

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROJECT

“Building Resilience to Natural Hazards one Community at a Time”

“The All-Five Parishes Project”

HOPE NEVIS INCORPORATED **PROGRESS AND TECHNICAL REPORT**

Reporting Period: 11 March to 20 April 2013
(corresponding to disbursement no. 1)

Introduction & Executive Summary

On 22nd December 2012, HOPE Nevis Incorporated was named one of the fourteen (14) recipients of the Organization of American States (OAS) "Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project" small grants. The Project title submitted by HOPE Nevis was "Building Community Resilience to Natural Hazards one Community at a Time" and is a Project that seeks to develop a coordinated and more efficient approach to reducing disaster risk on the island of Nevis.

The OAS sponsored, HOPE Nevis Sustainable Communities Project was officially launched on 11th March 2013 at a Press Conference and Official Launching Ceremony held at the Llewellyn Newton Disaster Management Facility on Long Point Road in Nevis. Present were the Government Permanent Secretaries, Directors and other Government Heads of Departments, the OAS Representative to St. Kitts & Nevis and the Premier of Nevis who officially declared the Project open.

Following the opening ceremony, members of the Press as well as others present were given the opportunity to interact with members of the Head Table and Project Management Team. This was done so as to provide an opportunity for greater information sharing pertaining to the Project, and also provided an opportunity for interviews. Immediately following this activity, there was a Stakeholders meeting which finalized plans for the first day of the Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Workshops scheduled for the St. Thomas' Parish.

To date, there have been a total of three (3) CERT Training Workshops successfully concluded as a part of this Project, namely in the St. Thomas', St. Paul's's and St. John's's Parishes. These Workshops have seen a total forty nine (49) persons been trained in the various areas as outlined in the Project submission. The largest numbers of attendees to date were in the St. John's's Parish workshop. Some sixteen (16) participants have also successfully completed the Red Cross CPR and First Aid Certification Examinations following the above mentioned CERT Training Workshops. It is important to note as well, that after these Workshops, Team Leaders were elected to head the CERT Committees for each Parish and that work has begun to formulate the respective disaster evacuation plans for those Parishes.

Work on other aspects of the Project which were initially intended to commence during the reporting period, had to be rescheduled due to a number of setbacks and contingencies. All such matters have been addressed by the Project Management Team and are reflected in the updated Work Plan included in this report. This updated Work Plan reflects a two-week extension as a result of these setbacks. HOPE Nevis is confident that as far as practicable, the Project will be completed within this new timeframe.

[Spanish Translation]

El 22 de diciembre de 2012, HOPE Nevis Incorporated fue nombrada una de los catorce (14) Los destinatarios de la Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA) "Comunidades Sostenibles en América Central y el Caribe Proyecto" pequeñas subvenciones. El título del proyecto presentado por Nieves esperanza era "Construyendo resiliencia comunitaria a los peligros naturales una comunidad a la vez" y es un proyecto que busca desarrollar un enfoque coordinado y eficaz para la reducción del riesgo de desastres en la isla de Nevis.

El patrocinado por la OEA, ESPERANZA Nevis proyecto Comunidades Sostenibles fue lanzado oficialmente el 11 de marzo 2013 en una conferencia de prensa y la ceremonia de lanzamiento oficial tuvo lugar en el Fondo para la Gestión de Desastres Newton Llewellyn en Point largo camino en Nevis. Estuvieron presentes los Secretarios Permanentes de Gobierno, Directores y demás jefes de gobierno de los departamentos, el representante de la OEA a St. Kitts & Nevis y el Primer Ministro de Nevis que declararon oficialmente el proyecto abierto.

Después de la ceremonia de apertura, los miembros de la prensa, así como otros presentes tuvieron la oportunidad de interactuar con los miembros de la Mesa Directiva y el Equipo de Gestión de Proyectos. Esto se hizo con el fin de proporcionar una oportunidad para un mayor intercambio de información relacionada con el proyecto, y también una oportunidad para las entrevistas. Inmediatamente después de esta actividad, hubo una reunión de partes interesadas que finalizó los planes para el primer día del Equipo de Respuesta de Emergencia Certificado (CERT) Talleres de capacitación programadas para el St. Thomas" Parish.

Hasta la fecha, se han realizado un total de tres (3) CERT Escuelas Taller concluyeron con éxito como parte de este proyecto, es decir, en el St. Thomas", St. Paul's y de las parroquias de St. John. Estos talleres han visto un total de cuarenta y nueve (49) Las personas que han formado en las distintas áreas según se indica en la presentación del proyecto. El mayor número de asistentes hasta la fecha estaban en el taller de la Parroquia de St. John. Algunos dieciséis (16) de los participantes también han completado con éxito la Cruz Roja CPR y los exámenes de certificación de primeros auxilios después de los talleres de capacitación del CERT mencionados. Es importante tener en cuenta también, que después de estos talleres, jefes de equipo fueron elegidos para dirigir los Comités del CERT para cada parroquia y que el trabajo ha comenzado a formular los respectivos planes de evacuación por desastre para las parroquias.

El trabajo sobre otros aspectos del proyecto que se pretende inicialmente para comenzar durante el período del informe, tuvo que ser reprogramado debido a una serie de contratiempos e imprevistos. Todas estas cuestiones han sido abordadas por el equipo de gestión del proyecto y se reflejan en el plan de trabajo actualizado se incluye en el presente informe. Este Plan de Trabajo actualizado refleja una extensión de dos semanas como consecuencia de estos reveses. HOPE Nieves confía en que en la medida de lo posible, el proyecto se completará dentro de este nuevo plazo.

Project Outline

Title: "Building Resilience to Natural Hazards one Community at a Time"

Tag: "The All-Five Parishes Project – Bringing Disaster Risk Management Skills Right to You"

The Project targets one community in each of the island's five parishes and aims to build community resilience to drought, flooding and other natural hazards. It also seeks to bring about the implementation of sustainable preventative practices to safe guard the communities from hazards. The aim is to equip local persons with the knowledge and technical skills to prepare, respond to and minimize the fallout from natural and human induced hazards.

