



OFFICE OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Face of Disasters: Handling the Aftermath

First World Global Virtual Day

“End or Substantial Change in the World?”

March 22, 2012



Outline of Presentation

- Overview of the Disasters and their impact
- Early approach to dealing with Humanitarian Response Issues – The National Level
- Enhanced Humanitarian Response
 - National and Regional Mechanisms
- Next Steps – Prevention and Community Capacity Building

Introduction



Introduction

- Over the last 3 decades, the Caribbean has suffered direct and in-direct losses estimated at between USD 700 – 3,300 million due to extreme weather events (Inter-American Development Bank, 2007);
- Cumulative annual impact of future climate change on all CARICOM Member and Associate Member States by ca. 2080 will be about USD 11.2 billion or 11.3 percent of the projected annual GDP (World Bank, 2009):



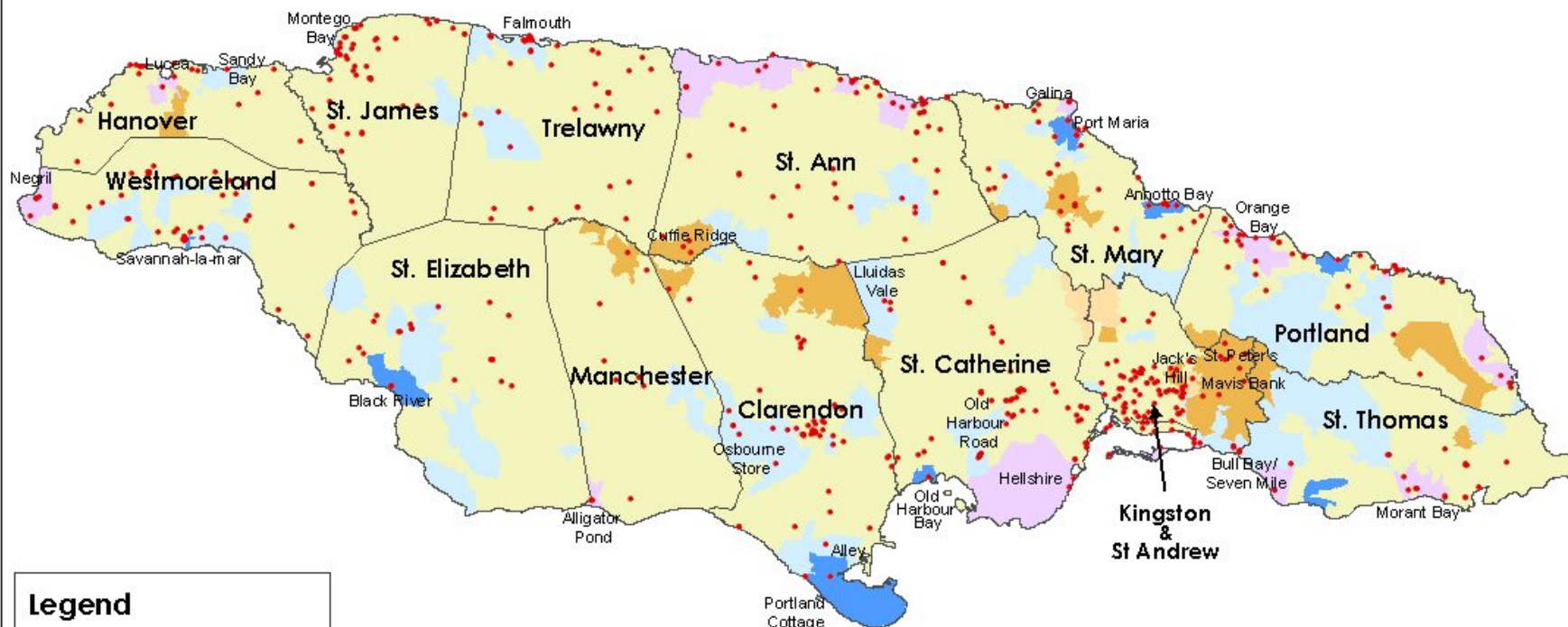
Introduction

- High densities in very vulnerable areas
- Significant numbers of informal settlements characterized by substandard housing
- Scenario suggest certain displacement
- Humanitarian Assistance has to take stock of pre-impact scenario

