UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT

CENTRE FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

STUDIES(CRMDS)  
ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction  
The Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies (CRMDS) was  
established consequently on the memorandum of understanding signed on the 19th of  
November 2009 between the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the  
University of Port Harcourt. The University of Port Harcourt Senate consequently approved  
the Centre and programmes of study on the 29th of April, 2010.  
Centre’s Mandate  
The mandate includes the following:  
¬ Provide a professional Centre for Postgraduate Diploma, Master of Science and  
Doctor of Philosophy Programmes in Disaster Risk Management and Development  
Studies  
¬ Assist NEMA in training and research in the areas of disaster risk management and  
development.  
¬ Establish baseline information for Disaster Risk Management and Development.  
¬ Work with NEMA to develop research and training programmes to cover the broad  
spectrum of activities in the Disaster Risk Management Cycle.  
Goal  
The CDRMDS’ major goal is institutional capacity development in the South-South region of  
Nigeria with a focus on working with decision-makers, and national and international  
organizations to achieve the following:  First, expand and strengthen institutional technical  
capabilities; second, develop and implement information and decision support systems; third,  
enhance training in risk and vulnerability assessment tools and procedure, and fourth,  
enhance institutional access to data and information holdings.  
Philosophy  
The philosophy underlying CDRMDS Uniport is essentially the need to provide broad core  
disaster risk management and development education that bridges the gap between theory and

practice and enhances students’ knowledge base, concrete decision-making and critical  
problem-solving skills.

Vision  
The vision of CDRMDS is to become a Centre of excellence and a leading disaster risk  
management and development mainstreaming Centre.

Mission  
¬ The Centre will provide and facilitate education, training and research in civil  
operations, particularly operations that require international disaster management,  
development studies and humanitarian assistance and operations.  
¬ The Centre will be used to provide and facilitate education, training, interagency  
coordination, and research.  
¬ Meet requirements for information in connection with regional and global disasters,  
including the use of advanced communications technology and a virtual library using  
a fully functional interactive website.  
¬ The Centre will develop a repository of disaster risk indicators and a baseline for the  
South-South region of Nigeria.  
¬ The Centre shall perform such other missions as the Director of NEMA and the  
University may specify.  
Values of CDRMDS  
¬ The main function of CDRMDS is to train high-level manpower for disaster  
management and humanitarian assistance in response to a disaster.  
¬ Recognize that effective disaster management depends upon the consistent  
coordination and integration of the work of many agencies, organizations and  
individuals.  
¬ Beliefs that a community that is well prepared for hazards of all kinds will survive  
and recover quickly from a disaster.  
¬ Accepts that flexibility and adaptability of approach must be the basis of the delivery  
of disaster management services.  
CDRMDS Commitments

In the pursuit of a culture of excellence in sustained learning, leadership, internationalism,  
professionalism, advancement and propagation of knowledge in the disaster management

industry, for sustainable development, CDRMDS is committed to its stakeholders: industry,  
students, faculty and government.  
Objectives  
The basic goal of CDRMDS is to reinforce local, regional and national disaster reduction  
efforts by making available well-trained disaster risk management and development studies  
mainstreaming experts.  
¬ Prevent disasters through adequate planning.  
¬ Reduce human and economic losses from hazard impacts.  
¬ Minimize human suffering from Natural and Man-made hazards.  
¬ Provide adequate plan

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF CDRMDS

Major Activities  
¬ The Centre participated in all NEMA-initiated workshops and conferences.

¬ South-South regional summit on 2022 international day for disaster risk reduction  
(DDRR) &amp; DRM ICON. 14 th October, 2022 Uniport.  
¬ United Nations Development Programme UNDP STAKEHOLDRS’ Workshop on the  
Establishment of National Disaster Database and Risk Information Management for

Sustainable and Risk Informed Development in Nigeria. Abuja, 22 ND -23 November,  
2022.  
¬ Participated in The Nigerian Annual Climate Crises, Opportunities, Business  
Continuity Planning and Sustainability Summit. Lagos, November 30-Dec 1, 2022.  
Achievements  
¬ All the PGD students admitted in the 2020 session have successfully completed their  
programme.  
¬ Some of the first set of PhD students are ready for the School of Graduate Studies  
seminar.  
¬ Secured a plot of land allocated to the Centre by the University Management.  
Research Publications/Innovations  
CDRMDS has an international and peer review journal known as The Port Harcourt Journal  
of Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies (PJDRMDS). It accepts and PUB  
high quality, original and recent research written in standard English on current issues in  
disaster risk management and development studies.  
Challenges  
¬ The Centre was hindered by the national ASUU strike  
¬ Funding  
¬ Lecture venues  
Recommendations  
¬ The Centre suggests that synergy between management and trade unions on campus  
be strengthened. This will help the Centre to run smoothly when there is national  
strike.  
¬ Providing dedicated conducive lecture hall to the Centre. Such infrastructure will  
attract prospective students.  
Conclusion

CDRMDS is grateful to the management of University of Port Harcourt for providing an  
enabling environment to run the programme. Going forward, the Centre is currently reaching