



UN
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IMPACT SERIES

SNAPSHOTS OF

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

IN THE BAHAMAS & TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Multi Country Office in Jamaica**

Serving Jamaica, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands



OUR MISSION

UNDP works in 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and exclusion, and build resilience so countries can sustain progress. As the UN's development agency, UNDP plays a critical role in helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.



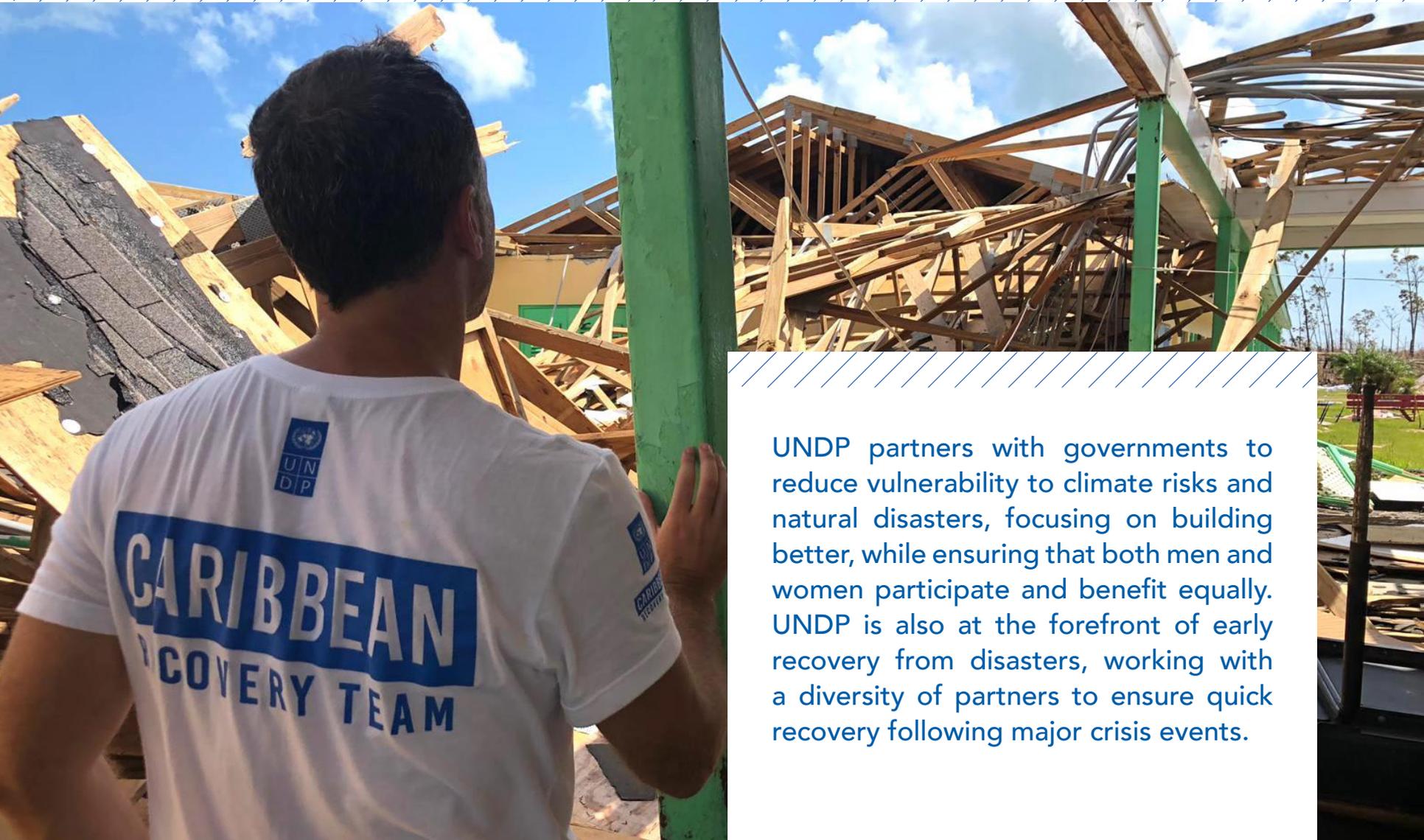
3 REASONS WHY UNDP SUPPORTS DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

1 Countries hit by crisis such as a hurricane are not only in need of urgent relief, but a new way of planning and operating that strengthens their nations to better face crisis.

2 Countries which have invested in disaster risk resilience are better poised to protect their economies and livelihoods from severe dislocation.

