



# Jamaica

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## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2011-2013)

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# Section 1: Outcomes 2011-2013

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## Strategic Outcome For Goal 1

### Outcome Statement:

1. A subcommittee of cabinet has been established to guide national disaster risk reduction. To re-examine and develop a DRR strategy recommendations for immediate and long term strategies and programmes.

2. Ministry now established to guide and coordinate climate change climate change issues in Jamaica. Ministries agencies and departments are expected to align their strategic and corporate plans to the goals and objectives of the vision 2030 national Development plan

Plans are on the way for the establishment of a department within the ministry of water land and environment and climate change to coordinate major national climate change projects and policies.

3. Developing CDM policy and climate change policy

The process to fully established Hazard Information within the Planning and Development process has progressed significantly. It is now a Policy that all Development Applications are submitted to the National Disaster Management Office for review and comments prior to approval. The process is however challenged by limited Human Resources and inadequate island wide coverage of multi hazard maps.

Hazards and Vulnerability Assessment and Ranking Tools developed and are being applied. National Action Plan to be developed and will provide practical support to the National Hazard Mitigation Policy.

A Vision 2030 National Development Plan has also been prepared and features Hazard Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation as a major objective. The National Disaster Office and the Meteorological Service currently chairs a Thematic Working on Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation.

Baseline Assessment has been conducted for Jamaica with support from CDEMA and will be utilized in the 2011-2013 programme period.

## Strategic Outcome For Goal 2

### Outcome Statement:

In May 2012 during NDC the PM, as chair of disaster management in Jamaica approved creation of a National disaster council as a first step in restructuring the governance structure for DRR.

Ministry now established to guide and coordinate climate change climate change issues in Jamaica. Ministries agencies and departments are expected to align their strategic and corporate plans to the goals and objectives of the vision 2030 national Development plan

Continued efforts at mainstreaming DRR into sectors to include training and equipment, establishment of DRR committees.

Expansion of BDRC model across vulnerable communities, including intervention by NGO's (Jamaica Red Cross) and sectors at community level.

Plans are in place for re-structuring of Jamaica Fire Brigade.

The efforts to mainstream DRR within Key Sectors and Agencies have been accelerated with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Tourism establishing DRM focal points. Both sectors have also incorporated DRR activities in their respective sector work programmes inclusive of the Policy and legislative review necessary to effectively integrate the DRR at the sector level. The National Disaster Office has initiated several Community Capacity and Resilience Building Projects which have are already yielding positive outputs. National Disaster Management Framework is being reviewed to ensure greater effectiveness in tackling the identified areas of weaknesses in the areas of Risk Analysis Risk Reduction and Risk Transfer and further enhance areas that have been traditionally stronger such as preparedness, response coordination.

## Strategic Outcome For Goal 3

### Outcome Statement:

The preparedness capacity has remained fairly static over the period. Efforts have been made to improve preparedness Capacity in the areas of Earthquake Response and Hazardous Materials/Waste. The Community Programme is currently being re-established with strong ties to the Local Governance Mechanism.

Improvements have been noted in the utilization of technical findings in some infrastructure reconstruction/rebuilding process.

In the area of Preparedness/Recovery there are Improvements in infrastructure design standards for larger return periods by the ministry/agency responsible for roads and works infrastructure. And guidelines for hazard management of hillsides have been developed in the draft Hillside development Manual.

## Section 2: Strategic goals

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### Strategic Goal Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

#### Strategic Goal Statement:

Sustainable Development in Jamaica enhanced by, and strategically aligned to Comprehensive Disaster Management

### Strategic Goal Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

#### Strategic Goal Statement:

The National Emergency Operation Centre which is the focal point for coordination of all disaster responses for all hazards is now housed at an appropriate, safe, and well-equipped location. The ODPEM which acts as the secretariat of the National Disaster Organization, remains committed to providing a work environment that is conducive to high output, worker satisfaction and skills improvement. Levels of satisfaction have been benchmarked to determine ongoing levels of improvement.

The ongoing Building Disaster Resilient Community programme seeks to enhance community capacity to deal effectively with the adverse effects of disasters. Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Management at National, Parish levels of governance and into key sectors is ongoing. It is the intention to move forward to develop a comprehensive system to measure performance, progress and results.

### Strategic Goal Area 3

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

#### Strategic Goal Statement:

The (National Disaster Office) ODPEM continues to slowly advocate for the strengthening of Disaster Risk Management in Jamaica. Areas of focus include the institutional capacity of the organization and the capacity of the emergency responders addressed through training programmes, and external assistance sought to expand this area with subject matter exchanges among emergency response personnel and hazard management specialist.

Support is also provided to improve/ acquire equipment and improve the use of technology for sound decision making.

## Section 3: Priority for action 1

*Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.*

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### Priority for action 1: Core indicator 1

*National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions?  
Yes

National development plan	Yes
Sector strategies and plans	Yes
Climate change policy and strategy	Yes
Poverty reduction strategy papers	No
CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)	Yes
Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk? Yes

Description:

Comprehensive DRM Policy: The country is now in the process of developing a comprehensive disaster risk management policy to guide disaster risk reduction activities and emergency management. Although the hazard mitigation policy which represents significant achievement for the country is a long recognized tool to promoting DRR, the

development of this new comprehensive policy is necessary for alignment with the country's draft CDM Legislation which will reflect several changes in the DRM landscape within the country. The Policy will ensure that there is a long term policy framework for implementing CDM which is reinforced by commitment from the Political Directorate. It will also set the context for the elaboration and integration of the key components and principles of CDM into national strategies, legislation, regulations, plans and programmes while reinforcing the wider DRR issues and the linkages to the various other national development policies.

**DRM Legislation:** The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act was passed in 1993. While it has provided the legal framework for disaster management in the country, it is generally felt that the provisions are not sufficient to deal with the shift in focus from disaster management to disaster risk management. To date a new Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Bill has been drafted but has experienced some delays in the process as a result of change in Ministries of the National Disaster Office. The delays have caused opportunities to arise to include critical recommendations coming out of the international thrust of strengthening disaster laws. The organization is focused towards the completion of the suite of legal areas which will provide a strengthened framework for DR in the country. The revised legislation along with the current thrust to achieve Local Government Reform should result in a further strengthening of the Local Authorities to effectively provide more effective management of Disaster Risk at the local level.

