

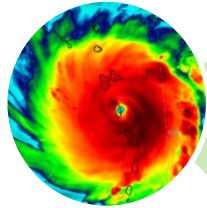


DISASTER PEPAEDEDNESS PLANNING

DECEMBER 10, 2020

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Office of Disaster Management (ODM)

OUTLINE



Basics of Disaster Management



Disaster Preparedness Planning

- i. Emergency Kit
- ii. Communications Plan / getting information
- iii. Sheltering/Evacuation



Safety/Preparedness Tips for Natural Hazards

Dominica is among the most vulnerable countries in the world to natural hazards!

...WHY?

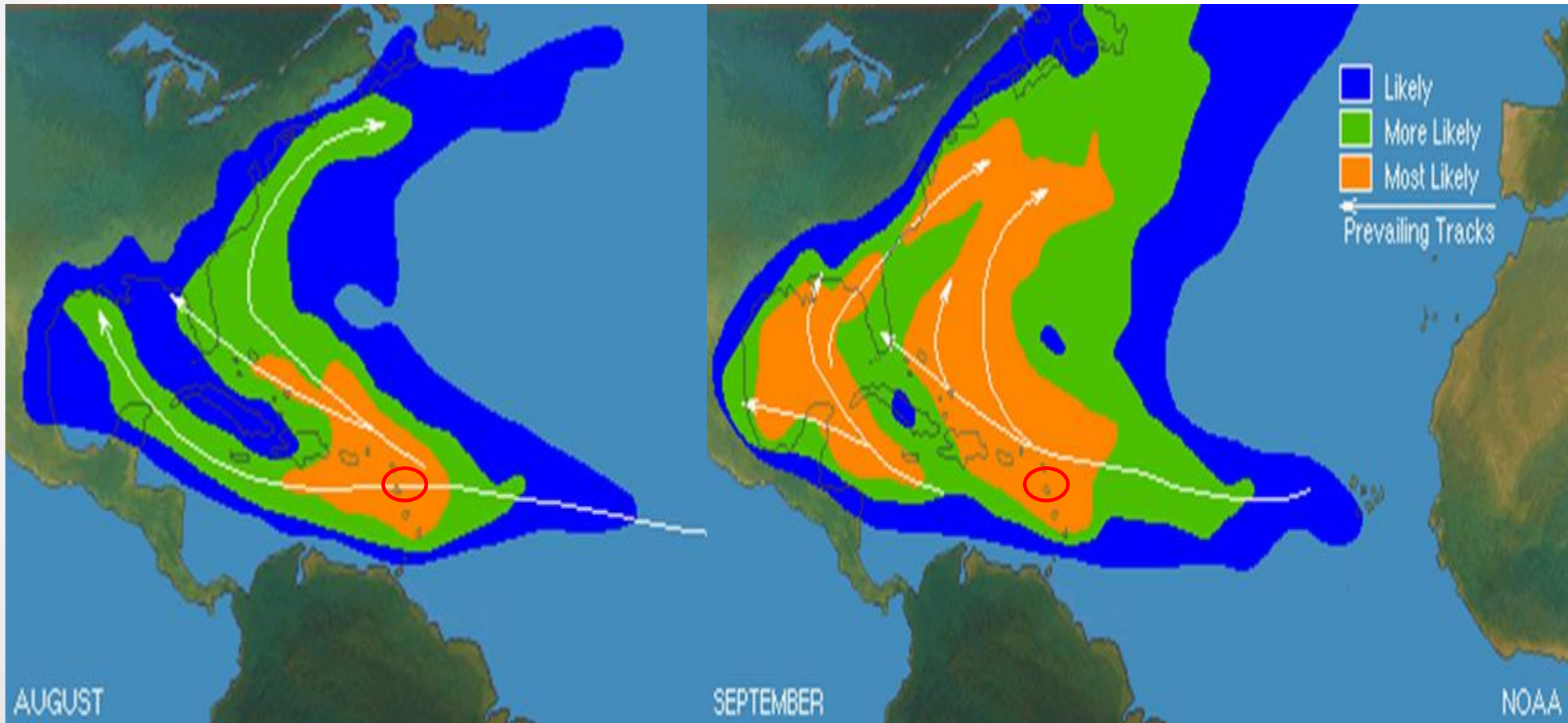
- **Topography**
- **Geology**
- **Geographical location**



The mountainous and steep topography of Dominica makes the island highly prone to landslides – especially during intense/heavy rainfall events

Dominica is located in the tectonically active island arc of the Lesser Antilles that has 11 volcanically active islands;

Located along the usual track of tropical cyclones that traverse the Atlantic Ocean especially during the peak months of August and September



Disaster Management Basics



HAZARD

- A process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.
- Hazards may be natural or (human induced) in origin. Natural hazards are predominantly associated with natural processes and phenomena. Human-induced hazards result entirely or predominantly from human activities and choices.
- Hazards may be single, sequential or combined (multiple hazard) in their origin and effects.



