



United Nations  
Global Geodetic  
Centre of Excellence

# Geodesy Capacity Development Workshop for the Americas on Transitioning to a Modern Geospatial Reference System

3 – 7 November 2025  
Santiago, Chile



**UN-GGIM:Americas**  
REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS



**NOVEMBER 5-7, 2025**  
SANTIAGO, CHILE



# CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**

CEPAL, Santiago de Chile  
November 5, 2025

**Simone M. Lloyd, GISP**

*Caribbean Vocal & Chair, CARIGEO Steering Committee, UN-GGIM: Americas*

*Senior GIS Manager & Trainer, Ministry of Economic Growth & Infrastructure Development, Jamaica*



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**Geo-Empowering** Caribbean Development

# Outline



## Caribbean Subregion

- Location
- Composition



## CARIGEO Activities

- Webinars
- Projects
- Programmes



## CARIGEO Workplan Overview

- Objectives
- Activities



## Future Plans & Opportunities

- Future Plans
- Activities
- Opportunities



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# CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION



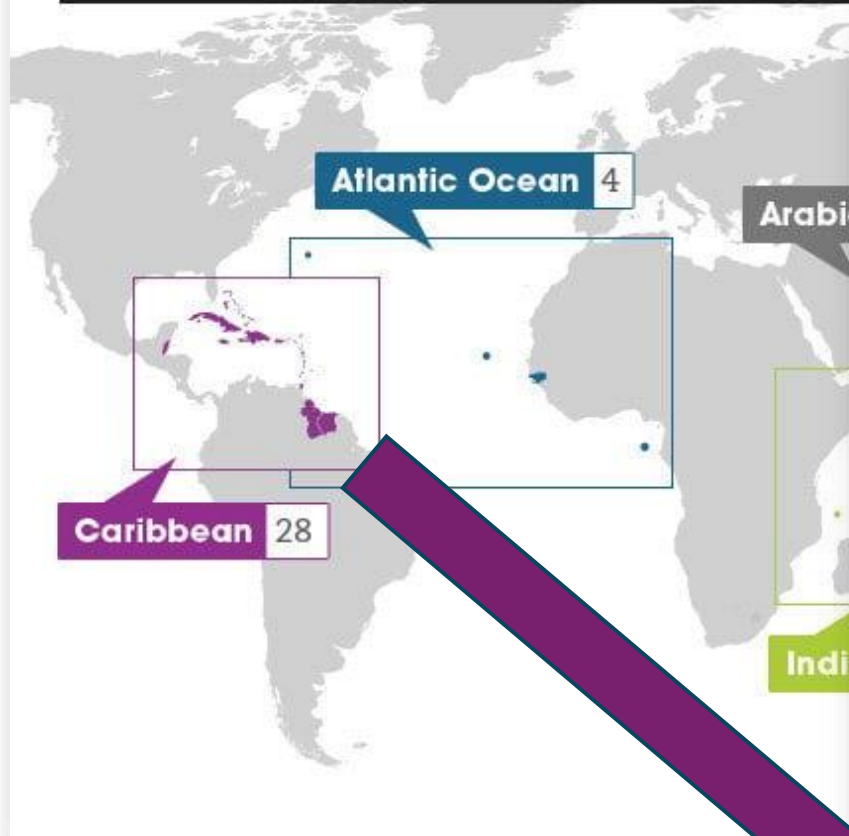
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## Small Island Developing States

58 SIDS in total



- 1 of 6 Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Comprises 28 SIDS



## CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION

Comprised of 16  
Member States &  
Territories of UN-GGIM



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# STEERING COMMITTEE



## Member States:

Antigua & Barbuda

Barbados

Jamaica

St. Lucia

Trinidad & Tobago

Previously led by  
**St. Vincent & the  
Grenadines**,  
currently led by  
**Jamaica** (2021-2025),  
as Caribbean Vocal

## Technical Support:

UN-GGIM: Americas

UNECLAC (Port of Spain & Santiago de Chile)