It is expected that at least one hundred (100) persons will be trained in the first instance. Two community centers will be retrofitted with hurricane shutters and three emergency shelters will have their water storage capacity increased by 100%. In the event of a natural disaster it is expected that a cadre of trained community members will be able to utilize their training to mobilize the community to safety.

This Project will act as a reference point for future Projects for the island of Nevis such as; the Nevis Arterial Drainage Master Plan and the Hamilton to Bath Ghaut Rehabilitation Projects.

Project Goals & Objectives:

Goal #1 To Enhance Disaster Risk Management in Communities on the island of Nevis

Objective 1.1 To bolster the self sufficiency through the establishment of community response teams by improving the preparedness of communities to respond to disasters affecting their locality.

Objective 1.2 To increase the capacity of residents to recognize hazards or risks associated with climate change and human induced or natural disasters.

Goal #2 To improve the communication strategy in Community Disaster Risk Management

Objective 2.1 To establish a community mechanism that establishes procedures for mobilization of teams, standardization of messages and dissemination of information.

Objective 2.2 To disseminate multi-media materials to increase awareness of the dangers posed to the environment, biodiversity and livelihoods as a result of illegal dumping of refuse and sand mining

Objective 2.3 Develop multi-media resource materials to support/reinforce the communication in communities.

Project Activities

1. Capacity Building:

This component incorporates a variety of activities and skills sets to enhance the knowledge base and competencies of community members. These volunteers in the communities play an extremely important role in reducing the death, injury, and damage in the period immediately after a disaster. They bring a wide variety of skills and experience to the task, and through teamwork can help build a vital network that links all parts of the disaster area. Capacity building in communities also compliments the deployment of scarce resources from Governments and or Disaster management.

2. Hazard Awareness:

This campaign will entail developing a series of signs and public service announcements to address the issues of littering, illegal dumping and sand mining. The aim is to educate the community by recruiting champions that would integrate appropriate action leading to proper disposal solutions. Attention will be given to all hazards with special emphasis on those that affect their locality. The heightened awareness of the impacts of littering, illegal dumping and sand mining will alert residents. The training will demonstrate the connection between individual actions and their impacts on the environment and ultimately their livelihoods.

Expected Project Outcome:

- Enhanced preparedness and improve response capacity at local level management.
- Increased community awareness and knowledge on disaster management and climate change adaptation procedures.
- Improve coordination and collaboration among community disaster organizations and the parent disaster management agency.
- Bolster community mobilization techniques through simulation exercises to ensure participation of all stakeholders affected by climate change. This includes female headed households, youths, indigent, unemployed, physically disabled, hearing and visually impaired, mentally challenged.

Major Outputs:

- Implement a plan of action on climate change and disaster risk reduction in each parish.
- A community-based disaster management planning programme incorporating climate change and disaster risk reduction programme.
- A minimum of twenty (20) persons from each parish trained in radio communications, first aid and CPR, and search and rescues.
- Strengthen the Disaster Management Sub Committees and Operational Units for enhanced response.
- Publish a series of PSAs through local media outlets.

CERT Training Workshop Areas of Focus:

- First Aid & CPR
- Fire Safety
- Light Search & Rescue
- Emergency Shelter Management
- Vector Control
- The Dangers of Sand Mining
- Gender Issues

CERT Training Workshop Schedule:

Parish	Date & Time	Venue
St. Thomas' (Lowlands)	11 th – 19 th March, 2013	Jessups Community Centre
St. Paul's (Charlestown)	25 th March – 5 th April, 2013	Charlestown Primary School
St. John's (Fig Tree)	8 th – 16 th April, 2013	Ivor Walters Primary School
St. George (Gingerland)	22 nd – 30 th April, 2013	Gingerland Secondary School
St. James (Windward)	7 th – 15 th May, 2013	Franklyn Brown Community Ctr.

UPDATED Work Plan: Activities Tasks Successfully Completed

Week 1 24 Feb to 02 Mar, 2013	Week 2 03 Mar to 09 Mar, 2013	Week 3 10 Mar to 16 Mar, 2013	Week 4 17 Mar to 23 Mar, 2013
Project Management Team Meeting Stakeholders' Meeting Prepare PSA (Audio, Visual, Print) Onsite Visits to Centers/Shelters Prepare Training Materials & Manuals	Project Management Team Meeting CERT Facilitators' Meeting Interview with Nevis News Cast Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Advertise - Print and Online Media Community Walk-through, St. Thomas' Prepare & Print Documents & Manuals	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Office Launch/Opening Ceremony Project Management Team Meeting CERT Workshop, St. Thomas'	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting Conclude CERT, St. Thomas' Establish Committee Leader/Teams Community Walk-through, St. Paul's Workshop Evaluations - St. Thomas'
Week 5 24 Mar to 30 Mar, 2013	Week 6 31 Mar to 06 Apr, 2013	Week 7 07 Apr to 13 Apr, 2013	Week 8 14 Apr to 20 Apr, 2013
Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting CERT Workshop, St. Paul's	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting Conclude CERT, St. Paul's Establish Committee Leader/Teams Community Walk-through, St. Paul's Workshop Evaluations - St. Paul's Monitoring: Assessment of Project	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting CERT Workshop, St. John's	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting Conclude CERT, St. John's Establish Committee Leader/Teams Community Walk-through, St. George Workshop Evaluations - St. John's Onsite Visits to Centers/Shelters Red Cross Certification: St. John's Project Reporting

UPDATED Work Plan: Schedule of Activities/Tasks for Upcoming Reporting Period

Week 9 21 Apr to 27 Apr, 2013	Week 10 28 Apr to 04 May, 2013	Week 11 05 May to 11 May, 2013	Week 12 12 May to 18 May, 2013
Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting CERT Workshop, St. George Retrofitting SHUTTERS: Jessups Retrofitting DOWNSPOUTS: Jessups Install Water Storage Tank: Fountain	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting Conclude CERT, St. George Establish Committee Leader/Teams Community Walk-through, St. James Workshop Evaluations - St. George Retrofitting SHUTTERS: Jessups Retrofitting DOWNSPOUTS: Fountain Red Cross Certification: St. George Signage: Paradise, Pinney's, Gallows	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting CERT Workshop, St. James Monitoring: Assessment of Project Retrofitting SHUTTERS: Fountain Install Water Storage Tank: Fountain Signage: Cane, Green, Garlin, Indian Castle Install Water Storage Tank: Fountain	Air PSA (Radio, TV, Social Media) Project Management Team Meeting Conclude CERT, St. James Establish Committee Leader/Teams Workshop Evaluations - St. James Retrofitting SHUTTERS: Fountain Red Cross Certification: St. James Signage: Black, White, Huggins, Lovers Monitoring: Assessment of Project
Week 13 19 May to 25 May, 2013	Week 14 26 May to 01 Jun, 2013		
Project Management Team Meeting Committee Implementation Workshop CERT Practice Simulation Exercise Complete ALL Outstanding Works	Project Management Team Meeting CERT Practical Simulation Exercise Red Cross Certification: St. James Project Reporting		

