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Plateforme d'Intervention Régionale Amériques Caraïbes

Safer Houses Methodology

7th Annual Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM):

Montego Bay, Jamaica, December 3-7, 2012

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Safer Houses Methodology - Objective

➔ To improve the knowledge and practical competency of communities on how to reinforce wooden or concrete houses in the event of **hurricanes**, **earthquakes** and **floods**, through training and hands-on practical construction exercises.



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Linked to VCA and PASSA

Prevention phase

- **VCA** (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment)
- **PASSA** (Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness)
- **Safer Houses methodology**
  - ► **Training of Trainers**
  - ► **Training of Community Members**

Time

Focusing on Disaster Risk Reduction:
learning reinforcement techniques, flood protection measures and how to build a safer wooden house, hurricane- and earthquake-resistant

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Training of Trainers (ToT)

Participants: 8 to 10 participants – issuing from the field of construction - carpenters / masons / construction instructors → key people

Duration: 4 days

- Theoretical training: 1 day (classroom)
- Practical training: 3 days in the community


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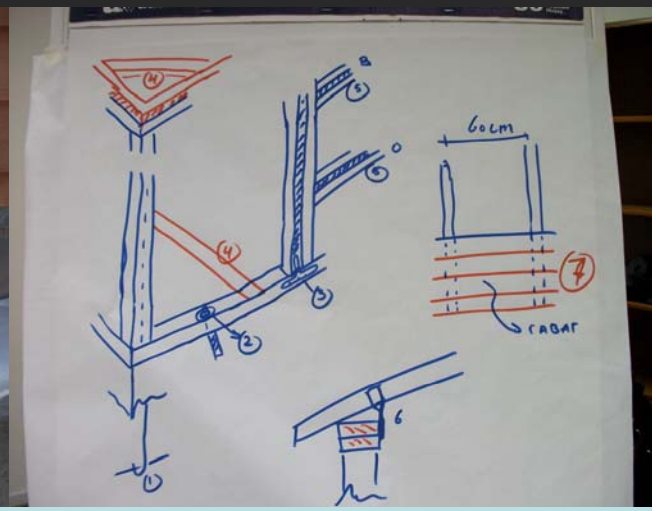
Specific objectives - ToT:

- Learn how to carry out a technical assessment
- Learn and apply reinforcement techniques based on the construction standards and Building Code – 2 to 3 houses
- Learn and apply flood protection measures
- Share and disseminate reinforcement techniques to community members





The participants are evaluated to become a Trainer

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xpectations from the Trainers

- Actively participate in the Training of Trainers
- Assess the vulnerable houses in the community prior to the training
- Conduct a 2-day Community Training
- Supervise the reinforcement of a certain number of houses in each community


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Selection of houses

Social criteria

Vulnerable families:

- Elderly
- Disabled / ill
- Single parent
- Family with many children

2. Technical criteria
   - ownership of the house / land
   - built in a safe location
   - strong enough to be reinforced
   - no termites
   - structure made of reinforced concrete

tion: wooden houses up to 24x32 ft (7x10m), concrete houses up



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ommunity training

ticipants: 12/15 community members / people living
n vulnerable houses

ctical training: 2 days in the community focusing on
earning reinforcement techniques and flood
rotection measures - strengthening 5 - 6 houses

ation: 2 days

iner: 4 facilitators

pport:

- Community members handbook


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afer houses in the Caribbean

ntry / # mmunities	# of com trainers certified (not)	# of community members trained	# of houses reinforced
rbados / 2	/	12	5
minica / 3	3	52	56
enada / 16	6 (12)	124	48
maica / 1 (+5)	1 (20)	23	39
Lucia / 0	2	/	/
riname / 1	6	/	3
OTAL / 23	**18 (32)**	**211**	**151**



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rricane Sandy – effects on a community

2 houses damaged in
e community:

- 7 houses with severe damage
- 15 houses with minor damage

one of the 39 houses
hich were previously
inforced suffered
om Hurricane Sandy

Safer Houses - Claverty Cottage & Clifton Hill

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enefits to the communities

- Reduce the level of damages to homes
- Empower individuals – disaster risk reduction
- Build capacity at individual and community level – skills, competency, knowledge
- Individuals and communities can now take greater responsibility for protecting their homes

ching people how to better protect their houses, they'll be proactive and
do this prior to each hurricane season or threat of hazards/disaster

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CADRIM
Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Resource Center

International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Caribbean Red Cross National Societies

rian Aid
rotection

UKaid
from the Department for
International Development

Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

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THANK YOU!

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What should be done if a house cannot be reinforced

?

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Building Safer Wooden Houses

applying hurricane- and earthquake-resistant techniques

House destroyed by hurricane Sandy

House built by Jamaica Red Cross in 2008 (after Dean)