



## Successful staging of 10th Caribbean CDM Conference



Over 270 delegates gathered at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort in The Bahamas from December 4-9, 2017 for another successful hosting of the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM10).

Attendees included practitioners in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change from across CDEMA's 18 Participating States, regional and international institutions, development partners and representatives from the public and private sectors.

The 10th staging of the CDM Conference was convened under the theme, "CDM: The Road to Resilience—Checkpoint 2017, Building Resilience through Partnerships" and provided an avenue for knowledge exchanges on pathways to building resilience in the region; highlighted progress towards the achievement of CDM results; showcased relevant research and applicable tools in DRM and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA); and provided a forum for the engagement and empowerment of youth in supporting the DRM agenda.

Some of the big ideas emerging from the Conference include; increased openness and collaboration among all actors including women in advancing the CDM agenda, sus-

tainable financing of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM), elaborating competency standards for regional DRM practitioners and promoting 'home-grown' solutions to address regional DRM issues. More details on the Conference outcomes can be accessed via [cdema.org/cdm/10](http://cdema.org/cdm/10).

The Conference also provided a platform for high level participation and discussions on lessons learned from the recent catastrophic hurricanes, Irma and Maria, on countries in the Caribbean region.

The sessions on each day of the Conference were themed around one of the four Priority Areas of the Regional CDM Strategy 2014-2024, with one day devoted to Professional Development. Reports on the progress of the Regional CDM Strategy 2014-2024 were presented on four of the five days of the Conference, also following the model of one theme per day.

An examination of the conference programme, the aspects of CDM that were explored and the key ideas and lessons emerging from the Conference, as well as the profile of stakeholders engaged, lead to the conclusion that the conference objectives were successfully met.

The 2017 Caribbean Conference on CDM

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was successfully implemented through the collaboration of a range of national, regional and international DRM stakeholders. The Conference is organised biennially by the CDEMA Coordinating Unit and this staging was co-hosted by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) of The Bahamas.

It may be concluded that, having successfully met its objectives, the Conference has once again made a valuable contribution to advancing the regional goal of engendering safer, more resilient communities.

## ‘Building Back Better’: Navigating the Post Disaster Reconstruction Process



By Ronald H. Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA

As we look at the enormity of the reconstruction requirements in the CDEMA Participating States devastated by the two Category five (5) Hurricanes of 2017, we are provided with evidence that the concept of building back better is indeed a possibility. Resilient structures were evident among the devastation seen in the affected countries and already they have all come a long way overcoming numerous challenges on their journey to rebuild hope, homes, lives and infrastructure. The Caribbean community, both home and abroad, continues to stand in solidarity with those affected and remain fully committed to supporting their needs as they journey ahead.

While not a new phrase, **‘building back better’** has seen a revival. It has been used to juxtapose the idea of **resilience** in the reconstruction process going forward. On reflection this concept takes us back to Hurricane Gilbert and later in 2004 after Hurricane Ivan. However, over the years it has been more empty rhetoric rather than words truly put into practice. In most instances when the opportunity is presented, the “tyranny of the urgent” takes prominence over the need to address pre-existing development weaknesses.

My experience tells me that we need to embrace the idea of not just building back better but building smarter, maintaining what we build and adjusting where we build over the long term, especially given the impact climate change will have on coastally dependent countries such as our Small Island Developing and Low Lying Coastal States. After every significant extreme climate event we are left pondering the tremendous cost to build more robust infrastructure. The idea of building back better will always be a fleeting concept if we are not pursuing a policy which is cognisant of the changes that are going to be occurring over longer time scales, given the impact it will have on population and infrastructure exposure and vulnerability.

There are reconstruction efforts in the 1970s and 1980s, which have yielded successes in the aspirations to build back in a more resilient way. However, even within these successes - which we should have continued and improved upon - were inherent weaknesses in terms of failure to define and enforce no-build-zones. This would have prevented persons from inhabiting those high-risk areas which were initially depopulated after disaster events. Therefore, it is my view that a lot of the lessons we are claiming to be learning after the 2017 Hurricane Season are not new lessons, we have just not addressed them in the past when they presented themselves. We failed to address the past lessons

in a programmatic and institutionalized manner.