#### Wider National Context:

- Vision 2030 Plan has been completed and disseminated since 2009
- National Climate Change Adaptation Framework adapted based on UNFCCC
- Ministry of Water, Land, Environment & Climate Change has been established to give more prominence and attention to climate change matters
- Second National Communication on Climate change completed
- National Energy Policy approved - Wind and solar energy identified as cleaner, more sustainable sources of energy. Discussion underway regarding the use of Liquid Natural Gas as an alternate
- Regional Protocol for tsunami being developed for Jamaica
- Parish Development Orders currently being developed for two of fourteen municipalities.
- Mainstreaming of DRR has commenced in key sectors (agriculture and tourism)
- First attempt at developing a country work programme to enable sectors to be more integrated in Disaster Risk Management

#### Context & Constraints:

The National Hazard Risk Reduction policy (2005) and draft strategy and action plan has not been disseminated on a wide scale. The strategy and the action plan have been developed but are in draft state.

Currently the National Disaster Management Agency has been implementing a three year strategic planning for DRR. This strategy while comprehensive is not fully integrated in key sectors and agencies.

- The current Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act needs revision to make it more applicable to changing disaster management practices. It currently does not recognize some of the elements of risk management and does not address critical issues such as evacuation, no build zones and sanctions for breaches of the Act. The Legislation has however been revised and is scheduled to be considered by the Parliament.
- Political machinery slow to implement local government reform.



The WRA does not have a legal mandate for flood water control management. What has been done to date is as a result of technical support to the DRM agency. Flood risk and management have overlapping areas and regulatory and implementation responsibilities lies within one agency. The works aspects should be managed by NWA. The regulatory aspects managed by WRA Redrafting of Act commenced in 2003 and was completed in 2009. (Next steps include approval from cabinet and promulgation of the act.

## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 2

*Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget	7	20

Decentralised / sub-national budget

USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)	
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#### Description:

The country has always recognized the need for plan development and has always incorporated risk reduction plans and activities in its strategic plan. However, attaining the necessary resources to effectively deliver has been a challenge:

- Of the total budget received by the organization approximately 37% is allocated towards risk reduction and relief and response.
- The country has received interventions through projects which total 600M
- There have also been efforts towards mitigation in several sectors. For Example:• Tourism sector, some amount of budgetary allocation for DRM
- Transport and Infrastructure – DRR incorporated during maintenance and for new

developments

- Overseas Development assistance to various sectors – Agriculture, Infrastructure, Education, Health etc.
- As we move towards the development of more sector DRR plans, the DRR areas will be more defined and this will justify requests for budgetary allocation
- Limited GOJ allocation for risk reduction activities in sectors.
- USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g Transport, agriculture, infrastructure 200M 3yrs DFID project

- WRA - Funds are allocated in the recurrent budget to address
    - Support to the development approval process
    - Technical support to hazard management
    - Monitoring and maintenance of the hydrological network for extreme events (flooding and drought)
    - Post flood and drought Impacts assessments
    - Replacement costs of monitoring stations
- An estimate of percentage of budgetary allocation of the agency could be in the region 12% risk reduction and relief and reconstruction \* (An estimate which combines reasoning with guessing)

### Context & Constraints:

Absence of dedicated budgetary allocation at the local and national levels to expedite risk reduction programmes.

- Absence of substantial annual allocations to the National Disaster Fund.
- Absence of a Risk Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan
- Absence of local action plans for DRR
- High dependency on overseas development assistance for DRR activities

The absence of the legislative framework provides a constraint in acquiring and improving the human resource capacity.

## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 3

*Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? No

**Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)**

Yes

**Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government** Yes

<b>Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR</b>	0
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### Description:

The national disaster management structure includes at the third tier a community disaster management framework which is intended to ultimately support the efforts at the national level. They have been functioning well and have been the recipients of several disaster related training and Capacity Building. Notwithstanding there are a pockets of communities island wide which have not been fully trained.

- Community Development Funds have been established to provide elected officials access to funds for DRR activities among other things.
- Legislations available to local authorities for DRR include Building Acts and By-Laws, Planning Laws, Public Health Act Community involvement is articulated in the current Disaster Preparedness Act, 1993 and proposed to be strengthened in the new legislation. The new Act is being revised to give Local Authorities more legislative authority. There is a revised building code and the process has started to draft and enshrine in law a building act.

### Context & Constraints:

The Parish structure needs strengthening so that community involvement is effectively employed to support the DRR Planning and Response at the Municipal Level thereby strengthening the governance process for DRR at the Local Authorities.

- Resource constraints exist which sometimes affects resources deployed at the community level.
- There is still scope for greater involvement of the communities in Disaster Risk Management despite initiative such as town hall meetings and the Parish Development Committee.
- Lack of incentives to promote the programme in an effort to receive wide scale acceptance.
- Socio-economic conditions of some communities act as a barrier to acceptance of DRR
- Some of the existing laws available to Local Authorities are archaic dating to as far back as 1908.
- The process of preparing development orders are driven at national level rather than at local level

# Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4

*A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

<b>Civil society members (specify absolute number)</b>	Yes
<b>National finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)</b>	Yes
<b>Sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)</b>	Yes
<b>Private sector (specify absolute number)</b>	Yes
<b>Science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)</b>	Yes
<b>Women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)</b>	0
<b>Other (please specify)</b>	

Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

<b>In the Prime Minister's/President's Office</b>	No
<b>In a central planning and/or coordinating unit</b>	No
<b>In a civil protection department</b>	No
<b>In an environmental planning ministry</b>	No
<b>In the Ministry of Finance</b>	No

## Description:

The National Disaster Committee is the key decision making entity within the disaster framework. This is chaired by the Prime Minister and facilitates the interaction of key development players towards progress of the risk reduction agenda.

