# Adaptive Social Protection: Nuts and Bolts Jamaica's In-Kind Response Mechanism During a shock/ Disaster

Ministry of Labour and Social Security

Jamaica

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#### **BACKGROUND**

- Jamaica has a high level of exposure to natural disasters.
  - Hurricanes/Storms
  - ► Heavy rainfall-flooding, landslides, mudslides
  - Drought
  - Bushfires
  - Earthquakes
- The impacts of disasters on Jamaica have been high in terms of human and economic cost.
  - ► Localise or national



## GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE STRUCTURE/MATRIX

- The GOJ has developed national strategies and policies to promote more resilient development planning and better coordinated response.
- National Disaster Risk Management Council (NDRMC) chaired by the Prime Minister that meets annually at the start of the hurricane season to assess the country's state of preparedness
- A national disaster coordination and response mechanism that includes:
  - All relevant line Ministries and Agencies- social security, national security, water, energy, health, education
  - Local authorities
  - Key private sector entities such- telecommunication providers.
  - NGO's, Churches

#### THE ROLE OF MLSS

- Work in collaboration with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency (ODPEM)
- Chairs the National Humanitarian Assistance Committee, which is a Committee of the NDRMC - meets quarterly to ensure preparedness and response mechanism
- Sits on the Parish Disaster Committee at the local level.
- Shelter Management
- Provide welfare support to affected persons in immediate aftermath- for victims- in-kind support or cash grants
- Coordinate and lead Damage Assessment process from a welfare perspective.
- Receive and store donations (local and overseas) for distribution as needed
- Activates The National Welfare Shelter Relief clearance Committee, if needed

### **Emergency Response**

Many families particularly poor and vulnerable persons living in inner-city and rural communities are made homeless by varying types of disasters.

Elderly, children, persons with disabilities

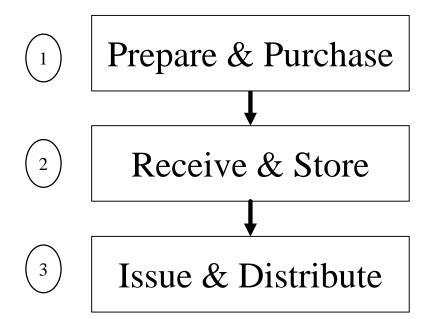
#### In a nutshell.....

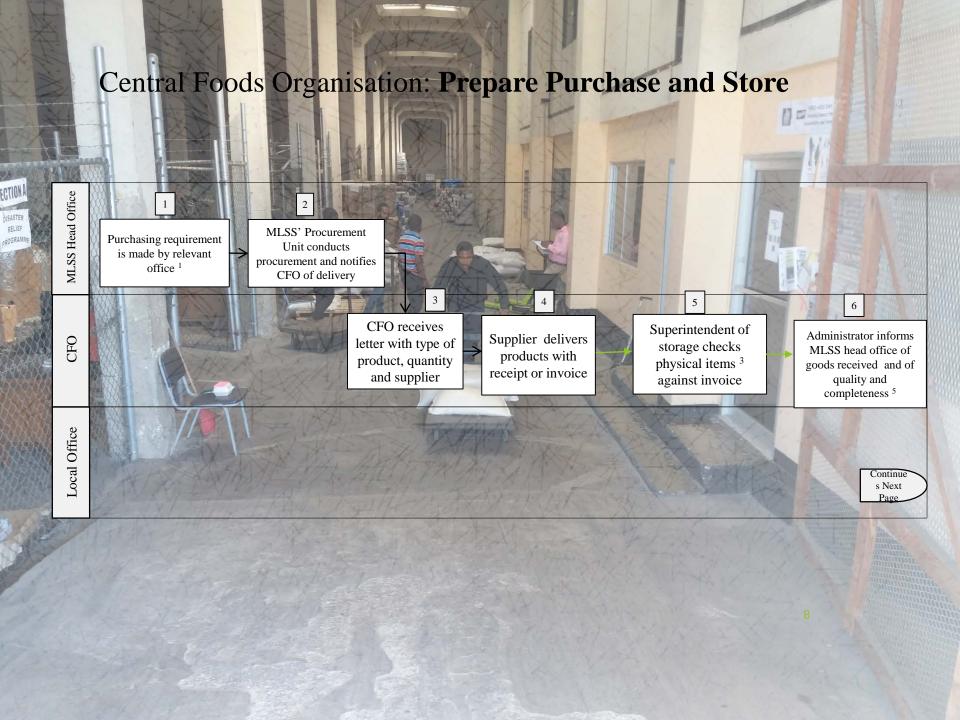
- MLSS along with other agencies provide food, emergency supplies, bedding and comfort items to affected families/communities
- Assessments are done by MLSS and persons are given Rehabilitation/Emergency Grants according to need to help in their long term recovery.

