



# Trinidad and Tobago

## Earthquake

**2 August 2020**

## Preliminary Event Briefing

**4 August 2020**

## 1 INTRODUCTION

A magnitude 5.0 earthquake occurred at 00:03:46 UTC on 2 August 2020, 34.7 km (21.6 mi) NW of Güiria, Venezuela; 113.3 km (70.4 mi) W of Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and 115.5 km (71.8 mi) NW of Point Fortin, Trinidad and Tobago. Initial estimates from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) located the epicentre of the event at 10.767°N, 62.550°W, and at a depth of 91.7 km (56.9 mi) – Figure 1. Trinidad and Tobago was the only CCRIF member country where peak ground acceleration, computed with the CCRIF SPHERA model, was greater than 0.01g for this earthquake.

Preliminary runs of CCRIF’s loss model estimated no government losses for Trinidad and Tobago and therefore no payout is due.

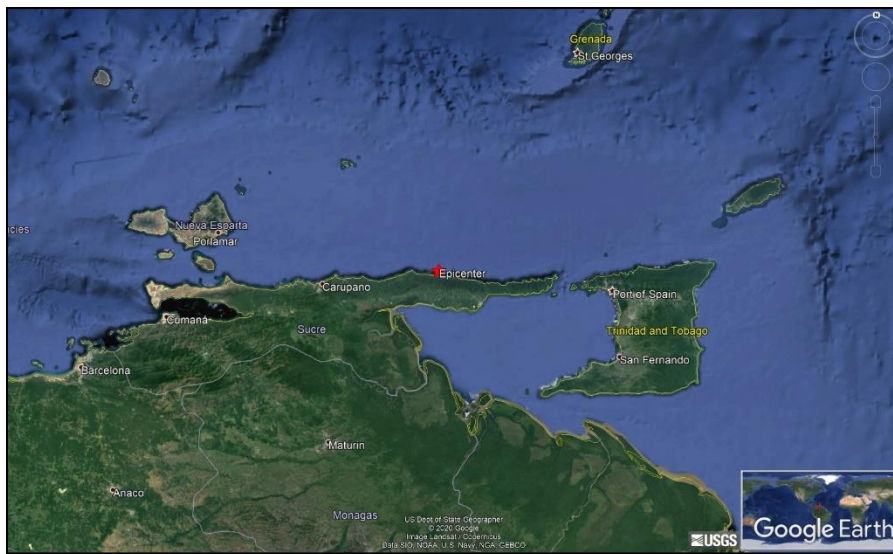


Figure 1 Information from the Earthquake Hazards Program of the United States Geological Survey regarding the earthquake event on 2 August 2020 at 00:03:46 UTC. Source: USGS<sup>1</sup>

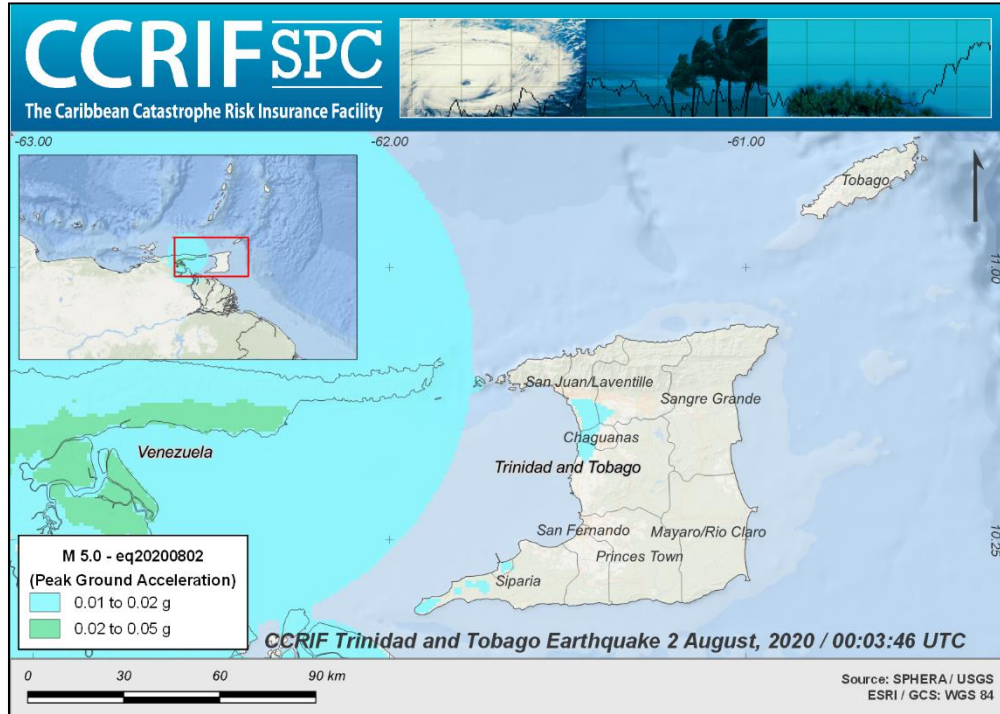
## 2 CCRIF MODEL OUTPUTS

Under CCRIF’s loss calculation protocol, a report using the CCRIF System for Probabilistic Hazard Evaluation and Risk Assessment (SPHERA) is produced for any earthquake with a magnitude greater than or equal to 5.0 that occurs within the region monitored by CCRIF and which generates a peak ground acceleration of at least 0.01g in one or more grid cells of at least one CCRIF member country. Based on the SPHERA footprint for this earthquake, peak ground acceleration between 0.005 g and 0.02 g was estimated in the territory of Trinidad and Tobago (Figure 2), but under SPHERA the earthquake generated a loss estimation of zero.

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<sup>1</sup> Download Event KML, United States Geological Survey, review date: 2 August 2020, available at: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/us6000b885/executive>

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**Figure 2** Map showing the peak ground acceleration in Trinidad and Tobago computed using SPHERA model following the magnitude 5.0 earthquake on 2 August 2020 at 00:03:46 UTC. Source: *USGS & CCRIF SPHERA EQ Model*.

### 3 IMPACTS

At the time of writing this report, there was no available information on damage or loss in Trinidad and Tobago due to this earthquake.

According to the USGS “*Did You Feel It?*” online tool<sup>2</sup>, in Trinidad and Tobago within a radius of 157 km (97.5 mi) from the epicentre, 5 persons reported the earthquake as feeling as a “weak shake with no damage” (Mercalli intensities: II to III).

### 4 TRIGGER POTENTIAL

Preliminary runs of CCRIF’s loss model generated no government losses for Trinidad and Tobago for this earthquake and therefore no payout is due under Trinidad and Tobago’s CCRIF policy for earthquake.

For additional information, please contact CCRIF SPC at: [pr@ccrif.org](mailto:pr@ccrif.org)

<sup>2</sup> Did You Feel It?, United States Geological Survey, review date: 4 August 2020, available at: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/us6000b885/dyfi/responses>