Natural hazards

- Tropical cyclones (depressions, tropical storms, hurricanes)
- Volcanic Eruption
- Earthquake
- Tsunami
- Landslide
- Flood
- Drought
- Epidemic





Manmade hazards

- Fire
- Toxic Chemical Spills
- Explosion
- Civil Strife
- Power Failure
- Invasion
- Shipwreck
- Pollution
- Air Crash
- Oil Spills



Disaster Management Basics

DISASTER

- A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society
- Involve widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts
- **Exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources**

Disaster Management Cycles



Disaster Risk

Disaster risk is widely recognized as the consequence of the interaction between a hazard and the characteristics that make people and places vulnerable and exposed.



- **EXPOSURE** - The situation of people, infrastructure, housing, production capacities and other tangible human assets located in hazard-prone areas. If a hazard occurs in an area of no exposure, then there is no risk (GFDRR, 2014a)
- The extent to which exposed people or economic assets are actually at risk is generally determined by how vulnerable they are (UNISDR, 2009), as **it is possible to be exposed but not vulnerable** (IPCC, 2012).
- **VULNERABILITY** - human dimension of disasters and is the result of the range of economic, social, cultural, institutional, political and psychological factors that shape people's lives and the environment that they live in (Twigg, 2004).

ASSESSING YOUR RISK

- A risk assessment is a process to identify potential hazards and analyze what could happen if a hazard occurs.
- Consider the impact on all areas: Family, business, community and even national - level of impact determines how quickly “normalcy” will be restored



BASIC RISK ASSESSMENT GEF/SGP Workshop – Thinking It Through

Hazard Identification (What hazard is likely or has affected my community)	Assets at Risk (what will be affected home/business/common spaces)	Possible action to minimize risk or preparedness action
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		



BASIC RISK ASSESSMENT GEF/SGP Workshop – Thinking It Through

Hazard Identification <i>(What hazard is likely or has affected my community)</i>	Assets at Risk <i>(what will be affected home/business/common spaces)</i>	Possible action to minimize risk or preparedness action
1. Tropical cyclone heavy rain Strong winds Storm surge	House, livelihood (crops, animals) family, roads, utilities etc.	Build to code; trim trees; clear drains; evacuate; assess property before purchase (hazard maps); emergency plan
2.Flood	Home, farm, roads; children school	Listen to weather information; Clear drains; sand bags; plan ahead; emergency kit
3.Earthquake	Home; business; utilities	Building code; emergency kit; identify safe spaces; practice DCH
4.Tsunami	Coastal areas – homes; business; Roads; utilities;	Evacuation plan; emergency kit; increase awareness – know the natural signs
5. Volcano	Hazard map - know what zone you live in	Evacuation plan; emergency kit; increase awareness
6.Landslide	Roads; home; farms;	Land use management; be alert during severe weather; learn the signs of imminent landslides

PREPAREDNESS PLANNING



Preparedness Planning

Making advance arrangements to enable timely, effective and appropriate responses



PREPAREDNESS

- The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, response and recovery organizations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent or current disasters.
- The related term “readiness” describes the ability to quickly and appropriately respond when required

Preparedness as a Lifestyle ...

- Your preparedness begins long before the hurricane season and should be considered a continuous activity
- The long term life choices that you make are part of your preparedness (The design of your home; where you purchase land or construct dwelling; property maintenance; financial planning)



