



This report is produced by the Office of the Resident Coordinator. It covers the period from 14:00 hrs on October 2nd to 12:00 hrs on October 5th.

Highlights



- With Resolution No. 700 of 2017, the Ministry of Finance and Prices established that the delivery of donations received to meet the nation's humanitarian needs will imply no cost to the people affected.
- The Cuban Workers Union is calling upon its members to contribute one day, on 7 October, to continue supporting the country's recovery following the hurricane.
- According to the Cuban Sports Institute (INDER), 383 sports facilities in 11 provinces suffered significant damage as a result of the hurricane.
- Damage to ecosystems in protected areas in the north of Camagüey, such as to mangroves in the Bay of Nuevitas, the wildlife refuge of the Río Máximo, and the Sabinal and Romano Cays has been confirmed.

*Note: All the information in this report has been taken from Cuban official media (TV, radio, and press) and statements from Cuban authorities. Sources: Newspapers Periódicos Granma, Juventud Rebelde, Vanguardia, Invasor, Adelante, Periódico 26, Ahora, Sierra Maestra y Venceremos. Radio: Radio Habana Cuba, Radio Angulo, Radio Mambí; Press agencies: Prensa Latina (PL) y Agencia Cubana de Noticias (ACN); Web sites: Cubadebate. Supplementary data has been taken from the National Statistics Office website.

Situation overview

Powerful Hurricane Irma devastated rural and coastal communities, mainly in the western and central part of the country. In these areas, most of the homes and facilities that provide public services were lost. People have lost their livelihoods and their sources of income.

Among the prioritized activities for the most affected territories are food distribution; agriculture recovery; rehabilitation of homes, warehouses and schools; and the provision of water supply, electric power, and health services.

Humanitarian Response

National Authorities

To address the damage caused by Hurricane Irma, the government has introduced changes to the financial, pricing, tax, and accounting norms and procedures in the case of disasters. The new norms establish that internal or external donations will be delivered at no cost to the affected population.

The Cuban Workers Union has called for a massive national day of voluntary work on 7 October to boost recovery, food production, construction, and sanitation in institutions, communities, and cities.

In Matanzas Province, the President of the National Assembly of People's Power emphasized the need to increase the speed in the production of construction materials to raise the level of response to the damages in housing.

