COVID-19 Considerations for Emergency Systems in the Caribbean Region

Presented by
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Second Discussion with Emergency and Security Systems in the Region
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Presentation overview

- CDEMA
- COVID19 Context
- Hurricane Season 2020 in the COVID-19 Context
- Take aways
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
Context

Existing Regional Response Mechanism – For COVID-19 - Health Guides

Varied level of planning & exercising for pandemic

Multi-hazard environment

Timing – Under Impact during traditional readiness period

Existing Arrangements – Horizontal Cooperation Undermined

All of Government and Society Response - Systems activated
Multi-Sectoral Coordination – COVID19
Adaptation of Existing Arrangements for COVID-19

- Hurricane Season Operational Plan – COVID-19
- Response Team Arrangements
  - Team Readiness: COST; CDAC; CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit
  - Deployment Protocols & Requirements
  - Border Protocols
  - Modalities for support – online option
- Exercises:
  - Synergy – tropical weather system response within the COVID-19 event
COVID 19 Considerations for the Hurricane Season

- Decisions informed by the science
- Shelter management
- Relief distribution within COVID-19 environment
- Undocumented migrants
- Psycho-social considerations
- Supply chain & Implications for relief management
- Humanitarian actions may already be in progress
Take Aways

- Resilience as a central theme in the management of COVID19
- Safety and security of decision makers and organizational leadership
- Psycho-social considerations into the well-being and health of the population
- Plan for a CARICOM centred response for COVID19 and other hazards noting the possible limited or delayed support from traditional partners
- Manage potential risks associated with increased dependence on technology
- Document experiences and create feedback loops to promote continuous learning
QUESTIONS?