Official Launch/Opening Ceremony

The official Launch & Opening Ceremony for the OAS Sponsored, HOPE Nevis “Building Resilience to Natural Hazards One Community at a Time” Sustainable Communities Project was held on 11th March 2013, at the Llewellyn Newton Disaster Management Facility on Long Point Road. The ceremony chaired by Mr. Kyle Alex Weeks, Chairman of the Board of Directors of HOPE Nevis Incorporated. At the head table with Mr. Weeks were the Deputy Chairperson and Public Relations Officer of HOPE Nevis, Ms. Jahnel Nisbett; Projects Officer for the Nevis Disaster Management Department (NDMD), Mr. Brian Dyer; the OAS Representative to St. Kitts & Nevis, Mr. Starret Greene; and the Premier of Nevis, Honorable Vance W. Amory. There was also a relatively large contingent of stakeholders and media present.

An introduction and overview of HOPE Nevis was given by Mr. Weeks during his opening remarks, while Ms. Nisbett was tasked with the responsibility of giving a general overview and description of the Project being undertaken. Mr. Dyer thereafter, went into details about the CERT Training Workshops and the benefits to the wider community. The featured speaker for the event was Mr. Greene who took an almost surgical approach to outlining the OAS Sustainable Communities Project within the framework of the Energy & Climate Partnership of the Americas. The Project was officially declared open by the Premier of Nevis, Hon. Vance Amory who in his brief remarks, indicated and pledged his government’s full support and backing of the Project and also gave commendations to HOPE Nevis, NDMD and Department of Physical Planning Natural Resource & Environment (DPPNRE) for having submitted and receiving funding for such a timely and well needed Project.

The pictures below are of the Opening Ceremony held on 11 March, 2013.



Opening Ceremony, Head Table



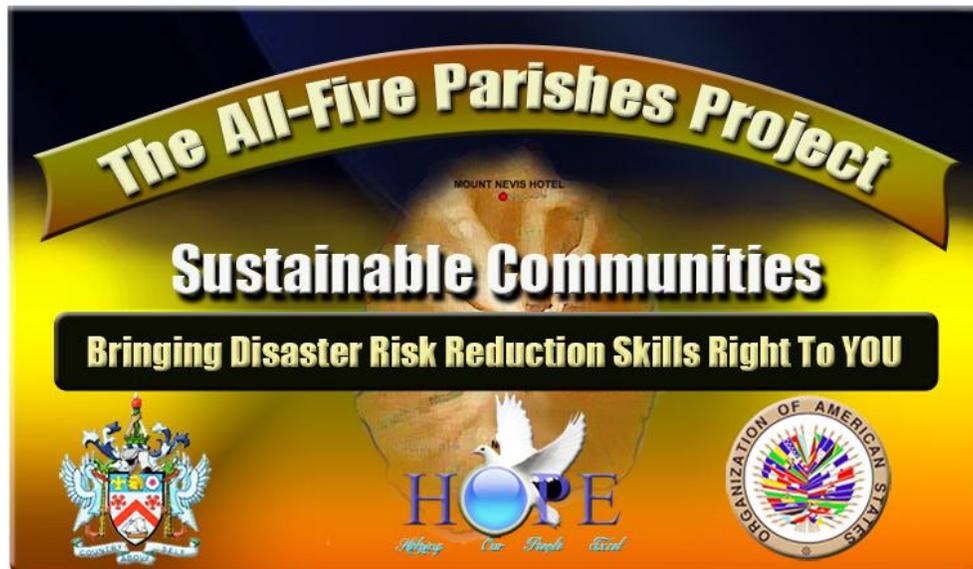
Project Management Team with OAS Representative

Activity 1: Implement a Mass Media Campaign & Sensitization of the Project in St. Thomas', St. Paul's and St. John's Parishes

In an effort to promote the Sustainable Communities Project, HOPE Nevis Incorporated, NDMD and DPPNRE embarked upon a mass media promotion and sensitization campaign. This campaign was designed to provide the entire island of Nevis, and St. Kitts to a lesser extent, with information related to disaster risk management. As such, a number of activities were undertaken during the period under review.

In order to make the Project appealing to residents and the general public at large, the Project Management Team decided to use a shorter catchphrase that would remain in the minds of those who heard it, and that would peak their interest. The tags "The All-Five Parishes Project" and "Bringing Disaster Risk Reduction Skills Right to You" were felt to be most suitable to capture the essence of the Project.

As a result of this decision, a backdrop image was designed to capture the above information. This backdrop would be used throughout the life of the Project. It was circulated to the general public via Social applications such as Blackberry Messenger and Whatsapp, and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The backdrop was also used during the Launching Ceremony, in the PowerPoint presentations during the CERT Training Workshops, and on the cover of the Training Manuals which were prepared for each CERT Committee.



Backdrop Image: "The All-Five Parishes Project"

Interviews & News Articles

The Chairman of HOPE Nevis, Mr. Kyle Alex Weeks along with two other members of the Project Management Team namely Mr. Brian Dyer – Project Officer and Mr. Jacob Ngumbah – Communications Officer, visited the studios of Nevis Television Channel 8 to participate in an interview which was aired during the local News. This interview formed part of a strategic approach to bringing about awareness of HOPE Nevis, its partnership with NDMD and DPPNRE, the small grants Project of the OAS, and the Project itself that HOPE Nevis has embarked upon.