The National Disaster Plan sets out a comprehensive framework for participation of several government agencies, private sector and NGO's. Interaction among partners is established in all critical aspects of disaster management including Risk Reduction.

At least one of the six national sub-committees has responsibility for the area of risk reduction. This sub-committee consists of a very wide cross section of all critical sectors.

The platform will be strengthened by the new legislation which is currently in draft - to include a National Disaster Council in place of the existing National Disaster Committee. The Country Work programme will provide a comprehensive strategic framework which integrates all sectors.

Women's organization in DRR has been strengthened through the identification of a gender focal point.

Within an existing community resilience project there has been a move towards gender specific activities which target women.

WRA- Established policies and frameworks are in place for monitoring and managing hazardous spills to the surface and ground water resources. Agreed Protocols are also in place for management of bauxite effluent, and also a regulatory framework

## Context & Constraints:

Participation by some agencies has not been mainstreamed and is more aligned with a person rather than a post. This affects the quality and continuity of participation.

- Staff attrition also affects the process as roles have to be reassigned and the requisite training to re-introduce core principles have to be executed.
- Resources of some agencies are limited and affect their level of participation.
- Capacity Assessment of the national and parish mechanism and reporting to the National Disaster Committee are necessary.
- The level of inactivity of the sub-committees affects its level of effectiveness. Civil society and other members do not get the opportunity to engage in a timely basis on DRR issues.

WRA - Challenge is between the balance for the great need for economic growth and the protection of the environment

## Section 4: Priority for action 2

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

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### Priority for action 2: Core indicator 1

*National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? No

<b>Multi-hazard risk assessment</b>	No
<b>% of schools and hospitals assessed</b>	unsure
<b>Schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)</b>	unsure
<b>Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments</b>	Yes
<b>Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments</b>	No
<b>Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)</b>	Yes
<b>Common format for risk assessment</b>	No
<b>Risk assessment format customised by user</b>	No
<b>Is future/probable risk assessed?</b>	No
<b>Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site specific risk assessments have been done to guide development for specific sites</li></ul>

## Description:

There is a deliberate effort at collecting and making hazard and vulnerability data available. This is usually through damage assessment reports, a national disaster catalogue and annual incident reports and hazard maps prepared by the respective technical agencies. These reports are available to the general public to inform their projects. This information has also guided our intervention in communities and has been used in the preparation of hazard inventory maps and hazard maps. Hazard data has also been used in the development of a methodology to rank vulnerable communities. Academia has also been instrumental in researching some of this data.

So far, no risk assessments have been undertaken for key sectors but efforts are currently underway to achieve this in the agriculture and tourism sectors. Caribbean Risk Atlas / National Risk Atlas being developed by UWI with ODPEM'S support. Under the means of verification section Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments are currently in draft. However there is no common format for risk assessment. Some probable risk assessments have been developed and used but these are mainly skewed towards climate change. Three (3) towns done using the NOAA Community Vulnerability Assessment Tool (CVAT) methodology which stops at vulnerability assessment. Risk assessment has commenced for 2 towns using FEMA Haz US – MH methodology which takes us through the process of hazard identification and assessment, assists, and loss estimation and mitigation.

National Spatial Plan Project 90% complete data sourcing.  
Discrete hazard maps exist for landslide, earthquake.  
School Safety Programme underway (USAID).  
PAHO conducting Safe Hospitals Programme

Ground water vulnerability maps exist that informs development approval decisions in vulnerable aquifer areas. There are two types of aquifers: Limestone – karstic has a lot of caverns, faults, and fissures, the bulk of which is the western 2/3 of the country and alluvial aquifer largely coastal aquifers.

Flood hazard maps exist - Flood hazard levels 100 year return period is the designated standard.

Landslide susceptibility maps exist for 5 parishes

## Context & Constraints:

Resources to undertake sectoral risk assessments are limited.

- Priorities for the National Disaster Office and sectors sometimes differ and so getting the support and buy-in at the time of implementation is sometimes difficult.
- Little ownership of Disaster Management Responsibility at the sector levels.

There is no systemic programme in place to collect risk assessment which was noted by the WRA as there is there no legal mandate to collect this data. Hazard Data has only been provided through projects at the request of ODPEM.

They also noted some element for risk assessments are in place such as hazard and vulnerability information. The deficiency is in the exposure /losses such expected social and economic losses, physical and infrastructure replacement values. The data is not collected in a manner to support risk assessments.

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 2

*Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed? Yes

<b>Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated</b>	Yes
<b>Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)</b>	Yes
<b>Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries</b>	No

#### Description:

Data is collected at the National Disaster Office by way of damage assessment reports in post disaster events and incident logs. The damage assessment data includes data from other sectors and specialized agencies that monitor flood gauges, flood data and landslide data and inventories.

Pre impact data is also available through hazard maps prepared by Water Resources Authority, Mines and Geology, and the Earthquake Unit. Some of this work has been achieved through project funding.

GIS is being used more extensively for the before, during and after impact to generate pre-impact scenarios, archive and monitor data on impacts from hazards. Hazard data is also shared with other agencies using GIS.

Data on hazards and vulnerability are also disseminated from a documentation centre operated from a national level coupled with communication strategies, which are used to disseminate information on hazard vulnerability in an effort to place risk reduction issues on the national agenda.

ECLAC methodology for disaster loss assessment embedded in PIOJ - no database but data exists.

Process used extensively by sectors and academia.

Water Resources Authority developing flood and landslide hazard mapping by providing technical support to various agencies. However, there is no legal mandate outlined in their legislation to conduct hazard and vulnerability assessments. Vulnerability ranking methodology used as an analytical tool for making decisions.

LICJ collaborating with agencies to capture geospatial data.



## Context & Constraints:

The GIS is used to store several pieces of information. However, data is not stored in a database format which allows for easier access and analysis.

