MAKING CITIES RESILIENT 2030 (MCR2030) WEBINAR

COORDINATING URBAN RESILIENCE STRATEGIES: JAMAICA’S EXPERIENCE

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CONTENTS

- Disaster and Climate Risk Challenges
- Disaster Management Operation
- Building Disaster Resilience at the Local and Community level
- UNDRR Scorecard completion process
- From Scorecard to Action Planning and Implementation
- Recommendations
Disaster and climate risk challenges are increasingly critical as the frequency and intensity of natural disasters rise due to climate change.

Disaster impacts are mainly from hurricane, storm surge, flooding from torrential rainfall, drought, bush fire and earthquakes.

- In recent times we have felt a number of earthquake ranging with magnitude 4.2 – 5.6
- In 2023 there were 6,443 bushfires across all parishes
- Since the start of 2024 we have 2,134 bushfires
DISASTER IMPACTS

- Increase frequency and severity of extreme weather events
- Flooding
- Impacts on vulnerable population and infrastructure
- Displacement of population
- Economic Impact
- Ecosystem degradation
  - Biodiversity loss
  - Ecosystem services
The Government of Jamaica through the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development has a systematic process designed to identify, assess, and reduce the risks of disaster. It aims to lessen the impacts of disasters through prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery measures.
DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Community Level

- Families/Individuals, Civil Society/NGOs/CBOs
- CERTS
- Sub-Groups

CDRMG/Zonal Committees
Disaster Risk Management is one of the Government’s strategic priority as it is aligned to Jamaica’s first long-term strategic development plan, Vision 2030.

- Goal 4: Jamaica has a Healthy Environment
- Outcome 14: Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change

Translating international agreements and national policies into local action requires strong governance structures.

- Localizing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Regional CDRM Framework
National Initiatives

- Development of Comprehensive DRM Policy (Green paper)
- Improvement of Early Warning System
- Shelter Programme
- Capacity Building
- Public Education and Awareness
- Building Disaster Resilience Community Programme
- Sendai Framework Monitoring
- Integration of UNDRR Scorecard into operation plan and having all Municipal Corporations signed onto MCR2030
In 2010, all 14 MCs joined the UNDRR Making Cities Resilient (MCR) Campaign by signing up and adopting the Ten (10) Essentials for making cities resilient to guide disaster risk reduction planning and decision making.

Introduction of the UNDRR Scorecard to all Municipal Corporations in 2019 with support from the UNDRR in a workshop setting. This allowed for ownership and buy-in from relevant stakeholders and to increase institutionalization of DRR at the local level.

Scorecard was successfully completed by all Municipal Corporations in 2021 through a multi-stakeholder, participatory process prior to Jamaica hosting the Regional Platform.

In addition, all MCs registered onto the Making Cities Resilient 2030 Initiative initiative platform making Jamaica to be the first country in the world to have all of its Local Authorities commit to strengthening disaster resilience.
The indicators that the Parishes have reported on had allowed the Ministry to establish a baseline measurement of the Parishes’ level of disaster resilience and have increased awareness and understanding of the challenges MCs face. This will further assist the Ministry to identify programs and activities that can be implemented to enhance parish resilience.

Validation of the Scorecard to ensure accuracy, effectiveness, and acceptance among local disaster management stakeholders.
MCs have been working assiduously to reduce their disaster risk. A number of activities carried out support MCR2030 Initiative and they are working towards mainstreaming the DRR/resilience strategy and activities across their DRM structure.

There are a number of indicators that require well needed attention due to the low scoring assigned by MCs. Some of the indicators are among Essentials, such as:

- Strengthen Financial Capability for Resilience – Essential 3
- Safeguard Natural Buffers to Enhance the Protective Functions Offered by Natural Capital – Essential 5
Case Study 1: Portland Risk Perception

- Risk Perception Discussion and Capacity Building Sensitisation Workshop for the Parish of Portland held on November 18, 2022.
- The aim was to obtain an understanding of how community members understand and perceive hazards and disaster risk and their level of participation in DRR activities to determine where there are synergies as it relates to their level of awareness.
- Support provided by UNDRR, Jamaica Red Cross and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
Case Study 2: Kingston and St. Andrew – Application of the Disaster Resilience and Addenda to Support the Development of a Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and Action Plan

- Hosting of MCR2030 Initiative Workshop with the Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation April 24 -28, 2023 to bolster their capacity to develop their local disaster risk reduction strategy and plan and applying the scorecard.
- They were also introduced to the Public Health and Cultural Heritage Scorecard Addendum.
- Development of a Vision Board
Case Study 3: Trelawny Strategic and Operation Plan Review

- Provision of technical support to the Trelawny Municipal Corporation Disaster Management Department in creating a robust Disaster Risk Management Strategic and Operation Plan aligned to National DRM Plan and to mainstream target from Making Cities Resilient Scorecard.

Case Study 4: Capacity Building for St. Mary MC - Climate Action Tool And Climate Bond Initiative Deep Dive Workshop

- MLGCD and St. Mary MC participated in Climate Action Tool And Climate Bond Initiative Deep Dive Workshop. UNDRR MCR2030 Initiative in partnership with Climate Bond Initiative (CBI).

- The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen the capacities of governments in the Americas and Caribbean region to analyze climate risk and link them to disaster risk reduction plans. Also, to strengthen their capacities to access funds for implementation of climate actions.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- The need for increased support from UNDRR in localizing MCR2030
- Public Private Partnership
- Creating nexus between Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Better documentation and reporting at national and local level for further reporting into the Sendai Framework
- Encourage Municipal Corporation to share information on initiatives undertaken that support Building Disaster Resilience on the MCR2030 Platform
Thank you