During this session, the Mr. Weeks provided the general public with an overview of the Project and its origins. Mr. Dyer highlighted the importance of the CERT training, and made an appeal for full participation of the general public while Mr. Ngumbah gave an overview of the collaborative process among the various stakeholders of the Project. A section of the interview was featured on the evening's news, while the interview in its entirety was aired later that week. An extract from the Nevis Newscast can be viewed by clicking on [this link](#).

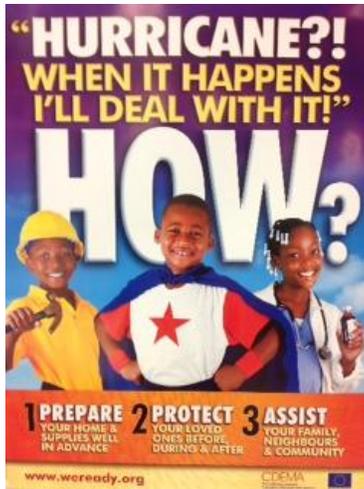
While at the Studios of NTV, another interview was conducted with Paula Warner, who wrote a story about the organization and the Project being undertaken. This story was posted on the Government Information Systems website, the official Nevis Island Administration website, the official website of the Nevis Disaster Management Department, and was also shared with other local media houses in the Federation. This article can be found at [this link](#). There were also several other articles written concerning this Project in a number of local print and online media. These articles can be viewed online by clicking the following links:

- [Residents complete CERT training](#)
- [OAS Launches Building Resilience to Natural Hazards Project in Nevis](#)
- [Building Resilience to Natural Hazards, one Community at a Time](#)
- [Community level preparation best for mitigating effects of natural disasters, says OAS Rep](#)
- [Disaster risk management important to all, says Nevis Premier](#)
- [Over 100 Nevisians to be certified community emergency response team](#)
- [Nevis communities get disaster mitigation training](#)
- [Two green Projects in Nevis and St. Kitts get OAS/US assistance](#)
- [Green Projects in Belize, Grenada and St Kitts and Nevis Get OAS Grants](#)

Community Walk-through's were also a critical component of the promotion and sensitization campaign for this Sustainable Communities' Project. In the week prior to each CERT Training Workshop, members of the Project Management Team and HOPE Nevis Incorporated walked throughout the major villages of each parish and distributed information cards and other general information to residents of those communities. The information cards specified the date, time and venue for the upcoming CERT Workshop for the respective parishes, and the pamphlets contained information related to natural hazards and general disaster risk management strategies.



Information Cards used on Community Walk-through



Informational Brochures distributed at CERT Training Workshops & Community Walk-through

This initiative was particularly effective as it allowed for interaction with the community, and gave an opportunity for personal appeals to be made. It also provided an avenue for the residents to relay ideas and concerns related to disaster risk management. Some of the information obtained from these activities allowed the Project Management Team to cater to the needs of the potential participants more effectively, prior to the actual CERT Training Workshop.

Notices were also sent to the various youth and community based organizations such as Schools, Churches, and Sports Clubs inter alia, informing them of the various initiatives and activities of the Project. The participation of their members was solicited in these notices and letters, and they were also invited to attend and benefit from the CERT Training. An appeal was also made for these organizations and groups to become involved in the installation of the shutters and corrugated downspouts when that time came.

Activity 2: Conduct 3 7-day Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Workshops in St. Thomas', St. Paul's and St. John's Parishes

The Workshops were intended to run for a period of five (5) days, Monday to Friday, from 8am until 4pm daily. However after a Stakeholders' Meeting it was agreed that to better reach the targeted audience, the time of the Workshops must be changed. The main rationale behind this decision was that the time initially considered was during normal working and school hours. This would mean that teenagers aged 16years and older would not be able to attend, and that working adults would require too much time off from work in order to participate. As such, the time for the Workshops was changed to 6pm nightly and would run for a 3.5 hour period. The individual Workshops would also have to be extended to a seven (7) day period to ensure all course and training materials would be covered. This change allowed for increase probability of the desired audience attending and participating in the Workshops.

The intended audience for the CERT Training was a minimum of twenty (20) teens and adults of age 16 years and over, both male and female. HOPE Nevis partnered with the Community Development Officers from each of the three (3) parishes to indicate potential participants and for them to benefit from the training as well. Persons were also approached by members of the Project Management Team and members of HOPE Nevis Incorporated during the various Community Walk-through's. Residents were provided with flyers, pamphlets and other general information on the CERT Workshops and invited to be a part of the 7-day sessions. The initial feedback was quite positive however the turnout at the St. Thomas' and St. Paul's Parishes' Workshops were lower than expected. The turnout for the St. John's Parish workshop however, was significantly above that which was anticipated. *(See Statistics on pages 13 – 16).*

The sessions were conducted by a cadre of facilitators highly trained in their respective fields of profession. The following persons facilitated the Workshops:

Name	Organization	Expertise	Position	Tasks
Mr. Kyle Alex Weeks (Vincia Herbert, Jahnel Nisbett, Tineesha Chapman, Daricia Wilkinson)	HOPE Nevis Incorporated	Project Management, Youth and Community Development Initiatives, Information Technology	Chairman – Board of Directors	Perform the lead functions, liaise with OAS, NDMD and all stakeholders, oversee the Project and report to all stakeholders.
Mr. Brian Dyer	Nevis Disaster Management Department	Safety Project Management Air Traffic Control	Project Officer	Presentations: Radio Communication, Disaster Psychology, Disaster Management, Damage Assessment, and Shelter Management
Ms. Claudia Walwyn	Dept. of Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Environment	Social and Environmental Planning	Environmental Officer	Presentations: Sand Mining, Gender Issues,
Mr. Jacob Ngumbah	Nevis Disaster Management Department	Communications Specialist, Project Management	Communications Officer	Presentations: Elements & Levels of Communication, Dynamic Team Building, Personality Difference in Team Building.
Mr. Abdias Samuel	St. Kitts Nevis Fire Services	HAZMAT, Fire Safety, Search and Rescue, First Aid and CPR	Fire Sub Officer	Instructor for Search and Rescue. Fire Safety, and CBNRE
Mr. Timothy Martin	St. Kitts Nevis Fire Services	HAZMAT, Fire Safety, Search and Rescue, First Aid and CPR	Fire Sub Officer	Presenter: Fire Safety and Search & Rescue
Ms. Roxanne Brookes	St. Kitts Nevis Red Cross Society	First Aid, CPR, Disaster Management, EMT	Nurse	Presentations: First Aid and CPR, CDRT

Facilitators were aided by use of a laptop, LDC Projector and screen, and a PA system. The use of this equipment served to further enhance the overall effectiveness of the presentations and to help keep the interest of the participants.

