



**Saint Lucia National
Emergency Management
System Annual Report 2019**

2019 Annual Report of the National Emergency Management System of Saint Lucia

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2019 Annual Report
of the
National Emergency Management System of Saint Lucia



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ABBREVIATIONS

CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CDM	Comprehensive Disaster Management
DDC	District Disaster Committee
DIPECHO	Disaster Preparedness European Community Humanitarian Office
ECHO	General Directorate of Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid of the European Union
EWS	Early Warning Systems
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent
HVR	Hazard Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
MHEWS	Multi Hazard Early Warning System
MHIEWS	Multi Hazard Voice Interrupt Early Warning System
NEMO	National Emergency Management Organisation
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
STO	Social Transformation Officer
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID/OFDA	United States Agency for International Development/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
WASCO	Water and Sewage Company

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INTRODUCTION

Saint Lucia's location in the Eastern Caribbean chain of islands makes it particularly prone to hazards that negatively impact the island in diverse ways. A hazard vulnerability assessment conducted in 2012 concluded that the island is vulnerable to:

- Rapid Onset/Natural Hazards: Fire, Seismic activity, Volcanic activity, Tsunami (marine and land based), Flooding, Landslide, Storm, Hurricane and Medical
- Rapid Onset/ Man-made Hazards: Dam Collapse, Explosion, Oil/Chemical Spill, Mass Casualty, Nuclear Spill and Civil Unrest
- Slow Onset/ Natural Hazards: Drought, Famine and Plagues

The Saint Lucia National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) is the agency which assumes responsibility for disaster management in Saint Lucia. It derives its legislative authority by virtue of the Disaster Management Act. No 30 of 2006. NEMO'S headquarters is situated at Bisee, Castries, Saint Lucia, a location it has occupied for the past eleven years.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM STRUCTURE

The National Emergency Management System of Saint Lucia is made up of the following components:

1. The National Emergency Management Advisory Committee.
2. The National Committees and District Disaster Committees
3. The National Emergency Management Organisation Secretariat

The National Emergency Management Advisory Committee

The Committee advises and makes recommendations to Cabinet on issues relating to disaster risk management including issues regarding the consequences of climate change.

The National Committees and District Disaster Committees

There are fourteen [14] National Committees and eighteen (18) District Disaster Committees in Saint Lucia that belong to NEMO; they are all involved in the planning and response against disasters.

The National Emergency Management Organization Secretariat

All three components of the National Emergency Management System are supported by the Disaster Management Act. No. 30 of 2006, Laws of Saint Lucia and the National Emergency Management Plan. NEMO is mandated to ensure the nation is in a state of readiness to deal with any disaster eventuality and to coordinate the response to the impact of any hazard. To satisfy this mandate, the Organization relies on full support from its fourteen (14) National Committees and eighteen (18) District Disaster Committees comprising primarily of volunteers.