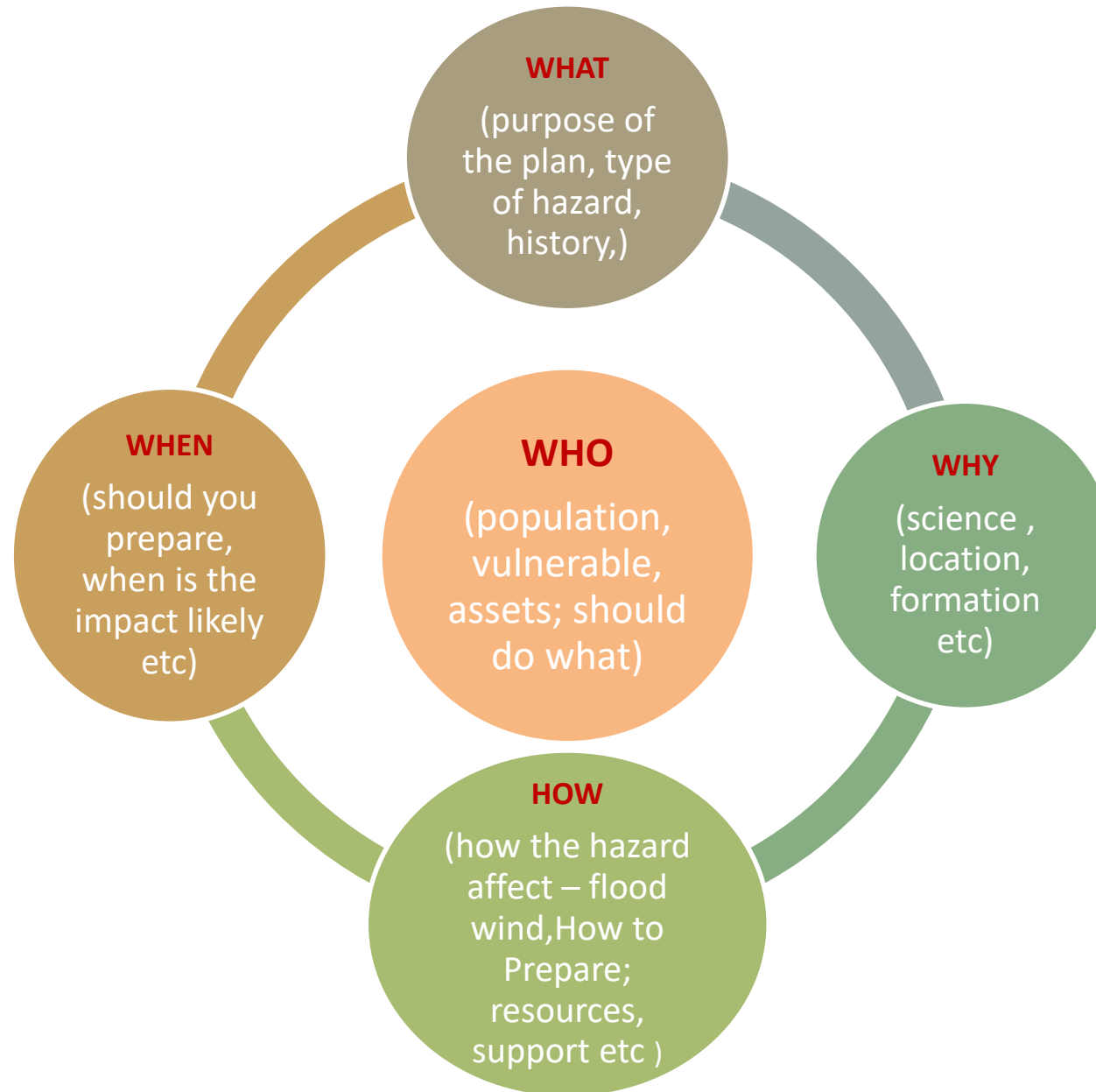
Preparedness and you



The goal of your preparedness planning is to:

- Protect you and your family
- Protect your livelihood where possible
- Knowing how to respond appropriately and including some means of supporting your recovery

DISASTER PLANS





Community/District Disaster Plan

1. Disaster Committee
2. Create Community Disaster Plan
 - I. Identify hazards that affect the community
 - II. Identify critical facilities that could be affected (schools; health facilities etc.)
 - III. Identify vulnerable persons
 - IV. Evacuation route
 - V. Resources that will be required/available and owners (community and external) - transportation; chain saws; heavy equipment; shelter facilities; emergency communication support
 - VI. Assign dedicated roles (shelter management team, public awareness; SAR team; transport/evacuation etc.);
 - VII. Critical contact list (members of Disaster Committee/Village Council; ODM; resource persons, first responders etc.)

Plan is not in isolation but should be linked to the National Disaster Plan



Planning for your Business

- **STAFF** – Conduct planning and preparedness activities for the protection of your staff -Keep them informed of the emergency plan;
review it with them regularly
Identify shelter-in-place or evacuation options
Establish contact list for all employees (Part of business comm. Plan)
- **SURROUNDINGS** – Assess those elements that potentially pose a threat during an event, such as fences, trees, tools etc.- remove or secure such items
- **SPACE** - Evaluate the contents of your workspace, such as inventory, filing cabinets, shelving, and other furniture – secure these items/important document/back up system.