Events during the last decade

Country	Event	Date	Economic Impact (US\$M)	Economic Impact (as % of GDP)	Affected Population
Bahamas	Hurricanes Frances & Jeanne	Sep. 2-5 & 25, 2004	381	7.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 deaths* ▪ over 8,000 affected*
Cayman Islands	Hurricane Paloma	Nov. 8, 2008	154.4	7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 0 deaths ▪ 2,483 persons affected
	Hurricane Ivan	Sep. 11, 2004	3,432	138.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 deaths ▪ 35,189 affected
Grenada	Hurricane Ivan	Sep. 7, 2004	889	212.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 28 deaths ▪ 81,553 affected
Haiti	Hurricanes Fay, Gustav, Hannah & Ike	Aug. 16-Sep. 8, 2008	897	14.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 793 deaths ▪ 844,500 affected
	Earthquake**	Jan. 12, 2010			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ over 220,000 deaths ▪ 1.3 million displaced ▪ over 300,000 injured
Jamaica	Hurricane Ivan	Sep. 10, 2004	595 million	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 17 deaths ▪ 369,685 affected
Saint Lucia	Hurricane Dean	Aug. 16-17, 2007	18.8	2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 0 deaths ▪ 23,167 affected
Suriname	Flood	May 2006	41	2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 0 deaths ▪ 48,351 affected

INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES



Legend

- Informal Settlements
- Parish
- Hazard Vulnerability
- None
- Flooding
- Flooding/Landslide
- Flooding/Storm Surge
- Landslide
- Storm Surge



The Map shows informal settlements and communities across the island.

The red points indicate informal settlements across the island. While the basemap depicts communities whose boundaries are defined by the Social Development Commission. The communities are color coded to depict their vulnerability to varying hazards. The area depicted does not represent a land mass vulnerable to the specific hazard but rather a community.

To determine the vulnerability of the individual settlements a site specific assessment should be undertaken.

This map just serves to identify areas deemed vulnerable.



Urban population growth

Year	% Pop. Urban
1960	34
1980	40
1997-2000	52
2009 (est.)	57
2015 (forecasted)	64



Humanitarian Assistance - Early Approaches

- Largely facilitated by Military and traditional NGO's (Red Cross)
- General support to displaced population
- Not Gender Specific
- Not focused on special needs
- No provisions for children in displaced situations
- No provisions for pregnant and lactating mothers



Humanitarian Assistance - Early Approaches

- Very little reaction to evacuation orders in some instances (except Cuba)
- Schools mostly used for shelters given the high levels of population at risk
- Required the retrofitting of non shelter facilities in remote communities.
- Shelters had no space allocations for families as opposed to Single men, women or single parent households