The table below lists the participants of who successfully completed the CERT Training Workshops.

Names of Graduates - CERT Training Workshops (by Parish)			
	St. Thomas'	St. Paul's	St. John's
1	Kamali Warner	Joshua S. Richards	Gwenneth Browne
2	Clara Smithen	Spencer Brand	Gracelyn Hanley
3	Leander Cornelius	Paul Challenger	Gerard Charles
4	Abisola Abiola	S. Patricia Claxton	Tineesha Chapman
5	Latoya Blair McPherson	Allison Smith	Malva Rawlins
6	Lydia Claxton	O'Larry Lescott	Alicia "Lisa" Brown
7	Elvis Hamilton	Othniel Daly	Alister Thompson
8	Lavorn A. Lawrence	Doval Drew	Lester A.J. Liburd
9	Daricia Wilkinson	Ian Fraser	Cherry-Anne Walwyn
10	Alexa Lawrence	Elbert Bergan Sr.	Gavron Woolward
11	Eren Hanley	Alkin Huggins	Naomi Byron
12	Charles Parris	Eugene Weekes	Alicia Freeman
13	Patricia Chambers	Elbert Bergan Jr.	Tasha Parry
14			Nalisa Williams
15			Nelita Williams
16			Pearl Bartlette
17			Rose Williams
18			Maurice Stapleton
19			Geran Browne
20			Cherissa Audain
21			Orvis Tyson
22			Didier Rohan
23			Robehna Wilkinson

Graduates of CERT Training Workshops: St. Thomas, St. Paul, and St. John

At the end of each Workshop, there was an official Graduation & Closing Ceremony to commemorate the occasion; all participants who successful completed the workshop received a Certificate of Completion.

There were twelve (12) other participants who did not complete the training program. These persons were encouraged to attend the CERT Workshops in another parish to complete the required number of training hours.



Participation Certificate template

Team Leaders were also selected from the participants in each parish. These Team Leaders were then charged with the responsibility of ensuring that their respective groups met to discuss the composition of the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) including structure and roles of positions that would be available. Following are the names of the Team Leaders elected for each of the three (3) parishes:

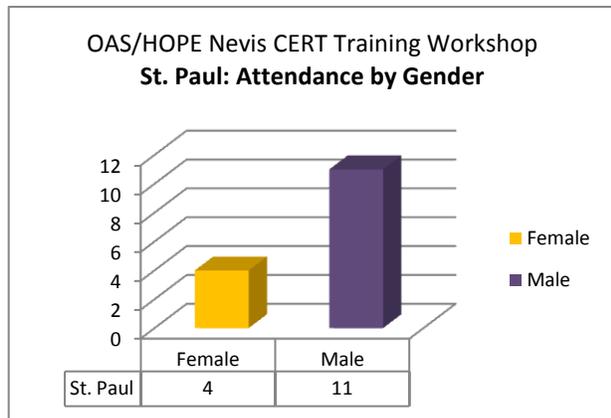
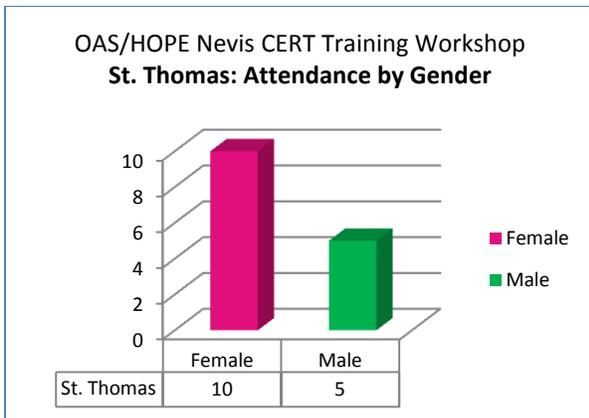
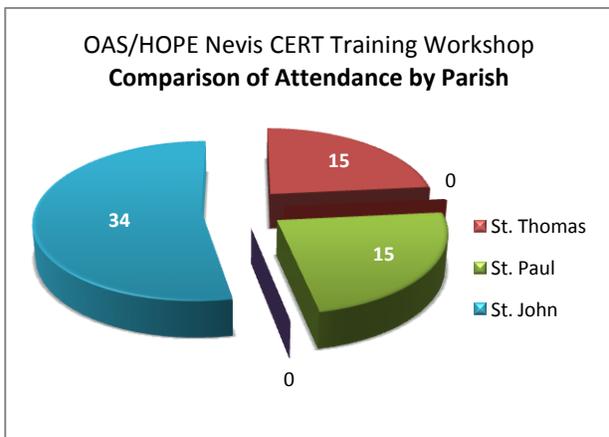
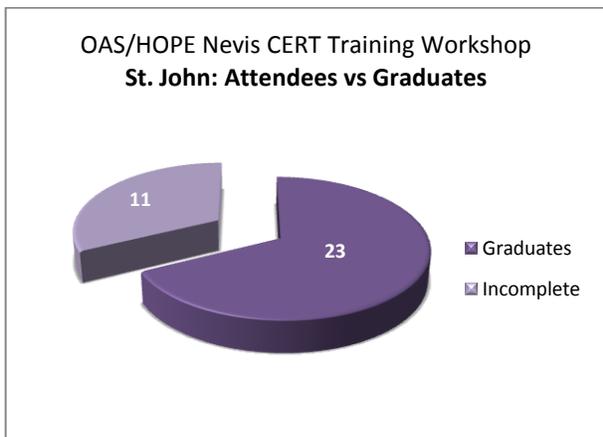
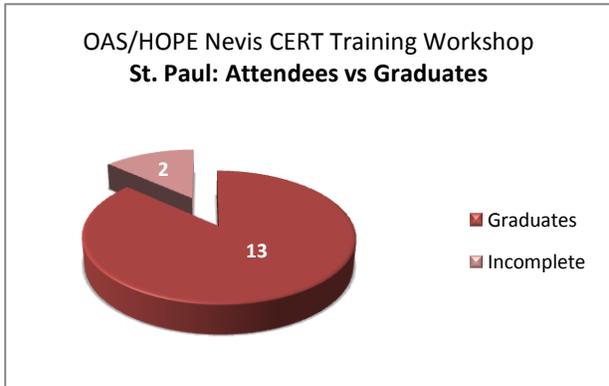
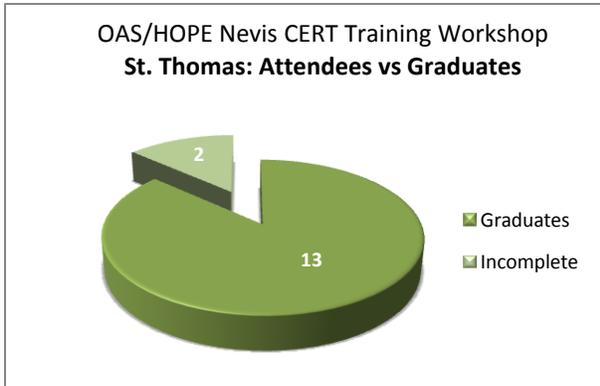
St. Thomas' Parish	-	Mr. Elvis Hamilton
St. Paul's Parish	-	Mr. Elbert Bergan
St. John's Parish	-	Mr. Alister Thompson

