# The Caribbean: Hurricane Season Situation Report No. 12 (as of 13 October 2017)





























This report is produced by OCHA ROLAC in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 06 September to 13 October 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 27 October 2017.

# **Highlights**

- Internal roads have been cleared in Dominica allowing isolated communities to access critical food and water supplies. Water and electricity services have been reinstated in urban areas, but other areas still experience periodic outages.
- As of 11 October, 2,911 people in Dominica remain in 108 assessed collective centres; and the total number of displaced people is unclear as not all centres have been reached.
- The Ministry of Education has announced plans to reopen 29 schools on 16 October, including 18 currently used as collective centres.
- Tropical Storm Nate affected at least 183 water supply systems throughout Costa Rica, leaving more than 500,000 people without access to clean water.



UN Secretary-General António Guterres visits Dominica in the wake of Hurricane Maria / Source: Rick Bajornas

## 50,000

people reached through Government food dispatches in Dominica in more than 80 locations.

Source: WFP

## 38,000

people with restored access to water, approximately 55 per cent of the population in Dominica

Source: Dominica Water and Sewage Company

# 11,700

school-age children in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos have returned to classrooms.

Source: UNICEF

## 11,000

people sheltered across more than 170 shelters in Costa Rica during Tropical Storm Nate.

Source: UN Country Team

# Situation Overview

A month after Hurricane Irma struck the Caribbean, humanitarian efforts across all islands are focused on restoring normalcy as the aid community gradually scales back emergency response and deployments. Humanitarian partners in Dominica are now working across the country, responding to the devastation left by Hurricane Maria, the second Category 5 storm, that ripped through the Caribbean in a two-week timespan.

A third storm, Nate, formed on 4 October in the south-western Caribbean along the coastlines of several Central American countries, travelling north and making landfall as a Category 1 hurricane in the US Gulf Coast on 8 October. Costa Rica was directly hit by a barrage of rainfall and heavy winds, leading to more than ten deaths and leaving more than 11,000 people stranded in shelters. National authorities report that approximately 85 per cent of the country was affected by Nate. Costa Rica is utilizing its entire local response capacity to respond to the affected areas.

In Dominica, internal access has been restored after blocked roads were cleared. Essential services are gradually being restored across the island. Water and electricity services have been reinstated in urban areas, but problems in other areas persist as national water networks are still experiencing periodic leakages.

More efforts are required to help the country transition to long-term recovery. According to the Government, all communities in Dominica have now received immediate life-saving relief.

A significant portion of the assistance provided in the first two weeks was delivered via helicopter to village committees and there is a lack of detailed information of deliveries at the household level. International organizations are working with government counterparts to identify gaps in coverage and targeting criteria for further assistance.

Food and safe water distribution continue to be priority tasks across Dominica. Supermarkets in urban centres are resuming normal operations. However, many commercial businesses have still not reopened. The Government, with assistance from the World Food Programme (WFP) and partners, have dispatched 150 metric tons (MT) of food supplies, assisting some 50,000 people in 80 locations. Assuming equal distribution, this aid represents approximately 3 kg of food aid per person.

As of 10 October, the Dominican Water and Sewerage Company (DOWASCO) had restored water supply to 14 out of 44 water networks and a large majority of the remaining networks remain under repair. Authorities have warned residents that the water being supplied to Roseau, although treated, is not safe to drink as there are breaks in pipes that could lead to contamination.

A thorough assessment of damage to houses is planned to corroborate extrapolated estimates based on Pacific Disaster Centre satellite imagery of 6,770 aerially surveyed houses. At present, these estimates suggest that at least 7,000 houses are moderately damaged, more than 10,000 houses are highly damaged and more than 6,000 houses have been destroyed.

Some 2,900 people remain in collective centres in Dominica, including in 32 primary and secondary schools, some of which are scheduled to reopen on 16 October. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working with the Government to find alternative temporary shelter options for the displaced people housed in schools; and says ensuring schools are prepared to reopen is a critical task. Organizations working in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector are carrying out rapid assessments in schools to identify areas that require repair and materials needed before classes begin.

The restoration of fully functional health services in Dominica remains a priority. As of 10 October, 19 health centres out of the 49 in country remain non-operational. Authorities and the humanitarian community have been working to address the repair of damaged facilities, well-being of staff and epidemiological surveillance. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has retained six international emergency medical teams (EMT) to provide emergency care and to attend to people with chronic illnesses until health services are restored.

In Cuba, the Government continues to respond to the humanitarian needs generated by Irma's passage over the country in 11 affected provinces. Cuba has engaged its national level contingencies to address the damage to housing, health and educational structures, access to clean water and the full restoration of electricity and support for the agricultural sector.

Costa Rican authorities have reported damage in 77 of its 82 districts across six of the seven provinces in the country. Guanacaste, Pacífico Central and Zona Sur are the most affected areas on account of the severe damage to road networks, flooding of entire towns and impact on essential services, including health facilities. Relief brigades have carried out search and rescue activities as well as emergency evacuations in affected areas.

# **Funding**

A US\$31.1 million Flash Appeal for Dominica was launched on 29 September to provide life-saving assistance to 65,000 people. US\$3 million has been allocated from the CERF in support of the Flash Appeal.

The Flash Appeal can be found at: https://reliefweb.int/report/dominica/dominica-flash-appeal-2017-hurricanemaria-september-december-2017

To address the effects of Irma, a \$27 million Regional Response Plan was launched on 15 September to cover the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations. It was developed with the support of national and regional disaster management entities.

The revised Regional Response Plan, based on updates from completed assessments and the most recent information, will tentatively be released on the week of 16 October, pending the revised inputs from humanitarian partners.

