

# CHARTING THE COURSE OF CDM: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL PROGRESS



Southern Sub-Regional Focal Point

Paul Saunders

2<sup>nd</sup> Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster  
Management, December 10-14, 2007: Hilton, Barbados



## OBJECTIVE

- ◆ To highlight the national level progress in implementing CDM
- ◆ To highlight the challenges being experienced at the country level in implementing CDM
- ◆ To recommend possibly courses of action in advancing the CDM implementation at the national level



# Introduction

- ◆ Southern Sub Regional Focal Point consists of:
  - Trinidad and Tobago
  - Grenada
  - Guyana



# Introduction

- ◆ National Disaster Management Programmes at different levels
- ◆ Different levels of staffing and capacity
- ◆ Similar experiences and vulnerabilities
- ◆ Different approaches in the implementation of the CDM.
- ◆ All countries revamping NDMP and offices over last 3 years



# Introduction

- ◆ The steps taken to implement the CDM at the National Level will be outlined according to the four (4) outcomes.

# Priority Outcomes



1. Enhanced institutional support for CDM Programme implementation at national and regional levels
2. An effective mechanism and programme for management and sharing of CDM knowledge is established and utilized for decision making
3. Disaster Risk Management has been mainstreamed at national levels and incorporated into key sectors of national economies (including tourism, health, education, infrastructure, planning and agriculture)
4. Enhanced community resilience in CDERA Participating States to mitigate and respond to the adverse effects of climate variability and change and disasters

# Outcome 1



## ◆ Trinidad and Tobago

- Goals of NDO redefined to mirror CDM and country programme being aligned to CDM Strategy as well as Vision 2020 Programme
- National Disaster management system revised and awaiting approval

## ◆ Guyana

- Has begun comprehensive reform process of the CDC to align it with CDM and international agenda
- Work has begun on preparation of legislation and the upgrade of infrastructure facilities

# Outcome 1

## Grenada

- Work on disaster legislation begun and with Legal Draft Dept.
- Training of staff, coordinators and volunteers
- Recruiting of qualified staff ongoing



## Outcome 2

### ◆ Trinidad and Tobago

- Extensive public education campaign has been undertaken in all media, new ads developed during the year
- Schools tour at primary and secondary levels using popular personalities and local folklore. DVDs of school tours produced and aired on national TV
- New public education material developed for the blind, tv ads include signers
- DVD dealing with shelter issues developed
- Strategic linkages established with private sector, development partners-(CIDA, ACS, EU,UNDP, UNECLAC)

### ◆ Guyana- no data



# Outcome 2



## ◆ Grenada

- Public education programme developed
- Training and other activities done at the community level
- Training in shelter management, IDA, DANA, TFI held



## Outcome 3

- ◆ **Trinidad and Tobago**

- DRM a key programme area in several ministries: Public Utilities, Local Government, Health etc. Disaster plans exist as well as committees and funding allocated for DRM activities for health, public utilities, local government, works and transport, education.

- ◆ **Grenada**

- Collaboration with agencies and Ministries ongoing.

- ◆ **Guyana-** No data

## Outcome 4

### ◆ Trinidad and Tobago

- CERT programme continues in Tobago
- Community Flood warning system established in pilot community in San Juan basin
- Training of 9 communities in SSM and DRM and response plans developed in conjunction with the Pt Lisas industrial estate
- Training of Regional Corp staff in SSM,DANA,IDA
- Exercises conducted with Regional Corp to test shelter managers



# Outcome 4

## ◆ Grenada

- Installation of flood warning device in communities.
- Training of teams in SSM,IDA, DANA

## ◆ Guyana

- Collaborating with Oxfam on community capacity building programme. This programme is intended to build resilience and prepare disaster plans for 20 communities





# Challenges

- ◆ CDM Concept not widely known in the agencies outside of the NDO, hence implementation is tedious.
- ◆ Capacity issues to successfully implement the CDM
- ◆ Difficulty realigning country programmes to the CDM Framework
- ◆ Lack of Resources – Human and Financial
- ◆ Training and learning curve of new staff



# Challenges

- ◆ Political buy in for support of CDM implementation. Talk needs to equal action.
- ◆ CDM vs other national priorities and plans



# Recommendations

- ◆ Use existing public education programmes as a means of informing the public about the CDM
- ◆ Build capacity at National Level to implement CDM
- ◆ Continue support for countries to rearticulate National Level Programming within the CDM Framework



# Recommendations

- ◆ Governments to show support outlined at the CARICOM level by providing support to National Offices
- ◆ Governments to articulate CDM within the Central Government Policy
- ◆ Selecting a “champion” to move the CDM agenda forward in countries.