



Eastern Caribbean Earthquake September 2014

Event Briefing

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1 INTRODUCTION

A magnitude 5.4 earthquake occurred at 21:09:08 UTC (17:09:08 local time) on 15 September 2014 east of Martinique. Initial estimates from the US Geological Survey (USGS) locate the epicentre of the event at 14.437°N, 60.092°W, and at a depth of 15.1 km.

Reports from Saint Lucia indicate that shaking intensities ranged from II to IV on the Modified Mercalli Index.

2 CCRIF SPC MODEL OUTPUTS

Under CCRIF's loss calculation protocol, a CCRIF Multi-Peril Risk Estimation System (MPRES) report is required for any earthquake with a magnitude of 5.0 or greater affecting at least one of the 16 member countries.

3 IMPACTS

Based on the MPRES footprint, the CCRIF member countries affected by the earthquake on 15 September 2014 were Barbados, Dominica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Figure 1). The earthquake was reportedly felt in Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines but not in Barbados or Dominica. Despite the MPRES footprint suggesting that Barbados would have been more significantly affected than St. Vincent, the peak ground acceleration in the band affecting Barbados, Dominica and St. Vincent corresponds to perceived shaking that is either not felt or weak, so it is not surprising that there were no reports of shaking in Barbados. There were no reports of damage from any member country.

This information is corroborated by a preliminary run of the CCRIF loss model that did not generate any government losses in any of the CCRIF countries under consideration and therefore no payout is due.

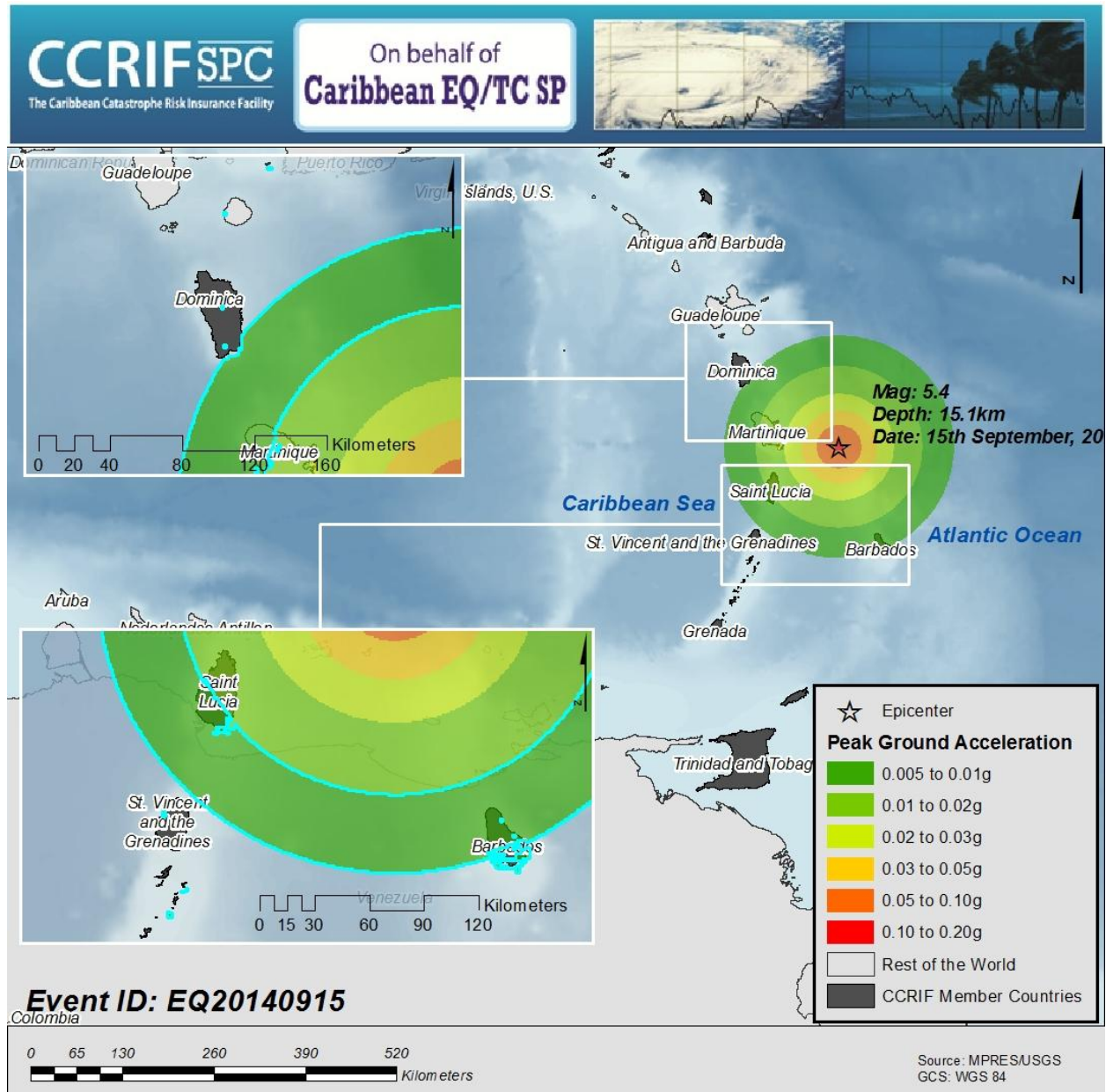


Figure 1 Map showing the peak ground acceleration following the magnitude 5.4 earthquake on 15 September 2014. The 0.005 to 0.01g PGA band (highlighted blue) approximates to shaking that is either not felt or weak. *Source: USGS & CCRIF KAC/MPRES*