

REPORT
2021 YOUTH FORUM
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
THE AMERICAS AND THE
CARIBBEAN



Youth Forum
for Disaster Risk Reduction
The Americas and the Caribbean



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Acronyms & Abbreviations

CARIDIMA	Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Network
CCA	Climate Change
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
GNDR	Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
JIS	Jamaica Information Service
JRC	Jamaica Red Cross
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (Jamaica)
MOEYI	Ministry of Education Youth and Information
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
RP21	VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
SENDAI FRAMEWORK	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNMGCY	United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene



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Glossary of Terms

Capacity

- The combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within an organization, community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.

Disasters

- A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts.

Disaster Risk Reduction

- Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.

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.

Risk

- Risk is the probability of an outcome having a negative effect on people, systems or assets.

Vulnerability

- The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.



1. Introduction

The Americas and the Caribbean is among the most disaster-prone region anywhere in the world. Between 1997 and 2017, one out of every four disasters in the world occurred in this region. The Americas and the Caribbean accounted for 53 per cent of the reported global economic losses, due to climate-related disasters in the last 20 years. According to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), seven out of every 10 deaths from disasters were triggered by a geological hazard.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS), such as those in the Caribbean, often bear the brunt of climate-related disasters. Annual losses from disasters in the Caribbean are estimated at USD 3 billion. Disaster losses also have major social impacts. For instance, in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic was the leading cause of death in much of the region. Core sectors such as tourism and agriculture are especially vulnerable, and when disasters hit, hard won economic gains are often reversed or retarded.

Climate change and its impacts will impact the current livelihoods and future of youth. Children and adolescents constitute a group particularly vulnerable to disasters. Children require special protection according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), in that they have the right to be the first to receive attention during emergencies. Peek (2007) argues that disasters harm the physical spaces in which children live, such as their homes, neighborhoods and schools, often leading to long-term displacement, disrupting their routines and educational progress, and threatening their sense of safety and security in the world.

During the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in March 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted. This global framework is part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which establishes comprehensive disaster risk reduction and its integration into development as fundamental for Member States. As a practical framework for dealing with risk, the Sendai Framework seeks to achieve “the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries”.

The SIDS of Jamaica has been listed by the United Nations as among the countries most exposed to natural hazards such as earthquakes, hurricanes, landslides and flooding. In 2017, Jamaica was awarded the hosting rights for the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the



Americas and the Caribbean (RP21). The event was to have been staged in 2020 but was postponed until November 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Jamaica's hosting of RP21 under the theme "Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean" is aimed to raise awareness of the challenges facing SIDS in the Caribbean and the wider Americas. The RP21 marks the first time a regional platform will be held in the Caribbean.

Studies show that children and youth can be strong advocates for climate change in their various communities and groups. Twenty percent of the population of the Americas and the Caribbean, or approximately 106 million people, are characterized as youth. It is therefore important to involve the youth of the region in any activity geared toward improving the resilience of the region to climate change and its related hazards.

The VII Regional Platform DRR The Americas the Caribbean aims to capture the voices of children and youth as a part of a Pre-Regional Platform session, to which youth delegates from the Americas and the Caribbean are invited. The Youth Forum Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Americas and the Caribbean will convene under the theme, 'Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean,' to raise awareness of youth voice in bringing about actions to improving regional resilience and reduce the impacts of climate change and climate-related disasters.

WHEN HAZARDS BECOME DISASTERS

The UNDRRR defines hazards as any natural process, phenomenon, physical event, or human behaviour that may pose a negative impact on the economy, society, ecology.

Hazards are catalysts of disasters, which may cause harm or death, destruction of property, social disruption, environmental degradation, and resource depletion or different capacities.

Disasters are a consequence of hazards, exposure, and vulnerability.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change describes the relationship as disasters = hazard + exposure + vulnerability.

Sources: UNISDR, 2004; IPCC, 2012; and UNDRR 2020.

2. Methodology

The VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas the Caribbean was to be held from July 8 to 20, 2020 under the theme “Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean”. On July 7, 2020, Jamaica was to host a regional Youth Forum, in collaboration with UNICEF, UNDRR, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), also under the theme “Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean”. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the platform and the forum were postponed until Tuesday, October 26, 2021. The youth committee therefore continued planning for the event. The youth staged three virtual other events in 2020 to engage youth within the region on climate change and DRR and contributed to the youth’s ability to better plan and in their execution of the Forum. The activities included:

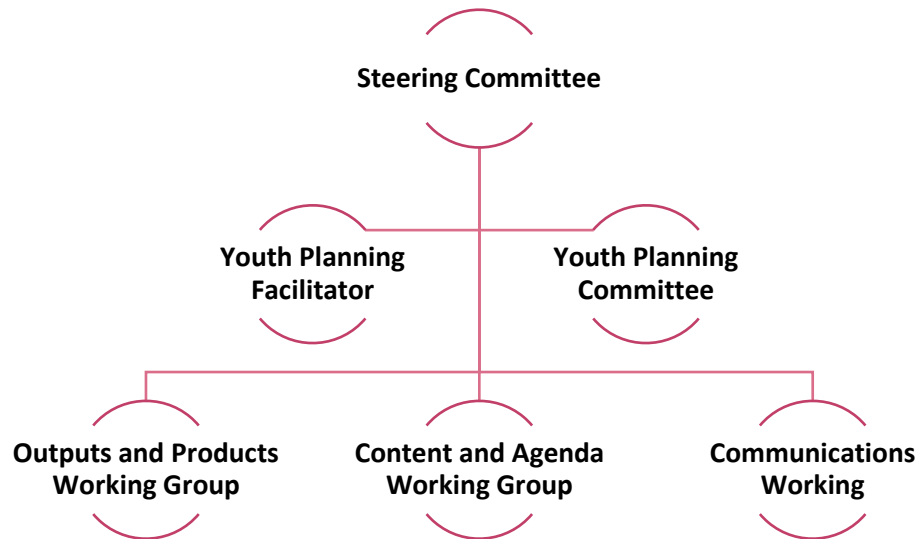
- A poll to understand youth views
- A webinar
- A blog post showcasing youth views and actions

Youth Forum Planning Committee

The committee comprised 21 youth from 10 countries in the Americas and the Caribbean region: Jamaica, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama and Trinidad and Tobago. In September 2021, a UNICEF Jamaica intern from Singapore joined the committee. In September 2021, Ms. Dania Bogle was hired by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) and UNICEF Jamaica, to facilitate planning for the event. Ms. Bogle will act as a liaison between the youth committee, the Youth Forum Steering Committee, which comprises focal points from the MLGRD, UNICEF, UNDRR, UNESCO, IFRC and the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR). The youth committee were responsible for the following activities:

- Define expected outcomes of the forum and design a roadmap and timeline
- Create working groups to support the organization of the event
- Participate at weekly meetings
- Organize and conduct a virtual consultation prior to the forum
- Design agenda for the day, including activities, speakers, workgroups etc.
- Facilitate event and
- Design a youth engagement plan for the VII Regional Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction

Figure 1. Youth Forum DRR the Americas and the Caribbean Planning Committee



The youth split into three smaller working groups: Outputs and Products Working Group, which concentrated on the outcomes of the Youth Forum and the final product for the RP21; the Content and Agenda Working Group, which was responsible for deciding the program and invitees, and the Communications Working Group, responsible for items such as designing the concept note and preparing factoids for social media publication.

Figure 2. Youth Forum DRR Working Groups and their members

Outputs and Products Working Group	Kristinia Dougherty, Adrian Reid, Alinne Olvera Amrita Sridhar, Jhannel Tomlinson, Sylvia Guzman
Content and Agenda Working Group	Kristinia Dougherty, Adrian Reid, Aila Gomes Jaime Maldonado, Sara Cognuck, Jorge Terrones
Communications Working Group	Anabelle Jones, Arturo Salazar, Adelin Pierre, Selena Campbell, Jerry Howard, Tahje Wallen Marcos Sepulveda, Sebastian Benfeld, Arturo Salazar



While the Youth Planning Committee met in its entirety once per week on Thursdays, under the guidance of Ms. Bogle, as well as Ms. Maria Emilia Numer of UNICEF Regional Office, Ms. Rebecca Tortello of UNICEF Jamaica, Ms. Melany Riquetti Moran of the UNDRR, Mrs. Nagra Plunkett Smith from MLGRD and Mrs. Delmares White from the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), the working groups met for several hours several times over the course of a week to plan their activities. During the main committee meeting, language interpretation services was provided for youth participants to allow for proper communication between the youth committee members. Later, bilingual individuals from within UNICEF and the UNDRR were co-opted to become members of the working groups to facilitate communication and assist with activities.



Outcomes and Outputs

The Outputs and Outputs Working Group were responsible for deciding outcomes of the Forum as well as the format that the product, which would be presented at the VII Regional Platform would take. The group decided that the outcome of the Youth Forum would be a summary document capturing key outcomes of the discussions and findings of the Forum, which would then be made available to the Ministerial Round Table during the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean from November 1-4, 2021. One member of the planning committee of the Youth Forum would read the statement at the VII Regional Platform on a date between 1 and 4 November. In addition, the Outcomes and Outputs Working Group decided on three outcomes for the Youth Forum, to align with the 2017-2025 Action Plan of the Regional Platform. The outcomes are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1. Outcomes of the Youth Forum DRR The Americas and the Caribbean

-
1. *Highlight the work of youth in Americas and the Caribbean on the topic of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.*
 - a. *To create a medium for inclusive regional integration of youth, where knowledge on disaster/climate and environment resilience and best practices are shared in a collaborative environment.*
 2. *To provide a space where youth and policy makers in Americas and the Caribbean can provide strategies to change the way the region plans and responds to multiple hazards.*
 - a. *Adjusting the way in which the Americas and the Caribbean plans and responds to multiple hazards - climate change, earthquakes, COVID-19, hurricanes, floods (sudden-onset disaster and slow-onset hazard).*
 - b. *To provide a platform to discuss innovative solutions for sustainable development.*
 3. *To develop a plan in which youth are allowed to engage and participate in decision planning.*
 - a. *To reduce tokenism and develop practical ways to involve youth engagement in DRR.*
 - b. *To provide the youth in the Americas and the Caribbean with information on alliances, support organizations) and sources of funding for DRR and climate change.*
-

Participants, Location and Agenda

In September 2021, it was decided that the forum would be held in a hybrid format, with a face-to-face session at the Jamaica Conference Centre to allow Jamaican youth to attend. The Forum will be held from 15:30 hrs to 19:00 hrs Jamaica time, to facilitate greater youth involvement. The forum will target 1000 participants from the Americas and the Caribbean, aged 15 to 30. These youth were involved in disaster risk reduction or adaptation activities or in climate action. All members of the planning team involved gathered their contact list and provided names or suggested invitees to the forum.

The in-forum sessions will also solicit viewpoints from youth on innovative and successful initiatives and interventions aimed at building resilient economies in the region. Ms. Bogle and Ms. Dougherty and personnel from the UNDRR met with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development in October to present plans. During these meetings, the Forum topics were defined.

Figure 3. Participants, location, and agenda of the Youth Forum DRR

Participants		• Youth from North, Central America and the Caribbean • Involved in climate change and DRR activities • Earnings within the group.
Location		• Virtual using HOPIN meeting software • Jamaica Conference Centre hybrid event
Agenda		• Plenary sessions • Panel discussions • Breakout sessions • Quizzes • Question & Answer



The Agenda will be divided into three sections, modelling the Forum outcomes, highlighting work of youth in the region, providing a space where youth and policy makers in the region can provide strategies to change the way the region plans and responds to multiple hazards and developing a plan in which youth are allowed to engage and participate in decision planning. The first session of the agenda would be two plenary sessions which include a segment addressing the impacts of COVID-19, with focus on its impact on education. The forum will also feature two panel discussions providing the opportunity for youth from within the region to answer questions on DRR and their own activities. The third segment would allow youth to discuss and validate the draft youth statement, which would be translated into the main languages of the Forum: English, Spanish, French and Portuguese and allow for feedback which would then be incorporated it not the final statement. Given the versatility of the Hopin platform, the youth also decided that a quiz segment, question and answer session, feedback poll and cultural show highlighting the work of Jamaicans should form the breaks between each session of extended talk.

Once the themes, topics and segments were finalized, the youth committee in collaboration with the steering committee created a list of potential invitees and sent out invitations to seek speakers and presenters. Invitations were sent to youth activists in the United States, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Brazil, Colombia Costa Rica, Panama and Chile. From these lists a final list of 10 individuals were selected to either present or be part of a panel discussion. Several high-level guests were also invited to be part of the opening ceremony. Jamaica's Minister of State in the Ministry of Education Youth and Information, Robert Nesta Morgan, was invited to be the guest speaker. Welcome addresses were also requested from the UNICEF Representative to Jamaica, Mariko Kagoshima and the UNDRR, Mami Mitzutori. The Youth Ambassador to Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), 16-year-old Kyla Gaynor, was invited to make the welcome statement

The members of the youth committee, who had previously moderated other youth events, were invited to again moderate the programme, with special overall emceeing of the programme being conducted by Jamaican talk show host, Mrs. Emprezz Golding.



Table 2. Final Agenda of the Youth Forum DRR the Americas and the Caribbean

15:30	15:34	OPENING and INTRODUCTION				
15:34	15:38	Jamaican Cultural Package				Panos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change
15:38	15:44	Welcome Statement				Kyla Gaynor ODPEM Youth Ambassador
15:44	15:50	UNDRR Address				Mami Mitzutori
15:50	15:56	UNICEF Address				Mariko Kagoshima Representative For UNICEF Jamaica
15:56	16:25	Main Address - Government of Jamaica Minister of State in the Ministry of Education Youth and Information				Robert Nesta Morgan, Minister of State in The MOEYI
16:25	16:29	Panos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change				Voices For Climate Change
16:30	16:45	PLENARY SESSION – What will my tomorrow be? Perspective of youth from the Americas and the Caribbean moving forward in the face of multiple disasters				Moderators – Sylvia Guzman And Adrian Reid
16:30	16:35	The impact of COVID on the life of youth in the region - A Jamaican perspective				Jamoye Phillips
16:35	16:40	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards – An Eastern Caribbean perspective				Aria Laidlow
16:40	16:45	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards - The Indigenous community perspective				Carlos Sambula
16:46	16:54	BUST THAT MYTH!				Emprezz Golding
16:55	17:10	PLENARY SESSION – What is the role of young people in disaster risk reduction?				Moderators – Sylvia Guzman and Adrian Reid
16:55	17:00	Grassroots youth activism for increasing resilience to disasters				Cici Xu – 1MYAC
17:00	17:05	Youth involvement in Nationally Determined Contributions				Natalia Gomez
17:05	17:10	Careers and Innovation for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction				Barbara Neira
17:10	17:20	NETWORKING AND GAMES SESSION				Moderator Emprezz Golding
17:20	17:40	PANEL DISCUSSION - COVID-19 impact and the use of technology in the DRR space				Moderators, Diana Caceida, Manuela Borja
17:42	18:02	PANEL DISCUSSION - Implementing cost-effective grassroots strategies to increase adaptive capacity and resilience				Moderators, Diana Caceida, Manuela Borja
18:02	18:05	JAMAICA MOVES EXERCISE SESSION				Emprezz Golding
18:05	18:30	Parallel session English	Parallel session Spanish	Parallel session French	Parallel session Portuguese	Moderators: Adrian Reid
18:30	18:35	COFFEE BREAK				
18:35	18:40	DRR QUIZ				Kahoot
18:40	18:43	Breakout Group Feedback English				Moderator Jhannel Tomlinson
18:43	18:47	Breakout Group Feedback Spanish				Sara Cognuck
18:51	18:54	Breakout Group Feedback Portuguese				Aila Gomes
18:54	19:00	In-Forum Feedback Survey				Adrian Reid
19:00	19:25	CLOSING				Emprezz Golding

Plenary Session – What will my tomorrow be?

Perspective of youth from the Americas and the Caribbean moving forward in the face of multiple disasters

Moderator



Sylvia Guzman,
Costa Rican
Youth Red
Cross

Moderator



Adrian Reid,
Red Cross
Jamaica



Jamoye Phillips, Jamaica, The impact of
COVID on the life of youth in the region - A
Jamaican perspective



Aria Laidlow, St. Vincent & the
Grenadines, The outlook on dealing with
the new normal of multiple hazards - An
Eastern Caribbean perspective

In this segment, hosted by Costa Rica's Sylvia Guzman and Jamaica's Adrian Reid, the perspectives of youth from Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines were gathered to discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted life in Jamaica and how islanders in St. Vincent and the Grenadines were coping with life following the eruption of the La Soufriere volcano in April 2021, as well as amidst the pandemic, with the possibility of hurricanes always looming.

Plenary Session – What is the role of young people in disaster risk reduction?

