Session 4
Policy Opportunities from Education Sector Resilience: Lessons from Recent Events
Ministries of Education despite the lack or weakness of Education in Emergency plans, designed and implemented humanitarian responses and recovery actions, supporting:

- Restitution of the Right to Education

- Promoted a protective environment and psychosocial support for children and adolescents in the affected countries.
Lessons Learned Meeting

May 2018

There is need for a comprehensive education in emergency strategy that includes psychosocial support for both children and teachers.

Need for education sector Preparedness, Response and Recovery plans (intersectoral)

Heavy disruption due to unmanaged feelings of isolation, loss, anger, and frustration.

Insufficient institutional connectedness, staffing and training hampered response efforts.
Lessons Learned Meeting

May 2018

Need to safeguard important school materials and records

A considerable part of the school materials losses would be avoided if protective measures were adopted in advance of the storms.

Governance: technical & support arrangements for implementation at the national level

Building resilience in the education sector requires sustained inter-sectoral coordination.
Lesson Learned:
There is need for a comprehensive education in emergency strategy that includes psychosocial support for both children and teachers

- Widely raised issue, as there were no services or programmes in place.
- Part of the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies Minimum Standards.
- Existing tools, such as the “Return to Happiness” programme.
Lesson Learned:
Need for education sector Preparedness, Response and Recovery plans

• Mostly, the education sector is included in the National Emergency Response Plan, but lack of education-specific plans and procedures.

• Sector plans must include Standard Operation Procedures, reporting and accountability lines, and decision-making information.

• Better inter-ministerial coordination and communication mechanisms.

• Education and child protection services need to be considered as national priorities to ensure safeguarding and protection of children and adolescents.
Lesson Learned:
Need to safeguard important school materials and records

- More protective measures need to be taken as soon as the first early warning message is issued.

- Use of safe zones or digitalization help to protect school records.

- Countries require guidance on what information should be prioritized for protection in the event of an emergency.
Lesson Learned:
Governance: technical & support arrangements for implementation at the national level

- Governance arrangements for national safe schools coordination was identified as being critical.

- Governance should be included in the Safe Schools roadmap and within national safe schools programmes;

- Insufficient technical human resources to support all needs for the safe schools programme.
Other important issues coming out of the lessons learned session

• There is a diversity of policies across countries with respect to the use of shelters. Countries called for guidance, and requested that the policy of schools as shelters to be revisited at country/territory level.

• Need for data - education management information systems to track students moving among islands.

• Need for gender-sensitive and/or gender responsive preparedness, response and recovery plans.
2ND CARIBBEAN SAFE SCHOOL MINISTERIAL FORUM

EDUCATION SECTOR RESILIENCE: EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES

CARIBBEAN SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE (CSSI)