



CATALYST

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR HAZARD RISK
REDUCTION AND ADAPTATION

Regional Workshop for
Central America and Caribbean Region

Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

3rd-5th December 2012

Hilton Rose Hall Resort & Spa
Montego Bay, Jamaica



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THE CATALYST PROJECT

CATALYST is intended to strengthen capacity development in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and adaptation, in the context of natural hazards. To do so, the project's objective has been to set up a Think Tank comprised of regional experts to share, compile and analyse the best of existing knowledge, in order to develop knowledge products useful to regional practitioners.

Year one of the project has seen the launch of the Think Tank, in Central America/Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Europe, with five virtual meetings and two workshops, and its membership expanding to over 60 experts. The project partners, with the participation of these experts, have been able to compile up-to-date snapshots, in the various regions, of key DRR, adaptation and capacity development issues, and are now working, via further meetings and workshops, on describing "transformational" best practices and key capacity development gaps, in order to inform policy and support regional practitioners.

Project partners include Seeconsult GmbH (coordinator), Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), TWAS - the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, The Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS); Alterra (a research institute for the living environment based in the Netherlands), and the United Nations University (UNU) Institute for Environment and Human Security.

Website: www.catalyst-project.eu

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BACKGROUND

Central America and the Caribbean are among the most disaster-prone regions in the world. The frequent droughts, floods, hurricanes, storms, landslides and earthquakes constitute a threat to development and social welfare. Disaster risk management and efficient use of natural resources can help in reducing the harm caused by natural hazards, with positive effects on security and poverty reduction.

The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 recognises the crucial role of *capacity development* in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction (DRR) in wider development and environmental protection agenda. CATALYST is intended to strengthen capacity development in DRR and climate change adaptation. The project's objective has been to set up a Think Tank comprised of regional experts to share, compile and analyse the best of existing knowledge, in order to develop knowledge products useful to regional practitioners.

The Central America and Caribbean regional workshop is organized in collaboration with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), in the context of the *7th Annual Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM 7)*, the Caribbean's premier event on Disaster Risk Management. This year, the Conference will be convened under the theme: "CDM: Building Disaster Resilience – A Shared Responsibility."

The Catalyst workshop will focus on *social vulnerability*, in its urban and rural dimensions; *ecosystem services* for disaster risk reduction; and *governance* of risk and climate adaptation in the context of the international agreement replacing the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) after 2015.

The workshop is meant to encourage:

- Discussion of current practices and challenges in disaster risk reduction and explore the future challenges posed by human induced climate change;
- Identification of best practices examples for the thematic areas addressed;
- Gathering recommendations for fostering capacity development.

The results of the workshop will feed a series of Best Practice Papers and a Policy Notebook, targeted at a wider group of stakeholders, policy makers, the general public and the media. An educational module, based on the integrated knowledge arising from the workshop and other activities of the CATALYST project will also be produced. A major objective will also be the fostering and strengthening of cooperation and synergies among the different players in the field of DRR/CCA in the Central America and Caribbean region.

Organising committee

Elisa Calliari (Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, elisa.calliari@feem.it)

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Humaira Daniel (United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security UNU-EHS)

Caroline van Bers (Seeconsult GmbH)

Matt Hare (Seeconsult GmbH)

AGENDA

PRE-EVENT: Sunday, December 2nd, 2012

20:00 – 23:00 *CATALYST Welcome drink and dinner*

DAY 1: Monday, December 3rd, 2012

Falmouth Room

08:30 – 09:00 *Registration of participants*

09:00 – 09:50 **Opening session**
Chair: Matt Hare

09:00 – 09:10 Welcome address *by Jeremy Collymore (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency)*
 09:10 – 09:20 Introduction to the CATALYST project - *Matt Hare (Seeconsult)*
 09:20 – 09:30 Scope of the workshop – *Elisa Calliari (Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei)*
 09:30 – 09:50 Introduction of the participants

09:50 – 15:00 **Session 1 - Social Vulnerability: Urban and Rural Dimensions**
Chair: Matt Hare