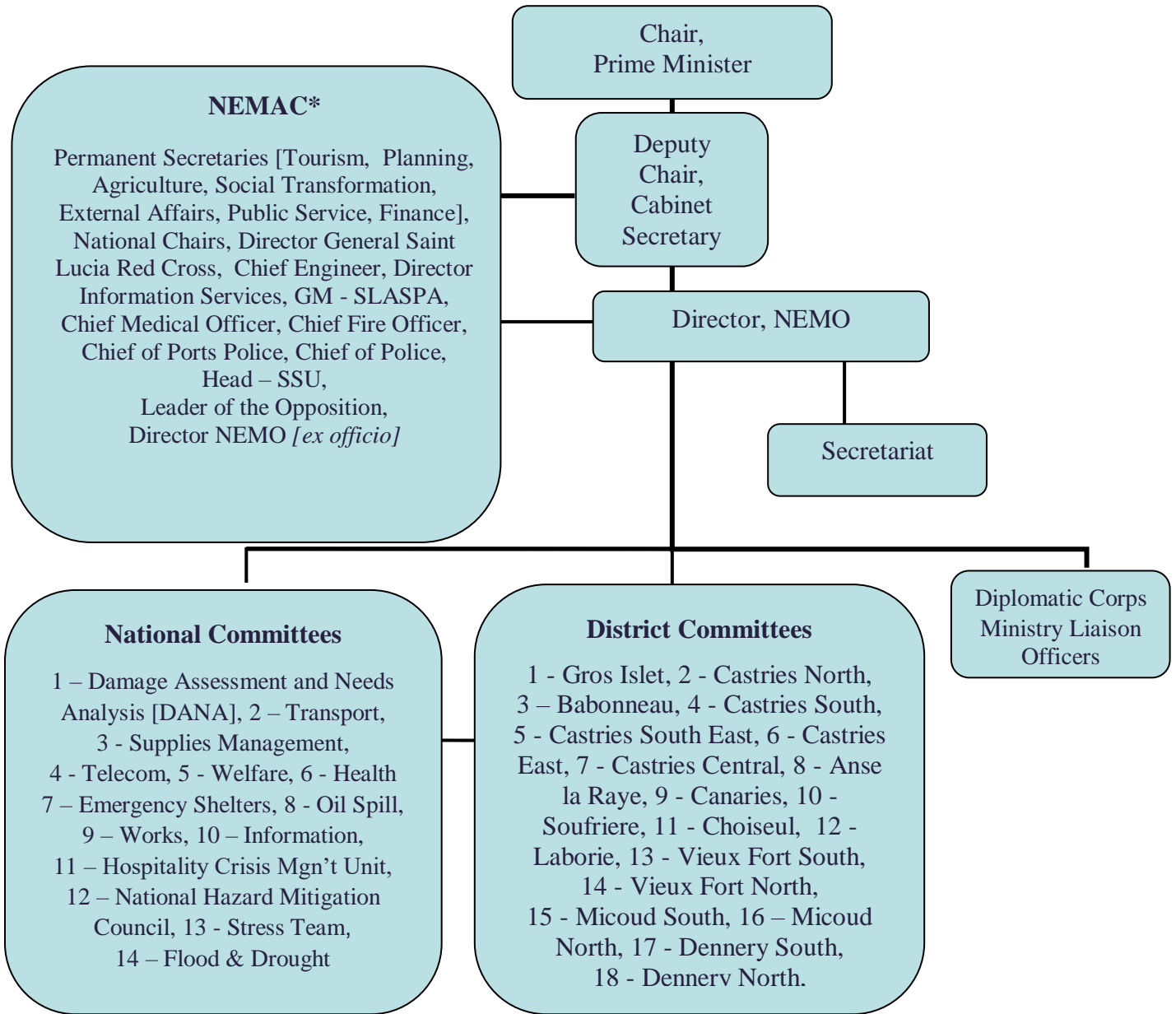
MISSION STATEMENT

To develop, test and implement adequate measures to protect the population of Saint Lucia from the physical, social, environmental and economic effects of both natural and man-made disasters. Its responsibility is to ensure the efficient functioning of preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response actions.

VISION STATEMENT

A nation highly resilient to hazard impacts and adaptable to hazard risks.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE OF NEMO



STAFFING

1. Director (Ag.) - Mrs. Dorine Gustave.
2. Deputy Director – Miss Maria Medard
3. Communication Manager – Mr. Kerwin Xavier
4. Program Officer – Mr. Andrew George
5. Inventory Officer - Mr. Junior Amiable
6. Mass Crowd Events Officer – Mr. Hildreth Augustin
7. Telecommunication Officer - Mr. Lionel Ellis
8. Administrative Secretary - Miss Chrisanphe Ephiphane
9. Driver - Mr. Daniel Isembert
10. Handyman - Mr. Malcolm Job (who also performs the duties of maintenance.)
11. Cleaner - Miss Ophelia Joseph

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MEASURES

Training and Meetings

For the period under review numerous training sessions were conducted both locally and in collaboration with international agencies namely:

❖ Incident Command System



Incident Command System Simulation of a motor vehicular accident

The Regional Security System (RSS) in conjunction with NEMO facilitated a week long training for First Responders. The overall goal of the training was to upgrade on knowledge and skills to better understand the Incident Command System which focuses on leadership in the event of a disaster or event. The system is a hierarchical one that allows for joint responsibility among agencies in maximizing the use of limited resources.

❖ **Shelters and Shelter Management Workshop**

The training session focused on volunteers within the southern communities who will serve as Managers and Support Staff of the Shelters when activated.

It was a full two (2) days of training which taught participants how to inspect a building to serve as a shelter and culminated with a simulation of the activation of a shelter.



USAID funded Shelters and Shelter Management Training in Vieux Fort

Feedback from the simulation saw most persons indicating that it can be an overwhelming experience for support staff particularly when not prepared.

❖ **Empowering Community Volunteers for More Resilient Societies**

This was a three (3) day Workshop in March 2019, funded by USAID/OFDA. Involved in the training exercise were the DDCs, STOs, Department of Education, Saint Lucia Red Cross and the Saint Lucia Fire Service. Participants were taught how to formulate proposals for grant funding for their various disaster-related projects. At the end

of the workshop, persons were able to present their proposals to the group using varied formats as required by funding/donor agencies.

❖ **Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction**

The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) from November 4 - 8, 2019 held three two-day workshops for First Responders (NEMO Volunteers, Saint Lucia Fire Service, Royal Saint Lucia Police Force, the Nurses and Community Health Aides) where they were trained in areas of sign language, management the visually impaired and persons with disabilities.



Section of First Responders Signing the Alphabet

The workshop was held in three (3)

regions – Vieux-Fort, Soufriere and Castries. The training involved a one day training in Sign Language, a half day session on the visually impaired and a half day session on handling persons with disabilities.

The training exercises were funded through UNDP, IFRC, OCHA, ECHO and CDEMA

with technical assistance from the National Council on and for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD), Saint Lucia Blind Welfare Association, Lady Gordon Opportunity Centre and the Special Education Unit in Vieux Fort.



Participants in Vieux Fort at the Persons with Disabilities Session

The workshops were geared to getting first responders to understand how to communicate, guide and transport the three groups of persons and should there be an impending disaster, know how to provide warning to them in a language that they can understand.

Participants were taught:

- How to dress a bed bound individual without lifting them to sit or stand.
- How to lift/carry a person with disability.
- How to guide someone who is visually impaired.
- How to transport them using a regular vehicle to a shelter or in post disaster situations.
- How to communicate with the hearing impaired to inform as to what is happening pre and post disasters.

❖ **Sign Language Training for District Disaster Committees (DDCs)**

Under the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction a one (1) day training was held in the Dennerly for the DDC personnel. This was a compact session which looked at the basics of sign language and interacting with persons with disabilities.

❖ **Sensitization Training for Persons with Disabilities on Disaster Preparation and Response.**

The Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction project also held three (3) awareness workshops for persons with disabilities. NEMO again partnered with the NCPD, Saint Lucia Blind Welfare, the Lady Gordon Opportunity Centre and the Special Education Unit in Vieux Fort.