Humanitarian Assistance – Early Approaches

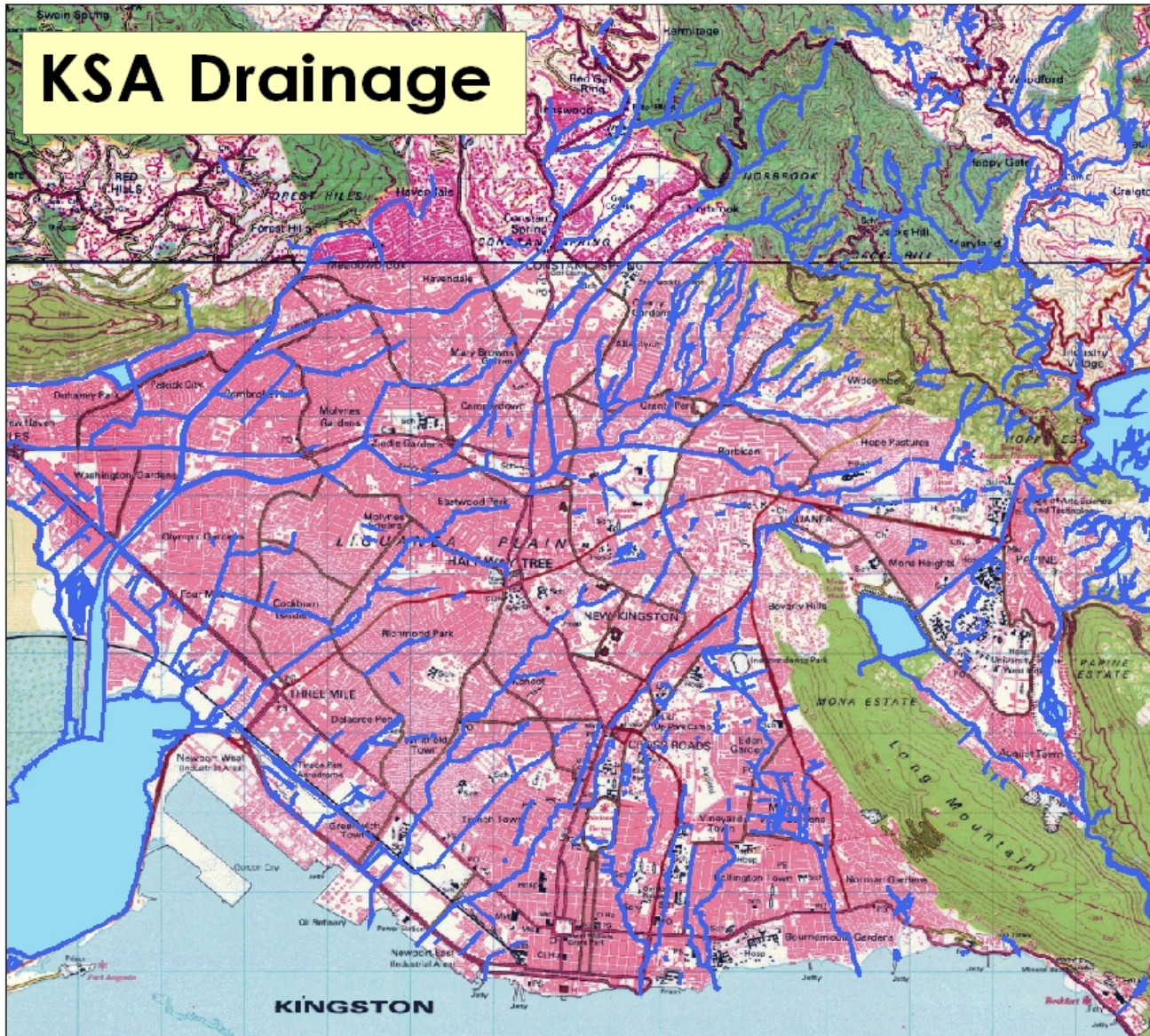
- Historic reports of abuse and sexual activities in shelters
- Limited Security Provisions
- Limited Education and Recreational Activities for occupants especially children
- Recovery Support dependent on donors and budgetary reallocation (challenging)