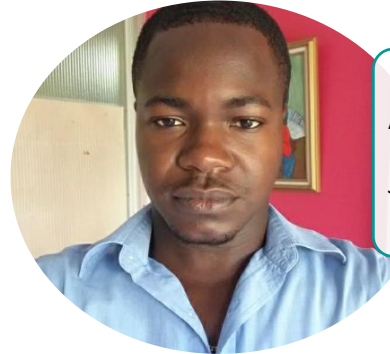
Perspective of youth from North America and Central America

Moderator



Sylvia Guzman,
Costa Rican
Youth Red
Cross

Moderator



Adrian Reid,
Red Cross
Jamaica



Cici Xu, USA, Grassroots youth
activism for increasing resilience
to disasters

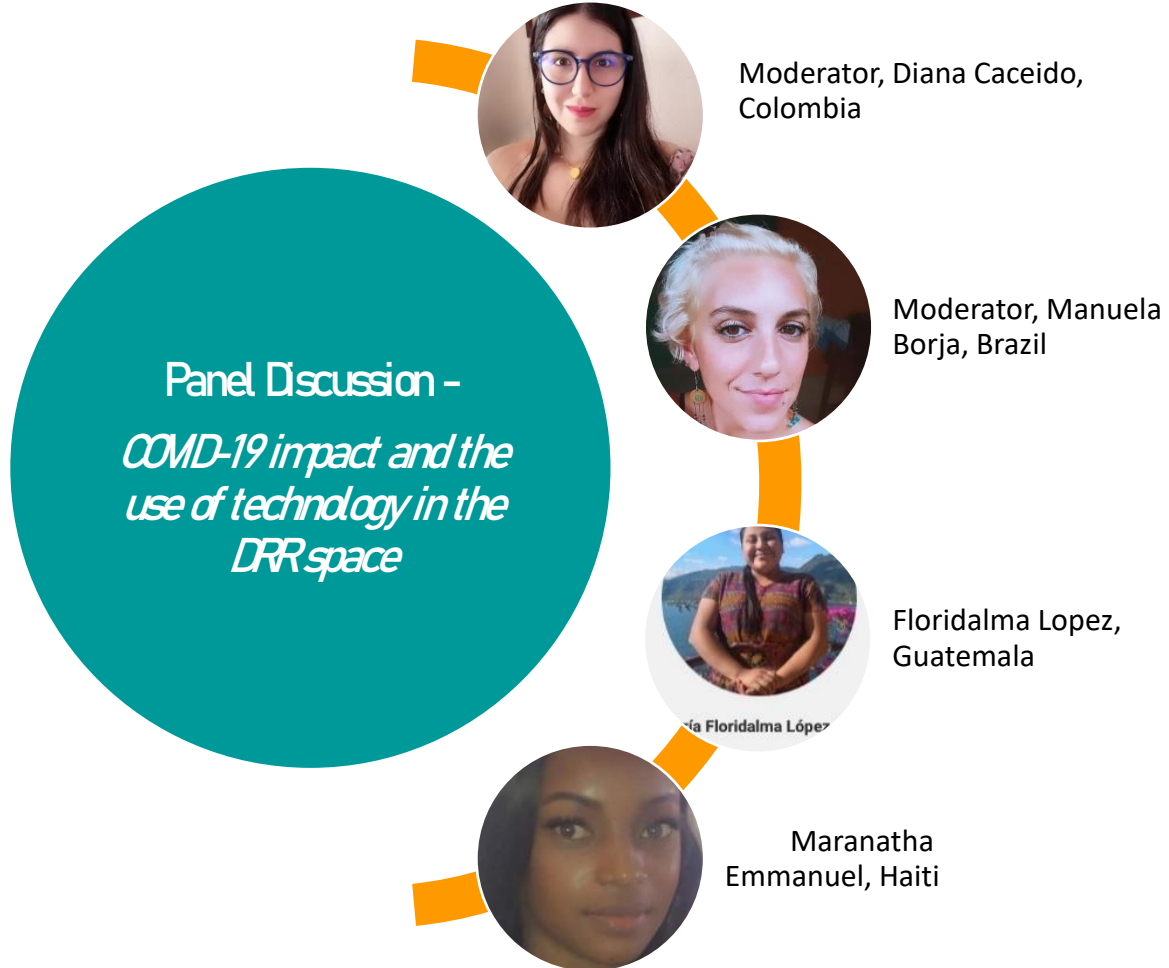


Natalia Gomez, Costa Rica, Youth
involvement in Nationally
Determined Contributions



Barbara Neira, Chile, Careers and
Innovation for Youth in Disaster
Risk Reduction

In this segment, hosted by Costa Rica's Sylvia Guzman and Jamaica's Adrian Reid, the young people discussed their role in helping to reduce disaster risk drawing from the perspectives of youth from the United States of America, Chile, and Costa Rica. The themes surrounded the role of youth activists at the grassroots level and youth involvement at the political level as well as the careers that young people who are interested in the field can pursue in disaster risk reduction.



This segment would be a panel discussion, hosted by Colombia's Diana Caceido and Brazil's Manuela Borja. The panellist from Guatemala and Haiti discuss how the way people use technology has changed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Young people have been particularly impacted because many of their normal face to face activities, much like the Youth Forum had to be conducted virtually.



This segment would be a panel discussion, hosted by Colombia's Diana Caceido and Brazil's Manuela Borja. The panellist from Jamaica and Brazil are heavily involved in biodiversity projects in their home countries, in the forest and aqua fishing and provided suggestions for accessing fundign for implementing projects such as the ones in which they are involved.

Presenter Profiles

Cici XU (United States of America) is a 16-year-old from Saratoga in the United States. She is present of her high school's green team (environmental club) and a founder of her high school's composting system. She is also leader of California's Legislation Advocacy Team under Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, a youth coalition that targets and pushes forward climate action and state bills. In November 2020 Cici was selected to speak in the UN Youth Climate Dialogue and met with motivated youth from Kenya, Pakistan, and South Africa, among others. She is also leading a youth group in collaboration with sustainable development non-profits and prestigious universities in China.

Natalia Gomez (Costa Rica) is a passionate, leader, interested in supporting and developing projects focused in climate adaptation to support sustainable development. She is the Junior Technical Assistant in the Plan-A Project resilient territories to climate change in Costa Rica. Her interests include climate change adaptation, resilient territories capacities building and integration of the adaptation into local government planning, geography information systems (GIS), land management, water resources, climate-smart agriculture systems, soil science and biochar, inter-institutional work and involvement of multi stakeholders.

Jamoye Phillips (Jamaica) is Youth Climate Change Advocate who is Vice President of Climate Change and Disaster Mitigation at The University of the West Indies STAT Society.

Aria Laidlow (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) is experienced in the field of climate change Ms. Aria Laidlow is experienced in the field of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management with a demonstrated history of working and researching in the key areas of climate and disaster risk insurance, disaster preparedness and response and environmental management with various local, regional, and international organisations. Skilled in research development and implementation, project management and communication with excellent leadership qualities. A strong multidisciplinary background with a Master of Science in Environmental Change and Management from the University of Oxford.

Barbara Neira (Chile) has within the last few years worked professionally in the areas of climate change and sustainable transport. She currently works in the green hydrogen industry promoting that the energy transition is fair to people and ecosystems.

Presenter Profiles

Floridalma López Atz, (Guatemala) 19 years old, is a Kaqchikel Maya. She is an adolescent representing the Guatemalan Parliament for Girl and Adolescents. She was born in Guatemala, and is a student of Law and Social Sciences, Law and Notary, and Journalism at the University of San Carlos in Guatemala. María Floridalma is part of the group of Youth Gender Activists at the National level of UN Women, and is part of the Guatemalan Parliament for Children, Adolescents and Youth since the age of 9, when she began the process of formation as a young woman community and national leader. María Floridalma is also a member of the ENREDADERA Collective, the Kaqchikel People's Council and the Indigenous Women's Platform.

Thiago Resnitzky

(Brazil) is an economics student at the University of Sao Paulo, a member of the Youth Climate Leaders global network and biodiversity projects assistant at ICLEI Brazil.

Thiago is passionate about nature and interested in diverse and integrated solutions to the climate crisis

Maranatha Emmanuel

(Haiti) has a background in management and Works at Haiti's Ministry of Environment and Climate. She assists the gender focal point and does technical work for the department

Geasean Johnson (Jamaica) graduated from the University of the West Indies with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology and was granted a scholarship soon after to read for his Master's in Environmental Science and Sustainable Development in Shanghai. He has a keen interest in climate change and social impacts. In September 2021, he was selected as an ambassador for the Global Water Partnership-Caribbean. He currently leads research at Kee Farms, an ocean farm network that grows seaweed and oysters with the aim of removing carbon dioxide and increasing biodiversity in our oceanic ecosystems. He believes entrepreneurs and innovators can become integral in the fight against climate change



Breakout Groups (Language Groups)

Revising and Updating the Youth Statement for the VI Regional Platform



The breakout sessions will allow participants to discuss the youth statement that was initially drafted by the youth planning committee members. The breakout groups will be divided into language segments of English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, allowing participants to feel comfortable to discuss the statement in their mother tongue. The statement, which was drafted in English, will be translated into the other three languages.



Statement of Youth of the Americas and the Caribbean on Disaster Risk Reduction within the framework of the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Good afternoon, I would like to thank you all for allowing me to join this space and present the validated statement by the youth of the Americas and the Caribbean. I would also like to extend a special thanks to

- Minister Min. Hon. Desmond McKenzie, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Government of Jamaica,
- Ms Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
- As well as the Ministers from the region

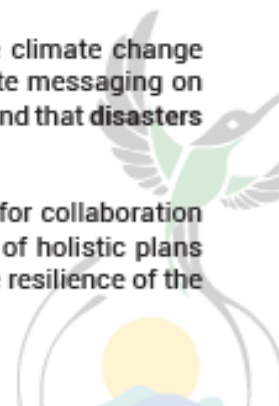
This Statement is the result of the Youth Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), developed virtually in the framework of the Preparatory Meeting of the VII Regional Platform for DRR. The Youth Forum, "Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean" had the participation of over 400 youth from the Americas and the Caribbean. The Forum allowed the discussion of young people to build this statement. The statement is supported by the members of the steering committee which includes the Government of Jamaica, UNDRR, UNICEF, IFRC, UNESCO and GNDR.

While the Youth Forum was held on October 26, 2021, the statement is a culmination of work by the Youth Committee since 2020 which include the development of a survey with over 1000 responses from the region and a youth webinar on the topic of DRR and Climate Change on the international day of the youth and the virtual DRR communication campaign.

The statement is as follows:

We, the youth, have concerns about the current messaging of disaster risk. While climate change impacts the frequency, magnitude and extent of hazards, there needs to be separate messaging on disaster risk reduction and climate change. Youth and policymakers need to understand that **disasters are not natural, but a result of social and political actions.**

We find that **hazards are changing faster than policies**, and there is a greater need for collaboration with the scientific community and policymakers. This will allow for the generation of holistic plans and policies, including nationally determined contributions, that will help to build the resilience of the region





We urge our governments for **more inclusivity and diversity in leadership spaces on disaster risk reduction** and management. The voices of youth, vulnerable groups and indigenous people need to be included and acted upon to create a sustainable future for the region.

We believe **there is a need for greater investment in disaster risk financing** at the local level, and more structured psychosocial support programmes to assist people impacted by disasters. We call on you not to destroy and degrade the environment for short-term economic gain, but to view our environment as a protective barrier against the impacts of hazardous events. Disaster planning should begin before the impacts of hazards are felt.

Within the region, youth have been trying to address these issues through advocacy, raising awareness of climate change and disaster risk reduction, as well as capacity building sessions in communities. Young people are also part of the construction of proposals and that is why we look for safe spaces in the processes, to be able to contribute from our experience and knowledge. Through this forum, the youth aim to generate a website to host information to assist in the execution of local disaster risk reduction events and capacity building sessions with youth leaders in the region. However, we cannot do it on our own and we need the support of policymakers and regional organizations.

We are living in unprecedented times, where the Americas and the Caribbean region has been faced with multiple hazards simultaneously and during a time in which climate change is expected to exacerbate these issues even further. Battling the COVID-19 pandemic alongside natural events has disrupted many livelihoods and increased inequality and vulnerability.

We believe that hazards may be natural, but disasters are created, and we urge the governments and organizations to listen to our suggestions on improving the DRR space. Most importantly, we ask that you involve more youth and children in the process, and generate spaces for our participation, because disasters affect us, maybe more so than they do you.



Communication Plan



The Communications Working Group members met on Wednesdays to decide the public relations and communications to promote the forum. The group decided that social media channels including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as through their personal WhatsApp contacts would be best suited to promote the message of the Youth Forum. The communications would include posts providing facts on DRR and climate change. Support for promoting the messages was sought from the partner agencies UNICEF, UNDRR, MLGRD, the Jamaica Information Service and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (MOEYI). To this end, Ms. Bogle met with personnel from the MOEYI to discuss a strategy to promote the event among Jamaica's high school population. Letters of invitation were also sent to the Chief Education Officer and the Curriculum Unit of the MOEYI to bring awareness of the Forum to local school administrators. Members of the youth committee also sent letters and notifications to organizations within their individual country organizations groups.

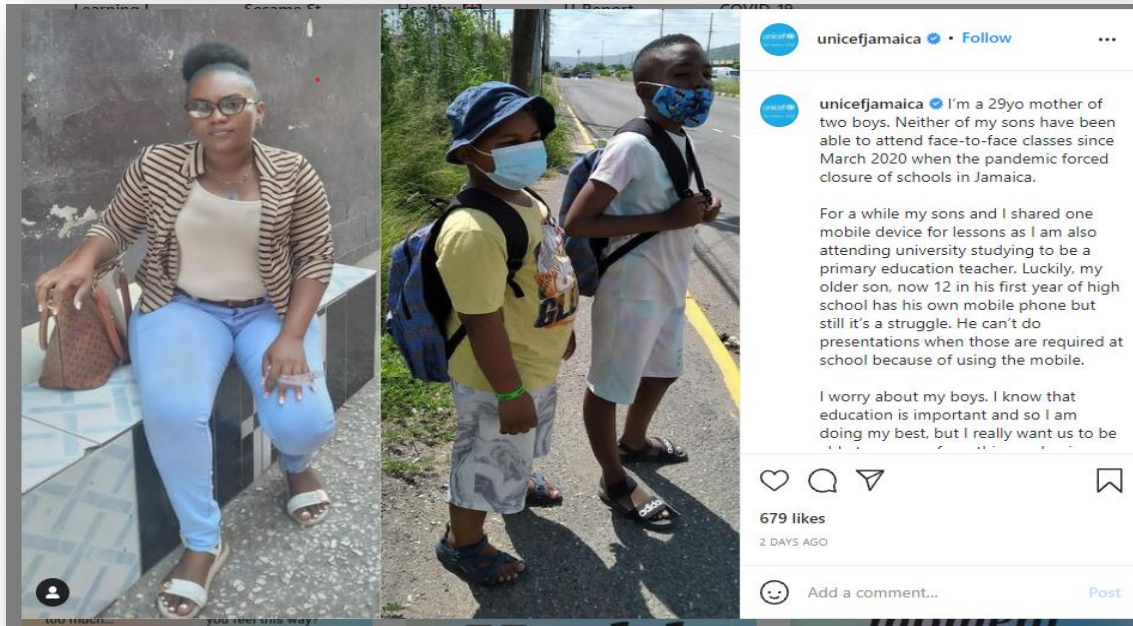
A Concept Note and Agenda were drafted for the event, which were designed by graphic artist and youth committee member Ms. Selena Campbell.

Social Media

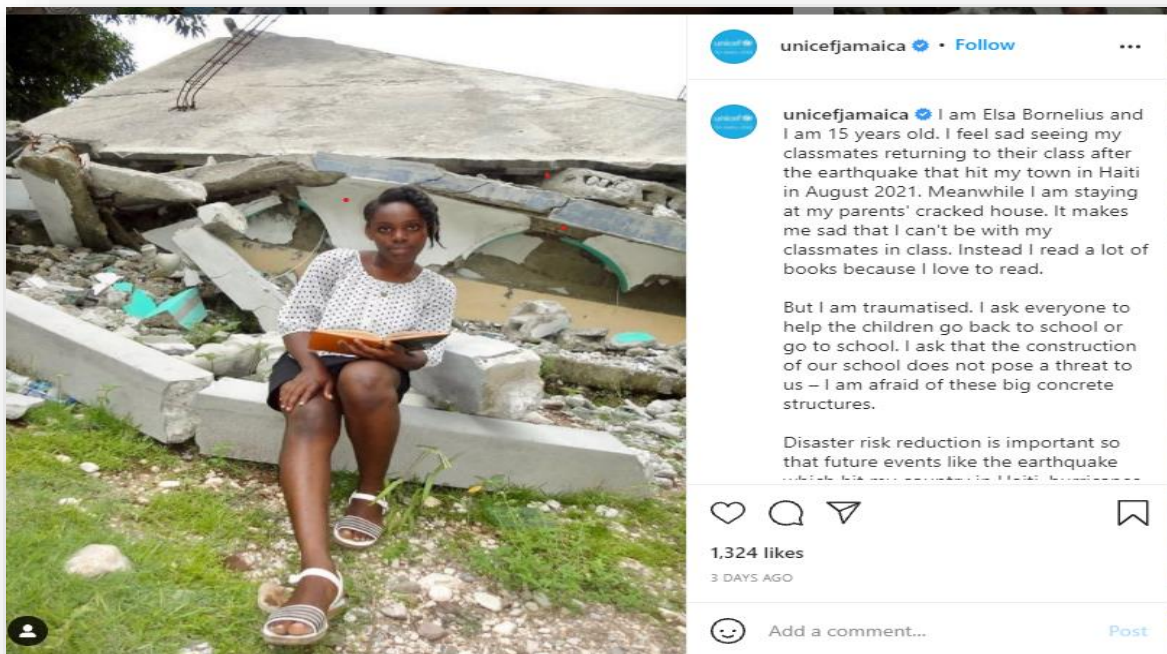
Anabelle Jones created a social media calendar of activities over the six weeks leading up to the Forum. Content would be published each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The youth then drafted factoids related to climate change and DRR, in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese. The UNDRR and UNICEF were instrumental in designing as well as disseminating the products for social media, utilizing the accounts of UNICEF Latin America, UNESCO, UNICEF Jamaica and UNDRR, using the hashtags: #Resilient Caribbean, #Resilient Americas, #YouthForumDRR, #ResilientJA.

