



UN HUMANITARIAN REFORM – IMPLICATIONS FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE MECHANISM

REGIONAL RESPONSE MECHANISM

**By
Andria Grosvenor
CDERA**



Caribbean Reality

- 1. Caribbean region is very prone to natural hazards**
- 2. Climate variability and change likely to increase frequency and severity of hydro meteorological events**



Caribbean Reality

- 3. Increased exposure to natural hazards within the last two decades**
- 4. Increasing value of losses across all economic sectors – tourism, agriculture, housing, infrastructure**
- 5. Disruption to social infrastructure, loss of livelihoods – poverty links**

Experiences



Clarendon
Jamaica
Flood
Event May
2002

(Acknowledgement JDF)

Experiences



Palmiste,
Grenada
Lenny
1999



Experiences have revealed that ...

- **“Each natural disaster leaves in its wake an overwhelming volume of evidence of how planning and investment decisions contribute to vulnerability ”**

Natural Hazard Risk Management in the Caribbean Revisiting the Challenge CGCED 2002



Introduction

- **CDERA is a regional disaster management agency**
- **Established in 1991 by an Agreement of Heads of Government of CARICOM**
- **16 Participating States**
- **Operates in partnerships with National, Regional and International Organizations**



History

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) is a regional inter-governmental agency established by an Intergovernmental Agreement signed in September 1991 at the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community.



