

WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Strengthening Community Resilience in the Caribbean Region



Port of Spain, February 19-20, 2008

Copyright© 2008 by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies / the ProVention Consortium. Any part of this article may be cited, copied, translated into other languages or adapted to meet local needs without prior permission from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies / the ProVention Consortium, provided that the source is clearly stated. The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this reports are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Contents

Executive summary	1
Acronyms	2
1 Introduction	3
1.1 Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction.....	3
1.2 Workshop organisers	3
2 Opening ceremony	5
2.1 Official opening of the workshop	5
3 Workshop Objectives	7
3.1 Objectives	7
3.2 Themes	7
3.3 Key issues.....	7
4 Climate change and community based disaster risk management – day one	8
4.1 Dr Ulric O'D Trotz, The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)	
4.2 Dr Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium.....	8
4.3 Discussion.....	9
4.4 Case Study: Bahamas	10
4.5 Case Study: Jamaica	11
4.6 Case Study: Trinidad and Tobago	12
4.7 Case study: Guyana.....	13
5 Climate change adaptation, development and disaster reduction – day two	15
5.1 Plenary discussion on the role of regional organisations, private sector and donors in strengthening community resilience.....	15
5.2 Integrating climate information into decision making	16
6 Group work: Outlining the Caribbean Programme of Action	18
6.1 Gender	18
6.2 Communicating climate change	18
6.3 Partnerships	19
6.4 Community-level capacity	19
6.5 Community-level communication	20
7 Closing remarks	21
8 Conclusions	22
Appendix 1: AGENDA.....	23
Appendix 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	25

Executive summary

Communities in the Caribbean region are facing increasing threats as a result of climate change. Sea level rise, more intense hurricanes, changes in rainfall patterns, diminishing water availability, new health-related hazards and other impacts are negatively affecting the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people. It is imperative to strengthen community resilience and local adaptive capacity.

While many initiatives have begun to tackle the scientific and policy implications of climate change for the Caribbean region, the magnitude of the challenge calls for innovative thinking and action. It is thus necessary to link climate adaptation strategies with development, poverty reduction and disaster risk reduction efforts in the region.

In February, 2008, the ProVention Consortium and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Regional Caribbean Office hosted a workshop on Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction in Port of Spain. The workshop brought together 50 participants from civil society, national and local governments, academia, regional inter-governmental bodies, media and the private sector in order to work towards the overarching objective of the development of a Programme of Action for strengthening community resilience and local adaptive capacity in a changing Caribbean climate.

A range of issues were addressed including detailed predictions of climatic changes in the Caribbean and the impact of this on the region's economy, food and water security, infrastructure, and health. The workshop heard efforts at grassroots, national and regional levels to mitigate and prepare for climate change and disaster risk reduction. Examples were provided in the form of community level case-studies from the region; and numerous projects were presented involving work at grassroots, national and regional level. In addition, perspectives from the tourism sector and regional-level organisation were also presented. In considering issues from a range of perspectives the workshop aimed to facilitate and achieve a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach.

Lively discussions were held. In particular debates focussed on engaging the private sector on climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction, improving communication between stakeholders and sectors, gender dimensions to climate change and disaster risk reduction and engaging with communities, including opportunities for community data gathering; linking climate change with livelihoods and poverty reduction; and use innovative communication tools such as video and photography.

Five small groups emerged from discussions based on self-identified interests and priorities. The groups were (1) gender, (2) communicating climate change, (3) partnerships, (4) community-level capacity and (5) community-level communication. Each group was asked to identify gaps in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development, define priorities and opportunities for action and outline a programme of action.

Several concrete ideas emerged for the formulation and implementation of programs and activities in the region (ranging from community-level irrigation projects to capacity building for gender equity in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation). Various participants agreed to refine these ideas into proposals to be submitted to potential donors.

Acronyms

ACS – Association of Caribbean States

CBDRM – Community based disaster risk management

CBO – Community based organisation

CCCCC – Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

CDM – Comprehensive Disaster Management

CDERA – Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

CRA – Community risk assessment

CRRO – Caribbean Regional Representation Office

DRR – Disaster risk reduction

IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

NEMA – National Emergency Management Agency

NGO – Non-governmental organisation

OAS – Organisation of American States

SIDS – Small island developing states

THRTA – Trinidad Hoteliers, Restaurants and Tourism Association

WAD – Women Across Differences

1 Introduction

1.1 Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently concluded that climate change is now unequivocally taking place (IPCC, Fourth Assessment Report, 2007). Climate patterns have altered and observations reveal trends of higher global surface temperatures, sea level rise, changes in rainfall patterns, and higher frequency and intensity of extreme events such as floods, droughts and heat waves. The impacts of climate change are particularly worrying for the Caribbean as the region comprises many small island states that are especially vulnerable.

The potential implications of these climatic changes are enormous, not only from the perspective of disaster risk reduction but also with regards to regional development. Economic activities such as tourism, fisheries and agriculture are very sensitive to climatic conditions. Climate change also threatens vital infrastructure, settlements and facilities that support livelihoods.

It is therefore imperative that the Caribbean region takes action to address the impacts of climate change, which may be aggravated by increasing vulnerability resulting from unsound environmental practices, demographic changes, social inequities and economic short-sightedness.

While many initiatives have begun to tackle the scientific and policy implications of climate change for the Caribbean region, the magnitude of the challenge calls for innovative thinking and action. It is thus necessary to link climate adaptation strategies with development, poverty reduction and disaster risk reduction efforts in the region. A multi-stakeholder approach, involving civil society, national and local governments, knowledge centres, regional inter-governmental bodies, media and the private sector is required to deal with climate risks in an integrated manner.

In order to address these issues the ProVention Consortium, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Regional Caribbean Office, hosted a workshop on Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, February 19-20, 2008. The workshop brought together a wide variety of actors drawn from civil society, Red Cross, national and local government, intergovernmental organisations, academic institutions, private sector and the media. The event was participatory in approach, cutting across institutional, sectoral and geographical boundaries.

