

International Day for Disaster Reduction - Caribbean 2013

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION 2013

13 October

A NOT SO OBVIOUS CONVERSATION
LIVING WITH DISABILITY AND DISASTERS

"Many seemingly 'easy' pieces of advice, like "evacuate in advance of a disaster", become much more complicated when you are living with a disability."

UNISDR JOIN THE CONVERSATION
UNISDR.ORG/2013/IDDR



Cuba

Santiago de Cuba	Prepared and Alert	During the week of October 13th, an event will be held with decision makers regarding Seismic risk and its impact in Santiago de Cuba. Information sessions to be carried out in TV and written media, on what to do before, during and after a seismic event. A children competition with visual arts, literature, of the theme "Prepared and Alert".
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Jamaica

Kingston	Raising Awareness	Presentations at schools and displays at libraries of the IDDR, media interviews, and DRR awareness presentations in vulnerable communities. Help Age International is planning a formal launch of their project with an event that will target people with disabilities (PWD), integrating examples of early warning systems for PWD. A booth will be included for the participation of other stakeholders. This event will be held on October 18th, and will be supported by other ECHO partners in the country (PAHO, CR-FR, and UNISDR) and will have the participation of the EU Delegation.
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Haiti

Port-au-Prince	IDDR 2013 in Haiti	Activities through mass media and mobilization of artists, to motivate for greater implication of disabled persons in disaster risk reduction. Mobilization of donors to take into account handicap needs. Other events will include role playing to sensitize the community regarding people with disabilities (PWD) and the challenges to overcome, with games using blinding of the eyes, restriction of legs to reduce mobility, etc. In addition, public awareness activities will be held and community evacuation drills with the integration of PWD
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Tabarre	Cooperazione Internazionale	<p>Comme COOPI en Haiti, voilà notre programme pour la Journée internationale de réduction de risques de désastres.</p> <p>Avec la Protection Civile de Tabarre on a préparé une banderole que je joins ici ,avec la phrase, en créole, que dans la réduction de risques de désastres on ne doit pas oublier les handicapés. On a formé six (6) groups de 5 personnes entre volontaires de la DPC, de la Croix Rouge, Scouts et des EIC que ensemble lirons un discours, préparé par tous, de 5 minutes dans la messe du 13 octobre dans six églises plus importantes de Tabarre. Il y a des églises catholiques, protestants, évangéliques et sont les mêmes églises avec lesquelles nous avons travaillé pour la sensibilisation ; dans ces églises il y a une présence entre 1500 et 3500 fidèles dans le service indiqué. La Protection Civile de Tabarre c'est l'institution qui invite et il y aura beaucoup d'impact. On va essayer d'avoir un témoin de quelques personnes handicapées dans chaque église et nous enverrons des photos.</p> <p>En plus la Protection civile de Tabarre ouvrira ses portes le dimanche 13 et réalisera une projection dans la soirée sur ce thème.</p>
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Additional photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/isdr/10167888374/in/photostream/>

Further Publicity: <http://www.risquesmajeurs.fr/journ%C3%A9e-internationale-de-la-pr%C3%A9vention-des-catastrophes-2013>

Le 13 Octobre de chaque année, le monde célèbre la **journée internationale de la prévention des catastrophes**. Cette journée a pour objectif de sensibiliser les gouvernements et populations sur l'importance de la réduction des risques de catastrophes, et de les encourager à construire des communautés et nations résilientes. Elle permet également de rappeler que la résilience aux catastrophes doit être une **priorité de développement dans toutes les régions du monde**.

La journée internationale de la prévention des catastrophes a vu le jour en 1989, avec l'approbation de l'assemblée générale des nations unies, qui voit en cette journée un moyen de promouvoir une culture mondiale de prévention des catastrophes. Célébrée à l'origine le deuxième Mercredi du mois d'Octobre, l'assemblée générale a désignée, en Décembre 2009, **le 13**

Octobre comme date officielle pour la commémoration de cette journée.



La journée Internationale de Prévention des Catastrophes, **The International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR)** en anglais, s'intéresse chaque année à un thème particulier, parmi les plus récents, on trouve :

- En 2009, "[Des hôpitaux à l'abri des catastrophes](#)"

- En 2010, "[Prévention des catastrophes dans les villes](#)"
- En 2011, "[Mobiliser les enfants et les jeunes pour la réduction des risques de catastrophes](#)"
- En 2012, "[Les femmes et les filles - la force \[in\]visible de la résilience](#)"

Le thème de cette année se concentrera sur les difficultés des personnes aux besoins spécifiques à faire face à une ou des catastrophes : "**Vivre avec un handicap et une catastrophe**"

Avec comme ordre du jour :

- Une planète résiliente implique la participation de chacun;
- Les politiques et décisions pour la réduction des risques de catastrophes doivent inclure les personnes aux besoins spécifiques;
- L'investissement dans la réduction des risques de catastrophes doit tenir compte des personnes aux besoins spécifiques.