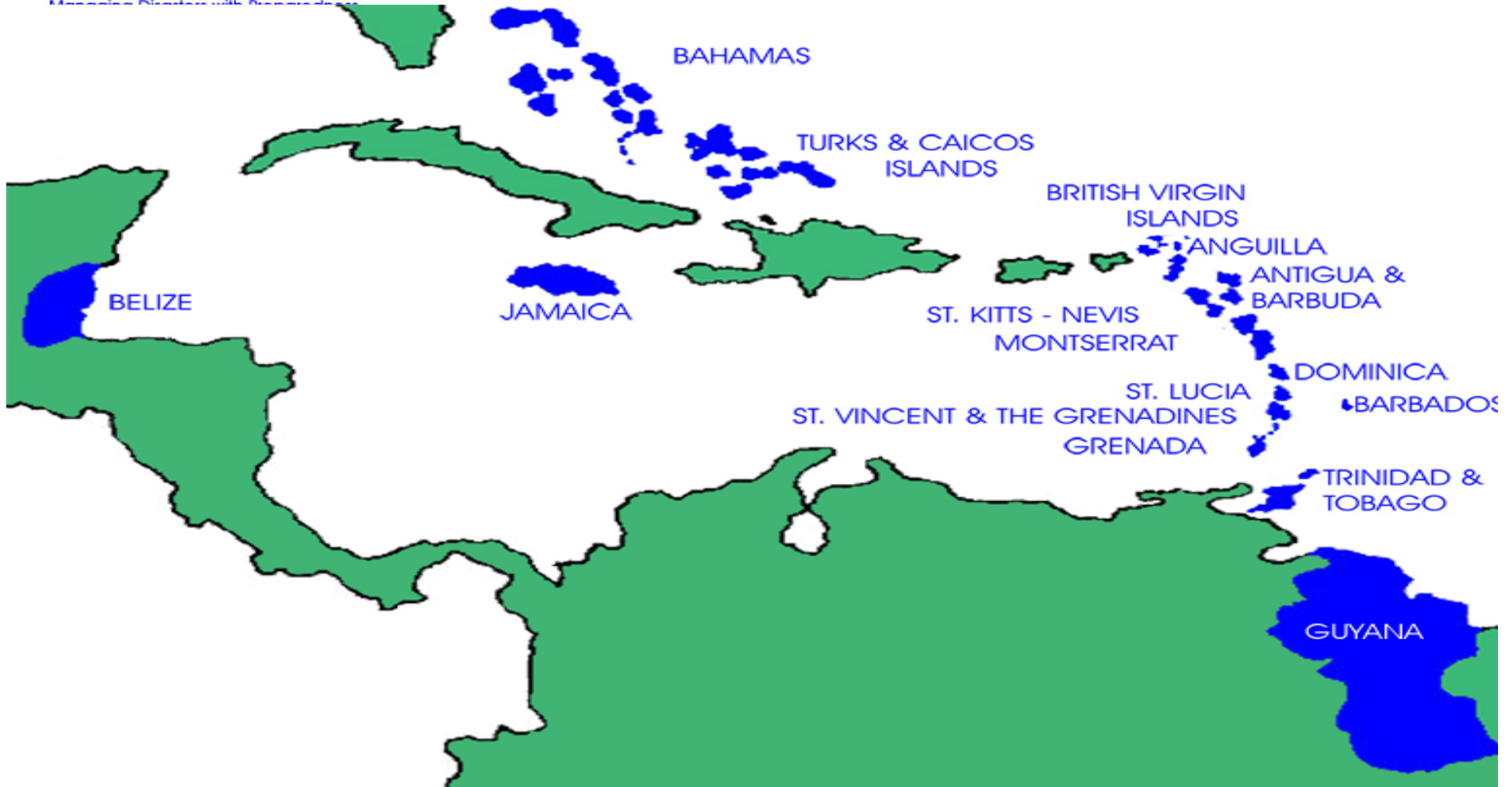
CDERA Participating States

- ***Anguilla***
- ***Antigua and Barbuda***
- ***Bahamas***
- ***Barbados***
- ***Belize***
- ***British Virgin Islands***
- ***Dominica***
- ***Grenada***
- ***Guyana***
- ***Jamaica***
- ***Montserrat***
- ***St. Kitts and Nevis***
- ***Saint Lucia***
- ***St Vincent & the Grenadines***
- ***Trinidad and Tobago***
- ***Turks and Caicos***

2ND CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT



CDERA Participating States





Roles & Responsibilities

CDERA's main function is to make an immediate and coordinated response to any disastrous event affecting any Participating State, once the state **requests such assistance.**





Roles & Responsibilities

Other functions include:

- 1. Information coordination**
- 2. Mitigating or eliminating as far as possible, the consequences of disasters**
- 3. Mobilizing and coordinating disaster relief**



CDM - A Paradigm Shift

Reactive  **Anticipatory**
Disaster Office  **Shared Responsibility**

FROM: *a focus on individual hazards*

TO: *viewing hazard exposure as an ongoing process, recognising the vulnerability to a variety of hazards and aiming to reduce vulnerability across all sectors*



The Regional Response Mechanism

The RRM is:

- **A number of Plans, Procedures & Guidelines**
- **A group of Response Units, agencies and organizations**



- **A collection of Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding and Protocols**

**Executed by the CDERA
Coordinating Unit on behalf of
CDERA Participating States**



The Regional Response Mechanism

- **The Regional Coordination Centre (RCC)**
- **The Regional Coordination Plan (RCP)**
- **The Regional Telecommunications Plan**

- **National Disaster Plans, Specialized Plans, etc.**
- **Regional Warehouses**
- **MOU, Acts, SOPs**

