information on how to apply for the Award.

Nominations Opened for CDEMA Council's Award—2017

The CDEMA Council's Award is the highest award of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). The award is presented in recognition and honour of significant long-term efforts and contributions, which have clearly influenced the advancement of Comprehensive Disaster Management in the CDEMA's Participating States.

Eligible Recipients

Any individual, Agency, Institution or Association (including NGOs, CBOs, Private Sector entities) involved in disaster management in one or more of the CDEMA Participating States.

Criteria for Award

This highest and prestigious award recognises and honours an individual, organisation or other entity that invests time and resources to make positive changes by:

- Supporting or being responsible for the development of programmes aligned to the priority areas of the CDM Strategy which fundamentally change the delivery of disaster management for the better;
- Motivating people or organisations to become actively involved in comprehensive disaster management;

- Working for long-term changes, which have positive national and/or regional implications with regard to strengthening disaster resilience

Award of Presentation

The successful recipient will be awarded with a plaque to be presented at the Gala Closing, Dinner and Awards Ceremony of the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management on Friday, December 8, 2017 at the Melia Resort, Nassau Bahamas. Please visit the CDM10 website www.cdema.org/cdm10 for more information.

Don't Miss the 5k Charity Walk/Run Event at CDM10...



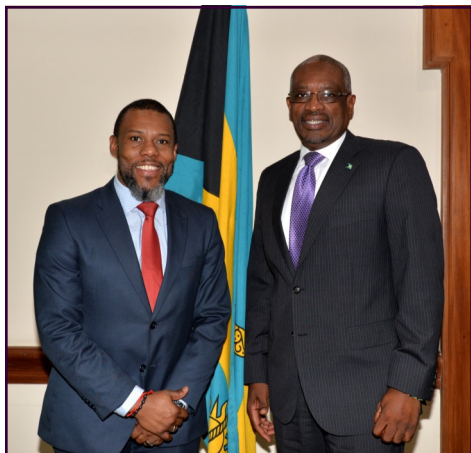
A handshake demonstrating the partnership to host the charity 5k walk/run event between Mr Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA and Ms Tanya Woodside, Area Coordinator and Membership Chair, Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas. While Captain Stephen Russell, Director, NEMA, The Bahamas (left); and Ms. Maria Corbin, Executive Assistant, CDEMA look on.

As a fitting mark of partnerships for building resilience, which will be held during the 2017 CDM10 Conference and CDEMA and NEMA will also partner with the Rotary Clubs will benefit a community in The Bahamas that was impacted of The Bahamas in support of a charity 5k walk/run event, by recent Hurricanes. Visit www.cdema.org/cdm10 for more.

Scenes from CDM10 Launch at the Melia



Courtesy call with the Prime Minister of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas



Prime Minister of The Bahamas, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis and CDEMA's Executive Director, Mr. Ronald Jackson



Courtesy call with Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis, Prime Minister of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas. L-R: Captain Stephen Russell, Director, NEMA, The Bahamas and Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA on June 30, 2017.

TCI Governor meets with CDEMA Executive Director



The Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) continue to strengthen their Disaster Risk Management System through the implementation of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy 2014-2024.

Turks and Caicos Islands Governor, Dr. John Freeman, meets with (L-R), Dr. Virginia Clerveaux, Director of the Department of Disaster Management and Emergency (DDME) and Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA, on matters relating to advancing the Comprehensive Disaster Management agenda on June 29, 2017.



During his visit to the TCI, CDEMA's Executive Director also met with The Honourable Vaden Delroy Williams, Minister of Home Affairs, Transportation and Communications with responsibility for Disaster Risk Management (3rd from right) and his team including Deputy Permanent Secretary Mrs Bridgette Newman, Deputy Permanent Secretary Mr. Russell Cox, Mr Ronald Jackson, Hon. Vaden Delroy Williams, Permanent Secretary Mrs. Clara Gardiner and Dr Virginia Clerveaux, Director, DDME.

CDEMA Participates in Early Warning Systems across Timescales Meeting

Representatives of Caribbean States regional technical institutions participated in the Early Warning Systems Across Climate Timescales (EWISACTS) close-out meeting, which was held on 1st June, 2017 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The EWISACTS meeting was facilitated by the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) in collaboration with other partners.

In delivering remarks at the opening, CDEMA's Deputy Executive Director, Ms Elizabeth Riley, emphasised the importance of mainstreaming the results of the EWISACTS project into long-term programming for regional partner institutions.

"Sustainability of the EWISACTS process is necessary at the regional level. I am happy to indicate that at CDEMA, the EWISACTS agenda has been integrated into our 2017-2020 corporate plan", said Ms. Riley.