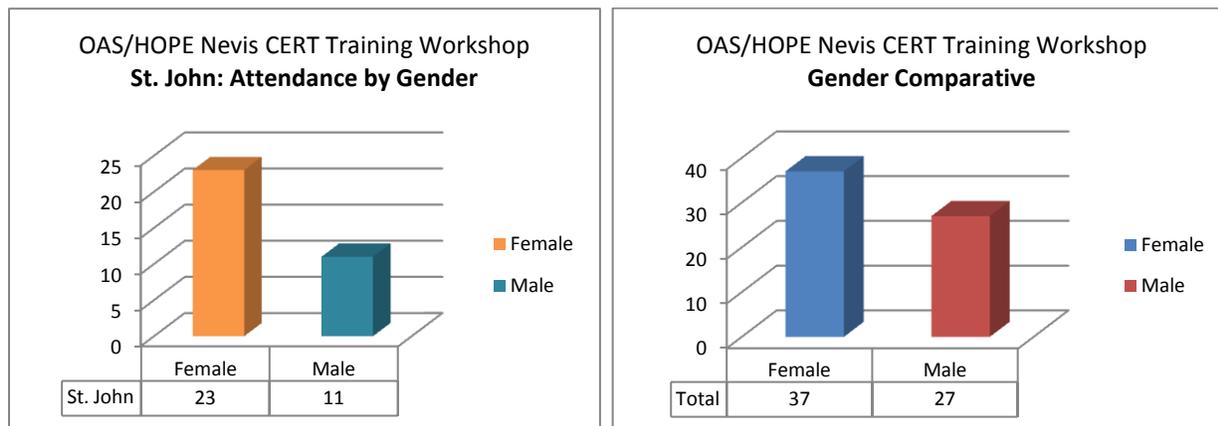
Once that team has been selected, it should then begin to look at formulating an emergency evacuation plan for its parish. This information would be shared with the Project Management Team and the NDMD who will help to guide the process and give general oversight where necessary until a final plan is approved. These plans would also be looked at in greater detail at the CERT Implementation Workshop scheduled for week 13 of the Project.

The St. Thomas' Parish saw a total of fifteen (15) persons being trained with thirteen (13) completing the course and graduating. Of this number, ten (10) were females and the remaining five (5), males. The St. Paul's Parish CERT Training Workshop also saw a total of fifteen (15) persons attending; four (4) females and eleven (11) males. Just as with the St. Thomas' Parish, thirteen (13) of those persons completed the training and graduated. There was a significant increase in numbers for the St. John's Parish workshop which saw a total of thirty four (34) persons receiving CERT training with twenty three (23) graduating. Of this number, twenty three (23) participants were female, and eleven (11) of male. At the end of the three (3) Workshops, a total of sixty four (64) persons would have received training with forty nine (49) graduates.

The above statistics indicate that the project goals are being achieved in that there was a greater level of participation from women. This suggests that more women are being empowered to reduce their vulnerabilities to hazards and to implement risk reduction strategies at the community level.

The charts below illustrate the above mentioned statistics.





For the period under review, there was one Red Cross CPR & First Aid Certification Examination. This was for the participants of the St. Thomas' and St. Paul's Parishes. These two groups were combined for this examination due to the small number of persons graduating from those parishes. Sixteen (16) persons in total were able to sit this examination. The other participants were unable to undertake this examination due to work and other personal commitments. However, an invitation has been extended to those persons to sit the exam with the participants from the St. John's Parish on 2nd May 2013.

Due to the changes made with regards to the timing of the Workshops, there was no longer a need to cater for lunch for the participants and facilitators. However, snack boxes and water were still provided to all who attended. Various individuals and small businesses throughout the respective parish communities were asked to cater snack boxes. This allowed for greater involvement from the small business sector of the communities, and also provided an avenue to help contribute to the development of small businesses on the island.

Two Practical Simulation Exercises have been scheduled for week 13 and 14 of the Project. These exercises are geared towards enhancing the overall learning experience and to reinforce the training received in Standard First Aid, Firefighting and Light Search and Rescue. In this regard, an invitation has been sent to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Coordinating Unit, for technical assistance for evaluations of these simulations exercises. It is hoped that a favorable response would be obtained from CDEMA shortly.