Jaquimeyes	Carlos Arenas López	Health promoters working in WASH promotion under the project "Emergency response and early recovery for the most vulnerable people affected by Hurricane Sandy in the Dominican Republic", implemented by Oxfam, CEDES0; FEDECARES and FECAINMAT in the provinces of Enriquillo Region and Azua, funded by DG-ECHO
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Turks and Caicos Islands

Cockburn Town	Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies	The Turks and Caicos Islands celebrated IDDR on 11-October, 2013. Secondary schools around the islands participated in a speech competition, hosted by the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies, which focused on the theme "Living with Disabilities and Disasters".
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Additional photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/isdr/10237167175/>

Exposure on webpage: <http://www.gov.tc/pressoffice/?q=latest-news/october-13-international-day-disaster-reduction>

On October 13, 2013, the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME) leads several activities as the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) joins the rest of the world in celebrating International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR). This year's theme Living with Disasters and Disability focuses on the one billion people around the world, who live with some form of disability. "Persons living with disabilities are among the most excluded in society and their plight is magnified when a disaster strikes. Not only are they less likely to receive the aid they need during a humanitarian crisis, they are also less likely to recover in the long term more often than not, their unique contribution to helping communities prepare for and respond to disasters is also often overlooked," a UN statement said. The theme also aims to emphasize the unique way in which persons living with disabilities contribute to helping communities prepare for and respond to disasters, and how this is often overlooked. It is against this background that the DDME has partnered with the Ministry of Health to increase awareness of the wider public to get involve and take ownership of the process in order to create disaster resilience in local communities. The advantages of IDDR theme here in the TCI will draw attention to the needs of the disabled communities and allow stakeholders to seek alternatives for the effective management of Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies for those less abled members of society. The following activities have been planned in observance of the day: Messages in recognition of the day senior members of Government. Distribution of Brochures. Participation of Public and Private High Schools throughout the island in a National Oratorical Presentation. Trophies will be presented to the winning schools. Participated in the Disability and

Disaster Survey for IDDR day which closed on 25th September 2013. In a release issued on 2nd October 2013, the UNISDR noted that more than 5000 responses to the survey had been received. Due to the high level of interest and response to the survey, the Agency said it has had to extend the original deadline from 25th September 2013 to the end of the year. The preliminary findings will be announced on 10th October 2013. - See more at: <http://www.gov.tc/pressoffice/?q=latest-news/october-13-international-day-disaster-reduction#sthash.umxvblHP.dpuf>

Newsletter / Bulletin of the event: http://issuu.com/tcweeklynews/docs/tcwn_october-19-25_all_pages/26

The Bahamas

Nassau	Townsley	I am apart of The Bahamas National Council for Disability and this survey also brought to our attention the need for a national plan related to persons with disabilities and hurricanes.
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Domenican Republic:

Santo Domingo	Michelle Rivas	<p>Dominican Republic is celebrating IDDR 2013 with an event featuring an open discussion titled "Disasters and People with Disabilities". This event is being organized by the local offices of the following institutions: Dominican and Spanish Red Cross, the National Council for People with Disabilities, the National Commission for Emergencies, Habitat for Humanity, Plan, OXFAM, UN and UNDSR.</p> <p>WATCH THE EVENT LIVE: This event will be broadcasted via livestream. Follow @ONU_RD on Twitter and Facebook (fb.com/nacionesunidasrd) for updates.</p> <p>Thursday, October 10th. 9:30 a.m. Salón América C, Hotel Crowne Plaza Santo Domingo, Dom. Rep.</p>
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Santo Domingo	<p>Conversatorio: Celebración del Día Internacional para la Reducción de Desastres, 10 de Octubre de 20</p>	<p>Objetivo del conversatorio: Propiciar un espacio de sensibilización y de diálogo directo entre autoridades del país relacionados con la temática de Personas Con Discapacidad -PCD- y la sociedad civil y cooperación que impulsa acciones de protección e inclusión de las PCD en los procesos de reducción de riesgos de desastres.</p> <p>Organizadores de la actividad: Socios de ECHO (PNUD/OIM/UNESCO, Plan/Oxfam/Habitat, Cruz Roja, OPS), Comisión Europea ECHO, otras agencias de Naciones Unidas.</p>
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Guadeloupe:

Basse-Terre	Antilles Prevention des Risque Majeurs	L'association APRIM organise les 12 et 13 octobre 2013 la journée Internationale de la Prévention des catastrophe en Guadeloupe FWI.
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Article on the help events: <http://www.journalriskcrisis.com/iddr-focus-on-people-with-disabilities-in-emergencies/>

On October 12 and 13, the association ANTILLES PREVENTION DES RISQUES MAJEURS (APRIM) organised an event around the theme of natural catastrophe prevention for disabled people. Acting in the field of prevention of major risks and disaster reduction, APRIM has always been very sensitive to this problem.