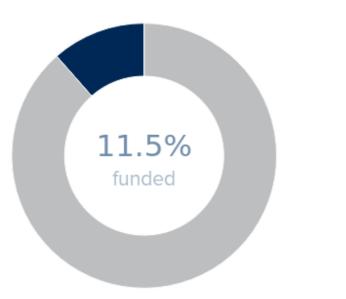
The Regional Response Plan can be found at:

http://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/Hurricane\_Irma\_Regional\_Response\_Plan.pdf

For additional guidance on the RRP, contact Amaia Lopez at OCHA ROLAC (lopez20@un.org)

According to information reported by partners on Financial Tracking Service (FTS), the Dominica Flash Appeal is currently 11.5 per cent funded and the Regional Response Plan is currently 15 per cent funded.

### Funding to date of Dominica Flash Appeal (13 October)



US\$9.2m overall funding to DOMINICA

- Hurricane Maria - September 2017 in 2017

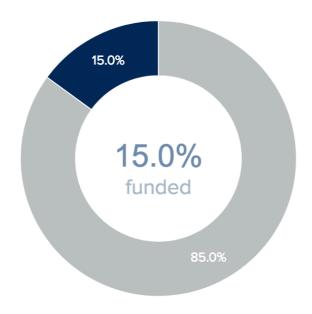
of which US\$3.6m appeal funding received

of the US\$31.1m requested

US\$27.5m still needed

to fund this response plan/appeal

### Funding to date of Regional Response Plan (13 October)



Requirements: US\$27.1m

Funding received: US\$4.0m

Unmet requirements: US\$23.0m

Partners are encouraged to continue reporting funding contributions to FTS. Reporting contributions through FTS enhances transparency and accountability, and provides the opportunity to recognize the generous contributions. Additionally, continued reporting helps identify crucial funding gaps.

Please report contributions to fts@un.org or by completing the online form at fts.unocha.org.

A Plan of Action for Cuba for US\$55.8 million was issued on 19 September to assist more than 2 million people. in the 33 most affected municipalities. To date, the Plan of Action has been 25.4 per cent funded, with contributions from the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, UK Aid/DFID, the Government of Belgium, the Government of Canada, the Government of Italy, UNFPA, IOM, OCHA and PAHO/WHO.

The Cuba Plan of action can be found at: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/CUB ActionPlan ENG 20170918%20(2).pdf

CDEMA has launched an online donation facility (September 15, 2017). Persons can make online donations (using credit cards) to the Hurricane Irma Relief campaign (visit www.cdema.org).

Donations via the OCHA website have been activated by the Resource and Communications Section (RMCS) of the CERF at http://www.unocha.org/hurricane-irma

# **Humanitarian Response**

The Coordinating Unit of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) continues to lead coordination efforts between regional partners, as well as deploying its own teams on the ground to assist Governments in humanitarian response efforts.

In Dominica, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) remains active in managing relief efforts at Woodbridge Bay Port. The CDRU has also distributed relief supplies to several communities, villages, organizations and shelters throughout the island, as well as conducting pending damage assessments in areas such as Salybia. The CARICOM Operational Support Team (COST) continues to support Dominica's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). The Government of Dominica has requested an extension for both CDRU and COST.

The EOC remains active holding regular meetings with national response committees and international organizations. The EOC activated a hotline for people to call seeking assistance and register concerns and uses the feedback to target areas believed be underserved.

There are currently seven UN agencies, at least 13 non-governmental organizations and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) providing humanitarian assistance in Dominica. On 8 October, the UN Secretary-General visited the country and met with Prime Minister Mr. Roosevelt Skerrit, President Mr. Charles Savarin, members of the cabinet and humanitarian actors on the ground.

Humanitarian partners are conducting emergency market assessments and discussions with Government counterparts to determine the feasibility of cash transfer programming (CTP) in Dominica. On 11 October, WFP visited six locations and more assessments are planned this week. Additionally, IFRC continues to map functioning and nonfunctioning stores, markets financial institutions. The map available https://americanredcross.github.io/dominica-market-survey/.

International institutions continue to play a role in Dominica's recovery. European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) is providing funding (EUR 250,000) for logistics support and food assistance. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided support through flights and delivery of more than 155 metric tons of supplies such as plastic sheeting and water containers, replacement piping and technical experts for water systems and assessments.

As the response to Irma winds down, CDEMA is transitioning to recovery operations in Irma-affected islands, establishing an action plan of activities to be carried out with partners in line with the agency's procedures. Some of these activities include Post Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA) in participating states, an After Action Review and coordination with regional and international donors to prepare proposals for reconstruction and recovery projects based on PDNA reports.

CDEMA is also proposing undertaking legacy support projects in affected islands as part of long- term recovery activities. Each participating state's project will address a specific area affected by Irma. In Antigua and Barbuda, the project may address the mass displacement of Barbudans to Antigua. The British Virgin Island legacy project may focus on supporting education needs. For Dominica, CDEMA may consider a donation of roofing materials through a voucher system. Discussions on these projects are ongoing.

Cuban authorities continue to lead recovery efforts a month after Irma's passage over the country. The Government has been active in providing roofing to damaged structures, distributing basic construction equipment, repairing regional and national water distribution systems, boosting epidemiological surveillance to combat the spread of vector-borne diseases and gradually restoring school activities by using alternative educational spaces.

After Tropical Storm Nate, Costa Rican authorities have responded to the effects with local response capacities. The President, Mr. Luis Guillermo Solis, declared a national emergency on 5 October to facilitate immediate action towards damage evaluation, search and rescue, clearing roads of debris and the restoration of water and power in. The heavy rainfall abated on 6 October, allowing the National Emergency Commission (CNE) to continue responding under a state of alert in affected provinces.