If we truly want to be successful in our recovery and reconstruction efforts and truly build back better then the starting point has to be the effective practice of disaster risk management. We have to look to the creation of the enabling environment nationally through the adoption of sound policies, enhancing and enforcing legislation (not necessarily creating new ones but harmonisation and enforcement); application of knowledge and improving risk management practice as well as addressing the issues of risk governance and disaster risk management leadership. We also need to consider providing incentives and disincentives to encourage risk conscious practices in the public and private investments as well as societal behaviour. The solution does not lie in a short term fix but a commitment to practices necessary over a longer term endeavour.

We also need to realise that recovery and reconstruction planning does not start at the end of the adverse event but that should be planned for before any hazard event occurs and must be driven by knowledge and understanding of the hazard and development interface (an appreciation of the risks and vulnerabilities present in our respective societies). It requires developing likely disaster scenarios, costing the recovery and reconstruction requirements of those scenarios and essentially designing the likely recovery and reconstruction plans, and the financing strategy necessary to implement them.

Further the implementation process must utilize risk information, vulnerability studies and the application of and enforcement of construction design standards. A key element that often impacts on the successes of the recovery and reconstruction process is the issue of politics. It is a matter we must not shy away from but recognise its presence and embrace it by developing bi-partisan avenues to engineer a successful outcome of the reconstruction and recovery process. In the process of rebuilding after a disaster, there will always be some winners and some losers but at the end of the day, it has to be about a win for the majority and for the country as a whole and to ensure the economic prosperity programmes are resuscitated and sustained.

In advancing the reconstruction process we have to foster a spirit of inclusivity. We need to look at engaging the affected communities, not just after the event but also in pre-impact risk management processes. They should also be involved the scenario development and design of the reconstruction solutions based on the scenarios developed.

The private sector also has to be involved as an important partner. The enabling environment for private sector investment must be created as a jumpstart for some of the very costly public infrastructure solutions in the build back better process. It is an opportunity for us to look how we can make our economies more resilient perhaps through further economic diversification especially in those economies dependent on environmental and climate sensitive resources or services. *Continued on page 10*

## CDEMA Presents Cheques to Participating States Impacted by Hurricanes

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), presented cheques totaling US \$140,000 to the hurricane impacted countries of the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). Both territories received US \$70,000 each to assist with further relief and recovery efforts post hurricanes Irma and Maria.

The presentation was made to the countries during the general plenary session on *Advancing School Safety in the Caribbean* at the 10<sup>th</sup> staging of the Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management, which was held at the Melia Nassau Hotel, The Bahamas on December 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Representatives from both territories expressed deep appreciation by thanking CDEMA and all donors for the overwhelming support towards the rebuilding and repairing of Government Schools that sustained damage following the passage of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017.

Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of CDEMA who presented the cheques stated that “it was important to acknowledge the support of the Caribbean Citizens’ and the generosity of donors from across the world, in supporting affected CDEMA States, and that we were happy to provide the resources on their behalf to the BVI and TCI in support of their school restoration efforts.” Honourable Vaden Williams in receiving the cheque on behalf of the Turks and Caicos Islands Government commented, “I welcome this donation on behalf of my Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands. This will greatly assist with the rebuilding and repairing of schools that were damaged by the storms and expedite a sense of normalcy to our students, by returning them as soon as possible to their traditional school facilities. I wish to thank CDEMA and the citizens of the Caribbean who have made it possible for this offer, and support to our People.”

The cheque donation to both BVI and TCI were made possible by the monetary contributions received through the

CDEMA’s Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF), which was launched via an online donation platform as well as direct deposits during the response and relief operation phase.



Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA (left) presenting the cheque to the Hon. Vaden Williams, Minister of Home Affairs, Transportation and Communication with responsibility for Disaster Management, Turks and Caicos Islands.



Dr. Evangeline Inniss-Springer, Deputy Director, Department of Disaster Management of the British Virgin Islands accepting cheque being presented by Mr Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, CDEMA.

## ODPEM Jamaica Presents Cheque to Dominica - Post Maria Recovery

Director General of the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) Major Clive Davis handed over a donation of USD\$86,110 to Mrs. Gloria Joseph, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Planning, Commonwealth of Dominica. These funds were the donations made by corporate and ordinary Jamaicans to the Disaster Relief Fund established by ODPEM in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The presentation was made on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2017, during the 10<sup>th</sup> CDM Conference in The Bahamas.