This report offers a synthesis of the presentations, discussions and recommendations resulting from the workshop. For additional information, please contact Bruno Haghebaert (Bruno.Haghebaert@ifrc.org) or Tanya Wood (tanya.wood@ifrc.org).

1.2 Workshop organisers

1.2.1 The ProVention Consortium

Launched by the World Bank and other partners in 2000, the ProVention Consortium (www.proventionconsortium.org) serves as a forum for a broad set of actors (international organisations, governments, private sector, civil society, and academic institutions) to address gaps in undertaking effective disaster risk reduction in poor communities around the world. The ProVention Secretariat has been hosted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC or Federation) in Geneva since 2003.

ProVention provides a neutral space in which partners can come together informally to discuss a wide range of issues related to disaster risk reduction. The Consortium has also provided a means to support critical research studies and evaluations, pilot tests and start-up phases for new risk reduction tools, as well as workshops and other forums to extend the disaster risk reduction dialogue.

1.2.2 The International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies

Founded in 1919, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is the world's largest humanitarian organisation, providing assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions.

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. The role of the regional delegation is to assist and advise National Societies with relief operations, development programmes and encourage regional co-operation. The Federation focuses work on four core areas: promoting humanitarian values, disaster response, disaster preparedness, and health and community care.

The Federation's secretariat is based in Geneva, with a Caribbean Regional Representation Office (CRRO) in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago which provides support to 16 National Societies¹ and 12 Overseas British, and Netherlands Red Cross branches. More about the Federation can be found on www.ifrc.org and the work of the Red Cross in the Caribbean on www.caribbeanredcross.org.

¹ Belize, Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, S. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Guyana and Suriname Red Cross

2 Opening ceremony

2.1 Official opening of the workshop on Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction – Strengthening Community Resilience.

Tanya Wood, Head of CRRO, welcomed to the workshop Tina Gronlund-Nunez Minister in the Ministry of Planning, Housing and the Environment, Bruno Haghebaert from the ProVention Consortium, Delia Chatoor, President of Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross, Pablo Suarez, the workshop facilitator and all the other participants, many of whom had travelled from other countries in the region in order to attend.

2.1.1 Delia Chatoor, President of Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross

The workshop was welcomed as a timely response to the critical climatic threats confronting the region. It was hoped that this and similar events would mobilise action from all sections of society, from grassroots level through to governmental and international organisations, resulting in greater collaborative efforts and action to help shape adaptation policies and prepare for future uncertainties.



It was recognised that in the Caribbean, and elsewhere, efforts to address climate change must incorporate disaster risk reduction. Climate change is likely to compound the vulnerability of a region already highly susceptible to natural disasters. Ms Chatoor expressed hope that the workshop would lead to practical, viable steps towards addressing climatic change in the Caribbean and emphasised that this was just one step in an evolving process of adapting to the impacts of a changing climate.

Tanya Wood, right, welcoming the participants to the workshop. The opening ceremony panel included Bruno Haghebaert, Delia Chatoor and Senator Tina Gronlund-Nunez. Photo courtesy of Michele Josling.

2.1.2 Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium

Bruno Haghebaert outlined the objectives of the workshop (detailed in chapter 3), identifying as one of the main goals the development of a Programme of Action to strengthen community resilience and local adaptive capacity to climatic change in the Caribbean. This, it was hoped, would complement other regional Plans of Action on climate change or disaster risk reduction (for example those by Association of Caribbean States, ACS, and the Organisation of American States, OAS) by addressing a specifically people centred approach to climate adaptation and risk reduction.

The Port of Spain workshop is part of a series of three that precede an Annual Global Forum in Panama, April 8-10 2008, entitled "From Grassroots to Global: People Centred Disaster Risk Reduction". The main findings from this workshop would be presented at the ProVention Global Forum in April in Panama, and would form the basis for a wider debate on linking climate adaptation and disaster risk issues to the whole of the Americas.

2.1.3 Pablo Suarez, Red Cross / Red Crescent Climate Centre

Pablo Suarez introduced himself as the workshop facilitator and conducted an icebreaker to demonstrate the diversity of participants.



Pablo Suarez and workshop participants during the icebreaker.
Photo courtesy of Michele Josling.

3 Workshop Objectives

3.1 Objectives

The overarching objective of the workshop was progress towards the development of a Programme of Action for strengthening community resilience and local adaptive capacity in a changing Caribbean climate.

3.2 Themes

The Programme was expected to address four themes:

- The development of institutional partnerships, formal or informal;
- the use of innovative communication tools such as video;
- strengthening community organisation and resilience to disasters and climate change;
- enhancing resource mobilisation in the region for local disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation efforts

3.3 Key issues

Three key issues were debated and discussed during the workshop:

1. A **multi-stakeholder** approach – although governments play a central role in reducing the impacts of disasters the magnitude of the challenges faced requires larger engagement from all stakeholders, including regional intergovernmental bodies, donors, national and local governments as well as civil society, community representatives, knowledge centres, media and the private sector.
2. Adaptation to climate change impacts will also involve a **multi-sectoral** approach. To address the root causes of vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity of communities it will be necessary to engage a range of actors to address sustainable development, poverty reduction, disaster risk reduction efforts and climate adaptation measures.
3. **Community level case studies** were used to present and inform a wider audience of lessons learnt at the community level. Current policy making in the field of climate risk management remains a top-down exercise with little opportunity for participation or consultation, therefore participants discussed priorities expressed by local voices and how to integrate these in decision making at different scales.

4 Climate change and community based disaster risk management – day one

4.1 Dr Ulric O'D Trotz, The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) *Climate change; what makes the Caribbean and small island developing states vulnerable.* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/ccccc.pdf>

Outlining the climatic changes affecting the region, Dr Trotz discussed the present and future impacts of changes in weather patterns and explained the particular vulnerability of the Caribbean region to climate change. Key observed and projected changes include rising sea levels, higher air and water temperatures, increasing frequency and intensity of extreme events (such as floods and droughts), more frequent episodes of coral bleaching, changes in patterns of cyclonic activity (hurricanes developing at lower latitudes, becoming more intense in a shorter period of time, and reaching higher peak intensities), as well as a growth of habitats favourable to disease-carrying mosquitoes.