UN-GGIM: Americas Private Sector Network

UN-GGIM: Americas Academic Network

UN-GGIM Secretariat

USA Census Bureau & HLG-IGIF

INEGI, Mexico



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# WORKPLAN OVERVIEW



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**XII**  
Session

**NOVEMBER 5-7, 2025**  
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# KEY INITIATIVES

- ❖ Foster **partnerships and collaborations** to advance geospatial initiatives throughout Caribbean sub-region.
- ❖ Foster **greater communication with Caribbean member states** and understanding of their geospatial needs
- ❖ Support **National IGIF Workshops within Caribbean Member States** towards IGIF implementation
- ❖ Host **Caribbean IGIF Workshops**



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# KEY INITIATIVES

- ❖ Host **CARIGEO webinars** to address key challenges  
e.g. “**Lessons Learnt post Hurricane Beryl**”
- ❖ Facilitate **Caribbean geoportal** maintenance, upkeep and utilization
- ❖ Facilitate **capacity development initiatives** throughout the Caribbean
- ❖ Support **global frameworks implementation** within the Caribbean e.g. IGIF, Strategic Framework, GSGF etc.



# COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



**UN-GGIM  
WORKING  
GROUP  
GI4DRM**



**COPERNICUS  
LAC Chile  
Project**



**Zindi**



**Jamaica Flying  
Labs**



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# CARIGEO & UN-GGIM WORKING GROUP GI4DRM WEBINAR



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14<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session

August 7-9, 2024, New York



## Background paper on “Geospatial Support through partnership and collaboration for Hurricane Beryl 2024: Jamaica Case Study”



Prepared by:  
UN-GGIM Working Group on Geospatial Information  
and Services on Disasters  
August 2024

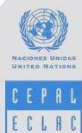
## CARIGEO & UN-GGIM WG GI4DRM Webinar

*“Preparation, Response and Recovery  
- Lessons Learnt from Hurricane Beryl”*

The Caribbean subregion and wider Americas region are significantly impacted by tropical systems during the annual North Atlantic Hurricane Season. This webinar will reinforce known principles of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM), while sharing geospatial and other lessons learnt by Caribbean SIDS, in addition to regional and international agencies who provided support during the preparation, response and recovery phases of Hurricane Beryl.



MAY 20, 2025 VIA ZOOM  
10:00 am - 12:30 pm (EDT)



- Resource document:

[Background paper on “Geospatial Support through partnership and collaboration for Hurricane Beryl 2024: Jamaica Case Study”](#)



# CARIGEO & UN-GGIM WG GI4DRM Webinar

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UN-GGIM  
WG-GI4DRM



## EXPECT TO HEAR FROM

UN-GGIM:  
Americas

Caribbean  
Geospatial  
Development  
Initiative  
(CARIGEO)

UN-GGIM WG on  
Geospatial  
Information for  
Disaster Risk  
Management

UN-GGIM:  
Americas  
Working Group  
on Disasters

Jamaica's Office of  
Disaster Preparedness  
and Emergency  
Management  
(ODPEM)

St. Vincent & the  
Grenadines' National  
Emergency  
Management  
Organization (NEMO)

Jamaica's National  
Emergency Response GIS  
Team (NERGIST)

International  
Charter on Space  
and Disasters

Caribbean  
Development  
Bank (CDB)

United Nations  
Humanitarian  
organizations

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025



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UN-GGIM  
Working Group on Geospatial  
Information for Disaster Risk  
Management (GI4DRM)

UN Coordinating Office:  
Jamaica

CDEMA Unmanned  
Aerial Systems (UAS) for  
Comprehensive Disaster  
Management  
Programme

Activation & Response  
by a National Emergency  
Operations Centre  
(NEOC): **Jamaica**  
Jamaica's National  
Emergency Response  
GIS Team (NERGIST)  
Mechanism &

MapAction Geospatial  
Support

International Charter  
activation - Hurricane  
Beryl response

Hurricane Beryl  
Coordination, Response  
& Recovery: **St. Vincent  
& the Grenadines**