Awareness Exercise for Persons with Disabilities in Vieux Fort

Participants went through what should be done once they are aware of a disaster situation or an impending one, who should they call, their nearest shelters, the concept of the preparation of a shelter bag, what should be in the shelter bags and what to expect at the shelters. The sessions ended with a Shelter Simulation and presentation of a Braille translation of the DDC Chairperson contacts along with a shelter bag.



Persons with Disabilities Participating in a Shelter Simulation in Vieux Fort

The project culminated in the production of a short documentary video on the workshops.

❖ **South South Cooperation - Climate Change Adaptation, and Developing Social Perception Studies on HVR Studies**

The “Strengthen Integrated and Cohesive Preparedness Capacity at a Regional, National and Community Level in the Caribbean” project

supports concrete actions for an effective early warning system, as well as aims to improve information management and operational capacity to improve the disaster preparedness



mechanism for the *Group session on handling the questionnaires*

Caribbean Regional Response. The project is facilitated in six (6) islands - Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Cuba – with technical

and financial support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent (IFRC) are partnering with the General Directorate of Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid of the European Union (ECHO) to reduce the risk of disasters in the region.

The project uses the Cuban model to facilitate sharing of best practices in order to enhance national preparedness and early warning. The Cuban experience was consolidated in a previous DIPECHO project in 2018. Technical assistance from Cuba was granted to Antigua & Barbuda and Saint Lucia to strengthen their national preparedness system.

The South South Cooperation took place in November 2019 between Saint Lucia and Cuba and the community of Anse-La-Raye was used as the test site for knowledge gathering.



Field visit – conducting a hazard vulnerability risk assessment in Anse-la-Raye



Field visit – conducting a hazard vulnerability risk assessment in Anse-la-Raye

There were also numerous meetings which were facilitated with local and regional partners. These included:

❖ **Meeting of Chairpersons of the DDCs and Revision of the Draft DDC Constitution**

Financial assistance for this review held in Micoud, commenced in October 2019 with financial assistance through CDEMA. The Draft Constitution requires a final review in 2020 and should be approved then.

❖ **2nd Review of the Disaster Management Amendment (Amendment) Bill**

The Comprehensive Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill once passed will replace the current Disaster Management Act (No. 30 of 2006). It is at the point of a second revision and should go through its final review with a smaller core of stakeholders in 2020 before submission to the Attorney General's Chambers. All reviews were done through a consultative process with all the NEMO stakeholders.

❖ Review of the CDM (Early Warning Systems) Regulations



Participants in the CDM (Early Warning Systems) Regulations

The Consultation was held in June 2019 and facilitated by the Attorney General's Chambers with funding from DIPECHO partners. The Regulation is in its final stages and awaiting the approval of Comprehensive Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill.

❖ CDM (Disaster Relief and Assistance) Regulations

The CDM (Disaster Relief and Assistance) Regulations when approved will consider assistance to persons with damaged property or persons who will be affected with regards to prevention or mitigation, preparedness and response or relief or rehabilitation. The Regulation is in its final stages and awaiting the approval of Comprehensive Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill.

❖ CDM (Shelter Management) Regulations

The CDM (Shelters Management) Regulations on approval will legislate shelter inspection, shelters management and control.

The Regulation is in its final stages and awaiting the approval of Comprehensive Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill.

❖ **Meeting of Chairpersons of National Committees**



Meeting of Chairpersons of National Committees

The meeting held in September brought together the Chairpersons of the fourteen (14) National Committees of NEMO to report on the work of their committees and how to plan for the way forward to reactivate some of the committees that have been dormant.

Early Warning Systems

The “Strengthen Integrated and Cohesive Preparedness Capacity at a Regional, National and Community Level in the Caribbean” project continued to provide technical and financial support to Saint Lucia as highlighted below.

- ❖ **Installation and testing of multi-hazard voice interrupt EWS (MHVIEWS)** at Liberty FM 92.3 in Soufriere with technical assistance and equipment donated by DIPECHO partners. This

warning dissemination function was identified as a priority action in the MHEWS Roadmap for Saint Lucia. As a result, Saint Lucia received support to broaden the reach of the hazard dissemination network through the MHVIEWS to the south of the island. Given Soufriere's susceptibility to flash flooding and other hazards, this community was selected by the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) to strengthen their integrated and cohesive preparedness capacity at a regional, national and community level in the Caribbean.



Radio Broadcast Interrupt Equipment

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was therefore signed between the NEMO and Liberty FM 92.3 in May 2019, to assist with strengthening the local readiness mechanisms through improved warning dissemination. The development objectives of the MOU were to:

1. Support key economic and social structures with the aim of minimising economic loss and loss of lives caused by natural or man-made hazards; and reducing the interruption of economic activities.
2. Support the community's preparedness through improved hazard monitoring and alert dissemination.

3. Strengthen the National Emergency Management Organisation's institutional capacity to prepare for and respond to disaster emergencies in an efficient and effective manner.

❖ **Receipt of Base Stations and Handheld Radios** under the project for the emergency communication in the district of Dennery. These radios replaced obsolete ones which were costly to repair and now provide efficient communication at the community level and by extension the national level. The equipment



Receipt of Radios for the Dennery Community

was provided with the financial support of the European Union under the “Strengthen integrated early warning systems for a more effective disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean through knowledge and the transfer of tools” project.



Radios for the Dennery Community

❖ Relocation of the Dennery Community Water Logger



Reconfiguration of the Dennery Water Logger

Over the years, Dennery south (the project site) has suffered from extensive flooding due to the events mentioned above. These events have accounted for severe devastation and significant losses to individuals and households within the community. Under the project entitled ‘Strengthening resilience and coping capacities in the Caribbean through integrated early warning systems’ that was implemented by UNDP Barbados and the OECS under the 2015-2016 Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP), a NESA Water Level Sensor Recorder along with a cabinet was installed initially at a location 4.8 km inland on the Dennery Errard Estate. However, the internet service was problematic, hence the need for its relocation.

