



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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## MEXICANS PREPARE FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

### VIDEO

HURRICANE DEAN

(Archival tape)

HURRICANE IN ACTION

DESTROYED HUTS &

MANGOVES/FALLEN

TREES/DEBRIS

EPIFANIO MARTINE, RESIDENT,

ON-CAMERA

EPIFANIO AND HIS FAMILY

### AUDIO

*(NATURAL SOUND)*

### NARRATION

Hurricane Dean unleashed its anger in August 2007 over the Yucatan Peninsula in southern Mexico. At level five, it was the second most destructive storm ever on the Atlantic coast.

(13")

Much of its infrastructure is still broken and its mangroves remain completely destroyed.

People's livelihoods were brutally affected. (10")

EPIFANIO: (In Spanish)

**M**

*"We lost the entire harvest...everything was gone...."* (2.5")

### NARRATION

Epifanio Martine lives here in a small village in Yucatan. He and his family hid under the kitchen table when their house started to shake. They miraculously escaped the hurricane. But his crops

and his home were severely damaged. His loss was a major setback for the family. (18.5”)

EPIFANIO: (In Spanish)

EPIFANIO ON-CAMERA

*“...We don’t have enough money to build a new roof...and now we are starting all over again. As though we just arrived here.” (7.5”)*

NARRATION

SHORE/PALM TREES  
JOSE TENDING TO BOATS

Epifanio is not alone. Fishermen, like Jose, who works this river also felt the wrath of Hurricane Dean. (6”)

JOSE: (In Spanish)

**M**

JOSE ON CAMERA

*“Many boats were destroyed. We lost many of them and we could not work. It was hard for the whole river.” (7.25”)*

NARRATION

RESIDENTS FIXING HOMES

Now Mexicans are bracing themselves for the next hurricane. (3.1”)

XAVIER MOYA: (In Spanish)

**M**

XAVIER MOYA ON-CAMERA

*“...the forecast is for 17 major hurricanes on the Atlantic and 15 on the Pacific. (5”)*  
*Global warming is generating a greater number of hurricanes of greater force. So we have to learn to live with hurricanes, with floods, with drought and adapt.” (10.5”)*

NARRATION

MOYA AT MEETING/WOMEN

Xavier Moya, Coordinator of the Prevention and Recovery of Natural Disasters in Mexico, says

women will play a critical role. (7.10”)

MOYA ON-CAMERA

MOYA: (In Spanish)

*“...The men have gone to work. They’ve gone to the US. So when a hurricane comes, the women are the ones that need to make the decisions.”*  
(7.10”)

VILMA AT HOME

NARRATION

Women like Vilma. She lives in the same village as Epifanio. (5.3”)

VILMA ON TELEPHONE  
TELEPHONE SYSTEM

*NATURAL SOUND*

Vilma owns the only telephone alert system in the village. She and her neighbours were warned before the storm but weren’t sure how to react.  
(7.85”)

VILMA ON-CAMERA

VILMA: (In Spanish)

**F**

*“...They warned us for three days. No one believed it. My cousin said it wasn’t true, there was no rain. I have never seen a hurricane before. I want to see it.”* (11.5”)

VILMA’S HOME  
COOKING  
CHILDREN PLAYING

NARRATION

Vilma and her family survived the rage of Hurricane Dean. And their home remained intact because of its Mayan architecture which makes it hurricane resistant. (9.5”)

COMMUNITY MEETING

The village now has a plan in place. The United Nations Development Programme, and the

Government of Mexico, are leading efforts on disaster preparedness. (9")

RESIDENTS SPEAK BACK AND FORTH

Part of the project includes regular community meetings organized by Vilma. Villagers discuss new evacuation plans and learn where safe shelters are located. (9")

EPIFANIO SPEAKS IN THE MEETING  
EXTERIOR SHOTS OF MAYAN STRUCTURES

Epifanio is getting ready for the next storm. He's already building safer homes for his children using his knowledge of Mayan structure. It's much better than what they had before. (14")

COASTAL AREA  
WAVES /PALM TREES

*NATURAL SOUND*

STRONG WIND

And when the next hurricane wreaks havoc here, everyone will be ready. (4")

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4)