Farms - Make a list of your farm inventory, include: Livestock , Crops (acres, type)
Machinery and equipment, Hazardous substances (e.g., pesticides, fertilizers, fuels, medicines, other chemicals)



Planning for your Business

- **SYSTEMS** includes utility systems that support the operation of the building – electricity/water/communication etc. (Backup system)
- **STRUCTURE** – assess structural elements of the building, especially construction types that may be vulnerable to damage or failure during an event.
- **SERVICE** – consider what is needed for your organization to engage and serve the community following an event / or how you will receive service; how will the business move forward – Contacts for banks/ insurance arrangements

Farms – have contact information for suppliers; Extension Officers; financial institutions; store extra supplies to help restoration of livelihood where possible.

Family Emergency Plan... Consider

1. Family Emergency Kit ... do you have one or do you need to update your kit
2. Communication plan
 - How to stay informed / connected
3. Sheltering and evacuation plan (transportation)
 - Plans to protect your property (material and tools)



1. Emergency supplies check list *

- Consider the needs of each family member



- Consider age group



- Special needs/disabilities including special diet and medication



Emergency supplies kit -72 HR

- Water (at least one gallon per person)
- Non-perishable food items
- Portable chargers
- Flash light or solar light
- Battery operated radio and extra batteries
- Cash



Emergency supplies kit

- Personal hygiene items
- Prescription Medicine
- Important documents (birth and marriage certificates, land title, travel documents, insurance, business documents etc)
- A change of clothes
- COVID-19 protective supplies:
(masks, gloves, hand sanitizers or rubbing alcohol 70%)



2. Emergency Communication Plan



A family emergency communication plan ensures that household and other important contacts are available to your family, especially seniors and children and help to make sure you keep in contact with family and friends during an emergency or disaster.

Make sure each family member has a copy of this plan and that it is easily accessible for all to see.

**FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN
(MAKE THE NUMBERS EASILY ACCESSIBLE)**

Home: _____	Child: _____
Adult: _____	Daycare: _____
Cell: _____	Emergency pick-up: _____
Work: _____	Neighbour: _____
Adult: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Work: _____	Out of community contact: _____
Adult: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Child: _____	Off island relative/friend: _____
Cell: _____	Home: _____
School: _____	Cell: _____
Emergency pick-up: _____	Police:
	Fire & Ambulance:
	Hospital:
	Nearest health centre:

MEETING PLACES (If family become separated during an emergency)

In your neighbourhood: _____

Out of your neighbourhood: _____



3. Sheltering and Evacuation plan



85°

Mostly Beautiful
GoCD Weather & Alert App

- Decide if you can shelter in place
- Determine which is the safest room in your home based on the type of hazard

If evacuating your home:

- Decide where you will shelter – neighbour's home or public shelter
- Know where your nearest shelter is located



Sheltering and Evacuation plan

- Have at least two routes (where possible) to leave your home or community
- Keep Covid-19 shelter limitations in mind
- Take your emergency supplies kit with you
- Consider any special needs of family members (elderly, wheel chair bound etc)

Public Sheltering During COVID-19

- Everyone should wear masks in public shelter
- Frequent handwashing or use of hand sanitizers/rubbing alcohol (70%)
- Shelter managers are expected to enforce adherence to hygiene guidelines
- Shelterees are expected to avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness



Public Sheltering During COVID-19

- Anyone who begin to show symptoms of COVID-19 will be separated from the main area and be placed in the designated isolation section; In some shelters where isolation is not possible temporary barriers will be used for separation
- For sleeping purposes - cots should be 6 feet apart. Cots will be arranged in alternating 'head-to-toe' arrangement to reduce transmission of any communicable diseases.
- Persons will be separated in the shelters by household as much as possible...



PREPAREDNESS TIPS



1. HURRICANE
2. FLOOD
3. EARTHQUAKE
4. TSUNAMI
5. VOLCANO
6. LANDSLIDE



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS TIPS...!



