



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Fourth Session - Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow

Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 May 2013

Name and Type of Event	CDEMA (Caribbean) Consultation Meeting (by invitation only)
Date	20/05/2013
Reporters name and contact details	
Number of Participants	

CDEMA meeting gathered disaster risk reduction focal points and delegates, civil society organizations.

The head of CDEMA presented the main aspects being addressed in the new Caribbean **Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy (CDM)** developed in a participatory way the last two years. The proposed CDM strategy has been recently discussed in Barbados (May 2013) and also incorporates the main priorities identified in the Caribbean during the consultation process of the HFA2 (Dec 2012). The CDM strategy is for the period 2013-2022 and is aligned to the HFA. CDEMA considers that the CDM strategy is based on the experience of the Caribbean and can provide important inputs for the new HFA framework.

The main important aspects of the strategy includes:

At the governance level:

- Deepening efforts for enacting legislation.
- Furthering efforts for supporting countries to adopt CDM based legislation (legislation that follows standards that have been provided by CDM).
- Institutional strengthening with resources support.
- Better systems and mechanisms to monitor advances of countries in disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean.

In the area of Capacities and training:

- Although the efforts for creating awareness have been important, the Caribbean highlights the need to furthering the capacity of the region and furthering sub-regional linkages (with LAC) to provide advisory services to member countries.
- Adapted knowledge management.
- In this sense in order to advance with the knowledge base in the Caribbean, suggested to advance the idea of the establishment of Centres of Excellence and also further advancement in ICT.

At the sectoral level:

- The need to continue engaging disaster risk reduction in the sector level. Important advances at the regional level have been made in supporting the integration of disaster risk reduction in tourism and agriculture as well as integration in the institutional mechanisms of countries. Further efforts should be made to involve of country level incorporation of disaster risk reduction at the sector level as well as integrating planning and finance ministries as well as private sector investment and physical planning institutions.
- CDEMA representative also pointed out the need to engage the environment (climate change and adaptation) community.
- It was also pointed out the need of mainstreaming gender in the disaster risk reduction policy plans at the sectoral level.

At the community level-community resilience :

- CDEMA recognizes that important advances have been made in institutional arrangements for comprehensive disaster management as well as the implementation of EWS. CDEMA emphasized the need to support recovery planning, building standards, and further develop the EWS implementation.

They described the following key thematic areas for the new CDM :

- Standard strengthening.
- Operational readiness
- Climate change adaptation DRR linkages established.
- Community resilience enhanced to focus in the most vulnerable.
- Resource allocation
- Resilience of key sectors