Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Projects and Initiatives in the Caribbean

Title: Caribbean Disaster Management Project (CADM)

Organisation: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

Aims and Objectives:
The overall goal of this project is to mitigate damages in CDEMA member states particularly for the flood hazard. The emphasis on this hazard is in keeping with the findings of the Status of Disaster Preparedness in CDEMA Participating States conducted in May 2001 which identified floods as the most common event - occurring in 90% of CDEMA Participating States in the last five years, however in contrast only 25% of these countries have any plans in place to guide disaster management activities for this hazard.
The project has four distinct objectives as follows:
1. Strengthen and establish a system for flood hazard mapping
2. Enhance the capability for community Disaster Management (DM)
3. Improve the capacity of CDERA as a disaster information warehouse/clearing house
4. Enhance recognition of the importance and usefulness of hazard maps and Disaster Management plans among the member states.

Duration: Start Year: 2002 Completion Year: 2006
Additional Comments: CADM Phase 2 followed from 2009-2011

Estimated Cost (USD): $3 million

Funding Source: Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

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Key Words: Flood Hazard; Flood Mapping; Disaster Management Planning; Disaster Management; Preparedness

Geographic Coverage: Barbados; St. Vincent & the Grenadines; and Trinidad & Tobago. It also benefitted from formal collaboration being established with regional institutions such as the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH).

Sectoral Focus: Natural Disaster Management

Target Beneficiaries: Planners and Policymakers

Outputs:
The main outputs of the CADM project included:

- Establishment of regional and national mechanisms for the preparation of hazard maps and community disaster plans
- Establishment and strengthening, through the support of regional and national stakeholders of a flood-hazard mapping system based primarily on technology transfer, flood simulation and geographic information systems (GISs)
- Enhancement of community disaster-management planning through the development of community disaster plans and the training of community members in disaster management planning
- Improvement of the capacity of the CDERA Disaster Information Warehouse, which now collects and disseminates information in a systematic and timely manner.

Project Links and References:
http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=109:caribbean-disaster-management-project-cadm&catid=63:communnity-disaster-preparedness&Itemid=65
http://dms.caribbeanclimate.bz/webinfo/dldocmeta.php?id=68

Impacts:
Information not available

Sustainability:

A sustainability report was prepared following the completion of the CADM project. The report sets out the activities required to ensure the long term sustainability of the initiative.

Lessons for the Future:

Lessons from CADM evaluation report

1) In regions such as the Caribbean, where a number of small countries gather and share similar issues, a region-wide approach to international cooperation is an efficient means of producing greater outcomes in multiple nations with smaller investment because it allows resource sharing in different countries. However, among the participating countries, there may be wide differences in technical, administrative and financial foundations on which technical assistance is supposed to be built. Thus a region-wide project requires giving careful consideration to such differences in order to reach the full potential of outcomes in every country and so that more intensive assistance could be given to less performing nations in order to narrow the gaps.

2) Working with an inter-governmental coordinating body, such as CDERA, as an implementing partner, construction of a working structure and implementation of pilot activities in a limited number of nations does not automatically lead to the technical transference to the remaining states in the region. Therefore, in addition to the structural arrangements, other conditions necessary for expansion in other countries should be satisfied through the project activities. A new cooperating framework suitable for region-wide projects would be required. Otherwise, JICA's existing "Third Country Training Program", "South-South Cooperation", or Funds-in-Trust scheme of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs might be considered to be applicable solutions to follow up on a technical cooperation project.

3) In order for project outcomes to be fully beneficial to the end users, an appropriate outreach strategy should be included in the project design and put into practice. Furthermore, the project should be developed to facilitate further expansion of project outcomes within the pilot countries. Especially, for a multi-tier structure of cooperation, such as the CADM project which involved regional, national and community stakeholders in a multi-level manner careful consideration should be given to a strategy to transmit benefits from upper to the lower levels.

Opportunities Arising from the Project:

Information not available

Further Comments:

Information not available