



**CDEMA**

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

*Resilient States · Safer Lives*

# **CANTO's Support to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) – Regional Response Mechanism (RRM)**

**February 4-6, 2018**

# **PRESENTATION OUTLINE**

- 1. Introduction to CDEMA System and the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM)**
- 2. Summary of Hurricanes Irma and Maria Response Operations in film**
- 3. CANTO's support to the RRM: Lessons learned, challenges and recommendations**
- 4. Conclusion**



# **1. INTRODUCTION TO CDEMA AND THE REGIONAL RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)**

# CDEMA & the RRM

- ❖ 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 CDERA (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency) with primary responsibility for the coordination of emergency response and relief efforts to Participating States.
- ❖ It transitioned to CDEMA in 2009 to fully embrace the principles and practice of Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM).







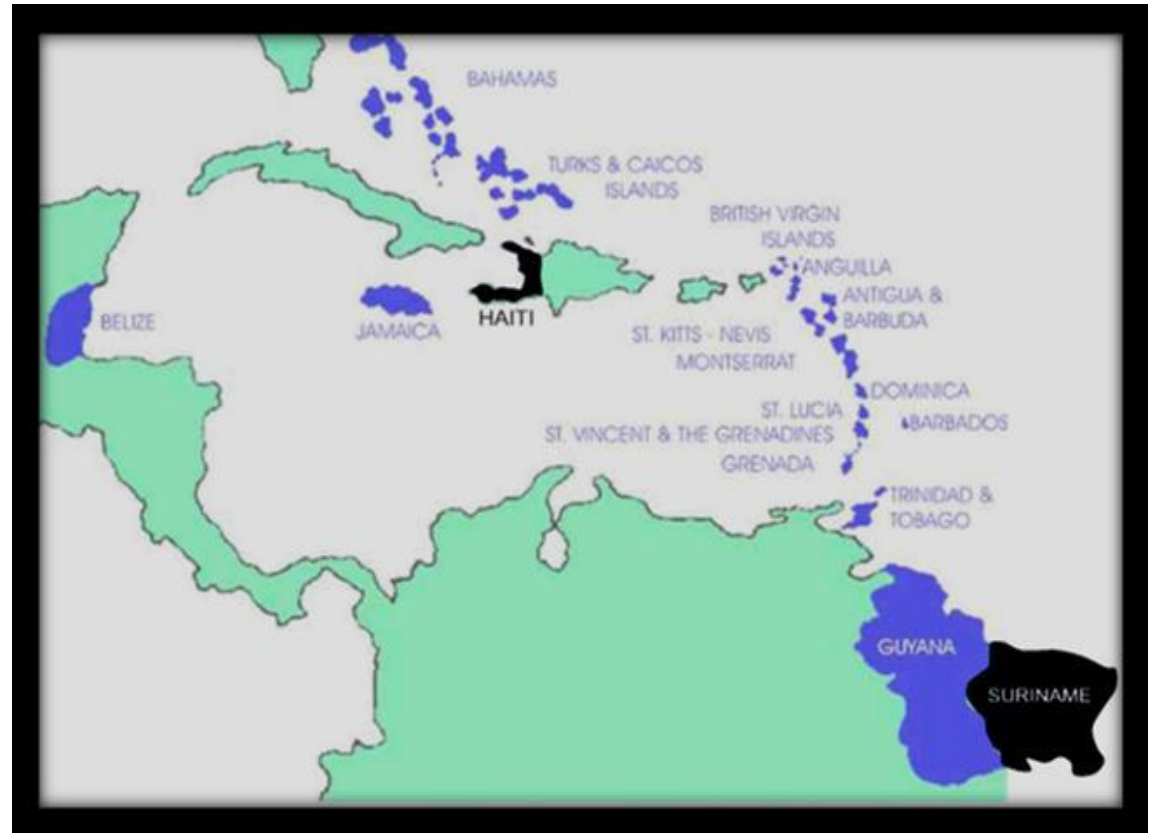
# Agreement Establishing CDEMA

The Agreement Establishing CDEMA, 2009 outlines the mandate, governance structure, objectives, functions, and operations of CDEMA .

*(The agreement can be found online at [www.cdema.org](http://www.cdema.org) or on google).*

