



# STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE: LESSONS FROM COVID-19

## RISING STRONGER FROM THE ASHES OF COVID-19 – ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

VII REGIONAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN THE AMERICAS AND  
THE CARIBBEAN –RP21

# STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE LESSONS FROM COVID-19

- SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PRIORITY FOR ACTION 2 – STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE TO MANAGE DISASTER RISK
  - ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES' COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY;

*“The Policy Framework emphasizes preparedness on the part of Government, sectors, communities, stakeholders and individuals in targeted CDM activities and aims to strengthen the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO); establishing partnerships, networking and integrating CDM in the development process and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to cope with the impact of hazards.”*

It goes on to say *“This Policy Framework, if implemented fully, will provide for a visionary and informed Disaster Management system and support the National Emergency and Disaster Management Act #15, 2006 which provides the legal foundation for collaborative partnerships in the institutional participatory management of disasters, including mobilisation of the essential wide range of resources necessary for such management. Likewise, this Policy Framework provides for continuous research, monitoring and evaluation at all levels.”*



**St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
National Disaster Plan.**

Prepared by the National Emergency Management Office

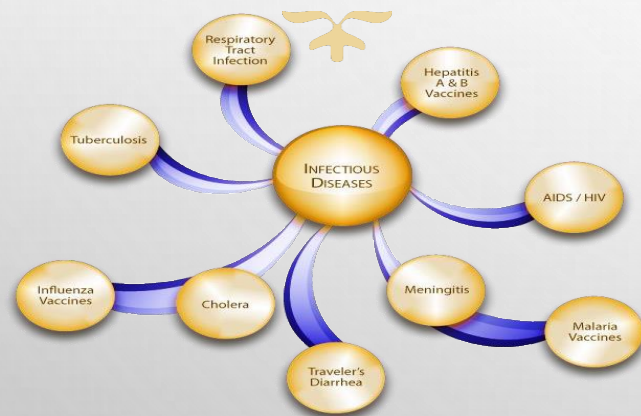
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# HEALTH SECTOR CDM & DRR - PLANS



## Highly Infectious Diseases Preparedness and Response Plan

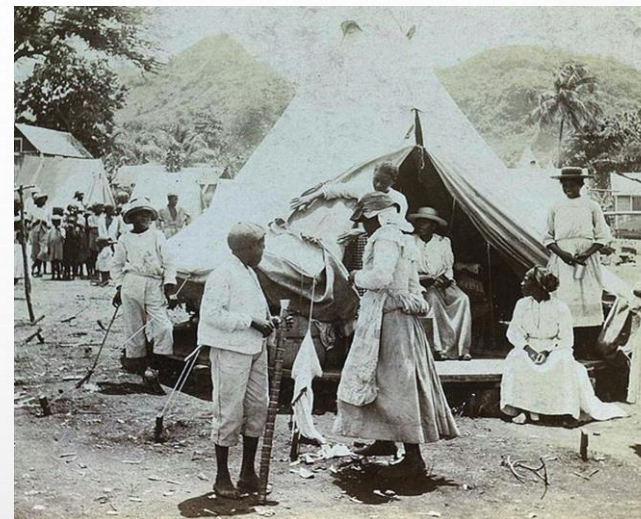
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APRIL 20, 2020  
HEDMU  
Stoney Grounds

ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

OCTOBER 1, 2019



## NATIONAL HEALTH MULTHAZARD PLAN

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

HEALTH EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT UNIT  
HEDMU

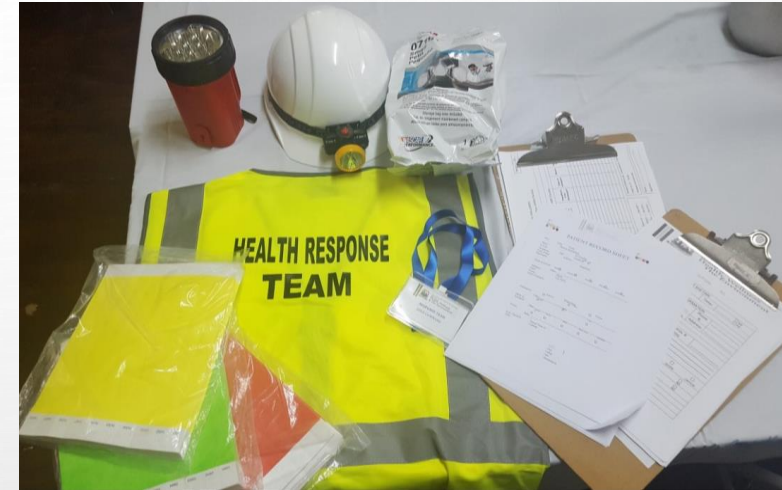
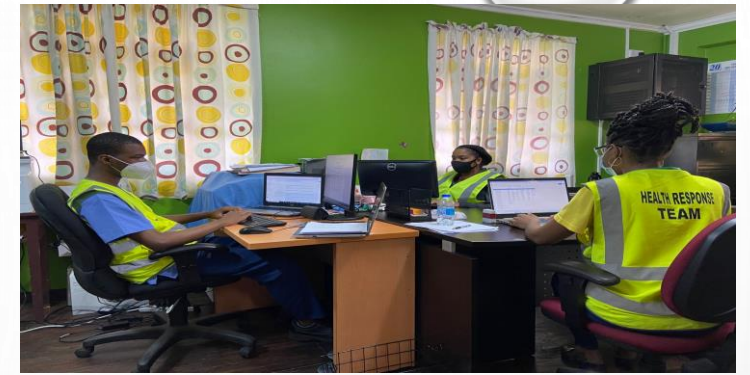
# HEALTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT UNIT - A COMPONENT OF THE HEALTH SECURITY UNIT

STRATEGIC PRIORITY- 2.1

TO STRENGTHEN THE  
ORGANISATION STRUCTURE OF  
DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT  
OFFICES IN THE MINISTRIES OF  
HEALTH

ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

INCORPORATE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN THE HEALTH SECTOR



# THE HESS

## A MONUMENTAL MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CHALLENGE

THIS MONUMENTAL CHALLENGE OF CORONAVIRUS AND ITS CONSEQUENCES HAS FOUR INTER-RELATED, INTERSECTING DIMENSIONS: **HEALTH, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND SECURITY**. THESE FOUR DIMENSIONS CRISSCROSS EACH OTHER IN THE GLOBAL, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL ARENAS; AND THEY INTER-CONNECT ACROSS COUNTRIES.

RISING STRONGER FROM THE ASHES OF COVID-19

BY

DR. THE HON. RALPH GONSALVES  
PRIME MINISTER OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

- Address delivered to the Nation on Wednesday, March 25, 2020



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Office of the Prime Minister  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
March 25, 2020

# HEOC ACTIVATION

- ESTABLISHMENT OF COVID TASK FORCE
- NEOC ACTIVATION
- CLEARLY DEFINED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- ADDITIONAL STAFF, AND EQUIPMENT TO ENHANCE REMOTE OPERATIONS
- FORMALIZATION OF HSU
- DEVELOPMENT OF PROTOCOLS
- SR&O
- PUBLIC HEALTH ACT AMENDMENTS
- HEALTH AND SAFETY LAW IN PLACE AND ENACTED
- MEDICAL COURT ORDER INSTRUMENTS PRODUCED
- FIT FOR WORK INSTRUMENTS PRODUCED
- DEVELOPMENT OF PORT HEALTH CLEARANCE TICKETS
- TESTING ON ENTRY

ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



# STRATEGIC PRIORITY-

## 2.2 -TO PROMOTE COUNTRY LEADERSHIP IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FOR HEALTH FOSTERING SECTORAL AND INTERSECTORAL WORK



### COHERENCE OF INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS RELATED TO DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT



**AVOID GOING  
OUTDOORS BUT,  
IF YOU MUST:**

- Wear a mask or cover your nose and mouth
- Protect your eyes by wearing glasses or goggles
- Avoid wearing contact lenses
- Wear closed toe shoes, long sleeves and pants to minimize skin exposure to ash
- Limit driving on the roads due to poor conditions

For more information, [www.ivhhn.org/ash-protection](http://www.ivhhn.org/ash-protection)  
#TogetherWeRiseFromTheAshes  
[www.NEMO.gov.vc](http://www.NEMO.gov.vc)