The Caribbean's heavily populated coastal areas will feel the greatest impact from a changing climate. The poorest will be particularly affected as they are generally ill equipped to prepare for disasters and have little capacity to adapt. Moreover, vulnerability is enhanced because the region's primary industries, agriculture, fisheries and tourism are likely to be severely affected by climate variability and climate change. Public health, infrastructure and water security are also at risk.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) maintains that small island developing states (SIDS) and the low lying coastal states of the Caribbean are among the most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Dr Trotz highlighted the difficulties experienced in the region in managing current levels of climate variability, the likely consequences of changed climate incorporating greater variability will pose significant, and in some cases insurmountable challenges to the region's economic and social stability.

It is therefore recognised that adaptation in the Caribbean is an imperative for coping with the projected impacts associated with current and future climatic conditions. In order to facilitate this Dr Trotz stated that the CCCCC would like to foster closer relations with disaster mitigation agencies and support a multi-sectoral approach. The CCCCC provides a strong regional knowledge base which should be utilised in addressing the challenges of climate change.

4.2 Dr Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium. *Community based disaster risk management in a changing climate* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/cbdrm.pdf>

Dr Haghebaert spoke of methods to strengthen communities' capacity to respond to the threat of disaster and of incorporating these methods into climate adaptation actions. The ProVention Consortium has carried out extensive research on approaches which emphasise the need for participation and community involvement in identifying, analysing, reducing and monitoring and evaluating disaster risks. This is termed 'community based disaster risk management' (CBDRM).



Dr Trotz, Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change. Photo courtesy of Michele Josling.

Most top-down approaches to disaster risk management programs fail to address the specific needs and demands of at-risk communities. This is despite evidence showing that in most instances following disaster members of the community are the first to respond and local people harbour valuable skills and resources which can be mobilised. A community level approach is considered vital in order to increase capacity and prevent negative consequences such as aid dependency.

The importance of using local perspectives and environmental knowledge was emphasised in order to better inform policy making and climate risk assessments at the national level and ensure these are context specific. It is also necessary to explore ways to institutionalise community based approaches within district and local government policy, planning and implementation.

4.3 Discussion

Engagement with politicians at national and local level was regarded by participants as a major challenge, in part because of the short-term thinking of many governments. In Jamaica, for example, negative environmental impacts resulting from over-development were already being witnessed in coastal areas and yet development is allowed to continue. A suggested means of attracting the attention of policy makers is to discuss climate change in monetary terms². Dr Haghebaert drew attention to the use of cost-benefit analysis in disaster risk management in order to reveal that the financial costs of preparing and adapting, are far lower than the enormous costs incurred by states hit by disasters for which they are unprepared.

Scepticism in the media and elsewhere regarding the reality of climate change facilitates inaction on the part of governments and other institutions. Dr Trotz emphasised the importance of using language carefully when explaining climatic trends to reduce ambiguity and minimise issues of dispute. Current climate patterns are exceptional because of the *rate* of change, meaning that humans and other species have very little time to *adapt*. Dr Trotz also discussed the use of technology as a communication tool; current climate models do not accurately reflect changes at a scale appropriate to the Caribbean, however, progress is being made in refining models to a higher level of precision suitable for use in the region. Refined models would reduce conjecture about climate change and produce quantifiable risks useful in influencing policy.

Combining scientific and local/ancestral knowledge were also discussed. Scepticism about scientific predictions was said to be common, with local people often preferring to look to natural warning signs to predict disasters. It was acknowledged that in disaster risk reduction there is often a hybrid of knowledge between local and scientific; for example, communities may seek environment clues following warnings by meteorologists. This is frequently an effective means of integrating local knowledge and scientific advice.

Prioritising climate issues in the region is critical for the wise use of resources. World attention has primarily focussed on mitigating climate change through emissions reductions. Emissions in the Caribbean region make a minimal contribution to overall global carbon dioxide levels, but despite this the region will be among those most severely impacted. Adaptation and disaster risk reduction must be the main priorities in the Caribbean.

² The Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change is one example, from the UK, of an investigation on the economics of climate change and development http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/Independent_Reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/sternreview_index.cfm

4.4 Case Study: Bahamas

Three perspectives were given from the Bahamas to show the importance of working in collaboration on disaster risk reduction and tackling climate change.

4.4.1 Arthur W. Rolle, Director of Meteorology Bahamas *Climate change in the Bahamas* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/rolle-bah.pdf>

Arthur Rolle highlighted the vulnerability of the Bahamas archipelago to climate change. Eighty per cent of the landmass in the Bahamas is within 1.5 metres of sea level, and the country is already highly vulnerable to present day risks from climate variability. Sea level rise and the increase in frequency and intensity of tropical storms represent critical threats.

Predictions for regional changes in climate were outlined. Observed changes in precipitation patterns in the Bahamas in recent years were described including, for example, exceptional flooding in October 2007 when 29 inches of rain fell in 2 days, additionally, while some islands are experiencing significantly increased annual rainfall while in others precipitation is decreasing.

Adaptations are necessary to reduce the risks of infrastructural damage from natural disasters, flooding and damage to agriculture. Arthur Rolle described some of the adaptations to natural disasters already instigated such as flood warning and forecasting systems and cyclone shelters. However, he insisted much more must be done to reduce the risks posed by climate change, for example, protecting mangrove greenbelts and efficient agricultural irrigation systems.

4.4.2 Gayle Moncur-Outten, Disaster Training Coordinator, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) *Institutions Working Together Can Accomplish More Than Working Separately* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/nema-bah.pdf>

Mrs Moncur-Outten gave a presentation on the multi-sector collaboration efforts in the field of disaster response in the Bahamas.

NEMA coordinates resources from all relevant sectors, before, during and after an emergency. In order to achieve this NEMA work in conjunction with governmental and non-governmental agencies, including the Red Cross, and regional and international agencies whose participation in disaster management in the Bahamas is considered vital at the national level.

At the local level NEMA work with local government and corporate and volunteer partners in order to improve communication and information sharing among communities. Training and equipment are provided on islands throughout the archipelago, through which communities are trained to be able to survive for up to a week following a disaster.