## The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season – CDEMA Response

The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season has been active and intense, leaving unprecedented destruction in its wake - including loss of life, ruined livelihoods, damaged infrastructure, and weakened economies, affecting the impacted Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Now more than ever, collaboration and action to build greater resilience is crucial in the Caribbean.

Over the period August 25<sup>th</sup> to September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, nine (9) CDEMA Participating States (PSs) faced an unusual threat of impact by two rapidly developing tropical cyclones which attained the highest strength on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane scale - Catastrophic Category 5. These two systems resulted in multi-island impacts.

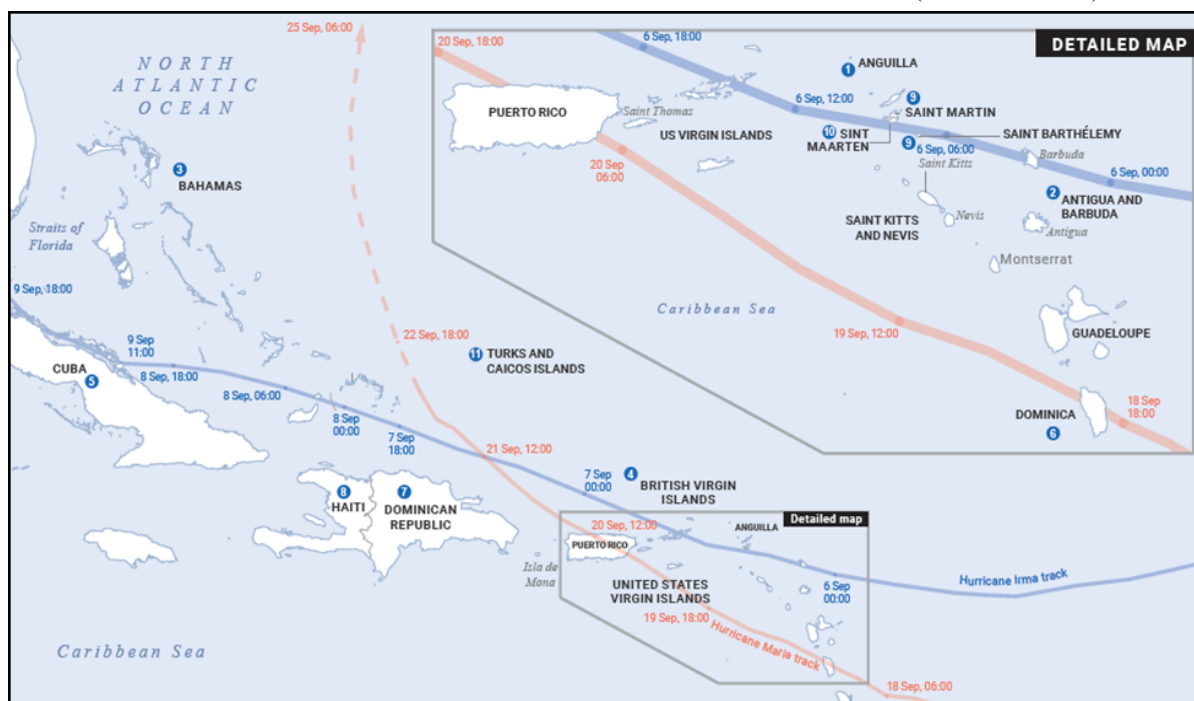
Four (4) CDEMA Participating States – Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands (BVI), Dominica and Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) - received significant impact from the hurricanes. A combination of strong winds, storm surge and intense rainfall from Hurricanes Irma and Maria resulted in the loss of lives (5 deaths related to Irma – 1 in Barbuda and 4 in the British Virgin Islands and 31 deaths in Dominica as a result of Maria). There was significant damage to homes, roads, bridges, electricity, main water supply, airports, hospitals, schools, other government buildings and business structures. The service sectors including tourism and agriculture suffered major damages across all impacted States. The Post Disaster Needs Assessment for Dominica published by the Government of Dominica through the support of the World Bank, United Nations, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, Caribbean Development Bank and the European

Union, concluded that Hurricane Maria resulted in EC \$3.54 billion (US \$1.313B) in damages and losses; an equivalent of 226% of GDP. The recovery and reconstruction needs are valued at EC \$3.69 billion (US \$1.37B). The Hurricane Irma Recovery Needs Assessment published by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda through the support of the aforementioned agencies indicate that the total damages and losses from Irma and Maria amount to EC \$ 418.7 million (US \$155M) and the recovery needs amount to EC \$600.1million (US \$222.2M). “Hurricanes not only destroy property and take lives, they leave psychological scars. The howling of the wind, the sound of a roof lifting; these are experiences many never forget”, said the Right Honourable Roosevelt Skerrit, Prime Minister of Dominica.