# COPERNICUS LAC CHILE PROJECT



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# **Caribbean Member States & LAC Copernicus Project meeting**

Wednesday April 16, 2025

2:00 – 3:00 pm (GMT-5) / 3:00 – 4:00 pm (GMT-4)

**Overview,  
progress &  
upcoming  
milestones**

**Project benefits  
for Caribbean  
countries**

**Cooperation  
opportunities &  
data access**

**Administering of  
'Survey on the  
Availability of  
Data in Caribbean  
Countries'**



# COPERNICUS LAC CHILE PROJECT

## 11<sup>TH</sup> AMERICAS SESSION: CARIGEO SIDE EVENT

Hybrid Side Event:

1<sup>st</sup> Introduction of Copernicus  
LAC Chile project to Caribbean  
Member States

Oct 2024

*(Mexico City & Virtual)*



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## 15<sup>TH</sup> SESSION: CARIGEO SIDE EVENT

Copernicus LAC Chile  
presentation:

- Overview and Update on  
Project plans.
- Re-administering of Data  
Availability Survey.

Aug. 2025

*(UNHQ, New York)*

## CARIBBEAN QUARTERLY MEETING

Copernicus LAC Chile presentation:

- Update on Project plans.
- Clarification and extension of  
re-administering of Data  
Availability Survey.