#### 2 Key Response Mechanisms

- 1. Central Food Organisation -Warehouse managed by the Ministry
  - Bulk purchasing price advantage
  - Pre-positioning of emergency supplies
  - Receipt of donated items local and overseas-sort distribute
  - Stores supplies for ODPEM
- 2. Lines of credit -local suppliers
  - ► Established lines of credit with designated suppliers of food and wholesale items in all fourteen (14) parishes/municipalities.
  - Lines of credit are activated and limits are set by the Permanent Secretary
    - Size , scale of impact of event
    - Location/parish
  - Supplies are taken up to limit set to enable quick response within parishes

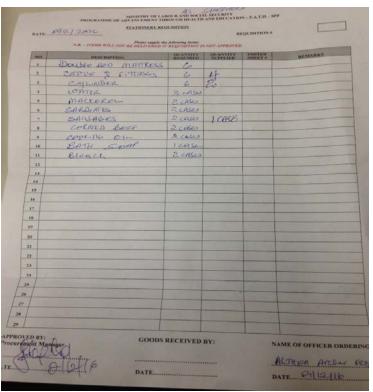
# Central Foods: Three Main Processes









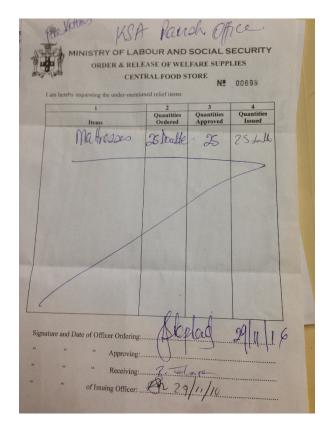


#### STOCK VALUATION RECORD

The stock valuation record is used as an accounting tool to ascertain the inventory in terms of monetary value currently stored in the warehouse

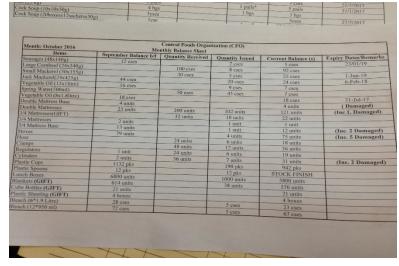
#### PARISH REQUISITION FORM

The Central Requisition Form is used by Parish Offices to request from the PAD the issuance of a required item.



#### **ISSUE REQUISITION FORM**

The Issuance Requisition Form is used by PAD to order the CFO the issuance of a particular item and control the receipt by a third party.



#### MONTHLY BALANCE SHEET REPORTS

The monthly balance sheet is an accountingreporting used to report to the head office the inventory presently stored in the CFO

#### Disaster Scale and Response

Response mechanism varies according to the type and scale of the shock/disaster and importantly need.

- Level 1- small scale/few households- Parish Office provides immediate support to families utilizing supplies readily available in Office or through line of credit. Eg. A family whose house has been destroyed by fire, a localize flooding in a community that may have severely impacted a few persons.
- Level 2- larger shock but affecting less than 20 families -Response varies according to the type of disaster, need and resource available in Parish Office. Initial supplies maybe taken using line of credit suppliers. Depending on the location, impact of the event supplies are usually distributed from the central warehouse.
- ▶ Level 3 Greater than 20 Households National Response mechanism involving the Office of Disaster Emergency Management Agency will coordinate response mechanism. Immediate supplies taken from Parish and Line of Credit, Supplies sent from the Central Foods Warehouse to support needs.

#### Shelter Management

- An important dimension of the adverse events management framework is the provision of sheltering for person who become displaced or have to seek safety as a result of a shock or disaster.
- Shelter inspections are done by MLSS along with other Disaster Response Agencies annually.
- ► Food is supplied to the shelters for Victims along with other comfort items, toiletries and cleaning supplies where necessary.
- Social Workers are trained in First Aid and CPR across all fourteen Parishes.
- All Social workers are assigned a phone in a Closed User Group(CUG) thus allowing for communication.

#### Risk/Challenges

- Distribution of supplies-Sometime road network infrastructure is badly damaged, communities cut off - rely on army to assist with airlifting supplies
- Limited storage capacity in Parish Offices
- Prepositioning of supplies disaster doesn't happen
- Line of credit works best when do not have long advance warning before a disaster
- Manpower needed to move distribute
- Manual System

#### **Next Steps**

- With support from the World Bank
  - Reviewed business processes
  - Redesign of our damage assessment forms to capture more data
  - ► Electronic capture of data in field- eliminate need for data entry with capability to do geo-tagging and pictures- this will assist in building transparency.
- Working with a local supplier to develop an emergency kit similar concept to UNICEF's dignity kit but will include a basic supply of food and hygiene items already prepackaged for easy distribution.











## THANK YOU!





