





CDEMA

C A R I B B E A N
DISASTER EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Resilient States · Safer Lives

The CDEMA SYSTEM: Lessons learned during 2017 response operations

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Preparedness and Response



Presentation Outline

1. Introduction to the CDEMA System
2. Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)
3. The Regional Response Mechanism
4. 2017 Operations and lessons learned – AAR
5. Plan of Action



CDEMA: who WE are...

The **Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)** is a regional **inter-governmental agency** for disaster management in the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM).**



The Agency was **established in 1991** as the **Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)** with primary responsibility for the coordination of emergency response and relief efforts to Participating States, impacted by hazards which exceed their capacity to manage.

It **transitioned to CDEMA in 2009** to fully embrace the principles and

practice of **Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM).**

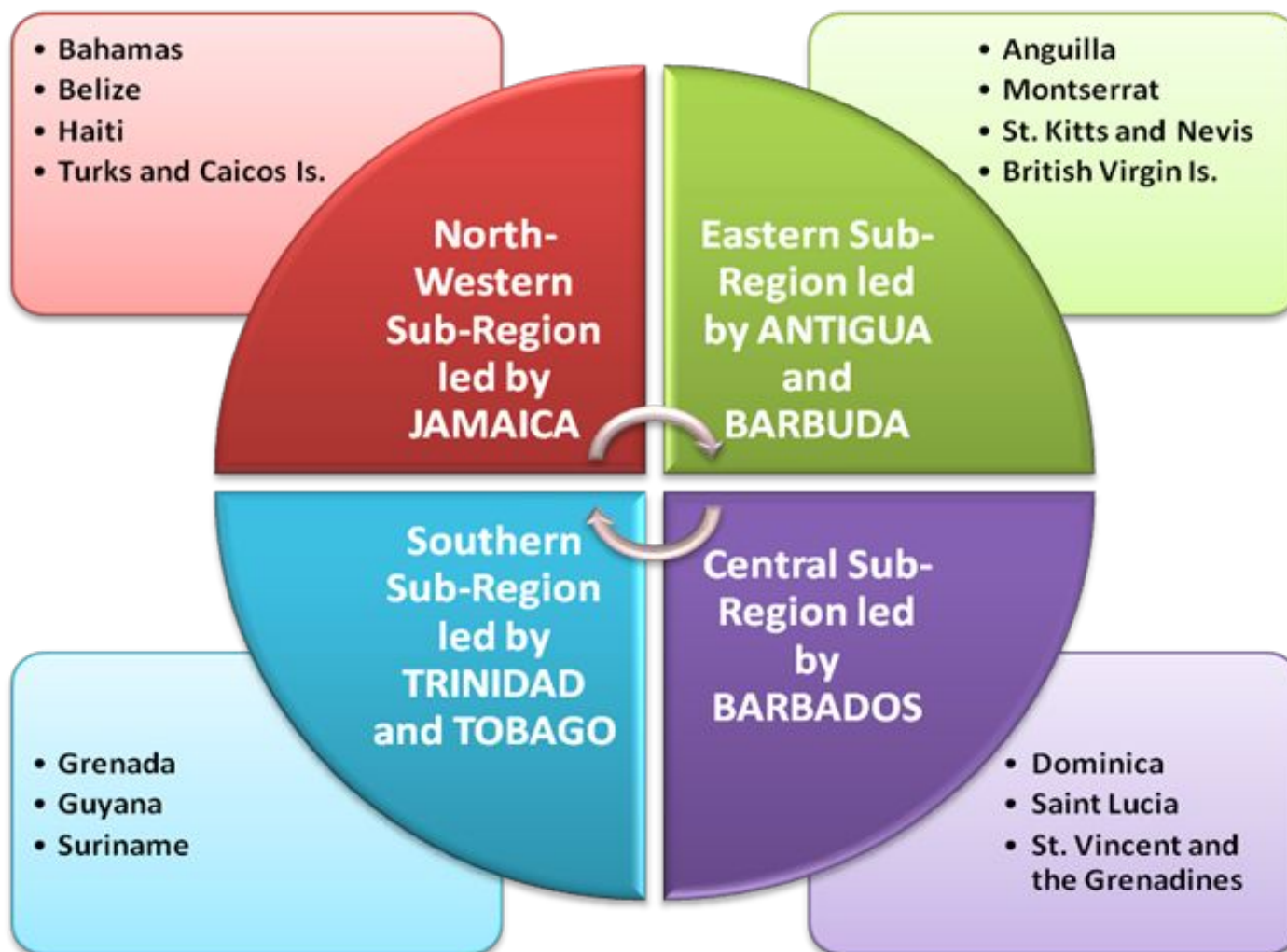


CDEMA Participating States

1. Anguilla
2. Antigua
3. Bahamas
4. Barbados
5. Belize
6. British Virgin Islands
7. Dominica
8. Grenada
9. Guyana
10. Jamaica
11. Montserrat
12. St Kitts and Nevis
13. Saint Lucia
14. St Vincent and the Grenadines
15. Trinidad & Tobago
16. Turks & Caicos Islands
17. Haiti
18. Suriname



CDEMA's four SRDEROUs (or SRFPs)