HURRICANE HAZARDS

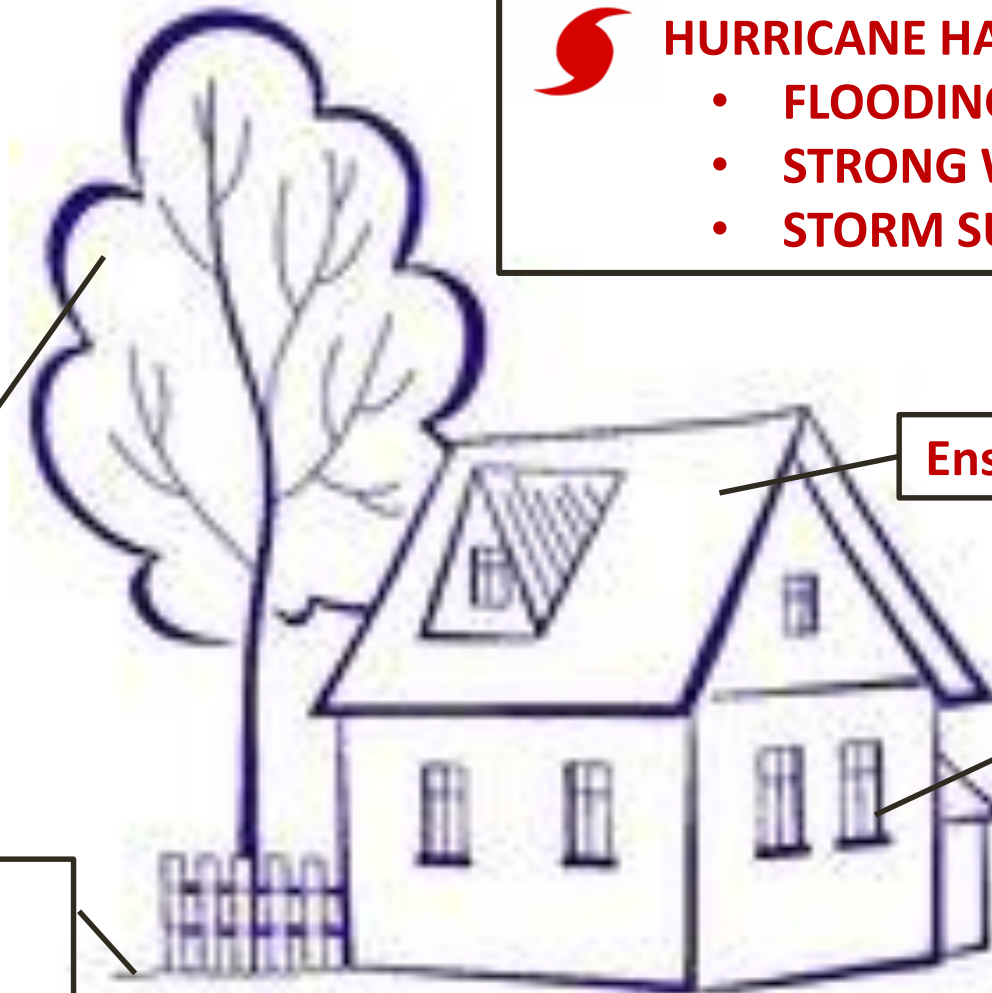
- FLOODING
- STRONG WIND
- STORM SURGE

Trim trees
that hang
over your
home

Ensure your roof is secure

Clear
drains
around
your home

Secure
windows and
doors with
shutters or
ply board



www.odm.gov.dm
odm@dominica.gov.dm
(767) 448-7777 / 611-4412
[Facebook.com/ODMDominica1](https://www.facebook.com/ODMDominica1)

BEFORE A FLOOD



Always monitor weather conditions

❖ **Keep waterways free of debris; Keep areas around your home free from garbage and debris that may block drains.**

Purchase water proof storage bags to protect important documents.

❖ **In case an evacuation is necessary, prepare a plan that takes disabled persons, the elderly, children and pets into account.**

Store additional materials like plastic sheeting, ply board, nails, rope, wire and sandbags to assist with the effects of flooding, or to aid with reinforcement of objects that may get swept away

Make sure your insurance plan covers flooding.

❖ **Store chemicals, important documents and electrical devices on elevated surfaces away from expected water levels.**

Find out where the nearest evacuation shelter is located.

Practice proper land use to help prevent or reduce impact from landslides

DURING A FLOOD



The infographic includes logos for ODM, UNDP, CDEMA, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, OCHA, and the European Union. It also features the hashtag #PreparedCaribbean and contact information for ODM.

FLOODS

<p>A FLOOD WATCH means that flooding is possible.</p> <p>BE PREPARED!</p>	<p>A FLOOD WARNING is issued when a flood is already occurring or will occur shortly.</p> <p>TAKE ACTION!</p>
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IF YOU ARE UNDER A FLOOD WARNING

- **REMAIN ALERT!**
- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown!
- Just six inches of moving water can knock you down
- One foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away
- Evacuate early if told to do so
- Always keep important documents in a waterproof bag

#PreparedCaribbean
FOR INFORMATION:
www.odm.gov.dm/hazard
@ODMDominica1
or call 448-7777

Earthquake safety – What you can do now



- Pick "safe places" in the home and work place. A safe place could be under a sturdy table or desk or against an interior wall . The shorter the distance to move to safety, the less likely that you will be injured.
- Practice drop, cover and hold on in each safe place.
- Practice safe earthquake procedures (**earthquake drill**) at least twice a year. Frequent practice will help reinforce safe behavior.
- Make a plan for family and workers to follow in the event of an earthquake and ensure everyone is familiar with the plan
- Get basic training such as first aid, how to use fire extinguisher (Fire Service)etc.
- Have and emergency kit – include whistle, masks (COVID-19 and dust), first aid kit etc.