# Camp Coordination and Camp Management

#### Needs:

**Dominica:** Some 18 schools currently used as collective centres housing some 778 people are scheduled to reopen on 16 October. Together with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other actors, IOM is liaising with relevant government authorities to devise durable solutions for the people housed in these collective centres. The status verification of 35 additional centres is currently pending.

At least 32 collective centres are in primary and secondary schools, hosting 1,242 people. An unknown number of people are temporarily sheltering with host families.

#### Response:

Dominica: As at 10 October, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team had gathered information from 108 collective centres that are hosting 2,911 displaced individuals. IOM identified an additional further 38 collective centres that were non-functioning predominantly due to damage sustained during the hurricane. The next phase of DTM is the rapid site assessment, collecting more in-depth information at each location. Collective centres in schools scheduled to reopen will be prioritized to be assessed starting 11 October to inform planning and response.

The kmz file with the location, status and occupancy of the sites can be downloaded and viewed with Google Earth, maps.me or any other compatible app: https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzAvk4U2ubd9SU1WdU9iZkNDNFk

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### **Early Recovery**

**Dominica:** Provide immediate assistance to debris removal and waste management. Waste separation for debris management. Develop a shelter to housing plan to promote quick action towards early recovery. Meet the current safe roofing demand. Rapid establishment of livelihood and emergency employment opportunities.

There remain challenges regarding available resources for early recovery activities, including for cash-for-work support. However, concrete options exist, including working with the National Employment Programme to establish a labour force to complete work on the ground.

#### Response:

Dominica: Four debris management specialists previously deployed through the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and OCHA/UN Environment continue to support debris management and engage national partners in assessments, planning and implementation. This includes advising on a collection, sorting and management plan; supporting national programmes including cash-for-work modalities; and reviewing and advising on reuse, recycling and disposal. A debris assessment is ongoing and will inform the strategy and approach of the Government agencies.

UNDP plans to restore roofing on 600 buildings through funding by the Government of the People's Republic of China. Discussions with IOM are ongoing related to transitioning from temporary to permanent roofing. UNDP, IOM and shelter sector partners are designing a training programme and public messaging related to disaster resilient roofing.

UNDP is supporting the full functioning of the main Government agencies through technical advice and supervision of the clearance of the flooded sub-basement of the Financial Centre Building housing several ministries including the Office of the Prime Minister.

UNDP is also advising DOWASCO on the clearance of blocked sewage pipes including on the ground use of high capacity pumps. A Post Disaster Needs Assessment is scheduled to commence on 16 October coordinated by UNDP, the World Bank and the European Union. Multiple partners such as the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, other UN agencies and partners will participate. The intention is to develop a comprehensive multi-sectoral assessment of impacts and a recovery strategy.

Sint Maarten: Before the arrival of Hurricane Maria on the Leeward islands, IOM worked with ES7 and other shelter actors to assess and prepare evacuation centres. Ten evacuation centres were pre-positioned with food rations and water by the Dutch Marines for a total capacity of up to 1,800 persons. IOM trained 50 Red Cross and K1 Britannia Foundation Volunteers. Fortunately, only 219 persons had to flee to the evacuation centres during the hurricane.

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- British Virgin Islands: Persistent rain has led to transport challenges, and flooded Cane Garden School.
- Cuba: Cuba's Plan of Action seeks to assist 72,300 children by repairing 80 schools, waterproofing 100,000 m2 of roofing, and provide school supplies and psychosocial support.
- Dominica: The Ministry of Education announced plans to reopen 29 schools on Monday 16, including 18 currently used as collective centres. An urgent priority is to find alternative shelter options for 778 people residing in the schools. A rapid assessment of the 29 schools is critical to identify where the temporary learning spaces and water and sanitation support is needed. According to the Ministry of Education, 3,755 children and 226 teachers were active in the 29 schools prior to the hurricane. Psychosocial support for teachers and Ministry of Education staff before the reopening of schools is an urgent need. Additionally, the Chief of Education requested continued support for teachers and children after schools are open. Psychosocial support for children, adolescents and teachers, and the provision of essential education and recreational materials is needed across the country.

School remains closed leaving approximately 18,200 children and adolescents without access to education. The Prime Minister is committed to reopen the school on Monday 16. Moreover, an agreement was established with the Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Social Services (MoSS) to establish safe temporary learning spaces at Pointe Michel and Atkinson where schools were destroyed. UNICEF accompanied PAHO in the health needs assessment in Dominica, to ensure that the health needs of children and women are attended. New roads continue to open throughout the island, allowing access to more communities. The UNSG participated in a meeting with Prime Minister and the entire cabinet.

Turks and Caicos: Out of 15 schools in the country, 13 have been reopened.

