

Caribbean Early Warning System Workshop

Session 2a and 2b: Governance and Institutional arrangements for EWS in the Caribbean: Regional to local

Thursday, April 14, 11:30 - 16:30

Session Background

Early warning systems (EWS) are prioritized as life-saving measures within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at the global level and within the CARICOM regional framework and the CDM Strategy 2014-2014 at the regional and national levels. It is recognized that EWS need to be people-centred comprising four key elements: knowledge of the risks; monitoring, analysis and forecasting of the hazards; communication or dissemination of alerts and warnings and local capabilities to respond to the warnings received¹. While the global and regional perspectives provide the necessary governance architecture for reducing losses, implementation at national and community level is also critical as highlighted in the CDM Strategy at outcome 4.3 Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS), integrated, improved and expanded that contributes to 'Strengthened and sustained community resilience through CDM'.

The United Nations Development Programme defines institutional arrangements as: "...the policies, systems, and processes that organizations use to legislate, plan and manage their activities efficiently and to effectively coordinate with others in order to fulfill their mandate." Appropriate governance and institutional arrangements are therefore foundational to the development and maintenance of Early Warning Systems since they are the basis for all four key elements of EWS. This session examines the status of governance and institutional arrangements which exist in the Caribbean region for Early Warning Systems and points the way forward in making these more effective.

Objectives of the Session

The objectives of the session are:

1. To examine the existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS in CDEMA Participating States
2. To identify gaps in the existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS
3. To identify opportunities for the strengthening of governance and institutional arrangements for EWS

Expected Outcomes:

1. Existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS in the Caribbean examined
2. Gaps in the existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS distilled
3. Opportunities for the strengthening of governance and institutional arrangements for EWS identified

¹ UNISDR (2009). "Early Warning System." Terminology. from <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/terminology/v.php?id=478>.
United Nations (2015). Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Sendai, Japan: 37.

Methodology	Description	Resources
Session 2A: Governance and Institutional Arrangements for EWS in the Caribbean 11:30-12:30 and 13:30-14:30 This sub-session seeks to identify and examine existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS in the Caribbean. Specific emphasis will be placed on the governance, policy and legislative arrangements in place to give effect to Early Warning Systems at the national and regional levels. The methodology for this session will be a 20 minute context setting presentation by the CDEMA Coordinating Unit on the current status, followed by two presentations one focused on national level governance and institutional arrangements and the second on community level governance and institutional arrangements for EWS. The presentations will be followed by an interactive question and answer session.		
1. An Examination of Governance and Institutional Arrangements for EWS in CDEMA Participating States	A CDEMA CU presentation examining existing governance and institutional arrangements for EWS through the lens of the four components: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Knowledge of the risks; ii. monitoring, analysis and forecasting of the hazards; iii. communication or dissemination of alerts and warnings and iv. local capabilities to respond to the warnings received The presentation will also examine the role of the model national CDM policy, bill and regulations in framing the space for enhancing EWS governance and institutional arrangements going forward.	20 minute presentation Session Chair - Michelle Forbes, St Vincent and the Grenadines
2. Discussion	Meeting participants will ask questions based on the opening presentation	15 minutes Session Chair - Michelle Forbes, St Vincent and the Grenadines
3. Presentation 2 – Governance and Institutional arrangements for EWS at the national level	This presentation will present a country case study of existing institutional arrangements for Tsunami EWS at the national level highlighting the successes, gaps identified and opportunities for enhancement.	15 minutes Susan Hodge, Programme Officer Department of Disaster Management, Anguilla – Tsunami EWS
4. Presentation 4 – Governance and Institutional arrangements for EWS at the community level	This presentation will present a case study of existing governance and institutional arrangements for flood EWS at the community level highlighting the successes, gaps identified and opportunities for enhancement.	15 minutes Horace Glaze, Senior Director, Preparedness & Emergency Operations, ODPEM, Jamaica – Flood EWS
5. Discussion	Meeting participants will ask questions based on the opening presentation	25 minutes

Session 2B: Governance and Institutional Arrangements for EWS in the Caribbean

14:30-16:00PM

This sub-section seeks to identify opportunities for the strengthening of governance and institutional arrangements for EWS through working group deliberations.

<p>1. Group work</p>	<p>Participants will be divided into three groups which will examine the topic from one of the following perspectives: regional, national and community level. Each group will examine the current status, gaps and opportunities at the assigned level through discussion of each of the components of the EWS as applicable.</p> <p>Groups will be assigned 1 hour to undertake this task. The meeting will reconvene in plenary at 14:30 hrs and each group will be given 10 minutes to present findings. Each presentation will be followed by a 5 minute opportunity for questions and or clarifications.</p>	<p>Personnel Required Group facilitator Group rapporteur</p>
<p>2. Plenary</p>	<p>Presentation of results by groups</p> <p>Each group will be allocated 10 minutes each of presentation followed by 5 mins for questions. Total 45 minutes for the reporting session.</p>	<p>Personnel Required Rapporteur</p>



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Worksheet for Session 2B

	TOPICS TO BE EXAMINED BY EACH GROUP		
	Current Status	Existing Gaps	Recommendations and Opportunities
EWS Component			
Knowledge of the risks			
Monitoring, analysis and forecasting of the hazards			
Communication or dissemination of alerts and warnings			
Local capabilities to respond to the warnings received			