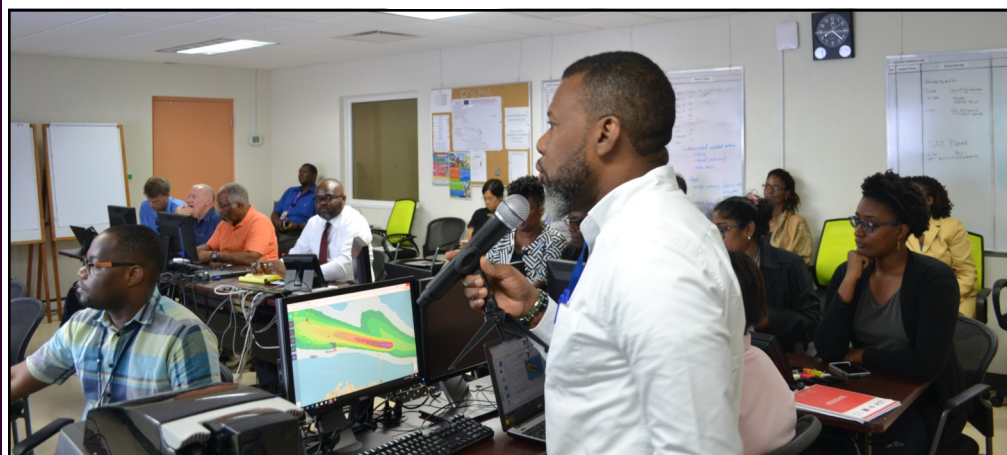
### Regional Response Actions:

CDEMA being the regional agency responsible for coordinating the response and relief efforts to the impacted States immediately went into operation by activating the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) on Wednesday September 6, 2017. CDEMA monitored the progress of the systems with the assistance of the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) and maintained contact with the threatened PS's (including consulting with CDEMA Council Chair and the CARICOM Secretary General). The CDEMA Executive Director and the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean jointly convened the coordination meetings with the RRM partners with the Regional Coordination Centre (RCC) located in Barbados being the hub for the coordination efforts.

MAP SHOWING TRACK OF IRMA AND MARIA OVER CARIBBEAN SEA (Source: UNOCHA)



## The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season – CDEMA Response...cont'd on page 10



*Mr Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of CDEMA leading discussions with the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) Partners during the passage of Hurricane Irma.*

*The discussions were held in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) based at the CDEMA Coordinating Unit in Barbados.*

Once the 'all clear' was issued, CDEMA undertook efforts to establish the situation in the impacted States. The CDEMA Coordinating Unit was able to get an initial situation overview of impacts within the impacted states and deploy teams within 24 hours. Some of the response efforts were challenged by the nature of the hazard itself which affected weather conditions for flying and sailing.

CDEMA, in collaboration with Participating States, regional institutions and UN agencies, facilitated the deployment of one hundred and eighty-eight (188) personnel comprising 11 Rapid Needs Assessment Teams (RNATs); 2 CARICOM Disaster Assessment and Coordination (CDAC) Teams; 3 CARICOM Operational Support Teams (COST); 2 CARICOM Disaster Relief Units (CDRU) and 11 Search and Rescue (SAR) teams and artisans, to provide support in the areas of damage assessment and needs analysis, emergency response coordination, assistance in relief operations and search and rescue.

In addition, over three hundred and twenty (320) personnel from police, fire, military and health were provided by CARICOM States for security, surge support, engineering support and medical assistance. CDEMA continued to convene the coordination meetings amongst partners of the Regional Re-

sponse Mechanism comprising regional and international agencies, in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean and other partners operating within the North Western Caribbean. Many agencies were deployed and embedded in the RCC or joined the meetings online.

