



This report is produced by OCHA ROLAC in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the first period from 06 to 10 September, 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 12 September 2017.

Highlights

- Irma hit Cuba as the first category 5 hurricane to make landfall in the country since 1924, causing massive destruction and widespread flooding along its northern coast.
- Irma upgraded to a category 4 hurricane as it pummeled Florida state in US on 10 September has left three people dead.
- Most of the Caribbean islands battered by Irma were spared by Hurricane Jose.
- People of Turks and Caicos are in urgent need of emergency relief.
- Livelihoods, housing and infrastructure in Anguilla, Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, St. Martin/St. Maartin, the US Virgin Islands, and Turks and Caicos are severely affected.
- Reports of extensive damage to agriculture are coming in from Haiti and Cuba.
- The number of dead and missing is expected to rise as communications and access are gradually restored across the Caribbean.
- Several organizations and Governments are deploying pre-positioned teams and supplies and assessments have begun in some areas.



Evacuations in Barbuda on 08 September / UN Assessment team in Antigua and Barbuda

25

people reported dead across affected territories.

34,000

people displaced in the Dominican Republic and Haiti

17,000

people in need of immediate shelter across the affected eastern Caribbean islands

1.2 million

people affected by damage to water infrastructure in the affected areas of the Dominican Republic

Situation Overview

Most of the smaller Caribbean islands which faced the onslaught of Irma were spared by Hurricane Jose. However, Hurricane Irma which continues to cause havoc had gained strength to turn into a category 5 hurricane as it made landfall in Cuba on 9 September.

Initial reports indicate extensive damage to agriculture in Haiti and Cuba. Assessments to be undertaken in the coming days will reveal the extent of needs.

Water and sanitation kits have been identified as priority needs in the most affected islands. The islands of Antigua and Barbuda and St Barthélemy and St Martin/Sint Maarten remain the most affected.

Various UN agencies and partner organisations have stepped in to provide interim relief and support with assessments. The United Nations Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams have already been deployed in the affected areas.

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

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The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

Coordination Saves Lives

Peter Muller, head of the UNDAC team is in the Antigua working directly with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency and Management Agency (CDEMA) and the Government to coordinate assistance. Supermarkets and stores in Antigua are open and responders are expected to explore local purchase opportunities to provide relief.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is expected to deploy a team to Antigua on 11 September. The agency also intends to send a plane with Mobile Storage Units (MSU) and 10 MT High Energy Biscuits.

Widespread destruction of livelihoods, housing and infrastructure particularly in Anguilla, Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, St. Martin/St. Maartin, the US Virgin Islands, and Turks and Caicos will require assessments and support in the coming months.

Restoration of essential services particularly in Barbuda and St. Martin/St. Maartin will be of critical importance. Pre-emptive measures in disaster risk reduction such as evacuation of people from vulnerable areas has helped keep the death toll low in the Caribbean hurricane crisis.

Governments such as the US, UK, the French, the Dutch have deployed military teams to assist in relief and recovery efforts. The Government of Panama is also put in a request to charter a flight for relief agencies to provide assistance to the affected in Barbuda.

Lack of communication and logistics affected by the hurricanes continue to pose challenges in the region. Members of the private sector such as DHL have volunteered to assist in the delivery of relief supplies. The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) is in contact with the AYSS Superyacht Global Network to potentially mobilize private boats that are in Panama to ship aid supplies to areas impacted by the hurricane. The first vessel is expected to leave with supplies next week.

Several organizations have already activated emergency funding mechanisms for affected countries such as Haiti, the Dominican Republic, as well as the eastern Caribbean.

CDEMA says recognition of a single coordinated system, adequate funding for response personnel and supplies and the availability of assets to move personnel remain the biggest challenges to response.

CDEMA has developed operational scenarios and plans with the affected participating Member States and development partners from eastern Caribbean.