General Earthquake Safety – Before the shaking

- Potential earthquake hazards in the home and work place should be removed or corrected
- Top-heavy objects and furniture should be fastened to the wall and the largest and heaviest objects placed on lower shelves
- Water heaters and other appliances should be firmly bolted down
- Teach family members how to turn off electricity, gas and water by learning location of safety valves and main switches

DROP COVER AND HOLD ON

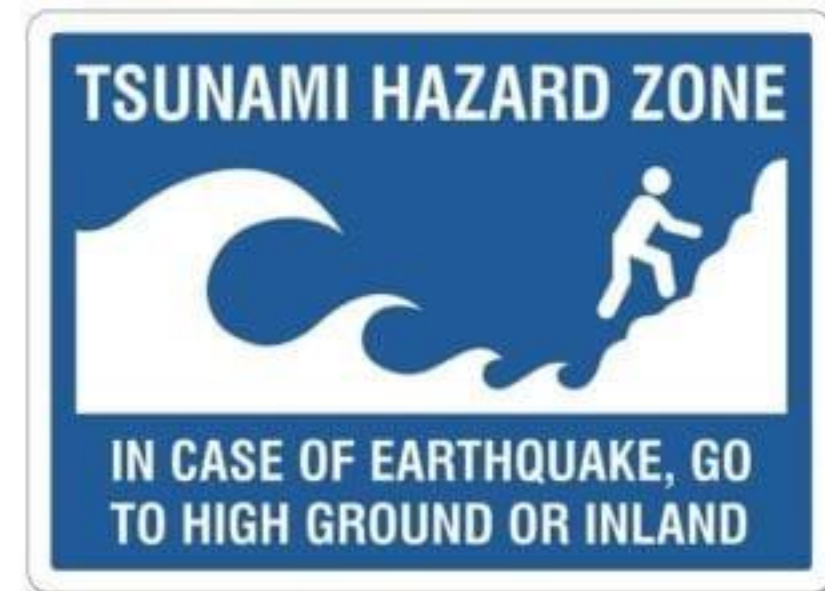


TSUNAMI

- The word “tsunami” (pronounced soo-NAHmee) is derived from 2 Japanese words, “**tsu**” meaning **harbour** and “**nami**” meaning **wave**.
- A tsunami is usually a series of travelling ocean waves and the first wave is often not the largest. The next wave may be bigger, and the tsunami may last for hours.
- More than **80%** of the world’s tsunamis were caused by **earthquakes**.
- The travel time for a local tsunami is generally less than 1 hour, and may be as little as 10 minutes **Not a lot of time**

Tsunami safety – FEEL, SEE, HEAR

- Be prepared to evacuate. Listen to your radio for instructions.
- If you FEEL a strong earthquake and you are close to a beach or near a river – **DO NOT WAIT FOR OFFICIAL WARNING!** – leave immediately
- Tsunamis sometimes 'draw up' water before they come inland. If you see the water suddenly retreat (after an earthquake) or hear a loud roar, it is probably a tsunami. Leave the area immediately;
- **DO NOT** go to a beach or river to watch the waves come in. If you see the tsunami it is probably be too late to get to safety.



Tsunami safety

- Go at least 1 km inland or 35 metres (100ft) above sea level; 3rd floor or higher of buildings or even a tall tree
- Take your disaster survival kit and any important documents with you (If possible)