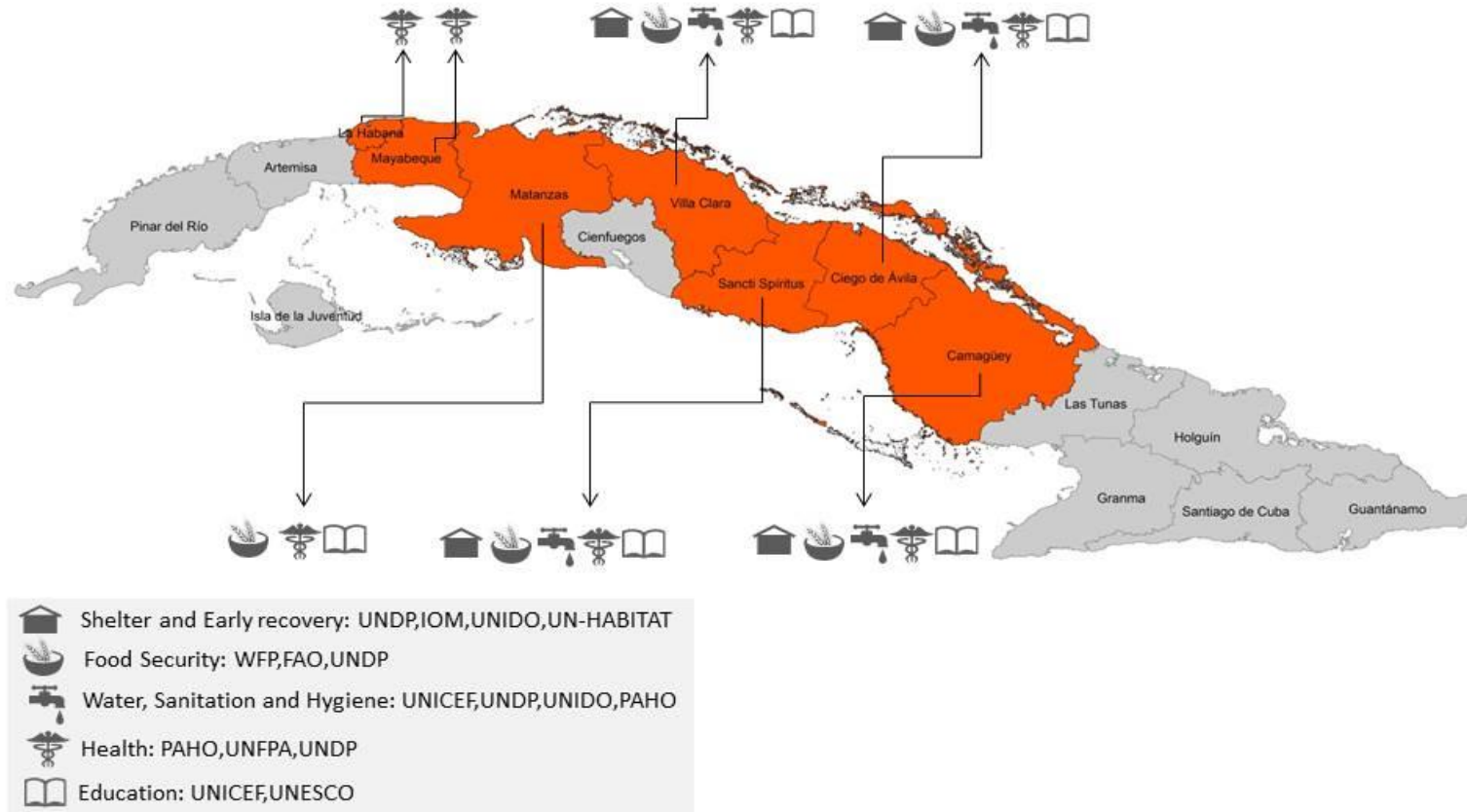
The Chief of the Defense Council of the Strategic Central Region visited several areas with local authorities in Yaguajay Municipality to speak with those affected in one of the northern territories of the Sancti Spiritus Province.

International Cooperation

A second shipment of humanitarian aid from the Dominican Republic arrived in Havana. It includes biscuits, sheets, towels, mattresses, and building materials (such as fixtures, doors, paint, nails, and zinc plates), submersible pumps and water power plants, among others.

PLAN OF ACTION. UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN CUBA
Sector support in most affected provinces

SEP, 17



Sectors



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Damage:

- For 21 days, the National Electroenergetic System collapsed, with 113 circuits affected, 434 broken or fallen posts of all levels of voltage, 44 damaged transformers, and a large quantity of fallen electric cables.
- Pumping systems in the most affected municipalities along the northern coast are functioning, however, electrical interruptions still complicate water supply services.

Response:

- Fifty percent of the current retail price of consumer staples, including hygiene and hygiene products, has been subsidized for those affected by the hurricane.
- One hundred twenty-six water pumping systems are already connected to the National Electroenergetic System, which allows pumping and distribution through the hydraulic networks.

UNICEF

- As part of the immediate response, 2,772,000 chlorine water purification tablets have been delivered to communities and schools in Caibarién Municipality in Villa Clara Province. In the coming weeks, the delivery of an additional three million tablets is expected.
- The purchase of 60,196 10-liter collapsible tanks is underway in order to satisfy safe water storage needs in Caibarién and Camajuaní Municipalities.
- With regional emergency funds or Emergency Program Funds (EPF), more than five million water purification tablets, 28,757 collapsible tanks for 28,000 families, and 2,700 basic hygiene kits (each covering 10 families) are being purchased, for those affected in Esmeralda, Sierra de Cubitas, and Minas Municipalities in Camagüey Province.
- UNICEF is dedicating US\$1.55 million of CERF funds to the purchase of 8,446,600 chlorine water purification tablets, 89,382 10-liter collapsible tanks, and 7,753 basic hygiene kits to support 234,098 people, of which 43,875 are under 18 years of age.
- Additionally, the printing of 200,000 communication materials to promote messages and information about hygiene education are to be distributed among health centers, schools, and families in the most affected municipalities.