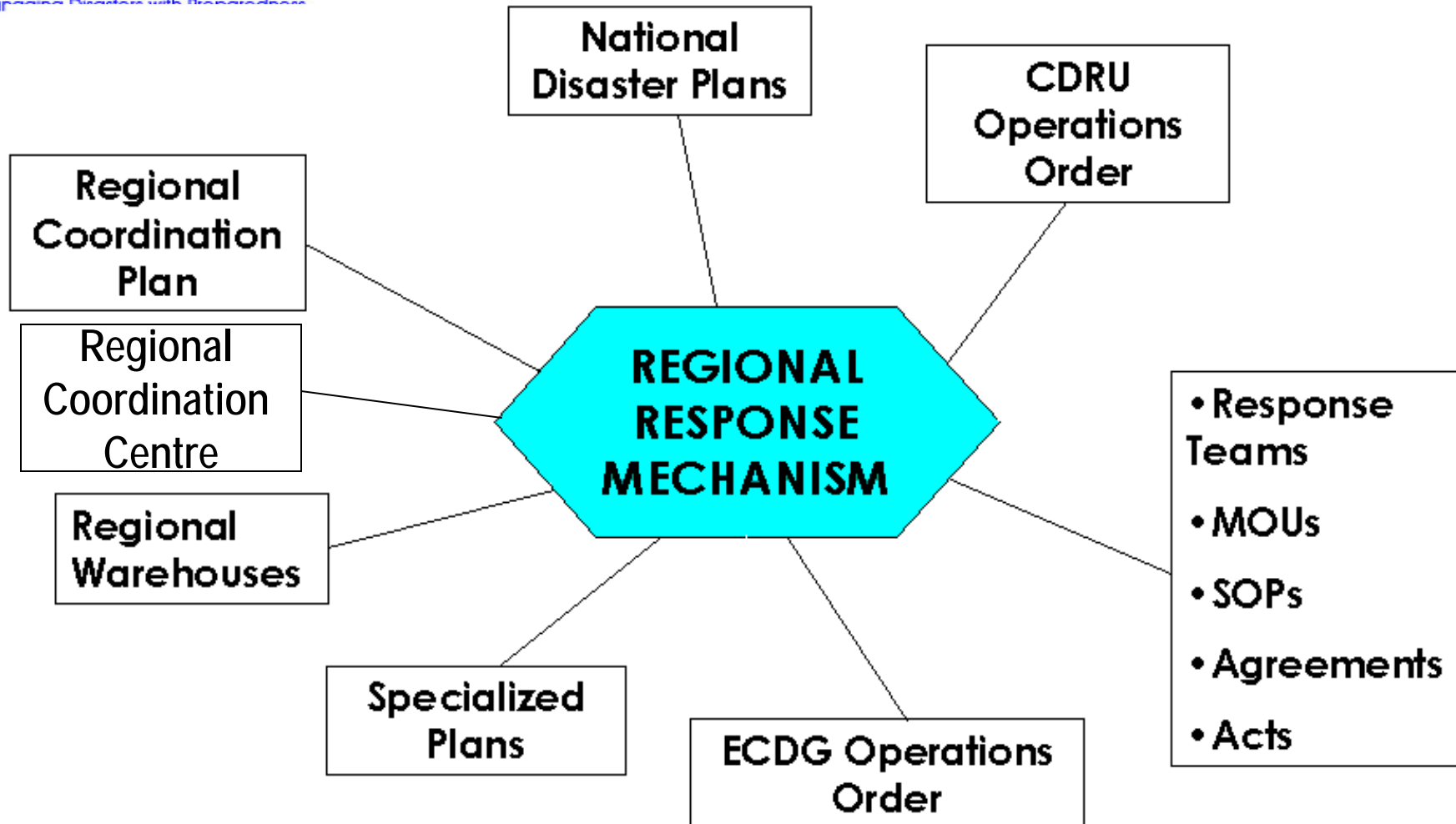


The Regional Response Mechanism

- **Response Teams**
 - **The CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit CDRU Operations Order**
 - **The Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT) Operations Order**
- **The Eastern Caribbean Donor Group (ECDG) Operations Order**

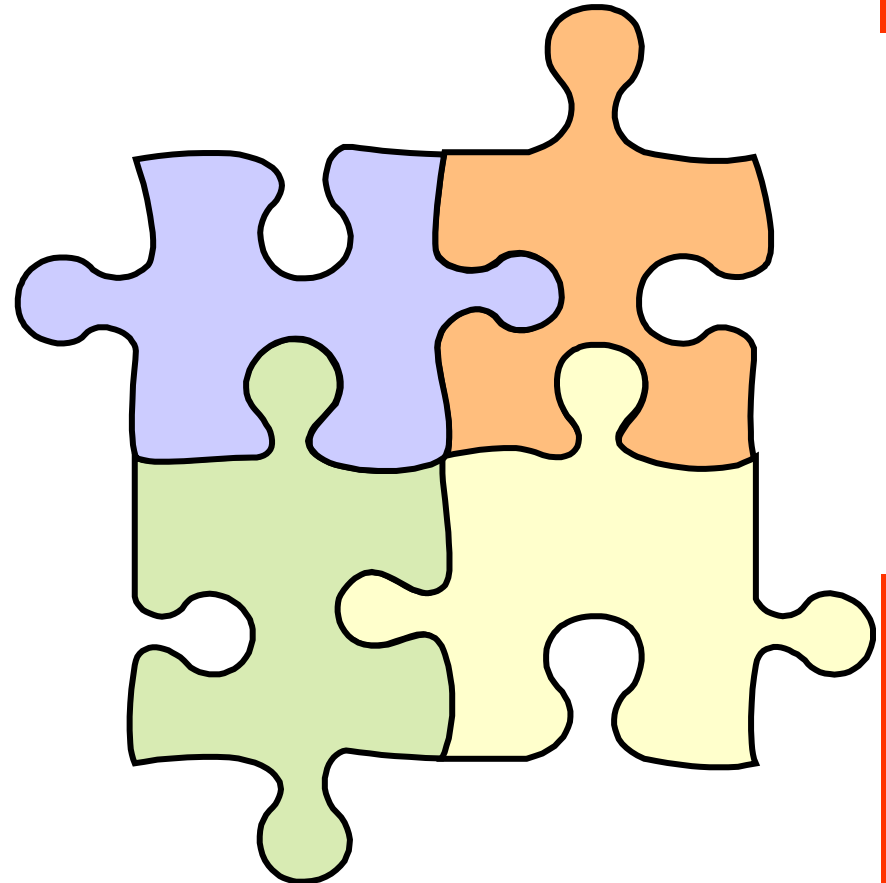


The Regional Response Mechanism



Considerations

- UN Humanitarian Reform
 - **Cluster Approach**
- The Right Fit
 - UN, CDERA
 - Operational elements



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THE END