- The reports are sometimes not as comprehensive as they ought to be because of the failure of some entities to submit detailed damage assessment information.
- The documentation centre needs to function as a complete repository of hazard vulnerability data but is affected by space constraints and financial incapacity to improve current technologies.
- Limited pre-impact baseline data exists.
- Monitoring of technological hazards and air quality is inadequate
- The consistency with which hazards are monitored needs improvement

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 3

*Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

<b>Early warnings acted on effectively</b>	Yes
<b>Local level preparedness</b>	Yes
<b>Communication systems and protocols used and applied</b>	Yes
<b>Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination</b>	Yes

## Description:

Work has been accomplished in the establishment of Flood Early Warning Systems but this has not been extensive. Agency identified with dedicated responsibility in terms of data collection through rain, river and stream gauges complemented by community -based flood early warning systems. Community-based Flood Early warning teams have been established along major river basins and waterways and have been given the capacity to communicate within a network to relay information both at the local and national levels.

Good progress has been made in terms of Early Warning Systems in place for Hurricanes and Floods.

Doppler Radar Technology is utilized and complimented by satellite imagery. Telemetric

Flood Warning Systems and Community Flood Gauges are also in place to enhance the early warning capabilities for floods. Three communities were also trained to interpret radar data via internet as a means of enhancing early warning.

For Earthquakes, a National Seismograph Network is in place to generate data following an earthquake to quickly inform decision-makers in taking the necessary steps to curtail infrastructural damage to affected communities and provide the necessary alerting mechanism for the probability of aftershocks.

The country is now a signatory to a Regional Tsunami Warning System established with mechanisms established to expedite functions under this responsibility.

Data available in terms of earthquake and landslide susceptibility maps and research is continually being

undertaken in tandem with universities, and continuing through country-based academia with partnerships with local and external universities and government agencies. A major EWS system is now in place for the vulnerable Bog Walk area. Doppler satellite imagery is available via streaming link from Met Services.

Landslide hazard map completed for St Catherine and St Thomas.

Portmore now has multi-hazard map.

Approximately 13 rainfall data loggers have been installed at strategic points across the island since September 2012 to monitor climate related data.

Although means of verification apply, only one community at this point in time receives timely flood warning information from the WRA. This was initially a pilot project which now awaits policy and legislative mandate for the development of a national programme. Protocols exist but for Rio Cobre Early warning system.

## Context & Constraints:

Earthquake susceptibility maps available for two geographic regions (sections of St Thomas and St Catherine).

Good progress made with landslide susceptibility maps which are also available at the local level.

However these projects are largely implemented with international donor funding. As such there is the absence of an overarching programme with progress achieved annually.

- Several manual gauges are to be upgraded to telemetric; more data gathering sensors need to be implemented.

- The national Documentation Centre needs to function as a complete repository of hazard vulnerability data. Restricted by financial incapacity to improve current technologies.

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 4

*National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

<b>Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional risk assessment</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional early warning</b>	Yes
<b>Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing</b>	No
<b>Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks</b>	Yes

### Description:

Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy. Jamaica's function as a regional focal point for neighbouring states has also led to the sharing of data with a view to measuring transboundary risks especially for the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Bahamas and Belize.

Regional Tsunami Warning system established with Jamaica as a signatory.

The country is also part of the UN System-led regional focal grouping to expedite more effective emergency response for the Northern section of the Caribbean. This has led to further information sharing and to greater regional cooperation in responding to emergencies. The National Disaster Office has forged a relationship with the General Council of Martinique where mutual areas of good practice have been identified and strategies and approaches identified for the transfer of the skills and knowledge

### Context & Constraints:

Absence of Caribbean economic integration which would serve as a catalyst for greater work in Disaster Risk Reduction at the regional level.

- Lack of commitment by national leaders to finalize issues such as the revamping of a uniformed building code that can be made applicable across the Caribbean.
- Improvements in mechanisms to enable Caribbean countries to communicate speedily and share data effectively.

## Section 5: Priority for action 3

*Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels*

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### Priority for action 3: Core indicator 1

*Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

<b>Information is proactively disseminated</b>	Yes
<b>Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV, )</b>	Yes
<b>Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk</b>	Yes

#### Description:

The ODPEM continues to use all available medium to disseminate information at various levels to the wider population. The Organizations website and sub-site serve as major sources of information gathering for thousands of individuals and institutions. The use of the local media is an avenue that is frequently explored and taken advantage of to get the message of Disaster Preparedness out with maximum reach.

Cognizant of the fact that there are individuals with varying disabilities, effort is made to have information available in various format. The use of the internet and text messaging services have also aided the organization to reach numerous persons.

The ODPEM is currently engaging with private sector interests with the aim of disseminating information through various media (print/electronic) Over the last few years a number of independent initiatives were undertaken by the private sector to independently communicate preparedness and awareness-building information.

NWA now on board with Public education. IWCAM public education programme for watershed management at the community level.  
JPS informing persons on prevention methods.

ADRA targetting religious groups through its health education programmes to inform about disasters.

**Context & Constraints:**

Financial limitations remain the greatest challenge to the organizations ability to tap into as many markets as possible. Ongoing dialogue is maintained with media houses, special interest groups and donor agencies for partnership to make the goal more achievable.

**Recommendations**

The organization is making recommendation for some of these services to be available free of cost or sponsored largely by the Corporate entities. The ODPEM envisions being able to carry information to the visually impaired, the hearing impaired and other special population without being restricted by budgetary constraints.

**Priority for action 3: Core indicator 2**

*School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.*

**Level of Progress achieved: 4**

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? Yes

<b>Primary school curriculum</b>	Yes
<b>Secondary school curriculum</b>	Yes
<b>University curriculum</b>	Yes
<b>Professional DRR education programmes</b>	Yes

**Description:**

Substantial achievement has been attained in the area of disseminating Disaster Preparedness information to a wide cross section of the Jamaican population. Numerous programmes have either been undertaken or are currently on stream to sensitize the nation to disaster preparedness. The Schools curricular at the Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary levels have embraced the concept of Disaster Preparedness as an important topic area. There has been a significant increase in the number of learning institutions provided with training in Disaster Preparedness annually. Official inclusion into the school curriculum has been advanced and further advances are planned by the Ministry of Education.