The relocation was identified as a priority action under the project “Strengthen integrated early warning systems for a more effective disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean through knowledge and the transfer of tools.” The successful relocation of the instrument directly

contributes to the early warning element of monitoring, detection and forecasting of the flood hazard that has consequences for Dennery.

❖ **Understanding Disaster Risk Management Media Workshop**

The Workshop facilitated by the CDEMA Education and Communication's Specialist was held in March 2019 and brought together a broad range of media personnel from around the island. The one (1) day workshop focused on reporting in times of disasters and included practical training exercises.

❖ **Launch of Hazard Public Service Announcements – Hurricanes, Earthquakes and Tsunamis**



Launch of hazard awareness PSAs

The Vieux-Fort South District Disaster Committee in 2018 produced a number of public service announcements (PSAs) through funding received by USAID/OFDA. These PSAs in both English and Kwéyol focused on hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis.

With the financial assistance of the DIPECHO partners NEMO was able to air the PSAs on DBS TV, CHOICE TV, MBC TV, Liberty FM and Vybz Radio. These stations also provided additional free airtime. Also of mention are HITS FM and CTV for the donation of free airtime for the PSAs.

The expectation was that people would be more knowledgeable of what to do in the event of these hazard threats to ensure personal safety and reduction of damage to property.

❖ **Regional MHEWS Policy Consultation**

The Regional MHEWS Policy Consultation sought to strengthen the governance framework for MHEWS in the region through the development of a national model policy and adaptation guide. The purpose of EWS policies is to establish authority for system administration, control, access, maintenance and use of disaster alert, notification and warning systems.

The Consultation was held in November 2019 where the national model policy was developed. The Consultation sought to:

1. Provide the context of the Draft Model National MHEWS Policy development process.
2. Present and obtain feedback on the Draft Model National Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS) Policy and Adaptation Guide

3. Agree on the steps for the enhancement and piloting the adaptation of the Draft MHEWS Policy in Saint Lucia.

❖ **National MHEWS Policy Workshop**

Following the Regional MHEWS Policy Consultation, a national consultation was held in December 2019 to review and adapt the regional model policy to Saint Lucia. Saint Lucia, chosen as the pilot country was represented by a cross section of national EWS partners.

The policy once approved will allow for Saint Lucia to be the first Participating State of CDEMA to have a MHEWS policy.

EVENTS OF 2019

Tropical Storm Dorian

On 26th August 2019 a tropical storm warning was issued for Saint Lucia and a national shutdown was in effect for the island as of 6:00 p.m. of that day. Tropical Storm Dorian had maximum sustained winds near 60 mph with higher gusts winds. Fortunately the island sustained no major damages from the tropical storm and on 27th August 2019, the warning was discontinued and the shutdown lifted.



Members of the Vieux-Fort South District Disaster Committee in activation mode during Tropical Storm Dorian

Caribe Wave 2019

Saint Lucia joined the Caribbean and Latin America in testing the region's tsunami warning and detection systems. The scenario presented for the country to test its state of readiness and to evaluate local tsunami response plans, increase tsunami awareness and improve regional response coordination. NEMO collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development to initiate a full scale evacuation drill involving several schools around the island.

Oil Spill at Beausejour Treatment Plant

The Environmental Health Division in May 2019 conducted an investigation of a report of an oil spill at the Water and Sewage Company (WASCO) Treatment Plant at Beausejour. It was identified that there was an overflow of oil sludge which was indiscriminately dumped into one of WASCO's pits. This investigation prompted the activation



One out of the four affected pits with the Oil Sludge

of the National Oil Spill Committee. The sludge eventually seeped into the other WASCO pits and oil seepage was also observed in the nearby ravine next to the Darren Sammy Cricket Grounds.

The management of WASCO worked tirelessly with the agencies of NEMO, Saint Lucia Linen and Buckeye to bring the site back to pre-spill conditions as much as possible.



Site visit by NEMO Oil Spill Committee and WASCO personnel

COMMITTEE REPORTS

District Disaster Committees

Gros Islet -

The Gros Islet District Disaster Committee undertook several activities throughout the year 2019. On February 27, 2019, members participated in a workshop titled “Advantages in Tsunami Early Warning Systems Policy and Practice to Enhance National and Community Response”. In April 2019, they further participated in a stakeholder’s consultation addressing the issue of “Capacity Building of Saint Lucia’s National Designated Authority” and preparation of a country strategic framework for engaging with the green climate. June and July were very active months as they participated in and hosted many activities. Disaster Management Legislation Consultation, Sand Bagging exercise and community meetings and Mass Casualty Management System Training were some of the numerous activities undertaken.

Choiseul –

The Choiseul District Disaster Committee was awarded a small grants project in April 2019 by USAID/OFDA to encourage farmers - particularly female farmers - to grow the cuscus grass.

USAID/OFDA has been working closely with Saint Lucia over the past twenty-five (25) years offering financial and technical assistance in various subject areas.



Cuscus grass planting on the hillside with one of the farmers from Choiseul

The agencies of NEMO have had the opportunity to benefit from the assistance in relation to small grant projects of a maximum of US \$25,000.00. The grants are to support non-infrastructure community projects to encourage disaster resilience and are closely monitored and evaluated by USAID/OFDA.



Growth of cuscus grass on one of the pilot farms in Choiseul

Workshops were undertaken to inform how to clear the land and plant the cuscus grass. These workshops were facilitated by Mr. Ausbert Regis,

farmer and Chairperson of the Dennery South District Disaster Committee who highlighted the importance of the project.