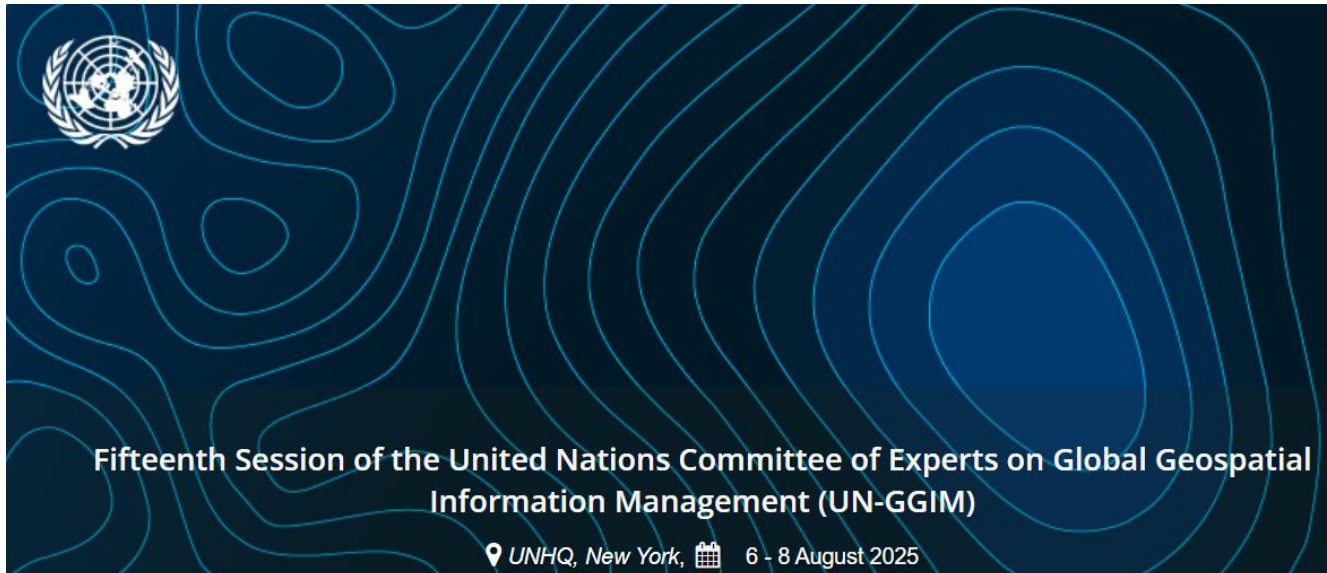
Oct 2025

*(Virtual)*

# 15<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM SESSION



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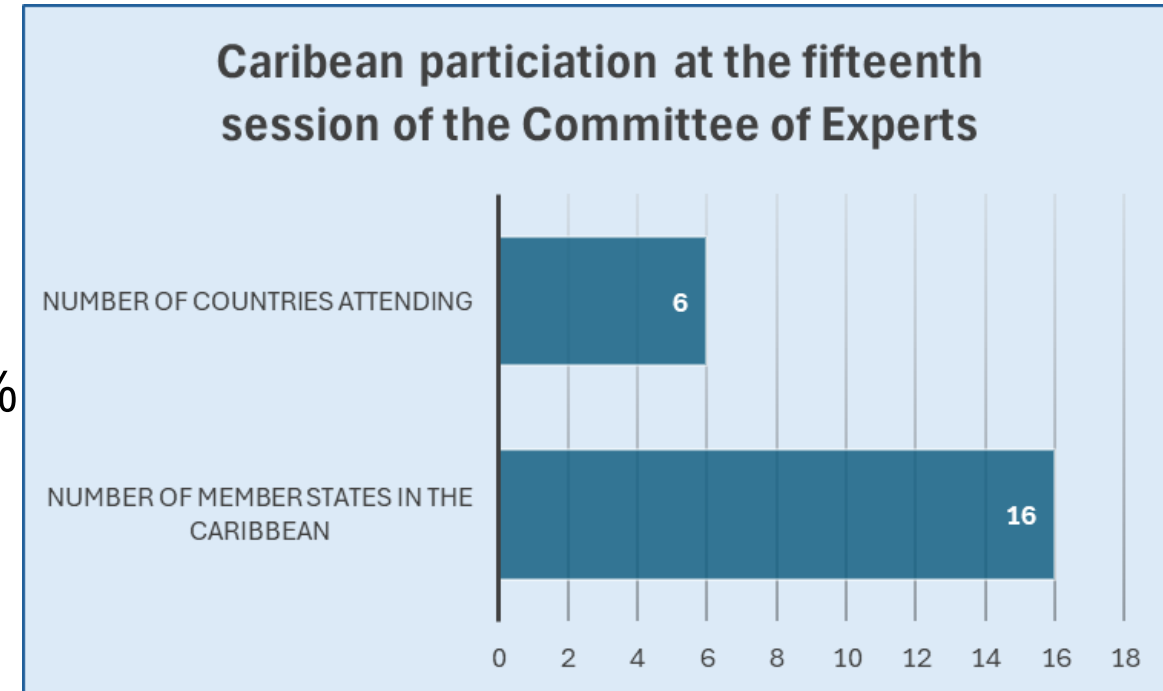


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# Member States (6) and Representatives (14)

- Total number of Caribbean Member States 16
- Number of Caribbean countries that attended the session 6
- Percentage of Caribbean Member States that attended 37.50%
- Number of representatives from Caribbean Member States 13
- Total number of Caribbean participants 14



**NOTE:** Participant numbers are the Experts from capital and not the Mission representatives.



# Summary of Caribbean Interventions

Jamaica	12
Guyana	5
Antigua and Barbuda	4
Barbados	4
Bahamas	2
St. Lucia	1
	<b>28</b>

Agenda Item		Total Interventions	Caribbean Interventions
item 8	Global geodetic reference frame	45	2
item 3	Enhancing	38	5
item 12	Application of GI to land admin and mgmnt	33	3
item 4	Contribution of Regional Committees	31	1
item 7	UN-IGIF	30	4
item 17	Contributions of UN global geospatial centres	29	
item 15	Adoption of standards	27	3
item 10	GI for climate and resilience	26	4
item 11	Integration of Geo and Statistics	25	1
item 16	Geographical names	23	2
item 6	Future Geospatial information Ecosystem	21	
item 9	Sustainable development	18	1
item 13	Integrated marine geospatial information	17	1
item 14	Policy and Legal	11	1
item 5	Contribution of Thematic Networks	9	
		<b>383</b>	<b>28</b>



**Fifteenth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)**

📍 UNHQ, New York, 📅 6 - 8 August 2025



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**Geo-Empowering** Caribbean Development



