

# CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES

THE ANGUILLA  
EXPERIENCE



# THE CRISIS

Hurricane Irma hit Anguilla on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Winds of 185 mph with gusts up to 225 mph.

Homes, schools, ports, hospital and health centres, churches, offices, hotels and restaurants etc were devastated. 4 months before electricity restored to entire island.





# THE RESPONSE

- NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE ACTIVATED
- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP MET AT LEAST TWICE DAILY
  - GETTING CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL WAS A PRIORITY
  - ALL SCHOOLS WERE EITHER DAMAGED OR DESTROYED. SCHOOLS ARE NOT DESIGNATED SHELTERS
- ASSESSMENTS MADE OF THE STATE OF SCHOOLS – REPAIR OR REBUILD
- WHERE DECISIONS MADE TO REBUILD, MATERIALS WERE DONATED TO THE COMMUNITY



The background of the slide is a photograph of a schoolyard. In the foreground, a young girl is smiling and holding a large stack of books. In the background, other children are visible, along with a red pickup truck parked on the right. The sky is overcast.

# THE RESPONSE

## MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE

- CCRIF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR REPAIRS
- PROCUREMENT RULES RELAXED

### MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- REPAIR OF ROOFS
- ADJUSTMENTS OF CLASSROOMS (ONE BECAME TWO)
- LEASE OF BUILDINGS – ONE SCHOOL WAS RELOCATED TO AN APARTMENT COMPLEX, ONE COMPONENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL ALSO RELOCATED TO RENTED ACCOMMODATION
- SHIFT SYSTEM AGREED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL DUE TO REDUCED SPACE



# THE RESPONSE

## MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

### UNICEF

- TENTS, DRINKING WATER, HYGIENE KITS, MOSQUITO NETS
- RETURN TO HAPPINESS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN; TRAIN THE TRAINERS

### DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS

- STRUCTURED SPORTS PROGRAMME

### PARENTS

- CLEAN UP

### UK GOVERNMENT

- GENERATORS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY AND RUNNING WATER. ALL SCHOOLS HAVE CISTERNS.
- GENERATORS ALSO DEPLOYED AT MAJOR SUPERMARKETS TO ENSURE THEY REMAINED OPEN.



# THE RESPONSE

## MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

ALL SCHOOLS (INCLUDING 4 SEN CENTRES) OPENED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017.

- SANDWICHES AND DRINKING WATER PROVIDED TO STUDENTS DURING THE DAY
- UNIFORM RULES RELAXED AND IRONING FACILITIES MADE AVAILABLE TO PARENTS AT SCHOOLS
- **PRIVATE SECTOR** DONATED CLASSROOM AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND STUDENT BACKPACKS WITH SUPPLIES
- DUTY CONCESSIONS OFFERED ON IMPORTATION OF LAPTOPS FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> TO 6<sup>TH</sup> FORMERS.

### MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

- TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT FOR 6 MONTHS

### RED CROSS

- SMALL GRANT SCHEME

# LESSONS LEARNT

- IMPROVE MECHANISMS FOR TRACKING OF CHILDREN WHO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AS A RESULT OF A DISASTER.
- IMPROVE BORDER SECURITY.
- NEED FOR PROTOCOL FOR ACCEPTANCE/INTEGRATION OF STUDENTS MIGRATING FROM AFFECTED COUNTRIES.
- PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER ADULTS INVOLVED IN THE CARE OF CHILDREN.