

EXHIBIT 3.9 | Post-Hurricanes Irma and Maria Hazard Mitigation Plan - U.S. Virgin Islands



Illya brought in key Policy and planning documents he developed for the USVI with the US federal government on recovery requirements, later consulted on pandemic response facilities

- Michael D. McDonald, Dr.P.H.,
Executive Director of Health Initiatives Foundation,
Chairman OVIAR Global Resilience Systems

CHALLENGE

In September 2017, Hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI). At the time, the USVI had no hazard mitigation plan (HMP) in place and lacked deep resources in resilient building practices. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the USVI coordinated processes to perform recovery and planning efforts simultaneously, assessing damage while conducting hazard mitigation planning workshops with the goal of developing the USVI's first HMP.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included subject matter expert and leader to a common collaborative goal.

Kim Waddell, Ph.D.
Director, VI ESPCoR

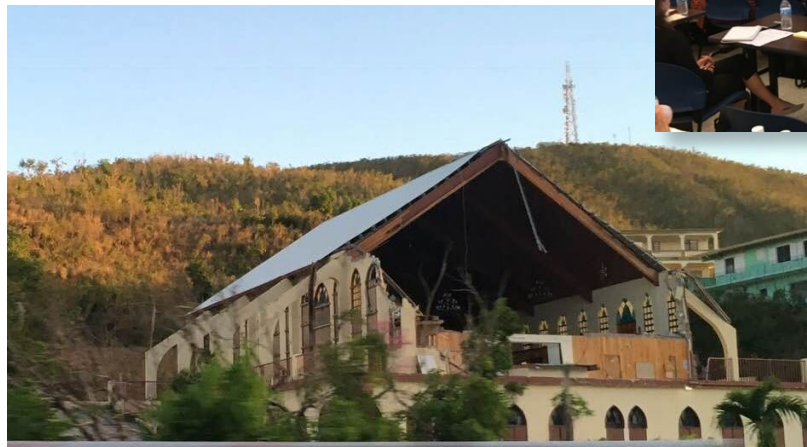
Lead USVI Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan Update

ROLE

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nominated Illya to work with the University of the Virgin Islands to join USVI hazard mitigation planning workshops, with the goal of creating a hazard mitigation plan. In this role, he had several key functions: he toured the islands to assess hurricane damage, reviewed the FEMA Mitigation Assessment Team's (MAT) report for thoroughness and accuracy in its investigation and coverage of the damage, and connected HHS and the USVI with global experts in disaster management and resilience planning, including New York City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the Federal Alliance of Safe Homes (FLASH), and Enterprise Green Communities.

He also contributed his considerable technical knowledge of post-disaster situations to the challenge of generating options for rebuilding, including several presentations to the building community highlighting options for hurricane-resilient structures. Illya introduced many new resources, expertise, and a network of partners to the multi-year effort.

↓ Damage assessment tour of USVI by Azaroff and his team



↑ Damage assessment tour on St. Thomas

↓ Contributing to the HMP workshop at University of the Virgin Islands, 2017

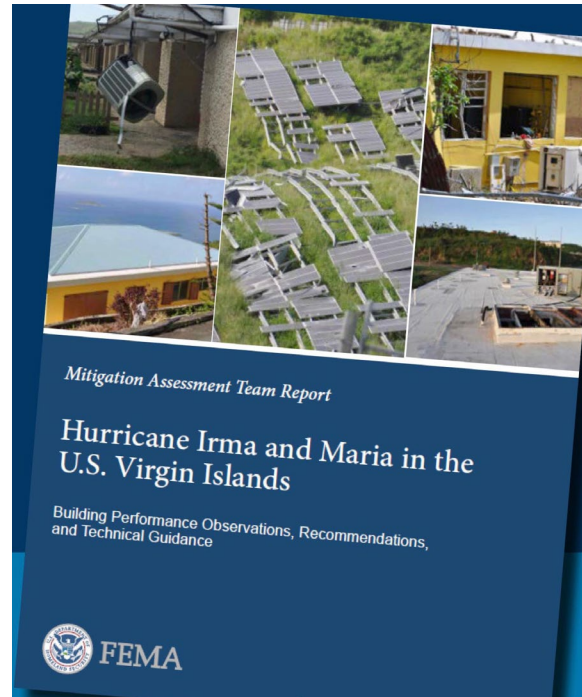


↓ FEMA MAT team editor



I have now witnessed Illya jump into many significant and complex challenges that can only be solved through deep community engagement, design, planning, policy, and long-term trust network relationship building often in stressful conditions where stakes are high in terms of health and human security.

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OUTCOME

The USVI and HHS' hazard mitigation planning team have been working with island community leaders for the past three years on the advancement of resilience planning strategies, better building practices, and identifying funding sources for continued support. Led by Illya, the USVI/HHS team also integrated cultural priorities and customs into the HMP, the first plan to do so in the United States.

The HMP is now complete and the USVI's current focus is implementing it over the next several years, with plans to build hurricane-resilient demonstration structures in partnership with local contractors. Illya will be part of the ongoing training process for local workforce development in this effort.

Report: FEMA-P 2054-Mitigation Assessment Team Compendium Report-2017 Hurricane Season



↑ First HMRP to include culture as a resilient capacity building strategy as proposed by Azaroff



↑ USVI Hazard Mitigation working group, St. Thomas 2018