Two individuals, Chantol Willians in Jamaica and, Elsa Bornelius in Haiti, both affected by disasters were interviewed and their stories made into pictograms for UNICEF Jamaica's Twitter, Facebook and Instagram pages.

Chantol has two sons and is a student herself at the Mico University in Jamaica. They have been using mobile phones to access classes for more than one year because of the closure of schools.



Elsa is a 15-year old who has no been able to attend school since the August 14, earthquake.





 Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe

Voce Sabia?

O Caribe passou por 163 tempestades que afetaram um total de 25,8 milhões de pessoas e resultaram em mais de 5.000 mortes nas últimas duas décadas. As tempestades na região causaram US \$ 121 bilhões em perdas econômicas diretas.

#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

 **Evento Preparatorio**
VII Plataforma Regional para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres en Las Américas y el Caribe (PR21)



 Youth Forum
for Disaster Risk Reduction
The Americas and the Caribbean

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Did you Know?

At the end of 2020, 24 countries in the Americas and the Caribbean had or were in the process of adopting, national disaster risk reduction strategies aligned to the Sendai Framework.

#RP21 #SendaiAmericas
#ResilientJA #ResilientCaribbean

 **Preparatory Event**
VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean (RP21)



 Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe

Voce Sabiã?

**16 dos 17 anos mais quentes
registrados foram registrados
após 2001**

**#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente**

**Evento
Preparatorio**
VII Plataforma Regional para la
Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres
en Las Américas y el Caribe (PR21)



 Youth Forum
for Disaster Risk Reduction
The Americas and the Caribbean

Did you know?

**16 of the 17 warmest years
on record were recorded
after 2001?**

**#RP21 #SendaiAmericas
#ResilientJA #ResilientCaribbean**

**Preparatory
Event**
VII Regional Platform for Disaster
Risk Reduction in the Americas
and the Caribbean (RP21)



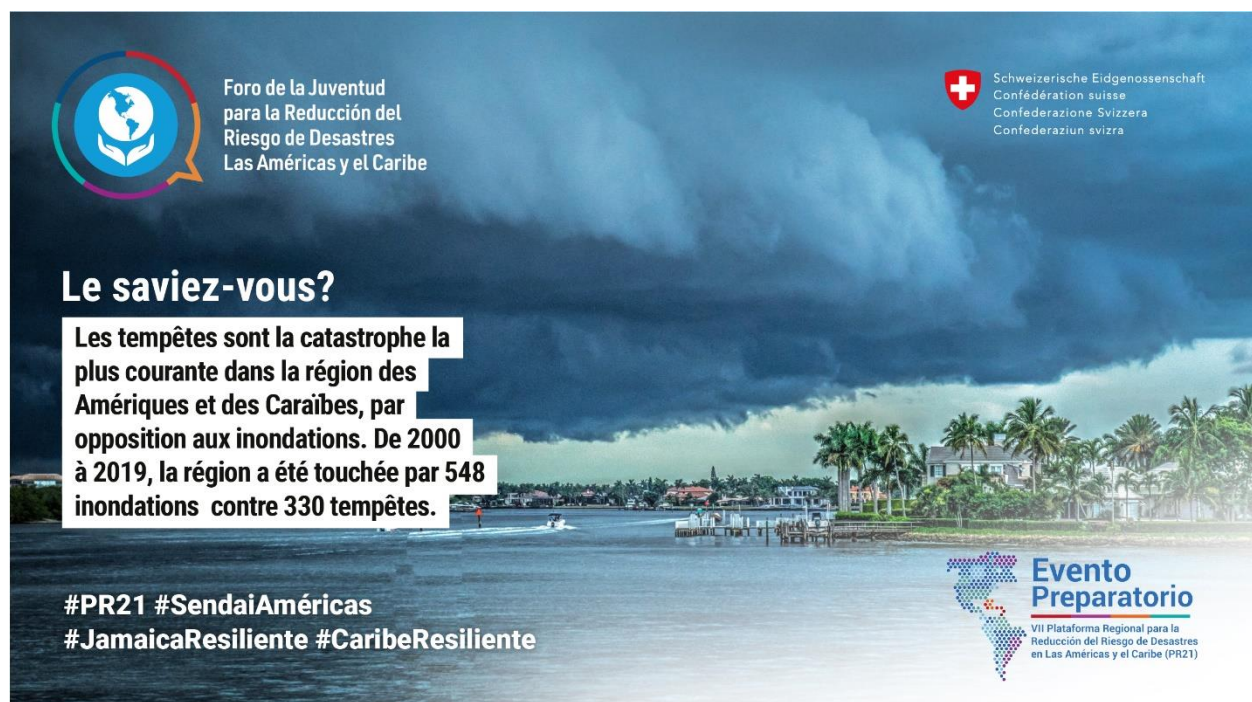
 Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe

¿Sabías?

**16 de los 17 años más cálidos
registrados, se registraron
después de 2001**

**#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente**

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 Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe

Le savez-vous?

**Les tempêtes sont la catastrophe la
plus courante dans la région des
Amériques et des Caraïbes, par
opposition aux inondations. De 2000
à 2019, la région a été touchée par 548
inondations contre 330 tempêtes.**

**#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente**

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en Las Américas y el Caribe (PR21)



 **Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe**

Le savez-vous?

La technologie et les systèmes dont nous avons besoin pour passer à 100 % d'énergies renouvelables d'ici 2045 et utiliser les ressources de notre planète de manière durable sont déjà disponibles

**#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente**

 **Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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 **Evento
Preparatorio**
VII Plataforma Regional para la
Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres
en Las Américas y el Caribe (RP21)



 **Youth Forum
for Disaster Risk Reduction
The Americas and the Caribbean**

Did you Know?

A hazard refers to a severe or extreme event such as a flood, storm, cold spell or heatwave etc. which occurs naturally anywhere in the world. Hazards only become disasters when human lives are lost, and livelihoods damaged or destroyed.

**#RP21 #SendaiAmericas
#ResilientJA #ResilientCaribbean**

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 **Preparatory
Event**
VII Regional Platform for Disaster
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and the Caribbean (RP21)



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The Americas and the Caribbean**

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**#RP21 #SendaiAmericas
#ResilientJA #ResilientCaribbean**

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VII Regional Platform for Disaster
Risk Reduction in the Americas
and the Caribbean (RP21)



 **Foro de la Juventud
para la Reducción del
Riesgo de Desastres
Las Américas y el Caribe**

¿Sabías?

**Los “desastres naturales” no
existen; son construcciones
sociales.**

**#PR21 #SendaiAméricas
#JamaicaResiliente #CaribeResiliente**

 **Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra**

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Preparatorio**
VII Plataforma Regional para la
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en Las Américas y el Caribe (PR21)

Talk Up Yout Radio Show

Broadcaster and talk show host Mrs. Emprezz Golding was enlisted to moderate the Forum, promote the event through her social media and host a Youth Forum themed Talk Up Yout Radio Show on Saturday, October 23, 2021. Guests included Minsiter Desmond McKenzie, and Youth Forum planning committee members Mr. Adrian Reid, Ms. Kristinia Doughoorty, facilitator Ms. Dania Bogle, UNESCO representative Mr. Max Lombardo and UNICEF Education Specialist Ms. Rebecca Tortello.



During the show, the youth and the representatives from UNICEF and UNESCO answered questions related to their involvement in the Youth Forum, their role in disaster risk reduction, and the issues that youth wanted to highlight in the agenda, the role that agencies such as Red Cross Jamaica plays in helping to raise awareness of climate change issues in schools. Sylvia Guzman, who was an international guest, discussed how issues and challenges highlighted in Jamaica compared to those that exist in Costa Rica. Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Honourable Desmond McKenzie was a guest in a later segment and highlighted Jamaica's role in the genesis of the Youth Forum.

Participants & Countries



<i>Jamaica</i>	<i>124</i>
<i>N/E</i>	<i>113</i>
<i>Panama</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Mexico</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Costa Rica</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>United States</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Trinidad & Tobago</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>India</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Ireland</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Canada</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Peru</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Haiti</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Barbados</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Guyana</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Bolivia</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Guatemala</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Italy</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Germany</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Colombia</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Antigua and Barbuda</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Bahamas</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Ecuador</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Belgium</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Venezuela</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>El Salvador</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Finland</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Chile</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Dominican Republic</i>	<i>1</i>

3. 2021 Youth Forum DRR the Americas & the Caribbean Findings and Key Messages

In this section we will highlight the Youth Forum DRR, participant engagement in the forum, the lessons learned and recommendations for the way forward.

Youth Forum Engagement

There were 732 registered users of the Hopin platform for the Youth Forum. Of that number, 337 individuals logged on during the Youth Forum itself. The average time spent online by participants was 117 minutes. Participants displayed engagement with the platform and made 517 comments during the Forum. Those who participated rated the Forum highly, registering an average score of 8.8 points out of 10.

Countries by registered users

Jamaica	39.91%
Mexico	2.91%
USA	2.91%
Costa Rica	1.87%
Panama	1.45%
Other	50.95%

Youth Forum Summary

The Youth Forum began at approximately 15:38 on October 26 with an opening welcome by Emprezz Golding, followed by the welcome from Jamaica's youth ambassador to the ODPEM, Kyla Gaynor, who talked about the challenges of COVID-19 on the mental health of youth as well as its positive impact on job opportunities that became available because of the shift to online platforms. Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori, who made her statement by video link stated that young people are "a powerful constituency for change" and invited them to get involved in all levels of disaster risk reduction work. UNICEF Representative to Jamaica, Mariko Kagoshima, who presented her statement face-to-face, noted that the scientific evidence that the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme weather-

related events is increasing, and the slow onset of changes will only intensify if the current path of inaction continues. Jamaica's Minister of State in the MOEYI, who was the guest speaker, reminded participants that the Latin America and Caribbean region is the second most disaster-prone region in the world. He reminded individuals in the Caribbean that not only is the region prone to droughts, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes, but also volcanoes. Minister Morgan pointed out the impact of DRR on youth and noted that they bring a unique voice to table.

"The youth represent the subset of the population that stands to be the most impacted by the increased risk and adverse and diverse effects of disasters."



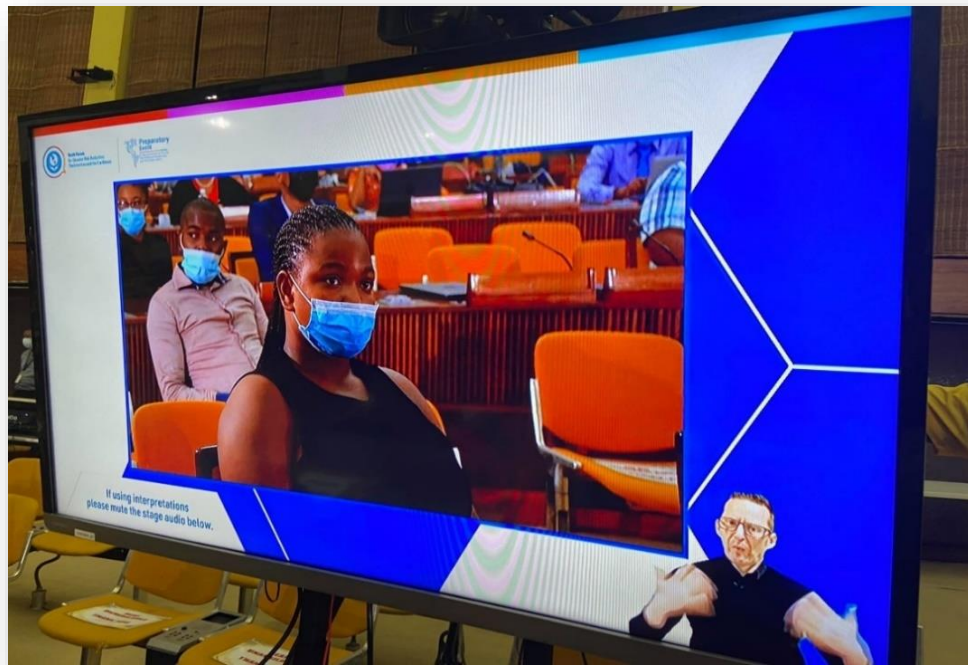
Youth Forum DRR, Guest Speaker, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information, Hon. Robert Nesta Morgan, addresses the audience

After the opening ceremony, the forum began with the first plenary session, which highlighted the views of young people, including marginalized, indigenous and vulnerable groups, in Central America and the challenges that disasters pose to the region. Jamoye Phillips discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the academic performance of students and its effect on their mental health, and that of youth in general. Climate change and disaster-resistance consultant Aria Laidlow from St Vincent and Grenadines, where over 20,000 people were forced from their homes in April when the La Soufrière volcano erupted, noted that many countries in the Eastern Caribbean had their developments located on narrow low-lying coastal strips because the interiors are very mountainous and volcanic. Laidlow also said that the cost has meant that in some countries the cost of disasters exceeded a country's GDP.

The second session focused on the role of young people in disaster risk reduction. Some innovations presented included the 'One Million Youth Action Challenge (1MYAC)', by Cici Xu from the United States.



The 1MYAC aims to mobilize young people from all over the world to implement one million concrete and meaningful actions in support of the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.



Barbara Neira from Chile and Natalia Gomez from Costa Rica highlighted the careers that are available to you people in the field and how young people can contribute to national change.



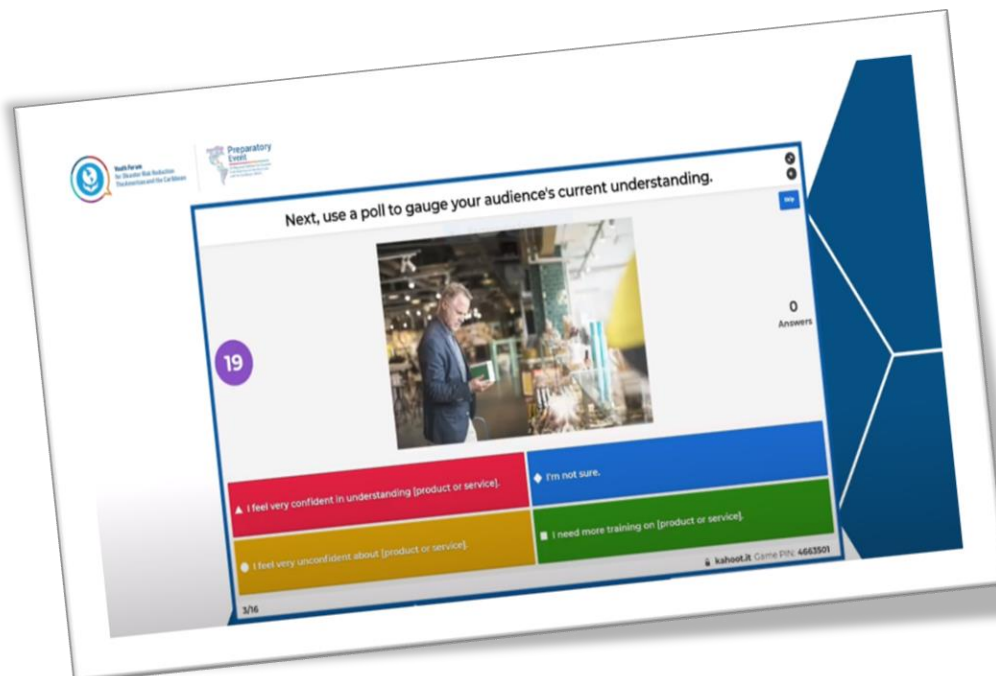
The event then moved into two separate panel discussions with youth from Jamaica, Haiti, Guatemala and Brazil, discussing the gendered perspective and providing tips on how young people can identify financing for grassroots disaster risk reduction projects.



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Mrs. Marsha Henry-Martin, looks on at the Jamaica Conference Centre during the Youth Forum DRR.

In the final segment, participants split into breakout groups – English, Spanish, and Portuguese – to discuss and provide feedback on the youth statement for the Regional Platform. Following these discussions, the moderators, who were members of the youth committee presented the feedback from the breakout sessions. One participant from the Spanish group was invited to present the feedback from that session.

As a breaker between each session, youth were invited to participate in a question-and-answer segment. Questions were invited from the floor at the Jamaica Conference Centre, and they were answer by Minister Morgan and Mariko Kagoshima. During these segments, youth also got the opportunity to watch videos featuring Jamaican music and culture. The videos were the Panos Caribbean Song Voice for Climate Change, which was recorded in 2015, and the Ministry of Health and Wellness of Jamaica’s ‘Treat Yu Body Right’ which was a song written to encourage the local population to take care of their health. This allowed for the moderators to regroup and reenter main platform following the breakout group discussions.



