



United Nations
Small Island
Developing States
Partnerships Awards



Dominican Republic National Multi-Threat Early Warning System



Location:

Dominican Republic



Period:

2024-2026



● Dominican
Republic

About IRIS

Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) is a flagship initiative of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) which aims to equip Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with knowledge, tools, and partnerships to build climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure.

SIDS face severe climate risks in addition to challenges posed by geographic remoteness, poor connectivity, and limited economies of scale. Strengthening infrastructure resilience is key to sustainable development and safeguarding livelihoods.

Through IRIS, CDRI advocates for resilient infrastructure, deploys experts, shares best practices, and funds technical support to enhance infrastructure resilience in SIDS.

Context and Background

- The Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, especially the Caribbean and Central America, faces frequent extreme climate events. In 2015, climate-related losses reached US\$ 100 billion; a 2.5°C rise could reduce GDP by up to 5%.
- The Dominican Republic recorded 28 storms and 20 floods (1980–2012), causing nearly 2,000 deaths. Weather events now make up 79% of disasters and cost up to 1.8% of GDP yearly.
- A 2017 review found the national Early Warning System (EWS) lacked localized, actionable alerts. In 2018, work began to strengthen Emergency Operations Center's (COE) alert system with personalized communication.
- Upgrades are still needed—better forecasting, risk mapping, multi-hazard alerts, and stronger institutional coordination to build a full Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS).

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79% of the recorded disastrous events in the country since 1970 are attributed to climate risks. The annual fiscal costs associated with weather events is as high as 1.80% of GDP.

Objective and Outputs

- Strengthen and expand Dominican Republic's early warning system framework to allow the development of early warning systems and reduce losses and damages to civil society and infrastructure through design of multi-threat early warning system framework including the development of National Risk and Vulnerability Atlas.
- Enhance Dominican Republic's real-time decision-making capacities based on information tools by strengthening the "COE-Alert" application which provides timely information to general population on imminent threats and hazards.
- Streamline the delivery of timely information and messages on incoming threats to the general population to reduce their exposure and reduce their vulnerability.

Key Results and Outcomes



1,330

disaster events integrated into the national Risk and Vulnerability Atlas for Emergencies.



8

critical infrastructure sectors integrated.



77

infrastructure focal points connected to targeted alert systems.



9.74 million

people with mobile phone access to benefit from the Alerta-COE mobile application.



41

national institutions are now connected through a permanent coordination mechanism, improving collaboration before, during, and after emergencies.

Nodal Government Agency

Emergency Operations Center (COE)



Implementing Partner

Global Green Growth Institute



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