**Preparatory  
Webinar**

*(July 24, 2025)*

*virtual*



**CARIGEO  
Side Event**

*(August 5, 2025)*

*Chile Permanent Mission, New York*



**CARIGEO Caribbean  
Member States  
Strategizing Session**

*(August 5, 2025)*

*UNSD Office, New York*



**CARIGEO  
Caribbean Lyme**

*(August 5, 2025)*

*Restaurant, New York*



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Benefits of participating in the regional and global inter-governmental processes (*Barbados*)



Preparing for and participating in the annual session of the Committee of Experts



Examined National preparatory activities (e.g. *St. Lucia, Jamaica & USA*)



Examined Reports on the Agenda & discussed priority areas of national importance for country intervention preparation.  
*NB. Matrix tool was specially developed to aid Member States*



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# CARIGEO Webinar

Preparing for and participating in  
the annual UN–GGIM Sessions of the  
Committee of Experts

**Thursday July 24, 2025**

9:00 - 11:00 am (GMT-5/JA) / 10:00 am 12:00 pm (Eastern)



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15<sup>th</sup> UN–GGIM Session

# CARIGEO Side Event

Tuesday, 5th August 2025 @ 8:00 – 9:30 am (GMT–4)  
Chile Permanent Mission to the United Nations  
885 Second Avenue, 40th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Overview,  
progress &  
upcoming  
milestones

Project benefits  
for Caribbean  
countries

Cooperation  
opportunities &  
data access

Administering of  
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# 15th UN-GGIM Session: 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting

*(August 7, 2025)*



(6th meeting) Fifteenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) | UN Web TV



# 15th UN-GGIM Session: 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting

(August 7, 2025)

The Caribbean led interventions to have **‘Disaster’** included in the naming of agenda item 10 for the 16<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session (August 2026), given key national and regional significance as SIDS.

## Provisional agenda of the sixteenth session\*\*

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.
7. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
8. Global geodetic reference frame.
9. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
10. Geospatial information for climate, environment and resilience.

## Revised Agenda Item 10 for 16<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session: “Climate, Environment & Disaster Resilience”

### Provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.
7. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
8. Global geodetic reference frame.
9. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
10. Geospatial information for climate, environment and disaster resilience.
11. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
12. Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management.
13. Integrated marine geospatial information.
14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data and emerging technologies.



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## Interventions for “Disaster” inclusion for Agenda item #10 for 16<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session (2026)

- 8 supporting interventions
- 2 non-support which were subsequently withdrawn





Americas IGIF Workshop on margins of 12 <sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Americas Session (November 4, 2025)		
CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION GROUP WORK		
Instruction: Identify national and regional priorities and then select 8 highest priorities.		
	National Priorities	Regional Priorities
<b>Caribbean Member States (contributing):</b>  Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent	Digital transformation (transcending all levels of government and sectors, bridging the eg. computerization.)	9
	Disaster & Climate Resilience	8
	Poverty Reduction	
	Affordable housing & Urban Renewal	7
	Healthcare	3
	Sustainable Infrastructure Dev. (eg. Airport, ports, transportation routes)	7
	Sustainable Tourism Dev. (eg. Increasing arrivals and stayovers, tourism product options, sargassum threat)	5
	Reparation	1
	Land Administration, Use & Management (eg. Land tenure, access, records, land registration, landuse zoning)	7
	Blue Economy Sustainability (eg. sargassum threat)	7
	Green Economy	2
	Potable Water Security	5
	Food Security	2
	Maritime Security	3
	Border Security	5
	Renewable Energy (eg. Geothermal, hydro, solar, wind etc.)	5
	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>
		<b>8</b>

Interventions for “Disaster” inclusion for Agenda item #10 for 16<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session (2026)





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# **CARIGEO**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Meeting of Caribbean Member States**

**Thursday October 23, 2025**

9:00 - 10:30 am (GMT-5/Jamaica) / 10:00 am - 11:30 am (GMT-4/Eastern)