The young people were also able to play interactive games and were invited to play a quiz on the KAHOTS software on the Hopin which featured questions on DRR. Those in the hybrid played inside the Jamaica Conference Centre.

The Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Hon. Desmond McKenzie, gave the closing statement and said that the Covid-19 pandemic has added to the region's woes, with the young bearing a big part of the burden said referring to the fact the schools and universities across the Caribbean closed as governments sought to halt the spread of infection. Minister McKenzie expressed his pleasure in the showing of the showing by the young people and added that the Youth Forum had been a brainchild of his after having attended a regional event in which the Caribbean did not much of a voice. He stated that this event was intended to give Caribbean people a voice.



“Education has been the silent victim in this COVID fight.”

**Hon. Desmond McKenzie,
Minister of Local Government and Rural Development**



Breakout Groups for Youth Statement Feedback



The youth statement was created as the result of a process which started in 2020. At that time, the youth committee was formed, supported by members of the steering committee which included the Government of Jamaica, the UNDRR, UNICEF, IFRC, UNESCO and GNDR. They conducted various youth-centered activities which contributed to the formation of the statement, including developing a survey with more than 1000 answers from the youth across the region, a webinar on DRR and climate change celebrating the International Day of the Youth, the communication campaign on DRR and finally, the Youth Forum for DRR. The DRR served to collect comments and validate inputs from English, Spanish and Portuguese speakers.

English

Participants agreed with the points of the statement, adding that the social and economic aspects were particularly important. They added that policymakers need to do more and that there is greater need for environmental protection; that work and funding at the local level is necessary and that governments must be urged not to degrade the environment. Some youth felt that governments need to better protect areas more likely to be seriously damaged during disasters, and that long-term stakeholder engagement is necessary, adding that stakeholder engagement should extend beyond lifecycle of a grant or project.

Spanish

Participants thought the statement represented the principal concerns of youth with the inclusion of both financial and overall management. They felt there was room for improvement in the multi-hazards and multi-risk approach, ideas for education in schools, inclusion and diversity, alliances with the private sector and tasks for children to address climate change.

Portuguese

The Portuguese breakout group believed that the concerns and observations of youth were accurately represented and that the recommendations to policymakers were accurate. In addition, they felt that it was important to add to the statement the importance of investment for disaster attention and prevention and financing for climate education.

French

There were technical difficulties with the French moderators and this session was not held. All other language groups were comfortable with presenting the statement at the RP21.

Presentation of the Youth Statement at the close Ministerial Session of the VII Regional Platform DRR the Americas and the Caribbean

The findings from the breakout group were incorporated into the youth statement which was then revised and validated by the MLGRD of Jamaica. The statement was presented to the closed ministerial session of the VII Regional Platform DRR the Americas and the Caribbean on Thursday, November 4, 2021, by youth committee member, Kristinia Doughorty.

Kristinia was instrumental in not only planning the Youth Forum and helping to design the outcomes and the agenda, but also made several presentations to the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development in the lead-up to the Forum.



I am Kristinia Doughorty a member of the Youth Committee at for the execution of the Youth Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction in Americas and the Caribbean. On November 3, 2021, I was honoured to present the Youth Statement at a High Ministerial Meeting of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean. This was a historical moment as for the first time, youth were able to participate in this meeting to present the validated statement by the youth of the Americas and the Caribbean.

The youth statement was drafted by the youth committee but also was a culmination of work by the Youth Committee since 2020. These activities include the development of a survey with over 1000 responses from the region and a youth webinar on the topic of DRR and Climate Change. The youth statement was presented at the Regional Youth Forum for feedback where it was validated by over 400 youth attending.

Upon presenting the Youth Statement, the Minister of Local Government Minister Min. Hon. Desmond McKenzie, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Government of Jamaica was pleased with the statement as well as the attending ministers at the meeting. This presentation allowed for the inclusion of youth voices into a space with policy makers to make decisive actions for improving regional resilience.

Forum Feedback and Survey

The Hopin platform provided a space for participants to provide their feedback via comments and through a survey. Positive comments from the forum included the fact that participants liked the hybrid format and the translations, which they found helpful. Others liked the fact that effort was placed in ensuring that everyone was involved, and their views considered. Criticisms included that the event was too long and that participants wanted to share time with other colleagues but were unable to do so and lost networking opportunity. Others said that the transition from session to session was not smooth and that the translation was a problem. Participants also complained about technical issues including the audio dropping. One person said that the entire forum seemed focused in Jamaica.

Participants were asked to rate the forum through an online poll featuring five questions, the results of which are shown in figures four through eight below.

Figure 4. How did you find the event?

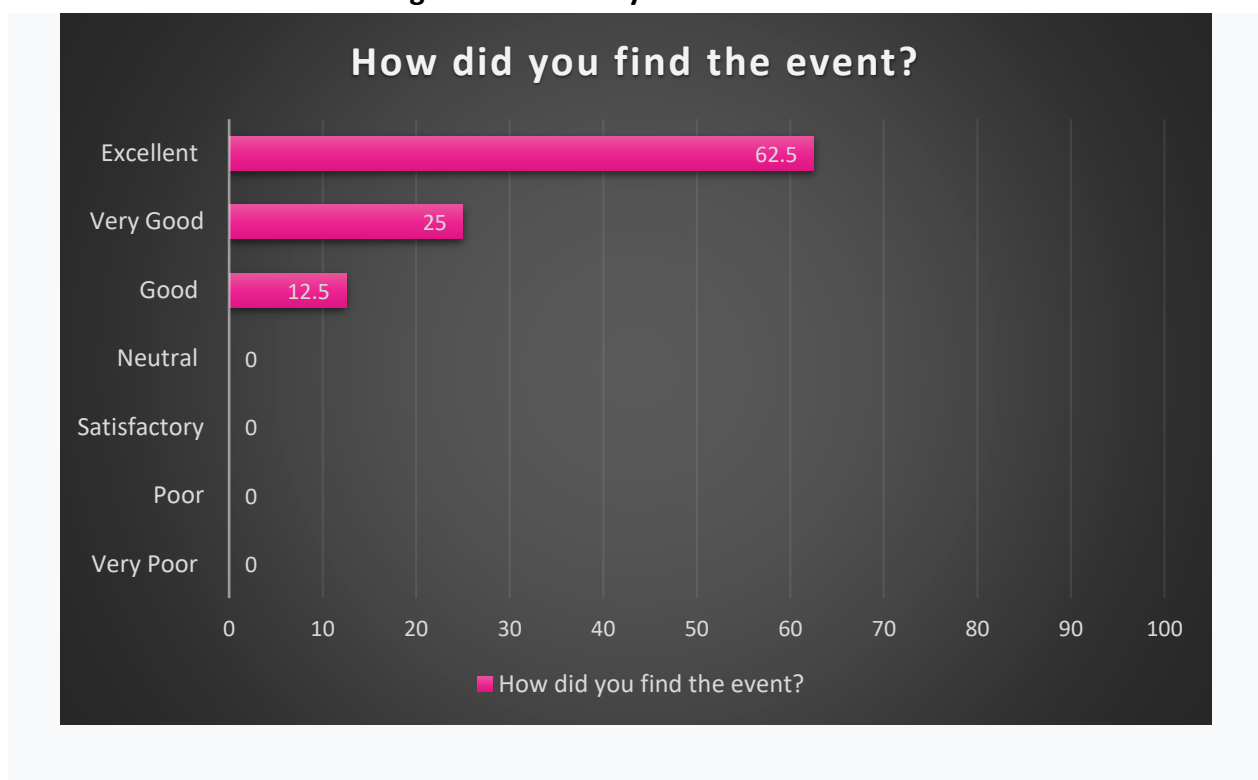


Figure 5. Did you learn anything new from the event?

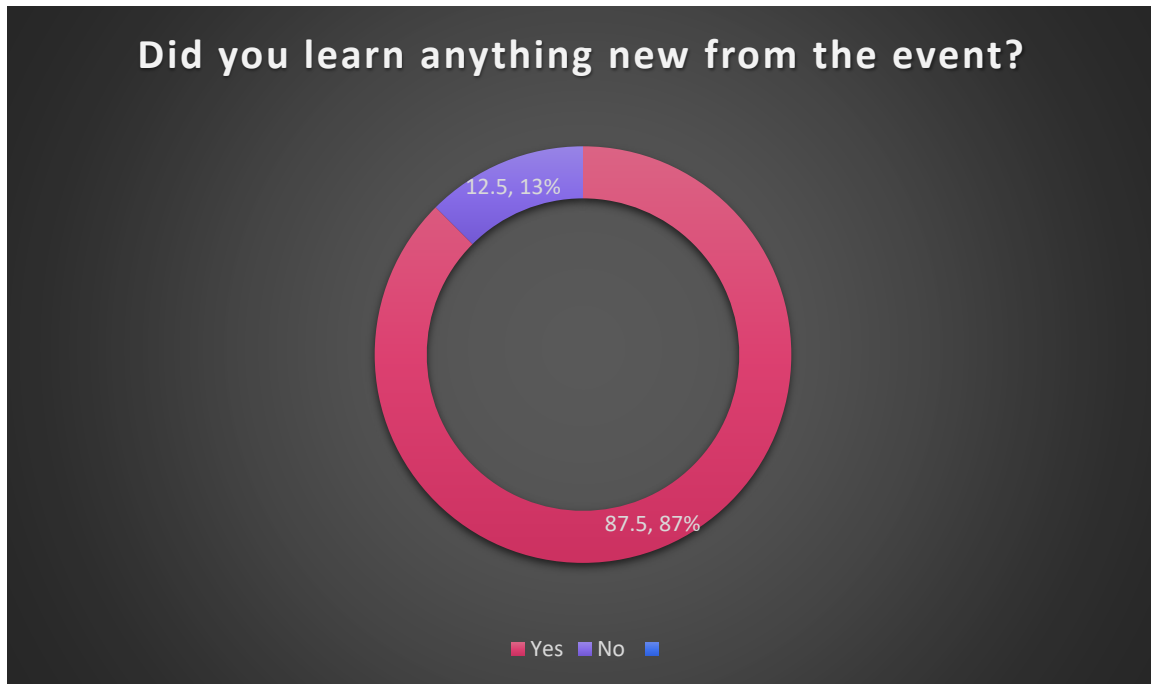


Figure 6. Would you join another event of this nature?

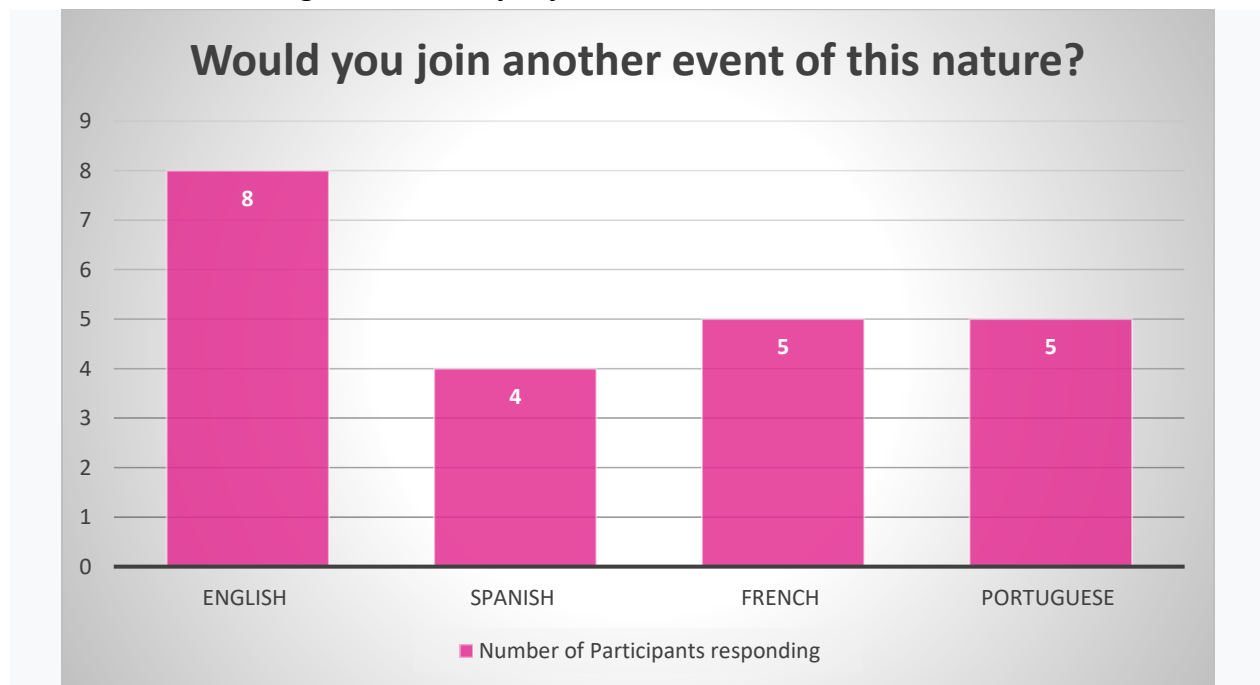


Figure 7. Did you find the speakers impactful?

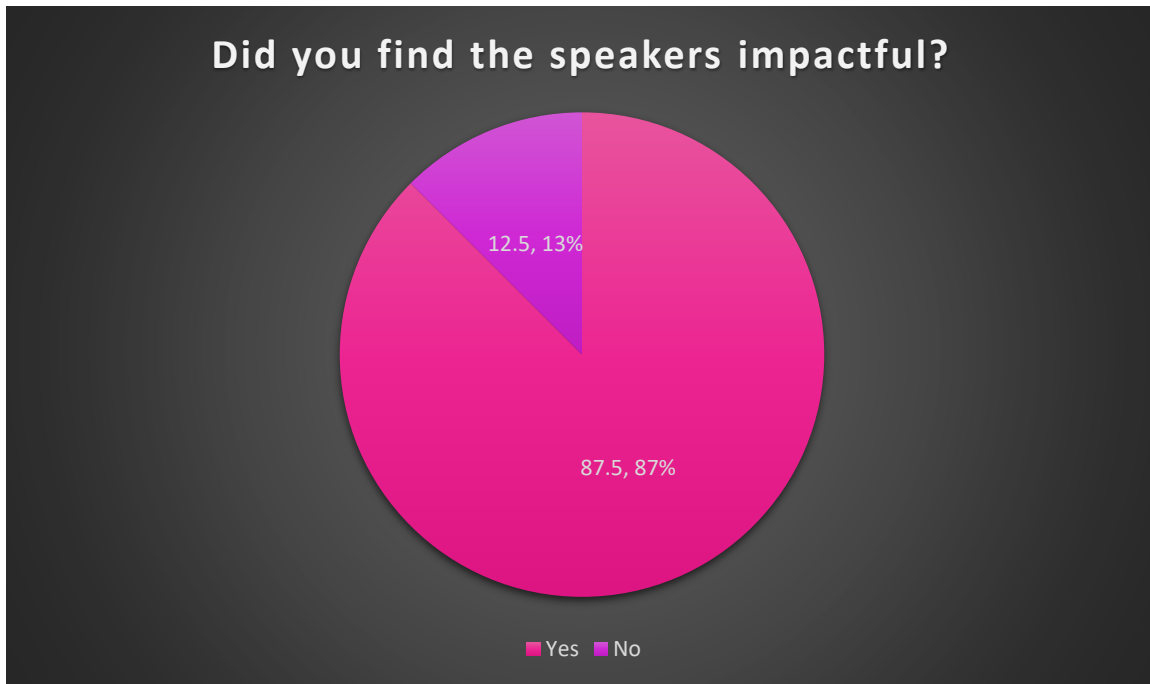
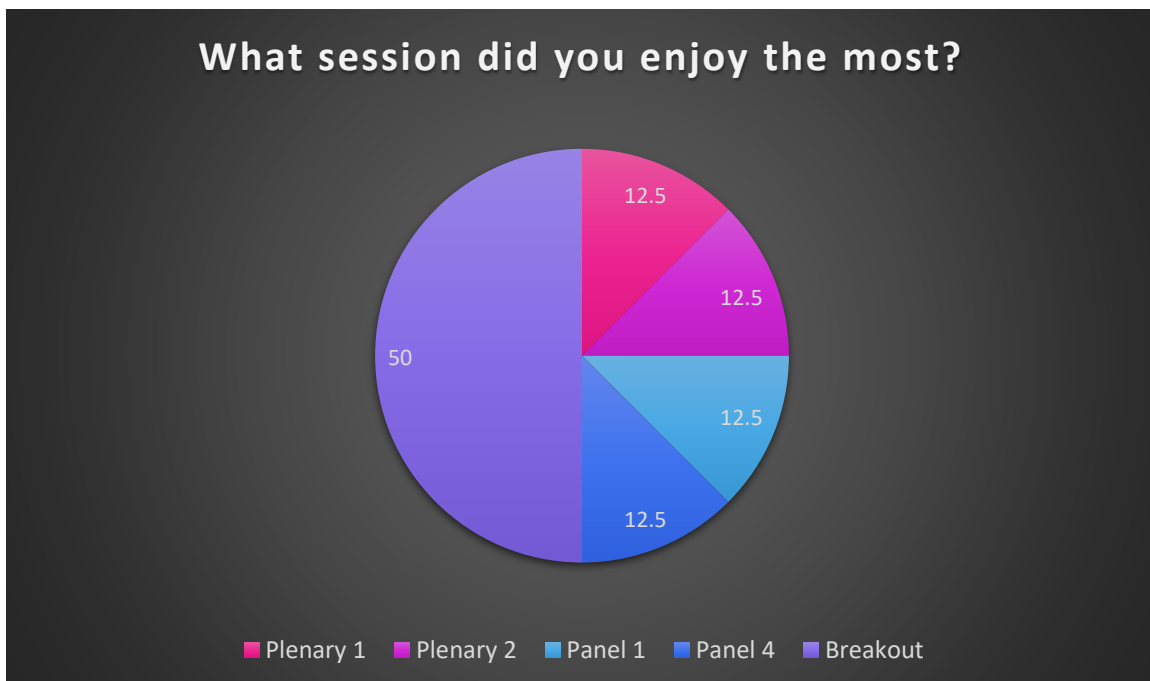


Figure 8. What session did you enjoy the most?