In efforts to share information and keep stakeholders updated on the impacts and response, CDEMA prepared and issued a total of twenty-four (24) documents on the emergency response coordination. Five (5) press conferences were held where the Executive Director of CDEMA, Mr Ronald Jackson, provided regular updates. A total of seven (7) Information Notes and eighteen (18) Situation Reports (SITREPS) were developed and disseminated about the impacts including information about damage and needs for distribution to CDEMA Participating States, partners, the media and the international community. A summary of some of the actions undertaken with partners in accordance with the Regional Coordination Plan (RCP) by the CDEMA CU and Participating are as follows:



CDEMA worked with international partners including GAC, EU, IFRC, UKAID, USAID/OFDA and WFP to provide food for the affected population.



In collaboration with ITU, TSF, military engineers and communications companies, the communication networks have been gradually reconnected. Restoration of electricity has been undertaken through collaboration with CARILEC.



Reconstruction and removal of debris was an urgent and relevant area where CDEMA worked in collaboration with UNDP and militaries.



Urgent needs on roofing material, shelter and temporary housing were addressed with international partners such as GAC, EU, IFRC, JICA, UKAID, USAID/OFDA, IOM and militaries.



CDEMA has worked with various international actors to reestablish access to water.



CDEMA has worked with the RSS and other military assets available in the region to address security issues and with UNICEF, UNFPA, UNWOMEN on social protection issues.



CDEMA has collaborated with PAHO/WHO and CARPHA to provide support to several ministries of health, as well as restoring health facilities and providing medical supplies.



CDEMA worked with LIAT, CAL, CDB, Tropical Shipping, local Coast Guard, Military, WFP and other international agencies to mobilize ships and aircrafts to transport response personnel and deliver relief assistance.

## Brigadier General (R) Earl Arthurs Recognised for Unwavering Service in Disaster Management

Described as a stalwart and standard bearer in disaster management in the Caribbean, Belizean born Brigadier General (R) Earl Arthurs was recognised by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), an institution of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). General Arthurs was presented the 2017 CDEMA Council of Ministers and Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Closing Ceremony, Awards & Gala Dinner of the 10<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM), which was held on December 8, 2017, at Melia Nassau Beach Resort in The Bahamas.

General Arthurs served the Belize Defence Force with distinction for approximately twenty (20) years, in various leadership capacities including as Chief of Staff 1990 – 1993 and as Commandant from 1994 – 1998. As Chief of Staff, General Arthurs was assigned to work with the focal point for Disaster Management in Belize, which heralded his entry into the disaster management arena. After retirement in February 1998, he served in the Belize National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) from 1999 – 2005, first as Deputy National Emergency Coordinator, from March 1999 to March 2003 and then as the National Disaster Coordinator from 2003 – 2005.

The CDEMA Council and Lifetime Achievement Awards were bestowed upon General Arthurs for his unwavering dedication and passion in serving the region for over twenty (20) years. General Arthurs, former CDEMA's Emergency Operations Specialist, joined the then Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) team in September 5, 2005 as a Technical Resource Officer.

He has been at the frontier of disaster response operations in every major regional event including; Hurricanes Mitch in 1998, Keith in 2000, Iris in 2001, Ivan in 2004, Joaquin and Erika in 2015, Matthew in 2016 and most recently, Irma and Maria in 2017. After the great earthquake of 2010 which devastated Haiti, he was CARICOM's representative on the ground for almost six (6) weeks, performing the role of Special Coordinator. General Arthurs successfully guided the CARICOM Legacy projects in Leogane in Haiti in 2010 and again in Les Cayes in 2016.

On behalf of the CDEMA and wider CARICOM family, it is with gratitude that we take this opportunity to thank General Arthurs for his immeasurable contribution to disaster management in the region. His leadership, expertise, dedication and commitment have been invaluable in advancing Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) in the Caribbean and globally.



The Hon. Samantha Marshall, Minister of Social Transformation and Human Resource Development, Antigua and Barbuda and Chair of the CDEMA Council of Ministers (left) presenting the CDEMA Council Award to Brigadier (R'td) General Earl Arthurs.