During the two days event, APRIM invited all players to the prevention of major risks from the government (SDIS , the DEAL, BRGM, OVSG ,the Rector ,Meteo-France , ARS , etc. . . .) and several other organizations (Red Cross, White Cross , Catholic Relief Services , the AVEG , etc) and associations working for disabled people and some companies offering equipment or services with links major risks and for disabled people.

JOURNEE INTERNATIONALE DE LA
PREVENTION DES CATASTROPHE

12 ET 13 OCTOBRE 2013

A PROPOS DES PERSONNES HANDICAPEES EN SITUATION DE
CATASTROPHES NATURELLES



Organisée par l'association
ANTILLES PREVENTION DES RISQUES MAJEURS



Dominica

Roseau	Awareness Raising events	Public awareness activities will be held focusing on people with disabilities. Efforts being made for the recording of a song and a video clip, integrating DRR and people with disabilities.
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News item in from "inside Dominica": <http://insidedominica.com/news/latest-news/dominica-red-cross-releases-new-song-and-video-in-observance-of-int-l-day-of-disaster-risk-reduction/>

Dominica Red Cross Releases New Song and Video in Observance of Int'l Day of Disaster Risk Reduction

Posted by [Editor](#) on Oct 14, 2013 in [Latest News](#) | [0 comments](#)



HendersonAndBenjaminInVideo

International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction was observed yesterday, October 13, 2013. In recognition of this day the Dominica Red Cross has highlighted the implementation of a DIPECHO Volcanic Risk Reduction Project funded by the European Commission and the French Red Cross.

The organization has also released a song, done by Michele Henderson and Triple Kay front-man Wayne "Benji" Benjamin which singles out the need to have a disaster plan ready at all times.

"We have embarked on educating the population by developing a song and video entitled 'What's your Plan' composed and sung by Michele Henderson, featuring Wayne Benjamin and produced by Music Box Studios. We urge all Dominicans to pay heed to the many hazards to which we are prone by getting prepared through disaster risk management training. What's your Plan?...Become Red Cross Ready," the organization said in its release.

The focus of International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction this year was on one billion people around the world who live with some form of disability. This represents one-fifth of the world's total population.

According to a press release, persons living with disabilities have unique contributions which are often overlooked, with regards to reducing the risk of disasters and building resilience communities.

According to the release, persons living with disabilities are especially vulnerable to disasters because of their disability and are more likely to be poor with limited access to education, health care, shelter, food and work before a crisis strikes.

"The lack of inclusion and participation in disaster risk reduction processes means that the needs and possible contributions of persons living with disabilities are often overlooked by planners," the release stated.

See the [SONG/VIDEO Link](#)

St Vincent and the Grenadines

Kingston	Awareness Raising events	Public awareness activities will be held focusing on people with disabilities. Efforts being made for the recording of a song and a video clip, integrating DRR and people with disabilities.
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Barbados

Bridgetown	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency	<p>The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency will host a live panel discussion on October 13, captioned Disability and Disasters – A Not So Obvious Conversation. This discussion will be held in observance of International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR).</p> <p>The purpose of this discussion is to provide an opportunity for increasing public awareness on disability and disasters and for sharing stories and information on ongoing measures that address the needs of the disabled in disaster scenarios.</p> <p>This discussion will be televised throughout the Caribbean Region. If you live in the Caribbean and would like to participate, please email us at IDDRCaribbean@gmail.com for more information on how you can join the conversation.</p> <p>Contact Person: Tara Gaskin Marketing Specialist Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Email: tara.gaskin@cdema.org Telephone Number: 1 (246) 425-0386 Website: www.cdema.org</p>
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Additional photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/isdr/10086797363/>

British Virgin Islands (not on the IDD website)

Name : Message delivered by Governor McCleary

Available on CDMA:

http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1267:bvi-joins-in-observation-of-international-day-for-disaster-reduction&catid=46:british-virgin-islands&Itemid=272

Tortola, British Virgin Islands, October 13th, 2013 (DDM) - His Excellency Governor Boyd McCleary is urging that greater consideration be given to persons in the Territory who are affected by physical or mental disabilities.