Anguilla

Total pop. 12,316: exposed pop. 12,316; 100% population estimated exposure to high wind zones

There are no air traffic services yet in Anguilla and support will be required to restore damaged telecommunications infrastructure and health care services and facilities. Many homes have been damaged and livelihoods affected. Health care needs assessments are underway, and support for shelters and protection is arriving in the coming days. Several organizations are making funding available to address the needs in Anguilla. Hurricane Jose's turn to the north spared Anguilla from a direct blow.

Antigua and Barbuda

Total pop. 87,858: exposed pop. 87,858; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

Almost all critical facilities in Barbuda, including ambulances have been destroyed by Hurricane Irma. The entire population was evacuated to Antigua in anticipation of Hurricane Jose, which fortunately skirted past the island.

Needs for Barbudans evacuated to Antigua include shelter, and access to education and healthcare. Support with telecommunications is needed to restore electricity in Barbuda. Medium-to-long term recovery needs identified so far include building materials for reconstruction, equipment to clean the island, supplies for schools and hospitals, health kits, dignity kits and seeds and other agricultural goods.

St Barthélemy and St Martin/Sint Maarten

Total pop. 87,020: exposed pop. 87,020; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

St. Martin, still reeling from the full force of Irma was spared by Hurricane Jose. Hundreds of soldiers and police have reportedly been deployed by the French Government to restore order in St. Martin where at least nine people have died. The island's jail was also reportedly destroyed and its 250 inmates remained at large and there have been reports of widespread looting. There are security concerns around health care facilities and medical stocks.

Enormous need for water and food has been reported in the islands of St. Martin and St. Barthélemy in the media which have been 80 to 90 percent destroyed.

St. Kitts and Nevis

Total pop. 47,897; exposed pop. 47,897; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

Some air traffic has been restored. There are reported damages to health care facilities and health needs assessments are underway. Water and sanitation kits have been identified as key relief items that will be needed to address the effects of Irma on the islands. Some emergency funding has been made available to St Kitts and Nevis. Local weather reports cite very little wind from Hurricane Jose on Nevis.

British Virgin Islands

Total pop. 27,248; exposed pop. 27,248; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

Communications has been restored between the British Virgin Islands and CDEMA. Authorities have declared a state of emergency and report significant damage to water supply infrastructure. Water and food supplies are currently limited. Immediate needs identified include emergency relief supplies, water, tarpaulin, canned foods, plywood and sanitary packs. Authorities in the islands have requested emergency utilities personnel to restore connections on the islands. Four people have been reported as killed and the National Emergency Operations Centre has been destroyed.

United States Virgin Islands

Total pop. 93,173; exposed pop. 93,173; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

Four people are confirmed to have died in the US Virgin Islands, and authorities in the United States are expecting the toll to rise. Authorities in the United States have declared a state of emergency. Preliminary media reports cite extensive damage to homes and buildings, as well as destroyed schools. Many roads remain inaccessible.

Puerto Rico

Total pop. 3,651,232; exposed pop. 3,651,232; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

Air traffic has resumed, with some airports only allowing relief flights for coordination. Some airports remain closed. Media reports cite that several thousand people remain in emergency shelters and that rescue teams are still searching for missing people.

Dominican Republic

Total pop. 10,470,773; exposed pop. 10,454,596; 99.85% population exposure to high wind zones

Airports in the Dominican Republic have resumed normal operations. Thousands of people were displaced in the affected areas. Although health services were spared major damage, some health specialists have been mobilized to affected communities to address disease control, sanitation and hygiene needs. There is damage to water infrastructure that affects 11 per cent of the country's population, according to the national water authorities. Food security assessments are underway and protection measures for vulnerable people in affected communities are being taken. Livelihoods in affected communities are anticipated to be an area of need when recovery efforts begin. Several organizations are making funds available to support relief in the affected areas of the Dominican Republic.

Haiti

Total pop. 10,596,666; exposed pop. 9,830,946; 92.77% population exposure to high wind zones

Initial reports from organizations say that Haiti as a whole has been spared the worst, but that there are still concerns in the northern regions. Several organizations have pre-positioned resources and personnel available and on standby, and in some cases already deployed, to carry out assessments and address a range of needs including health and damage to healthcare facilities, water, sanitation and hygiene, damage to agricultural fields and livestock, livelihoods, food security, shelter and education. Many organizations are in active contact with the Government. Funding from various organizations has been released in anticipation of the needs in the affected people in the north.