UNDP

- In the United Nations Action Plan in response to Hurricane Irma, UNDP presented a proposal focused in seven municipalities in Villa Clara, Sancti Spíritus, and Ciego de Ávila Provinces to improve access to safe water and promote good hygiene practices at the community level.

UNIDO

- UNIDO presented a proposal in the United Nations Action Plan in response to Hurricane Irma to support the use of renewable energy sources for the pumping of water in seven municipalities in Villa Clara and Sancti Spíritus Provinces.

PAHO/WHO

- To prevent epidemiological outbreaks of waterborne and vector-borne illnesses, PAHO/WHO presented a proposal to support the monitoring of water quality and epidemiological surveillance in 27 affected municipalities in the United Nations Action Plan in response to Hurricane Irma.



Food Security and Nutrition

Damage:

- So far the damage in the agricultural sector includes: loss of crops, animals, infrastructure - especially more than 440,000 m² of roofs -, stored supplies and severe deterioration of soil quality due to salinization. The livelihoods of people dedicated to agriculture, livestock farming and fishing have been affected.
- According to the latest reports, the main damages have affected poultry farming, with over 200,000 hens deceased and impacts on more than 400 facilities. Daily availability of eggs, an important and accessible source of protein, has decreased by 30%. Pig and fish production were also seriously affected.

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- The affected crops area amounts to 95,000 hectares, basically doubling previous estimates. This mainly includes plantain, with approximately a quarter of all plantations damaged, as well as other tubers, basic grains, fruits and vegetables.
- The most impacted provinces are Camagüey, Ciego de Ávila, Sancti Spíritus, Villa Clara and Matanzas, representing important food production poles for the local population, other areas of the country and tourism.
- The distribution, commercial and gastronomic infrastructure - including warehouses (distribution points for the government food basket (“canasta básica”) also remains affected.

Response:

- Despite the measures adopted by national and local authorities for the rehabilitation of infrastructure and cultivations, the planting of short-cycle crops and the sale of food at affordable prices, it is recognized that some agricultural products will be very scarce and that it will not be possible to meet the demand of the population in the coming months. This represents a challenge to food and nutritional security in these territories.
- It is expected that crop recovery will occur during the next three months, depending on climatic developments, as rainfalls so far have made the preparation of soils impossible in some regions.
- According to estimations the first production of plantains will be available at markets in April or May 2018, as this plant takes in average one year until being ready for harvest. The first harvest of potato, in areas such as Ciego de Ávila, is foreseen for January, with the majority of irrigation systems already being in place.

FAO

- With the USD 746,142 approved by the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the USD 300,000 granted by the Government of Belgium, as part of the SFERA fund, these acquisitions are planned: roofs, greenhouses, netting and seeds. This will allow the rehabilitation of the most damaged agricultural infrastructure in order to protect livelihoods and recover food production.
- Contacts with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Food Industry and Fisheries are maintained to continue establishing medium-term necessities.

WFP

- The delivery of the food commodities donated by WFP advances, as part of the distribution planned for the coming days by national authorities, in coordination with local institutions. This assistance will support over 647,000 beneficiaries in the 22 target municipalities in the most affected areas, of whom 35% are vulnerable groups: children under 5, school-aged children, elderly people over 65, and pregnant and lactating women.
- The entire population of Yaguajay - a municipality severely affected by Hurricane Irma in Sancti Spíritus province - already received four pounds of rice and two pounds of beans (in addition to the food basket guaranteed by the Government). These food commodities will complement the beneficiaries' monthly ration.
- Contributions received by WFP amount to about USD 3.6 million, including WFP's immediate emergency response fund, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), as well as funding from the governments of Italy and Canada. These funds will ensure assistance to the populations of the 14 most affected municipalities during two months, and to the vulnerable groups of an additional eight municipalities for one month.
- Thanks to the funding received, WFP has launched a purchase process for over 3,000 tons of additional food commodities, including rice, beans and vegetable oil. These commodities are expected to arrive in Cuba in the coming weeks.
- WFP is engaged in dialogue with the donor community, with the support of its Regional Office and headquarters, to mobilize the remaining USD 2.1 million needed to cover the rations planned for four months.