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### **Americas Region**

**Upcoming Regional Geospatial  
Events at UNECLAC  
(November 2025)**



### **Caribbean Sub-region**

**Preparations & Potential  
Disaster Impacts during  
2025 North Atlantic  
Hurricane Season**



### **15th UN-GGIM: Session**

**15th UN-GGIM Session:  
Caribbean Member States  
Experience**



### **Upcoming Events & Activities**



**15th UN-GGIM: Session**  
**Caribbean Representation,  
Decisions & Outcomes**

# 2025 North Atlantic Hurricane Season

Heartfelt support extended to all Caribbean Member States that have been impacted by tropical storms or hurricanes during the 2025 North Atlantic Hurricane season and the long road ahead given widespread damages and loss of life.

## Special mention:

Antigua & Barbuda

Bahamas

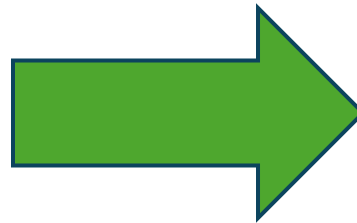
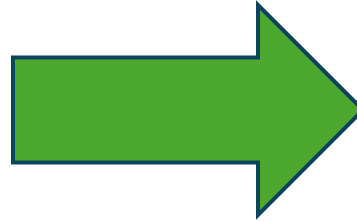
Bermuda

Cuba

Dominica Republic

Haiti

Jamaica



Torrential rains

Fierce winds

Landslides

Extensive Flooding & Storm Surges

Infrastructure damage

Loss of life



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# Hurricane Melissa

*(October -  
November 2025)*



Haiti



Jamaica



Cuba



# CARIGEO Support for Hurricane Melissa



- Esri as an America's PSN member of CARIGEO has consenting to host a **Country geoportal for Jamaica** on the Caribbean geoportal to aid response efforts.
- CARIGEO encourages our Caribbean Member States to become members of the Caribbean geoportal and use its resources.



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# GEOSPATIAL COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS: Hurricane Melissa Response (Jamaica)



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# JAMAICA PUBLIC RESPONSE FOR HURRICANE MELISSA



Join Jamaica's  
National Emergency  
Response GIS Team  
(NERGIST)

in partnership with Jamaica Flying  
Labs, Humanitarian  
OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) and  
UWI Mona's Caribbean School of  
Data.



## How to Participate

1. Scan the ChatMap QR Code or click the link to join "**Jamaica Public Response for Hurricane Melissa.**"
2. Open WhatsApp and join the group.  
**At an incident point/location please do the following and share to the group:**
3. Capture your **current location**
4. Take a **photo of the incident** and send with a **caption** via text message e.g., "Road flooded in Seaview Gardens, water knee high"

Help map the impacts of  
Hurricane Melissa using your  
WhatsApp and ChatMap! 🇯🇲 📍

Your photos and location can help response teams identify areas affected by:

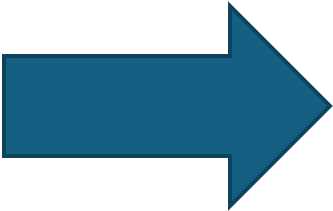
- 🌊 Flooding
- 🛣️ Road or bridge breakaways
- 🏠 Building damage
- 🌲 Landslides or rock falls
- 🌳 Fallen trees and power lines etc.



SCAN TO JOIN



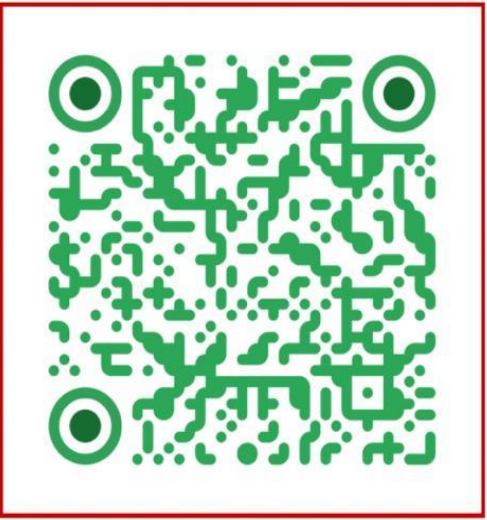
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## Group 2

# ChatMap: Jamaica Public Response for Hurricane Melissa

If Group 1 is full, please scan the QR code below to join "**Jamaica Public Response for Melissa - Group 2**" on whatsapp.



