



ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

20th MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
Port of Spain, Trinidad-and-Tobago, 22nd-23rd November, 2012



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

“GREEN RESPONSE TO DISASTERS”

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Republic of Trinidad and Tobago



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Project's status



Approved as a permanent initiative during the XIXth meeting of the Special Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Bogotá, Colombia, on August 2-3, 2011

Originated as a joint-project between ACS and IFRC, agreed upon to designate Trinidad and Tobago as the project champion to lead it with ODPM and the TTRCS.



Justification

- When a response to a natural disaster occurs, the mobilization most often occurs very quickly and focuses on the immediate needs, without regard to environmental efficacy; whereas a long term view (integrating the values and principles of environmental impact and sustainable development) might be more tenable.



Overall objective

- Based on empirical evidence of the environmental and economic benefits of *green products, processes and technologies to be used in disaster response*, develop standards and regulations (framed in a Green Response Model Law) that Caribbean governments can incorporate to promote and facilitate the production and utilization of such eco-efficient and environmentally friendly products, tools and processes to be utilized for responding to and recovering from disasters impacting on their country.



Specific objectives (1/2)

- To determine the availability, effectiveness and efficiency of **green products and processes** to be utilized in the case of emergency response to and recovery from disasters in the Caribbean (eg., for shelter construction, lighting, heating [as may be applicable], cooking, water supply and feeding for the affected people).
- To develop a **regulatory framework** to facilitate the production of the elements mentioned in article 1 herein (with good practices, business cases, life-cycle analysis, and environmental footprint).



Specific objectives (2/2)

- To promote, support and organize a well-prepared **manufacture and wholesale** of the elements cited in a geographic location(s) that could also facilitate rapid shipping of such products.
- To facilitate plans and preparations for the **shipping to and distribution** within Caribbean states of pre-stocked and/or emergency response materials that meet the specifications and criteria of Green materials.
- To **duplicate the model** developed as the outcome of this proposal in Central America, South America and other regions of the world.