#### Response:

- According to UNICEF, more than 11,700 school-age children in Anguilla, British Virgin Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands have returned to the classroom, some of them using temporary learning spaces. A total of 27 of the 67 state primary and secondary schools in Dominica are slated to reopen on 16 October.
- Anguilla: Some 450 children are attending schools equipped with UNICEF recreational material (Recreation kits).
- Antiqua and Barbuda: All 410 Barbudan school-age children and adolescents are back in school, temporarily integrated in Antiquan schools. At least 720 children attending schools received UNICEF learning/recreational material as Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits, School-in-a-box, Recreational kits.
- British Virgin Islands: Some 1,900 children are back in school, including re-opened facilities or temporary learning spaces. At least 350 children under-five have access to secure learning/play environments in daycare/pre-schools with trained ECD facilitators
- Cuba: Authorities are prioritizing actions that allow the immediate establishment of learning spaces. To support this, they are purchasing 450 early childhood kits, 1,125 schools in a box and 542 recreation kits to support educational activities, due to arrive in the coming weeks. These relief items are expected to assist some 69,000 school-aged children.
- **Dominica:** Ministry of Education staff, with UNICEF support, are carrying out an infrastructural school assessment including WASH needs. UNICEF and partners will be working on the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in schools based on the assessment results. Ministry of Education staff are visiting the schools that are being used as collective centres to assess the main needs and identify alternative spaces to move the people from the schools. IOM will join the officers that are visiting them to support the identification of possible temporary housing solutions for the people. IsraAID will conduct two psychosocial support trainings for education officers and teachers on 12 and 13 October. The counsellors and partners will conduct additional trainings for teachers early next week. In the Kalinago Territory, Digicel will support the rehabilitation of seven schools while UNICEF will provide temporary learning spaces and education supplies based on the plan from the Ministry of Education. Talks are ongoing with the Ministry of Education regarding the 29 schools scheduled for reopening. On 13 October, a final list will be shared of the schools that will reopen on 16 October. UNICEF will distribute education and recreational supplies later this week to ensure the schools that are opening on Monday have the necessary materials.
- Turks and Caicos: With the support of re-opened facilities and temporary learning spaces, 2,800 children are back in school; 4,000 children attending schools received (ECD kits, School-in-a-box, Recreational kits)

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### Needs:

- Antigua and Barbuda: Based on preliminary discussions between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture Lands, Housing and the Environment, most of the Hurricane Maria's impact on agriculture that has been recorded includes destruction of standing crops, agricultural stations infrastructure, the 250-acre coconut plantation, agricultural equipment, machinery and processing facilities. In addition, the livestock sub-sector was also affected with losses of small and larger animal (i.e. chicken, goats, pigs and cattle) as well as shelter facilities. The fisheries sector is reported to have also incurred damage.
- Cuba: With such widespread damage to crops, authorities have implemented a rationing plan to benefit the most affected communities. The stabilization of poultry production remains a priority, as does storage capacity,

processing and distribution in these same communities. The restoration of agricultural and fishery livelihoods have also been identified among the needs.

Dominica: Immediate food assistance is needed to support the affected population, especially in remote and rural locations, until roads and markets open again. A significant quantity of small commercial businesses remain closed, particularly in rural areas, although major supermarkets are re-establishing operations in urban centres. A market assessment is essential to quantify open businesses and approximate reactivation dates.

Clearing of farm roads and agricultural land, as well as equipment such as chainsaws and heavy machinery, are priorities to reactivate livelihoods. Agricultural tools and infrastructure such as pruning shears, spades, forks, mattocks, hoes, cutlasses and files, greenhouses, etc. have been reported lost, damaged or destroyed.

Material for fencing and providing shelter to livestock is also essential before starting restocking and distribution of animal feed. New boats and engines are required to resume fishery activities together with fishing gears, cooling equipment and generators. Nurseries need to be guickly reestablished to support the replanting of forest in many areas of the country.

There is a need to define targeting criteria that would consider information on livelihoods and damage to prioritize food assistance interventions and support livelihood recovery.

The lack of transport vehicles is hindering distributions. Clearance of farmland and roads remain imperative to restore crop production. Precise data on quantities, types of food and destinations covered is a challenge for all actors involved.

#### Response:

- Cuba: Through allocations from the CERF and the Special Fund for Emergencies Rehabilitation (SFERA), FAO will support the most urgent needs to restore the local production of food in the most affected territories. Planned activities include support in the production of short-cycle crops and time-critical interventions for protection of hens, eggs and pig production currently under threat due to the lack of shelters.
- Dominica: As of 10 October, the Government, with the assistance of its partners and WFP has dispatched enough food assistance to cover the food security needs of around 50,000 people in over 80 locations/villages of the country (out of 100) during a short period. Over 150 metric tons of food have been delivered so far, out of which 17 metric tons comprised High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) provided by WFP.

Under the leadership of the Government, WFP is providing technical assistance to ensure that distributions are as transparent and protection-sensitive as possible at the local level. Distribution guidelines have been developed and a form for Beneficiary Registration and Needs assessment will be used by District Development Officers and Social Welfare Officers.

WFP's immediate response plan consists of in-kind food distributions of 375 metric tons that will allow it to provide a nutritionally balanced ration to up to 30,000 people for 15 days through blanket or targeted distribution. Depending on the reactivation of markets, WFP could follow with a cash-based transfers intervention to meet immediate needs and support local economic recovery. WFP and other partners have begun to map the status of markets and food supply. The country's entire population has been targeted for onemonth food assistance by Government and WFP; 150 metric tons of food assistance has already been delivered.

Under Government leadership, the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector held its second meeting, co-chaired by WFP and FAO, with the objective of reviewing food security and livelihood priorities, the different actors' response strategies and distributions carried out so far, as well as immediate requirements.

In coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery, FAO has identified key priority areas for the recovery of the agricultural sector including crop, livestock, fishery and forestry. As part of the immediate needs, the Government has requested short-term varieties of vegetable seeds, as well as fertilizers and hand tools. FAO received CERF funds for the rehabilitation of the crop and livestock production for ensuring food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable population through distribution of agricultural inputs, hand tools, fencing and wiring material as well as animal feed and restocking of poultry.

FAO also secured internal funds (\$100,000) that will enable part of the fisherfolk population to resume their fishery activities and guarantee the conservation and storage of the fish capture through distribution of fishing gears, cooling equipment (i.e. refrigerators and ice-making machines) as well as material to repair damaged boats.