It was emphasised that working in collaboration with so many different organisations could be extremely challenging. Different agencies and organisations have different motives and objectives, and the goals of each may not be compatible. However, where these different aims are expressed clearly and openly, parties can identify common ground and good working relationships are formed.

4.4.3 Diane Turnquest, Bahamas Red Cross

Events such as this workshop were regarded as useful in bringing people together, learning from shared experiences and discovering the differing capacities and specialisations of various organisations. However, these opportunities are rare. It is therefore essential that multi-sectoral organisations routinely collaborate to ensure knowledge and skills are continually shared and effective use is made of available expertise. Although this collaborative method of working can be difficult and disagreements frequently occur, the benefits far outweigh the difficulties.

Communication between organisations is key. The role of the Bahamas Red Cross in their work with NEMA is to act as an intermediaries to convey information from the community to NEMA for incorporation into their national disaster risk reduction plans. Information also cascades back to the community. Information must be disseminated in a way which is accessible and practical for use by community members. One step towards this is the integration of the Meteorological Office in outreach programmes. The Bahamas now has representatives from the Meteorological Office attending community meetings presenting messages tailored to a range of audiences.

4.4.4 Discussion



Joan Gomes, Antigua Red Cross, contributing in one of the lively workshop debates. Photo courtesy Michele Josling.

The discussion focussed on community data gathering and there was consensus among participants that this was a constructive and under-utilised means of encouraging community participation. Several opportunities for community data gathering were discussed including participatory mapping and ground-truthing of satellite imagery.

Diane Turnquest highlighted the importance of utilising community gathered data in formulating policies and raising awareness, as communities can rapidly become de-motivated where their efforts are regarded as being to no purpose. Conversely, momentum can build quickly when initiatives catch the public imagination. An example from the Bahamas was the communication ideas that emerged after Pablo Suarez gave a presentation on climate

change to children at a deaf school. The children expressed the exclusion they felt and their desire to be involved in finding solutions to the problems raised. The idea of a climate change video project caught the attention of the public and the government and private sector rapidly expressed interest. The Bahamas Red Cross have since held video and calendar competitions and the use of these tools has helped catch the imagination of communities and appears to be a very successful way of raising awareness.

4.5 Case Study: Jamaica

4.5.1 Indi McIymont-Lafayette and Devon Brown – Panos Mocho Oral Testimony Project – *Communicating climate change and disaster reduction: The Mocho experience* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/mocho.pdf>

The aim of Panos is to promote the use of communication as a development tool, particularly to reach marginalised communities and persons and to increase their representation in the media and other institutions.

Panos introduced the Oral Testimony Project to Mocho, Jamaica, to document the community's experience of environmental and climate change issues and communicate these to Jamaican, Caribbean and international audiences. Mocho is an environmentally degraded area with poor infrastructure and which has a generally negative image throughout Jamaica.

Members of the community were trained in oral testimony methodology in order to undertake interviews with the men and women of Mocho. Devon Brown was one of those trained. He explained the aim of the training was to gather first-hand accounts of the community's experiences and perspectives so these could become a part of wider debates on environment and development. The process was also intended to mobilise community members to find solutions to environmental problems such as land degradation in their community.

Key messages were documented about climate change and attitudes to disaster preparedness, the narrators discuss changes in rainfall and temperature, and increasingly unpredictable weather patterns. For example, one secondary school teacher reported that:

“When I was growing up, the 8th of August used to be the day to plant maize, and there were other dates for other crops. But now the farmers are confused by the weather and we have lost this certainty of when to plant crops.”

Indi Mclymont-Lafayette described how disaster preparedness skills in the area have been increased through community training by collaborative efforts by Panos Caribbean and the Jamaica Red Cross. This was undertaken partly as a response to the difficulties in recovery following Hurricane Ivan. Awareness of disaster response is vital in rural communities as access can be difficult for emergency services and therefore communities must be prepared to support themselves.

Panos is undertaking a number of projects in Mocho to improve community representation and build capacity including training youth journalists and the production of a bimonthly newsletter. Future projects include setting up a CBO in Mocho, which will focus on climate change and the environment among other issues.

4.5.2 Discussion

The Jamaican case study raised questions regarding the relationships between different sectors and at different scales, in particular, how messages from the grassroots level were communicated to higher levels, as had been achieved in the Bahamas. A broader audience for the Mocho community's messages has been achieved through engaging with the media. In addition to spreading the community's messages the media also helped to mobilise action by creating pressure and forcing conditions to change; in Mocho the bauxite mining companies were finally



Participants listened to case studies from around the region. Photo courtesy Michele Josling.

made to respond to community complaints following media coverage on issues of environmental degradation.

Offers of collaboration with the Panos Mocho project were made. This creation of partnerships was seen as one of the major objectives of the workshop and a strong indication of success.

4.6 Case Study: Trinidad and Tobago

4.6.1 Dr Allan Bachan, Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross. *Livelihoods, environmental impacts and coastal community vulnerability in small island states*

<http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/bachan-ttrc.pdf>

Dr Bachan reiterated the vulnerability of the Caribbean, in particular of SIDS, to climate change. He described the main reasons for this vulnerability and the main threats, in particular to coastal communities where the majority of the population live. It was further emphasised that while the small island states of the Caribbean are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change the region was among the lowest contributors to the problem.

In tackling climate change, Allan Bachan stated, it is necessary to address the three 'pillars'; economy, in particular tourism, fisheries and agriculture; environment, for example habitat degradation, mangrove protection and biodiversity impacts; and social, for example, health, food security and migration.

4.6.2 Discussion

The importance of viewing climate change and vulnerability from a broader perspective was discussed. The most vulnerable people and communities are regularly the poorest and it was suggested that adaptation to climate change should be approached through economic development and poverty reduction.