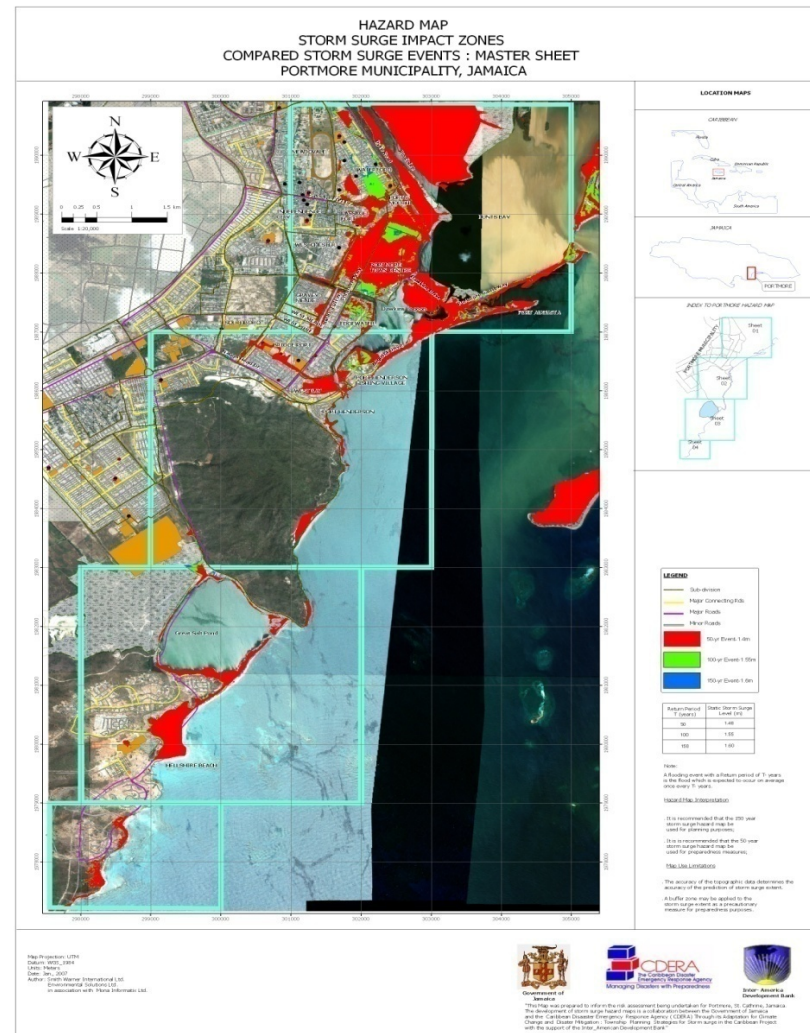
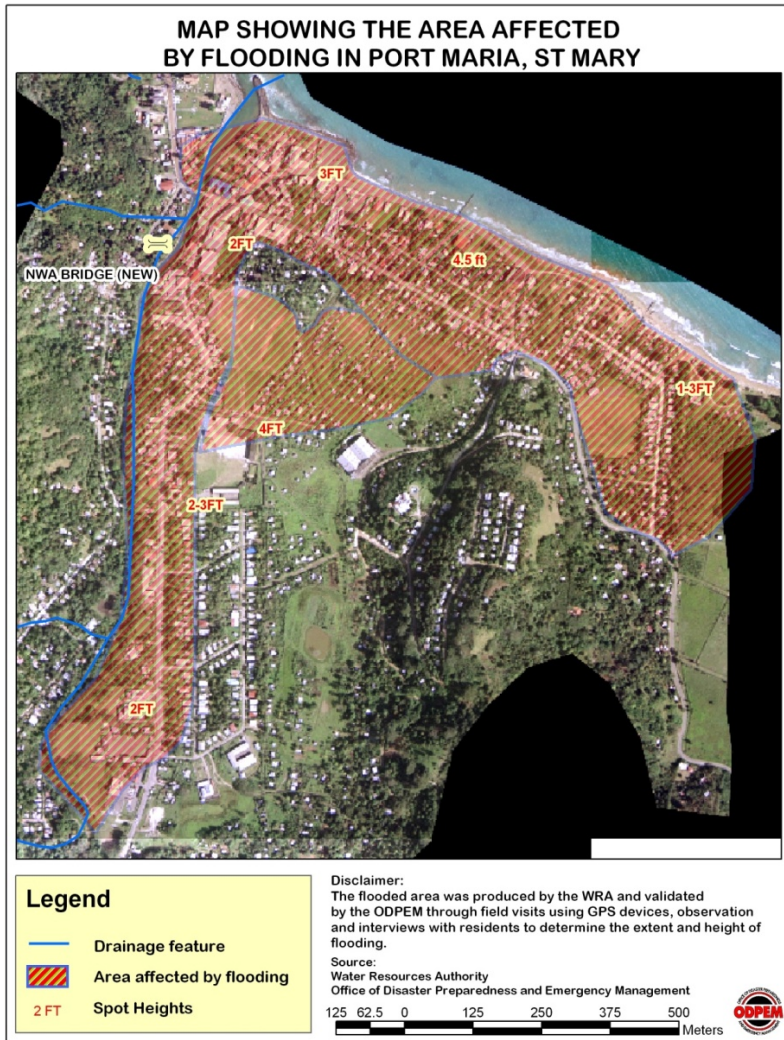
Enhanced Humanitarian Response

- *Use of scenarios and Models to drive Humanitarian Response Planning and Decision making*