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#### Needs:

- Costa Rica: Some 80 primary healthcare centres and 16 child healthcare centres have been damaged by flooding or are isolated due to blocked roadways. Health services are being maintained as people seeking healthcare are being redirected towards less damaged centres in other communities.
- Cuba: Restoring full operational capacity to health centres remains a critical task. Equipment, medicine, supplies, safe water and repairing basic infrastructure are all major needs at damaged health centres. Epidemiological surveillance and the promotion of psychosocial support are activities that will require support. Maintaining sexual and reproductive health services in affected communities is also an area of focus.
- **Dominica:** Key issues in health centres include well-being of medical staff, including food, water and shelter; water for the health care facilities, fuel for existing generators and tanks for water and generators wherever not available. Inter-sectoral support is required to resolve these gaps. Generators for health centres and the new Central Medical Store (CMS) in Newtown are needed to ensure regular provision of services.

Local health staff are overstretched and need additional support from the emergency medical teams (EMTs) currently in country. The testing laboratory needs to be repaired and a supply of reagents is required. Vector control efforts appear sub-optimal and require urgent bolstering. Communication between health facilities and the Ministry of Health needs strengthening. Telecommunication connectivity is urgently needed.

Key operation constraints include exhaustion of national health workers and lack of communication with health centres, particularly for surveillance and reporting. Health workers and their families impacted by Maria, ensuring their own family needs are covered hampers their ability to operate in their health work capacities. Limited capacity in the environmental health unit has limited staff for many important tasks. There is a lack of adequate accommodation in Dominica for international medical support. Incoming teams need to be fully selfsufficient when deployed.

#### Response:

- Costa Rica: Health authorities are beginning to carry out epidemiological surveillance activities, as well as monitoring health standards in shelters and providing psychosocial support to those who need it.
- Cuba: PAHO/WHO has sent emergency medical kits to cover the needs of 60,000 people over a three-month period and are due to arrive in November, as are five additional containers with medical equipment and supplies. Approximately 1,000 additional hygiene kits are being purchased as well. Thirty-seven sexual and reproductive health kits arrived on 9 October.
- Dominica: Health sector partners, including six international EMTs from Samaritan's Purse, Team Rubicon, NYC Medics, Hands International, ITNAC, and International Medical Corps have been deployed to districts and the Princess Margaret Hospital to support the response and relieve local health workers. PAHO is coordinating the six international EMTs.

PAHO is supporting the reinstatement of syndromic surveillance system, laboratory testing of suspected leptospirosis cases and tuberculosis, and medical evacuations and repatriations.

Health partners have delivered blood, emergency medical supplies and medicines, and PAHO and the Ministry of Health (MoH) are utilizing LSS/SUMA to catalogue donated medicines and supplies.

Three PAHO trucks have distributed over 200,000 litres of water to health centres, community centres and collective centres. The Dutch Navy (HNLMS Zeeland) delivered about 70,000 liters of water last week with the support of helicopter and boats. The vessel also produced and distributed 104,000 liters of bulk water, including for life saving water for the dialysis unit in the Princess Margaret Hospital. The HNLMS Pelikaan also produced and distributed 130,000 liters of water in coordination with PAHO.

One PAHO truck supports the fogging process for vector control while another PAHO vehicle is used to support the surveillance conducted by the MoH. Shortage of food remains an issue for health staff. The Dutch Navy Ship HNLMS Karel Doorman will bring in additional WFP food supplies on or about 18 October. Some food will be distributed to health facilities.

Four cases of suspected leptospirosis were identified. The cases are being investigated and mitigating measures implemented.

Cleanup and repairs at the Princess Margaret Hospital, including morgue, oncology, dialysis, roof repairs, office area, maternity ward, etc., are ongoing.

All medical supplies received in country should be sent to the Central Medical Store, c/o Mrs. Jasmine Lambert. The priority list of medical needs will be updated and presented on 11 October.

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- Dominica: UNICEF has identified a series of needs, including social service and border control interventions for migrating children, psychosocial support for children, psychosocial support for teachers ahead of the resumption of school and safe spaces for recreation for children. There is a shortage of food stocks in country for snacks for children covered by the Return to Happiness RTH) programme.
- There is limited national partner capacity for quality assurance monitoring of Return to Happiness sites.

### Response:

- According to UNICEF, more than 2,800 children received psychosocial support and/or access to safe child spaces. In Dominica, a safe recreational space was provided for a potential 900 indigenous children in the Kalinago community. Partners were trained to deliver psychosocial support to a population of 12,000 children. In Antiqua, 26 new facilitators drawn from teachers, social workers and counsellors were trained in Return to Happiness. They will cascade training in Antigua and Barbuda.
- Anguilla: At least 600 children have already been enrolled in psychosocial activities in the frame of the RTH programmes and 24 RTH facilitators have been trained. Training on psychosocial support plan for primary school teachers, started on 9 October. A lessons learnt exercise on the delivery of RTH training to volunteers was undertaken.
- Antigua and Barbuda: Some 225 children are enrolled in psychosocial activities and 540 children have safe access to UNICEF supported community spaces for socializing, play and learning.
- British Virgin Islands: About 1,100 children have been enrolled in psycho-social activities (RTH programme) and 105 RTH facilitators have been trained and 325 children are enrolled in Child Friendly Spaces or similar safe community spaces for children.