3 Disasters and other severe shocks often increase the rate of poverty by worsening conditions for the poor and swelling the ranks of the poor.

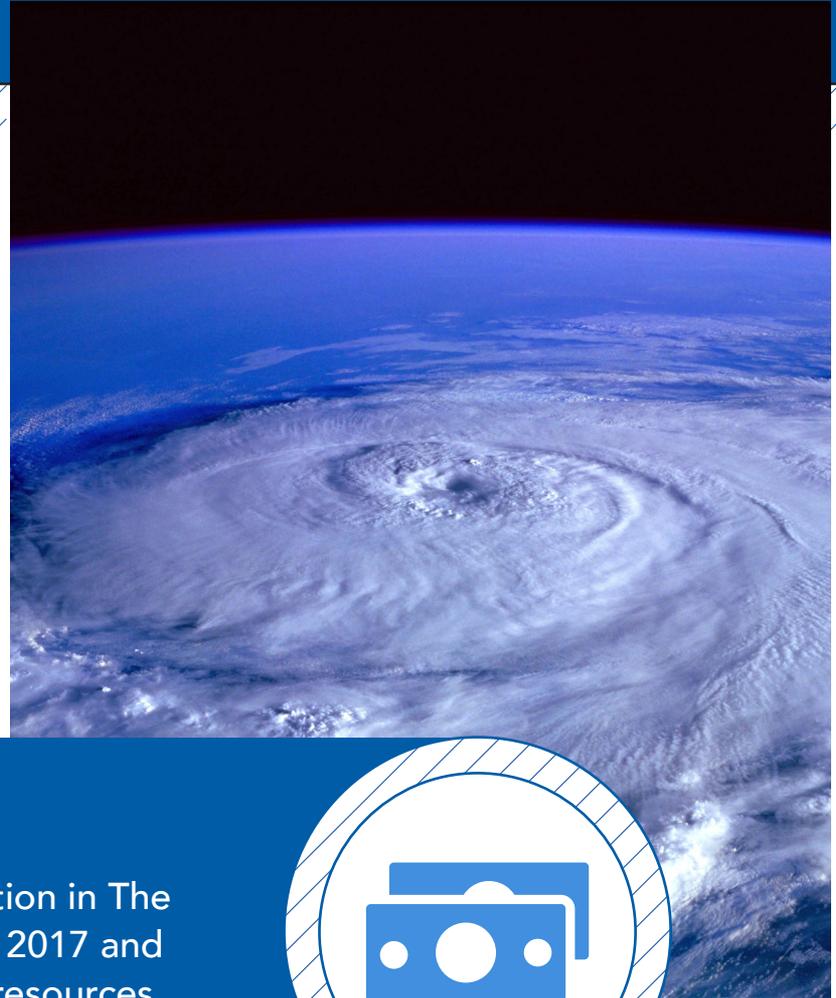
UNDP & CRISIS



UNDP partners with governments to reduce vulnerability to climate risks and natural disasters, focusing on building better, while ensuring that both men and women participate and benefit equally. UNDP is also at the forefront of early recovery from disasters, working with a diversity of partners to ensure quick recovery following major crisis events.

TWO DEVASTATING HURRICANES

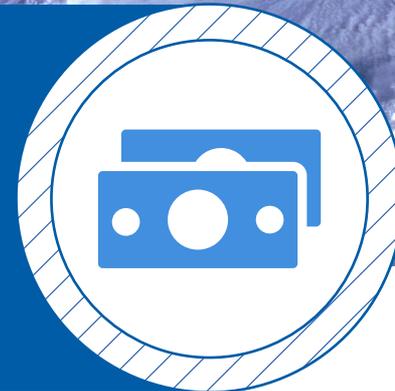
Within a span of four years, UNDP Multi Country Office in Jamaica has supported two Caribbean nations with relief and resilient recovery in the wake of devastating hurricanes. In 2017, Turks and Caicos Islands was impacted by hurricanes Irma and Maria, two category five systems, and in 2019, The Bahamas was impacted by category five hurricane Dorian.



UNDP has mobilized

1,554,000 USD Million

to support hurricane relief & disaster risk reduction in The Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands between 2017 and 2019. This includes 1,154,000 from UNDP core resources and 400,000 from UNICEF for the Bahamas.



