

The Global Crisis Response Support Programme starts crisis training in Trinidad and Tobago

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: The Caribbean region is particularly vulnerable to a wide range of natural hazards, including hurricanes, droughts and flooding as well as threats from transnational crimes such as drug smuggling, human trafficking and cybercrimes. One of the key challenges that countries in the region face is to become more proactive in order to predict and prevent conflicts and reduce the impact of disasters and crisis situations. It is with this issue in mind therefore that the Global Crisis Response Support Programme (GCRSP) will start its first training course on the 29th of June in Port of Spain at the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS).

This training course is part of a two-year capacity development initiative of the European Union External Action Service (EEAS) to support Latin American and Caribbean regional organizations and their Member States to enhance their conflict and disaster early-warning capabilities and effectively reduce the potentially devastating impact of these types of events on people and property.

Experts from four Caribbean Community agencies (Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Regional Security System (RSS), CARICOM IMPACS, and its two sub-agencies (Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre (RIFC) and the Joint Regional Communication Centre (JRCC)) will participate in this first training course on Open Source Information (OSI). Participants are expected to develop a range of skills, including how to monitor social media information for crisis support, the use of data processing tools and the principles of safer searching. This training will improve participants' capacities to anticipate potential crises with the help of open source media while improving online anonymity and security.

The Global Crisis Response Support Programme (GCRSP) aims to build and strengthen crisis response and early warning capacity in the Latin American and Caribbean regions. The GCRSP also seeks to improve the interconnectivity between crisis response centres within the region as well as strengthen cooperation with the EU Situation Room and other EU institutions in the field of crisis response and early warning. Activities will include training, workshops and technical information sessions in Europe covering risk and scenario analysis, early warning, conflict analysis, open source information, knowledge management, and other related topics.

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