Mr Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of CDEMA (left) presenting the CDEMA Lifetime Achievement Award to Brigadier (R'td) General Earl Arthurs during the Awards Gala and Dinner at the CDM10 Conference

## Jamaican Born University Professor Awarded Research Grant in Disaster Risk Management

Assistant Professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice; City University of New York, USA, Dr. Denise D.P. Thompson, is the recipient of the inaugural Jeremy Collymore Award for Research in Humanitarian Response and Disaster Risk Management. The award was presented during the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort, in The Bahamas.

Dr. Thompson, who is originally from Kingston, Jamaica, was awarded a US\$5,000 research grant to support her research in the area of strengthening the disaster logistics supply chain in the Caribbean. The research will examine the complexity of logistics coordination to deliver relief supplies, the emerging contingencies on many of the islands once a disaster strikes, and pressures on the transportation systems which have continued to overwhelm the regional response systems.

The Jeremy Collymore Award for Research in Humanitarian Response and Disaster Risk Management seeks to support innovative and insightful research for improved emergency response and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in any of the eighteen (18) Participating States of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). The Award is a tribute to Mr. Jeremy Collymore in recognition of his outstanding and sterling contribution to the CDEMA system and to disaster risk management in the Caribbean region and beyond.

The Award was co-sponsored by Profiles Caribbean Inc. and will be presented biennially during the Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management.



Mr. Jeremy Collymore presenting the research grant award to Dr. Denise Thompson during the Closing Ceremony, Awards and Gala Dinner at the 10th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management, December 8 2017.

## Philmore Mullin Honoured with CDEMA Lifetime Achievement Award



Director of the National Office of Disaster Services (NODS) in Antigua and Barbuda, Mr. Philmore Mullin, was presented the CDEMA Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding and immeasurable contribution to disaster management in the CARICOM region: 1992-2017.

Mr Mullin has served the Disaster Management Community with distinction over the last twenty-five (25) years not only in Antigua & Barbuda but across the region. In Antigua & Barbuda in his role as Director he spearheaded the drafting of the National Disaster Management Policy, Legislation and Regulations in 2014, promoted the establishment of the NODS website and promoted disaster management safety in schools. He has overseen and supported national, sub-regional and regional operations after hazard impacts from major hydro-meteorological events including namely Luis (115), Georges (1997) Lenny & Jose (1999), Omar 2008, Matthew (2016), Erika and Joaquin (2015) and Irma (2017).

He was recognised for his leadership, expertise, dedication and commitment to disaster management planning, execution and response in the region.

## Memories from CDM10...December 2017 in The Bahamas



## Memories From CDM10 ...December 2017 in The Bahamas



## The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season – CDEMA Response... cont'd from page 5

### Post Emergency/Disaster Recovery

In accordance to the Regional Coordination Plan (RCP), CDEMA initiated the transition to the Post Emergency/Disaster Recovery Phase of its operations. All response teams that were deployed completed their tour of duty and return home as of Friday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 and relief operations were transitioned to the respective established channels in each of the impacted State. Nevertheless CDEMA continues to provide support by undertaking specific 'legacy projects' in each of the severely impacted State. These projects entail financial grants to the displaced population in Barbuda (voucher and rent grants), the education sector in the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands (to assist educational provisions for children with special needs) and support towards the reconstruction of schools and homes in Dominica.

CDEMA continues to support the affected CDEMA Participating States into Phase 3- Post Emergency/Disaster Recovery, through its programming support including ensuring that arrangements for recovery are advanced and an After Action Review is conducted for lesson learning. In addition, ensuring that the Macro Socio Economic Damage and Loss Assessment and/or the Post Disaster Damage and Needs Assessment are conducted to assist with reconstruction as well as ensuring that early recovery activities are planned and implemented to support the continuity of operations of the government and the private and social sectors. CDEMA will also continue to promote preparedness and mitigation measures in a continuous manner to ensure vulnerability and response capacity do not decrease with time.



Left—Belizean military artisans repairing damage structures at the Dominica Grammar School post Maria. Right—CDRU in Dominica- assisted in relief operations on Port and housing assessment in the Kalinago Territory

### 'Building Back Better'...By R.H. Jackson (cont'd from page 2)

As we consider the rebuilding programmes across the region, we must do so not with simply a focus on climate change but more so with a focus on **Building Resilience** against all forms of hazards that affect our region. Talk of making countries climate resilient belies the fact that we are also in a seismically active area hence the "building back better" process must not only consider climate but also consider the geological hazards.

