

# Hazards, Hurricane Season and COVID-19

**Presented by** 

**Elizabeth Riley** 

**Executive Director (ag), CDEMA** 

Gender Responsiveness and Disaster Resilience during the COVID-19

**Crisis, July 22, 2020** 









#### PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- CDEMA
- Hazards Landscape
- Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) & Resilience Framework
- COVID-19 and Hurricane Season 2020
- Way forward









A Community for All

Mobilizing and coordinating disaster relief

Mitigating consequences of disasters

Providing comprehensive information on disasters

Encouraging disaster loss reduction and cooperative arrangements and mechanisms

Establishment
enhancement and
maintenance of adequate
emergency disaster
response capabilities
among the Participating
States



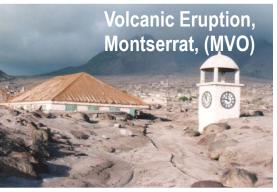




## **DIVERSE HAZARDS**



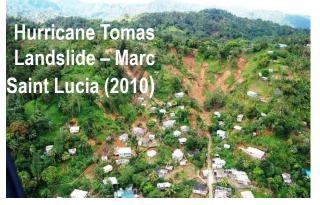
















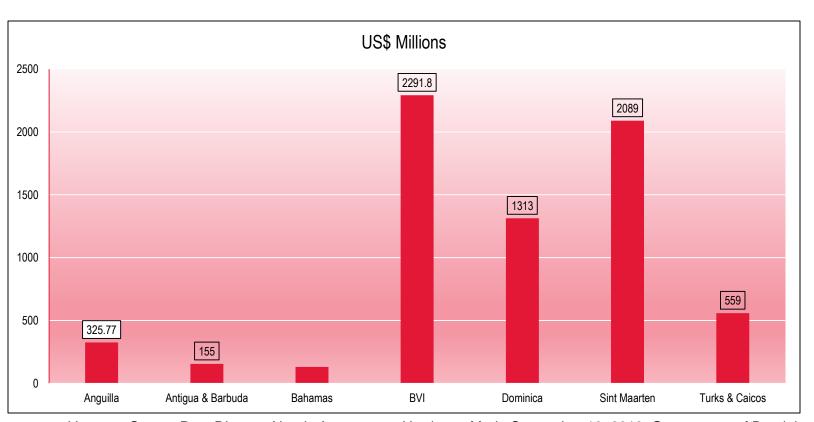
# A CHANGING CLIMATE Observed Rainfall Changes in Caribbean Since 1900

- ❖ Mean annual rainfall over Caribbean, 1900-2000 → a consistent decline by around 0.18 mm yr <sup>-1</sup>
- ❖ Southern Caribbean region → contraction in 'traditional' wet season (June-Oct), 1900-1980
- Longer dry spells and increasing drought incidence since 1900
- Increase in number of heavy rainfall events in last 75 years





# IMPACT OF IRMA AND MARIA 2017 SELECTED STATES



Dominica Damage and Losses: Source Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Hurricane Maria September 18, 2018, Government of Dominica Antigua and Barbuda Damage and Losses: Source Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Hurricane Irma, Government of Antigua and Barbuda Other Countries: Source Focus Issue 1/January – March 2018, ECLAC Sub regional Headquarters for the Caribbean (Damage, Losses and Additional Costs)





#### TRENDS: THE SYSTEMS

- Record Breaking
  - Irma: 2017
    - 185 mph max winds –second strongest max winds of all time in Atlantic.
    - 3 consecutive days as a Category 5 hurricane the longest for an Atlantic hurricane in the satellite era (since 1966)
  - Dorian 2019
- The role of antecedent conditions
- ❖ The models ??