FLOODING



Urban Center Flooding

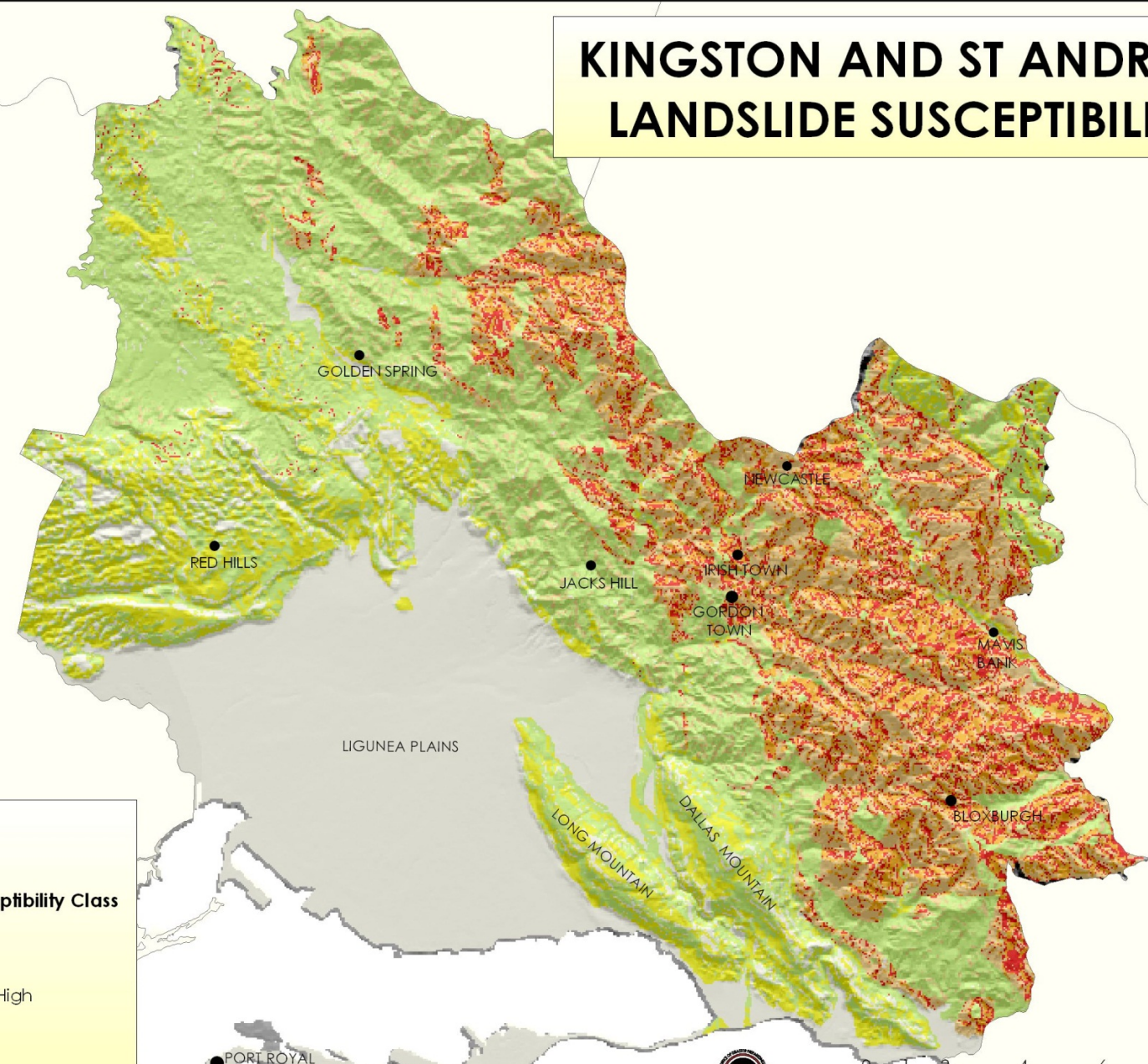
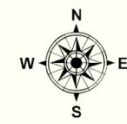


LANDSLIDE

ST MARY LANDSLIDE VULNERABILITY MAP AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS



KINGSTON AND ST ANDREW LANDSLIDE SUSCEPTIBILITY



LEGEND

- Parish
- Landslide Susceptibility Class**
- Very High
- High
- Moderate-High
- Moderate
- Low
- Non

