Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Special Parallel Session 2: Regional Approach to Coordination on Multi–Hazards: 2020 Lessons from the Caribbean

2nd November, 2021

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Outline

• Divisions of Labour and Leadership of CARICOM's response to Threats, Hazards and Events
• IMT-ER
• Multi Country impacts and Disaster responses
• CARPHA’s support to La Soufriere efforts
• Support to CDEMA led response of the SVG La Soufriere explosive eruption
• Health Aspects
  • Training and Capacity Building in Vector Borne Disease Management in MS
  • CARICOM Security Cluster
  • Tourism and health
  • Falsified medicines
  • Climate Change - Hazard
  • Work Continued Simultaneously
Divisions of Labour and Leadership of CARICOM's response to Threats, Hazards and Events

- COVID-19 Response
  - CARPHA leads the response to Health threats, Hazards and Events

- Hurricane
  - CARPHA deploys to bring a public health perspective to a CDEMA led response
IMT-ER

• Meet weekly to plan response to requests from CDEMA and scan the health landscape
  • Review information from Lab
  • Review information from HCE
    • Monitor for outbreaks
    • Trend monitoring for seasonal outbreaks eg VBD
Multi Country impacts and Disaster responses

• In the past year
  • Guyana floods
  • St. Vincent and the Grenadines – Volcano eruption
  • COVID-19 advice to all 26 MS
  • The Nabarima-contingency planning for the risk of an oil spill which would have been larger than the Exxon Valdez spill!
CARPHA’s support to La Soufriere efforts

1. Development of Guidance on Respiratory Protection during a Volcanic Eruption

2. Development of Guidance on Solid Waste Management during a Volcanic Eruption

3. The development of COVID-19 protocols and infographics for evacuees and deployment during evacuation, approved at the 27th COHSOD meeting

4. Constant liaison with Chief Medical Officers including the Chief Medical Officer, SVG

5. Development of sampling strategy, shelter assignments, and other support related to the shelter needs

6. Provision of laboratory testing (clinical and environmental samples)
CARPHA’s support to La Soufriere efforts

7. Joined support and relief efforts that are being coordinated by CDEMA

8. CARPHA will continue to provide technical support in the area of Public Health.

9. CARPHA messages have been developed on personal protection, air quality, water quality and safety measures during volcanic eruptions

10. Developed menus for shelters

11. Collaborated with PAHO for the development of the EWARS
Support to CDEMA led response of the SVG La Soufriere explosive eruption

Evacuation Protocols

CARPHA/PAHO Collaboration on EWARS

A possible solution

**Pros**
- Mobile equipment in a box
  - Phone
  - Including mobile server to collate data from mobile devices
- Customizable
- Can use in communities, shelters, or healthcare facilities

**Cons**
- Does not do contact tracing
- Requires mobile network coverage
- May not do GIS marking
- Data format is unclear
- Interoperability with existing country Information Systems unknown

The Caribbean Public Health Agency
Emergency and Outbreak Response Surveillance Assessment Tool

Disaster Assessment Tool for Shelters during COVID-19
Health Aspects
Training and Capacity Building in Vector Borne Disease Management in MS

- Training strategies are engaging
- Country specific (respectful of culture, behavioural patterns
- Training done in both English and non-English speaking MS
- Messaging involves community engagement
- No one size fits all approach
- Work with local teams to translate material in local colloquium
Security Cluster of CARICOM’s COVID-19 Response

Nov. 2019
Meeting chaired by IMPACS, Epidemics were added to Tier 3 of the four-tier risks and threats table of the CCSS Risk and Threat Assessment

February
 rss started transporting specimens for urgent testing

March
 CARPHA presented to the Prison Chiefs chaired by IMPACS

April
 Special meeting of CARICOM Standing Committees of IMPACS

July
 Meeting with Prison Chiefs Prison-Specific Protocol

February
 26th Meeting of CARICOM IMPACS

Jan. 2020
Coordination with CDEMA
JRCC started tracking persons coming from China to the Caribbean

February
 CARPHA presented to the Meeting of Chiefs of Immigration and Customs chaired by IMPACS

April
 RSS Joint Coordinating Planning Committee meeting

April
 Presentation to the CONSLE

April
 6th Meeting of the CARICOM Security Cluster

April
 Emergency Meeting of Heads of Correctional and Prison Services

2020

2021
THP: Responding to COVID-19

Enhancing visitors and locals' Health & Safety, Traveller's Confidence, Regional Health Security, Tourism Resilience

Travel Measures
- Weekly Travel Briefs
- Travel Advisories
- Country Reopening Plans

Increased Advocacy and Engagement
- Advocacy and promotional items
- Increased communication with stakeholders
- Social media

Caribbean Travellers Health App
- To increase our reach, mobile applications were developed to provide relevant information/updates for the public

COVID-19 Tourism Task Force
CTO, CHTA, OECS, GTRCMC
- Harmonised strategies to rebuild a healthier, safer tourism industry
- COVID-19 Health Training Series

Caribbean Vessel Surveillance System
- Regional surveillance platform for cruise ships and vessels

Travellers Health Assurance Stamp
"Healthier, Safer Tourism"
- Regional recognition award for facilities using THIS, Training, guidelines
- HST facilities on App

Guidelines for Safe Reopening
- COVID-19 Health Guidelines
- Food & Beverage Industry
- Hoteliers, Travellers
- Ships, resuming travel
- Travel Bubble

Real-time, Early Warning and Response Health Information System (THIS)
- Updated THIS users
- Hotels, Guesthouses
- MOH, Health centers
- Transport, Tour Operators
- Self reporting

Updated website
https://www.carpha.org/THP
Media reports in CMS: Fake / diverted vaccines

Vaccine Diversion: Jamaica, September 2021

Comment by Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Feb. 2021
Climate Change - Hazard
Work Continued Simultaneously

COVID-19

Vector Borne Disease Management

Other public health related issues