### **THE CDM STRATEGY 2014-2024**

#### Regional Goal: Safer more resilient and sustainable Caribbean States

#### Institutional Strengthening

DM Organizations (national and regional) Strengthened for Supporting and monitoring the advancement of DRM

CDM Integrated into policy, strategy, legislation

**Development Partner Programming** aligned

Strengthened Coordination for preparedness, response and recovery

> Adequate resourcing of CDM Programming

Gender

#### **Knowledge Management**

Regional Network for Risk Informed **Decision Making** 

Integrated System for fact based decision making at all levels

Incorporation of Community and Sector Knowledge in Risk Assessments

Education and Training materials, standardized, improved and applied

#### Sector Integration

Strategic Disaster Risk Management **Programming for Priority Sectors** 

Hazard Information integrated into development planning and programming for priority sectors

Incentive programs developed and applied for the promotion of risk reduction/CCA in infrastructure investment

#### Community Resilience

Standards for safe communities developed and applied

Community Based Disaster Management Capacity built/strengthened

Community EWS integrated, improved and expanded

Community Livelihoods safeguarded

Climate Change Information Communication Technology

Environmental Sustainability







## **RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK**



Policy, Legislation and Regulations

Data driven and evidence based

#### PILLARS OF RESILIENCE

Effective Governance

Use of citizen science



Social Protection

for marginal

and most

vulnerable

Enhancing Economic Opportunities



Safeguarding Infrastructure



Environmental Protection



Operational Readiness and Recovery

**Monitoring and Evaluation** 

Research and development

Youth involvement and investment

Knowledge management





#### **COVID-19: CONTEXT**

Varied level of planning for pandemic

Public health led

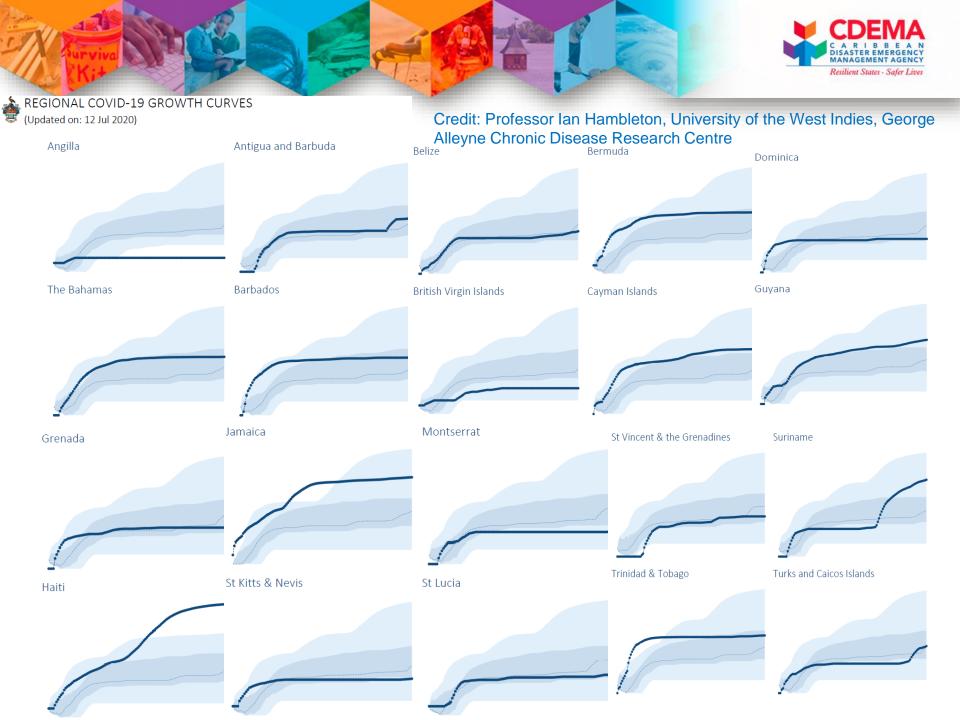
All of Government and Society Response

COVID19 – We are still learning ...

Complex multihazard environment – drought, hurricane season, COVID-19

**Regional Solidarity** 

Economic impact & livelihood implications







# **HURRICANE SEASON FORECAST** 2020

# **Colorado State University July 7, 2020**

#### "above average"

	Number
Named Storms	20
Hurricanes	9
Major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5)	4





## HURRICANE SEASON IN A COVID-19 CONTEXT

- Complex
- Operational Scenarios plan for the catastrophic
- Potentially undermines the RRM principle of horizontal cooperation
- Traditional support may not be forthcoming due to domestic priorities or may be delayed
- Self sufficiency;
- CARICOM support





