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Disaster Management Alliance Update

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Successful example of public private alliances for disaster management in Trinidad & Tobago



In Trinidad, Association of Upstream Operators of Trinidad and Tobago has created the East Coast Operators Community Awareness and Emergency Response Programme based on the CAER committee created by Plipdeco in Point Lisas. The East Coast Operators CAER works towards providing stakeholders with information regarding the possible

health, safety, and environmental risks that the Beachfield operations can cause. This is due to the fact that most of the upstream energy activities currently take place in Beachfield Basin.

CAER aids in creating community emergency plans and ensuring that the affected stakeholders can handle emergency incidents. CAER holds meetings with designated community leaders and has built a community outreach programme to provide community members with the necessary tools to be able to adequately respond to a natural/chemical disaster.



Personnel are trained to respond to disaster situations. They work towards developing plans to prepare themselves and their community in

the face of a disaster. The training helps them to identify and mitigate potential hazards within their home and their workplace. Furthermore, employees are given training on first aid, identifying hazardous materials, search and rescue, and fire safety.

The Committee is composed of Upstream Operators from BP, Repsol, BHP Billiton, The National Gas Company of Trinidad & Tobago, and Petrotrin. Other representatives include ASCO, Neal & Massey Energy, Eastern Divers, Regulatory and Ministry representatives and many other NGO's.

CAER's focus revolves primarily around Health, Safety, and Environmental issues for the community. Each of the east coast operators have partnered with the seven schools in the area to assist them in emergency response preparedness and awareness. This includes emergency drills, developing emergency responsible plans, financial and technical assistance, and more.

In 2007, CAER held the first annual series of workshops for teachers in surrounding schools. The workshops provided the teachers with information on Beachfield Operations and the role of statutory agencies in emergencies. They were provided with first aid training, fire training, and response plans.

The committee works towards working outside their corporate image and improving the quality of life of the community that surrounds them.

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