Major stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education and school administration have been actively involved in promulgating the message thus increasing awareness. A recently concluded workshop has seen more than Three Hundred Principals, Teachers and Caregivers from approximately One Hundred (100) schools and Child Care Institutions trained in building Schools Resilience to Disasters. Arising from this Disaster Plans have been developed by these participating institutions and a channel of communication established between the ODPEM and the respective schools.

Schools Safety Programme.  
 Joint programmes with international universities established.

**Context & Constraints:**

A major challenge that Jamaica as a nation and the ODPEM as an organization face with regards to maximum reach of the message of Disaster Preparedness is a lack of financial resources. Considerably more could be realized if funds were available. Several of our educational facilities do not have the educational facilities to effect the necessary activities to make their institutions more resistant to the likely impact of disasters.

Mainstreaming DRR is slow in many instances simply because it is dependent on personalities and not legislation.

**Priority for action 3: Core indicator 3**

*Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget?  
 Yes

<b>Research programmes and projects</b>	Yes
<b>Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions</b>	Yes
<b>Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR</b>	Yes

## Description:

Agencies with authority have been identified at the national level with the necessary expertise to carry out multi-risk assessments. Accepted scientific methodologies have been used to carry out these assessments with the aid of GIS technology. GIS also facilitates project assessments. At present data is shared between key agencies such as the Meteorological Service, Earthquake Unit, Mines and Geology, Water Resources Authority and the National Disaster Organization, ODPEM.

ECLAC and USAID/OFDA methodologies have been used to assess the impact of hazards. Vulnerability assessment methodologies have also been established and models developed for hazard impact analysis. CDERA, as the regional response agency has developed reporting strategies and bench-marking tools for participating states. These tools are used for evaluation and monitoring at the regional level.

Agricultural research - hazard resistant crops and livestock.  
Climate change centre established at UWI.  
Infrastructure (road devt) - materials to strengthen road base.  
Scientific approach applied to community research development.

## Context & Constraints:

There is a need for strengthening the capacity of human resources at the National Disaster Organization to do meaningful work in this area. The additional human resources on implementation would also act as a national coordinator for harnessing the necessary information from the agencies who have done research to bring a more holistic approach to research conducted.

No effort made to integrate Cost Benefit Analysis as compared to Latin American counterparts.

Absence of the data formulated at the national level translated to the community based level to effect action.

## Priority for action 3: Core indicator 4

*Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

<b>Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.</b>	Yes
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<b>Training of local government</b>	Yes
<b>Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)</b>	Yes
<b>Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)</b>	Yes
<b>Guidance for risk reduction</b>	No
<b>Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level</b>	Yes

### Description:

Achievement level upgraded to 4 from 3 since 2009 report.

Through the National Disaster Management Structure, state agencies, Non Government Organizations and Community Based Organization, the National Disaster Office has been able to effectively reach urban and rural communities. Information and knowledge is shared and capacity built. Vulnerable communities and institutions are identified regularly and training sessions scheduled to equip persons with the requisite knowledge and skills to build community resilience.

Community-based programmes are encouraged and promoted at the local level as a means of gaining participation of grass-roots populations. The concept of participatory action and monitoring is also adopted. Joint programmes are conducted with the assistance of major partner agencies such as the Jamaica Fire Brigade and First Aid Service providers with a view to improving skills sets for community-based response until external assistance can be provided.

Active involvement of NGOs in public education.  
 Recent partner-funded project to build resilience in vulnerable communities.  
 Commemorative events at community level (hurricane preparedness month) help embed hazard awareness.

### Context & Constraints:

A general lack of resources to address capacity building in all vulnerable communities that exists.

Sustaining Community Disaster Management groups.

Establishing ownership of community disaster management programs at the municipal authorities so as to enhance the government and democratic processes in relation to Disaster Risk Reduction.

Information provided is generally not translated into action.



## Section 6: Priority for action 4

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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### Priority for action 4: Core indicator 1

*Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

<b>Protected areas legislation</b>	Yes
<b>Payment for ecosystem services (PES)</b>	No
<b>Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)</b>	Yes
<b>Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)</b>	Yes
<b>Climate change adaptation projects and programmes</b>	Yes

Description:

Jamaica has made significant strides in Environmental Management with the establishment of the National Resource Conservation Act (1991) and the formulation of a single agency (National Environment and Planning Agency) in 2001 with sole responsibility for addressing environmental issues.

Projects such as the “Ridge to Reef” looks specifically at land use and natural resource management of targeted watershed areas and their effects on marine environment.

The country has also examined the whole conceptual framework for the Adaptation to Climate change which was initially addressed under preparation of the first National Communication and has been updated under preparation of the second national communication.

Jamaica is Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The Meteorological Service is the National focal point to the UNFCCC. The mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into development planning has been an integral component of the work programme of the National Disaster Office. Notwithstanding

greater buy in is necessary from the various sectors, in working towards this effort. EIAs being reviewed to be a more established requirement for approval. SEA to be developed and included as part of the D.O. Regarding PES, project is underway to cost value ecosystems. Signatory to RAMSAR Convention and Designation of RMSAR sites. Establishment of Devt. Assistance Centre - "One-Stop Shop"

**Context & Constraints:**

While the link has been made in terms of Disasters and Environmental Protection there needs for greater collaboration among agencies especially as it relates to monitoring and enforcement, sharing of data and public education strategies

The situation at parish level is less clear. Parish Disaster Coordinators are not included in the development approval process. However, each Parish Council employs a physical planner who has access to advice from technical agencies, and technical agencies in the parish review applications. (Source: jAmaica country document 2013)

**Priority for action 4: Core indicator 2**

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

**Level of Progress achieved: 3**

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

<b>Crop and property insurance</b>	Yes
<b>Temporary employment guarantee schemes</b>	No
<b>Conditional and unconditional cash transfers</b>	Yes
<b>Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)</b>	Yes
<b>Micro insurance</b>	Yes

## Description:

A framework has been developed to minimize risk to vulnerable populations impacted by disasters. This forms part of the national development plan, Vision 2030 spearheaded by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ). The Government of Jamaica through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) has implemented several programmes to address the needs of vulnerable populations who are affected by disasters: ie the Programme for Advancement through Health and Education (PATH); Rehabilitation Programmes which includes compassionate and rehabilitation grants. There are other programmes that are operated by NGOs such as the Red Cross, Food for the Poor, Salvation Army and ADRA that provide assistance to vulnerable persons (housing, skills training, healthcare, food assistance and clothing).