The Committee members also participated in numerous NEMO workshops held in Mon Repos, Dennery and Vieux Fort. Members of the Committee further participated in a workshop for persons with disabilities and a public workshop in the Choiseul village in collaboration with the Saint Lucia Fire Service on how to extinguish a fire and how to protect homes.

Castries South –

The Committee held its election of a new executive in September 2019 under the supervision of the Social Transformation Officer (STO) for the area. This election was held at the Ciceron Secondary School with a total of thirty persons in attendance. This was followed by an orientation of the district to the new executives where a tour was conducted with the STO which included shelters, schools, churches, community centers and warehouses.

Elected Committee members are:

Chairperson	-	Ms. Laille Jeremy
Deputy Chair	-	Mr. Rufus Eugene
Assistant Secretary	-	Ms. Martha Blanchard
Treasurer	-	Mrs. Viola James
Assistant Treasurer	-	Mr. Sebastien Mann
Public Relations Officer-		Ms. Sylvia Joseph
Trustees	-	Mr. Fabian Mathurin Mr. Anthony Pierre Louis

October through to November saw the Committee participating in several training activities namely; Legislative Reviews, Community Risk Assessment and Analysis, District Disaster Management Committee training and basic sign language training.

Castries East –

Several Committee meetings were held throughout the year. Members also visited the Saint Lucy's home for the elderly; and spent time with the residents playing games and assisting in any way possible.

The Committee had its annual Christmas luncheon where food items were contributed by two hotels – St James Morgan Bay and Auberge Seraphine - along with money raised by the members. This was used to deliver food packages to the less fortunate within the community.

The Committee members were also exposed to various Disaster Risk Management training sessions and completed a USAID/OFDA funded small grants project in the amount of US\$25,000.00.

The USAID/OFDA funded project saw the Committee donating seven (7) garbage bins to the schools within the district.



Receipt of garbage bins by the Bocage Primary School

Additionally, the project allowed the Committee to embark on a slope stabilization project with 4 farmers.



Farmer in Ti Rocher participating in the Slope Stabilization project

Another aspect of the USAID/OFDA project allowed for the development of a database of vulnerable persons within the community as well as producing a Geographic Information System (GIS) map to highlight all vulnerable areas within the district.

Members further identified escape routes and fire hydrants in Water Works Road, Marchand Road, Rock Hall, parts of Entrepot, Dierre Morne within the district in case of any emergency.

The Committee has pledged to continue its disaster management education with all members.

Canaries –

The Canaries district held its District Disaster Committee election on September 9, 2019 and a newly elected committee was formed. The new Committee members were introduced to the community through a series of meetings and

community visits. This was further communicated through the use of posters as well as submission of letters to the various groups and organisations such as churches, schools and police stations.

The new Committee members are:

Chairperson	-	Mr. Ian Fredrick
Deputy Chair	-	Ms. Lyntia Antoine
Secretary	-	Ms. Malvia Hippolyte
Treasure	-	Ms. Geraldine Alcide
PRO	-	Mr. David Henry
Trustees	-	Mr. Francis Alfred
		Mr. Andre Lansiquot

Through the Committee, volunteers such as teachers, police officers and fishermen completed a First Aid training course with the St. John Ambulance Brigade.



Canaries Committee Election Day

CHALLENGES

The organisation faced many challenges during 2019.

The NEMO headquarters will function more effectively and efficiently with an increase of staff to assist with building community resilience and public education and awareness. However, one of its biggest challenges was information management and sharing. It was difficult to compile and receive the necessary information from the different committees and other agencies responsible for provision of information.

WAY FORWARD

Amidst all the challenges faced throughout the year, NEMO is grateful for all the support from its members and volunteers. For the upcoming year and the future, NEMO wishes to engage or implement the following changes to ensure that the organisation has a better outcome and positive year:

- Training for the national liaison personnel in information management. Liaisons act as the link between NEMO and their agency and functions as the disaster management personnel. They are also responsible for the submission of reports on activities carried out by their respective agencies. The training will also allow for the improvement of disaster risk resilience within the agencies.
- More simulation exercises provided to volunteers and NEMO partners to solidify their roles and responsibilities; and to provide them with a better understanding and appreciation for disaster management.
- Greater collaboration with the public sector to facilitate and provide critical information gathering and sharing; and training for development of business continuity plans.
- A focus on building community resilience which would ensure that District Disaster Committees work closely with their communities.
- Greater focus on public education and awareness with reference to disaster risk reduction.
- The NEMO Secretariat looks to ensuring that there is a greater visibility of the work done by NEMO.

- An education drive to inform the public on roles and responsibilities of NEMO before, during and after a disaster.
- . To encourage a more holistic sensitization approach to disaster risk reduction and management.
- . Development of community disaster management plans.

CONCLUSION

The NEMO headquarters is grateful for the continued support and efforts from agencies, partners and volunteers for ensuring that it continues to reach its mandate which is to have the nation in a state of preparedness for any disaster. The Organisation looks toward meeting that mandate through continuous training, public education and awareness, capacity building through community resilience initiatives and strengthening and reviewing of guidelines and protocols that govern the Organisation.

NEMO continues to work with CDEMA on the Comprehensive Disaster Management goals and utilizing all available resources to assist with their capacity to function effectively due to staff constraint. The Organisation also looks to enhancing its communication strategies such as more emphasis and interaction with the public for the purpose of information sharing via the different media platforms namely the NEMO's Facebook page, twitter and official website.