Shelter and Early Recovery

Damage:

ELECTRICITY

Villa Clara

- Although about 1,000 people are still awaiting the restoration of electric power services, service has been restored for 99.61% of residents.
- The linemen who provided their contribution to restoring the electric power service to the areas affected by Hurricane Irma returned to their respective territories.

UNDP

- UNDP continues to coordinate with partners and national counterparts to mobilize additional resources under the United Nations System Action Plan to continue supporting Cuba in recovery efforts. ECHO has approved a US\$700,000 project to be implemented by UNDP to purchase roof modules and support the development of four mini-industries for the production of building materials in Yaguajay.
- The Agrocadenas Project has already carried out an analysis of the hurricane's effects and is meeting with donors to discuss measures to be taken to support the recovery process.
- UNDP has initiated the process for purchasing roof modules and tool kits.
- More than 2,000 mattresses were also purchased and are expected to arrive in Cuba on 14 October. Another 17,000 will be arriving in Cuba in the coming weeks.



Health

Damage:

- The Ministry of Health reports 980 health institutions, among them 71 hospitals, 122 basic health care centers, 87 social institutions (maternity care centers, nursing homes, senior care centers, etc.), and 378 Family Doctor's Offices.
- In hospitals such as the Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital in Havana and the Roberto Rodríguez Hospital in Morón, Ciego de Ávila, impacts are still being reported to the hyperbaric oxygenation service, the linear accelerator, and in outpatient and elective surgery rooms.

Response:

- In terms of acute diarrheal diseases, the country remains in the Success Zone of the epidemic channel, with the exception of Mayabeque which is the Security Zone.
- Recovery actions at the Oncology Institute continue to be carried out.
- In the provinces, 285 health units have been recovered, including 21 hospitals, 25 basic health care centers, 107 Family Doctor's Offices, 63 pharmacies, 26 social institutions, and 43 providers of other services.
- A total of 68 Family Doctor's Offices are still relocated to other locations to provide primary health care, including 23 in Villa Clara, 22 in Ciego de Ávila, 6 in Havana, 6 in Sancti Spíritus, 5 in Camagüey, 3 in Matanzas, 2 in Mayabeque, and 1 in Holguín.
- The Mario A. Pérez Basic Health Care Center in Villa Clara is recovering its ultrasound and clinical laboratory services.
- A total of 11 ambulances are being repaired and another 16 are to follow.
- In order to prevent diseases, epidemiological surveillance is being maintained throughout the country.

Identified needs:

- Demands for first-line medications and supplies continue to be identified including Doxycycline, water treatment tablets, tests to determine levels of residual chlorine, calcium hypochlorite for disinfection, and surface cleaning diagnostic kits as well as medical supplies and medical equipment and furniture.
- Oxygen tanks and regulators (manometers) as well as supplies for protecting against vector-borne diseases, such as insecticide-impregnated nets and Temephos 1% (Abate), are still required.

- Supplies for contraception and the prevention and treatment of STIs and HIV/AIDS as well as for births and obstetric surgeries for 503,076 women (221,855 of which are women of reproductive age) are still needed in the 22 affected municipalities.
- US\$1.6 million in funding is needed to support the re-establishment of gynecological, sexual, and reproductive health services in affected municipalities.
- It is necessary to provide hygiene kits to pregnant women and women who have recently given birth in 14 severely affected municipalities.
- UNFPA has identified input needs for contraception and the prevention and treatment of STIs and HIV/AIDS as well as for births and obstetric surgeries in health institutions that provide gynecological services to the population of the 22 municipalities most affected by Hurricane Irma. It focuses specifically on 503,076 people, including 221,855 women of reproductive age, 47,933 adolescents between 10 and 14 years old, and 233,288 young men and adults (15-49 years).