The passage of Hurricane Dean in 2007 saw the distribution of rehabilitation grants with the MLSS taking a lead. Of note was that rehabilitation grants to assist with rebuilding were not issued

to families living in very high risk areas until they could provide evidence of the ability to relocate to safer locations. This was supported by No Build Orders by the local authority and Public Education drives spearheaded through community-based organisations.

There is also the existence of a National Shelter and Welfare Action Plan developed by the National Disaster Office in conjunction with the National Shelter and Welfare Committee, which clearly outlines the roles and responsibilities of the welfare agencies in responding to emergencies along a three tiered response strategy.

A Squatter Management Unit has also been implemented with the mandate of coordinating the national response to existing informal settlements as well as those which are emerging. Some social programmes for vulnerable populations exist. The PATH programme which assists poor families with cash assistance for food and for education was launched in 2001 and assists some four hundred thousand (400,000) persons including children from primary to tertiary level, single mothers and the elderly. (Source: jamaica Country document 2013)

A draft Homeless Policy (conceptual framework to become Green Paper) has also been developed. MLSS and Ministry of Agriculture grants. Crop and property insurance - PC Banks, Co-operatives, partner schemes

Temporary schemes such as Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme(JEEP) targets vulnerable households for employment in some areas. However, there is no long term programme to address temporary employment.

Various disaster preparedness projects have targeted vulnerable populations, such as persons with disabilities, children and the elderly either as discrete projects or as elements of CBDRM projects. There is however, no sustained national programme in disaster risk reduction for vulnerable populations Source: jamaica country document 2013

Post-disaster assistance in cash or kind is made available for persons earning below the tax threshold. Assistance, in cash or kind, is also made available for small farmers and fisher-folk after disasters, the amounts depending on available resources

## Context & Constraints:

Absence of dedicated budget for the lead agency/ministry to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.

Budgetary allocations lean more towards addressing poverty alleviation strategies through

the Government’s Public assistance programme rather than adopting a socio-cultural approach to reducing risk.  
 At present there is a Relief Policy, Emergency Relief Clearance Policy and a Shelter and Welfare Action Plan updated recently 2013,

Lack of capacity of vulnerable households to access micro-financing, example, knowledge in preparation of business plans etc.

Illegal occupation of marginal high risk lands such as river valleys, flood plains, fringes of urban waterways and unstable slopes continues to be a problem. There have been organised post-disaster relocation exercises, but not at a scale which has made a great difference in numbers.( source: Jamaica country Document 2013)

### Priority for action 4: Core indicator 3

*Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? Yes

<b>National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.</b>	Yes
<b>Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets</b>	
<b>Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals</b>	Yes

### Description:

Agriculture and Tourism sectors mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction. Disaster Risk Reduction is being increasingly included in sectoral planning and programmes. The Agriculture and Tourism sectors which were prioritized under the CDM Strategy have incorporated DRR into their programming, and have identified DRR focal points. The Tourism sector participated in a project coordinated by CDEMA which developed standard procedures for hazard mapping and economic valuation for the sector. Source: Jamaica country document 2013.  
 Tourism facilities retrofitted.

Public infrastructure agencies(JPS, NWA, NWC, etc) incorporating DRR in upgrading systems. Public utility companies have a risk management unit that undertakes cost-benefit analyses. The decision sometimes is driven by insurance and not necessarily DRR.

**Context & Constraints:**

Little or no mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction principles into the National Macro-Economic Planning Policy inspite of inclusion in National Planning document, Vision 2030. Cost constraints may influence implementation of policies. Some procedures are short-cut

**Priority for action 4: Core indicator 4**

*Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.*

**Level of Progress achieved: 4**

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

<b>Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Training of masons on safe construction technology</b>	Yes
<b>Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities</b>	Yes
<b>Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development</b>	Yes
<b>Regulated provision of land titling</b>	Yes

**Description:**

The achievements to date have been in the form of policy and legislation mainly as listed below.

- Building codes
- Page 19
- Town and Country Planning Act
- Local improvements Act
- Parish Council's Act

NRCA Act

Development Approval process

The country's frequent experience with hazards prompted the decision for Environmental Impact Assessment to be a requirement for medium to large scale projects or those that are undertaken in environmentally sensitive areas. The National Disaster Office is also required to conduct vulnerability assessments for some types of developments.

Amendments made to the existing Building Code.

Improvement in attitude towards change.

World Bank project for Slope Stabilization.

Safe Roof and Safe Building training.

Guidelines and Draft Policy for hillside development.

Investment in DRR for settlements includes planned drainage systems, slope stabilization programmes, relocation to less hazard-prone areas and provision of land in safer areas for low income housing. For infrastructure the NWA is modifying its road and drainage design specifications to take into account the effects of climate change.

A Draft Hillside Development Policy is now being circulated for review and discussion; the process includes meeting with local authorities, sectoral interests and community organisations. Source: Jamaica Country Document 2013

Programmes such as Operation PRIDE (Programme for Resettlement and Integrated Development Enterprise) and Land Administration & Management Programme (LAMP) are introduced to implement the necessary works to reduce vulnerability of informal settlements.

Vocational training institutions include training of masons and artisans in safer building techniques.

Despite the formal approval process, some approved developments are still located in vulnerable areas.

Large percentage of the building stock do not conform to building codes and planning guidelines.