09:50 – 10:10 Urban Vulnerability in Central America and the Caribbean - *Ebru Gencer (Columbia University)*
 10:10 – 10:30 Rural Vulnerability in Central America and the Caribbean - *Marta Vicarelli (Yale University)*

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 11:20 Risk & Vulnerability Assessment - *Sanya Wedemeir-Graham (Caribbean Environment Programme)*
 11:20 – 11:50 Economic, Social and Environmental Impacts of Disasters - *Myriam Urzua (United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)*
 11:50 – 12:00 Questions & Answers

12:00 – 13:30 *Lunch*

13:30 – 15:00 Group discussions

15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 – 18:30 **Session 2 - Environmental Vulnerability: Ecosystem Services for Disaster Risk Reduction**
Chair: Jaroslav Mysiak

15:30 – 15:50 Environmental Management and Vulnerabilities in Central America and the Caribbean – *Keisha Sandy (Caribbean Natural Resources Institute)*

15:50 – 16:10 Good practices on measures to reduce environmental vulnerability and their assessment - *Fabrice Renaud (The United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security)*

16:10 – 16:30 The economic value of ecosystem services – *Jaroslav Mysiak (Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei and Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change)*

16:30 – 18:00 Group discussions (coffee available)

18:00 – 18:30 Presentation of the results from the group discussions (Session 1&2) and wrap up

19:00 – 21:00 *Welcome Cocktail Reception of the 7th Annual Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management*

DAY2: Tuesday, December 4th, 2012

- 09:00 – 12:00** **Opening Ceremony Plenary for the 7th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management and Exhibition - *Redefining Disaster Resilience***
- Keynote address: *Redefining Disaster Resilience: Political Leadership and Responsibility in a Changing Climate*
OR *Positioning Disaster Resilience in the Political Agenda*
- Ministerial/High Level Panel Discussion
- Concurrent Poster Presentation
- 13:00 – 14:00* *Lunch*
- 14:00 – 16:30** **Sessions 3 : Governance for DRR – the CATALYST project's perspective (open session)**
Chair: Barbara Carby - Trelawny Room
- 14:00 – 14:20 Assessing the success of Hyogo Framework for Action implementation in the Caribbean - *Barbara Carby (University of West Indies)*
- 14:20 – 14:40 Experiences from the practical management of emergencies - *Ronald Jackson (Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management)*
- 14:40 – 15:00 Natural hazards and sustainable development - *Carlos Perez Aleman (UNDP – Nicaragua Office)*
- 15:00 – 15:15 Questions & Answers
- 15:15 – 15:45* *Coffee break*
- 15:45 – 16:05 Natural hazard management and climate adaptation – *Matt Hare (Seeconsult)*
- 16:05 – 16:30 Questions & Answers, plenary discussion
- 16:30 – 18:30** **Continuation of sessions 3 : Governance for DRR – the CATALYST project's perspective (closed session)**
Chair: Barbara Carby - Falmouth Room
- 16:30 – 18:00 Group discussions
- 18:00 – 18:30 Presentation of the results from the group discussions and wrap up

DAY 3: Wednesday, December 5th, 2012

- 09:00 – 12:00** **Session 4: Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction – Regional Perspectives**
Chair: Humaira Daniel - Port Antonio Room
- 09:00 – 09:20 Learning from megadisasters - lessons learnt from Tohoku, Japan and capacity development - *Federica Ranghieri (World Bank)*
- 09:20 – 09:40 Capacity Development for ecosystem based Disaster Risk Reduction – *Radhika Murti (International Union for Conservation of Nature)*
- 09:40 – 10:00 *Gonzalo Roque (Infinita Consulting)*
- 10:00 – 10:20 Capacity Development from the CATALYST perspective - *Humaira Daniel (The United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security)*
- 10:20 – 10:30 Questions & Answers
- 10:30 – 11:00* *Coffee break*
- 11:00 – 11:45 Plenary Discussion: Advances in DRR Capacity Development in Central America and the Caribbean
- 11:45 – 12:00 Wrapping up: reflection on the workshop outcomes and next steps
- 12:00 – 13:30* *Lunch*
- 14:00 – 18:30* *Field Trip to the Montego Bay Marine Park*

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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