April 9, 2021 –  
Effusive eruptions  
become explosive  
eruptions



ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



# COORDINATION, COLLABORATION, PARTNERS, COMMUNICATIONS

- INCREASED AWARENESS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION
- 24 HOURS TURNAROUND TIME FOR LAB RESULTS
- 24-HOUR OPERATIONS FOR LAB (3 SHIFTS)
- INCREASED PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT CLIENTS AND STAFF
- CONSTANT RETOOLING OF RESPONSE TEAMS
- PROCUREMENT OF GEAR FOR RESPONSE TEAMS
- PROCUREMENT OF VACCINES
- VACCINE DISTRIBUTION AND ADMINISTRATION
- TRAINING, RETOOLING AMBULANCE DRIVERS, MORGUE ATTENDANTS, FUNERAL HOMES
- STOCKPILED – 24 ROOMS WITH VARIOUS TYPES OF PPE'S, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, MEDICAL AND NON-MEDICAL SUPPLIES,
- ESTABLISHED STAFF SLEEPING AREAS AT HEDMU
- DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSITION VACCINATION CARD
- ESTABLISH AEFI SYSTEM
- POST COVID-19 INFECTION CLINIC – LONG COVID
- CHRONIC DISEASES COMPLICATIONS POST COVID EMPHASIS
- PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
- CONSTANT REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS
- DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL VACCINATION CARDS
- ENHANCED AEFI SYSTEM
- TAIWANESE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT
- GLOBAL FUND COVID RESPONSE MECHANISM
- TMHFT – REFURBISHMENT OF THE HSU
- CDB COVID RESPONSE – TRANSITION FROM RESPONSE TO PROGRAMMATIC; INCREASED PORT HEALTH CAPACITY; ENHANCED HEALTH SERVICES
- SVGRC – PPES, BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL.
- KOREAN GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMME

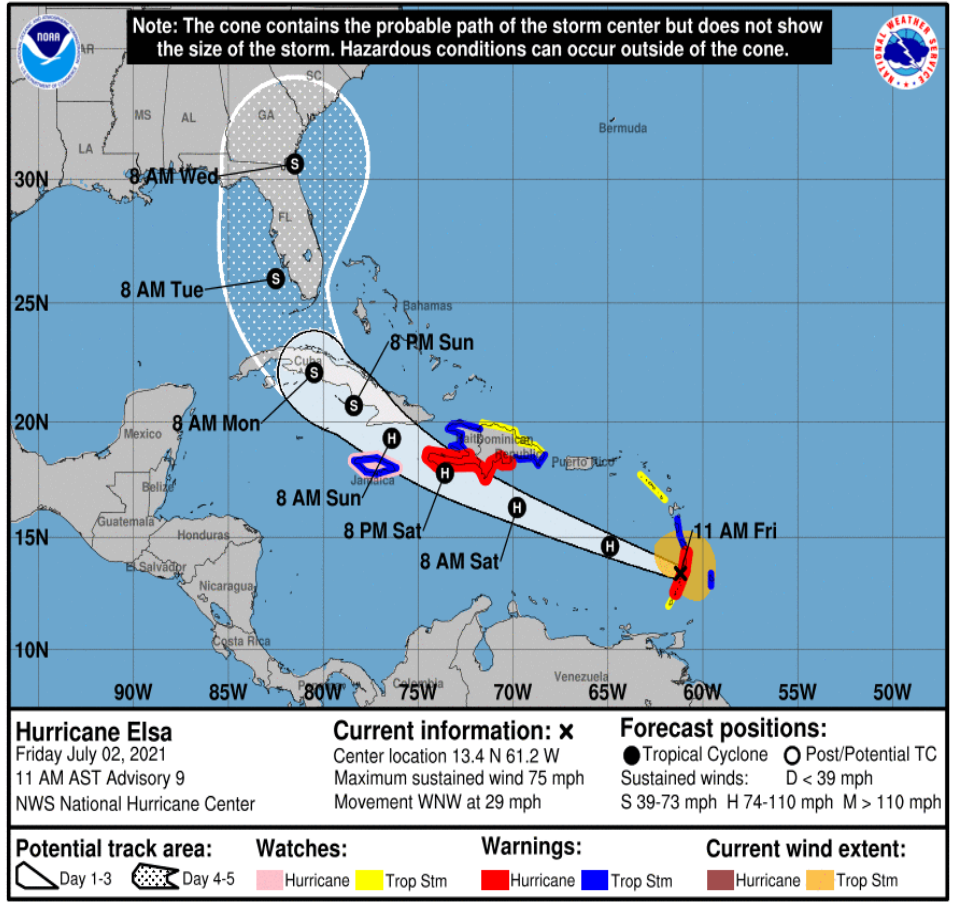
ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES





Lahar/Mudflow activity possible

The public is reminded that the area from the Rabacca dry river to Fancy remains **restricted**. Heavy rainfall can result in Lahars/Mudflows which are dangerous and life threatening. Avoid these areas due to the current weather conditions.



And then Hurricane Elsa came



ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



**A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT**

**A Hurricane Warning means that sustained winds of 74mph or higher are expected across St.Vincent and the Grenadines within 36 hours.**



And still we rise  
stronger from the  
ashes of COVID-19  
and La Soufriere –  
We Are SVG!