Bahamas

Total pop. 343,735; exposed pop. 20,015; 5.82% population exposure to high wind zones

CDEMA has stated that aerial reconnaissance for the southern islands is required to ascertain the functionality of airstrips for delivery of aid. Supplies of food, water, and tarpaulin will be provided to the islands based on the needs identified by the reconnaissance. All airports remain closed. The full extent of the damage remains unclear. Funding has already been made available to the Bahamas to address what are anticipated to be serious concerns in the southern islands.

Turks and Caicos

Total pop. 45,020; exposed pop. 45,020; 100% population exposure to high wind zones

CDEMA has reported that Irma has damaged 70 per cent of the households on South Caicos, 70 per cent of the households on Providenciales, 50 per cent of the households on Grand Turk Island. Assessment teams are working to mobilize to arrive in Turks and Caicos and begin assessments. The people of Turks and Caicos are badly in need of emergency relief supplies.

Cuba

Total pop. 11,266,280; exposed pop. 6,834,579; 60.66% population exposure to high wind zones

Irma made landfall in Cuba as a category 5 hurricane but weakened to a category 3 hurricane as it moved along the northern Cuban coast on 9 September, according to the US Government's National Hurricane Center. With wind gusts of more than 200 km/hr, Irma has reportedly caused widespread flooding in northern Cuba including Havana, home to 2.1 million people where roofs have been ripped off buildings and caused power outages.

Reports of massive destruction to major crops such as sugarcane and plantain and poultry farms have come in. An FAO expert is ready to be deployed to Cuba for assessments. Other UN agencies such as UNICEF are moving ahead to provide support such as access to clean water. Concerns have also been raised about possible waterborne disease outbreaks as flooding is likely to persist for 36 hours at least.

Cuba's meteorological agency, Instituto de Meteorología de Cuba, reported on 10 September morning that as Irma continues to drift away from Cuba, its effects will persist over the western and central regions. Waves up to nine meters high and sea surges in the whole coastline are expected through 10 September. In the morning, the coastal municipalities of Villa Clara and Sancti Spiritus, the closest to the center of the hurricane, experienced 90 km per hour winds and gusts up to 150km per hour, accompanied by heavy rains. Sancti Spiritus recorded almost 13 inches of rain. Most of the coastal municipalities in these provinces are without electricity. Flooding has also begun in the coastal areas of the western provinces of Matanzas, Mayabeque and La Habana, where over six-metre-high waves are expected.

Reports of damage throughout the country are coming in as Irma left Cuba late on 9 September.

In Cuba, the UN Country Team (UNCT) is working on a proposal to use funds from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

[Population and exposure estimates from UNOSAT. Estimates from International Federation of the Red Cross available at <https://goo.gl/mkF83A>]

Humanitarian Response

CDEMA has developed operational scenarios and plans with affected participating Member States and development partners from eastern Caribbean.

The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) continues to provide daily briefings on weather systems and impact analysis.

CDEMA Regional Security System (RSS) headquarters has issued an initial warning order to Member States to have 15 people per defence force on 24 hours notice to deploy to Antigua to conduct disaster relief operations. Two c26 aircraft remain on standby for CDEMA to provide reconnaissance troop deployment and logistical support.

The Barbados Defence and St Kitts and Nevis Defence Force have received request to have one standby offshore patrol vessel for each deployment after the passage of Hurricane Jose.

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) has a Civil Protection Team on standby and has humanitarian experts deployed in Haiti and the Dominican Republic standing by for Cuba and eastern Caribbean islands, possibly to be deployed on 11 September.

The National Emergency Operations Centers (COE) in affected countries are active. The centres are providing relief to the affected and information to partners on a regular basis, when permitted by weather conditions and telecommunications infrastructure conditions.