# 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



# Preparedness & Response

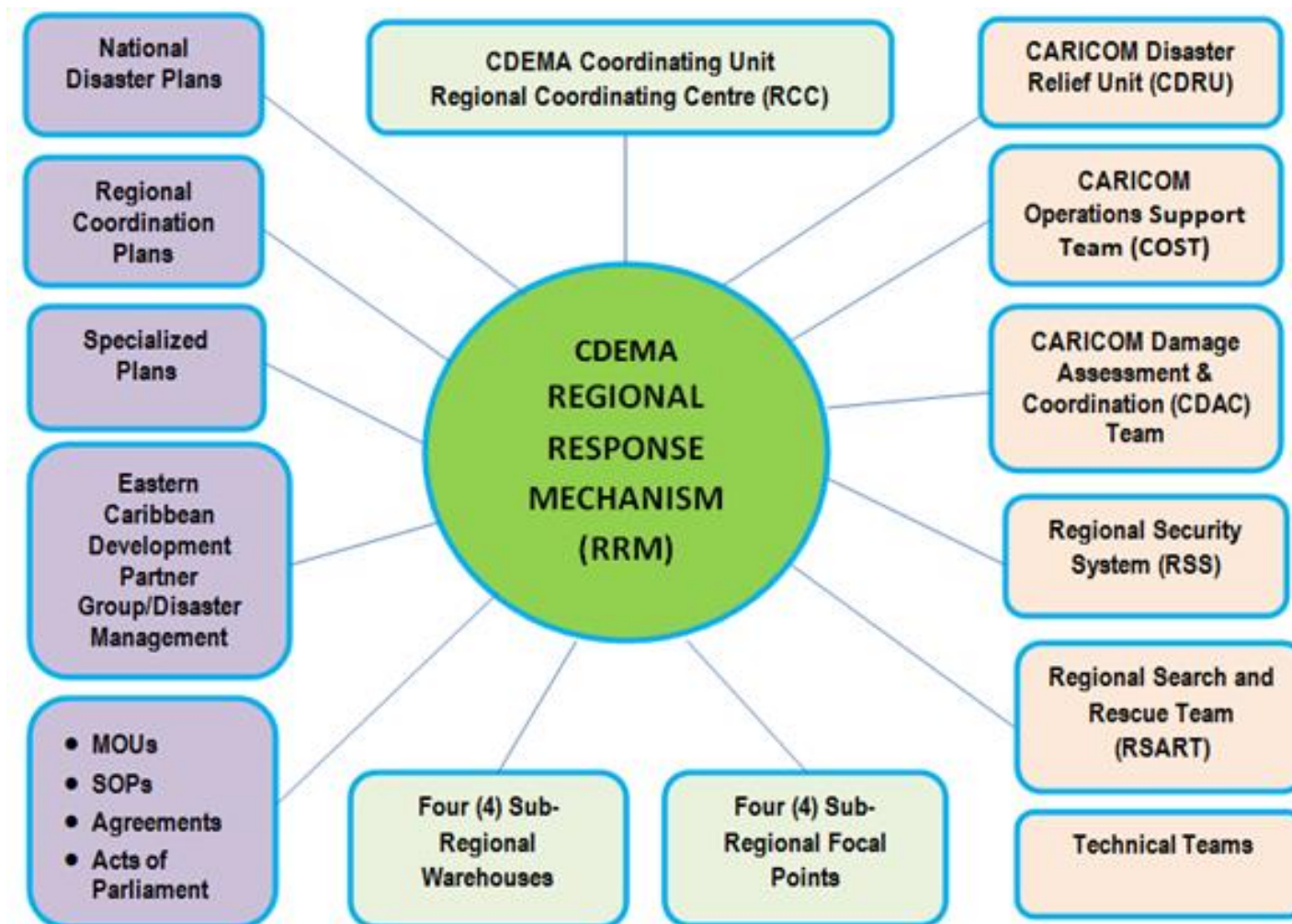
## Preparedness

- Provide technical guidance
- Support capacity building initiatives at the national and regional level.
- Support plans development, review and testing at national and regional levels
- Maintenance of the RRM (AARs, Train of response teams, develop/ review SOPs, strengthen existing and build new partnerships – (CDEMA – CANTO),