- **Dominica:** Protection partners are developing public service messages for caregivers to reduce potential emigration of children for education purposes. UNICEF is rolling out RTH programme for children in 13 collective centres. UNICEF and sector partners are working on a back to school strategy for the first 29 schools, including psychosocial support services for teachers. UNICEF and partners are establishing four dedicated safe spaces for children's recreation.
- Sint Maarten: IOM engaged with the authorities from Sint Maarten and the Dutch Ministry of Interior to provide advice and suggestions regarding the management of migration issues. IOM also reached out to French authorities in Saint Martin as there is a need for an island wide strategy. IOM advocates for the strategy for reconstruction in Sint Maarten to include irregular migrant workers and the contribution they can make, as the livelihoods of irregular migrants are likely to be heavily impacted by the hurricane.
- Turks and Caicos: Some 210 children were reached in 13 shelters within the RTH programme. A training of trainers in PSS is organized by IsraAid, UNICEF and the Red Cross to support the start-up of school on 16 October 2017.

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#### Needs:

- Costa Rica: As of 12 October, there are still more than 5,700 people sheltered across 98 shelter centres in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Nate.
- Cuba: Temporary shelter solutions with tarps and sheeting are needed to help restore housing accommodations, as is the restoration of local construction material production to meet the needs of 14 of the most affected municipalities. Many families require NFIs such as mattresses and sheeting are also needed.
- Dominica: Vulnerable households may need support (labour, training, tools) to install tarpaulins for emergency roofing. Information gaps on the distribution of tarpaulins is complicating the identification of existing gaps. Shelter partners are working with Government to consolidate distribution information. Some 23,500 houses are estimated to be moderately to highly damaged or destroyed.
- Sint Maarten: The Netherlands Red Cross has mentioned that the demand for tarps continues to be high.

#### Response:

- Antiqua and Barbuda: The Government of Antiqua and Barbuda is starting to facilitate Barbudans' visit to their homes and contribute towards clean-up efforts. Debris removal efforts are quite advanced, organized by the government with the participation of local populations. Damaged iron sheeting is collected in designated areas and removed by tractors. The National Office of Disaster Services (NODS) has stated that permanent returns will not be permitted until water and sanitation supply is restored due to the risk of outbreak of diseases such as cholera. Some 250 Shelterboxes (tents and shelter materials) have been brought to Antigua from Haiti by IOM, to send to Barbuda.
- Cuba: The Government is coordinating the distribution of 8,959 pre-positioned tarpaulins to benefit 26,877 people. UNDP has assisted in procuring an additional 6,395 tarpaulins and 2,529 mattresses, due to arrive on 14 October. IOM is also assisting with the procurement of 2,800 mattresses and 2,800 sheets, due to arrive on 17 October.
- **Dominica:** According to the CDEMA/WFP pipeline tracker over 28,000 tarpaulins have arrived in Dominica to date. Of these, some 11,000 tarpaulins or shelter grade plastic sheeting have been distributed as recorded in the self-reporting matrix maintained by international partners. As well as tarpaulins already in country, pipeline information reported to CDEMA/WFP indicates that an additional 13,075 tarpaulins are currently en route to Dominica to fill gaps.

Shelter partners are also distributing kitchen kits, blankets, hygiene kits and other non-food items.

On 7 October, IOM distributed 244 solar lamps to collective centres and surrounding host communities in Mahout, Canefield and Roseau. On 8 October, IOM delivered 1,100 solar lamps, 135 hygiene kits and 78 kitchen kits in Salybia and surrounding areas as part of a joint UN distribution. On 9 October, IOM delivered 150 hygiene kits to Riviere and Morne Jaune in eastern Dominica.

IFRC is distributing timber for emergency roofing together with food and toolkits. Their teams are providing training on how to fix the tarpaulins to roofing structures to make an emergency roof.

The Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force has engineers who could put up roofs for those not able to do it themselves. They have offered to collaborate with shelter actors to help the most vulnerable construct a roof.

Shelter Box is providing training in collaboration with IFRC.

IsraAid is working between Good Hope and Delices and distributing tarps, hygiene kits, kitchen kits and solar lamps.

Samaritan's Purse has begun assessments on the east coast as they still have 3,000 tarpaulins in their pipeline.

CRS is working in St Patrick's Parish and aims to provide 950 households with emergency shelter.

Sint Maarten: IOM donated 1,000 tarps and ropes to ESF7, which were distributed to health centres, relief workers, volunteers and vulnerable families. The Dutch Marines have used tarps in order to provide temporary roof to 20 vulnerable families.

Contact person at IFRC Regional Office for the Americas in Panama: Inigo Barrena (ci.barrena@ifrc.org) Contact person at IOM in Dominica: Jacobo Muelas, (jmuelas@iom.int); +34-625-53-99-62



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs:

- Anguilla: Electricity is gradually being restored in villages as workers continue to work hard for restoration of power lines. Water and electricity is still not restored for the most part.
- Antigua and Barbuda: According to UNICEF, there is the anticipation that bottled water for drinking in schools will be a long-term requirement.
- British Virgin Islands: Some parts of the island still have no electricity, and depend on emergency generators.
- Costa Rica: According to national water authorities, Tropical Storm Nate left more than 500,000 people without access to clean water. Nate affected at least 183 water supply systems throughout Costa Rica.
- Cuba: As authorities continue to restore water supplies to normal operations, the promotion of hygiene practices at the community practice remains a priority need. The hardest hit communities still require water distribution via storage tanks.
- Dominica: According to DOWASCO, approximately 38,000 people —55 per cent of the population—have access to water through the official water network following extensive repairs. About 30 water network systems are non-functional and require repairs. At least 14 water and wastewater technicians are needed to support DOWASCO's teams. Domestic solid waste management remains a major concern.

