



# ANTIGUA & BARBUDA, DOMINICA, AND SINT MAARTEN: HURRICANE RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 10 October 2017



Distribution of NFI's to beneficiaries in Morne Jaune, Dominica  
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## Highlights

■ On 8 October, the UN Secretary General António Guterres visited Dominica, taking stock of the damage caused by the hurricane and the relief efforts of the government, the humanitarian community, the citizens and diaspora of Dominica as well as other Caribbean nations. IOM provided distribution and logistics support for a joint UN distribution of food and non-food items in Salybia, a vulnerable, largely indigenous community in north-eastern Dominica.

■ From 4 to 6 October, IOM DTM teams in Dominica conducted a rapid site verification and identified the status (open/closed) of 130 collective centres. IOM identified the number of displaced people and the name and contact number of each shelter manager. The next phase of DTM is the rapid site assessment and the collection of more in-depth information at each location.

■ IOM assessed the situation in Sint Marteen from 27 September—10 October. Albeit concrete data is still lacking, it's estimated that 90% of the infrastructure (mainly housing) has been damaged and most people are with host families (friends and families). Provision of food, water, tarps and setting up of emergency centres were undertaken in the preparedness and relief phase. In total, 31,000 tarps were donated/distributed, including 1,000 by IOM.

## Situation Overview

Dominica was worst-affected by hurricane Maria, a category 5 storm when it impacted the island on 18 September. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) has reported 26 confirmed fatalities and 31 people still missing in Dominica. Buildings across the country have experienced significant roof damage. As per the Joint Flash Appeal, 15,000 households are in urgent need of shelter assistance.

Efforts are ongoing to provide a consolidated overview of the status of all known collective centres. On 5 October, the Government of Dominica reported on the assessment of 88 collective centres which hosted 2,832 displaced individuals. As of 9

## Situation Overview (continued)

October, IOM has also gathered information regarding 130 official and unofficial collective centres housing displaced people. While consolidation efforts are ongoing, initial figures indicate that of 146 centres assessed by IOM and/or the Government of Dominica, 108 are housing 2,911 people and 38 are closed. An unknown number of people are temporarily sheltering with host families. Many of the displaced sleep in collective centres or with host families but return to their own homes during the day to salvage their belongings and clear debris.

On 8 October, the UN Secretary General António Guterres visited Dominica, taking stock of the damage caused by the hurricane and relief efforts deployed by the government, the humanitarian community, the citizens and diaspora of Dominica as well as other Caribbean nations. IOM provided distribution and logistics support for a joint UN distribution of food and non-food items (NFIs) in Salybia, a vulnerable, largely indigenous community in north-eastern Dominica. Solar lights, kitchen kits and hygiene kits donated in kind by DFID were distributed.



A home destroyed by the hurricanes in Barbuda © IOM 2017

Sint Maarten was heavily impacted by Hurricane Maria, compounding severe damage to an estimated 90% of the infrastructure (mainly housing). Estimates on individual house/dwelling loss and damage vary from 1,500 having lost the homes to 4,000/6,000 houses in the severely affected category. There are several socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods that were hit hard by the hurricane, or completely washed/swiped away. An estimated 5,000 migrants (including tourists) were evacuated, however no official statistics are available.

## IOM Response

### Displacement Tracking Matrix



An aerial view of the homes in Dominica © IOM 2017

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is collating figures on displacement caused by the hurricanes in the Caribbean on a regional portal found at: <http://displacement.iom.int/caribbean-emergency-2017>. The portal provides updates on the displacement situation at the country level for affected countries. Additionally, there is information on numbers and locations of displacement populations for Antigua and Barbuda and Sint Maarten.

According to the strategy endorsed by the Government of Dominica, an initial focus of the response should be to support as many people to return to their homes as possible, which will also relieve pressure on shelters/collective centres and hosting families. At the same time, collective centres should be upgraded and consolidated where necessary to support the residual displaced population who cannot yet return.

A digital map of previous and verified collective centres in Dominica is available to download: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzAvk4U2ubd9SU1WdU9iZkNDNFk>. A map is also available at <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/hurricaneirma-response/infographic/dominica-emergency-shelters-overview>.

From 4 to 6 October, IOM DTM teams in Dominica conducted a rapid site verification and identified the status (open/closed) of 130 collective centres. IOM identified the number of displaced people and the name and contact number of each shelter manager. The next phase of DTM is the rapid site assessment and the collection of more in-depth information at each location.

Before the arrival of Hurricane Irma, IOM deployed a shelter/CCCM and migration management expert to Sint Maarten, who liaised with ESF 7 actors to identify, assess and prepare ten evacuation centres. The ten centres were pre-positioned with food rations and water by the Dutch marines for a total capacity of up to 1,800 persons. During the passage of Hurricane Maria, IOM maintained real time updates on the Geo Portal (Displacement Tracking Portal – DTM) on the numbers of persons in emergency centres.

## IOM Response (continued)

### Shelter / NFIs

IOM has released USD 100,000 from its own funds to scale up the shelter response in Dominica. Additionally, USD 350,000 has been secured from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for shelter and DTM activities in Dominica. IOM is providing pipeline, distribution and coordination support for in-kind shelter and NFIs received from DFID as well as an ECHO/Government of France shipment that arrived on 7 October.



IOM shelter expert working on distribution of NFIs © IOM 2017

Regular coordination meetings are held by the Government of Dominica with support from IOM and the participation of IFRC, Samaritan's Purse, USAID/OFDA, CRS, UNICEF and UNDP. A technical working group meeting was held on 5 October to discuss and recommend technical specifications for shelter fixing kits, tool kits, roofing kits and technical guidelines.

According to the joint distribution record, as of 9 October, 11,031 tarpaulins or shelter grade plastic sheeting have been distributed by IOM and humanitarian partners in Dominica. Shelter partners are also distributing kitchen kits, blankets, hygiene kits and other NFIs.

From 3–4 October, IOM delivered 150 shelter kits including tarpaulins, ropes, kitchen kits, hygiene kits and solar lamps in Dublanc, Bioche and Colihaut, Dominica. On 6 October, IOM delivered 500 solar lights and 500 water purification kits to the community centre in Pointe Michel, a hub for disaster response operations in the settlement. The items, supplied in kind by DFID, were then distributed by the Village Council.

On 7 October, IOM delivered 244 solar lights to seven collective centres and host community locations in Mahout, Canefield and Roseau (including Fond Cole, Gutter and Silver Lake). On 8 October, IOM delivered 1,100 solar lamps, 135 hygiene kits and 78 kitchen kits to Salybia in the north-east of the country for a joint UN distribution. On 9 October, IOM delivered 150 hygiene kits to village councils in Riviere and Morne Jaune in eastern Dominica for onward distribution to affected households.

In Sint Maarten, IOM donated 1,000 tarps and ropes to ESF7, which were distributed to health centers, relief workers, volunteers and vulnerable families. The Dutch Marines have used tarps in order to provide temporary roof to 20 vulnerable families. The Red Cross has mentioned that the demand for tarps continues to be high.



Residents of Morne Juane assisting with NFI distributions © IOM 2017

### Early Recovery and Transition

In general, a fast turn from humanitarian to early recovery and transition has been registered in Sint Maarten. The current main focus of the government is the National Recovery Plan that will be discussed by the Council of Ministers. IOM's inputs have been considered by the Ministry of Public Health, Social Development and Labor and other issues on migration management have been included in the UNDP-led Building Back Better Plan.