PAHO/WHO

- Efforts to mobilize resources are ongoing in accordance with the needs identified in the Action Plan.
- As a result of the mobilization of resources, US\$500,000 were received from the Department for International Development of United Kingdom (DFID) in addition to the approval of US\$999,983.00 in CERF funding.
- Five containers from the NGO Global Link will be received with equipment and supplies for the General Teaching Hospitals in Remedios, Villa Clara; in Yagüajay, Sancti Spíritus; in Morón, Ciego de Ávila; in Baracoa, Guantánamo; and in Nuevitas, Camagüey.
- PAHO/WHO is in the process of purchasing US\$200,000 of 500,000 Doxycycline tablets, 40 tons of Temephos 1%, and products for water quality control and treatment at health institutions.
- The arrival of emergency medicine kits (IEHK) is expected. The kits will cover the needs of 60,000 people for three months in prioritized affected areas.
- Daily coordination is being maintained among the PAHO Technical Team in Cuba, the PAHO Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and the Head of the National Defense and Civil Defense of the Ministry of Health in order to follow up on the emergency response and the prioritization of damage.
- The purchase of medical supplies and equipment to contribute to the restoration of medical care at all levels is in process.

UNFPA

- The first 900 Hygiene Kits from LACRO arrived at the Port of Mariel on 4 October. The process of unloading the kits will begin shortly. Distribution to pregnant women or new mothers in 14 municipalities is being planned.
- The first 37 contraception, STI management, delivery assistance, and obstetric surgery kits will be arriving at the International Airport José Martí in Havana late this week.
- The process of purchasing a second shipment of 1000 Hygiene Kits is in progress and the kits are expected to arrive by ship from Panama this month.
- Approval for US\$355,008 in CERF funding was received. The actual availability of these funds is expected soon in order to activate the second process of purchase of 267 SSR Kits as well as more Hygiene Kits.



Education

Damage:

- A total of 2,264 schools, 21.2% of the total educational institutions in the country, were affected, comprising 277 daycare centers; 1,183 primary schools; 105 special education schools; 313 secondary education schools; 100 high schools; 6 worker-peasant schools; 130 polytechnic schools; 8 pedagogical schools; 43 facilities for children's extracurricular activities; 3 facilities linked to the Ministry of Education; and 96 other facilities, including warehouses, local offices, and libraries.
- Of these, six buildings suffered a total collapse: two in Holguín; two in Ciego de Ávila; one in Villa Clara; the special education school in Santa Cruz del Norte in Mayabeque Province; and the Municipal Direction of Education in Yaguajay in Sancti Spiritus Province.
- It was confirmed that primary education was the most affected among all educational levels.
- A total of 15 schools in Mayabeque, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Ciego de Ávila, and Camagüey Provinces continue to serve as evacuation centers sheltering people.

Response:

- 1,017 educational institutions have already been restored.
- 133 families provided spaces in their homes to ensure the continuity of educational activities.
- As a lesson learned from the experience of Hurricane Irma, the Ministry of Education has indicated it will guarantee at least one room with a solid roof in schools that do not have a strong roof in order to preserve teaching materials and furniture.
- A proposal was made to establish a regulation for the protection of class materials that students usually keep in their homes.
- Authorities from the Ministry of Education stressed the importance of identifying alternative sites to restart teaching activities as soon as possible in case of damage to schools.

UNICEF

- Actions to facilitate the immediate establishment of learning spaces are being prioritized. In addition, US\$364,000 is being used to purchase 450 Early Childhood Kits, 1,215 School-in-a-Box Kits, and 542 Recreational Kits to facilitate educational activities in schools and daycare centers. The kits will reach 69,679 school-age children and are expected to arrive in the coming weeks.
- The purchase of US\$60,000 in waterproofing sheet roofing is undergoing the bidding process to cover 11,000 m² of roofs for schools in Villa Clara Province.

UNESCO

- UNESCO will focus its support on ensuring socio-emotional post-disaster support for children and adolescents, with the participation of families and the community, in the 27 most affected municipalities.

**Logistics****Damage:**

- In Sancti Spiritus Province, various roads in the mountainous area of Escambray were damaged by flooding and overflowing rivers. As a result, some rural paths were disrupted.
- The damage to the facilities belonging to the wholesale collection system of farming products, as well as storage and transportation infrastructure for inputs, food and other key products in the most impacted provinces is still being assessed.

Response:

- Repair work on roads in the most affected territories, including the mountainous areas of Escambray and the northern part of Yaguajay Municipality, continues.

