

CDM Audit Tool Application Results

Focus of Regional Report

- Five questionnaires which each correspond to a phase were analysed for this report.
- These are Mitigation, Preparedness A, Preparedness B, Response and Recovery.
- Each phase is divided into components, and then sub-divided into key elements which are further divided into sub-elements.

Focus of Regional Report

- Mitigation covers 4 components, namely risk identification, non-structural mitigation, structural mitigation and risk transfer.
- Preparedness A covers 2 components namely governance and community resilience.
- There are 5 components in preparedness B - governance, education and information, training and exercises, warning and alert and finance and administration

Focus of Regional Report

- Recovery covers 3 components which are reconstruction and repair of damaged infrastructure, macroeconomic and budget management and revitalization for affected sectors (exports, tourism and agriculture).
- The findings are summarized by component for each phase and presented

Mitigation

Risk Identification

- Hazard assessment occurs but needs strengthening particularly in terms of keeping hazard information updated and using GIS and hazard modelling tools.
- Vulnerability assessment is quite weak in terms of the physical, social, and economic elements but is less so in terms of environmental assessments.
- Risk assessment is weak as regional standards (tool/ methodology) for structural VA is available but not applied adequately at the national level

Mitigation

Non- structural Mitigation

- Land use planning is adequately addressed in the region but enforcement needs improvement.
- Building codes need to be legislated and better enforced at the national level.
- Regional and national safety standards, including PAHO Safe Hospital, need greater implementation.

Mitigation

Structural Mitigation

- Planning processes for new facilities are strong but there is no evidence that maintenance provisions are being made.
- How well retrofitting of old facilities is addressed in countries could not be determined because of the number of non-responses.
- There is a general lack of adequate maintenance programmes to support retrofitted Critical Infrastructure (CI)

Mitigation

Risk Transfer

- Risk transfer is limited to non-existent especially in the private sector.
- Financial measures need to be strengthened to mitigate losses from hazard impact in both the public and private sectors.
- Incentive measures are needed to encourage mitigation in the private sector.

Preparedness

Governance

- Some general areas of weakness which encompass legislation, policy, strategic and planning framework are the limited integration of climate change, especially modelization, and also gender elements.
- The integration of CDM into national sector policies and work plan and having sectoral legislation mandating CDM responsibilities are very weak areas to be addressed.
- The area of community level efforts is generally low, which contributes to the general weakness as it relates to the level of community resilience, which can also be viewed as the weakest area in terms of governance.
- Efforts are being made towards strengthening CDM in all countries. For example, most countries have disaster management legislation which are either drafted or enacted, have a national sustainable development plan or strategy which addresses phases of DM and some sectors have an approved National Disaster (and/or Response) Management Plan

Preparedness

Community Resilience

- **Community resilience** is generally weakly addressed among Caribbean countries. Although the level HFA Priority Outcome 4 has been adapted within countries it is generally described as low.
- There are also low levels of community organization with 67% of countries not having a well-defined community resilience programme.
- Standardized Methodology for Transformation of Hazard and Risk Knowledge can be described as limited.

Preparedness

Governance

- Proper planning frameworks are weak because sectors in countries generally lack disaster plans which are congruent with national and community CDM plans.
- Countries have mutual aid agreements regarding disaster management with other countries; however, this does not exist at the community level within countries.

Preparedness

Education and Information

- Education is area which needs to be strengthened in terms of the consistency in CDM materials available at all school levels and consistent delivery of formal CDM related education at the certificate and academic degree levels.
- **In terms of information, public awareness is ongoing and emphasis need to be placed on gender issues and vulnerable groups and evaluating their effectiveness.**
- CDM knowledge and experience management need to be strengthened with regards to accessing regional networks of CDM knowledge collection and the critical area of formal succession planning within NDOs to ensure knowledge transfer

Preparedness

Training and Exercises

- Formal and informal training is available and ongoing in countries for both public and private sectors. This needs to be strengthened by providing additional training to NDO staff.
- Community resilient enhancement programmes are in place but needs to be strengthened by implementing CDM familiarisation and training programmes for senior officials/leaders.

Preparedness

Warning and Alert

- Detection of threats is available from regional all hazard monitoring network which can improve the service to countries based on the adequacy of monitoring rating received.
- EWS are in place but needs to be addressed in terms of raising public awareness of what these are and to link community systems to national ones. Further safe area designation for priority need to be addressed in all countries.
- Countries have robust emergency communication systems with some capacity to provide immediate warning and varying levels of inter-operability with national, regional and international EWS.
- There is need for enhancement of early warning systems and confidence in these systems.