Activity 3: Air Public Service Announcements (PSA's) Island Wide & Compile Audio and Video Productions of CERT Training

A number of Public Service Announcements (PSA's) were also created and aired via all media outlets in St. Kitts & Nevis, in both audio and visual formats. There was one general PSA which gave an introduction to HOPE Nevis, the Project and information related the CERT Training Workshops. There were also three (3) PSA's created; one for each parish, which served to inform residents of the upcoming CERT Training Workshops in the St. Thomas', St. John's and St. Paul's Parishes respectively. Scripts for all PSAs were created by Mr. Jacob Ngumbah and Ms. Claudia Walwyn of the Project Management Team and were done with the assistance and participation of a number of stakeholders, community development officers, and members of HOPE Nevis Incorporated.

The General Promotion runs several times daily throughout the life of the Project, while the other three (3) PSAs were aired in the week prior and during the CERT Training Workshops for the respective parishes. These PSAs can be viewed by clicking on the links below:

- [Sustainable Communities – The All-Five Parishes Project](#)
- [HOPE Nevis CERT Training – St. Thomas' Parish](#)
- [HOPE Nevis CERT Training – St. Paul's Parish](#)
- [HOPE Nevis CERT Training – St. John's Parish](#)

Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube were also used in an effort to effectively promote the Project and the CERT Training, particularly to the younger population. Videos were uploaded, and shared with Members of HOPE Nevis, who then shared with persons in their contact lists. This proved quite effective in sensitizing the general public of the Project generally and on the dates of the three (3) CERT Training Workshops.

Communications Officer with the Project Management Team, Mr. Jacob Ngumbah and his assistants from HOPE Nevis were present during the CERT Training Workshops for the purpose of recoding the sessions. Work has already started in terms of compiling and editing the video feeds into a single DVD Production which would be used for future training. Due to the volume of work required for this particular activity, it is not possible for this activity to be completed within the Project timeframe. As such, work will continue throughout the life of the Project until completion shortly thereafter. Copies would also be made available to each CERT Committee in the five (5) parishes.

It is important to note that there were equipment malfunctions with the lone camera used for audio visual production and Project documentation. This resulted in unanticipated expenses for replacement parts and significant increases in man-hours allotted to editing. The replacement parts however, failed to rectify the hardware malfunction and as such, a replacement camera had to be sourced. In the interim, a camera from the Government Information Services was used to facilitate the audio visual capture and editing processes.

Activity 4: Retrofit Community Shelters with Down Spouting & Shutters through Active Community Involvement and with Participation of the Public Works Department (NIA)

During week 3, members of the Project Management Team, accompanied by Mr. Marvin Hanley, Engineering Inspector of DPPNRE made a second on-site visit to the Emergency Shelters which were going to be affected by the Project. During this visit, it was observed and confirmed that the Hanley's Road Community Centre facility has already been outfitted with impact-resistant windows. Corrugated down spouts were not necessary for that building as the runoff from the building is channeled into a drainage field or soak-away.

Armed with this information, the Team made the decision to include another emergency shelter into the Project, namely the Barnes Ghaut Community Center. This facility is already equipped with down spouts but at present, has no water catchment facility. As such, the decision was taken to purchase a water storage tank to correct this issue. Installation work for this activity has been scheduled for week 9. There were no other issues indentified during the on-site visits to the other emergency shelters.

Retrofitting and signage works were originally scheduled to commence during week 5 and completed in week 12. Requests for quotations were sent to a number of local businesses so as to ascertain and guide the process of getting these works done. To date however, and despite best efforts only one quotation has been received for the shutters, one the downspouts and one for signage. This has caused continued delays to the scheduled work plan for the retrofitting work. With respect to the signage, the foreman of Carpentry Division of the Public Works Department informed that it would be difficult to accommodate additional tasks into their work program at this time. This, he said, was based on the volume of work required to complete the signs by the Project completion date.

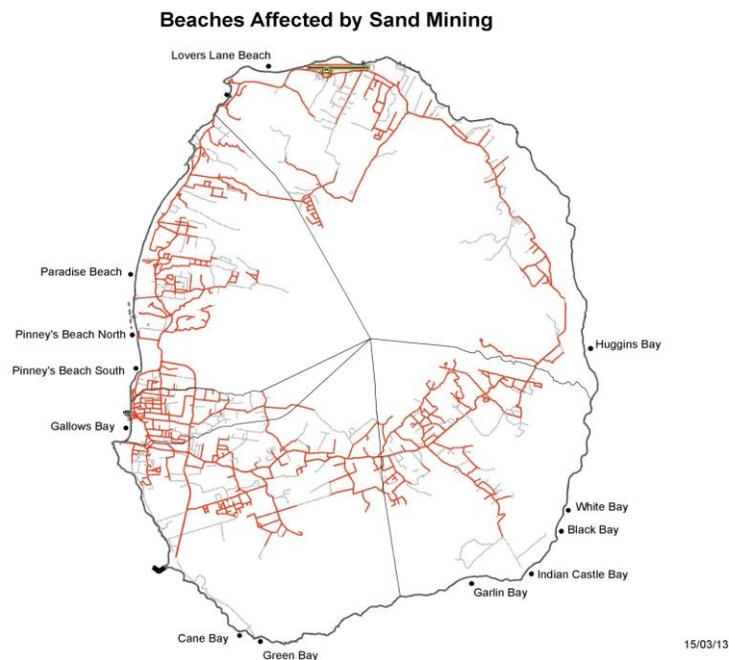
As a result of the above factors and in an effort to ensure that the scope of work is completed within the overall timeframe of the Project, the Project Management Team took the decision to proceed with the contractors/businesses from which quotations were received. To this end, the Work Plan has been updated to reflect the necessary changes. *(Please refer to page 4).*

Activity 5: Install VHF Radio in Emergency Shelter

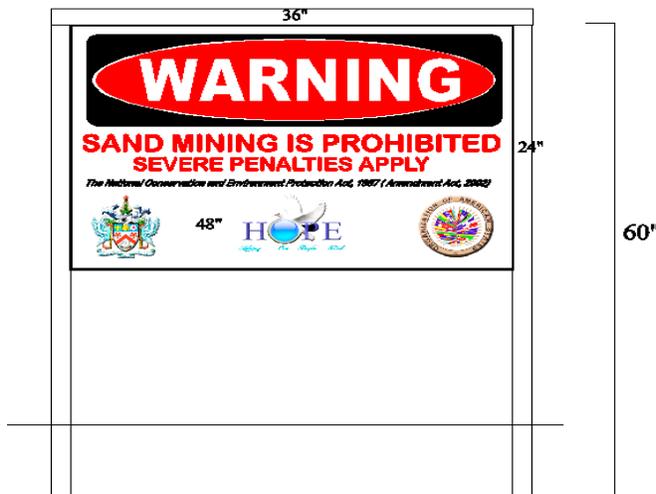
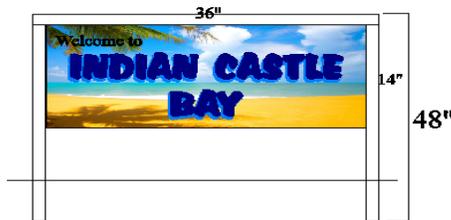
Work in this area has not been completed due to the absence of the required number of quotations. The Project Management Team has since rescheduled this activity for week 12.

