



Practical information for participants

Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Role of Telecommunication/ICTs for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction  
for the Caribbean Islands

Roseau, Dominica, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018

1. INFORMATION ON THE HOST COUNTRY



Dominica defies the Caribbean cliché on many levels. No mass tourism, no white powdery beaches, no rum-fueled pool parties. Nicknamed ‘Nature Island’ for a reason, the island of beauty and splendor is a hidden Eden from the humdrum of metropolitan melee and is a haven for vacationers seeking tranquility and rejuvenation. It is an especially alluring destination to eco-adventurers with its Boiling Lake, Two Fresh Water Lakes, breathtaking cascading waterfalls, Champagne Reef, rainforest-shrouded volcano, sulfurous hot springs, superb diving and the Caribbean's first long-distance hiking trail.

Dominica is latitude 15° 20’ N and Longitude: 61° 22’ W with a surface Area of 751 km2 (289.5 sq. mi). The island is 29 miles (47 km) long and has a maximum breadth of 16 miles (26 km). The capital and chief port is Roseau. Dominica’s great natural beauty, especially its spectacular mountainous topography, has impressed generations of nature lovers.

Halfway between Guadeloupe and Martinique, Dominica is the only place in the Eastern Caribbean that’s still home to a sizeable population of indigenous people, the Kalinago, who've lived on the island since the 13th century.



Two people jump into the pool at the foot of Victoria Falls.



The waterfall at Dominica's picturesque Emerald pool.



Volcanic air bubbles at Champagne Reef



Kalinago woman weaving a basket





Part of the capital Roseau

English is the official language of Dominica; however a large portion of the population speaks Kwéyòl, which is based primarily on French and Carib vocabularies and a syntax borrowed from a variety of West African indigenous languages. A few northern villages use a distinctive English dialect called Kokoy. For the past decade, pre-Hurricane Marie, population was hovering around 69, 625 (2006 estimate)but this has diminished with an estimated 15,000 having emmigrated after the devastation of Hurricane Maria.

Population is of mixed Ethnic Groups:    Black, Mixed, Amerindian (Caribs), White, Others

Religions: Roman Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist, Pentecostal, Methodist, Baptist, Anglican, Other

Mother Nature may have been especially generous with Dominica, but it also deals it the occasional hardship in the form of hurricanes and tropical storms. Most recently, in August 2015, Tropical Storm Erika and later in September 2017 category 5 Hurricane Marie wreaked major havoc from which the island is now recovering.

**2. WEATHER & CLIMATE**

Dominica has a pleasant climate, particularly during the cooler months from December to March. Visitors to Dominica should expect plenty of sunshine interjected by intermittent rainfall. Summer temperatures reach an average high of 90 °F (32 °C). Winter temperatures are not much lower, the average high being anywhere from 84 to 86 °F (29 to 30 °C). The dry season is from February to May, and the rainy season is from June to October, the most likely period for hurricanes (tropical cyclones). Frequent rainfall cools the tropical heat, nourishes the island's extensive rainforest, and feeds its rivers, lakes, and waterfalls. Rainfall varies with average annual coastal rainfall ranging from about 60 inches (1,500 mm) to 145 inches (3,700 mm), but in the interior that figure is triple. Rainfall is especially heavy in the mountainous interior where average rainfall can reach 250 inches (6,350 mm).

**Note: The conference room where the workshop will be held is air-conditioned.**

**3. MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON THE ROLE OF TELECOMMUNICATION/ICTS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RISK REDUCTION**

The Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Role of Telecommunication/ICTs for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction for the Caribbean Islands will take place from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, Roseau, Dominica. The workshop is organized by Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with, and supported by, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

The objective of the workshop is to, *inter alia*:

- Stimulate awareness in paving the way for enhancing the use of ICTs for disaster management in the region.
- Address key questions related to the best use of ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management.
- Served as a platform to exchange new experiences and best practices in the use of modern technologies for monitoring and early warning.
- Provided an opportunity for policy makers and other participants to debate and adopt concrete strategies on how information and communication technologies support disaster risk reduction and management activities, contributing this way to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

1. PARTICIPATION

The workshop is intended for participants responsible for disaster management, as well as, heads of the telecommunication regulatory authorities, executive directors of private sector entities, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and other high-level participants from humanitarian organizations, regional disaster management organizations, academic institutions and media.