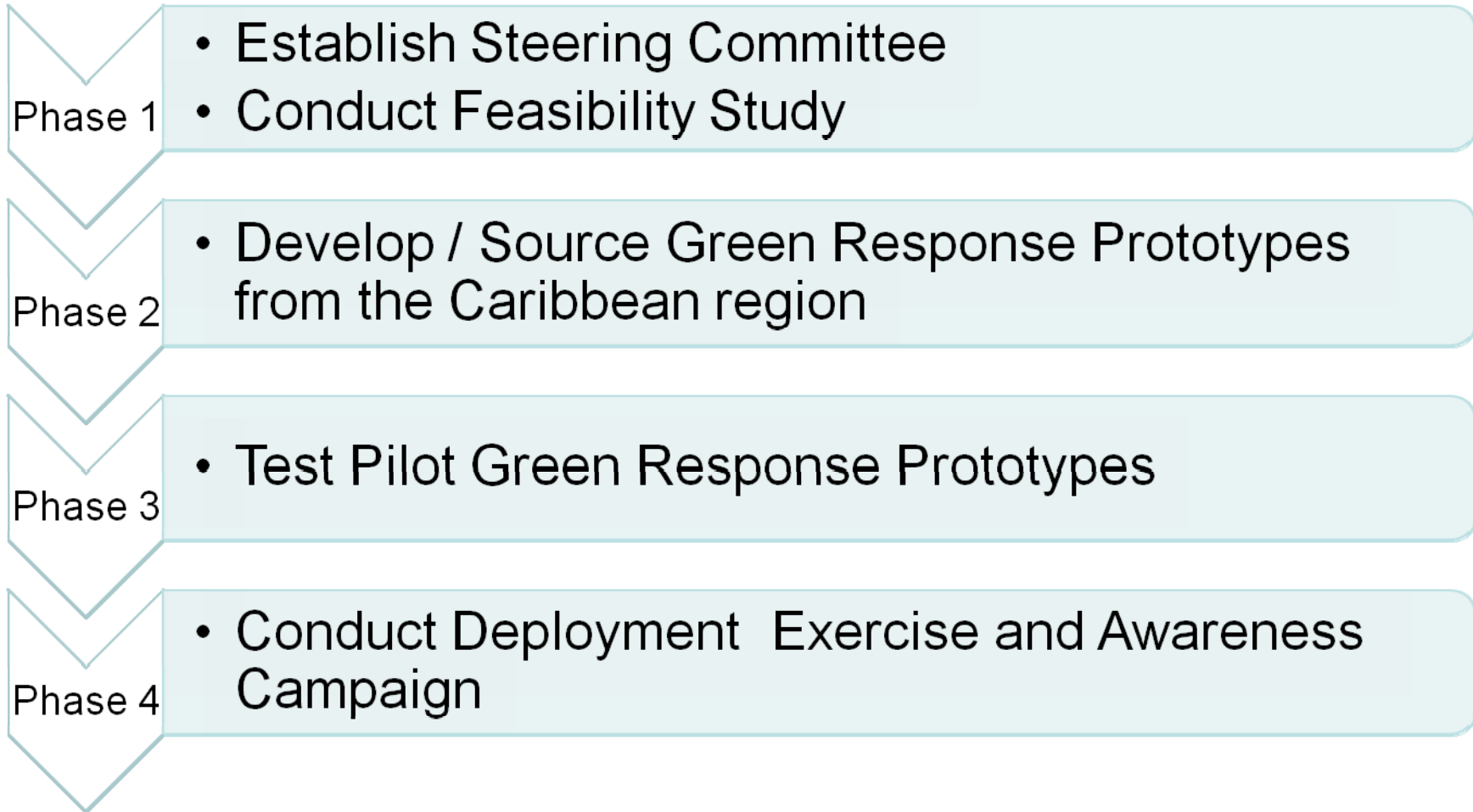


Process

- Phase 1: feasibility study on how to reduce, in a sustainable way, the environmental impact of the products and technologies used in response to and recovery from disasters. The feasibility study will then identify green products, processes and technologies to be used in disaster response.
- Phase 2: identify/develop/source green response prototypes from the Caribbean region.
- Phase 3: test pilot green response prototypes.
- Phase 4: based on the deployment of the goods identified and procured in phases 1 & 2 and results of phase 3, consequently to promote and support their production for diffusion in the Caribbean countries in response to disaster.