Activity 6: Erect Signage on Beaches

During an on-site visit in week 1 to the beaches originally intended to benefit from this Project, it was observed just how critical the situation is with regards to illegal sand mining. After discussions with the Project Management Teams, the decision was taken to increase the number of signs to be erected so as to ensure that each beach presently being affected by illegal sand mining, can have a warning sign. The image below outlines the twelve (12) beaches presently severely affected by illegal sand mining. Signs will therefore be increased to twelve (12) from nine (9) to include the beaches that were not previously taken into consideration.



This activity was originally scheduled to commence during week 3, however due to the absence of the required number of quotations, works in this area had to be postponed. Works in this area has since been rescheduled to week 9. This will give adequate time for the increase number of signs to be prepared and erected. Each beach will have a “Welcome to...” sign as well as a “Warning! Sand Mining Is Prohibited” sign. Each sign will bear the logo of the OAS, HOPE Nevis and the Nevis Island Administration (NIA). (See sign sample on page 17).



Signs to be erected



Effects of Sand Mining

The manufacturer of the signs has already begun work in preparing signs for erection during week 9. Members of HOPE Nevis, participants of the CERT Training Workshops and community members alike will assist with the erection of the signs on all twelve (12) beaches presently being affected.

Summary of Major Challenges

There were three major challenges faced during the period under review:

- In order to better accommodate the availability of participants, changes had to be made to the original schedule for the CERT Training Workshops. This proved particularly challenging due to the fact that revised schedules had to be created based on the availability of facilitators outside of normal working hours. This also meant that the Project Management Team would be required to function longer hours to ensure the overall successful execution to the CERT Training Workshops. Transportation would also have to be provided for those participants not living within close proximity to the respective venues. This was due to the unavailability and unreliability of public transportation at nights.

- During the first phase of the Project, the Team experienced difficulties in obtaining the requisite three (3) quotations for the cost of the shutters and for the design and production of the signs for the beaches. Numerous attempts were made via telephone, email and personal visits to obtain quotes from local contractors but to no avail. The Project Management Team took the decision to commence the work on the shutters and signs with the quotes that were received. This was done in an effort to ensure that the Project is completed within the stipulated timeline.
- Equipment failure with the lone camera used for audio visual production and Project documentation was also a major challenge faced during the reporting period. This resulted in unanticipated expenses for replacement parts and significant increases in man-hours allotted to editing.

Lessons Learned

- The needs assessment conducted did not take into consideration a possible need for additional audio visual equipment in the event of hardware failure.
- There must be a contingency plan for mass transportation of participants to accommodate for the unavailability and unreliability of public transportation late at night.
- There was a need to invite bids from businesses in the neighboring island of St. Kitts in an effort to fulfill the contractual agreements with respect to the number of quotations needed.
- The successful execution of the first two CERT Training Workshops was a major catalyst for increase in participation of the St. John's workshop.
- Evening workshops prove to be more effective as it guarantees greater participation from a wider cross section of the community.

Next Steps

- Acquire audio visual equipment and software to ensure proper documentation of project
- Proceed with quotations received in order to ensure compliance with project deadlines
- Completion of final two CERT Training Workshops in St. George's and St. James' Parishes.
- Execution of Practical Simulation Exercises to cement what was learnt.
- Follow-up on request for technical assistance from CDEMA Coordinating Unit

Recommendations

- Encourage carpooling among participants to alleviate transportation shortages while encouraging camaraderie within the members of the CERT Committees.
- A separate workshop should be conducted to accommodate the Spanish speaking community on the island. This ensures inclusion of all residents in the Disaster Risk Reduction Program.

Conclusion

The CERT Training Workshops have all been successfully executed with improvements being made from workshop to workshop. This is evident in the increased attendance in the St. John's Parish Workshop and the drive of participants to improve on the performance of previous workshops. In some instances, participants from other parishes have been attending successive Workshop sessions in other parishes. This also speaks to the level of success of the CERT Training Workshop and the enthusiasm and commitment of the participants.

The CERT Training Workshops have attracted the attention of the elderly, impaired and children throughout the island. This can be attributed to the various modes of information dissemination, and the Learning by Interactive Methods being utilized by the facilitators. The CERT Teams already established are working towards crafting the Community Disaster Plans for implementation in the near future. These community plans, upon completion would be annexed to the Nevis Disaster Plan.

Participants are anticipating the Practical Simulation Exercises which will be conducted towards the end of the Project to cement what was learnt. CDEMA has been invited to provide technical assistance for these simulation exercises. However, if they are unable to fulfill this request a formal request will be expedited to the OAS for assistance to fill this void.

Retrofitting works originally intended to commence during this reporting have been rescheduled for the start of the upcoming reporting period. In light of the overall readiness of the Hanley's Road Community Center, another emergency shelter has been identified in its stead to benefit from the Project. This shelter is that of the Barnes Ghaut Community Center which will be outfitted with a water storage tank that would improve the self-sufficiency of this center in the event of a disaster. The fabrication of the shutters for both emergency shelters has started and the signs for the beaches are in the process of being completed.

Despite the difficulties experienced, the Project Management Team remains confident that the Project will be completed within the revised timeframe. Support from all Stakeholders has been overwhelming as demonstrated through the robust partnerships developed over the last eight weeks of the Project. These partnerships will be further strengthened even after project completion.