2. DATE & VENUE

**Roseau, Dominica, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**Saint Alphonsus Catholic Parish Hall Conference Centre**  
Winston Lane, Pottersville  
Roseau  
Commonwealth of Dominica  
☎ +767 448 2905 • ✉email: [stalphonsusgwill@cwdom.dm](mailto:stalphonsusgwill@cwdom.dm)

***Note that all recommended hotels are in proximity to the Forum venue - a short taxi ride away. Bus shuttle will be made available to and from the venue.***

*At the venue free Wi-Fi internet access will be available in the conference room.*

*As usual, and in the interest of the environment, we will use information and communications technology (ICT) as much as possible.*

3. REGISTRATION

Online registration can be done through the following link <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/EVENTS/2018/20584.aspx> and For any assistance you may communicate with International Telecommunication Union: **Sheron Small**, [sheron.small@itu.int](mailto:sheron.small@itu.int) or **Sylvester Cadette**, [sylvester.cadette@itu.int](mailto:sylvester.cadette@itu.int) preferably on or before **23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2018**.

4. ACCOMMODATION & RESERVATIONS

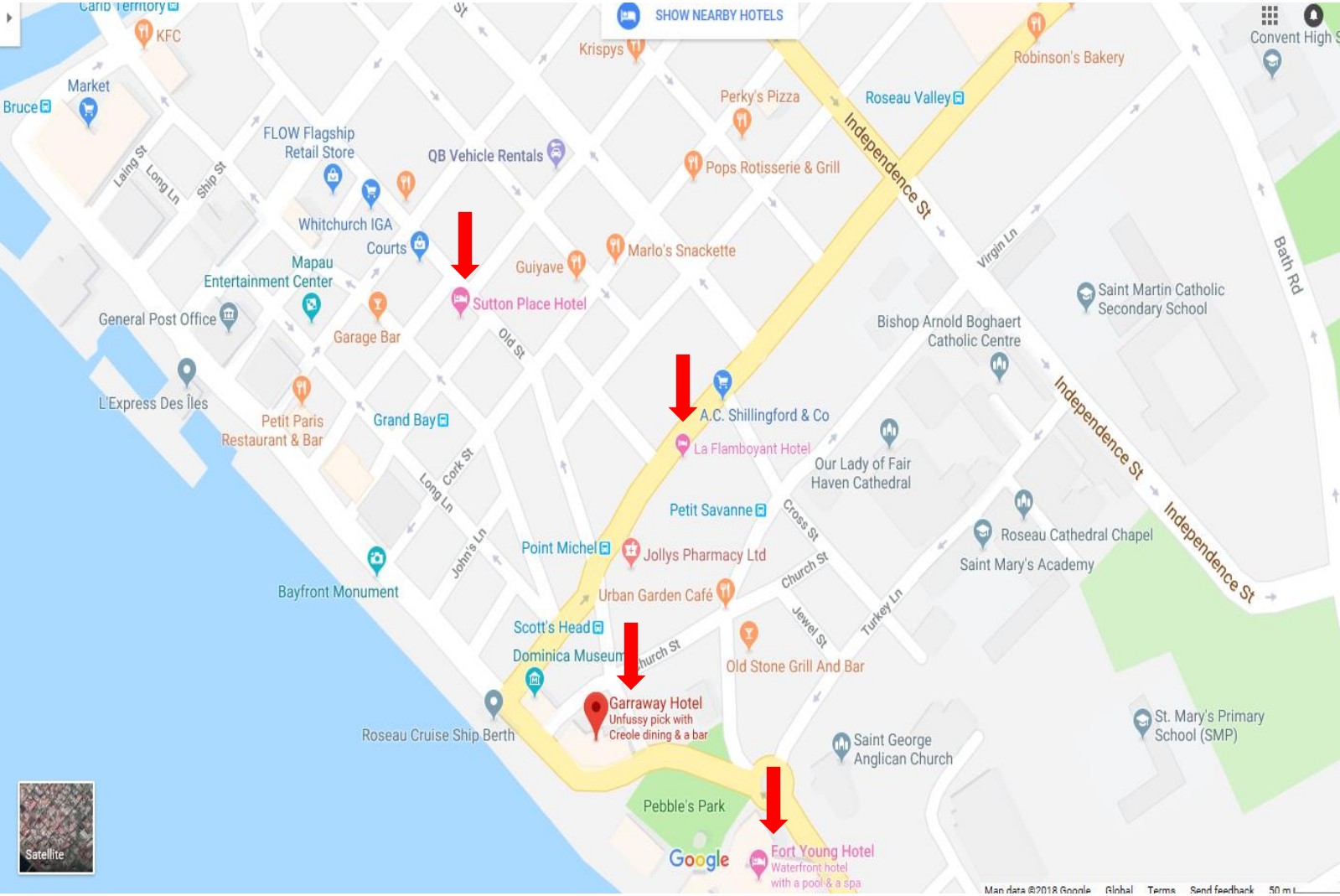
The following hotels are recommended. Note that all recommended hotels are in proximity to the workshop venue - a short taxi ride away.