Lessons Learned

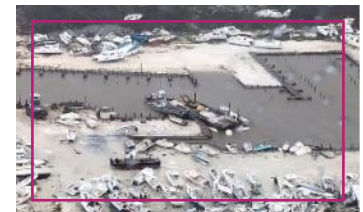


- ❖ The Youth Statement, which was drafted in English, was translated into Spanish, French and Portuguese. A fourth breakout sesión for French speakers did not materialize because of a failure in technology making it imposible for French moderators to logon. As a result, there was no breakout session in the French language. It is important to advise presenters and speakers to situate themselves in a well-lit area for their presentations and if possible, to have back-up Wi-Fi.
- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic limited physical participation but there were participants from the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Venezuela, Tunisia, Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica, and in Jamaica, the parishes of Portland, St. Elizabeth, and St. Catherine, which may not have happened if the event was face-to-face.
- ❖ The events should be kept short to ensure consistent engagement, as after too long we lost participants. Timeliness is key in keeping participants engaged online as they will start to drop out of the session if it does not start on time, goes too long and/or during breakout sessions. Loss of participants limited engagement during the breakout sessions.
- ❖ For best results, a rehearsal with the speakers and presenters should be held before the event to ensure they fully understand their role.
- ❖ Keep activities participatory to ensure that those who are there are kept engaged using videos, games, etc.
- ❖ There is need to be sensitive and inclusive to the different audiences. There was an effort to do this through language interpretation and sign language during the plenary sessions and panel discussions.
- ❖ It would have been good to have certificates for the participants who put a lot of time and effort into the activities and preparation.
- ❖ Some speakers went overboard and too long. Narrow the focus of the sessions.



Recommendations

- ❖ **Capacity building must be a priority:** One of the main highlights during the forum and planning meetings was the need for greater climate and disaster risk financing opportunities at the local and regional levels. In this vein, through the planning and execution of the regional Youth Forum, the youth committee members decided to host a capacity building workshop for youth leaders in the region. The aim of this pilot workshop is to assist youth leaders in accessing finances for the execution of grassroots projects.
- ❖ **Not only is capacity building** a priority, but for maximum effect, the resource materials need to be popularized.
- ❖ **Accessibility of information is a key consideration:** Information needs to be easily accessible, ensuring that any content produced is appropriate for the target audience. The information also needs to be translated into an audio or video format with sign language interpretation to reach all groups.
- ❖ **Partnership is key to sustainability:** The issue of sustainability has long been a challenge for organizations working in social development. During the youth planning meetings, it became clear that partnerships offered youth organizations the opportunity to work together for the best results. The involvement of the OPDEM assistance helped to push things along quickly.



Annex 1 – Youth Committee Member Bio

Alinne Olvera Martinez – Mexico



Alinne Olvera, is an Earth Sciences and Integrated Disaster Risk Management Bachelor, advocates for science and technology-based resilience establishment. Alinne was selected by the Japanese Cabinet Office, Mexican Youth Institute, and Mexico's National Center for Prevention of Disasters to be Mexico City's delegate in the eight-person Mexican delegation in The International Youth Development Exchange Program 2019. She is currently working on private sector alliances to integrate disaster risk management in SME dynamics and international cooperation for the exchange of disaster prevention technology. She is a team member of DRR coordination team in the Young Scientists Platform as Focal Point and is Regional Focal Point with Child and Youth Constituency for Sustainable Communities

Adelin Pierre – Haiti



Adelin Pierre holds a bachelor's degree in Environment and Spatial Planning from the Campus Henry Christophe of Limonade/UEH. Currently, he is a Disaster Risk Reduction Regional Focal Point for the Americas & Caribbean at United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth. He is also Environment Project Manager at Fair World Builders. Due to his dynamism and commitment, he has been nominated "Young Climate Ambassador" by Environment Ministry of Haiti and award in 2018 as an outstanding person for environmental field by Junior Chamber International. Recently, he appointed as an Unleash Ambassador for Latin America and Caribbean region. He is currently working with young people in the Caribbean to come up new solution to address regional issue

Sylvia Guzman – Costa Rica



Sylvia is a professional in Natural Resource Management and Project Administration with 15 years of volunteering experience; the last eight years in team coordination and volunteer staff management. Facilitator of training processes, community and environmental development projects. Positive attitude towards professional updating, use of technologies and group processes.



Jerry Registre – Haiti

Jerry REGISTE, born in Haiti, 26 years old, holder of a Diploma in Electric Hydro-Fridge, studies Philosophy, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Centre Muse Haiti (CEMUH) and Communication and Public Relations Officer of the Executive Board of CARIDIMA (The Caribbean Risk and Disaster Management Youth Platform) of UNESCO.



Manuela Borja – Brazil

Manuela has international experience as a volunteer and coordinator of Social and Environmental projects and marine conservation, having worked in Brazil, Mexico, the Galapagos Islands, and the Maldives. She is a master's degree student in Human Ecology and Contemporary Social Problems at the University Nova de Lisboa and co-founder of Movimento Onda Limpa, an initiative that proposes the articulation of projects with the integration of waste management, climate emergency and marine conservation issues.



Selena Campbell- Trinidad & Tobago

Selena has a passion for protecting the environment. Even from a tender age, she would sternly lecture someone if they carelessly threw litter from their car window. From then on, her keenness to learn more about the environment grew. On an academic level, she delved into the field of Environmental Studies and graduated in 2021 from the University of the West Indies, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography and Environmental and Natural Resource Management.



Adrian Reid – Jamaica

Adrian is responsible for all Red Cross Youth Clubs in basic, primary, secondary and tertiary level schools across Jamaica. He also works at two schools for at-risk youth in the parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine.



Kristinia Dougherty – Jamaica

A 25-year-old PhD Candidate in Geography at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. Her research interests include disaster risk reduction, sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation. Interests include climate change, disaster risk management and sustainable land management. My current research focuses on soil security for biomass production in nutmeg farming systems of Grenada with a focus on reducing risk to climate-related hazards. I aim to make a meaningful impact on vulnerable groups in the Caribbean region through increasing their capacities and resilience to shocks and stresses.



Jhannel Tomlinson – Jamaica

Jhannel is a PhD candidate and researcher with a background in agriculture, rural livelihoods and community-based adaptation to climate change, who is passionate about environmental justice and youth engagement in issues related to climate change. She has published academic papers on the preliminary findings of her work. She is also a Prime Minister's Youth Awardee.



Nicholas Kee – Jamaica

Nicholas Kee is the co-founder of Osoobe, a startup venture studio aimed at creating frictionless products and services for the virtual economy. He is also co-founder and CEO of Kee Farms, a regenerative ocean farm network focused on growing seaweed and oysters with the aim of reducing greenhouse gases and increasing biodiversity. He has worked with NASA, CERN, Red Cross International and the United Nations on renewable energy-related projects and policy reform for developing countries and refugee camps. Nichola is the Jamaica Youth Ambassador to the Commonwealth.



Diana Caceido – Colombia

Diana works with the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Risk Reduction.



Annex 2 – Youth Forum Concept Note

Concept Note

2021



Youth Forum
for Disaster Risk Reduction
The Americas and the Caribbean



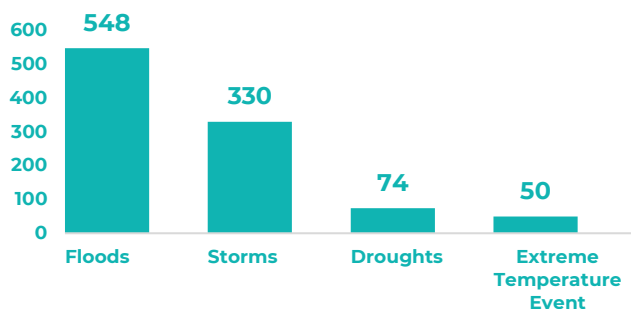
BACKGROUND

Between **1998 and 2017**, disaster-hit countries reported direct economic losses valued at **USD 2,908 billion**. Countries within The Americas and the Caribbean are vulnerable to a range of natural hazards including **droughts, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes and volcanoes**.



In 2020, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs declared Latin America and the Caribbean as the second most disaster-prone region in the world with 1,205 disasters between 2000 and 2019. These disasters include 548 floods, 330 storms, 74 droughts and 50 extreme temperature events during that time.

Disasters from 2000- 2019



According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (2012), climate change will allow for a change in the frequency, intensity, duration and spatial extent of the hydrometeorological hazards. For the region, this may mean stronger hurricanes, more persistent droughts and more frequent flood events. Disaster losses have major social impacts that are manifested in different dimensions of human development and poverty. As a result, improving the resilience of the region against climate change and its related hazards are important to maintain sustainable livelihoods. Even before the COVID-19

pandemic, the Americas and the Caribbean already accounted for 53 per cent of reported global economic losses resulting from climate-related disasters. Heat waves are getting stronger, longer, and more frequent due to human-caused climate change. By June 2021, for instance, a major drought covered 38.5 per cent of the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Furthermore, the 2020 Atlantic hurricane season was the most active on record. The storms that slammed into the Gulf Coast, Central America and the Caribbean that year exhibited hallmark signs that they were exacerbated by climate change.

In any type of disaster, children and adolescents constitute a particularly vulnerable group. Children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable to disasters as they are dependent on others for access to resources, livelihood, decision making and support. Children require special protection according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and have the right to be the first to receive attention during emergencies. Peek (2007) argues that disasters harm the physical spaces in which children live, ie, their homes, neighborhoods and schools. This may lead to long-term displacement, disrupt their daily routines and educational progress, threaten their sense of safety and security in the world, cause stress within families and communities and may result in personal injury or the death of loved ones.

Climate change and its impacts will impact the current livelihoods and future of youth. Studies also show that children and youth can be strong advocates for climate change in their various communities and groups. Notwithstanding, the youth have been identified as one of the major groups of civil society in Agenda 21 to participate in sustainable development. According to the United Nations (UN) a youth is defined as a person between the ages of 15 to 24 years old. Within Latin



America and the Caribbean 20 per cent of the population or 106 million people are characterized as youth. It is therefore of great importance to involve the youth of the region in the activities geared to improve the resilience of the region to climate change and its related hazards.

During the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in March 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was adopted. This global framework, along with the other global agreements adopted during 2015, constitute the 2030 Agenda, which establishes comprehensive disaster risk management and its integration into development as fundamental for Member States. Global Frameworks cannot be successfully implemented in separate boxes; they require coherence in planning and in implementation. As a practical framework for dealing with risk, the **Sendai Framework is the connecting tissue** for the post-2015 international agreements. The Sendai Framework seeks to achieve “the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries”. Achieving this result requires the commitment of political leaders at all levels and for all actors to actively participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and related actions.

Jamaica will host the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean from 1-4 November 2021 under the

theme **“Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean”**, to raise awareness of the challenges facing Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean region and the wider Americas.

As part of the platform, Jamaica suggested the staging of a regional Youth Forum to ensure that the voices of youth are included in the deliberations. To that end, on October 26, 2021, this regional youth event will take place, in collaboration with the Jamaican Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, UNICEF, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR).

The Regional Youth Forum, also hosted by Jamaica, will provide a space for youth representatives to voice their unique views on Disaster Risk Reduction for the Americas and the Caribbean. The Youth Forum will serve as a lead in to the VII Regional Platform and will provide the opportunity to inform and influence decision makers participating in the VII Regional Platform for DRR by sharing youth priorities, concerns and proposals related to DRR.

Through this engagement Youth will have an opportunity to have discussions and provide input on some of the thematic areas proposed and provide ideas for follow up for continued action for the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.

OBJECTIVES



The Youth Forum, hosted by Jamaica, will be held entirely **virtually** using the **Hopin virtual platform**. It will provide a space to ensure that youth participants share their views on a wide range of issues including Disaster Management and Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.



Specifically, it aims to:

- Provide a space for approximately 1000 youth representatives to voice their unique views on Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives for the region.
- Encourage youth participation in discovery learning about their communities' vulnerability to hazards.
- Provide innovative space where youth can use creative methods such as short films/video and 2D/3D poster to advance Disaster Risk Reduction efforts.
- Highlight the use of disaster knowledge for individual responsibility and self-protection within communities.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES AND GOALS

The outcome of the Youth Forum will be a summary document capturing key outcomes of the discussions and findings of the forum which will be made available to the Ministerial Round Table during the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean. A representative of the Youth Forum will address the VII Regional Platform on a date between 1 and 4 November 2021. The Youth Forum will also provide ongoing opportunities to share and exchange information through a multilingual website for regional youth DRR organizations to build alliances and via capacity building training workshops.

The in-forum sessions will also solicit viewpoints from youth on innovative and successful initiatives and interventions aimed at building resilient economies in the Americas and the Caribbean. The outcomes of the Youth Forum should be transformed into effective actions requiring a correct perception of target populations including all vulnerable groups such as children, elderly folks and persons with disabilities.

Theme: “Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean”

Outcomes:

- I. To highlight the work of youth in the Americas and the Caribbean on the topic of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.
 - a. To create a medium for inclusive regional integration of youth, where knowledge on disaster/climate and environment resilience and best practices are shared in a



collaborative environment and through an ongoing website to help youth in DRR form alliances with like-minded individuals.

2. To provide a space where youth and policy makers in the Americas and the Caribbean can provide strategies to change the way the region plans and responds to multiple hazards.
 - a. Adjusting the way in which the Americas and the Caribbean plans and responds to multiple hazards - climate change, earthquakes, COVID-19, hurricanes, floods (sudden-onset disaster and slow-onset hazard).
 - b. To provide a platform to discuss innovative solutions for sustainable development.
3. To develop a plan in which youth are allowed to engage and participate in decision planning.
 - a. To reduce tokenism and develop practical ways to involve youth engagement in DRR.
 - b. To provide the youth in the Americas and the Caribbean with information on alliances, support organizations) and sources of funding for DRR and climate change.



Target Participants

The forum will target a total of 1000 participants from around the region. The desired participants are aged 15 to 24 (with exceptions) and already involved in disaster risk reduction or adaptation activities or in climate action. The participants will be invited from within the Caribbean, North, Central and South America. Participants should commit to facilitate dialogue, enrich the discussions and ensure recommended actions emerging from the platform are taken forward at country level. The Youth Forum will include a balanced representation of youth from all countries including indigenous groups and people with disabilities. Gender balance will also be respected.

Criteria for Participants

- Youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years (some exceptions may apply)
- Residents of North, Central, South America and the Caribbean
- Youth leaders attached to social, cultural, environmental and educational programmes.
- Background knowledge, directly involved or have a vested interest in DRR and/or climate change

Table 1. Countries in The Americas and the Caribbean

v



North America

Central America

South America

The Caribbean

Canada
Mexico
United States of America

Belize
Costa Rica
Guatemala
El Salvador
Honduras
Nicaragua
Panama

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Falkland Islands
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
South Georgia
Uruguay
Venezuela

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
The Bahamas
Barbados
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Dutch Caribbean (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Sint Maarten, Saba, Sint Eustatius)
French Caribbean (French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin, St. Bartholomew)
Grenada
Guyana
Haiti
Jamaica - Host Country
Montserrat
Puerto Rico
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
United States Virgin Islands
Trinidad and Tobago
Turks and Caicos

AGENDA





The Youth Committee team met three times over a period of three weeks to create an agenda for the Forum. The Forum will feature opening and closing plenary sessions. The Forum will adopt participatory methods to encourage innovation, stimulate creativity and raise awareness. Activities will include interactive panels, group discussions, performances and role-playing exercises. Presenters, motivational speakers and facilitators will offer informed perspectives on critical issues on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Session One

The Forum will be three hours long and will feature three segments, each focusing on one specific outcome. The forum will begin with an opening ceremony, adoption of the agenda. The first session will highlight the work of youth in the Americas and the Caribbean on the topic of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction and examine disaster risk reduction from the youth perspective as well as provide information on the upcoming VII Regional Platform. This session will also address the youth role in DRR including ICTs and a myth busting interactive segment.

Session Two

The second hour will aim to provide a space where youth and policy makers in the Americas and the Caribbean can provide strategies to change the way the region plans and responds to multiple hazards. This will include an inclusive panel discussion on cost-effective strategies to reduce risk and the youth perspective on what the region will look like if adaptive action is not taken now.