4.7 Case study: Guyana

4.7.1 Clonel Samuels - Women Across Differences (WAD), Joost van de Lest, Oxfam.

Disaster Risk Reduction, Livelihoods and Climate Change

<http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/joostclonell-guy.pdf>

The presentation focused on aspects to consider in the formulation of new programs to integrate disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and climate change based on joint Oxfam and WAD experiences. Joost van de Leest described the links that exist between climate change issues, vulnerability to disaster and poverty and regards development as the most effective investment in disaster risk reduction.

Their approach uses governmental, private sector and civil society actors to engage in prevention, preparedness and response. Van de Leest discussed the importance of the role of actors such as the Red Cross/Red Crescent and Oxfam in communicating messages from the grassroots to governmental and regional institutions.

In order to introduce messages about climate change and disaster risk reduction it is necessary to discern priorities for community members. Most communities prioritise livelihood issues and therefore linking climate change and disaster risk reduction with the loss of livelihoods or as opportunities for strengthening livelihoods is more likely to engender support.

4.7.2 Pablo Gonzalez, Chief for Natural Disaster Risk Reduction, Organisation of American States (OAS)



Pablo Gonzales provided insight into the approach of the OAS to tackling climate adaptation. Photo courtesy of Michele Josling.

Pablo Gonzales was invited to provide a short commentary following the Guyana case study. The function of the OAS was described by Pablo Gonzales as being to promote democracy and fight inequality in the Americas. His aim is to integrate these goals within a framework of disaster risk management. Mr Gonzales echoed the previous case study in claiming that sustainable development is essential for disaster mitigation, but argued that disaster risk reduction is also essential for sustainable development and a strong and ambitious vision of the desired future of the region would be invaluable in achieving this.

Along with difficulties, climate change will also create opportunities as resources will be channelled into adaptation initiatives in the

coming years. Planning for the effective use of these resources will be essential and should involve a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach. Good governance is crucial, however governance is not restricted to governments alone, but includes democratic institutions that involve civil society, the private sector and national and regional organisations.

4.7.3 Discussion

It was acknowledged that climate change and disaster risk reduction actors had failed to engage fully with the private sector. One reason provided for this was the failure of NGOs and international institutions to use private sector language, i.e. in terms of opportunities for profit.

Gender was discussed. In Guyana it had been observed that women were more likely than men to attend workshops and training. However, despite receiving less training men were more likely to take charge when disasters struck. It was therefore seen as important to attract both men and women to training sessions and to analyse how the added capacity may be used differently by men and women.

Participants emphasised that adaptation should not be considered a single, isolated issue, noting, again, the strong links with disaster risk reduction, poverty and livelihoods. It is essential that climate change is mainstreamed, that best practices are documented and that experiences are shared. Pablo Suarez highlighted the importance of mainstreaming climate change as a major challenge and provided a definition of 'mainstreaming' as 'promoting adaptation to climate change by integrating policies and measures to address climate change into ongoing sectoral and development planning'.

5 Climate change adaptation, development and disaster reduction – day two

5.1 Plenary discussion on the role of regional organisations, private sector and donors in strengthening community resilience.

A panel of representatives from the above sectors gave short presentations, followed by a general question and answer session.

5.1.1 Barry Bidaisee, President, Trinidad Hotels Restaurants and Tourism Association (THRTA)

Tourism is one of the largest economic sectors in the Caribbean region and the economies of many countries are heavily dependent the revenue it generates. However, in a rapidly expanding and fiercely competitive market, tourism in the region is at risk through the effects of climate change, in particular from coastal erosion, damage to coastal infrastructure, less predictable weather patterns and increased risk of natural disasters. In order to maintain its market share it is vital that the tourism sector in the Caribbean establishes an effective response to the threats posed by climate change.

There is a lack of general awareness of climate change issues in the tourism sector which should be challenged. Climate change and environmental awareness must be integrated into education programmes, particular those in tourism and hospitality schools and colleges.

Most countries in the region have legislation to protect the environment and Mr Bidaisee urges developers to adhere to legislation and follow best practices. However there are often problems in enforcement of such legislation. Sustainable tourism projects in the Caribbean, such as GreenGlobe, which encourage sustainability and environmentally friendly practices are expanding. This is a progressive step in environmental awareness and may help to raise standards throughout the industry.

The work of countries in the region to address climate change challenges has to date been uneven. It is imperative that the Caribbean takes a united approach to climate change and the issue is a priority on the national agenda of all governments.

5.1.2 Luis Carpio – Director, Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

International organisations have thus far failed in their efforts to attract the private sector to engage on climate change adaptation. One of the primary reasons for this is their failure to address and explore the opportunities for profit. Risk transfer represents one such method through mechanisms such as insurance of public property, community level micro-insurance schemes, legislation to encourage enforcement of building codes, and the use of foreign investment to work for disaster risk reduction.

The tourism sector is likely to be one of the first industries to have to adapt to climate change impacts. Schemes such as Green Globe and others that promote sustainable development in tourism provide an excellent example of how the private sector can work in a positive way.

5.1.3 Nicole Alleyne, Technical Officer, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)

Nicole Alleyne presented CDERA's Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) framework. The goal of the framework is regional sustainable development through comprehensive disaster management, the stated purpose being 'to strengthen regional, national and community level capacity for mitigation,

management, and coordinated response to natural and technological hazards, and the effects of climate change’.

The framework incorporates many of the issues debated in the workshop, for example, the outcomes include ‘enhanced community resilience to mitigate and respond to the adverse effects of climate change and disaster’. Outputs include gender-sensitive methodologies for natural and anthropogenic hazard identification and mapping, vulnerability and risk assessments, and recovery and rehabilitation procedures developed and applied in selected communities.

CDERA would like to work in collaboration with other agencies in the region using the CDM framework to guide activities.

5.1.4 Discussion

Dr Trotz was encouraged that THRTA and ACS were looking at sustainability within the tourism industry as the sector is a large emitter of greenhouse gases in the region. It is economically important that the tourism industry looks towards sustainability and uses this as a marketing tool, for example branding the region as carbon neutral.

A participant noted the opportunities for hotels to access the community by educating employees, who are community members, about sustainability and environmental considerations. Educating staff members was seen as essential in order to attain company-wide sustainability.