**N.B.: All reservations are to be undertaken by the participant or by the Administration, organization or Agency which is being represented**

Hotel	Contact	Rooms	
Fort Young Hotel	<a href="mailto:researvations@coco-resorts.com">researvations@coco-resorts.com</a> 1 (758) 456-2800 U. S. Toll Free: 1 (877) 655-2626	Kreole: US \$100 + 18% tax Pool View and Swim Up: US \$125 + 18% tax Prices include a full breakfast	
Garraway Hotel	Garraway Hotel Place Heritage One Eugenia Charles Boulevard Roseau, Commonwealth of Dominica T: +1 767 449-8800  F: 1 767 449-8807 <a href="http://garrawayhotel.com/">http://garrawayhotel.com/</a> Wireless Internet access is available on property.		
Sutton Place Hotel	<a href="http://www.suttonplacehoteldominica.com/">http://www.suttonplacehoteldominica.com/</a> <a href="#">Sutton Place Hotel Reservations</a> <a href="mailto:sutton2@cwdom.dm">sutton2@cwdom.dm</a> 1 (767) 449 8700 or 1 (767) 448 4313	Single Standard Double Standard Single Suite Double Suite Triple Suite	US \$ 96.80 per night US \$114.95 per night US \$127.05 per night US \$163.35 per night US \$ 199.40 per night
La Flamboyant Hotel	22 King George V Street, Roseau, Dominica W: <a href="http://www.laflamboyanthotel.dm">www.laflamboyanthotel.dm</a> E: <a href="mailto:mail@laflamboyanthotel.dm">mail@laflamboyanthotel.dm</a> P: (767) 440 7190 P: (767) 616 7191 P: (767) 245 1040	Standard Room Executive Room	US \$ 75.00 per night US \$ 90.00 per night
St. James	13 Church Lane & Federation Drive, Roseau, Dominica Phone: +1 767-448-7170		
St. Amie’s			



Location Map of Recommended Hotels



5. AIRPORT TRANSFERS

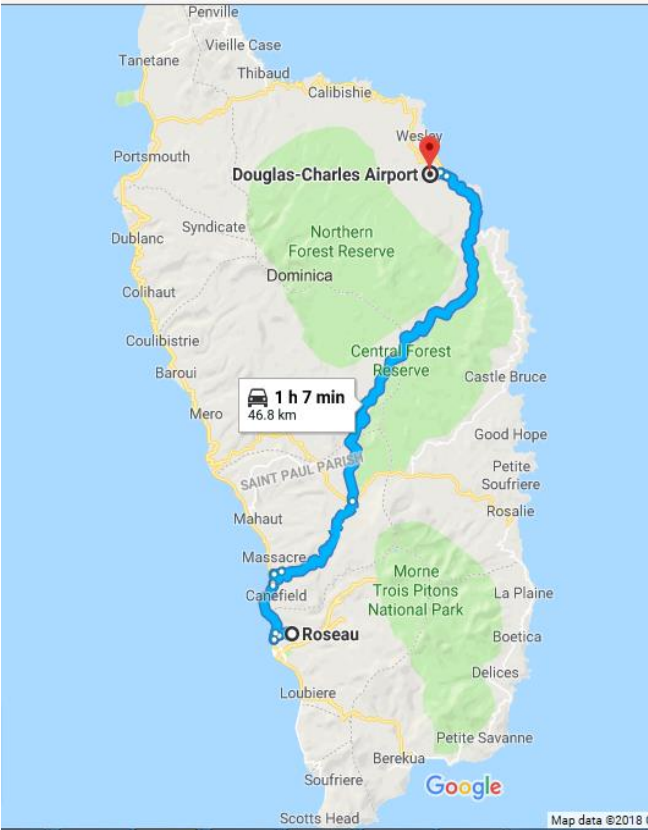


Figure 1 Douglas-Charles Airport to capital ROSEAU

The Government is determined to build an international airport to accommodate international arrivals from beyond the Caribbean.

Complimentary return shuttle service will be provided to and from the Douglas-Charles Airport to hotel for arrivals and departures, **only for those participants registered, that provided all the required flight and hotel information through the ITU online registration system.**

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

Traveling to Dominica is relatively easy. Entry requirements for Dominica are strict and comply with international travel laws. Except for countries within the CARICOM, Commonwealth and with which special travel arrangements were agreed upon for less restrictive entry requirements for Dominica, nationals of other countries are to travel to Dominica in accordance with the set rules for documentation and visas.