Source: USAID-OAS Caribbean Disaster Mitigation Project





Enhanced Humanitarian Response

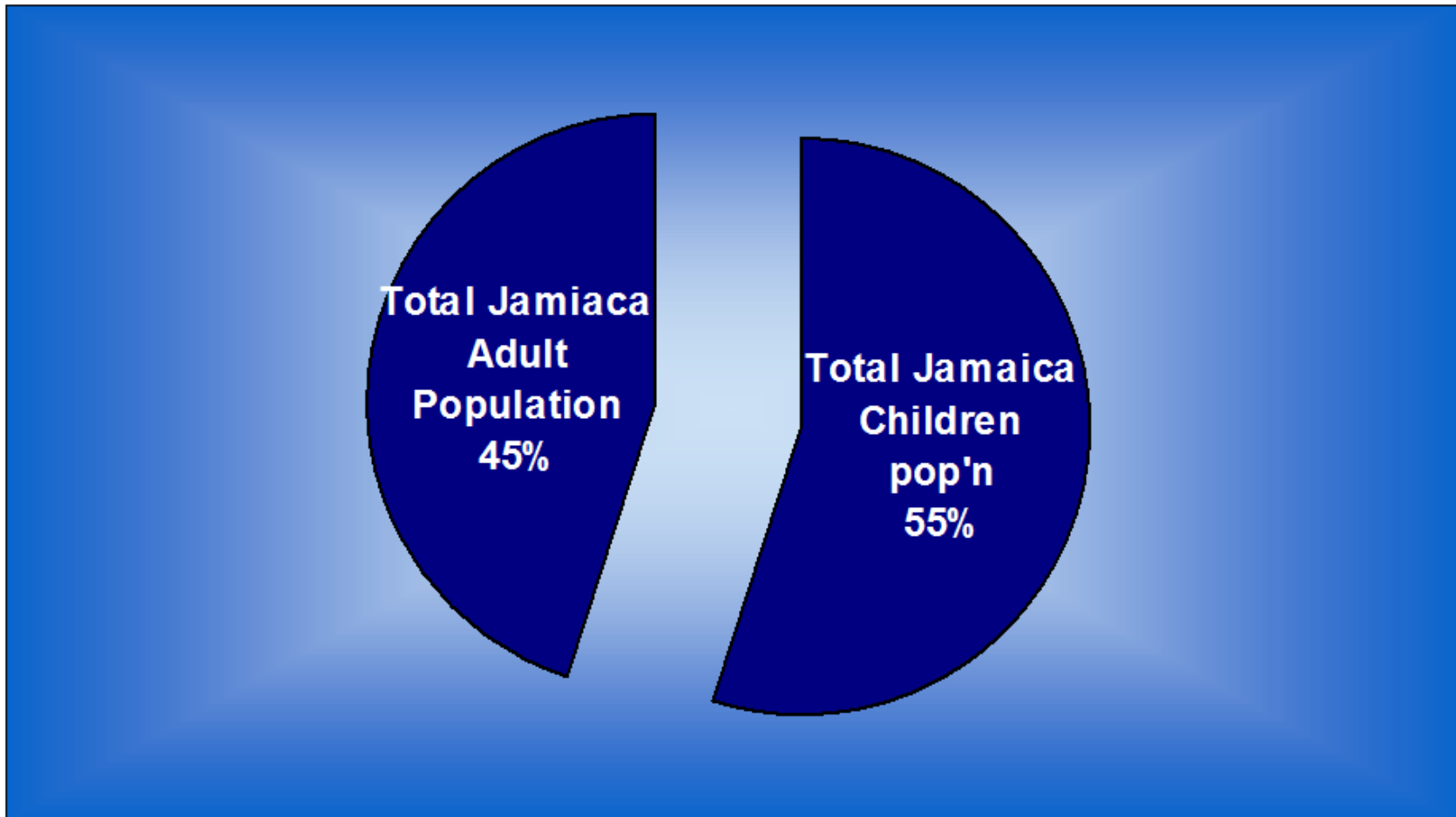
- More players – NGO' s FBO' s and Volunteers
- Greater Coordination Required
- Mechanisms at the UN Level – Clusters
 - Will it work in the Regional Context?



Enhanced Humanitarian Response

- Recognized that children made up the greater proportion of the population hence plans had to be adjusted to reflect that more children could be impacted by Disasters.