Preparedness

Finance and Administration

- Resource management's greatest weakness is the lack of material resources for CDM implementation. Further human resource and management needs to be addressed in order for all NDOs to meet regional minimum standards.
- Adequate sectoral resourcing of CDM is needed including raising the CU's ability to meet the needs of NDOs. Programme management capabilities could not be assessed.
- While ICT platforms exist on the regional and national level they would be more efficient if there was inter-operability in both directions

Response

Activation

- The strength of mobilization lies in resilient National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) Command and Control (CC) structures. However, mobilization is also weak because evacuation needs to be addressed in terms of tourist repatriation, mandatory evacuation legislation and designated authority for evacuation.
- Damage assessment is adequate in terms of the initial assessment but the comprehensive assessment needs strengthening because some countries lack plans and/or resources to carry out the assessment.

Response

Activation cont'd

- In terms of operational information management, communication systems need to be strengthened by resolving compatibility issues between NEOC and various actors. Data management systems have protocols to capture response and most countries have data management systems in place which could be better automated and more steps taken to safeguard vital records.
- In terms of emergency public information respondents were unclear as to what out of region public information guidelines are. Additionally, their disaster plans do not call for an operational role for selected media.
- Needs Assessment is adequate in some areas but lacking in others. Specifically, countries have mechanisms for prioritization of needs but lack a written donation policy and mechanism for support after an event.

Response

Resources

- Rescue resources need strengthening in terms of linking the NEOC and EOCs to emergency services and developing regulations and plans to guide the involvement and coordination of volunteers.
- In terms of the medical situation, medical facilities need to be better equipped to handle national health related emergencies and a CDM training programme is needed for the health sector. While countries have protocols for foreign medical personnel assistance and mass casualty/fatality management plans, access to the regional medical laboratory network is needed.

Response

Resources

- In terms of life support, shelter, food and water is organized but need better plans and more services such as water purification and/or treatment capability for temporary accommodation areas.
- Transportation (air, land and sea) systems are in place but needs to be upgraded to provide greater capabilities for post disaster operations.
- A logistics management system including warehousing capabilities and distribution of essential supplies and equipment is lacking in all countries.

Resources

Response

- Finance is weak because there is little to no national level access to emergency funding to support response operations and only a few countries have a mechanism and protocols to receive and manage foreign donor financial and in-kind contributions for emergency response operations.
- The strength of procurement is that generally countries have inventories of critical emergency supplies providers (wholesalers and distributors). A major weakness is that countries do not have a policy to replace normal government procurement procedures with an accelerated and delegated process for emergencies.

Response

Immediate Rehabilitation

- Restoration of life lines is strong in that all countries have contingency plans to ensure continuity of all critical life line system but weak in that all countries need a mechanism and process to determine priority restoration of power, water services, waste services, communication services and transport services (including airports and seaports).
- Initial return to normalcy is supported by national rehabilitation plans that support the re-establishment of critical services including social services, schools, and temporary employment for those left unemployed by a disaster

Response

De- activation

- Gradual transfer to recovery responsibilities are covered by adequate national rehabilitation plans to support the re-establishment of critical services and is overseen by National Disaster Management Committees.
- After action analysis is an area of strength for countries and these are guided by specific protocols.
- Resource restoration specific to personnel are managed through systems for the evaluation of performance and the replenishment of resources. This could be strengthened by developing training plans based on National Disaster Office staff performance during an event.

Recovery

Reconstruction and Repair of Damaged Infrastructure

- Early recovery and reconstruction is weak because no policy exists among country for debris removal and disposal.
- Priority setting for reconstruction needs to be addressed as a matter of priority as limited or no reconstruction policy or plan exists. Additionally, there is limited to no budgetary allocation for rehabilitation and/or reconstruction and limited evidence that mitigation considerations are included in sector based reconstruction interventions

Recovery

Macroeconomic and Budget Management

- Finance seems to be a major area of weakness affecting all countries with limited national mechanisms that prioritizes areas and/or groups in need of a particular type of financial assistance.
- No information on loans were ascertained on quantity and type of foreign aid.
- Responses on accountability and adequacy in relation to financial management are generally weak

Recovery

**Revitalization
for Affected
Sectors
(exports,
tourism and
agriculture)**

- There is a great need to address the continuity of Government (established procedures that allow a government to continue its essential operations in case of disaster) and business continuity. These plans do not exist for most countries.