Logistics and Telecommunications

Damages and Needs:

- Anguilla: There are no air traffic services. Some small aircraft flights have arrived bringing aid relief. The airport's runway is in good condition apart from some gouges. A backup generator has blown away. There are no fire services in the airport. The fences around the airport have been blown away; and there are no runway lights.
- Antigua and Barbuda: DHL has reported that airport capacity in handling the cargo supply is limited at the moment.
- British Virgin Islands: the airport is now re-opened
- Bahamas: all airports are closed
- Cuba: Holguin, Santiago, Camagüey and Cayo Cocos airports closed until further notice. The airports in Havana and Varadero will remain open unless forced to close due to winds.
- Dominican Republic: Airports have resumed normal operations.
- St. Barthelemy and St Martin/St Maarten: major damages to airports.
- Puerto Rico: San Juan Airport is open.
- St Kitts and Nevis: Robert L. Bradshaw Airport on St Kitts was expected to open on 8 September by midday. No updates received since. The Newcastle airport in Nevis is open.
- Turks and Caicos Islands airports: Status unknown

Response:

- Humanitarian regional partners have supplies available and pre-positioned in UNHRD in Panama. Their current inventory is available at www.unhcr.org and is being updated real-time.
- UNHRD informs that the best way to send supplies is by air. The depot is prepared to respond and estimates that it will take 24-48 hours to prepare a charter flight.
- The UN Resident Coordinator of Barbados has requested WFP air support for United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams to carry out assessments in the eastern Caribbean. Specifically, Barbuda has requested two assessment flights.
- WFP has dispatched a part of the contingency stock from Port-au-Prince (PAP) to its warehouses in Cap Haitian and Gonaives. With this stock strategically positioned, WFP will be able to distribute emergency food assistance to 40,000 people in Cap Haitian and to 40,000 people in Gonaives if needed.
- WFP has 6,000mt of storage capacity in Cap Haitian and an additional 6,000mt storage capacity in Gonaives, on top of 15,000mt in Port-au-Prince and 2,500mt in Jeremie. In addition, WFP is working to expand its warehouse capacity in Cap Haitian and to have a helicopter landing pad.
- WFP has 26 trucks in Haiti (14 in PAP, eight in Gonaives and four in Cap Haitian), and standby agreements with external contractors to augment transport capacities if needed.
- UNHRD has received a request from the Government of Panama to charter a flight to Antigua to be made available to regional partners in Panama for delivering relief goods. The size and capacity of the plane has yet to be determined and is subject to available sourcing.
- UNHRD is in contact with the AYSS Superyacht Global Network to potentially mobilize private boats that are in Panama to ship UNHRD aid supplies to areas impacted by the hurricane. The first boat is due to arrive in Panama on 12 or 13 September and depart on 19 or 20 September to affected locations. The locations have not yet been determined. An assessment is being conducted as to where vessels can safely deliver aid, given the widespread damage and destruction to berth infrastructure.
- UN Women in Barbados has made contact with a freight vessel in St. Lucia that has room for humanitarian cargo from partners to deliver to affected islands and are coordinating its availability with CDEMA.
- The Universal Postal Union has a vessel scheduled to travel from St. Lucia to Tortola in the British Virgin Islands. The vessel is still in St. Lucia and is equipped to carry supplies from UN agencies.
- IFRC has activated an agreement with Airbus to make a helicopter available for assessments in Antigua and Barbuda
- DHL, the global logistics company, is sending personnel from Panama to Barbados on 11 September to assist with the storage of goods in Barbados until they are ferried or flown to other islands. They are currently working on procuring a 3,000 square meter warehouse in Barbados.
- WFP's Emergency Telecommunications Cluster is in discussions with CDEMA to explore potential IT and telecommunication support in Barbuda and Anguilla where 90 per cent of utilities were destroyed and 90 per cent of roads are inaccessible.
- CDEMA has requested WFP support in providing 10 telecommunications specialists to Antigua and Barbuda. WFP partners from Dubai, Norway and Sweden are on standby.