The Environmental Health Department, as the national regulator for water quality control, needs supports to fulfill its mission. DOWASCO, as the national operator utility, requires support to regain capacity to control the quality of the water it provides. The leaking Roseau city wastewater system needs urgent assessment by qualified experts and emergency repairs until rehabilitation is complete. Water systems at healthcare facilities and schools need repair, several of them require further water trucking until water networks are fully operational. Collective centres need regular access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation. The minimum WASH package in shelters has been agreed by the WASH partners and needs to be validated by DOWASCO. Distribution of water to priority collective centres is needed.

Support for DOWASCO and the Environmental Health Department to repair damages to their offices to become fully operational. Monitor more closely the WASH response plan to better reflect the interventions of the WASH actors.

Turks and Caicos: Water, electricity and communication remain largely interrupted in many parts of the country.

#### Response:

- With water distribution systems still severely compromised in the impacted countries, especially Dominica, UNICEF and partners provided safe drinking water to nearly 35,000 vulnerable people, including 9,100 children. By country, UNICEF has provided safe water for 720 in Antigua and Barbuda; 208 people in the British Virgin Islands; 9,417 people in Dominica; and 24,891 people in Turks and Caicos.
- Some 82,000 people, including 21,000 children in the five affected countries, were reached with life-saving information on hygiene, safety and protection.
- UNICEF has reached 3,190 children with access to functional handwashing facilities and soap in schools and learning/safe spaces.
- UNICEF provided sanitation or hygiene/dignity kits to 1,900 evacuees in shelters, of which 280 were in Anguilla, 150 from Barbuda, and 1,472 in Dominica. UNICEF also reached 494 child-evacuees.
- UNICEF distributed 17,800 packs of water purification tablets; 480 for Barbudans, 160 in British Virgins Islands, 600 in Dominica and 16,594 in Turks and Caicos Islands.
- Cuba: The Government has received 2,772,000 purification tablets to distribute in communities and schools in Villa Clara. Another delivery of more than 3 million tablets will go to Camajuaní. At present, 178,335 ten litre water tanks, 13.4 million purification tablets and 10,453 hygiene kits are being procured.

Authorities are also in the process of printing communications materials to promote hygiene education, which will be distributed at health centres and schools and to families in the most affected municipalities.

Dominica: A WASH sectoral response plan is under validation by the national authorities. At least 20,000 persons regained access to their former water supply thanks to 14 water networks being repair including Roseau metropolitan area and suburbs by DOWASCO.

Eleven mobile water treatment plants have been brought to Dominica, of which seven are installed in the west coast by Samaritan's Purse (4), IFRC (2) and B-FAST (1) and three are functioning on the east coast.

The rapid assessment report of the damages suffered by the Roseau city sewage network is being disseminated to donors, agencies and international utilities to raise awareness and potential funds.

DOWASCO, accompanied by international experts from USAID and UNICEF, are carrying out a detailed assessment of the water and sanitation networks that will be disseminated shortly to donors, the agencies and international water utilities.

Contact person at UNICEF in Panama: Douglas Reimer (dreimer@unicef.org); at UNICEF Eastern Contact person at UNICEF in Dominica: David Simon (dsimon@unicef.org)



### **Emergency Telecommunications**

#### Needs:

Dominica: The lack of telecommunication is leading to information gaps between the humanitarian responders and affected communities. A Service for Communities (S4C) assessment carried out in Marigot and Roseau revealed information gaps mainly regarding the schedule of food distribution, when and where to get tarps (Marigot), entitlement criteria to receive livelihood support, duration of stay in shelters, assessment criteria to receive rebuilding support, and how to contact aid workers.

#### Response:

Dominica: Together with its partners, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is identifying telecommunication gaps in Dominica and providing temporary services to the humanitarian community.

More than 2,364 unique users with well over 27,000 unique devices are registered on the expanding ETC networks in Roseau and Douglas-Charles airport areas.

Ericsson Response/Emergency.lu is providing ETC connectivity to ten locations in Roseau, and five locations at Douglas-Charles airport, Marigot and Wesley.

Drone mapping was done for seven areas in the south and the north to register the damage, including in Roseau and Louisville, Castle Bruce, Marigot, Wesley, Woodford Hills and Calibishie. The recordings are available at: https://map.openaerialmap.org/#/-61.34765625,15.456327490043542,8/0323030023/59d4159146e19904aab0aea6? k=s7mtu9

S4C established connectivity for the affected communities by means of hotspots at the Wesley health centre and the Marigot community centre where approximately 250 people are connecting every day. Both locations are attracting neighboring communities to use connectivity to receive and give critical information mainly through word of mouth (through messenger chats) and social media.

S4C is also liaising with Digicel to help aid providers send SMS to communities to receive information regarding distributions.

Contact person for WFP in Dominica: Deborah Natareno (deborah.natareno@wfp.org) for ETC and Phyza Jameel, Services, Communities Adviser (S4C) (phyza.jameel@wfp.org); +1-268-7288-258



#### Needs:

- British Virgin Islands: Ferry to travel from Virgin Gorda to Tortola has been interrupted. Several damaged ferries could be observed in Virgin Gorda. This presents difficulty for movement of people and supplies from one island to another.
- Dominica: The lack of commercial air flights requires ongoing humanitarian air service from Antigua. There is a need for repair and coordination support at port, airports and warehousing facilities.

### Response:

Antigua and Barbuda: The Logistics sector working group in Antigua, continues to coordinate with actors on the ground to support the consolidation and facilitation of cargo bound for Dominica and other hurricaneaffected countries.

WFP provided free transportation from Antigua to Dominica for relief supplies on board Tropical, sailing on 10 October, with an ETA for 12 October in Dominica, consolidating cargo from WFP as well as from three humanitarian organizations and cooperation agencies.