# WHAT ARE WE DOING THAT'S DIFFERENT?

Modified operational plans

**Expanded ICT Integration** 

**Exercises - COVID-19 context** 

Enhanced suite of guidelines

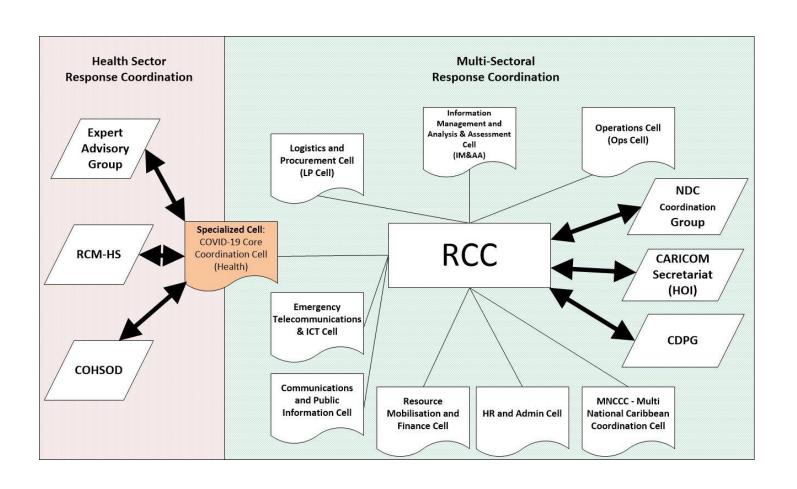
Governance

Integrated Regional Logistics hub



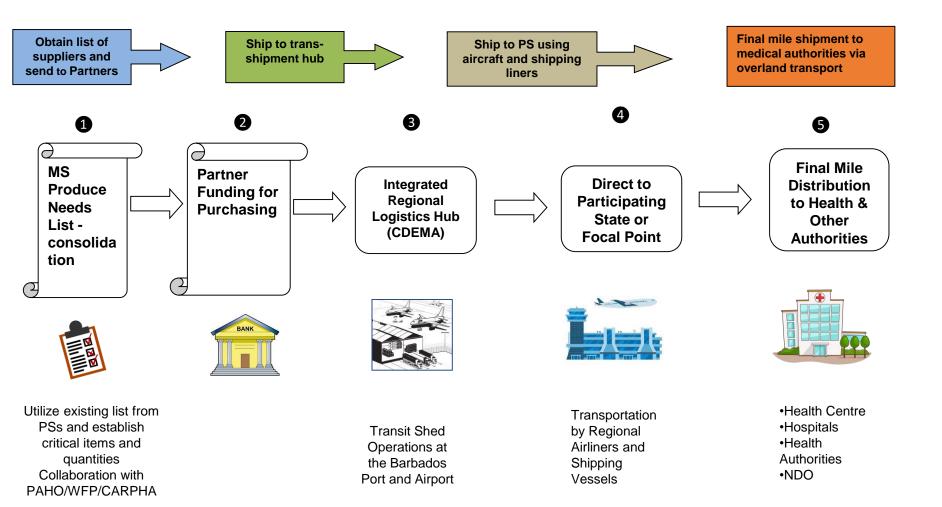


### **MULTI-SECTORAL COORDINATION**





#### **COVID-19 Humanitarian Logistics Supply Chain**







#### **REALITIES**

Surge Support: Access, Timeliness, Requirements

Functions: Shelter and Relief Management,
Evacuation, SAR





# SHELTER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Additional shelter facilities
- Resources for shelters
  - PPEs
  - Water requirements
  - Sanitization
- Training for shelter teams







### **WAY FORWARD - CONSIDERATIONS**

- Resilience
- Dynamic situation flexibility and adaptability
- Regional Solidarity and Partnerships
- Diversity of our states demands diverse responses
- Accelerating the changing humanitarian landscape
  - Increasing importance of regional institutions
  - Opportunity of ICT





### **WAY FORWARD -CONSIDERATIONS**

- Vulnerable groups, gender and psycho-social considerations
  - Safeguarding Policy
  - Displaced population
- Continuity of Government and safety of leadership must remain a top priority
- ❖ COVID-19 an opportunity for change
  - Regional Response Mechanism Review

# THANK YOU

Elizabeth Riley, Executive Director (ag), CDEMA elizabeth.riley@cdema.org