WFP

- WFP has initiated the purchasing process of mobile storage units (MSUs), lighting equipment, and pallets as part of its support to the food storage and protection capacities of local institutions.
- The four assembled MSUs in Ciego de Ávila and Villa Clara Provinces continue to provide relief to the affected population. These units, relocated from Guantánamo Province, had been provided by WFP as part of its response to Hurricane Mathew, however, had not previously been assembled (see Situation Reports 11, 15, 16 and 17).

General Coordination

The UN System continues working on the implementation of the Action of Plan Cuba 2017 in response to Hurricane Irma, available at the following link: http://onu.org.cu/files/files/CUB_ActionPlan_ESP_20170918.pdf.

A "One Month Report" of the UN System response is being prepared by the UN Agencies regarding the main activities, achievements, and challenges in the response to the damage caused by Hurricane Irma.

Access link to previous situation reports:

	Spanish	English
Situation Report No. 1	https://goo.gl/4ndwXJ	https://goo.gl/MRWwsR
Situation Report No. 2	https://goo.gl/rvtMHP	https://goo.gl/qxr2zT
Situation Report No. 3	https://goo.gl/fXUgFU	https://goo.gl/AaAMyz
Situation Report No. 4	https://goo.gl/WYSyBj	https://goo.gl/cZerWK
Situation Report No. 5	https://goo.gl/JGr4VB	https://goo.gl/e7sDG3
Situation Report No. 6	https://goo.gl/GFqNXF	https://goo.gl/BAvoY8
Situation Report No. 7	https://goo.gl/P67Qc7	https://goo.gl/qnBX5B
Situation Report No. 8	https://goo.gl/Jvwdk2	https://goo.gl/BQSijQ
Situation Report No. 9	https://goo.gl/e9WV6	https://goo.gl/akD8mc
Situation Report No. 10	https://goo.gl/XqXvkE	https://goo.gl/ZjWca6
Situation Report No. 11	https://goo.gl/9ixGn4	https://goo.gl/uXyRHR
Situation Report No. 12	https://goo.gl/wse5Df	https://goo.gl/BFgX3i
Situation Report No. 13	https://goo.gl/CZ387R	https://goo.gl/n88KVU
Situation Report No. 14	https://goo.gl/kwSKLt	https://goo.gl/qT5RX8
Situation Report No. 15	https://goo.gl/or1Sjv	https://goo.gl/TjcZ2u
Situation Report No. 16	https://goo.gl/wEWjnf	https://goo.gl/oMeuZ1
Situation Report No. 17	https://goo.gl/EgJQhe	https://goo.gl/nk3ubc

Annex



Food Security and Nutrition

Provinces and municipalities with greatest estimated damages	Main damages estimations to agricultural and livestock productions Tubers, vegetables, grains, fruits and others/ Livestock, Fishery and aquaculture	Damages to food production, processing and marketing infrastructure
Camagüey (Minas, Nuevitas, Sierra de Cubitas and Esmeralda)	+ 3,000 ha of plantain and yucca + 3,500 ha of assorted crops, especially corn + 500 tons of fruits: oranges, avocado, papaya, guava, grapefruit Fishing centre Jiguey in Esmeralda disappeared + 90 poultry facilities and death of more than 10,000 birds, resulting in a reduction of availability of 25,000 eggs per day	400 units of fish and food industry. Roofs of poultry farms Unfavourable conditions for the production of eggs The food industry (meat and dairy), Central Warehouse, Milk Storing and Cooling Centre Trade and Gastronomy Infrastructure, Bakeries
Ciego de Ávila (Chambas, Morón, Bolivia)	+ 5,000 ha of plantain, corn, cabbage, rice, beans and other crops Of these more than 4,000 are plantains, representing losses of over 50,000 bananas + 1,500 tons of citrus More than 80,000 hens, 40% higher to previous report suffered direct damage 700 livestock animals, including one hundred cattle	151 poultry farms 115 pig farms 194 growing houses for vegetables Destruction of bee hives in 10 municipalities. Loss of 3,500 beehives in the north estimated. 37 warehouses (7 of which for food), 188 commercial establishments (97 storing facilities) and 50 for food processing industry (28 bakeries). 40 milk heaters in the pick-up locations 486 tobacco warehouses collapsed
Sancti Spiritus (Yaguajay)	28,500 ha of assorted crops, such as beans, tomato, sweet potato, corn, vegetable, papaya and others, damaged. Of these more than 4,000 plantains, corresponding 84,000 tons 1,740 hectares of coffee (corresponding to nearly 85% of crops) + than 800,000 juvenile fish of different species + 200 livestock deceased + 6,000 chickens + 70 beehives 540 pre-fattened and breeding pigs	Aquaculture infrastructure 2,000 beehives 10,000 urban agriculture seeding beds
Villa Clara (Caibarién, Sagua la Grande, Encrucijada, Corralillo, Quemado de Güines, Camajuani)	+ 8,000 ha of plantain, rice, coffee, yucca, dried maize, of which 7,000 tons of rice and 746 hectares of coffee). 70% of sugarcane plantations and stored bulk sugar. 17,000 laying hens	167 poultry houses and 110 pig houses destroyed Irrigation systems Rice mills, Sugar mills Roofs of biscuits factories Over 40,000 zinc plates lost, covering the roofs of mills, workshops, warehouses and dairies. Warehouse storing nearly 5,000 tons of products. 81 food distribution units (bodegas)