In some instances formal developments have been sited in vulnerable areas (Nightingale Grove, Kennedy Grove)

## Context & Constraints:

There are limitations towards comprehensive management of human settlements due to the outmoded nature of numerous development orders and the deficiency in the institutional capacity of monitoring agencies to enforce existing legislation. Investment to reduce flood risk is insufficient or not comprehensive enough.

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5

*Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? No

<b>% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR</b>	0
<b>DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened</b>	No
<b>Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning</b>	Yes
<b>Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery</b>	No

### Description:

The Post Disaster Recovery process is informed by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (the government economic planning arm) and the National Disaster Office. While the concept of “building back better” is widely accepted by most agencies that function in the recovery phase, greater work is needed in this area. There is the absence of a Comprehensive Recovery Plan and a Policy for post disaster replacement housing. No Build Orders in affected communities have in instances been carried out by some Local Authority to ensure that areas such as wetlands remain uninhabited. Relocation of vulnerable populations was achieved post-Hurricane Ivan in 2004 where most of the over 350 affected families have been relocated. Since Hurricane Dean in 2007, five coastal communities have been identified where their most vulnerable populations will be relocated in an effort to ensure that persons do not return to reside in the affected areas. Some NGOs and the National Disaster Office have included basic risk reduction measures in the re-building of homes and have trained community level personnel in safer building practices.

Risk assessments are conducted in the pre-disaster stage and vulnerability assessments conducted in post-disaster mainly to guide relocation activities

## Context & Constraints:

There is inconsistency in the incorporation of risk reduction measures in infrastructure works. No comprehensive recovery programme/framework in existence. Recovery is included in the National Disaster Plan.

Too many formal settlements exist in vulnerable areas.

Gender issues: how to get males involved?

Current recovery mechanisms are not streamlined.

Funds are not allocated for reconstruction - there is no consistent relationship to DRR.

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 6

*Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? No

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? Yes

<b>Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	Yes
<b>By national and sub-national authorities and institutions</b>	Yes
<b>By international development actors</b>	Yes

### Description:

The permit and license regulations under the NRCA act requires that such categories of development be submitted to the National Environment and Planning Agency for review. Hazard and vulnerability assessments are conducted for these applications and recommendations made for mitigating hazards. All large scale projects are required to submit Environmental Impact Assessments for review, these include infrastructure development projects. The organization is also pushing to have Hazard Impact Assessments conducted for large projects as a policy. There is now a more rigorous review of hazard risk assessments in the development approval process and for issuing of permits and licenses. NCA Act.



## Context & Constraints:

There are challenges with the time frame of the approval process (90 days). Assessing development applications is not a core function of the ODPEM. Although the skills exist, the human resources are not always available to adequately undertake such assessments. The volume of applications to be assessed nationally is quite large and beyond the capacity of the organization. Data to assess risk is not captured in a systematized process.

# Section 7: Priority for action 5

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

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## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 1

*Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

<b>DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies</b>	Yes
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<b>The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.</b>	Yes
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Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

<b>Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety</b>	Yes
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<b>Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness</b>	Yes
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Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

<b>Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections</b>	Yes
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<b>Preparedness plans are regularly updated based on future risk scenarios</b>	Yes
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## Description:

A National Disaster Plan exists and is functioning, this plan is comprised of various sub-plans:

- National Earthquake Response Plan
- National Fire management Plan
- National Flood Plan
- National Hurricane Plan
- National Oil Spill Plan
- HazMat Plan
- National Civil Unrest Plan
- National Pandemic Plan

## Context & Constraints:

Parish Disaster Coordinators are employed to Parish Councils and as such are not obligated in any way to report to the National Disaster Office. The Local Authorities lack the adequate capacity to administer its Disaster Management Responsibility.

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 2

*Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.*

## Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

<b>Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities</b>	Yes
<b>Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery</b>	Yes
<b>Operations and communications centre</b>	Yes
<b>Search and rescue teams</b>	Yes
<b>Stockpiles of relief supplies</b>	Yes
<b>Shelters</b>	Yes

<b>Secure medical facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response</b>	Yes

### Description:

National plans and sub plans are in place which guide management, response and coordination of hazards. Contingency plans are a component of the approval process for large scale developments. Agencies, institutions and private sector are all encouraged to develop contingency plans. Training and drills are also carried out within these institutions. The National Disaster Office provides guidance in the preparation of Emergency Response Plans for businesses and institutions.

In some instances, the National Environment Planning Agency (NEPA) makes request for Disaster Plans to ODPEM as a per-requisite for approval.

### Context & Constraints:

Not enough drills and simulation exercises are conducted across all administrative levels. Contingency plans in place - but not gender sensitive. Contingency Plans are not in place in all agencies

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 3

*Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

<b>National contingency and calamity funds</b>	Yes
<b>The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds</b>	Yes
<b>Insurance and reinsurance facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Catastrophe bonds and other capital market</b>	No

## mechanisms

### Description:

There is a National Disaster Fund, but extremely limited in its capacity to mount a credible response to events of a significant nature. Budgetary diversions and the sourcing of loans/grants are sometimes used to respond to large scale events. Notwithstanding Jamaica is a subscriber to the Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), which provides emergency cover in the event of a catastrophic event.

Contingency mechanisms also exist with regional and international partners.

### Context & Constraints:

The Government has been unable to access the CCRIF despite experiencing over US \$ 1.5 Billion in losses over the last four years due mainly to rain and floods. The CCRIF is accessible only following catastrophic wind driven or earthquake events and is not triggered by all parameters.

Economic constraints serve as a hindrance to keeping the National Disaster Fund adequately resourced.

No Sub-National Risk Transfer Fund in place outside of the poorly-resourced National Disaster Fund

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 4

*Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews*

### Level of Progress achieved: 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

<b>Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available</b>	Yes
<b>Post-disaster need assessment methodologies</b>	Yes
<b>Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects</b>	Yes
<b>Identified and trained human resources</b>	Yes

## Description:

A comprehensive response mechanism is in place and is used at every disaster event. This includes standard operation procedures for every hazard and the execution of components of the disaster programme through the synergies and work of the national sub committees and the sector committees (Tourism and Agriculture). Information and lessons learned are shared through National After Event Reviews. The information produced is communicated through reports from all sectors after a disaster event. The ECLAC methodology is also a tool used in reporting losses. AARs conducted.

