What is Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)

Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) is an integrated approach to disaster management. It is viewed as the management of all hazards through all phases of the disaster management cycle (prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation). It involves the public and private sectors, as well as all segments of civil society and the general population.

The goal of CDM is to enhance efforts aimed at sustainable development in the Caribbean by reducing risks and losses associated with natural and technological hazards and the effects of climate change.

Development of a CDM Strategy

In 2001 the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), through broad based stakeholder consultations, adopted a Strategy and Results Framework for Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM). In 2006, the CDM strategy was reviewed and reshaped to emphasize disaster loss reduction through risk management, and to follow a more Programme Based Approach (PBA) with an emphasis on Results Based Management (RBM).

The strategy is a roadmap for building resilience to hazards within the 18 CDEMA Participating States. It is a results-based programming agenda that facilitates harmonization among key development partners and institutions and embraces the latest regional and international thinking on, and approaches to, disaster management. It is also closely aligned to the global and regional agendas:

- CARICOM Regional Programming
- Caribbean Single Market and Economy
- St. George’s Declaration of Principles for Environmental sustainability
Composition of the CDM Governance Structure

In effect, governance of CDM programming attempts to:

1. Strengthen national, sectoral and regional partnerships through participatory engagement;
2. Strengthen regional capacity for leadership in advancing the disaster loss reduction agenda;
3. Enhance mainstreaming of DRR into sectors;
4. Promote a programme based approach to the implementation of CDM;
5. Minimize duplication of effort; and
6. Promote the efficiency of use of scarce resources.
Six Priority Sector Sub-Commitees

Agriculture Sector
Rep. of Ministry of Agriculture - Antigua & Barbuda

Civil Society Sector
Rep. of Ministry of Health & Community Services - Montserrat

Education Sector
Rep. of all national university level education institutions (UVI, HSSLCC, UG, UVN, CKLN)

Health Sector
Rep. of Ministry of Health - St. Kitts & Nevis

Tourism Sector
Rep. of Ministry of Tourism - The Bahamas

Finance Sector

CDM CHC

CHAIR: CDEMA
MEMBERS: SUB REGIONAL FOCAL POINTS (4)