## Response

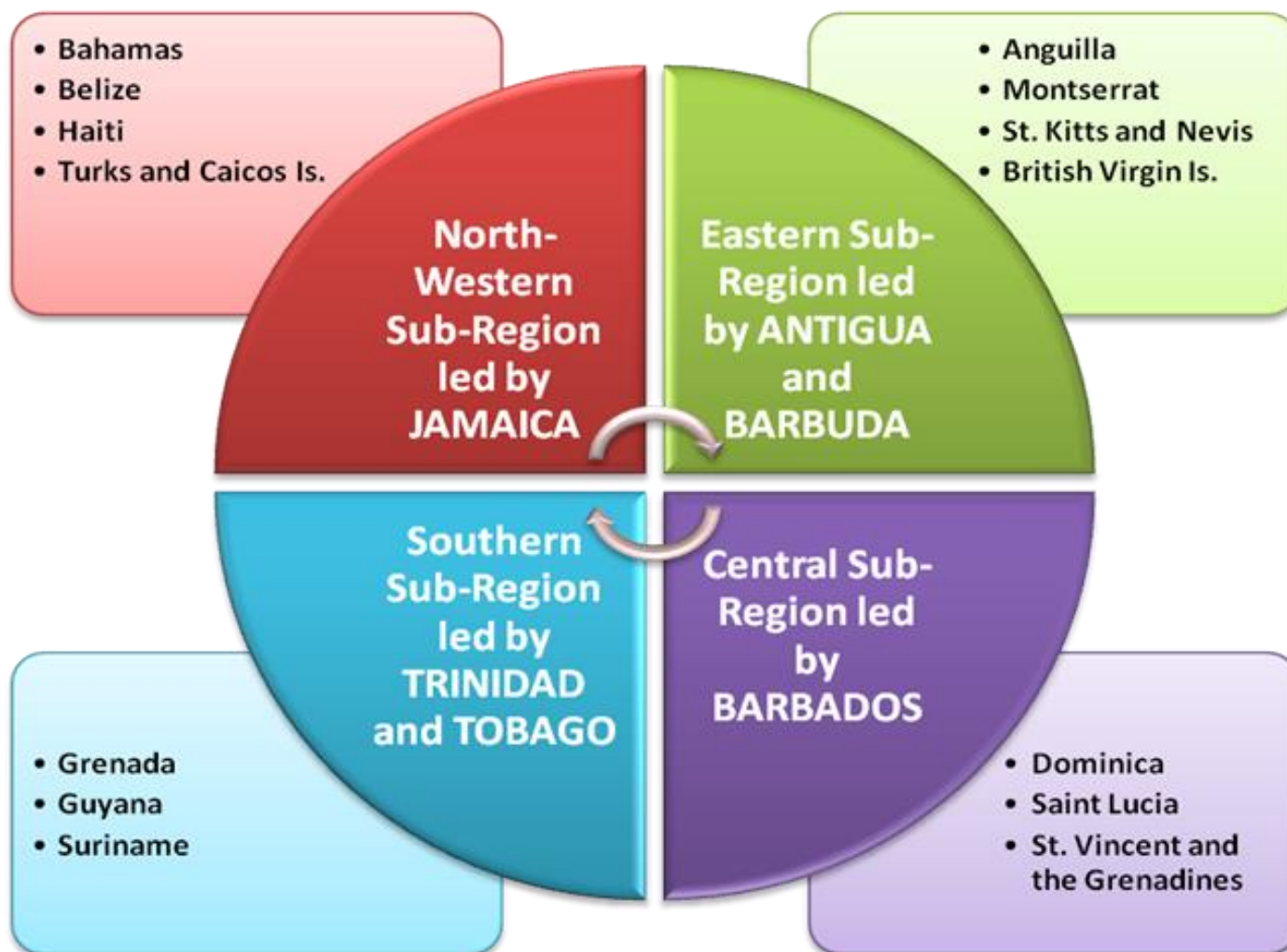
- REGIONAL RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)

# Conceptual Framework for the Regional Response Mechanism





# CDEMA's four SRDEROUs (or SRFPs)



## **The basic principles underpinning the Regional Disaster Response Support are:**

- 1. *Respect for Sovereignty***
- 2. *Regional Solidarity***
- 3. *Compliance with International Humanitarian Principles***
- 4. *Adherence to Principles of Partnership***



## **2. SUMMARY OF HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA RESPONSE OPERATIONS IN FILM**



# *In the Eye of the Storm* – Reflections of the 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66OOsHSH9jl>







### **3. CANTO'S SUPPORT TO THE RRM: LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **Overview of CANTO's Support to the RRM in 2017**

- ❖ In 2017, CANTO partnered with CDEMA to support the operations of the RRM in response to the impact of major category Hurricanes Irma and Maria on its Participating States.
- ❖ CANTO technicians formed part of the Rapid Needs Assessment Teams (RNAT) and supported the assessment of the Telecommunications Sector in the impacted states.
- ❖ Within 72 hours of impact, an RNAT report was compiled with key findings of each sector assessed along with short, medium and long term recommendations.
- ❖ The findings from these assessment were used to inform the response and recovery operations.

## Lessons Learned

- ❖ There is space for deepening the knowledge of the resource capabilities of CANTO to inform the RRM's request for support from CANTO.
- ❖ There is benefit in establishing an MOU to provide better structure for engagement between CDEMA and CANTO and leveraging of the private sector.
- ❖ A standard format for assessments and data collection in the Telecommunications sector would enhance correlation of data from different sources within that sector.



## Recommendations

- ❖ CANTO and CDEMA to identify areas for collaboration to strengthen the integration of CDM in the telecommunications sector in the region.
- ❖ Development and signing of an MOU between CDEMA and CANTO outlining the terms of engagement during preparatory, response and recovery periods.
- ❖ CDEMA to conduct an orientation for CANTO to the RRM
- ❖ CANTO DRM Committee to collate and document CANTO's available resources in support of the RRM, outlining the terms and conditions of access and use. This should be shared with the CDEMA CU.

## Recommendations

- ❖ Development of standardized tools for the collection, documentation and interpretation of data in the telecommunications sector. These should be informed by experts in the field.
- ❖ CDEMA and CANTO to collaborate on the testing of the regional telecommunications plans during CDEMA's annual exercising/ simulation programme.
- ❖ CDEMA to support the DRM operations of CANTO, ensuring that their efforts and procedures are in-keeping with CANTO's mandate and the Regional Coordination Plan (RCP).



## 4. CONCLUSION

# Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)

- ▶ 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





**THANK YOU**