Next rotation of this vessel would be made available next Monday Oct. 16th for Dominica, free of charge, in case of any organisations requiring transport.

UNHAS aircraft continues to provide regular rotations from Antigua to Dominica. The air asset is primarily used for the transportation of humanitarian responders and some light cargo.

Upon request of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, WFP mobilized and finished the installation of a Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) in Barbuda with a total of 240 sgm of storage capacity, to augment existing storage capacity and facilitate reconstructions efforts.

Regular Logistics Coordination meetings are being held at St John. Schedule and meeting minutes are available at: http://www.logcluster.org/sector/irma17

**Dominica:** WFP has organized the dispatch of some 150 metric tons of Government and WFP food supplies. UNHAS continues to provide air services for the transport of humanitarian personnel and light cargo to and from Dominica three times per week.

A Netherlands military vessel providing support to Dominica operations will be loaded this weekend in Rio Haina Port, Dominican Republic, with both food and non-food items from WFP, IOM and PAHO, in response to the emergency.

WFP has installed one MSU at Douglas-Charles airport with a capacity of 320 m2, as well as three additional storage units, one at airport and two at the port in Roseau, to provide logistics augmentation and serve the service humanitarian operations in the west and north-eastern parts of the country.

A Logistics Coordinator, Civil-Military Coordination Officer and two logisticians are on site in Dominica, to support the Government-led response with logistics coordination, facilitation of the use of military assets, and the offloading of cargo and management of WFP's storage facilities.

A port authority warehouse has been cleared and it's currently storing Hurricane Maria relief supplies from a variety of humanitarian organizations and cooperation agencies.

The Logistics Coordination Cell in Antigua continues to support humanitarian organizations and liaise with relevant authorities to consolidate and facilitate the dispatch of relief commodities to Dominica.

WFP continues to make available free-to-use helicopter with a lift capacity of 1.5 metric tons, that is being used to support assessments and distribution activities in hard to reach locations in Dominica. The helicopter operation will stop on the 15 October, and in the meantime we can still provide support for assessments or transport to isolated communities. Please liaise with UNHAS through the information provided on our website http://www.logcluster.org/sector/irma17 for any particular requests.

As of 2 October, 2017, regular Logistics Coordination meetings have been hosted at WFP's office at the seaport. Invitations are being sent via the OCHA Dominica distribution list and schedules advertised on: http://www.logcluster.org/sector/irma17

Contact person at UNHRD in Panama: Francisco Garrido (francisco.garrido@wfp.org); in Dominica: Contact person at WFP: Giuseppe Linardi (giuseppe.linardi@wfp.org)

# **General Coordination**

In Dominica, the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is coordinating the response, with the support of CDEMA and UNDAC/OCHA. Coordination meetings are held at the NEOC and sector specific groups are also meeting (Early Recovery; Education and Protection; Food Security and Livelihoods, Health; Logistics; Shelter/CCCM; and WASH).

Upon Prime Minister Mr. Skerrit's request, the UN established a Crisis Management Unit led by UNDP and OCHA to support the government coordination efforts from relief to recovery.

Weekly coordination meetings with international partners are held at the NEOC on Fridays at 16:00 hours. Biweekly meetings between the EOC and sector leads are held at 15:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sector meeting notes and meeting schedules will be posted on Humanitarian Response Info www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/dominica

Regional partner coordination meetings are held by CDEMA in Barbados to consolidate information on assessments, needs and gaps. CDEMA situation reports can be found on http://cdema.org/

You can also find, and share, reports and infographics on ReliefWeb at https://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2017-000136-ata

Distribution Tracking List: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10F4-LI08biZt7EXopUjiBVgnaFfXZWDeN3QPPOk78s/ edit#gid=1290267400

Contact List: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vcucPQrFhkSk-23eniyJfpfbPoSS9yBBEXEVdjkfe 8/edit#gid=0

Sector Leads https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ZKStID-ZDM ZNEwYpjMoRL89RfOGFceIEZ6f1TPNjo/edit

Visualization of damage mapped from social media and open source photos: https://arcg.is/1XzCz

Latest news and updates: http://www.unocha.org/hurricane-season-2017

Satellite imagery of assessed damage is available at http://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps

OCHA has shared an assessment tool that can be shared with any responder that looks at hurricane impact, displacement, response and needs: https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/#YICq

Humanitarian Contact List for Hurricane Irma is available on Humanitarian ID: Deploying teams are encouraged to register at https://humanitarian.id

In Cuba, the Government is leading all coordination efforts. The UN System in Cuba is supporting the Government with Situation Reports, interagency response mechanisms, coordinating with the humanitarian community in the country, and monitoring response progress. OCHA ROLAC has deployed a response adviser to support coordination efforts. Reports on Cuba's response can be found at http://onu.org.cu/subsection/huracan-irma/ (Spanish)

#### Background on the crisis

Hurricane Irma became a category 5 on Tuesday 5 September as it headed toward the Caribbean islands. Irma made landfall on northeast Caribbean islands during the early hours of 6 September, affecting Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten, St. Martin, the Virgin Islands and other islands in the eastern Caribbean Sea. Since then, thousands of people have been evacuated from atrisk areas and different level of impact reported from the affected areas.

Hurricane Maria was the second category 5 to make landfall in the Caribbean in less than two weeks, generating severe humanitarian needs for all of Dominica. On 5 October, Tropical Storm Nate formed in the south-western Caribbean, travelling north along Central America towards the US Gulf Coast, causing heavy rains and wind and leaving thousands affected in Costa Rica.

### For further information, please contact:

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