In advancing the Reconstruction or Regional Resilience Agenda, CARICOM nations will urgently need to harmonise efforts at attaining risk-resilience with our efforts to tackle the impact of climate and the impact of disaster risks along with the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They are all contributing towards one common endeavour, the overarching prosperity of the region and the region's people. Harmonization is necessary given the limited resources and time available to act. The positive side of the September 2017

devastating hurricanes, if there is such a thing, is that it provides a transformative opportunity. There is nothing that should prevent us from taking hold of this opportunity. We should not buy into the view that we do not have capacity, which is one argument posed as a barrier to attaining the goal of **"a safer more resilient region"**.

As a collective space this region can harness resources across member states in supporting some of our sister and brother islands that may have capacity challenges. Is not this the idea behind the CARICOM Single Market and Economy? Let us take this opportunity to balance the urgent with the important and turn the term **"build back better"** into more than simply rhetoric.

## The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season – Images from the Impact and Response Operations





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## Participating States

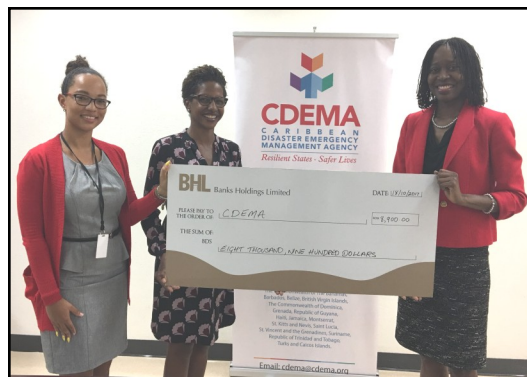
Anguilla  
Antigua and Barbuda  
Commonwealth of the Bahamas  
Barbados  
Belize  
Commonwealth of Dominica  
Grenada  
Republic of Guyana  
Haiti  
Jamaica  
Montserrat  
Saint Kitts & Nevis  
Saint Lucia  
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines  
Suriname  
Republic of Trinidad & Tobago  
Turks & Caicos Islands  
The Virgin Islands

**Resilient States...Safer Lives!**

## CDEMA Thanks All Donors for Supporting Hurricane Relief Efforts



Mr. Anthony Branker, Council Member of the Barbados Chamber of Commerce & Industry presenting a cheque of BDS\$9,000 to Mrs. Donna Walker, Human Resources and Administrative Manager, CDEMA to aid in the rebuilding efforts of the Portsmouth Secondary School in Dominica. Ms. Karen Alleyne, Senior Marketing Manager of Massy Stores looks on.



The staff of the Banks Holdings Limited (BHL) donated BDS\$8,900 to support the relief and response operations in the impacted CDEMA Participating States. Here, Keisha Chapman, Public Relations and Communications Officer (left) and Sophia Cambridge, Corporate Affairs Manager (middle) both of the BHL presenting the cheque to Elizabeth Riley, Deputy Executive Director of CDEMA.



Barbados Association of Washington, DC Area Inc. presented CDEMA with a cheque for BDS\$10,000 towards the recovery efforts post Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The funds were part proceeds from the Spirit of Barbados Gala event, which was held last November. Presenting the cheque were Ambassador Selwin Hart, Barbados' Ambassador to the United States of America (USA) and Permanent Representative to the Organisation of the American States, Mr David Thompson, President of the Barbados Association of the Washington DC Area and Ms. Petra Roach, Director, US, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI). Ms Elizabeth Riley, Deputy Executive Director of CDEMA accepted the cheque on behalf the Agency.



Pastor, Elder Odle of the Mount Olive Holy Temple, Barbados presented a cheque for BDS\$250 to Mr. Clive Murray, Communication and Education Specialist, CDEMA. The cheque was presented on behalf of the members of the Mt. Olive Church towards the Hurricane Relief Fund.

## Upcoming Activities (February - May 2018)

- **CARIBE WAVE 2018—**  
**March 15 (Regional**  
**Tsunami Exercise for the**  
**Caribbean and Adjacent**  
**Regions)**
- **Annual CDEMA Technical**  
**Advisory Committee Meet-**  
**ing—April 16-20, 2018**
- **CARICOM Disaster**  
**Relief Unit (CDRU)**  
**Training—May 14-21,**  
**2018**