HURRICANE SANDY

Sandy began as a tropical wave in the Caribbean on October 19, 2012. It quickly developed, becoming a tropical depression and then a tropical storm in just six (6) hours. Tropical Storm Sandy was the 18th named storm of the 2012 Atlantic Hurricane Season. It was upgraded to a Hurricane on October 24, 2012 when its maximum sustained winds reached 74 mph (119 kph).

Hurricane Sandy made landfall in Jamaica at approximately 2:00 pm on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 in Bull Bay, St. Andrew as a Category 1 Hurricane. Sandy was the first Hurricane in twenty-four (24) years to have its eye cross Jamaica. The four (4) parishes which received the major portion of the damage were: St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary and St. Catherine. There was one (1) loss of life.

St. Catherine, St. Mary, Portland and St. Thomas recorded the worst impact from Hurricane Sandy.

Hurricane Sandy also caused destruction within the Central Caribbean, the North Eastern seaboard of the United States of America and parts of Canada.

Jamaica was the first country directly affected by Hurricane Sandy. Sandy was the first Hurricane to make direct landfall on the island since Hurricane Gilbert, 24 years ago.

SITUATION REPORT

Hurricane Sandy was the deadliest and most destructive hurricane of the 2012 Atlantic Hurricane Season, as well as the second-costliest hurricane in United States history.

**SANDY’S IMPACT**

Sandy's destructive power was concentrated to a large extent on the eastern sections of the island. The four (4) parishes which received the major portion of the damage were: St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary and St. Catherine. The cost of Sandy's damage to Jamaica is estimated at US$55.96 Million.
Castleton, St Mary

Kintyre Bridge (Hope River), St. Andrew

Source: MGD, 2012

Source: ODPEM


High water mark, Port Maria High School
Devon Pen Primary School after passage of Sandy.  

Devon Pen Primary School after rehabilitation work.

Chepstowe Health Centre

The Chepstowe Health Centre, a Type 1 Facility which serves four (4) communities, namely: Bybrook, Skibo, Claverty Cottage and Chepstowe District receiving funds from the Jamaican Diaspora in the United Kingdom (UK) via the Jamaican High Commission in UK to effect repairs. The Heath Centre is used as a Hurricane Shelter and also a Community Centre for the hosting of meetings, training and other community activities.
The Food for the Poor is one of the agencies facilitating the relocation of forty-eight (48) families in St. Mary, all victims of the Hurricane Sandy, from Port Arthur Lane in Annotto Bay to Crooked River in Annotto Bay and Eden Park in Oracabessa. The Crooked River site is ready and construction is already underway. This site will house twenty-two (22) of the forty-eight (48) families.
Crooked River housing units.

At the Kintyre Bridge (Hope River) site, work continues on the foundation and assembling of the Bailey Bridge. The bridge is the main thoroughfare for several St Andrew communities such as Tavern, Hope Flats, Cosmo Mews, Bedward Pastures and surrounding areas. The new 200-foot, two-lane bridge is being constructed at a cost of $100 million. Some $40 million of that amount is to be spent on river training and construction of a walkway for pedestrians.

Source: ODPEM

The Kintyre Bridge as at 17 July 2013
The Kintyre Bridge as at 29 July 2013

Castleton main road, St. Mary before (picture 1) and after (picture 2).

Tilted buttress after Hurricane Sandy, October 2012

Picture 1
The National Works Agency (NWA) has accomplished an exceptional number of restoration works in the Kingston Metropolitan Region and St. Andrew in a short time frame. The Mount Ogle Bridge which was damaged under Hurricane Nicole three and a half (3 ½) years ago and was completely destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. It has been reopened for vehicular traffic. In addition, the Castleton main road, which was damaged, has been reopened and the Kintyre Bridge (Hope River) Project is scheduled to be completed towards the end of July 2013, to highlight but a few of their projects.

**Picture Sources**


Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ). 2013. *Jamaica Macro Socio-Economic and Environmental Assessment of the Damage and Loss Caused by Hurricane Sandy.*