

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA**

Project Number: JAM/01/002

Project Title: Support to Community-Based Disaster Management in the parishes of Westmoreland, St. James, St. Ann and Clarendon

Designated Institution: Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)

Project Site: Jamaica

Time Frame: Two Years: May 2001 – May 2003

Brief description: The project will work with the communities to develop and implement vulnerability reduction programmes in flood-prone communities in the parishes of Westmoreland, St. James, St. Ann and Clarendon; utilising the approach used in communities of the Rio Grande Valley and Rio Cobre. It will also review methodologies and best practices for developing community flood warning systems, prepare a strategy and protocol for developing flood warning systems; undertake landslide mapping, and carry out the implementation of a community-based mitigation project.

Beneficiaries:

The direct beneficiaries are the relevant members from the communities in which the project is located. These include primarily the Community Disaster Alert Teams and the Parish Councils. At another level, ODPEM's disaster management capacity would be strengthened, thus enabling members of that team to better predict and respond to disaster occurrences. Indirect beneficiaries include development planners, policy makers and technical personnel who, by their informed decisions, can affect a reduction in the percentage of the population who are exposed to disasters such as flooding and land slippage and thereafter chart directions forward for mitigation.

Development Objective:

A reduction in the percentage of the population in the region who are exposed to the effects of natural and man-made disasters.

Immediate Objectives and Outputs:

Objective 1 Capacities made more effective and efficient within four selected communities in the Parishes of Westmoreland, St. James, St. Ann and Clarendon, to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters.

Output 1.1 Four demographic and community profiles

Output 1.2 Four community disaster risk mitigation plans

Output 1.3 Training programme implemented in the form of community meetings for all members of the communities in the area of disaster management

Output 1.4 Programme materials for conducting training and community awareness programmes on disaster preparedness and flood early warning systems

Output 1.5 Training programme implemented per community, for the members of the Community Disaster Alert Teams in the implementation and use of flood early warning systems

Objective 2 Increased knowledge and information on hazards, in particular, geo-referenced data on multi-hazards and vulnerability.

Output 2.1 Assessment of available data (previous hazard and flood plain maps and reports, rainfall data, aerial photographs)

Output 2.2 Data needs assessment specific to selected project communities

Output 2.3 A minimum of six hazard and vulnerability GIS formatted maps for flooding and landslides in selected communities

Output 2.4 The preparation of one flood plain map for the selected community in the Parish of St. James

Output 2.5 Radio communications network for each of the selected communities established and operational

Output 2.6 Information base on hazard and disaster occurrence and flood plain mapping, within the selected project communities, established and operational

Immediate Objective 3 National and local level authorities and stake-holders more able to effectively and efficiently support and operationalize a national disaster risk reduction programme.

Output 3.1 Workshop Report from a participatory workshop with representatives from Jamaica, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua who work in Disaster Mitigation and Management to exchange information and methodologies on flood early warning systems

Output 3.2 Workshop Report from a second participatory workshop, near project completion, to present the outcomes and successes of the Jamaican

project to date and present a strategy for disaster risk management and flood early warning systems for Caribbean wide distribution.

Output 3.3 Reports from the workshops disseminated throughout the Caribbean.