Focus Day on Post Disaster Response and Recovery Frameworks
ACP House - Brussels, June 9, 2017
Session 2: ACP-EU NDRR Program sharing country experiences and lessons learned

Commonwealth of Dominica
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Commonwealth of Dominica

General Context
- Total Population - 71,293 (Census 2011)
  - 79% urban population
- Area of island: 750.6 Square Kilometres

Country Risk Profile:
- Natural Hazards
  - Hurricanes
  - Earthquakes
  - Volcanic Eruptions

- Major Risk
  - Flooding
  - Landslides & Mudslides
  - Sea Level Rise
Major past events the last 20 years and impact

- 1999 – Hurricane Lenny
- 2007 – Hurricane Dean: Damage to farmers (EC$0.888 million or US$370,00; Government Compensation to farmers - EC$636 million or US$265 million)
- 2008 – Hurricane Omar: Damage to Fisheries Sector – EC$2 million or US$742; Government Compensation to farmers - EC$1.6 million or US$594 million
- 2010 – Hurricane Tomas: Damage to Agriculture - EC$10.7 million or US$3.96 million
- 2011 – Extreme Rain Events: Infrastructure Damage - EC$100 million or US$37,037
- 2015 – Tropical Storm Erika: Damage & Loss amounted to EC$1.3 billion or US$482 million
Institutions in charge of DRM and CCA
- Office of Disaster Management, Ministry of National Security, Immigration & Labour
- Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project, Ministry of Health & Environment

DRM National Platform?
- There is the National Emergency Planning Organization (NEPO) which deals with preparedness and response.

DRM National Strategy in place?
- A National Disaster Management Strategy has been developed

Are DRR and CCA part of the National Development Strategy?
- Yes, the country adopted the Low Carbon Climate Resilient Strategy in 2012 which uses the Growth & Social Protection Strategy Framework.

Existing legislation, building codes etc..
- A Comprehensive Disaster Management Bill is being finalized
Brief history of the event:

- 27th August 2015, Tropical Storm Erika ravaged the island of Dominica, depositing 500mm of rain within 10 hours resulting in massive flooding across the island.
- The majority of the damage was to the transport sector – 60 percent, followed by the housing sector – 11 percent and the agriculture sector – 10 percent.
- Out of a population of 71,293, 11 persons were confirmed dead, 22 missing, 574 homeless and 713 evacuated; with approximately 7,229 directly impacted by the event in disaster declared areas.

Governmental response and process:

- The Government of Dominica coordinated an interagency team comprised of:
  - National government authorities and representatives from the World Bank, European Union UNICEF, WFP, FAO, CDEMA, PAHO, UN-Women, University of West Indies and the Caribbean Development Bank to take stock, and;
  - Tabulate damage and loss, visit affected areas, gather information and analyze the results to inform the recovery strategy.
  - The Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) under the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP) was triggered; this provided the Government with US1million for immediate response.
Major Results: Effects and Impacts

- The immediate procurement of goods such as gabion baskets, road safety equipment/signage, cement and other materials needed for creating temporary access along the West Coast under the CERC.

- The contracting of small firms and operators to clear heavy debris within communities and along the road network (West Coast); approximately 20,000 persons benefitted directly under the CERC.

- The RDIA provided specific recommendations by sector for the short, medium and long-term which provided guidance on the approach to recovery efforts.
Recovery Phase

Recovery Strategy

- The methodology for providing critical recommendations in the short, medium and long-term was applied to all sectors to include:
  - Transport Infrastructure
  - Air & Sea Ports
  - Water & Sanitation
  - Environmental Health
  - Telecommunications

- Electricity
  - Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
  - Tourism
  - Industry & Commerce
  - Education
  - Health
  - Housing
  - Social Protection & Inclusion
Assessment follow up

- **Recovery and Leverage:**
  - The underlying principles of this framework are that both loss of life and the economic impact of disasters can be reduced through advanced planning and investment.
  - As at 30th June 2016, the total financial resources received as emergency assistance was $46.7 million including $23.2 million in grants from various development partners and the loan from the IMF in the amount of $23.5 million. This amount does not include funds which were committed to Dominica and which were channelled through national, regional and international organisations. (Prime Minister’s Budget Address 2016/17 Financial Year).
  - An amount of $35.0 million was allocated from the resources of the Citizenship By Investment Programme, for post Erika projects.

- **Achievements to date**
  - Short & Medium-Term Recovery and Reconstruction Recommendation by sector have been implemented.
## Assessment follow up

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>SHORT-TERM (6 – 12 MONTHS)</th>
<th>MEDIUM-TERM (12 – 24 MONTHS)</th>
<th>LONG-TERM (24 MONTHS +)</th>
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| Transport       | • Clean-up rivers, drainage systems and restore hydraulic capacity of bridges by removing blocks, trees or materials  
                  • Undertake urgent abutment reconstruction                                                  | • Prepare technical designs and construction guidelines  
                  • Continue road and bridge repair  
                  • Perform a comprehensive and detailed condition assessment of the road network and prepare a multi-year investment mitigation action plan | • Continue with reconstruction of roads & bridges  
                  • Ensure all major reconstruction and new development adhere to the design and technical guidelines developed  
                  • Use an asset management system to track reconstruction and prioritize investments |
| Infrastructure   |                                                                                              |                                                                                               |                                                                                        |
| Air & Sea Ports  | • Immediate replacement of damaged electrical equipment and electronics;  
                  • Immediate repair of physical infrastructure to the runway;                                                  | • Develop a feasibility study to evaluate:  
                  • the probabilities and risks facing the airport and their mitigation;  
                  • Identification of potential future sites for constructing a new, safer airport.  
                  • Carry out the findings of the feasibility study – extensive fortification of the current airport or the building of a newer facility with higher capacities on a more secure site. |                                                                                        |
| Water & Sanitation | • Clean-up debris from intakes and stabilize slopes in the vicinity of intakes;  
                       • Repair access roads to intakes;  
                       • Repair damaged sanitary pipes and clean-up affected area.                                                  | • Consider liaising with Ministry of Public Works on the design of new bridge infrastructure to include protected utility corridors in the bridge design as opposed to hanging transmission lines externally;  
                  • Review current locations of abstraction points to identify if less vulnerable locations can be utilized;  
                  • If possible, consider application of stream bed infiltration galleries in lieu of surface water abstraction systems to reduce exposure to heavy debris. |                                                                                        |
| Housing         | • Develop a strategy for addressing the loss of housing stock and consider options for implementing temporary housing programs;  
                       • Develop a financing strategy for replenishing housing stock.                                                  | • Develop a risk-based approach to housing and residential/urban planning based on best practice building asset management principles.  
                  • Implement long-term asset maintenance strategy and system for existing & new housing and buildings;  
                  • Engage women and youth in non-traditional rebuilding relocation efforts linked to social protection. |                                                                                        |
Lessons learned and main challenges

- Need for adopting a resilient approach to development.
- Integration of sectoral recommendations into national planning.
- Monitoring and reporting of short, medium and long-term recommendations made in the Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment.
- Access to finance for implementing recommendations, considering economic challenges facing the countries.