Proposal for
Online Portal

Disaster Preparedness &
Management Community

Proposal

- Online Portal for Disaster Preparedness
  - using ICT to enhance partnerships between non-governmental organization (NGO) responders and community-based suppliers and agencies
  - Leverage knowledge and capabilities in one Online Community
  - Collaborative disaster preparedness
  - Regional disaster preparedness
  - Common training and knowledge base for disparate teams through online community

Approach

- Office of Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management, Jamaica Portal
- Using Solution and Services from IBM
  - IBM Websphere Portal
  - IBM Sametime
  - IBM Services

IBM

Background

- ## DP and EM – essential and critical

- Jamaica has been affected by seven (7) major events between 2004 and 2010 which have exacted a heavy toll in terms of the loss of lives, damage to physical infrastructure and the economic sector. In fact, during above mentioned period damage and losses amounted to JA$108 billion which has posed a significant challenge for the country.

- ODPEM has various information systems, workflows and processes that are aimed at assisting the organization achieve its mandate – Geographic Information System (GIS), Emergency Shelter Management System, Initial Damage Assessment System and National Emergency Message Handling System.

- Caribbean Community has common requirements and objectives for Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management. Each Disaster Preparedness Organization has a National Mandate.

Needs

- At the community level, dissemination of information to all community stakeholders, local authorities and NGO's on community projects, plans and other initiatives. Currently the ODPEM is not able to use its website to provided interactive and to meaningfully engage its stakeholders at the local level

- The National Response team and other key stakeholders within the disaster risk management framework need to be given a medium to interact with data and tools developed by the ODPEM to assist in decision-making and mount successful responses to adverse events

Needs

- Private Sector needs information to support its risk planning and in particular its business continuity planning. ODPEM is relied on heavily to provide tools, templates and its technical know-how to support the private sector in its disaster risk reduction initiatives. This support can be best facilitated through a medium that allows island wide reach preferably through a web environment.

- Become the hub of disaster management information. Our ability to adequately penetrate academic institutions and disseminate research findings and reports is currently limited to the library or requires the making of personal requests from the institution.

Needs

- Jamaica has been a trail blazer for innovative initiatives in disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean. ODPEM in particular has been relied upon to share Best Practices and lessons learnt. This transfer of knowledge can be better facilitated through a virtual environment allowing greater exchange of ideas and knowledge.

Benefits

- Organized Disaster preparedness and management with Common Awareness in community and national, Best Practice.
- Speedy communication and change
- PPP
- Effective Knowledge Transfer
  - Common Training across disparate resources
  - Capability limited only by Web access

Benefits

- Platform for CARICOM to have structured adoption of plan Regionally
  - Regional Disaster Preparedness
- Sustainable platform
- Deploy in stages to Regional countries
- Leverage existing knowledge and capabilities

Thank You