Scan to join  
Group 2

# CARIGEO Support for Hurricane Melissa

**NERGIST** NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE GIS TEAM

**Jamaica Flying Labs**

## JAMAICA PUBLIC RESPONSE FOR HURRICANE MELISSA

**Join Jamaica's National Emergency Response GIS Team (NERGIST)**  
in partnership with **Jamaica Flying Labs, Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT)** and **UWI Mona's Caribbean School of Data.**

**How to Participate**

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**Help map the impacts of Hurricane Melissa using your WhatsApp and ChatMap!**

Your photos and location can help response teams identify areas affected by:

- Flooding
- Road or bridge breakaways
- Building damage
- Landslides or rock falls
- Fallen trees and power lines etc.

**SCAN TO JOIN**

**swipe»» FOR INSTRUCTION GUIDE**

**Community ChatMapper**  
Ginger Ridge, St.Catherine

**CARIGEO** Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative

**HNT** Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team

**MSBM** Mona School of Business & Management

**CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF DATA**

Two ChatMap Groups established:

- **Group 1:** maxed at 1025, over 1300 members
- **Group 2:** over 200 members
- **ChatMap Monitoring support:** Barbados & St. Lucia



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SANTIAGO, CHILE





## **Jamaica Public Response for Hurricane Melissa**

by emi.mariscal

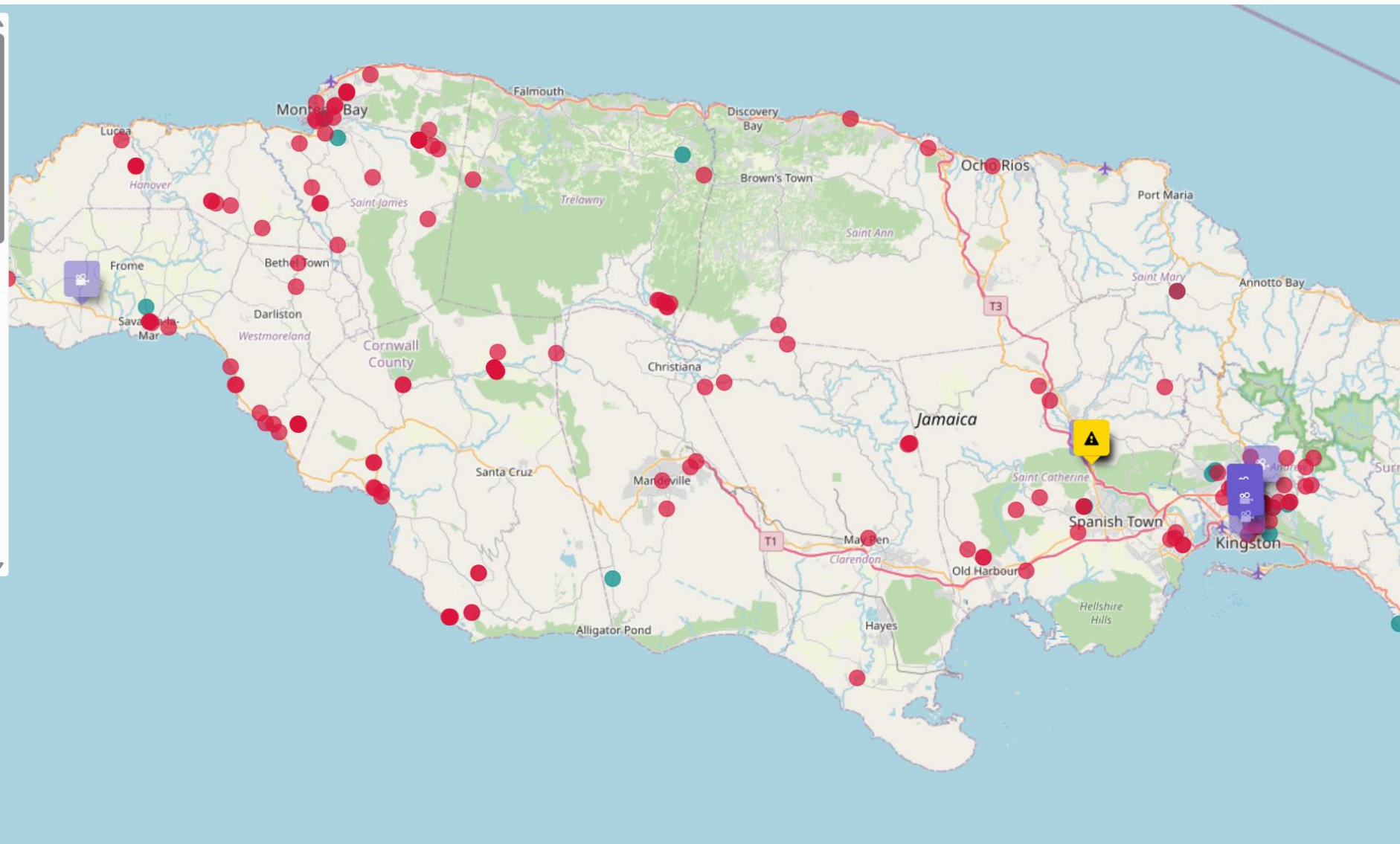
created at 27/10/2025 - modified at 04/11/2025