APPENDICES

DISTRICT DISASTER COMMITTEES CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Marcelina Newton
Micoud North
(758)730-2513
2. Paul Francis
Micoud South
(758)730-2506
3. Fitzgerald John
Castries East
(758)730-2694
4. Phillip Leon
Castries South East
(758)730-2711
5. Ulric Alphonse
Laborie
(758)730-2505
6. Ian Frederick
Canaries
(758)730 - 2689
7. Theophila Charles
Choiseul
(758)730-2491
8. Lindy Eristhee
Vieux Fort South
(758)730-2699
9. Ausbert Regis
Dennery South
(758)730-2501
10. Elisha Clarke-Malaykhan
Castries North
(758)730-2470
11. Lail Jerimie
Castries South
(758)730-2503
12. Davis Paul
Castries Central
(758)730-2517
13. Stephen Griffith
Anse-la-Raye
(758)730-2709
14. Dwain Edward
Vieux Fort North
(758)730-2688
15. Vance Pilgrim
Gros Islet
(758)730-2514
16. Placide Lascaris
Soufriere
(758)730-2493

17. Sarah Jules
Babonneau
(758)730 2685

18. Claudine Louison
Dennery North
(758)730-2508

HAZARD TIPs

HAZARD TIP - I

FLOODS - DON'T BE A VICTIM

Do you know **FLOODS** are extremely dangerous and one of the most destructive, natural hazards? It takes only six inches of moving water to knock you down, and one foot of moving water to sweep both you and your vehicle away.

Flood Precaution and Mitigation Tips

- Avoid building in known flood plains.
- If you live in a flood prone area, you need to constantly pay attention to the weather forecast from the Met Office and the changing conditions on the ground.
- Always be prepared to move to higher ground!
- Ensure you have a packed bag with important items in case you need to evacuate. Remember to include needed medications!
- If advised to evacuate your home, do so immediately.
- If possible, remove outdoor furniture and move essential items to an upper floor.
- Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so. Disconnect electrical appliances.

During a Flood

- Do not, walk, swim, or drive through flood waters; as it may be contaminated with hazardous chemicals, raw sewage, dangerous animals or electrically charged from under-ground or downed power lines.
- If you have to walk through flood waters, proceed with extreme caution! Walk where the water is not moving and use a stick to check the firmness of the ground ahead of you.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

Remember “Prevention Is Better Than Cure! DON'T BE A VICTIM!”

HAZARD TIP - II

BE PREPARED!

Do you know **HAZARDS** can be extremely dangerous and force the closure of your business? Don't be a victim begin your preparations today.

Before the storm or hurricane arrives ensure you:

- Create a Business Continuity Plan, and **train employees to implement** the same should it become necessary.
- Develop a staffing policy that clearly identifies employees roles and functions during each phase of the Hazard. It should contain information such as: who must remain at the facility during the hurricane, when persons are expected to leave and return, 24-hour emergency contact details of essential employees.
- Develop operations procedures and policies for each phases of a hurricane: Pre-Season Preparedness, Hurricane Watch, Hurricane Warning, Recovery etc.
- Make backups of important documents and store them in waterproof containers.
- Ensure that your Business Insurance coverage is appropriate and valid.

Once watches or warnings are issued:

- Implement Business Continuity Plan.
- Listen and pay attention to only official advisories issued by the NEMO Secretariat and the Met Office.

After a storm or hurricane:

- Implement the recovery phase of the Business Continuity Plan:
- Assess work site for any damage: structural, electrical etc.
- Initiate clean-up of work-site.
- Employees return to work according to staffing schedule.

Remember “Prevention Is Better Than Cure! Ensure That You And Your Employees Are Always Prepared”

HAZARD TIP - III

BE PREPARED!

Hurricanes and storms can be extremely dangerous and costly! Just remember what Hurricane MARIA did to our sister isle Dominica. 90% of their houses were damaged and they are still suffering. Begin your preparations today.

Before the storm arrives:

- Create a Family Emergency Plan, **ensure that each family member** knows what to do in the event of an emergency.
- Prepare an Emergency Survival Kit to last at least 5 days
- Store valuables and important documents in waterproof containers.
- Stock up on non-perishable items and hurricane supplies; canned foods, flashlight, battery operated radio and extra batteries etc.
- Ensure that your Home and Auto Insurance coverage are appropriate and valid.
- Ensure that your house is in a good state of repair and can weather the storm.
- Trim branches away from your house, and prune all dead or weak trees on your property.

Once watches or warnings are issued:

- Check emergency supplies and fuel vehicles.
- Secure buildings, windows and loose outdoor objects.
- Store drinking water and turn all refrigerators and freezers to their coldest settings.
- Listen and pay attention to only official advisories issued by the NEMO Secretariat and the Met Office.

During a storm or hurricane:

- Stay indoors, avoid open flames such as candles and monitor the progress of the event on your radio, television or phone until the ALL CLEAR IS GIVEN.
- If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power "surge" when electricity is restored.

Remember “Prevention Is Better Than Cure! Ensure You And Your Family Are Always Pre-pared”

HAZARD TIP - IV

Earthquake Survival Tips

UWI Seismic Research Centre Before an earthquake

- Build your home in accordance with the recommended building codes. See your local disaster management office for details.
- Bolt heavy furniture, water tanks, water heaters, gas cylinders and storage units to a wall or floor.
- Place largest and heaviest items on lower shelves.
- Emergency items such as canned foods, medication, flashlights, battery operated radios, fire extinguishers and a First Aid kit should be readily available and working properly.
- All family members should know how to use this emergency equipment and should know how to turn off electricity, gas and water using safety valves and main switches.
- All family members should know what to do during an earthquake and should practice these safety tips through regular drills.

