



World Meteorological Organization

Weather • Climate • Water

# DRR-related mandates and relevant activities and projects of RA IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean)

2015 Meeting of the Disaster Risk Reduction Focal Points of WMO Regional Associations, Technical Commissions and Programmes (DRR FP RA-TC-TP)

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# Overview:

- 1) RA IV Mandates and priorities in DRR
- 2) Activities related to DRR
- 3) Priority projects & activities related to DRR
- 4) Guidelines, manuals, and standards
- 5) Projects and activities
- 6) Leveraging projects and activities of other RAs/TCs/TPs
- 7) Challenges when ensuring holistic DRR outcomes
- 8) Opportunities and Targets



# RA IV Mandates and priorities in DRR

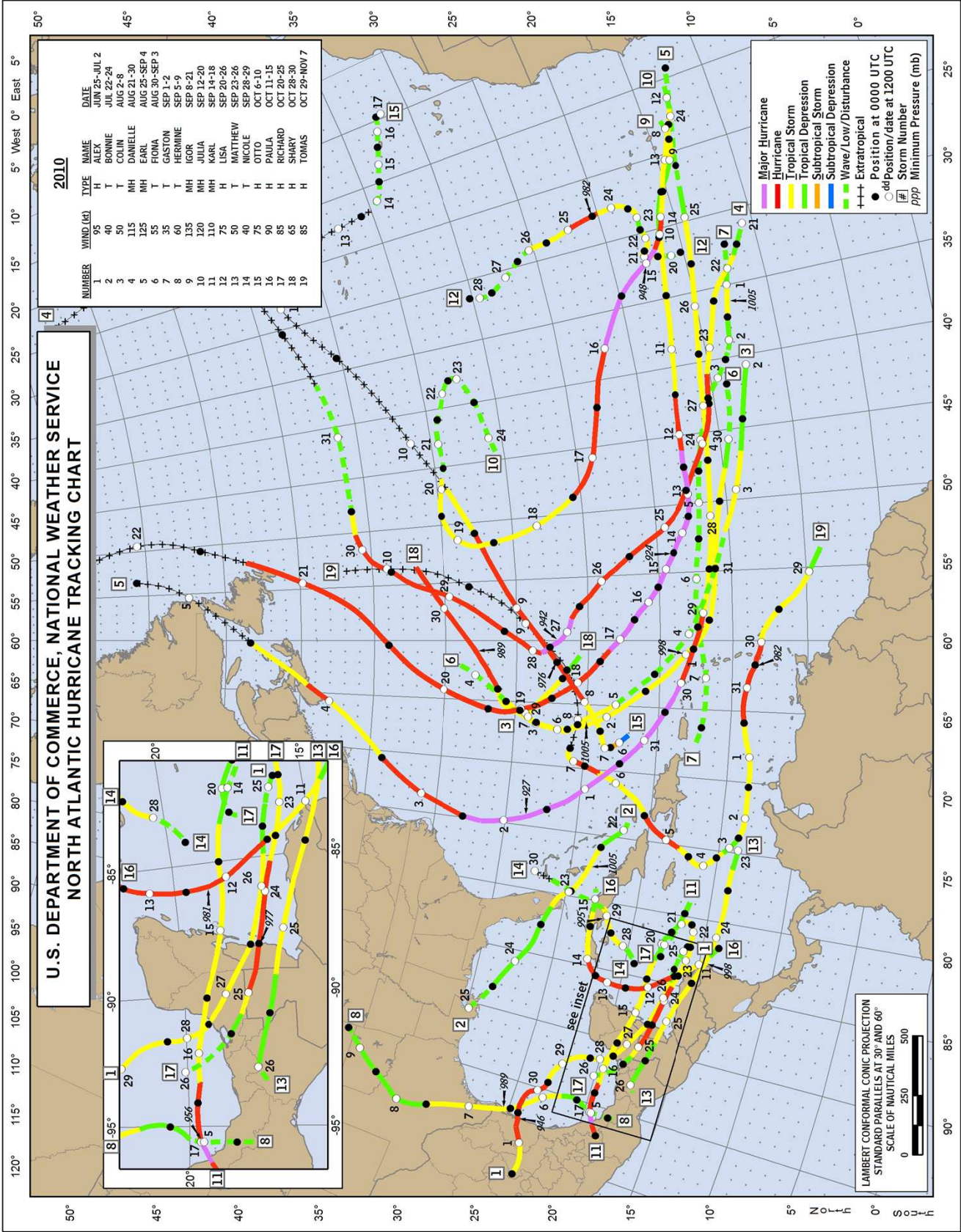
- To strengthen the national capacity of the NMHS and regional cooperation in order to provide relevant meteorological, hydrological and climate information services;
- To support risk-based decision-making;
- Promote the cooperation among the NMHS and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) agencies, socio-economic sectors and other DRR stakeholders;
- to implement and/or improve *Multi-hazard Early Warning System* that deliver risk-based warnings in a timely manner, to authorities, disaster managers and the (local) communities at risk, to enable early actions to reduce the impact of the potential disaster;