NATURAL Tsunami Warning Signs



Feel a strong or long earthquake



See a sudden rise or fall of the ocean



Hear a loud roar from the ocean

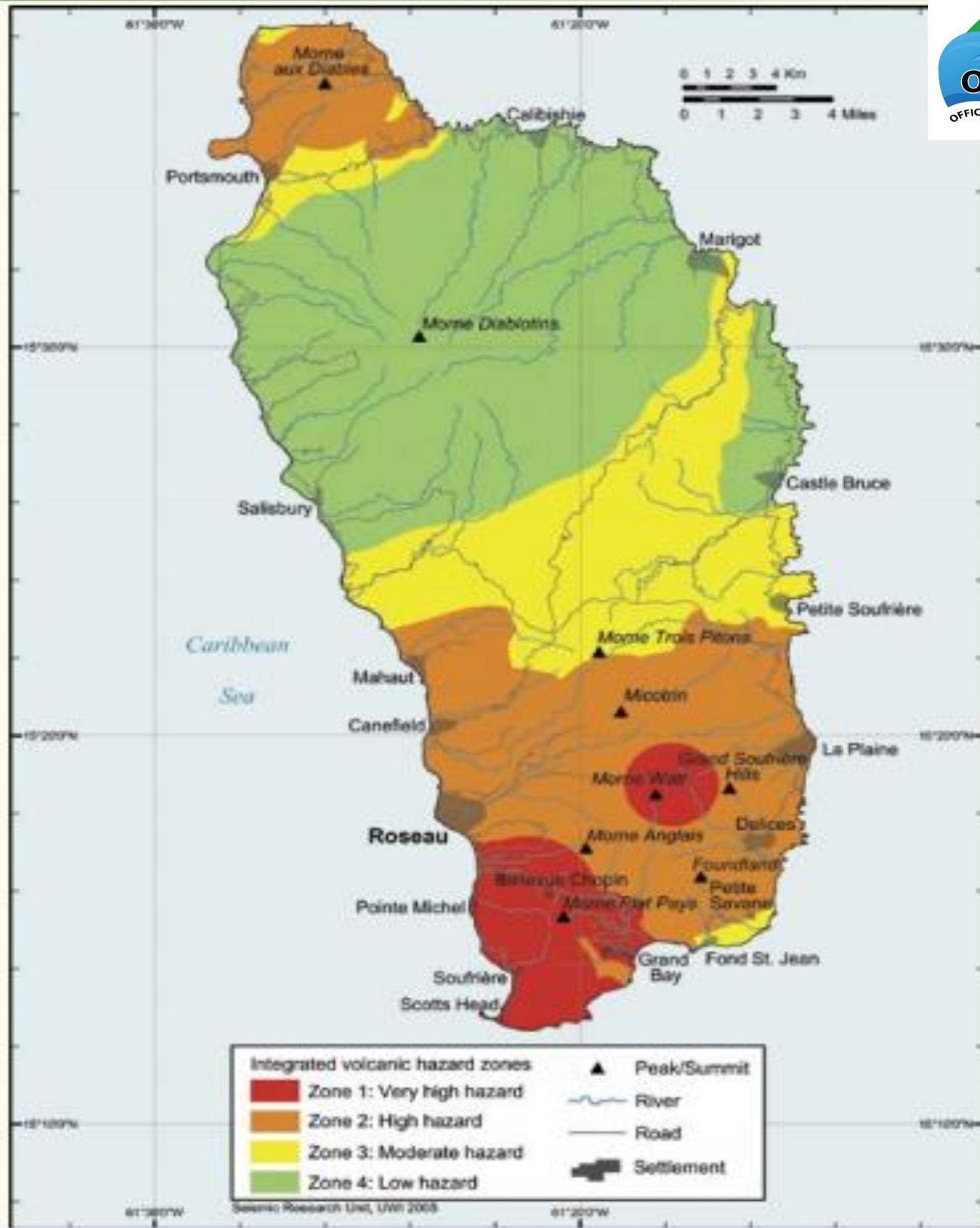
Any of these could mean a tsunami is coming.
Get quickly to high ground or inland!