During an earthquake

- **STAY CALM. DO NOT PANIC. BE ALERT.**
- If inside stay inside, do not run out of the building.
- If inside, stand in a strong doorway or get under a sturdy desk, table or bed and hold on.
- Do not use elevators or stairs. Move away from windows, mirrors, glass doors, pictures, bookcases, hanging plants and heavy objects.
- If outside and there are no obvious signs of danger nearby, stay there.
- If outside, stay away from glass buildings, electricity poles, and bridges.

- If in a vehicle, do not stop on or under a bridge.
- Always look out for falling plaster, bricks, lighting fixtures and other objects.

If trapped under debris

- Do not light a match.
- Do not move about or kick up dust.
- Cover your mouth with a handkerchief or clothing.
- Tap on a pipe or wall so rescuers can locate you.
- Use a whistle if one is available. Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause you to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

After an earthquake DO

- Check for broken gas lines and fires.
- Check utilities and switch them off, if necessary.
- Check your house for serious damage and evacuate if the house seems likely to collapse.
- Be prepared for more earthquakes (aftershocks).
- Stay away from landslide-prone areas.
- Turn on transistor radio for emergency news.
- If possible, check the Seismic Research Centre's website at www.uwiseismic.com for updates on the earthquake.

DO NOT

- Do not light a match or turn on a light switch. Use a flashlight instead. Never touch fallen power lines.
- Do not go sightseeing. Leave the streets clear for emergency and rescue vehicles.
- Do not attempt to move seriously injured persons unless they are in danger of further injury.

What about the Triangle of Life?

We do not recommend this practice for the following reasons:

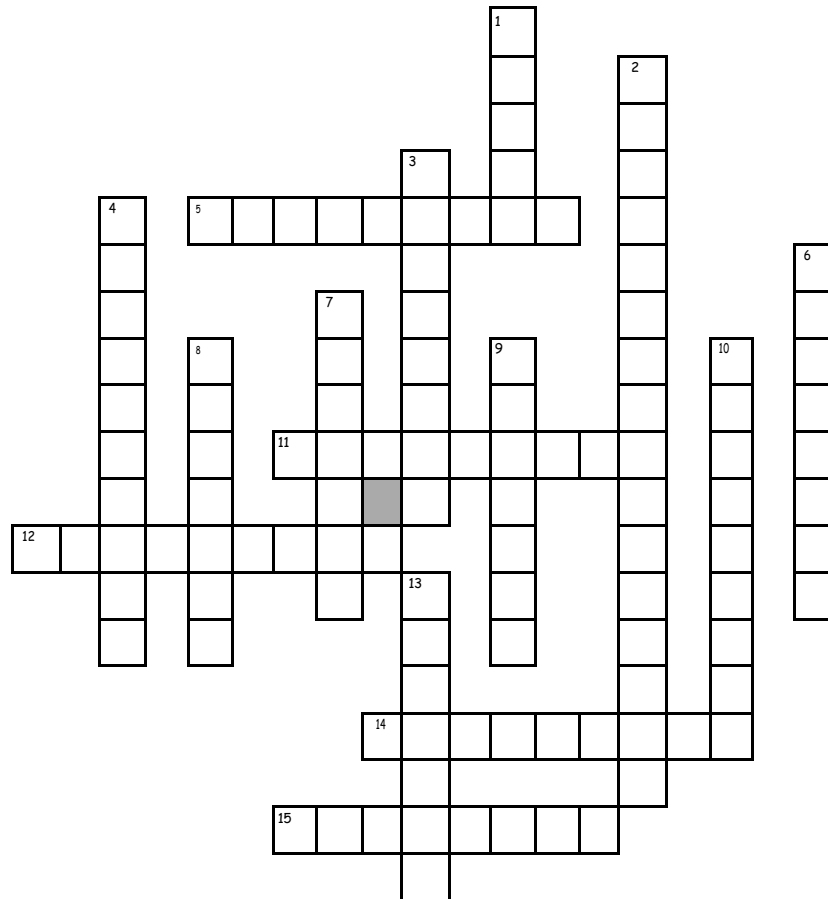
- The Triangle of Life is not a scientifically proven theory.
- It is unknown if during the earthquake these “triangles of life” - spaces next to desks, beds etc. - are impacted in any way which may make them unsafe areas.
- In the Eastern Caribbean, ‘pancaking’ or crumbling of buildings which would crush occupants as described in the ‘Triangle of Life’, is not expected.

Remember “Prevention Is Better Than Cure! Ensure You And Your Family Are Always Prepared”

Images Courtesy: <https://www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon/> and <http://uwiseismic.com>

Puzzles

Natural Disasters



Across

5. When the land starts to sink into the ground
11. A storm in shape of a spiral that is similar to a cyclone
12. When snow falls off a cliff in multiple turns
14. A storm similar to a blizzard but more snow is involved
15. A fire that gets out of control and hurts anything it touches

Down

1. When there is heavy rainfall and it gets out of control
2. When a volcano erupts
3. A cold storm normally in the coldest parts in the world
4. A disaster that shakes the Earth
6. A fire that happens in nature areas
7. When there has not been any rain for a long time
8. A huge wave caused by an ocean-floor earthquake
9. A whirling storm caused by the wind
10. A storm that normally happens in the desert
13. A storm that takes you and spins you around