Luis Carpio emphasised the importance of avoiding a purely environmental stance on sustainable tourism and the necessity of discussing livelihoods and economics in order grab the attention of government and private industry.

5.2 Integrating climate information into decision making

5.2.1 Pablo Suarez, Red Cross / Red Crescent Climate Centre, *Challenges of New Climatic Predictions* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/predictions.pdf>

Pablo Suarez talked on the importance of communicating scientific knowledge and predictions on climate change with local communities. Challenges lie in gaining the trust of communities when predictions for future change do not relate to people’s past experience. Organisations working in the community, such as the Red Cross, can help communities themselves identify their vulnerabilities, before addressing the ways in which more technological predictions of disasters and climate changes helps to increase preparedness and mitigate damage.

5.2.2 Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium, *Working with vulnerable communities to assess disaster risk: the CRA Toolkit* <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/cra-toolkit.pdf>

The Community Risk Assessment (CRA) toolkit aims to place communities in the lead role for the assessment, planning, design, implementation and evaluation of activities aimed at reducing a community’s risk to disaster.



Dr Haghebaert presenting ProVention’s CRA Toolkit. Photo courtesy Michele Josling.

The objective in creating a CRA toolkit was to document the various CRA methods and applications and assist the users in identifying a method or case study which is of particular relevance to their context. It was intended that the resource would be utilised by CBOs, NGOs, communities, Red Cross facilitators, local government officials, emergency managers and risk researchers.

Bruno indicated the toolkit on the ProVention website at www.proventionconsortium.org/CRA_toolkit. The resource includes a collection of around 30 methods on disaster risk assessment and livelihood security assessment methods and associated guidance notes in addition to numerous case-studies identifying good practice.

5.2.3 Nathan Cooper, IFRC, DIPECHO VI – Caribbean Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction program <http://www.caribbeanredcross.org/what/dm/ccws-ppt/dipecho-vi.pdf>

In recognition of a widespread need and interest in the Caribbean for better disaster preparedness, response and recovery capacities among first responders, the IFRC and its National Society members, are implementing a strategy that promotes and builds upon localised and regional disaster preparedness, response and recovery capabilities. The strategy aims to increase the awareness of Caribbean Red Cross societies and local communities to hazards and risks, including those related to climate change, and to increase their ability to mitigate these and effectively respond to disasters.

The strategy works at regional, national and community levels in order to harmonise activities with other disaster response agencies, standardise responses within and between countries by drawing on best practices and at increasing capacity at the community level to prepare for and respond to disasters.

6 Group work: Outlining the Caribbean Programme of Action

Objectives of group work

Based on the issues raised during previous sessions, workshop participants were invited to form small groups based on shared interests and priorities. Several self-formed groups emerged along the following distinct but interrelated themes: (1) gender, (2) communicating climate change, (3) partnerships, (4) community-level capacity, and (5) community-level communication.

Each group was asked to:

1. Identify gaps in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development
2. Define priorities and opportunities for action, including identification of 'low-hanging fruits' and urgent or fundamental needs.
3. Outlining a programme of action on climate disasters and development, including identification of
 - Objectives
 - Key activities
 - Partnerships, roles, responsibilities
 - Upscale/outscale, sustainability
 - Documenting, knowledge sharing, indicators of success

The following subsections provide a summary of group work outcomes.

6.1 Gender

Group theme: Climate change affects men and women in different ways. It is necessary to develop awareness of the gender differences and promote the creation of gender sensitive messages

Gaps

- Men are, in some cases, also marginalised - gender does not refer only to women, community knowledge usually rests with women as men often don't participate; however,
- women's voices are often silent, particularly when they are in groups with their partners and women as a resource are under utilised;
- Children are not sufficiently involved in community activities/decision-making.

Priorities

- Training – give consideration to training equally and lobby for use of both sexes
- Education – ensure messages reach children.
- Strengthen local efforts on the ground –whereby women benefit from knowledge sharing, and participate in conducting assessments and mapping.
- Ensure women's needs are met and their rights protected,

Outlining action

- Strengthen capacities of regional women in disaster preparedness & climate change
- Mapping – encourage involvement of women, children and the community in mapping

6.2 Communicating climate change

Group theme: Building sustainable mechanisms for the collection and sharing of information related to climate change and disaster risk reduction locally, nationally and regionally.

Gaps

- no structure exists to facilitate communication of current initiatives, this is important in order to prevent duplication of efforts and share best practices.

Priorities

- Make climate change messages 'sexy', for example, using sports personalities, musicians etc.
- Produce documentation to disseminate information on best practice and successful case studies, promote reproduction of successful projects/programmes, use this information to create a regional knowledge base;
- Create imaginative communication tools such as a children's website, a one page policy brief for policy makers, soap operas, public service announcements
- Address a range of audiences - policy makers, technical persons/scientists, youth, private industry

Action

- Encourage wider use of information gathered from new technologies to inform debate on climate change;
- Create partnerships, eg. CCCCC, scientific, IFRC and communities;
- Share best practice outcomes e.g. Mocho experience.

6.3 Partnerships

Group theme: effective partnership, either formal or informal

Gaps:

- There is a risk of dispersion and duplication of different plans and frameworks of different organisations. The Hyogo Plan of Action and CDERA CDM frameworks represent opportunities for this; however,
- Strategic frameworks (e.g. Hyogo Plan of Action and CDERA CDM framework) are not effectively disseminated and not accessible;
- Need to further advocate climate change adaptation in Disaster Risk Reduction National Platforms and explore opportunities for a regional platform;
- There is a gap between strategic frameworks and ground level capacities for implementation. There exist NGO's and local authorities with interesting initiatives but which have limited coverage;
- Climate change adaptation – there are still gaps on how to easily and clearly explain what climate change is and how climate change adaptation can be done. It is necessary to gather and develop practical information;

Opportunities:

- More emphasis on the impact of climate change on development – need to better define hazards and risks;
- More visibility of the risks for development and a clearer vision of a development strategy in each country may increase the chances of a 'push' towards climate change adaptation at a national level.