## Context & Constraints:

Lack of coordination among agencies on collection of data in post-disaster situations at national and parish levels. However there is effective use of the Damage and Loss Assessment (DALA) Methodology and reporting process hence comprehensive reporting is carried out despite lack of coordination in field work. Baseline information (per-impact data) required for all sectors.

## Section 8: Drivers of Progress

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### **a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

The Hazard Mitigation Policy drives the multihazard approach which is also taken in the approval process. Hazard maps are prepared for some of the major rivers and upland areas (slopes and mountainous areas) in Jamaica, and vulnerability assessment and mapping of coastal towns to storm surge and flooding also underway.

### **b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: -- not complete --

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

Some issues relating to gender have been documented from projects carried out, and resulted in skills training to target resilience. There is still a need to take into account gender perspectives in vulnerability assessment methodology and in the revision of the various disaster management sub plans.

## **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?: -- not complete --

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

A Review of the National Disaster Management Framework and the Organization Structure and Capacities of the National Disaster Office has been completed. Further hazard mapping to be conducted for all hazards. There is a multi-sector approach to disaster management. Early warning systems continue to be implemented in vulnerable communities. Collection of technical data, its management, use and dissemination continue to improve.

## **d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.



Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: -- not complete --

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

Vulnerable communities are a major focus of the National Programme, and ongoing projects are in part designed to reduce vulnerability. This includes training programmes for all population types, particularly for the disabled and children. Casualties resulting from events have been reduced

### **e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

The national disaster programme continues to make significant improvements in linkages and networks developed to support the national programme at all levels - from the major NGOs (Red Cross, Salvation Army, ADRA etc) and private sector and civil society in general. Investment by the private sector in the National Programme continues to improve significantly

# Contextual Drivers of Progress

## Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

## Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

Focus: Communities, Sectors, Land and water management, Water sanitation and pollution control, Health and environment Food security, Managing emerging and complex hazards.

# Section 9: Future Outlook

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## Future Outlook Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

### Overall Challenges:

Although disaster management in Jamaica is over twenty eight (28) years in existence, government policy on economic and spatial development still do not reflect strongly full understanding of the issues nor does it reflect a clear connection between economic development and disaster risk reduction. There is a continuing need for clear guidelines for the integration of DRR in sustainable development, policies and plans especially in key economic sectors. Integration of DRR into Project development is also an area of focus as it relates to national development.

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### Future Outlook Statement:

Over the next three (3) years there should be policies, plans and guidelines developed to facilitate the integration of DRR into sustainable development. This will be supported by ongoing awareness and advocacy among institutions and strategic international partners and the wider public.

## Future Outlook Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

### Overall Challenges:

At the institutional level, capacity remains the broad area of challenge. However some other areas of challenge include proper identification of hazards and elements at risk. With this accomplished, a more comprehensive approach can be administered to address mitigation (both structural and non structural) and risk transfer. This will also support the strengthening of national and local preparedness programmes and early warning systems.

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## Future Outlook Statement:

Identify critical priorities for capacity building through some critical areas such as legislation, hazard identification, areas not mapped. It is also envisaged that there will be a sustained capacity building programme in the area of DRR for all local planning authorities, institutions and communities.

## Future Outlook Area 3

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

## Overall Challenges:

The capacity of Local Governance systems to support and sustain the existing efforts in this area. To institutionalize the inclusion of the use of Hazard Information into the planning process and improving the disaster or emergency event registry.

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## Future Outlook Statement:

Over the next three (3) years, mechanisms for harnessing skills at all levels, more importantly at the community level will be improved. A comprehensive response and recovery policy is to be drafted for adoption, mandating all response and recovery operations to incorporate DRR strategies. The National Disaster office will also be expanding its programme of building community resilience and strengthening its volunteer programme and partnerships between state and non state actors towards building national resilience and establishing a culture of safety.

## Future Outlook Area 4

*The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/199, requested the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. A first outline will be developed for the next Global Platform in 2013, and a draft should be finalized towards the end of 2014 to be ready for consideration and adoption at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.*

## Overall Challenges:

The participants were asked to highlight any critical priorities coming out of the meeting that should be addressed nationally. This based on the understanding that these priorities would have to be included in the strategic and operational plans of the various Ministries Department and Agencies. Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction and development planning Progress towards strengthening disaster risk reduction and development planning is still weak. Although there has been some progress in synergies for all the work being done

on risk, risk mapping, risk scenarios and risk assessments hazard and vulnerability assessments maps are still not being used in the planning process. There is too much of an absence of the use of disaster risk information. Institutional networking has improved over the years but more integration is still desired for sustained programmes and continuity.

## Section 10: Stakeholders

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Type	Focal Point
Mines and Geology Division	Gov	Norman Harris, Director Research and Mapping
Ministry of Agriculture	Gov	Phillip Chung
Ministry of Local Government	Gov	Mr. Philbert Brown
Ministry of Tourism	Gov	Osbourne Chin
National Environment Planning Agency	Gov	Gregory Bennett, Director GIS Unit
National Meteorological Service	Gov	Evan Thompson, Weather Branch Head
National Water Commission	Gov	Carl Mcdowell
National Works Agency	Gov	Richard McHaugh, Senior Project Manager
ODPEM	Gov	Karema Aikens - Mitchell. Senior Director
ODPEM	Gov	Marlon Brown Regional Coordinator
ODPEM	Gov	Leiska Powell, Planning Analyst
ODPEM	Gov	Horace Glaze Senior Director
ODPEM	Gov	Javan Morrison Regional Coordinator
ODPEM	Gov	Anna Tucker, Disaster Risk Management Specialist

ODPEM	Gov	Michelle Edwards Senior Director
Planning institute of Jamaica	Gov	Hopeton Peterson
Water Resources Authority	Gov	Herbert Thomas Deputy Director General