CDM Defined

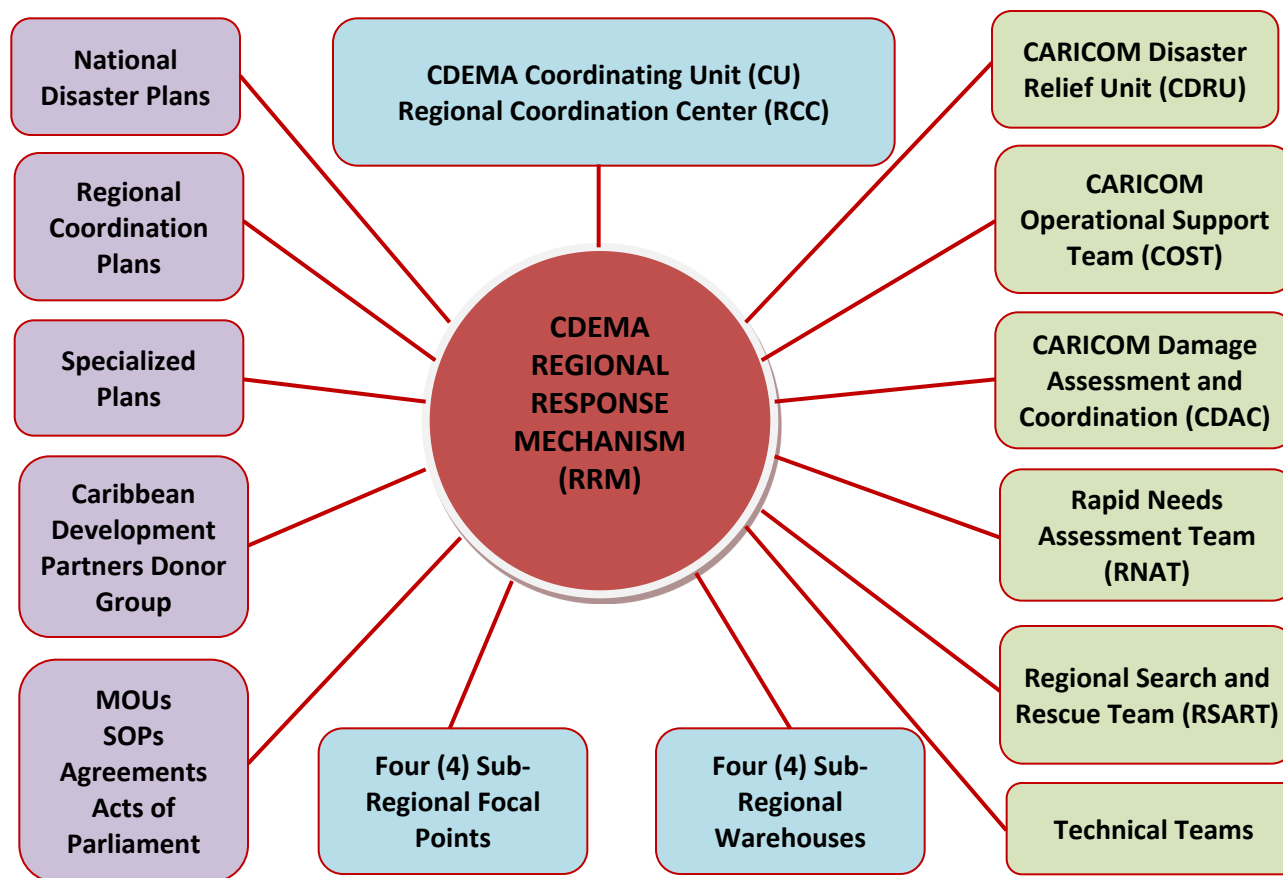


- ▶ **CDM** is the management of **all hazards**
- ▶ through **all phases** of the disaster management cycle
- ▶ by **all peoples** public and private sectors, all segments of **civil society** and the general population
- ▶ CDM involves **risk reduction & management** and
- ▶ **integration of vulnerability assessment** into the development planning process

2017 Response

Ser.	CDEMA PS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
1	Anguilla		▲	
2	Antigua and Barbuda		▲	
3	Bahamas	▲		
4	Dominica			▲
5	Haiti	▲		
6	Montserrat	▲		
7	St Kitts and Nevis	▲		
8	Turks and Caicos Islands		▲	
9	Virgin Islands (British)			▲

Conceptual Framework for the Regional Response Mechanism





Lessons learned from 2017 Operations

- ❖ The Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) works and warrants further investment
- ❖ Need to deepen the capacity within the RRM – training
- ❖ Develop partnerships and relationships ahead of the event!
- ❖ Diversity in CDEMA PS requires diverse responses
- ❖ Catastrophic impacts require a different response and further consideration in the transition from response to recovery



Lessons

- ❖ Repeated lessons - We need to act on lessons from past events
- ❖ Enhance resilience of the emergency communications network – shorten recovery period.
- ❖ Logistics: existence of a logistics plan and predictability of assets are still to be addressed
- ❖ Financial: Predictability of funding for response is still a critical issue to be addressed
- ❖ Investment in building resilience at the individual, community and sector level is essential
- ❖ Recovery planning must be done ahead of a disaster

Lessons

- ❖ Operational Scenarios must change for hydro-met hazards
- ❖ Continuity of Government is top priority