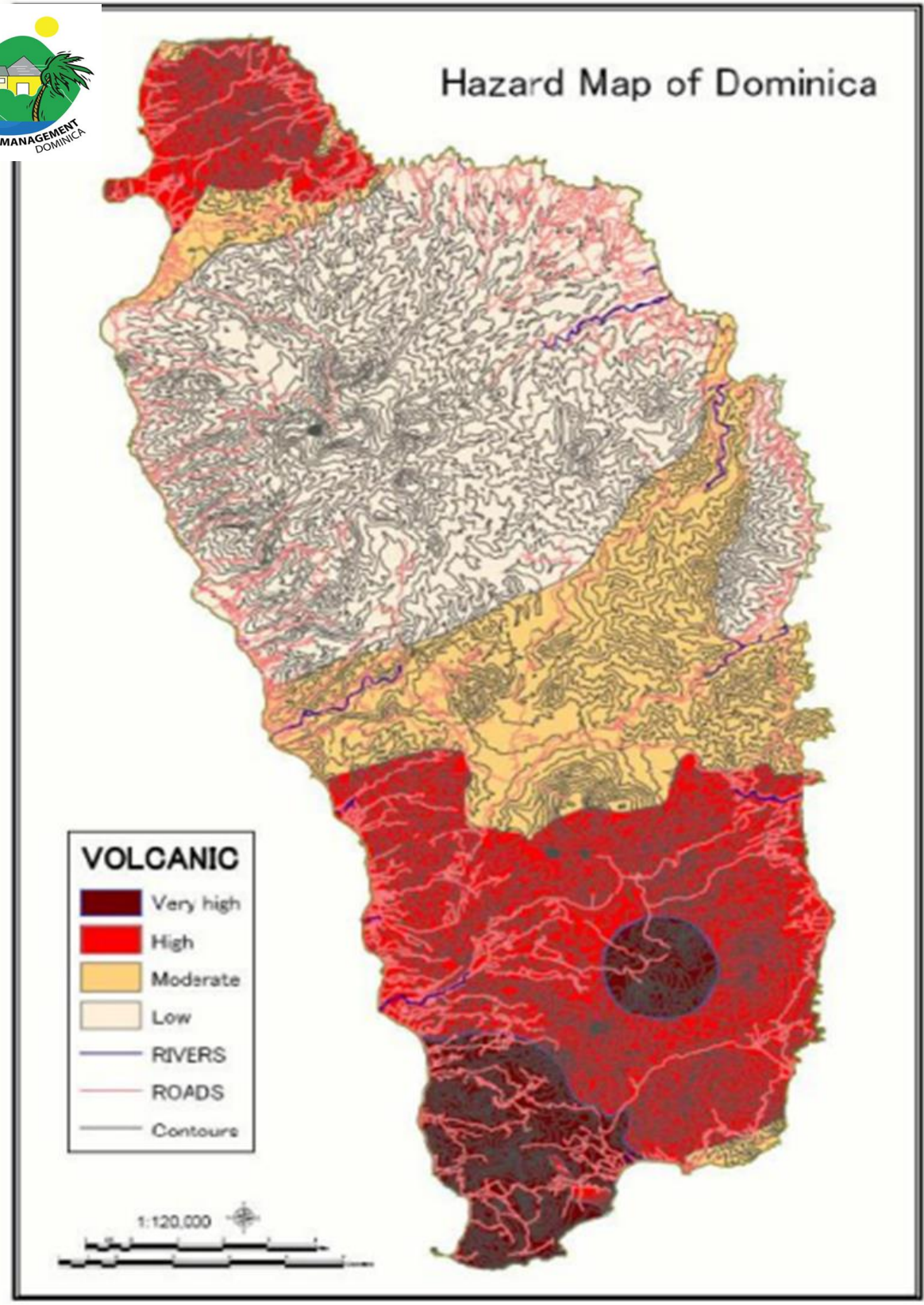


Volcano safety

- KNOW THE HAZARDS – Volcanic Gas, Ash Fall, Pyroclastic Flow (mixture of hot gas/ash/rock fragments), Earthquake; Tsunami
- **KNOW WHAT ZONE YOU LIVE OR WORK IN**
- HAVE AN EVACUATION PLAN THAT INCLUDES EXTENDED STAY AWAY FROM HOME OR OFF ISLAND ARRANGEMENT



Volcanic Hazard Map



Landslide safety

LANDSLIDE HAZARD

Landslides such as rock falls and mudslides are more frequent during times of heavy rainfall.



Some areas that are generally prone to landslide hazards include:

- On or at the base of slopes or steep hills
- Under cliffs
- Existing old landslide areas
- At the base or top of a steep cut slope or hill.



BE ALERT

- IF YOU LIVE OR WORK IN A LANDSLIDE PRONE AREA DURING HEAVY RAINFALL

WHEN DRIVING

- LOOKOUT FOR FALLEN ROCKS OR COLLAPSED ROADWAYS

www.odm.gov.dm
448-7777 / 611-4412



Landslide



Landslide Triggers

- ***Heavy rainfall on steep slopes***
- ***Saturated ground that was previously dry***
- ***Strong shaking from earthquakes***
- ***Human activity (excavation, construction)***



Landslide safety tips



DURING HEAVY RAIN EVENTS

- ***STAY ALERT...STAY AWAKE ...Many people die from landslides when they are sleeping***
- ***Listen for unusual sounds like trees cracking***
- ***Boulders knocking together***
- ***Evacuate early***



Safe Practices

- ***Plant ground cover on slopes***
- ***Build retaining walls***
- ***Build channels to direct water flow around buildings***





DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR EMERGENCY SHELTER IS LOCATED?

Contact the
**OFFICE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT
(ODM)**
for your Emergency Shelter information

(767) 448 - 7777 / 611 – 4412

Website: www.odm.gov.dm

Email: odm@dominica.gov.dm

facebook.com/ODMDominica1

BE PREPARED. BE SAFE.



BE PREPARED. BE SAFE.



THANK YOU

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