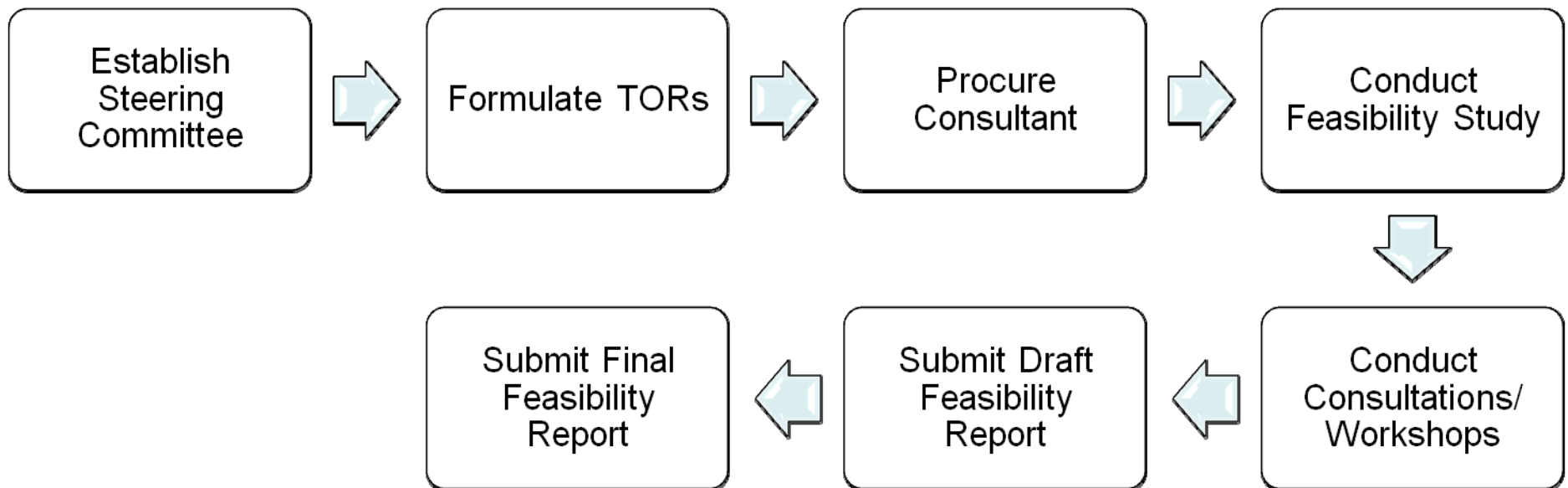


Process



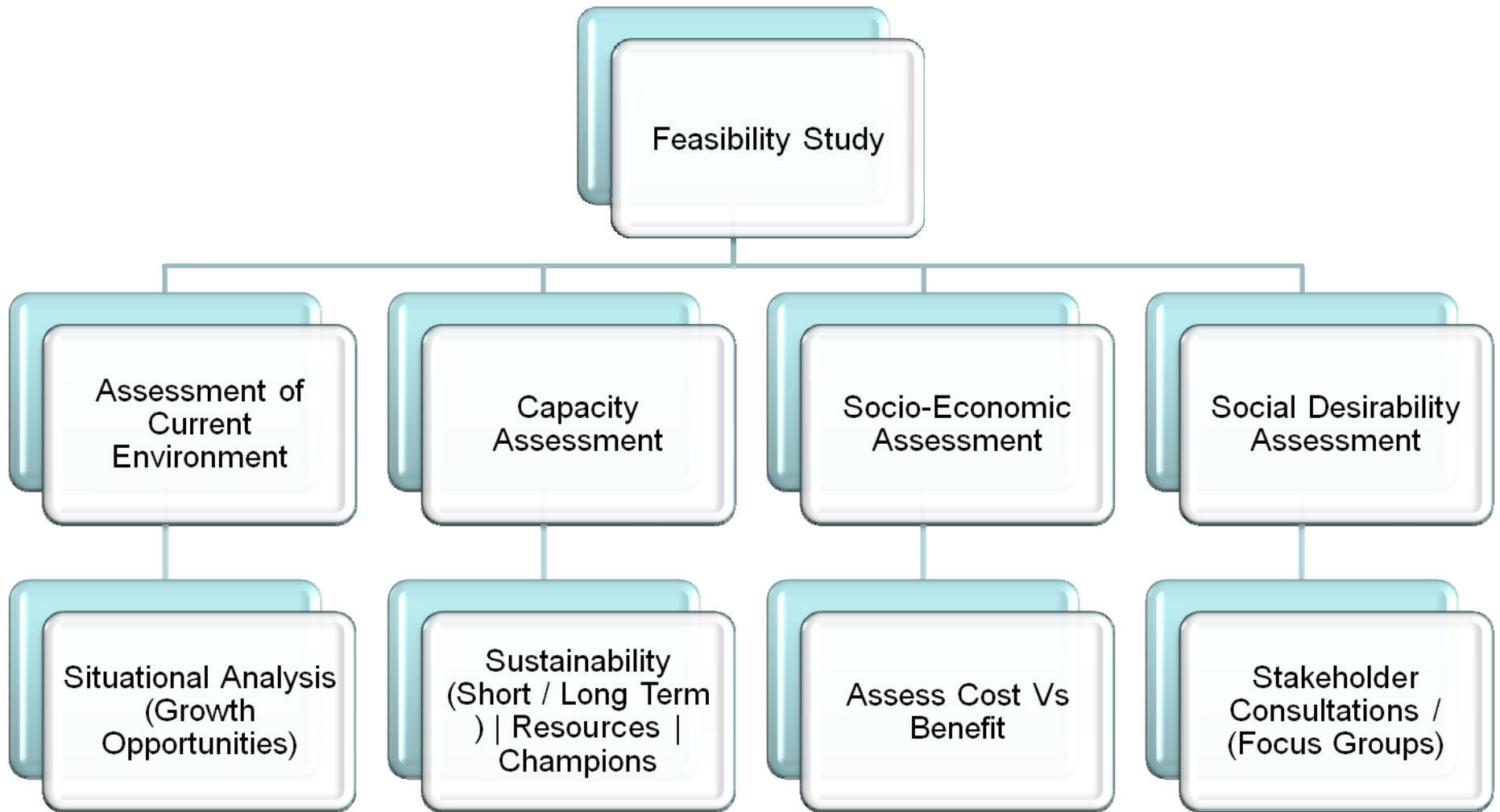


Road Map – Phase 1





Components of Feasibility Study





Implementation

- For phase 1: Green Response Coordinating Committee (led by a Representative of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and a Representative of TTRC) which reports jointly to designated representatives of ACS and IFRC, being the Director of DRR and the Caribbean Regional Representative, respectively. .
- The entities responsible for the execution of phase 2 will be accordingly determined by the results of phase 1
- Phase 3 and 4 will be coordinated amongst ACS, interested Members States, IFRC (including its Member Societies).



Expected results of phase 1

- A draft Model Law for Green Response to Disasters that encompasses specifications and regulations for environmentally-appropriate practices, products and processes covering disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery.
- To determine the economic viability and related business plans for the production of emergency relief and recovery goods such as renewable electrical energy supplies (to cook and light), biodegradable packaging for emergency response products, etc.
- To identify expert sources for the support and implementation of the project amongst government, institutions, academia and the private sector.
- To research the availability of existing standards, guidelines and regulations for the technical specifications of products and processes that meet the Green Response criteria.
- To determine an initial baseline by which efficacy of implementation can be measured for the purpose of cost benefit analysis.



Practical details

- Estimated Duration and Cost
 - Phase 1: 140,000 USD for Phase 1
 - Phases 2, 3 & 4: to be determined according to the results of phase 1
- Collaborating institutions
 - ACS
 - IFRC
 - TTRC
 - Government of TnT
 - Other entities identified by the Green Response Coordination Committee
- Executing institution:
 - Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross, under the umbrella of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and with the support of the ACS.
- Financing institutions
 - The Government of Trinidad and Tobago will contribute with 70.000 USD (50.000 in cash and 20.000 in kind), to start the project immediately upon approval, and to make the initial payment towards the feasibility study of Phase 1.
 - As well, ACS has engaged in a process of negotiation with its partners to mobilize the remaining 70.000 USD.



Conclusion

- 2011, August 2-3: Approved as a permanent initiative during the XIXth meeting of the Special Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Bogotá, Colombia
- 2012, October 25-26: Discussed, nourished and polished during a working group meeting attended by Specialized agencies, ODPM, IFRC, Red Cross Societies, ACS and the Chair of the SCDRR
- 2012, November 22-23: Presented to ACS Members for final approval at the XXth meeting of the SCDRR as an ACS project.



The joint action and coordination effort of the ACS and IFRC is strongly acknowledged and encouraged by the Government of TnT which will now lead this pioneer initiative through the ODPM and with full compromise



THANK YOU!

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