# Activities related to DRR

- Hurricane Committee
- Task Team DRR





# RAIV Hurricane Committee

- The Hurricane Committee was established in 1978 as part of the WMO Tropical Cyclone Program
- Goal: collaboration among the countries in RA IV to reduce damage and loss of lives caused by tropical cyclones to a minimum.
- Chairman: Director of National Hurricane Center (RSMC)
- members: Countries of RAIV
- Hydrological Advisor to the RAIV President
- Annual meetings before the Hurricane Season



# Agenda Hurricane Committee

- Summary of the past hurricane season
- National reports of TC impacts.
- Review of the Hurricane Operational Plan
- Review of the Technical Plan and its Implementation
  - Meteorological Component
  - Hydrological Component
  - Disaster Reduction and Preparedness
  - Training Component
  - Research Component
- Other matters
- Scientific lectures



# Priority projects & activities related to TT DRR

- Identify gaps in competencies and capacity development and develop a implementation plan regarding MH-EWS and Service Delivery in RA IV;
- Document lessons learned from MH-EWS projects with emphasis on successful relationship with DRMs;
- Review and promote the use of Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) at national and community level by disseminating tailored training materials;
- Provide advice for the development of MH-EWS activities and seek for opportunities to fund related projects (SHOCS II);
- Organize a regional workshop to assess the progresses of MH-EWS implementation plan of the countries(hurricane workshops);
- Assist countries with their implementation plan and seek for opportunities to fund related projects (SWFDP);





# Guidelines, manuals & standards related to DRR

- Hurricane Operation Plan
- Hurricane Technical Plan
- Fit-gap Analysis tool for NH-EWS
- Guide for Lessons learned from the MH-EWS of Region IV
- Develop or adapt Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Implementation and Monitoring Plans for Countries



# Leveraging projects and activities of other RAs/TCs/TPs

- WMO Strategic Plan
- Region IV Operation Plan
- Participate in WMO DRR Programmes
- Make use of literature published by WMO or relevant agencies
- Coordination meeting with the FPs RAs/TCs/TPs

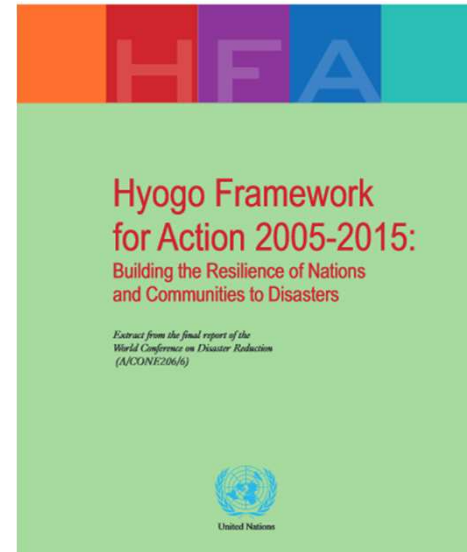


# Challenges when ensuring holistic DRR outcomes

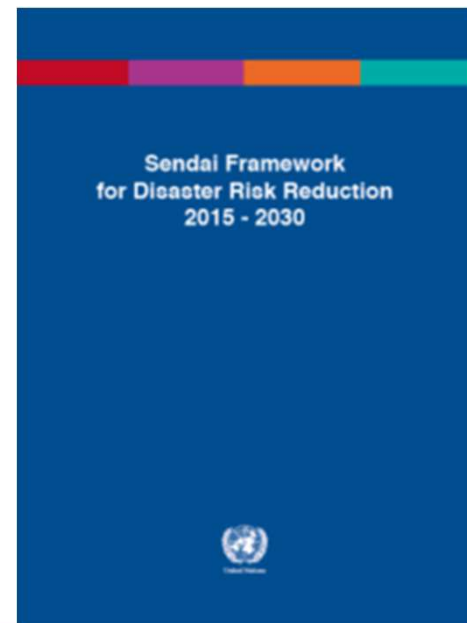
- RAIV Task Team DRR
  - Stimulate countries to complete surveys
  - Deliver the products
- Best practices or Lessons learned
  - How to insure that a NMHS is DDR Ready?



# Opportunities: Streamline DRR activities



- Hyogo Framework for Action (priorities)
  - Governance
  - Risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning
  - Knowledge management and education
  - Reducing underlying risk factors
  - Preparedness for effective response and recovery
  
- Sendai Framework for DRR (priorities)
  - Understanding Disaster Risk
  - Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk.
  - Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience.
  - Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.



# Opportunities: Streamline DRR activities

- Multi Hazard Early Warning System
  - Risk Knowledge
  - Monitoring and Warning Service
  - Dissemination and Communication
  - Monitoring and Review
  - Capacity Building



World Meteorological Organization

GUIDELINES ON EARLY WARNING  
SYSTEMS AND APPLICATION OF  
NOWCASTING AND WARNING  
OPERATIONS

PWS-21

WMO/TD No. 1559



# Opportunities and Targets

- Disaster Investigation Team (New WMO tool: Root Cause Analysis and Continual Improvement of the SOPs)
  - Fatalities related to heavy rains in Dominica caused by Erica
  - Fatalities related to landslide in Guatemala
  - Ship disaster caused by Joaquin near Bahamas
  - Minimal damage in Mexico caused by Patricia
- Reduction Targets (2019): 20-30%
  - Annual fatality rate
  - Economic losses