The Governor's comments come in a message delivered on the occasion of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction which is observed worldwide on October 13, under the theme Living with Disability and Disasters.

Governor McCleary noted that persons living with disabilities are no less affected by the disasters to which others are vulnerable. "In fact, depending on the type of disability, they are even more susceptible to the impact of disasters and therefore, their specific needs must be incorporated into disaster mitigation and planning," he stated.

The Governor commended those who have already created disaster plans that incorporate the specific needs of persons with disabilities. "Knowing the limitations of disabled persons and planning accordingly is not optional, it's essential. Don't wait until you are faced with a situation that requires the implementation of a disaster plan only to realise that it is still on your to-do list," he said, adding, "It is far better to have invested time and energy in crafting a disaster plan that's applicable to your circumstances and not ever have to implement it, than to be caught in a situation where you need one and do not have one."

The observance of IDDR, which began in 1989, is spearheaded by the United Nations. It is viewed by the UN General Assembly as a way to promote a global culture of disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness.

It is estimated that more than one billion persons worldwide, live with a disability. This year's observance of IDDR is regarded as an opportune time to recognise their role in fostering greater resilience.

In his speech, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon noted that persons with disabilities tend to be excluded from disaster planning. "Unfortunately, most persons with disabilities have never participated in disaster risk management or related planning and decision making processes. They suffer disproportionately high levels of disaster-related mortality and injuries."

He further noted that "early warning systems, public awareness campaigns and other responses often fail to consider the needs of persons with disabilities, putting them at an unnecessarily elevated risk and sending a harmful message of inequality. We can change this situation by including persons with disabilities in disaster resilience initiatives and policy planning."

He added that "inclusion saves lives. And it empowers persons with disabilities to take ownership of their own safety and that of their community."

The Governor's message will be aired in its entirety on ZBVI 780 AM at 8:10 a.m. and rebroadcast at 5:35 p.m. on Monday 14. The inclusion of the disabled in disaster planning will also be featured in the upcoming FOCUS programme presented by the Department of Disaster Management.

The observance of International Day for Disaster Reduction is intended to raise awareness about the importance of disaster risk reduction while also encouraging persons, organisations and governments to participate in building more disaster resilient communities and nations.

Caiman Islands

Government webpage:

http://www.gov.ky/portal/page?_pageid=3701,7611545&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Message from the Director of HMCI, McCleary Frederick

United Nations International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) is celebrated on 13 October 2013. The theme for 2013 focuses on people with disabilities, "**A Not So Obvious Conversation: Living with Disability and Disasters**".

The World Health Organization states that persons living with some form of disability represent one-fifth of the world's population, who still have no significant representation in the planning processes to reduce disaster risks, prevent disasters or build resilient societies and communities.

Research has shown that during disasters, persons with disabilities are among the most vulnerable. Not only are they at greater risk of death, injury and isolation, they may also struggle to access humanitarian assistance and information about relief services available.

Within the Cayman Islands disability ranges from physical, mental, reduced mobility due to age, or vision and hearing impairment. The needs of persons with disabilities must be considered and incorporated into any disaster risk management planning. To address the issue of increasing the level of preparedness and ability to respond to disaster events we should ensure that individuals with disabilities are integrated into emergency preparedness planning and implementation of emergency preparedness plans. It is time to include people with disabilities in emergency services as contributors and collaborators, not just as people viewed as victims to be rescued. People with disabilities must be seen not as passive recipients of humanitarian care, but rather, as equal participants in disaster risk reduction. Implementing the necessary plans to accommodate persons with disabilities will subsequently translate into being better equipped to serve the community.

Persons with disabilities may need help before, during and after a disaster, including completing basic preparedness, response and recovery tasks such as securing their property or assistance with relief supplies. The development of family disaster plans that incorporate the needs of persons with disabilities and older persons living in households, and individual disaster plans for older persons, who live on their own, would relieve the stress associated with the chaos during a disaster event.

I would like to encourage everyone to do their part to look out for their neighbors, particularly those with disabilities and make the Cayman Islands safer and more resilient to disasters.

This same message is also available at:

<http://www.noodls.com/view/A0BFBA02C12EB93986AD7E35434395D277C04479>

and

http://article.wn.com/view/2013/10/14/United_Nations_International_Day_for_Disaster_Reduction_Caym/

General message on CDEMA, statement by Ronald Jackson

http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1263:message-from-the-executive-director-of-cdema-in-observance-of-international-day-for-disaster-risk-reduction-2013&catid=38:speeches&Itemid=116