

## CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



**GFDRR**  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

### Saint Vincent and the Grenadines - Preparing for Compounding Emergencies

#### Country

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

#### Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Regional Technical Assistance Facility to Mainstream Resilience

#### Amount Approved

€126,136 / \$150,000

#### Duration

04/2021 – 06/2022

#### Context and Objectives

Following the explosive eruption of the La Soufriere volcano in April 2021, the World Bank committed to supporting Saint Vincent and the Grenadines through the [Volcanic Eruption Emergency Project](#), which is aimed at the resilient reconstruction of key sectors and strengthening of the Government's capacity to deliver infrastructure services.

The objective of this project was to support the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in its efforts to respond to the volcanic eruption and to enhance emergency preparedness in the country by improving the operational frameworks for DRM and climate resilience.

#### Main Activities

- Strengthening the National Emergency Management Organization's (NEMO) operational framework for disaster management by revising its National Disaster Response Plan and providing capacity-building opportunities for NEMO and its key stakeholders.
- Bolstering the operational framework for school infrastructure resilience by supporting education continuity and enabling select schools to serve as both educational institutions and shelters.
- Developing communications and knowledge management materials to capture and disseminate lessons learned and best practices.

#### Results

The project supported NEMO in developing an Emergency Shelter Management (ESM) policy, an ESM plan, and assistance guidelines. These included COVID-19 protocols in the shelter management policy, and the development of a training program and manual for shelter managers.

The grant also contributed to the preparation of the [Volcano Eruption Emergency Project](#), an ongoing project, which also received a recipient-executed grant under the Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility, which aims to support the Government in providing short-term income support to impacted persons, improving its capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies, and building back better critical infrastructure and services in the wake of the volcano eruption.

In addition, activities supported NEMO in developing an emergency communications campaign in the days following the first eruption, that built awareness of the potential harmful impacts of volcanic ash. Public service announcement videos and social media content were rapidly produced to provide useful tips on ways to safely interact with ash and protect children, homes, and vehicles. These were disseminated by NEMO, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the World Bank/GFDRR, and local media via television, radio, and social media channels.

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## **Partnerships and Coordination**

The World Bank implemented this project in close collaboration with NEMO, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Information Technology.

## **Useful Links**

Campaign Public Service Announcements:

- [Breathing Ash](#)
- [Protect Home](#)
- [Local Calypsonian](#)