The importance and value of the EWISACTS has also been demonstrated in the functional cooperation established among regional partner institutions. EWISACTS recognizes the need for inter-sectoral conversations around the integration of climate services into specific sectors. "EWISACTS is about security of the livelihoods and the safety of our people. CDEMA as EWISACTS partner in Disaster Risk Management has seen the benefits of this partnership which is critical and highly valued", added Ms Riley.

CDEMA's scenario and response planning has benefited from the application of CIMH's modeling products developed under the umbrella of the Global Framework for Climate Services. These products provide an evidence base for working smarter prior to and during hazard impacts. During Hurricane Matthew in October 2016, the CIMH's impact forecasting informed the evacuation of thousands in the areas of the SUD Department in Haiti, which was heavily impacted.



Ms Elizabeth Riley, Deputy Executive Director, CDEMA engaging participants at the ESW Across Timescales Meeting in St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Sustainability at the National level is equally important if the benefits of the EWISACTS process are to be fully realized. "The requirement for delivery of climate services requires us to shift from the traditional mode of weather forecasting within national meteorological services to seeing them as key agents in the Sustainable Development Agenda whose role supports economic, social and environmental prosperity. It also demands a re-examination of national governance arrangements to facilitate the inter-institutional dialogue", concluded Ms. Riley.

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Participating States

Anguilla

Antigua and Barbuda

Commonwealth of the
Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Commonwealth of Dominica

Grenada

Republic of Guyana

Haiti

Jamaica

Montserrat

Saint Kitts & Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent & the
Grenadines

Suriname

Republic of Trinidad &
Tobago

Turks & Caicos Islands

The Virgin Islands

Resilient States...Safer Lives!

CDEMA's Role in Exercise Tradewinds 2017

Exercise Tradewinds 2017 (TW17) was convened under the theme 'Seamless States Partnership for a Secure Region', and hosted by Barbados and Trinidad Tobago between June 6 and 17. The Exercise was designed to conduct joint, combined and interagency training which focuses on increasing regional cooperation for complex multinational security operations and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HA/DR) operations. CDEMA's role in TW17 was to facilitate the HA/DR component with the national disaster management organisations in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

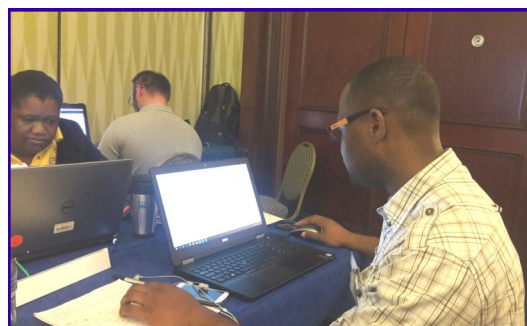
CDEMA's Regional Coordination Centre (RCC) was activated during TW17 to test some of the CDEMA CU's contingency plans, Regional and Sub-Regional plans and Standard Operating Procedures.

The opportunity to test the movement of the RCC from one location to another was also facilitated for the first time. The physical "Hand Over of the RCC", from Barbados to an alternate location in Trinidad and Tobago and return operations to Barbados was tested on June 9-11, 2017. This testing revealed that the activation and running of the RCC was seamlessly handled with the RCC staff, in both locations, demonstrating clear understanding of roles and functions. The RCC was able to practice two shifts daily (one morning and one evening), but stood down during the night periods.

The CDEMA CU also facilitated the participation of the Regional Observer and Assessment Team (ROAT) in TW17, led by Brigadier General (R) Earl Arthurs, CDEMA's Operations Specialist. The role of the ROAT was to evaluate TW17 by measuring the achievements of the objectives set out for the Exercise as well as provide some training when there was an opportunity during "Teaching moments". The ROAT 2017 (HA/DR) venture was a success as it provided good data on the activities that it covered during the Field Training and Culminating Exercises.



The Southern Sub-Regional Focal Point takes over as the Alternate RCC in Trinidad on Saturday June 10, 2017



Above: Mandela Christian, Programme Officer, CDEMA a member of the HA/DR White Cell at the Command Center, Hilton Hotel

Below: HA/DR Evaluators at the Glendairy Resort checking their Data Collection Sheets



Upcoming Activities (July - September 2017)

- **Regional Private Sector Networking Meeting—August 2017**
- **Exercise Tradewinds 2018 Planning Conference—August 2017**
- **Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) Review Kick off Meeting—September 2017**
- **Exercise Region RAP—September 2017**
- **Trinidad & Tobago Country Work Programme Workshop—September 2017**
- **Urban Search & Rescue Training, Trinidad & Tobago—Sept. 2017**