6.4 Community-level capacity

Group theme: Building capacities of local communities

- Utilise community resources – harness local knowledge specific to communities, engage with existing community groups and use resources within the community such as personnel and physical infrastructure;
- Funding – identify the priorities for communities, hold workshops within communities to assist in proposal writing and facilitate networking nationally to elicit support and areas of funding;

- Education – increase awareness of climate change, for example on how communities are impacted and what can be done;
- Media – encourage greater use of media to raise the profile of the community and identify mechanisms to disseminate information between the community and other stakeholders;
- Collaboration – define the roles of stakeholders and establish stakeholder meetings to identify mandates and avoid duplication of efforts.

6.5 Community-level communication

- There is a strong need for cultural sensitivity, the use of mediators from communities and CBOs to facilitate communication with organisations such as Panos and Red Cross may improve communication;
- Identify the main priorities of community members and link climate change with these issue to ensure community engagement;
- Increase the capacity of communities to formulate their own mitigation policies and long-term plans to deal with climate related disasters;
- Take a multi-level approach to communication:
 - vertical – between grassroots/intermediate/macro-level organisations, intermediate level has a responsibility to engage with and facilitate dialogue between the grassroots and the macro-level.
 - horizontal – include links with all community members (e.g. gender, disability, ethnicity).

7 Closing remarks

Tanya Wood, Head, CRRO IFRC

Participants were applauded in their achievement to narrow down the broad and complex issues relating to climate change into specific objectives and achievable projects. A very wide range of stakeholders were present at the conference and it was therefore seen as a huge achievement to have found so many commonalities between sectors, counties and scales.

The workshop provided an excellent opportunity to network and many new partnerships had been formed during the two days of the workshop. These partnerships and collaboration on various ideas were seen as the start of achieving the goal of the workshop, which was the development of a Programme of Action to strengthen community resilience and local adaptive capacity to climatic change in the Caribbean.

Tanya Wood also expressed pleasure at the workshop's success in addressing the key objectives in tackling climate change from multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder perspectives and from sharing experiences and learning from case studies from across the region.

In terms of outputs, the report, a video of the conference, presentations and photographs would be put on the ProVention and Federation websites. The initial ideas presented as possible future collaborative programmes coming out of the group work would be further discussed for possible support.

8 Conclusions

Communities in the Caribbean region are facing increasing threats as a result of climate change. Sea level rise, more intense hurricanes, changes in rainfall patterns, diminishing water availability, new health-related hazards and other impacts are negatively affecting the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, adding to existing problems associated with climate variability and developmental needs. It is imperative to strengthen community resilience and local adaptive capacity.

Representatives of civil society, national and local governments, knowledge centres, regional inter-governmental bodies, media and the private sector participated in this workshop aimed at addressing climate change adaptation, development and disaster risk reduction in an integrated manner. A combination of brief presentations, working groups and plenary discussions cut across institutional, sectoral and geographical boundaries, facilitating the emergence of constructive ideas for improved, innovative approaches to policymaking and transformative action.

Several concrete ideas emerged for the formulation and implementation of programs and activities in the region (ranging from community-level irrigation projects to capacity building for gender equity in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation). Various participants agreed to refine these ideas into proposals to be submitted to potential donors.

The key recommendations formulated by workshop participants could be summarised as follows:

Integration:

It is necessary to link climate adaptation strategies with development, poverty reduction and disaster risk reduction efforts in the region, with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable. The current state of affairs is only beginning to recognize the challenges in mainstreaming climate adaptation. Several issues can complicate the bridging of disciplines and sectors, including different priorities, parallel (and often mutually excluding) workshops and communication channels, and different terminology - as with the word 'mitigation' which has very different meanings in the climate change and disaster management communities. An awareness of this "compartmentalization" of disciplines and sectors and its implications is a prerequisite to overcoming the inherent barriers to mainstreaming climate change issues into development and disaster management.

Multi-stakeholder approach:

The complexity of the problem requires comprehensive approaches involving a wide array of relevant actors engaging in research, communication, awareness raising, advocacy, resource development, capacity building, and concrete implementation. However, there are many reasons why pluralistic approaches can be challenging, including the existence of relevant institutions with very different mandates (which can occasionally overlapping or conflicting), and perceptions of severe competition or distrust. Successful initiatives need to anticipate these challenges and overcome them through thoughtful, respectful, constructive forms of dialogue that recognise institutional barriers in ways that can help overcome them and reach shared visions and actions.

Community focus:

The successful design and implementation of initiatives aimed at disaster risk reduction and development in a changing climate requires the adequate integration of local voices into decision making at all scales. Such integration requires careful treatment of various issues including communication styles, trust, governance and flow of information and resources (for example, government structures usually have incomplete understanding of local realities and perceptions). The democratisation of knowledge and action may require embracing new processes, new partners, and new short-term risks in order to attain long-term success.

The findings and recommendations from this Caribbean workshop will be presented at the ProVention Annual Global Forum entitled "From Grassroots to Global: People Centred Disaster Risk Reduction", to be held in Panama (April 8-10 2008), forming the basis for a wider debate on linking climate adaptation and disaster risk issues to the whole of the Americas.

Appendix 1: AGENDA

Monday, February 18, 2008

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Welcome Reception - The Cascadia, Pool Side
-------------------	---

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 am - 10:00 am	Welcome and Introduction - Opening remarks: <i>Trinidad and Tobago Government and Red Cross</i> - <i>Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium</i> - <i>Tanya Wood, IFRC</i> - Workshop dynamics: <i>Pablo Suarez (facilitator)</i>
10:00 am - 10:45 am	Climate change, Disasters and Development - What does climate change mean for the Caribbean? (<i>Neville Trotz, CCCCC</i>) - Community disaster risk reduction in a changing climate (<i>Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention</i>) - Discussion
10:45 am - 11:00 am	Morning Break
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Case Study 1: Emergency management and organizational innovation (Bahamas) - Joint presentation by involved institutions - Commentary - Discussion
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Case Study 2: Communicating disaster risks and climate change (Jamaica) - Joint presentation by involved institutions - Commentary - Discussion
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Lunch Break
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Case Study 3: Livelihoods, environmental impacts and coastal communities (Trinidad and Tobago) - Joint presentation by involved institutions - Commentary - Discussion
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Case Study 4: Formulating a new proposal to integrate climate, disasters and development (Guyana) - Joint presentation by involved institutions - Commentary - Discussion
4:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Afternoon Break
4:45 pm - 5:30 pm	Plenary: - Priorities for community-level disaster risk reduction, adaptation and development - Conformation of small groups for Day 2
5:30	Closing
7:00pm	Dinner for Participants