Session Three

In the final hour, participants will be placed in language specific – English, Spanish, French (Portuguese) – breakout groups to discuss the proposed Youth Declaration for the VII Regional Platform and allow for feedback from each language group. The feedback will be presented by a pre-selected moderator in the following segment. The intent is to incorporate this feedback into the Declaration to be made at the VII Regional Platform in November.

In general, the Forum will adopt participatory methods to encourage innovation, stimulate creativity and raise awareness. Activities will include interactive quizzes, group discussions, polls, disaster reduction planning exercises and tips for building cost effective strategies. It is anticipated that persons who win quizzes and other interactive games within the Forum will be invited to participate in the VII Regional Platform in November. Presenters and facilitators will offer informed perspectives on critical issues on Disaster Risk Reduction. These sessions will also solicit youths' viewpoints on innovative and successful initiatives and interventions aimed at building resilient economies in the Americas and the Caribbean. The outcomes of the Youth Forum should be transformed into effective actions requiring a realistic perception of target populations including all vulnerable groups such as children, elderly folks and persons with disabilities.

Table 2. Tentative Agenda



START	FINISH	YOUTH FORUM DRR THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN	
15:25	15:30	LOG ON/REGISTRATION	
15:30	16:30	OPENING CEREMONY	
15:30	15:34	Jamaican Cultural Package	Panos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change
15:34	16:10	Opening Address - Government of Jamaica	Minister of State in the Ministry of Education Youth and Information
16:10	16:15	UNDRR Opening Address	Mami Mitzutori
16:15	16:20	UNICEF Opening Address	
16:20	16:25	Declaration of Opening and Adoption of the Agenda	OPDEM Youth Ambassador
16:25	16:28:30	VOICES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE	Voices for Climate Change
16:29	17:45	PLENARY SESSION – What will my tomorrow be? Perspective of youth from the Americas and the Caribbean moving forward in the face of multiple disasters (marginalized, indigenous and vulnerable groups.	MODERATORS – SYLVIA GUZMAN AND ADRIAN REID
16:30	16:35	The impact of COVID on the life of youth in the region - A Jamaican perspective	Jamoye Phillips
16:35	16:40	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards – An Eastern Caribbean perspective	Aria Laidlow
16:40	16:45	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards - The Indigenous community perspective	Carlos Sambula - Honduras
16:45	16:55	BUST THAT MYTH!	MODERATOR EMPREZZ GOLDING
16:55	17:10	PLENARY SESSION – What is the role of young people in disaster risk reduction?	
16:55	17:00	Grassroots youth activism for increasing resilience to disasters	Cici Xu – IMYAC
17:00	17:05	Youth involvement in Nationally Determined Contributions	Natalia Gomez
17:05	17:10	Careers and Innovation for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction	Barbara Neira
17:10	17:20	NETWORKING AND GAMES SESSION	MODERATOR EMPREZZ GOLDING



17:20	17:40	PANEL DISCUSSION - COVID-19 impact and the use of technology in the DRR space				Floralma Lopez
17:42	18:02	PANEL DISCUSSION - Implementing cost-effective grassroots strategies to increase adaptive capacity and resilience				Thiago Resnitzky Geasean Johnson
18:02	18:05	JAMAICA MOVES EXERCISE SESSION				
18:05	18:30	Parallel session English	Parallel session Spanish	Parallel session French	Parallel session Portuguese	MODERATORS – ENGLISH - Kristinia Dougherty, Jhannel Tomlinson SPANISH – Alinne Olverra, Marcos Sepulveda FRENCH – Adelin Pierre, Jerry Howard PORTUGUESE - Aila Gomes, Manuela Borjas
18:30	18:35	DRR QUIZ				KAHOOT
18:35	18:38	Breakout Group Feedback English				ENGLISH
18:38	18:41	Breakout Group Feedback Spanish				SPANISH
18:41	18:44	Breakout Group Feedback French				FRENCH
18:44	18:47	Breakout Group Feedback Portuguese				PORTUGUESE
18:47	18:52	In-Forum Feedback Survey				MODERATOR
18:52	19:00	CLOSING CEREMONY				MODERATOR EMPREZZ GOLDING

Youth Forum Planning Committee



To encourage and foster a greater participation of young people, a Youth Steering Committee will be created to co-lead the organization of the Forum, including main content, virtual consultations, format of debates and sessions making sure to achieve the key objectives. A group of 21 youth from the Americas and the Caribbean were nominated to co-lead the overall organization of the Forum. The Youth Planning Committee members is as follows:

Table 3. Youth Forum DRR The Americas and the Caribbean Planning Committee

Name	Country	Organization
Adrian Reid	Jamaica	Jamaica Red Cross
Anabelle Jones	Jamaica	Youth Advisory Council of Jamaica
Kristinia Dougherty	Jamaica	The University of the West Indies, Mona
Nicholas Kee	Jamaica	U Report Youth Council
Jhannel Tomlinson	Jamaica	Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN)
Tahje Wallen	Jamaica	CARIDIMA
Amrita Sridhar	Singapore	UNICEF Jamaica Intern
Selena Campbell	Trinidad and Tobago	The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
Sylvia Guzman	Costa Rica	Youth Costa Rican Red Cross
Sara Cognuck	Panama	UNICEF
Arturo Salazar	Mexico	UNICEF
Jorges Terrones	Panama	UNDRR
Alinne Olvera	Mexico	Youth STAG member
Aila Gomes	Brazil	UNMGCY
Manuela Borja	Brazil	YCL
Jaime Maldonado	Colombia	Barranquilla +20
Diana Caceido	Colombia	Barranquilla +20
Adelin Pierre	Haiti	UNMGCY
Jerry Howard	Haiti	CARIDIMA
Sebastian Benfeld	Chile	Junior Journalist on DRR
Marcos Sepulveda	Chile	Junior Journalist on DRR

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS



The event will be publicized using social media channels of the UNDRR, UNICEF, and other UN Agencies as well as through the personal emails and WhatsApp groups of members of the communications working group as well as other members of the Youth Forum Planning Committee. Social media communications include pre-event factoids and features on youth affected by climate change and strategies for disaster risk reduction as well as pre-and post-event press releases.

A Save the Date invitation was launched on September 17.



Persons who wish to participate in the Youth Forum DRR The Americas and the Caribbean can register by clicking the registration link to the forum. <https://hopin.com/events/youth-forum-for-disaster-risk-reduction-the-americas-and-the-caribbean>.

In addition, more information on Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean, is available at the [VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction \(DRR\) in the Americas and the Caribbean](#) website.

For further information please contact:

Dania Bogle

dbogle@unicef.org

876-9951932



#RP21

#ResilientCaribbean

#ResilientAmericas

#YouthForumDRR

#ResilientJA



Figure 1. Social Media Calendar

September				2021		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 UNICEF: SAVE THE DATE	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



October				2021		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Myth Busters Major Disaster in The Americas and The Caribbean	2
3	4 Myth Busters (Myth Vs. Fact)	5	6 Feature Of Day: Youth's Contribution To DRR	7	8 Myth Busters (Myth Vs. Fact)	9
10	11 Myth Busters (Myth Vs. Fact)	12	13 Story On Disaster Survivor's Experience	14	15 Myth Busters (Myth Vs. Fact)	16
17	18 Myth Busters (Myth Vs. Fact)	19	20 Meet The DRR Youth Forum Comm	21	22 Post Video Endorsement for DRR Youth Forum	23
24	25 DRR Youth Forum Post Reminder Tomorrow	26 DRR Youth Forum Post Link One Hour Before Forum	27	28	29	30
31						



Annex 1. Work Plan

ACTIVITIES	September 2021				October 2021				November 2021			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
PHASE 1: YOUTH FORUM PREPARATION												
Begin discussing framework for the Youth Forum, including agenda and communications plans.												
Begin working group meetings to decide action points, areas of focus, agenda, methodology and time frame and proposed participants												
LAUNCH SAVE THE DATE INVITATION			*									
Send out link and invitations for the Forum												
Finalize Concept Note												
Clarify and finalize methodology, engage translators, presenters. Methodology developed in collaboration with UNICEF and other Steering Committee members												
Finalize forum agenda												
Finalize and engage presenters, translators, animators, music, etc.												
PHASE 2: YOUTH FORUM EXECUTION												
Send out final invitations and reminders												



Youth Forum Presentations Test Run 20 October 2021												
YOUTH FORUM DRR THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN								*				
Finalize youth presenters for VII Platform and conduct final preparation of the Youth Declaration												
VII Regional Platform Presentations Test Run 29 October 2021												
VII REGIONAL PLATFORM ON DRR									*			
Post VII Regional Platform Review												*



Annex 2. Meeting Dates and Representatives from UNDRR

The youth organizing committee and the facilitator, Ms. Bogle have been holding regular meetings with members of the UNDRR, UNICEF, IFRC, GNDR, and other planning committee and steering committee members.

Date of Meeting	Attendees	Organization
7, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28 September	Rebecca Tortello	UNICEF Jamaica
September 2021	Maria Emilia Number Rebecca Tortello Hanoch Barlevi Melany Riquetti Moran	UNICEF UNICEF Jamaica UNICEF UNDRR
20 September 2021	Maria Emilia Numer Hanoch Barlevi	UNICEF UNICEF
1 st – 28 th September	Melany Riquetti Maria Emilia Numer	UNDRR UNICEF
14 September	Mikael Ashorn	UNICEF
15 September	Adrian Reid	Jamaica Red Cross
22, 23 September 2021	Delmares White Nagra Plunkett-Nugent	ODPEM MLGCD
22 September 2021	Ross Shiel Communications Working Group Saskia Carusi Jorge Terrones	UNICEF Jamaica Various UNDRR UNDRR
2, 9, 16, 23 September 2021	Youth Steering Committee	Various
10, 24 September 2021	Steering Committee	Various
27 September 2021	Marsha Henry-Martin Hon. Minister Desmond McKenzie	MLGCD
27 September 2021 27 September 2021	Vicente Teran Rebecca Tortello	UNICEF Jamaica



Annex 3 – Global Warming, sung by Voices for Climate Change Lloyd Lovindeer

Lyrics by

See the Signs they all reveal that global Climate Change is real
It's not a matter of when or how Climate Change is happening now
Sea levels are rising globally; we're losing our beaches constantly
Summers are hotter than they use to be
Stronger hurricanes more frequently, severe flooding, longer droughts
That's what climate change is all about
We've got to do what we have to do, we've got to prepare
Start by being aware

A long time we a upset the ecology
Now climate change is a reality
Some strange weather changes all year round
We can't stop it ...but we can slow it down
Small Island will feel it the most
Especially di people dem pon di coast
We're losing the reefs and the beaches
Flooding in coastal communities

They're burning the garbage everywhere
They're cutting down the trees
Pollution in the air
Mommy I can't breathe

To adapt to the ever-changing climate
Some lifetime changes we've got to make
Emission of gasses we have to reduce
Turn off the light when they are not in use

So much of the warming changes we see
Are caused by human activities
Chemical poisoning in the air
Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere



Annex 4 – Talking Points of UNICEF Representative to Jamaica Mariko Kagoshima

Mr. Robert Nesta Morgan, Minister of State in the MOEYI, **Miss Mami Mitzutori**, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, ladies, gentlemen, and all youth participants joining us today.

It is a pleasure to be with people so committed to the participation of adolescents and young people around such important agenda for our region.

- The climate crisis has an unprecedented impact on the Latin American and Caribbean region, with millions of people affected each year by floods, droughts and other extreme events such as hurricanes. The scientific evidence is clear: the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme weather-related events is increasing, and the slow onset of changes will only intensify if the current path of inaction continues.
- Children are especially vulnerable for biological, physical, physiological and cognitive reasons specific to its developing state. In addition, there are other issues that can further increase their vulnerability, such as inequality or discrimination. Children, adolescents and young people are the ones who will experience the impacts of disasters disproportionately putting their well-being at risk in the present and in the future.
- The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 calls for multisectoral, people-centered practices to address the complex and underlying social, environmental and economic factors of disaster risk. To achieve a greater collective impact, UNICEF is working with and for young people in all sectors to achieve a more integrated approach to reducing disaster risk, with a special focus on groups with the greatest vulnerabilities such as children.
- We, adults, are called to promote and make real changes that impact the present and the future of children and youth. It is imperative that climate action and disaster risk reduction actors work together to provide special attention to the specific risks faced by children in the different contexts and realities of the Americas and the Caribbean. It is our duty to involve them as agents of change and active participants in efforts and initiatives to reduce disaster risk and adapt to climate change.
- Inclusive and equitable quality education is fundamental to achieve the sustainable development goals and is essential to guarantee integrated development. To enhance resilience of communities and the education sector, the participation of children,



adolescents and wider society needs to be ensured, to result in a safe, resilient and sustainable culture for families and communities.

- On the other hand, educational services are often not adequately equipped to cope with local climate conditions and are occasionally interrupted in time of disasters.
- Education on disaster and climate risk reduction and accelerate the implementation of comprehensive resilient and school safety. Make comprehensive School Safety a priority, and ensure all schools and educational institutions have their school disaster management plans (school hazards and risk assessment, evacuation plans, fire safety, etc.)
- Ensuring meaningful participation also implies that their voices are heard and acted upon by decision-makers. And this is precisely the goal of this forum, to gather and share youth concerns, demands and ideas with governments and stakeholders at the VII Regional Platform from Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.
- From UNICEF, we reiterate our support to continue working collectively with young people in disaster risk reduction and climate action, seeking those efforts to reach the "last mile", leaving no one behind so we can build and rebuild a more resilient world and thereby ensuring safe and sustainable environment for children today and tomorrow.

I wish you a good and fruitful discussions during the Forum and once again, thank you.



Annex 5 Youth Forum DRR Rider

Youth Forum Rider 24 Oct 2021

Youth Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction - The Americas and the Caribbean October 28th - 3.30 pm Jamaica Conference Center - Hopla									
Duration	Start time Jamaica	End time Jamaica	Start time Dublin	End time Dublin	Session name	Topic	Moderator/Speaker	Live/Dial In	Speeches
0:04:00	15:30:00	15:34:00	21:30:00	21:34:00	Opening Ceremony	Welcome words + Introduces Youtube video	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Honourable Minister of State in the Ministry of Education Youth and Information, the Honourable Robert Nesta Morgan, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk
0:04:00	15:34:00	15:38:00	21:34:00	21:38:00	Opening Ceremony	Video - Penos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change	Youtube	LIS	
0:00:30	15:38:00	15:38:30	21:38:00	21:38:30	Opening Ceremony	Introduces Youth Ambassador Kyle Geynor	Emprezz Golding	LIS	
0:05:00	15:38:30	15:43:30	21:38:30	21:43:30	Opening Ceremony	Kyle Geynor - Opening Words	Kyle Geynor	LIS	As a proud member of our regional community of the Americas and the Caribbean, and a proud Jamaican, I am so excited to be in union with you today as an extension of how our lives and families. Thank you Kyle.
0:00:30	15:43:30	15:44:00	21:43:30	21:44:00	Opening Ceremony	Introduces Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR Mami Mizutori	Emprezz Golding	LIS	The next presenter is Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR Mami Mizutori.
0:05:00	15:44:00	15:49:00	21:44:00	21:49:00	Opening Ceremony	SRSG Mami Mizutori - Opening Words	Mami Mizutori	DIAL IN	Thank you special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR Mami Mizutori.
0:00:30	15:49:00	15:49:30	21:49:00	21:49:30	Opening Ceremony	Introduces UNICEF Representative to Jamaica, Mariko Kagoshima	Emprezz Golding	LIS	
0:05:00	15:49:30	15:54:30	21:49:30	21:54:30	Opening Ceremony	UNICEF Mariko Kagoshima - Opening Words	Mariko Kagoshima	LIS	Mr. Robert Nesta Morgan, Minister of State in the MOEYI, Miss Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
0:00:30	15:54:30	15:55:00	21:54:30	21:55:00	Opening Ceremony	Introduces Mr. Robert Nesta Morgan - Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Information (MOEYI)	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Thank you Mariko.
0:20:00	15:55:00	16:15:00	21:55:00	22:15:00	Opening Ceremony	Opening Address	Mr. Robert Nesta Morgan - Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Information (MOEYI)	LIS	
0:00:30	16:15:00	16:15:30	22:15:00	22:15:30	Opening Ceremony	Thank you & Intro Plenary	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Thank you so much Minister Robert Nesta Morgan, we will now be moving into the meat of the matter. The first segment will be a plenary session, what will my tomorrow, which will feature the perspective of
0:00:30	16:15:30	16:16:00	22:15:30	22:16:00	Transition	Transition song - Penos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change		LIS	
0:00:15	16:16:00	16:16:15	22:16:00	22:16:15	PLENARY SESSION 1 - What will my tomorrow be? Perspective of youth from the Americas and the Caribbean moving forward in the face of multiple disasters	Adrian introduces himself	Adrian Reid	DIAL IN	I'm Adrian Reid with Red Cross Jamaica.
0:00:15	16:16:15	16:16:30	22:16:15	22:16:30	PLENARY SESSION 1	Sylvia introduces herself and the first speaker, Jemoye	Sylvia Guzman	DIAL IN	Hello everyone, I'm Sylvia Guzman and I'm from Cook Island. In this segment we will look at the perspective of youth from the Americas and the Caribbean moving forward in the face of multiple
0:05:00	16:16:30	16:21:30	22:16:30	22:21:30	PLENARY SESSION 1	The impact of COVID on the life of youth in the region - A Jamaican perspective	Jemoye Phillips	DIAL IN	
0:00:10	16:21:30	16:21:40	22:21:30	22:21:40	PLENARY SESSION 1	Adrian presents next Speaker: Aris	Adrian Reid	DIAL IN	Arlis Laidlow is a Vincentian lecturer in Climate Change who understands the impact of volcanoes and hurricanes
0:05:00	16:21:40	16:26:40	22:21:40	22:26:40	PLENARY SESSION 1	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards - An Eastern Caribbean perspective	Arlis Laidlow	DIAL IN	
0:00:10	16:26:40	16:26:50	22:26:40	22:26:50	PLENARY SESSION 1	Sylvia introduces the next speaker: Carlos	Sylvia Guzman	DIAL IN	Carlos is from Honduras who also understands the impacts of multiple hazards from his home in Central America
0:05:00	16:26:50	16:31:50	22:26:50	22:31:50	PLENARY SESSION 1	The outlook on dealing with the new normal of multiple hazards - The Indigenous community perspective	Carlos Sumbule	DIAL IN	
0:20:00	16:31:50	16:51:50	22:31:50	22:51:50	Q&A Live from Jamaica Conference Center	Emprezz takes 3 questions from Jamaican Youth will live from venue	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Thank you Jemoye, Aris and Carlos for your contributions. Now it's time for us to hear questions from our audience that is here with us today at the Jamaica Conference Center!
0:00:15	16:51:50	16:52:05	22:51:50	22:52:05	Transition	Emprezz finalizes Q&A and introduces BUST THAT MYTH!	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Thank you for all the participation! Now it's time to Bust That Myth!
0:00:10	16:52:05	16:52:15	22:52:05	22:52:15	Transition	Transition song - Penos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change		LIS	
0:08:00	16:52:15	17:00:15	22:52:15	23:00:15	BUST THAT MYTH!	BUST THAT MYTH!	Emprezz Golding	LIS	At the end of BUST THAT MYTH Emprezz says: Now a bit more of music while Adrian prepares to take us to the next Plenary!
0:00:10	17:00:15	17:00:25	23:00:15	23:00:25	Transition	Transition song - Penos Caribbean Voices for Climate Change		LIS	
0:01:00	17:00:25	17:01:25	23:00:25	23:01:25	PLENARY SESSION 2	Adrian presents the 3 speakers for Plenary 2	Adrian Reid	DIAL IN	Our second plenary session examines the role of young people in disaster risk reduction. Cici Xu, Nabeila Gomez and Barbara Neira are from North and Central America respectively.
0:05:00	17:01:25	17:06:25	23:01:25	23:06:25	PLENARY SESSION 2	Grassroots youth activism for increasing resilience to disasters	Cici Xu	DIAL IN	Cici Xu is a 16 year old from San Jose in the United States. She is a member of One million Climate Actions challenge and the of the California Legislation Advocacy Team under Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action Grassroots youth activism for increasing resilience to disasters
0:00:10	17:06:25	17:06:35	23:06:25	23:06:35	PLENARY SESSION 2	Sylvia presents Nabeila Gomez	Sylvia Guzman	DIAL IN	Thank you Cici. Nabeila Gomez discusses Youth Involvement in Nationally Determined Contributions



