

**Ms. Gina Sosa, Programme Office at the European Commission Directorate-general Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection- ECHO (Office for the Caribbean), presentation on key messages from the DIPECHO planning workshop.**

## **DIPECHO Action Plan for the Caribbean: 2013 – 2014**



**Humanitarian Aid  
and Civil Protection**



### **Background**

- DIPECHO partners, National Emergency Management Offices , ACS and CDEMA representatives and other key stakeholders met over two days to share experiences in five areas of exchange which are:
  - Safe Schools and Hospitals
  - Early Warning Systems
  - Communication
  - Country Documents
  - Tools and Initiatives
- The meeting also provided a space to identify areas of synergy between the DIPECHO Action Plan and other global and regional processes.

### **Key moments**

- DIPECHO: Facts & Figures
- Compiling contributions: Interventions & Contributions that have built DRR
- Sharing experiences and ideas: Measuring progress

### **Areas of Exchange**

#### **Safe Schools and Hospitals**

- Decision making by national authorities should be founded on strong technical arguments and assessments and based on cost-benefit and risk analyses

- Scientific evidence partnered with a good understanding of socioeconomic factors should underpin actions related to retrofitting and new investment in hospitals and schools.

### **Early Warning Systems**

- Improve the detection of rapid onset disasters in localized settings
- Improve the dialogue between key actors and NDOs to increase synergies in the dissemination of information at appropriate times.

### **Communication**

- Traditional and non-traditional means of communication are still relevant and must account for both the needs of rural and urban settings within the region.
- Protocols between the national disaster system and the media should be articulated and formalized.

### **Country Documents**

- National Disaster Offices should lead the formulation of the Country Documents within a multi-stakeholder environment
- Country Documents should be endorsed by Disaster Management Councils and National Cabinets

### **Tools and Initiatives**

- Opportunities exist for greater exchange of information, experience and replication of the tools, as they become available through different means of dissemination.
- Great interest exists for the adaptation of tools within the broader context in the region and equally, the translation into different languages represented within the DIPECHO AP

### **Collaboration**

Highlighting the cost-effectiveness of building disaster resilience

- Sharing tools
- Contributing to priorities
- Finding evidence that could be used in support of more effective investment in disaster resilience
- Finding elements that can strengthen and accelerate the process

**Thank you! Gracias! Merci!**