ADRA Session Report 2021 – 2024 East Caribbean Conference

Mr. Chairman, Union President, Dr. Kern Tobias, and the Administration of the Caribbean Union, representatives from the Inter-American Division (IAD), delegates and delegates-at-large on the virtual platform, members. I am very happy to be able to report to you on the progress of the work in the ADRA Department for the period January 2021 to December 31, 2024.

Dominica's natural beauty, which earns us the title of the "Nature Isle," also presents significant risks, making it vulnerable to hurricanes, storms, floods, rockslides, mudslides, and avalanches. Our mountains, valleys, rivers, and forests define us, yet they also expose us to the challenges of natural disasters. This reality underscores the vital role of ADRA in Dominica.

Since 2015, ADRA has been actively responding to natural disasters caused by storms, including Tropical Storm Erika, Hurricane Maria, and significant troughs such as the one on November 6, 2022. This particular trough left some communities completely isolated for an entire week, without potable water, and resulted in one fatality.

Pastor Julius Henry, District Pastor, reported 35 major landslides from Castle Bruce to Petite Soufriere. The situation was dire, with both water and electricity services severely impacted. In response, ADRA delivered 100 gallons of water, 100 hygiene packs and food supplies to those affected by the trough.

ADRA Housing Project Phase III

One of ADRA's major initiatives has been the ADRA Housing Project Phase III, funded by ADRA UK and the East Caribbean Conference.

Two significant housing projects were completed:

- A two-bedroom house was built for a family of five, with the keys handed over on January 30, 2023.
- The roof of a house in River Estate, Canefield, was repaired for a widow and her three sons, whose home was severely damaged by Hurricane Maria.

Additionally, two other housing projects have commenced and are slated for completion.

Disaster Relief Efforts

The East Caribbean Conference extended aid beyond Dominica, responding to disasters in St. Vincent following the volcanic eruption in 2023 and Hurricane Beryl in 2024. ADRA partnered with the Community Services Department of the Conference, under the coordination of Pastor Dayle Haynes (Personal Ministries and Community Services Director), to send multiple shipments of food and essential supplies to our sister islands.

For the rebuilding efforts on Union Island and Carriacou, several teams were deployed under Pastor Haynes' leadership.

Training and Capacity Building

In 2023, the CARU ADRA Director conducted two training programs:

- Project Management Training: Attended virtually by Sis Priscilla Prevost, Dr. Marcia Cambridge-Maxwell, and Sis Vernella Williams.
- **Proposal Writing Workshop:** Conducted at USC Trinidad, with participation from Sis Priscilla Prevost, Sis Andrea Hudson-Hoyte, and Sis Valencia Williams.

Additionally, a one-day workshop was held in Dominica in collaboration with the Office of Disaster Management (ODM) at their center in Jimmit. Twenty-six participants attended.

To reach a wider audience, a video on "Preparation of a Go-Bag" was produced and made available on YouTube (<u>view here</u>). During the hurricane season, several radio presentations on disaster preparedness were also aired as part of the "Healthy Living Broadcast."

ADRA Registration

Efforts to register ADRA as an NGO in Dominica have encountered significant delays, hindering the proposal and grant-writing process. However, we remain hopeful that this objective will be achieved early in the new quadrennium.

Meanwhile, we are pleased to report that ADRA CARU has obtained a license from ADRA International, covering ADRA entities within the Caribbean Union.

Gratitude and Acknowledgments

The East Caribbean Conference expresses profound gratitude to ADRA UK for their partnership in addressing the housing needs of families in Dominica affected by Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Special thanks to the Administration and the Local ADRA Board members:

- Sis Valencia Williams
- Sis Vernella Williams
- Bro Ezra Fabien
- Bro Delbert Dailey
- Bro John, IDC Chairman
- Pastor Maurice Morancie, Island Coordinator

We also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of:

- Bro Phillip Matthew (Architect and Advisor for building projects)
- Our generous donors, whose financial and material support made our initiatives possible
- Builders Bro Calvin Thomas and Bro Laville, along with their teams
- Bro Hypolite and family for their significant contributions to the housing project in Laplaine
- Dr. Alexander Isaacs and Dr. Colin Thorne for their guidance and support

Above all, we thank God for His guidance and protection during our projects, ensuring incident-free workdays.

Finally, I extend my personal gratitude to my family and close friends, including Bro Smith Joseph (Smithie) for his invaluable support in transportation.

May ADRA continue to be a beacon of hope and resilience in Dominica and beyond.

Report compiled by:

Priscilla Prevost ADRA Director February 28, 2025