Youth Forum Risk 24 Oct 2021

Youth Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction - The Americas and the Caribbean

October 26th - 3.30 pm Jamaica Conference Center + Hopin

Duration	Start time Jamaica	End time Jamaica	Start time Dublin	End time Dublin	Session name	Topic	Moderator/Speaker	Live/Dial In	Speeches
0:05:00	17:06:35	17:11:35	23:06:35	23:11:35	PLENARY SESSION 2	Youth involvement in Nationally Determined Contributions	Natalie Gomez	DIAL IN	
0:00:10	17:11:35	17:11:45	23:11:35	23:11:45	PLENARY SESSION 2	Adrian presents Barbere	Adrian Reid	DIAL IN	Thank you, Natalie, Barbere Neira will take us through Careers and Innovation for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction
0:05:00	17:11:45	17:16:45	23:11:45	23:16:45	PLENARY SESSION 2	Careers and Innovation for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction	Barbere Neira	DIAL IN	
0:00:15	17:16:45	17:17:00	23:16:45	23:17:00	Transition	Emprezz thanks participants	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Thank you Cici, Natalie and Barbere for your contributions. It's time to meet and greet your fellow participants
0:10:00	17:17:00	17:27:00	23:17:00	23:27:00	Networking - Let's Meet		Emprezz Golding	LIS	Emprezz Golding Intro Networking + Guide Attendees to Network in Hopin
0:00:15	17:27:00	17:27:15	23:27:00	23:27:15	Transition	Transition song - Penco Caribbean Voices for Climate Change			
0:00:30	17:27:15	17:27:45	23:27:15	23:27:45	PANEL DISCUSSION 1	Diana introduces panel discussion participants	Diana Cacerdo	DIAL IN	Now it's time for our panel discussions. In this segment we will discuss COVID-19 impact and the use of technology in the DRR space.
0:20:00	17:27:45	17:47:45	23:27:45	23:47:45	PANEL DISCUSSION 1	COVID-19 impact and the use of technology in the DRR space	Diana Cacerdo, Floridélma Lopez, Marlenne Emmanuel, Manuela Borje	DIAL IN	Manuela and Diana are moderators and will address questions to participants
0:02:00	17:47:45	17:49:45	23:47:45	23:49:45	Transition	Manuela wraps up Panel discussion 1 and introduces Panel Discussion 2	Manuela Borje	DIAL IN	Thank you so much Floridélma and Marlenne proving their individual perspectives on the gender roles and the impacts of covid 19 on technology
0:20:00	17:49:45	18:09:45	23:49:45	0:09:45	PANEL DISCUSSION 2	Implementing co-resilient green economic strategies to increase adaptive capacity and	Thiago Rianchoy, Geseen Johnson, Manuela Borje and Diana Cacerdo	DIAL IN	
0:02:00	18:09:45	18:11:45	0:09:45	0:11:45	PANEL DISCUSSION 2	Diana wraps Up Panel Discussion 2	Diana Cacerdo	DIAL IN	
0:00:15	18:11:45	18:12:00	0:11:45	0:12:00	Transition	Transition song - Penco Caribbean Voices for Climate Change			
0:00:15	18:12:00	18:12:15	0:12:00	0:12:15	JAMAICA MOVES EXERCISE SESSION	Emprezz introduces Youtube video	Emprezz Golding	LIS	
0:03:00	18:12:15	18:15:15	0:12:15	0:15:15	JAMAICA MOVES EXERCISE SESSION	Video from Youtube		LIS	
0:00:30	18:15:15	18:15:45	0:15:15	0:15:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS	Emprezz introduces Parallel Sessions in Hopin	Emprezz Golding	LIS	Right now we will be breaking out into four groups to discuss and revise the Youth Statement for the DRR Platform. Be sure to look for the language link on your individual screens. Please enter the breakout group specific to your language.
0:25:00	18:15:45	18:40:45	0:15:45	0:40:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS	4 Parallel sessions taking place together			In the English language parallel we have a Jamaican moderator, Kristina, that is not confirmed if she will be LIS or DIAL IN.
0:00:30	18:40:45	18:41:15	0:40:45	0:41:15	Transition	Emprezz announces coffe break and invites participants to take Kahoot Quiz	Emprezz Golding	LIS	We will now take a short break while the moderators compile your feedback. During this time you can use the bathroom but we will also be doing the DRR Quiz through KAHOTS so don't stay long
0:15:00	18:41:15	18:56:15	0:41:15	0:56:15	COFFEE BREAK W/ TRANSITION SONG	Transition song - Penco Caribbean Voices for Climate Change			
0:05:00	18:56:15	19:01:15	0:56:15	1:01:15	DRR Quiz	Emprezz conducts Quiz	Emprezz Golding	LIS	DRR QUIZ 1. How many of the 17 warmest years in record were recorded after 2001?
0:00:30	19:01:15	19:01:45	1:01:15	1:01:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Introduces feedback session English	Jhannel	DIAL IN	Welcome back everyone let's now hear from our various groups the feedback on the Youth Statement and we will start with English
0:05:00	19:01:45	19:06:45	1:01:45	1:06:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	English Feedback	TBC	DIAL IN	
0:00:30	19:06:45	19:07:15	1:06:45	1:07:15	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Introduces feedback session Spanish	Jhannel	DIAL IN	
0:05:00	19:07:15	19:12:45	1:07:15	1:12:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Spanish Feedback	TBC	DIAL IN	
0:00:30	19:12:45	19:13:15	1:12:45	1:13:15	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Introduces feedback session French	Jhannel	DIAL IN	
0:05:00	19:13:15	19:18:15	1:13:15	1:18:15	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	French Feedback	TBC	DIAL IN	
0:00:30	19:18:15	19:18:45	1:18:15	1:18:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Introduces feedback session Portuguese	Jhannel	DIAL IN	
0:05:00	19:18:45	19:23:45	1:18:45	1:23:45	PARALLEL SESSIONS FEEDBACK	Portuguese Feedback	TBC	DIAL IN	
0:02:00	19:23:45	19:25:45	1:23:45	1:25:45	CLOSING	Wrap up & Poll (where is the poll?)	Adrian Reid	DIAL IN	Thank you everyone. Please note that your feedback will be incorporated into the statement and this will be recorded and presented at the VII Regional Platform on November 1 to 4 right here in Jamaica.





Annex 6. DRR Quiz for Kahootz with Answers

1. How many of the 17 warmest years on record were recorded after 2001?

- a) 16
- b) 11
- c) 14

2. What is a hazard?

- a) A hazard is a severe or extreme event such as a flood, storm, cold spell or heatwave which occurs naturally anywhere in the world.

3. When does a hazards become a disaster?

- a) When human lives are lost, and livelihoods damaged or destroyed.
- b) When buildings collapse

4. At the end of 2020 how many countries in the Americas and the Caribbean had adopted or in process, national disaster risk reduction strategies aligned to the Sendai Framework?

- a) 32
- b) 24
- c) 45

5. What is the most common disaster in the Americas and Caribbean region?

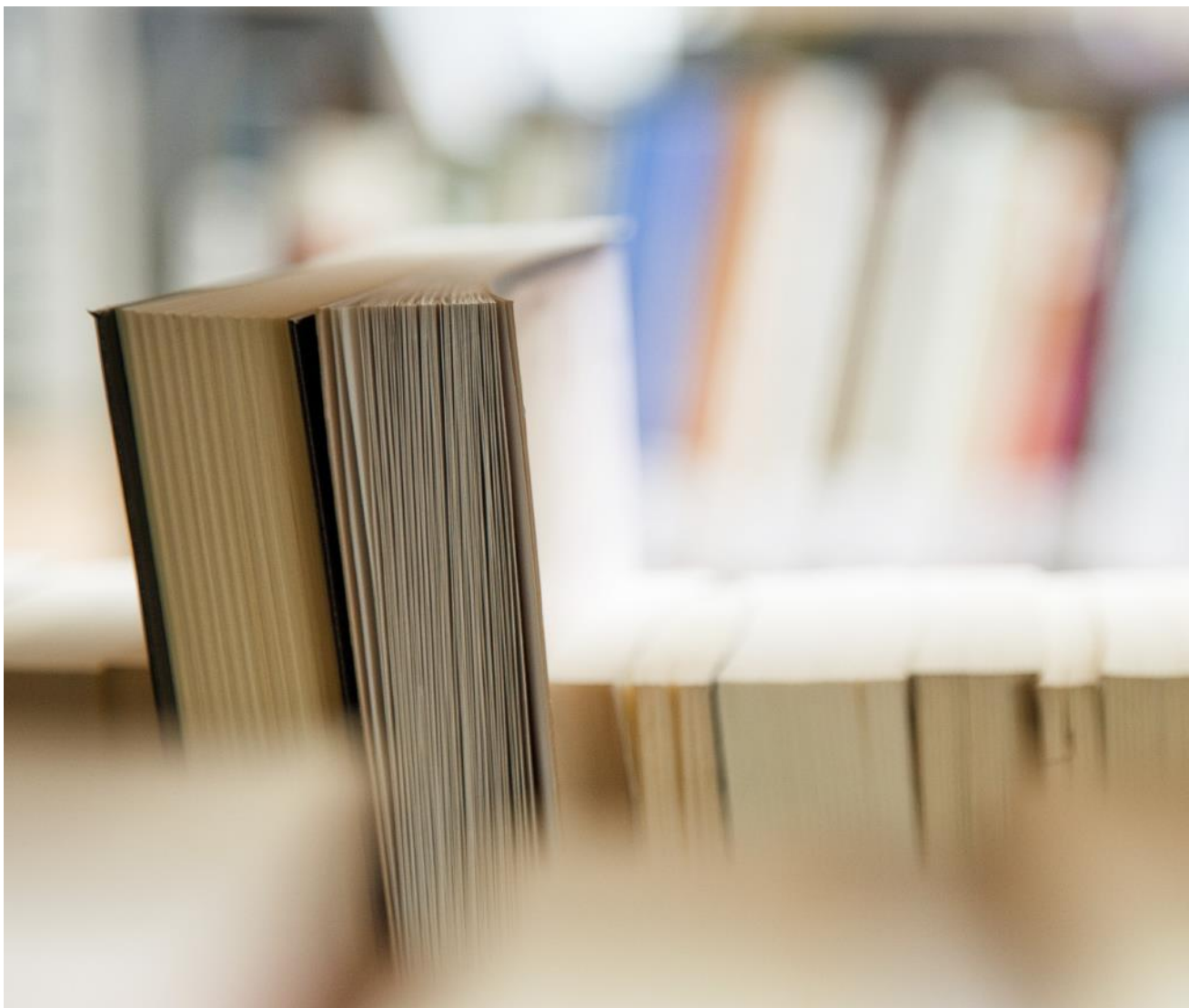
- a) Floods
- b) Storms
- c) Volcanoes
- d) Earthquakes

6) All disasters are natural events

- a) True
- b) False



Annex 7. Capacity Building Workshop for Caribbean Youth DRR Leaders Report



Capacity Building for Caribbean Youth DRR Leaders

A legacy project of the Youth Forum DRR the Americas
and the Caribbean



Background

One of the main points which arose during the planning and execution of the Youth Forum was the need for greater climate and disaster risk financing opportunities at the local and regional levels and the need for capacity building to become priority. Against the backdrop of the Americas being considered the second most disaster-prone region in the world, with climate change projected to increase the frequency and magnitude of the hazards, the youth committee members planning and organizing the regional Youth Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and Caribbean decided to host a capacity building workshop for Caribbean youth DRR leaders.

This workshop is expected to be a pilot program to be adopted by future youth committee members with the aim of assisting youth leaders in accessing finances for the execution of grassroots projects. The inaugural workshop would be delivered by Youth Forum representatives Kristinia Dougherty and Adrian Reid, as host and moderators. Both Kristinia and Adrian were integral members of Youth Forum DRR planning committee and very knowledgeable on the topic of disaster risk reduction. Adrian moderated the Youth Forum and as well as other DRR events his role as a member of staff of the Jamaica Red Cross. Kristinia assisted in the design of the outcomes of the Youth Forum, drafting of Youth Declaration to the RP21 and presented the statement to the Ministerial meeting of the RP21. The workshop planning would be facilitated by Ms Dania Bogle, who also facilitated coordination of the Youth Forum.

Methodology

The workshop will be hosted virtually on the Zoom webinar platform. The workshop will last for one hour and will be divided into two sections: the first will present an overview of Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for the Capacity Building Workshop, and the second section, a presentation on identifying sources of funding for implementing projects and tips and guidelines on writing grant/proposal to assist youth leaders in the execution of their events. The workshop will be held on December 10, 2021, from 12 pm to 1 pm Jamaica/Panama time.

Several of the lessons learned and recommendations from the staging of the Youth Forum DRR will be applied to the methodology of the Capacity Building Workshop.

- One of the lessons from the Youth Forum was the importance of time and keeping virtual events short. Therefore, the workshop will be staged for one hour only.



- The second lesson was that speaker presentations should be seen beforehand to ensure their timeliness and effectiveness. The presenters for the workshop supplied their presentations for review and feedback in advance.
- We learned through the Youth Forum the importance of sharing and popularising resource materials, the need for information to be easily accessible, and appropriate for the target audience. As such, the speaker presentations will be shared with the attendees.

Table 1 demonstrates the timeline for planning and execution of the agenda.

