This project seeks to investigate some of the factors that are involved in the engineering and managerial aspects of disaster preparedness.

Chapter one defines the concept of a 'disaster' and then goes on to examine the various events which can result in a 'disaster' and how these are classified. Some of these events are examined tracing their developments and man's ability to cope with them. It then goes on to look at the various agencies that are involved and briefly outlines that which affect their operations.

Chapter two looks at the international agencies that are involved in disaster preparedness and how they function; the nature of assistance which they offer and how they fit into disaster assistance.

Chapter three looks at the Caribbean region and the type of damaging phenomena to which they are prone and the systems that are in place to warn of these upcoming
events. It further gives an exposition of the regional agencies that play a role in disaster prevention and preparedness.

Chapter four focuses on Jamaica as an example of an island in the Caribbean, looking at its environment, the vulnerability of the island to various types of disasters, the vulnerability of essential infrastructure and services, and the state and readiness of agencies involved with disaster preparedness in Jamaica.

The fifth and final chapter concludes the project and highlights areas of weakness which need improvement.