



## Project: Improved Disaster Risk Management for Ports in the Caribbean (2021 – 2024)

- **Purpose:** Strengthen disaster risk management capabilities in Port and Maritime Authorities of the Caribbean to reduce the impact of natural and human-caused disasters on port operations.
- **Development Goal:** The project is expected to contribute to economic growth in the Caribbean Region by reducing the impact of natural and human-caused disasters on business continuity in ports.
- **Background:** Maritime transportation is indispensable to global trade, accounting for over 80% of global cargo trade and 95% of exports from Latin America and the Caribbean. Ports provide substantial employment and industrial activity, contributing to national and regional development. In addition, they integrate the functions of supply chains such as services in logistics, information, and business, becoming the location of industrial clusters. In the Caribbean, natural and human-caused disasters pose a particularly high risk, i.e. to ports and their integrated operations. The absence of updated measures for disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, and relief results in increased negative influences on social mechanisms, lives, property, and economic development.
- **Project Phases:**
  - 1) **Assessment (risk and capabilities):** Conducted a comprehensive review of a) both the human-caused and natural hazards that have the potential to threaten or disrupt, and b) port vulnerabilities and current capacities for disaster risk management, including the review of existing Emergency Response Plans in Caribbean ports.
  - 2) **Model Disaster Response Plan:** Developed a Model Disaster Response Plan (MOEP) for Caribbean Ports to effectively prepare, respond, and recover from disasters.
  - 3) **Training:** Conducted four (4) regional workshops imparted in cooperation with Strategic Partners and based on the MEOP, which can be adjusted to local needs and requirements.
  - 4) **Regional exercises:** Tested the effectiveness of the Model Disaster Response Plan in two (2) Caribbean Ports to identify areas for improvement.  
**Recommendation: Review of international instruments to facilitate integration of MOEP in regulatory framework.**
- **Financial Contributions:**

€ 100,000.00 from the Italian Government through the OAS Permanent Mission of Italy;  
US \$ 100,000.00 from the United States Government through the OAS Permanent Mission of the US;  
US \$88,975.00 in-kind from the Secretariat of the OAS Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)
- **Institutional Support:**

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA), CIP National Port Authorities in Caribbean Member States, HudsonAnalytix, National Port Authority of Peru (APN), Port Management Association of the Caribbean (PMAC), T&T Salvage, United States Coast Guard (USCG).