Table 1: Timeline for major milestones of the workshop

Activity	Date
Identification of Speakers	November 15 to December 6
Advertisement of Workshop to Youth Leaders	December 6 to December 9
Workshop	December 10
Feedback and Recommendations	December 10

Miss Ayesha Constable, a Climate Change expert from Antigua and Barbuda was identified for be the main presenter for the workshop to discuss the topics of grant funding while Miss Dougherty was identified to present on the topic of DRR and provide background on the need for the workshop. The proposed agenda for the capacity building workshop is detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Proposed Agenda for the Capacity Building Workshop

Activity	Speaker	Time
Moderator	Adrian Reid – Jamaica Red Cross	3 mins
What is Disaster Risk Reduction?	Kristinia Doughorty	10 mins
Writing a Winning Grant Fund Proposal	Ayesha Constable - Girls Climate Action for Resilience and Empowerment	20 mins
Identifying sources of funding	Ayesha Constable	10 mins
Question & Answer	Ayesha/Kristina	10 mins
Closing Remarks	Ayesha/Kristinia	5 mins



Main Speaker



Ayesha Constable

Ayesha has researched extensively on youth and gender in climate change within the context of climate justice contributing to global and regional policy and academic discourse on climate change. Her recent academic research has examined feminist activism with the application of an intersectional lens to examine the role of young women and girls in climate action in the Caribbean. She has served as a member of several regional and global youth networks including the Caribbean Youth Environment Network, Commonwealth Youth Climate Network, is former Caribbean Coordinator for the Sustainable Development Solutions Youth Network, regional representative for Global Power Shift of 350.org and is currently a Global Advisor to FRIDA- the Young Feminist Fund. She is founder of the Young People for Action on Climate Change Jamaica (YPACCJa, an umbrella organization for youth -led climate groups and of GirlsCARE- Girls for Climate Action for Resilience and Empowerment which offers mentorship for girls in climate activism. She currently serves as the coordinator for the development of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for Antigua & Barbuda.



Communications

The social media cards for the advertising of the workshop will be designed by Selena Campbell, an experienced graphic artist who also designed the concept note for the Youth Forum. The link to the forum was shared by presenters and the youth committee as well as within the UNDRR network on Twitter, Facebook, and WhatsApp statuses. The designed social media card is represented in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Social Media Card Capacity Building Workshop for Caribbean Youth DRR Leaders

The social media card is a vertical rectangular graphic with a dark blue background. At the top, the title "CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CARIBBEAN YOUTH DRR LEADERS" is displayed in white and green text. Below the title, three circular portraits of the presenters and moderator are shown: Ayesha Constable, Kristinia Dougherty, and Adrian Reid. Their names and roles (Presenter or Moderator) are listed below their portraits. The card also features two green boxes with text: "Writing a Winning Grant Fund Proposal, Identifying Sources of Funding" and "What is Disaster Risk Reduction?". The date and time of the event are listed in a dark blue box: "FRIDAY DEC 10th 2021, 12 PM EST, 1 PM ECT". The Zoom meeting details are provided in a white box: "ZOOM MEETING ID: 740 390 1316, PASSCODE: 58Ecjx". At the bottom, a row of logos is displayed, including the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), UNDRR, IFRC, UNESCO, UNICEF, and the Caribbean Youth Forum.

**CAPACITY BUILDING
FOR CARIBBEAN YOUTH
DRR LEADERS**

Ayesha Constable
Presenter

Kristinia Dougherty
Presenter

Adrian Reid
Moderator

**Writing a Winning Grant
Fund Proposal, Identifying
Sources of Funding**

**What is Disaster
Risk Reduction?**

**FRIDAY DEC
10th 2021
12 PM EST
1 PM ECT**

ZOOM MEETING ID: 740 390 1316
PASSCODE: 58Ecjx



Capacity Building Workshop for Caribbean Youth DRR Leaders Summary

The Workshop began at 12:05 pm on Friday, December 10 with the introduction by moderator Adrian Reid. Participants were asked to register to log on to the Workshop. Overall, there were 22 attendees including the presenters, with participants from Trinidad and Tobago, Dominica, Antigua and Barbados, Jamaica and Barbados.

Miss Dougherty made her opening presentation providing the background on the need for the workshop and the refresher on disaster risk reduction. This segment lasted approximately 10 minutes. Miss Constable then made her presentation on the sources of grant funding, and how youth leaders from the region could source funding for their grass roots and other projects. The presentation included a list of references and sources of grant funding available, including UN agencies.

The attendees in workshop were interested in finding out if the tips applied only to grassroots projects, and if the guidance could be used to write any sort of grant fund proposal. They also asked that the PowerPoint presentations be shared that they might be able to review them at a latter date. Attendees provided their email addresses, and the PowerPoints were shared with those who requested a physical copy of the presentation.

The Workshop ended at approximately 1:15 pm.

The PowerPoint presentations for each of the main presenters are represented below.



Overview of Disaster Risk Reduction

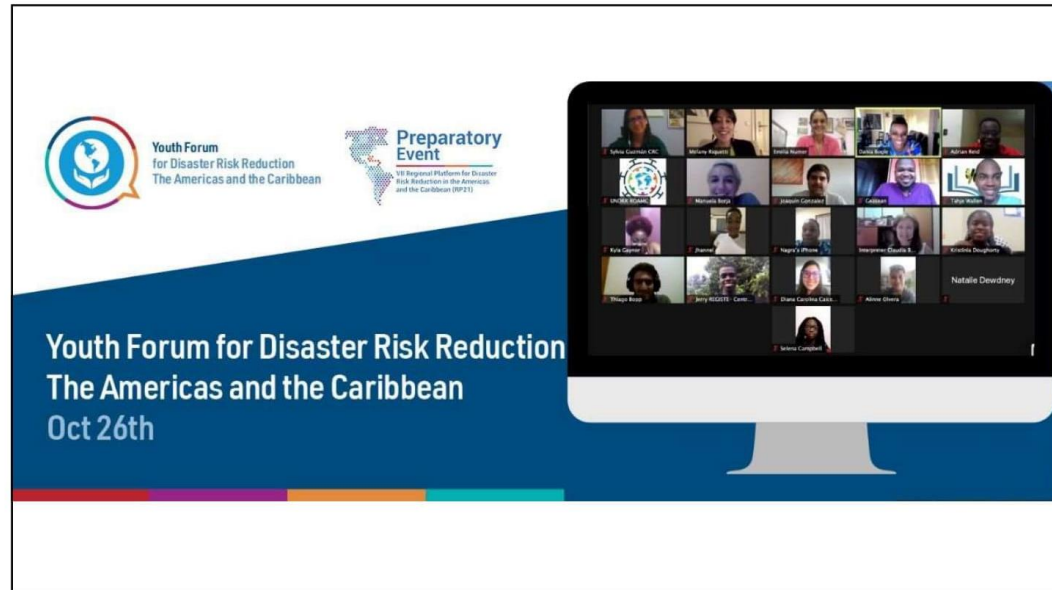
Kristinia Dougherty

1

BACKGROUND

- Jamaica hosted the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean from 1-4 November, 2021.
- The theme “Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean”, was used to raise awareness of the challenges facing Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean region and the wider Americas.
- As part of the platform, Jamaica suggested the staging of a regional Youth Forum to ensure that the voices of youth are included in the deliberations. To that end, on October 26, 2021, the youth across the region collaborated to host a regional youth forum
- Through this engagement Youth had an opportunity to have discussions and provide input on some of the thematic areas proposed and provide ideas for follow up for continued action.

2



3

Disaster RISK

The potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability and capacity

- UNDRR (2020)



DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

- There is no such thing as a natural disaster, but disasters often follow natural hazards.
- Disaster risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters.
- Reducing exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improving preparedness for adverse events are all examples of disaster risk reduction.
- Drivers of disaster risk includes:
 - Poverty
 - Inequality
 - Climate change and variability
 - Ecosystem degradation

5

Cross Cutting Themes

- Multi-hazard approach
- Engagement from all forms of Society
- Addressing the underlying cause of risk
- Primary responsibility of States to reduce disaster risk

Enhancing disaster
preparedness for
effective response,
and to "Build Back
Better"

Understanding
disaster risk

Sendai
Framework
for
DRR

Strengthening
disaster risk
governance

Investing in
disaster risk
reduction for
resilience

6



CARIBBEAN CONTEXT

- Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) is the second most disaster-prone region in the world 152 million affected by 1,205 disasters
- According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (2012), climate change will allow for a change in the frequency, intensity, duration and spatial extent of the hydrometeorological hazards.
- For the region, this may mean stronger hurricanes, more persistent droughts and more frequent flood events.
- As a result, improving the resilience of the region against hazards are important to maintain sustainable livelihoods.

7



Mami Mizutori

Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean (RP21)

Building Resilient Economies in the Americas and the Caribbean

1 to 4 November 2021, Virtual Event

“ Investing in disaster risk reduction is a precondition for sustainable development in a rapidly changing climate. We know that investing in DRR makes good financial sense, but governments still do not prioritize this. Why? Because they see it as a cost, not as an investment. But If we don't make this recovery green and resilient, equitable, then we are creating new risks. ”



8

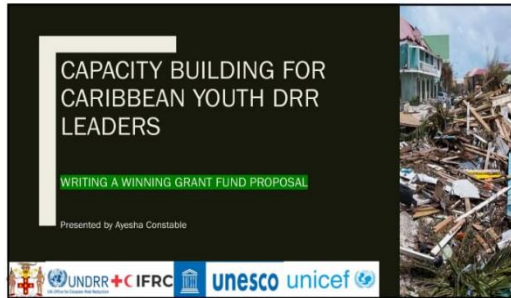


IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH

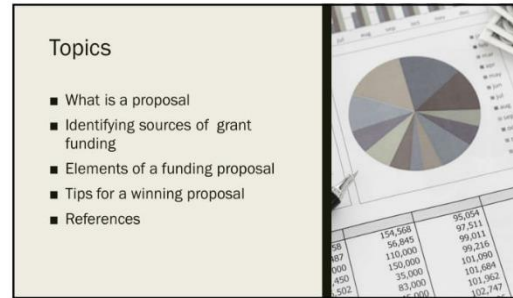
- In any type of disaster, YOUTH are particularly vulnerable group as they are dependent on others for access to resources, livelihood, decision making and support.
- Studies also show that children and youth can be strong advocates for change in their various communities and groups.
- As such, the youth have been identified as one of the major groups of civil society in Agenda 21 to participate in sustainable development.

9

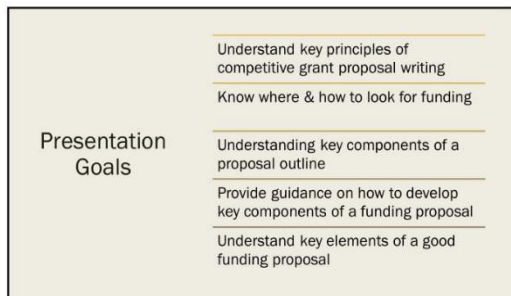
THANK YOU



1



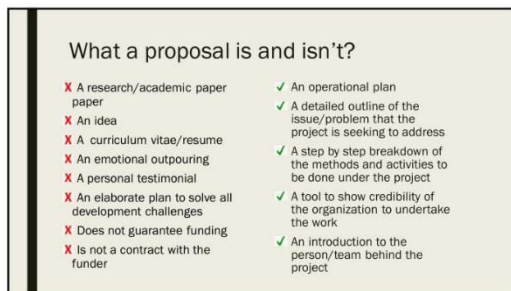
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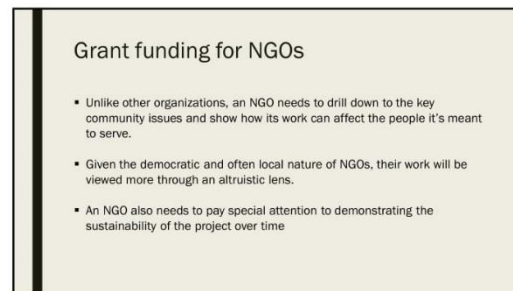
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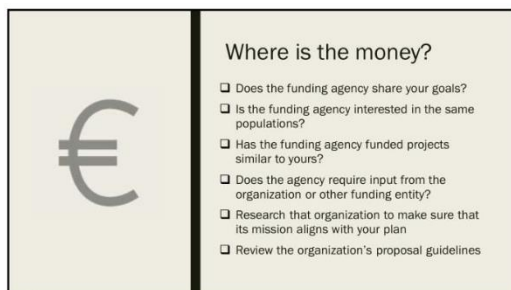
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5



6



7



8



Components of Grant Proposal

Introduction/Abstract/Summary
Background
Problem Statement
Goals & Objectives
Methods & Implementation Plan
Evaluation & Monitoring
Budget

9

Background/Context/Purpose

A brief overview of the proposal with information about the organization, its ability to complete the project, need, methods to be used and how those served will benefit. This is the first thing the reader sees, but it is written last.



Introduces the organization



Provides a brief synopsis of the work you are proposing to undertake



Gives a snapshot of the resources required

10

Problem Statement

Documents the problem or need with hard data, linking it to the funding source's goals and priorities. What is the situation that is causing concern? Why is it happening?



Use verifiable quantitative data to clearly display how your organization answers a need



Emphasize the seriousness and urgency of the problem



Zoom in on a key problem

11

Questions to ask

- ❑ What significant needs are you trying to meet?
- ❑ What is the current status of the needs?
- ❑ Will this project help meet the need?
- ❑ What really needs to be done?
- ❑ What services will be delivered? To whom? By whom?
- ❑ Is it possible to make some impact on the problem?
- ❑ What gaps exist in the knowledge base?
- ❑ What does the literature say about the significance of the problem, at a local, state, regional, national level?
- ❑ Is there evidence that this project will lead to other significant studies?
- ❑ What previous work has been done to meet this need? Was it effective?
- ❑ What will be the impact of this study?

12

Problem Statement example:

"The Caribbean region is vulnerable to a wide range of natural, man-made and technological hazards. Trinidad and Tobago, in particular, is subject to tropical storms and the associated heavy rainfall and storm surges which can result in flooding and landslides. The islands are also prone to earthquakes which can trigger tsunamis as well as droughts based on the changes in climate variability.

Moreover, various incidents which have occurred over the past 5 years such as severe cases of flooding and landslides have adversely impacted local communities across the country. These events have resulted in an increasing number of citizens who have expressed their interest in volunteering and assisting the ODPM in the relief efforts in affected areas."

- Disaster Proposal from T&T to the OAS

13

Goal vs Objective

Identifies anticipated outcomes and benefits in measurable terms. How is the situation expected to change as a result of the grant program?

Write details about the desired outcome/results and how success will be measured - make them SMART

Outline how the project will benefit the grantee, community, government, or client will see for their investment

Your objectives should outline how you will achieve the goal

✗ To train persons to be first responders

✓ To train 150 young persons from the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation in 10 months to become community volunteers leaders who can respond effectively before, during and after an emergency

14

Questions to ask

- ❑ Objectives discuss who is going to do what, when they will do it, and how it will be measured.
- ❑ Discuss desired end results of the project.
- ❑ But not how those results will be accomplished.
- ❑ They are action oriented and often begin with a verb.
- ❑ Arrange them in priority order.
- ❑ In a research proposal the objectives are the hypotheses, they are less specific, but reinforce that the project is conceptually sound.

15

Methods & Implementation

Describes the activities that directly support the achievement of the objectives. A timeline may be included in this section as well as a information on staffing needs.



Provide details on steps to achieve the objectives and goals and responsible parties



Outline the specific approaches and tools to be used



Should be linked to the budget for the project



Must consider variables such as culture, context and risks

16

Questions to ask

- ❑ Does it describe the activities as they relate to the objectives?
- ❑ Does it map out a timeline for completion of the activities
- ❑ Does it say step-by-step how the activities will be conducted?
- ❑ Does it say where resources will be sourced?
- ❑ Does it say what project personnel will be hired?



17

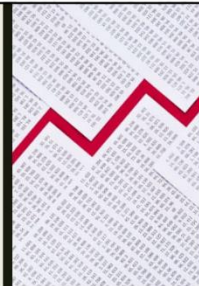
Example:

- Activity 1: Recruit and Screen Applicants
 - Execute a strategic communications plan via social media, posters/flyers and Community Outreach
 - Host a meeting with representatives from nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organizations
 - Review & place eligible applicants through a screening process which involves attending interviews and taking personality and aptitude tests to select the final 150 participants
- Activity 2: Basic & Supplementary Workshops
 - Develop concept for each workshop
 - Identify and confirm facilitators
 - Organize logistics- venue, lunch, equipment
 - Host events

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Budget

- Must be realistic- grounded in actual costs and market prices
- Must be in line with the funders offerings
- Must cover cost of all project personnel, activities, equipment, etc
- Must consider fluctuations in macro-economic factors eg. Sliding dollar
- Must be in the currency stipulated by the funder
- Must make allocations based on funders guidelines eg. 25% to personnel



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Evaluation & Monitoring

Presents a plan for determining the success of the project at interim points (quarterly or annually) and at the end of the project.

- It includes the timeframe needed for evaluation and who will do the evaluation including the specific skills or products needed and the cost of the evaluation phase of the project.
- May include tools such as:
 - Progress reports
 - Financial reports
 - Surveys of participants
 - Consultations with project beneficiaries
 - Tracking of project targets & indicators



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Questions to ask

- ❑ Does it explain the methods for M&E?
- ❑ What was the impact?
- ❑ What would count as evidence that your project succeeded or failed?
- ❑ If you were someone else who wanted to replicate the project what would you need to know to determine if you would benefit?
- ❑ What form should that information take to be sufficiently credible or useful?

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Top 10 features of a winning grant proposal

- ❑ Neat, well written, properly formatted
- ❑ Submitted on time
- ❑ Evidence-based
- ❑ Demonstrates the organization's capacity to fulfill the objectives
- ❑ Aligned with funders priorities
- ❑ Results oriented with measurable objectives
- ❑ Fully addresses all key components
- ❑ Presents a solution to the problem
- ❑ Adheres to funders guidelines
- ❑ Shows efforts at sustainability

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