Provinces and municipalities with greatest estimated damages	Main damages estimations to agricultural and livestock productions Tubers, vegetables, grains, fruits and others/ Livestock, Fishery and aquaculture	Damages to food production, processing and marketing infrastructure
Matanzas (Cárdenas, Martí)	+ 2,500 ha of plantain and other tubers, rice and corn. (200 ha) 20% of citrus plantations, especially grapefruit (20,000 tons) and oranges (4,000 tons) 42,000 ha of sugarcane 1,200 quails, and 1,400 eggs in incubation process.	Poultry houses. Irrigation systems Greenhouse tunnels

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and mass media.



Shelter and Early Recovery

Current data on housing damaged by Irma:

Province	Households	Roof	Municipalities
La Habana*	6,450 damaged, including 157 collapsed and 986 partially collapsed	818 with collapsed roofs and 1,555 with partially collapsed roofs	All 15 municipalities in capital city
Mayabeque	1,450 damaged		
Matanzas	2,800 damaged, including 200 collapsed		Cárdenas, Martí, and Matanzas
Cienfuegos	574 damaged, including 130 collapsed		
Villa Clara	More than 49,000 damaged, including 1,657 collapsed		Santa Clara, Sagua la Grande, Corralillo, Quemado de Güines, Encrucijada, Camajuaní, Remedios, and Caibarién
Sancti Spiritus	18,923 houses damaged, including 1,931 collapsed		Damage reported in eight municipalities with the most severe damage in Yaguajay, and Sancti Spiritus
Ciego de Ávila	More than 16,000 damaged		Bolivia: 95% of housing damaged
Camagüey	33,000 houses damaged, 2,886 collapsed, and more than 1,376 partially collapsed.	2,500 roofs damaged	Esmeralda, Sierra de Cubitas, and Nuevitas
Las Tunas	4,151 houses damaged, 199 collapsed, and 445 partially collapsed	430 with collapsed roofs and 2,833 with partially collapsed roofs	
Holguín	4,006 houses damaged, including 174 collapsed		Gibara, Antilla, Holguín, and Banes
Guantánamo	875 houses damaged, including 73 collapsed		Baracoa, Maisí, San Antonio del Sur, Yateras, and Caimanera

Source: Press information.



Distribution of 37 SSR kits to be purchased with UNFPA own funds.

KIT No.	Description	Quantity
Kit No. 4	Oral and Injectable Contraception Kit	12
Kit No. 6A	Clinical Delivery Assistance Kit - Reusable Equipment	8
Kit No. 6B	Clinical Delivery Assistance Kit - Drugs and Disposable Equipment	8
Kit No. 11A	Referral Level, Reusable Equipment Kit	6
Kit No. 11B	Referral Level, Drugs and Disposable Equipment	3

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For further information, please visit: www.unocha.org, www.reliefweb.int, www.redhum.org, www.onu.org.cu.

For further information, please visit:

Instituto de Meteorología de Cuba: <http://www.met.inf.cu>

Granma: <http://www.granma.cu>

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