<https://wordmint.com/puzzles/2674543>

NATURAL DISASTERS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



AVALANCHE
BLIZZARD
CYCLONE
DROUGHT
EARTHQUAKE

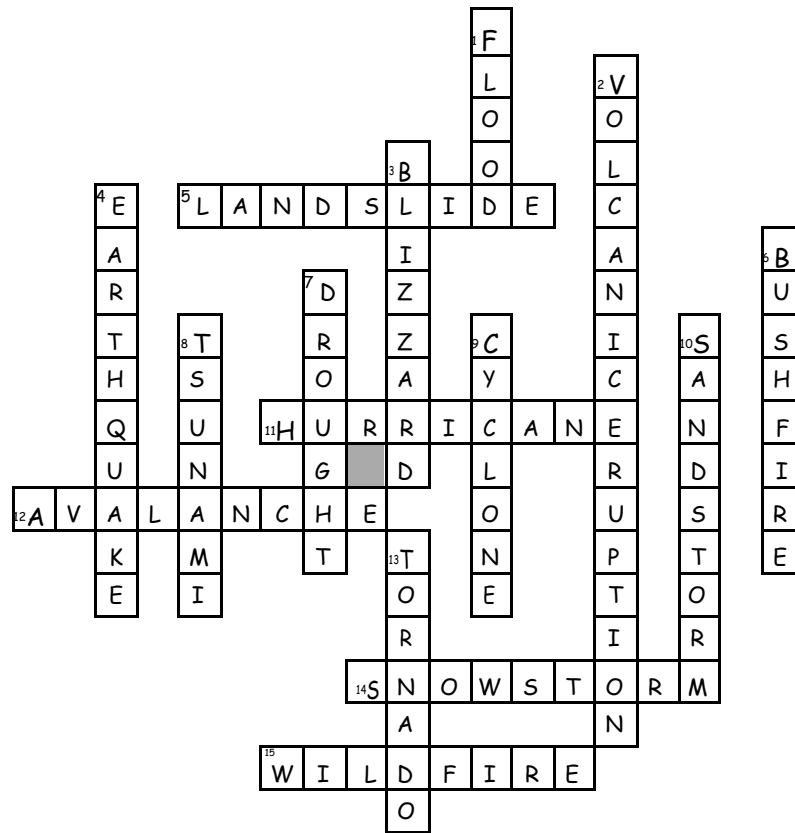
EVACUATION
FLOOD
HAILSTORM
HURRICANE
LANDSLIDE

MONSOON
RED CROSS
RESCUE
SHELTER
TORNADO

TSUNAMI
TYPHOON
VOLCANO
WILDFIRE
WINDSTORM

www.WordSearchAddict.com

Natural Disasters



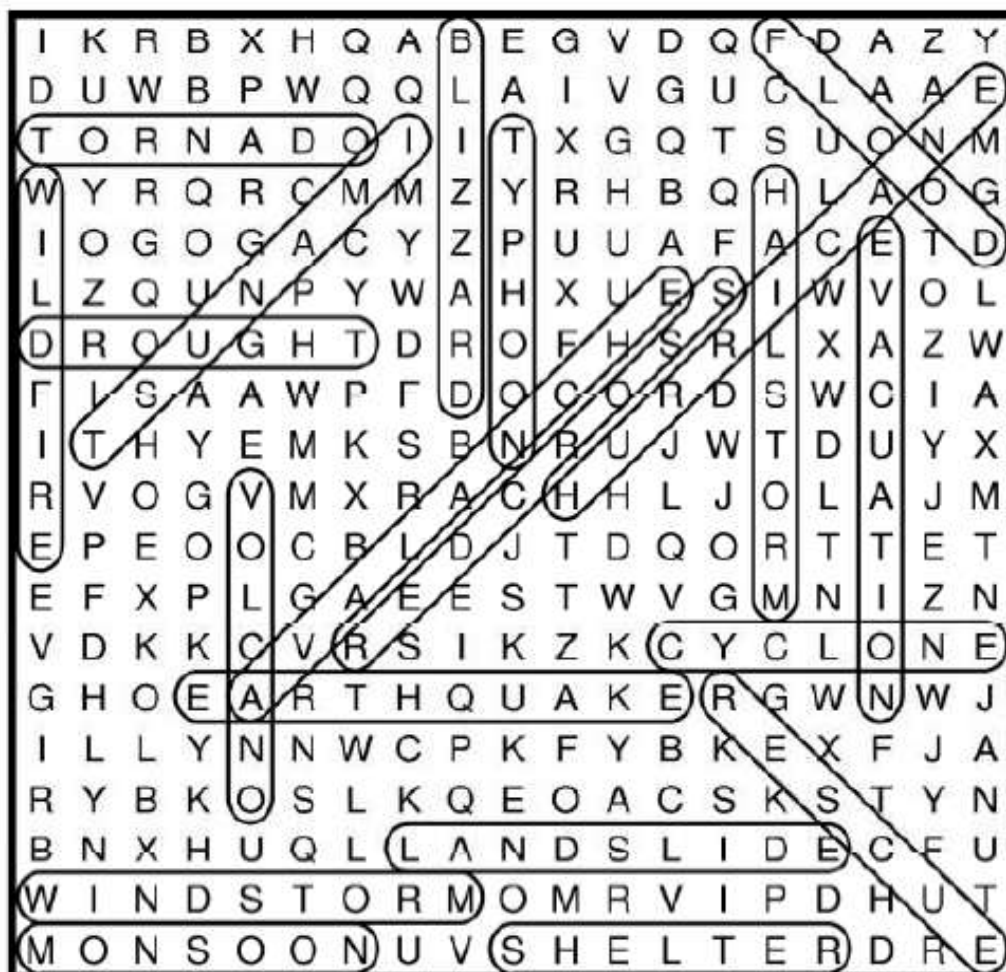
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SOLUTION TO NATURAL DISASTERS PUZZLE



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