HELPING NATIONS UNDERSTAND THE SCALE OF THE DEVASTATION

Two Socioeconomic Impact Assessments and two debris and waste management plans have helped Turks and Caicos Islands (in 2017) and The Bahamas (in 2019/2020) to determine the scale of the devastation, the scale of the gaps and the scale of the required interventions.



SETTING UP A HURRICANE-RESILIENT FUTURE

UNDP supported The Bahamas with the development of Resilient Recovery Policy & Guidelines, a National Disaster Resiliency Strategy and Implementation Plan, and an Institutional Assessment Report to establish the foundation for a hurricane resilient future. Cabinet approved the plans on 27th October 2020.



Cabinet approves
**Resilient Recovery
Policy & Guidelines,**
and a
**National Disaster
Resiliency Strategy and
Implementation Plan**
for The Bahamas.



Sixty persons including 40 MSMEs who received hurricane recovery grants participated in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Contingency Planning workshops funded by UNDP. The workshops were designed to strengthen the resilience of MSMEs to natural disasters.



60 MSMEs and government officials in TCI boost their capacity to reduce risk in their operations by future proofing for crisis.



The Caribbean's 1st mobile Technical Assistance Centre (TAC) was mobilized in The Bahamas in 2020, offering door to door home repair advisory services to reinforce 'build better' tips, techniques and resources. The mobile unit in a repurposed RVs the Caribbean's first, based on a tripartite partnership model involving UNDP, Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas and the Disaster Reconstruction Authority (DRA).

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC RECOVERY THROUGH ASSISTANCE TO MSMEs

Recognizing the role played by MSMEs in economic recovery following crisis, and the many families who are dependent on their quick recovery, UNDP mobilized hurricane recovery assistance to MSMEs impacted by hurricanes Irma and Maria in Turks and Caicos, and by hurricane Dorian in The Bahamas.



A combined
\$147,500 USD
in hurricane recovery micro grants
is disbursed to entrepreneurs in
Turks and Caicos and The Bahamas
supports the recovery of 53 MSMEs.

**Recipients of hurricane recovery
grants in The Bahamas in 2020
improve their revenues**

- REPORT

RESTORING CRITICAL SERVICES HELPS RESUSCITATE THE ECONOMY

Grantees targeted for UNDP's hurricane recovery grants often provide critical services to the economy. MSMEs supported by UNDP over a four-year period include the sole water store on one of TCI's isles; one of two gas stations on Middle Caicos; and a restaurant operator in The Bahamas who supplied meals to tourists.



The help I got from UNDP was very helpful ... it was able to fill a gap. I was able to take that and put with some other monies to remodel this boat. I got a new roof, re-modelled the sides and the engine.

HENRY HANDFIELD
*Fisher, South Caicos, Turks and
Caicos Islands*

“
When the hurricane struck the operation was finish. The grant was a good, good help ... We were able to open up on a daily basis.
”

MARY IONA HARVEY

*Harvey and Sons Service Station,
one of two gas station operators
on Middle Caicos.*



WINFRED JANE MITCHELL
(popularly known as Winnie), of Sweetings Cay of The Bahamas, bought a generator and freezer with her grant and was up and running her kitchen within two months of the disaster. Faced with a downturn in tourist arrivals, she got creative, and is now offering a variety of food packages to fellow citizens returning to the island.

“
With my grant I was able to upgrade the purification system that turns sea water into fresh, potable drinking water. It helped me change up everything and put it back into a sustainable situation. I now have better capacity to purify more fresh water.
”

JAMES DEAN

*Owner of the sole water store on
South Caicos, Turks and Caicos Islands*



EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT 'CASH FOR WORK'



Hurricanes leave a mess in their wake. UNDP works with local authorities to identify significantly impacted residents to participate in emergency employment programmes geared at cleaning up the environment. Clean ups have been supported by UNDP in partnership with Government and Red Cross in TCI, and with the support of Government and UNICEF in The Bahamas.



More than **400 TCI and Bahamas residents** clean up the environment in short term cash for work programmes - 103 in Turks and Caicos and 300 in The Bahamas.

UNDP CAN HELP YOU ADVANCE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE



Leveraging UNDP's global knowledge network we will mobilize expertise for medium to long term DRR planning and capacity building.

UNDP's emergency employment and hurricane recovery grant programmes support families and economies rebuild in the early days following a disaster.

UNDP's proprietary diagnostic tools such as the digital Housing and Building Damage Assessment tool help nations to ascertain the extent of the damage cause by natural disaster.

UNDP has the expertise accountability mechanisms & track record to handle complex disaster risk reduction projects.



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