Jamaica's Children vs. Adult Population





Enhanced Humanitarian Response

- Integration of the needs of special populations in the planning
- Required improved reporting on the affected population – disaggregated
- Improved shelter management protocols
- Security presence
 - Static and mobile
- Continued health assessments and monitoring
- Nutrition Requirements
- Improved welfare resources management based on scenario planning



Enhanced Humanitarian Response

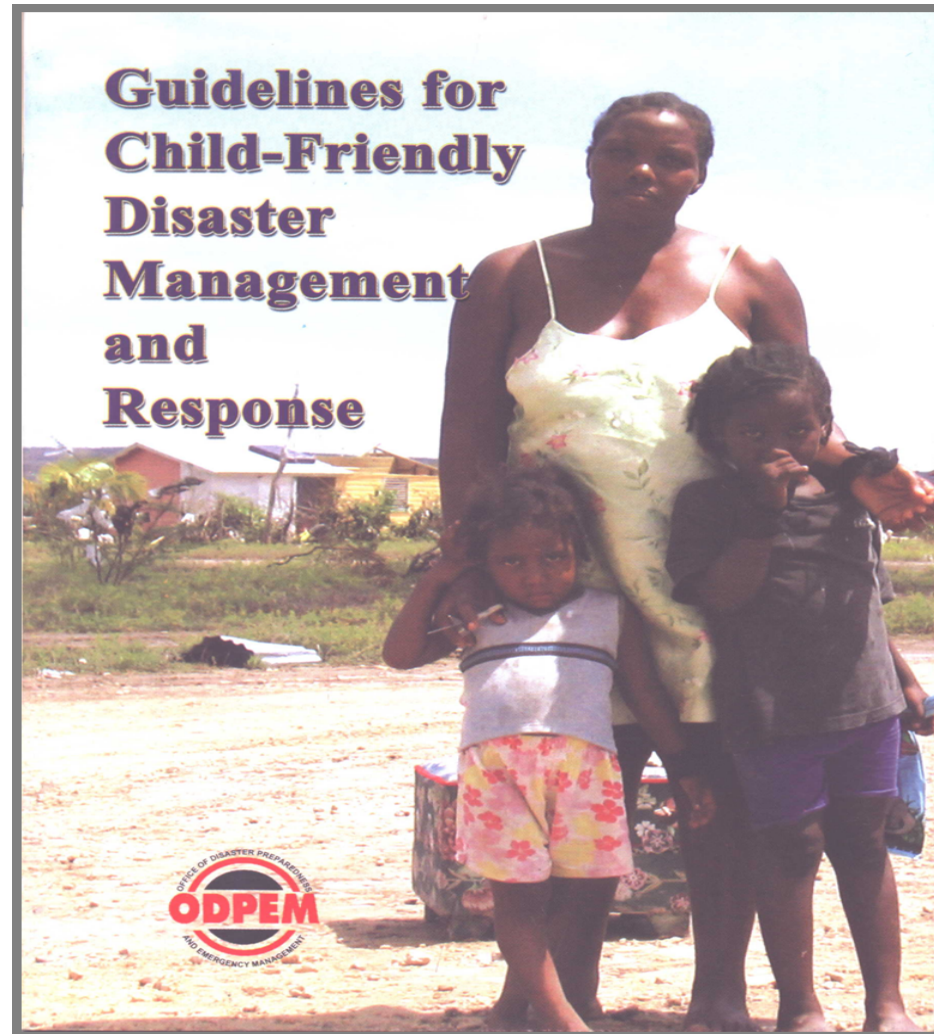
- Establishment of volunteer corps to support shelter management operations, relief support to impacted and victim registration
- Establishment of priority shelter facilities
- Enhanced Regional Coordination Mechanism
 - Sub Regional Civil Military Deployment

Enhanced Humanitarian Response

- Development of basic emergency kits for the different age cohorts
- Development of Guidelines for Children in Emergency Situations
- Address psycho-social issues
- Build Community Resilience
- Application Humanitarian Assistance Programme Accountability Standards

Guidelines

Uses a checklist format that makes it easy for any practitioner in the field to refer quickly to the appropriate sector and guidelines for assistance.





Next Steps

- Acquisition of Quick erect shelters to address infrastructure gaps
- Examine possibility of transitional housing for recovery and rehabilitation
- Further Capacity Building at the Community Level
- Strengthen Regional Response Mechanisms – Integrating UN-OCHA in coordination



Next Steps

- Institutionalize the Human Rights Issues in the Humanitarian Assistance Processes
- Establish livelihood support and Micro-Insurance Mechanisms for early recovery
- Learn more about the behaviour of our physical and social mechanisms to be able to anticipate level of displacement
- Reduce risk



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THANK YOU – QUESTIONS?

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