- ❖ Robust EOC's are essential for effective coordination
- ❖ Resilience of our security arrangements is key
- ❖ The support for the transition from response to recovery can be better defined

Plan of Action from the RRM AAR

- ❖ Political Engagement
- ❖ Emergency Telecommunications
- ❖ Information Management
- ❖ Deployment Teams
- ❖ Logistics and Relief Management
- ❖ Reframing the international and regional interface
- ❖ Funding

Plan of Action from the RRM AAR

Emergency Telecommunications

- ❖ Strengthen and expand redundancy in the communication systems that support national and regional response
- ❖ Grater use of available technology
- ❖ Provide a VSAT solution which would provide satellite backhaul for the EOC
- ❖ Give consideration to commercial telecoms
- ❖ Identify alternate power solutions – eg. solar
- ❖ Keep abreast with telecommunication technology to enhance the services

CDEMA – CANTO Partnership

- ❖ CDEMA has partnered with CANTO to enhance the resilience of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sector
- ❖ A draft MOU “CDEMA-CANTO” has been developed and is scheduled to be finalized before the peak of the 2018 hurricane season.
- ❖ Identified and oriented a team of Telecoms specialist from the CANTO System, to the CDEMA System and RRM
- ❖ Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the CANTO Disaster Response Team (DRT)

CDEMA – CANTO Partnership

- ❖ Officially incorporate CANTO into the Regional Partners Donors Group and briefing meetings.
- ❖ Finalize best practices on DRM for TELCO members
- ❖ Collaborate on BCM Training for CDEMA and CANTO members
- ❖ Collaborate to incorporate the regional HAM Radio Operators in the RRM
- ❖ Continue to support the DRM Operations of each agency.



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THANK YOU

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