Like in any other country, visitors to the Commonwealth of Dominica have certain entry regulations they must adhere to before entry into the island is permitted. Dominica entry requirements are as follows:

- A valid passport
- Valid Passport

- Valid return ticket
- Sufficient funds to sustain oneself for length of time intended to stay
- Local address

Except for:

- Nationals of Dominica holding a birth certificate and picture ID
- Members of CARICOM or OECS states holding a driver’s license, voter’s registration card, social security card or national identity card issued to nationals of the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, ST Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Canadian citizens can show documents with picture ID certifying proof of [citizenship](#) of Canada
- French Nationals can stay for up to two weeks by presenting a valid identification card
- Valid return ticket
- Visa is required by law for anybody staying on island for more than 3 weeks; however visitors who intend to stay for 21 days or less do not require a visa.

Departure tax from Dominica is XCD45.00 for CARICOM travellers and XCD59.00 for all other passport holders. Children 12 years and under are exempted. Departure tax is payable at the airport in cash (XCD or USD)

<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/services/passports-and-travel-documents-non-nationals>

For more information, contact:

Passport and Immigration Department  
Police Headquarters  
Bath Road  
Roseau  
Commonwealth of Dominica  
Telephone: (767) 266 5159  
Fax: (767) 448 6204  
E-mail: [cdpf@dominica.gov.dm](mailto:cdpf@dominica.gov.dm)

7. TIME ZONE

Dominica is on Atlantic Standard Time (AST) or UCT/GMT – **4 hours** which is one hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time and the same as Eastern Daylight Time.

8. BUSINESS HOURS AND BANKING

Businesses open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday with a lunch break from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Banking hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from Mondays to Thursdays, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. On Saturdays, the banks are closed but merchants open their enterprises from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Visa and MasterCard are also widely accepted. Most tourism related business, such as hotels, restaurants, tour operators, and car rental agencies accept Master Card, Visa and American Express credit cards, including traveler's cheques.

The following are a list of the commercial banks found in within distance of the hotel and workshop venue:

- The Bank of Nova Scotia
- CIBC First Caribbean International Bank
- National Bank of Dominica
- Royal Bank of Canada

Opening hours for banks are:  
Monday to Thursday from 8h00 to 14h00  
Friday from 8h00 to 17h00  
There are no lunch breaks

9. EASTERN CARIBBEAN (EC) CURRENCY BANK NOTES IN CIRCULATION

 US Dollar	2.7169
 Euro	3.6615
 British Pound	4.4545

The EC currency is stable and rate changes over a two (2) month period are very marginal  
*Rates as at 24/10/2018 9:22:50 AM AST (UCT/GMT) - 4 hours.*



*Everywhere on the island, most businesses accept United States Dollars, British Pounds, and Euros.*

10. UTILITIES

Electricity

The voltage used in Dominica is 240 volts at 50Hz. American appliances are quite popular, but require transformers for voltage conversion. Many accommodations offer both outlets, but it would be wise to receive confirmation from the specific establishment.

**Hotels are usually wired with both 240 at 50Hz and 110 volts at 60Hz. The hotels usually provide irons and ironing boards in rooms.**

In Dominica the power sockets are of type A, B, D and G. Type G is predominant - this type is of British origin. This socket only works with plug G (See pictures below).



**Type A:** This socket has no alternative plugs



**Type B:** This socket also works with plug A



**Type D:** This socket has no alternative plugs



**Type G:** This socket has no alternative plugs

Telecommunications

Dominica has a modern and reliable telecommunications system. It is easy to find public phones in the city and in most communities. Hotels offer International Direct Dialing from their rooms.

**The island's area code is 767.**

The telecommunications providers are:

- LIME which offers landline, internet, mobile and subscriber television services;
- Digicel which offers mobile services and subscriber television services;
- EPIC which offers internet and subscriber television services.
- ***At the venue free Wi-Fi Internet access will be available in the training room.***

11. MEDICAL FACILITIES

There are three public hospitals on the island: the Marigot Hospital, the Portsmouth Hospital, and the premier Princess Margaret Hospital in Roseau. Intensive care units are available at the Portsmouth Hospital and the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). Several specialists and general practitioners operate private clinics.

12. EMERGENCY

The emergency contact for the Police, Ambulance and Fire Department is 999.

13. PERSONAL SAFETY

Dominica enjoys one of the lowest crime rates in the entire Caribbean; however visitors are encouraged to practice common sense in their department and the protection of their property. We suggest that if you are not familiar with Dominica then please ask questions. Please also consult with the front desk and Dominican sisters and brothers for advice and guidance.

CONTACTS	
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