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Coffee			
8:30 am - 9:10 am	Synthesis of Day 1, Video Report and Way Forward: <i>Pablo Suarez (facilitator)</i>			
9:10 am - 9:30 am	Plenary: Role of regional organizations, private sector and donors in strengthening community resilience			
9:30 am - 10:45 am	Group work: <i>Identifying gaps in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development</i>			
	Communication	Partnering	Resources	Other
10:45 am - 11:00 am	Morning Break			
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Group work: Defining priorities and opportunities for action - "Low-hanging fruits" - Urgent or fundamental needs			
	Communication	Partnering	Resources	Other
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Lunch Break			
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Plenary: Progress report from working groups			
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Tools to Support action: Brief Overview			
3:15 pm - 5:15 pm	Group work: Outlining the Caribbean Programme of Action on climate, disasters and development - Objectives - Key activities - Roles and responsibilities			
	Communication	Partnering	Resources	Other
5:15 pm - 5:45 pm	Plenary: Towards a Caribbean Programme of Action			
5:45 pm - 6:00 pm	Concluding remarks - <i>Tanya Wood, IFRC</i> - <i>Bruno Haghebaert, ProVention Consortium</i>			
6:00 pm	Closing			

Thursday, February 21, 2008

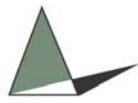
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Press Conference
--------------------	------------------

Appendix 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

	Organization	PARTICIPANT	POSITION
1.	ProVention Consortium	Bruno Haghebaert	Senior Officer
2.	Climate Centre	Pablo Suarez	Facilitator
3.	Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross	Delia Chatoor	President, TTRCS
4.	Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross	Allan Bachan	Ag. Director General
5.	Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross	Angela Gouveia	Director/Dipecho VI Coordinator
6.	Bahamas Red Cross	Diane Turnquest	Disaster Manager
7.	Grenada Red Cross	Luann Mc Guire	Member, Grenada Red Cross
8.	Jamaica Red Cross	Lois Hue	Dep. Director General
9.	Antigua Red Cross	Joan Gomes	Disaster Coordinator
10.	St Kitts Red Cross	Patricia Fahie	Climate Change Coordinator
11.	Suriname Red Cross	Marja Naarendorp	President, Suriname RC
12.	Netherlands OSB	Ingrid Jansen	Programme Manager
13.	Cayman OSB	Hermant Balgobin	Disaster Manager
14.	Barbados Red Cross	Jason Marshall	Volunteer/Electrical Engineer
15.	IFRC - Panama	Maria Alcazar	Resource Mobilization, Partners and Donors Coordinator
16.	IFRC – Port of Spain	Tanya Wood	Head of Office
17.	IFRC – Port of Spain	Nathan Cooper	Disaster Management Delegate
18.	IFRC – Port of Spain	Alex McCaffery	Volunteer, Climate Change
19.	CCCCC (Belize)	Ulric Trotz	Science Advisor
20.	IPCC (– Bahamas Met)	Arthur Rolle	Chairman, National CC Committee
21.	Oxfam	Joost Van de Lest	Country Program Manager
22.	Women Across Differences (WAD)	Clonel Samuels	Coordinator
23.	Panos	Indi Mclymont-Lafayette	Programme Officer/Journalist
24.	Steering Committee Member Panos	Devon Brown	Teacher
25.	Christian Aid	Sophie Richmond	Programme Officer
26.	Women's Resource & Outreach Centre (WROC)	Nkrumah Green	Livelihood Officer
27.	CDERA	Nicole Alleyne	Technical Officer
28.	Construction Resource and Development Center	Carmen Griffith	Executive Director
29.	ECLAC	Asha Kambon	Regional Advisor
30.	ECLAC	Elizabeth Thorne	Research Assistant
31.	UNICEF	Samira Moosapoor	Intern
32.	UNDP	Ian King	Project Manager –CRMI
33.	OAS	Pablo Gonzalez	Chief, Natural Hazard Risk Reduction
34.	ACS	Luis Carpio	Director
35.	ACS	Laura Mire	Research Assistant
36.	T&T ODPM	Geeta Ramcharansingh	Hazard Mitigation Specialist
37.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Kathleen Seenarine	Foreign Service Officer
38.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Tracey Ramsubagh	International Relations Officer
39.	Ministry of Works & Transport	Carol-Anne Agard	Lecturer
40.	National Coordinator International Education and Resource Network	Gia Gaspard Taylor	President
41.	Tobago Regional Health Authority	Margaret George	Nurse/Farmer
42.	IEARN Natural Disasters Youth Summit	Kerwana Williams	Youth Officer
43.	The Hoel Association	Tamara Dwarka	Sales & Marketing Consultant
44.	Bahamas NEMA	Gayle Outten Moncur	Senior Assistant Secretary
45.	Jamaica ODPEM	Ronald Jackson	Director General
46.	Media ((Bali, training on CC)	Petre Williams	Senior Reporter Coordinator Career & Education
47.	GEF IW.LEARN	Janot Mendler De Suarez	Deputy Director
48.	Producer/Director/Editor	Justin Benn	Producer/Director
49.	Filmmaker	Nadia Von Christerson	Video Maker

2008

ProVention Consortium Secretariat
PO Box 372
CH – 1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Telephone: +41 22 730 44 99
Telefax: +41 22 733 03 95
Email: provention@ifrc.org
Web site: www.proventionconsortium.org



PROVENTION
CONSORTIUM

The Provention Consortium is a global coalition of international organisations, governments, academic institutions, the private sector and civil society organisations dedicated to reducing the risk and social, economic and environmental impacts of natural hazards on vulnerable populations in developing countries.