☆ 0

**This map supports near real-time mapping of Hurricane Melissa impacts across Jamaica.**

**Reports here help responders and communities stay informed.**

- (In green) Before the storm - Community-reports from WhatsApp groups (using ChatMap)
- (In red) During and after the storm - Community-reports from WhatsApp groups (using ChatMap)
- (In violet) Live camera streams



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# 12<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM: AMERICAS SESSION



**CARIGEO**  
Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative  

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**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**



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# 12<sup>th</sup> Session of UN–GGIM: Americas

Official Meetings (November 5–7, 2025)  
Side Events (November 3– 7, 2025)

UNECLAC Headquarters, Santiago, Chile

Encouraged participation

See you  
there!



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# FUTURE PLANS & OPPORTUNITIES



**CARIGEO**

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**



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# FUTURE PLANS & OPPORTUNITIES



**International Charter on Space &  
Major Disasters Training for  
Caribbean Member States  
on EO products**

**2025/26**



**National IGIF  
Workshops:  
Barbados & Jamaica**

**2025/26**

**Jamaica  
(Dec 9-11, 2025)**  
*NB. Maybe rescheduled  
due to Hurricane Melissa  
impacts*



**Copernicus LAC Chile project:  
Marine Products Launch &  
Caribbean EO training workshop  
(3 days)**

**2026**

*(Late January 2026)*



**CARIGEO support of  
Drones, AI & GIS for DRM  
Conference**

**2025/26**



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# Drones, AI & GIS for Disaster Risk Management

## 2025 Annual Conference and Workshop

### Caribbean & Central America Edition



This conference aims to bring together leaders and professionals from government agencies, local and global non-profit organizations, and the private sector in disaster risk management (DRM).

Through focused discussions and hands-on workshops, we will explore how geospatial technologies, including drones, AI, and GIS can support local, national and regional DRM actors manage disasters and reduce risks in their communities.



2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>  
December 2025



Montego Bay,  
Jamaica



Registration opens on July 1, 2025  
Sign up to express interest & receive updates



Scan QR Code to fill out the contact form when registration opens  
[arcg.is/11uPPj1](https://arcg.is/11uPPj1)



Jamaica  
Flying Labs



esri



## XII Session UN-GGIM: Americas

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# THANK YOU!



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