- WFP and other UN organizations in Cuba are potentially disabling their communications equipment for the next 24-48 hours due to weather conditions. WFP in Panama is in limited contact with Havana and is carefully monitoring their communications status.
- WFP VSAT engineers in New York are on standby and prepared to arrive in Havana either 10 September or 11 September if needed.
- UNICEF is sending a flight with humanitarian relief supplies to Cuba, scheduled to arrive on 11 September.

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Damages and Needs:

- PAHO has reported damage to health care facilities on Anguilla, St. Barthelemy, St. Martin/Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis. Health care facilities and ambulances in Barbuda have been destroyed.
- PAHO has reported that health care facilities in St. Martin/St. Maarten and the British Virgin Islands have security concerns and that the medical stock has been affected.
- PAHO is anticipating a strong need for psychosocial support in the coming weeks, given the magnitude of the trauma and the limited capacity in responding.
- PAHO is anticipating water quality and vector control to be key concerns in recovery to combat vector-borne diseases.
- The Dominican Republic has not suffered any major damage to health services.
- The St. Thomas Hospital in Haiti suffered structural damage and is undergoing repairs.
- The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross cites health concerns in Barbuda including the spread of disease that could follow flooding, i.e. mosquitoes, contamination from dead animals.
- Early reports out of Turks and Caicos cite serious damage to health facilities.

Response:

- In the eastern Caribbean, PAHO has activated Standard Emergency Procedures together with a Regional Emergency Response Team. Funds have been made available for the immediate response through deployments, coordination, assessments and logistics.
- PAHO staff based in St. Kitts and Nevis, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda are performing need assessments.
- PAHO has deployed two experts to Antigua and Barbuda. Preliminary assessment of hospital/health center in Barbuda carried out on 8 September.
- PAHO has deployed staff to Turks and Caicos Islands and are currently carrying out needs assessments for health sector.
- In Haiti, PAHO is working in coordination with the Government administration of the affected areas and has mobilized five teams to support response, as needed.
- PAHO has planned a deployment of experts to the British Virgin Islands on 10 September including a logistician, electrical engineer, assessments and WASH. A CDEMA Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT) has also been deployed.
- PAHO personnel deployed from Barbados on 7 September for St Martin (two people), Anguilla (two people) are still en route in light of transportation challenges related with the damaged airports in these countries.
- In Cuba, the PAHO/Cuba Working Group on Disasters is organizing response strategies and ensuring communications with the Regional Emergency Operations Center to coordinate a comprehensive response in all affected countries.
- UNICEF stated that as an integral part of emergency programming for children's safety, trained facilitators are in place in every country to provide psychosocial support for the most affected/impacted children and adolescents, between age 6 to 14, through the "Return to Happiness" programme.
- UNFPA in Haiti are working closely with departmental authorities to start the distribution of 500 pre-positioned hygiene kits to communities in the north, north-east and north-west of Haiti that have been affected by Hurricane Irma. CDS will start mobile medical clinics in Ouanaminthe on 10 September, prioritising displaced pregnant women. More hygiene kits will arrive for distribution next week.
- In the Dominican Republic, specialized health teams from the National Society of Red Cross, Epidemic Control for Volunteers and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion are being mobilized to the affected areas.

- IFRC has set its health response roster on standby. The roster is composed of IFRC regional staff located in different countries, including staff from the Zika Caribbean project.
- Save The Children has an emergency health unit in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic who are en route to affected areas to carry out evaluations and deliver primary care.

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Water, sanitation and hygiene

Damages and Needs:

- The impact of Hurricane Irma has significantly damaged WASH infrastructure in Barbuda, significantly contributing to the decision for mandatory evacuation ahead of Hurricane Jose.
- UNICEF reports that a minimum of 5,000 litres of safe drinking water is required to be provided to persons in shelters in Antigua, with additional quantities for general sanitation and hygiene.
- In the Dominican Republic, the National Water Institute (INAPA) states that 30 aqueducts were affected, directly affecting the drinking water service for 1,236,860 people, or about 12 per cent of the country's population.
- There is concern that the contamination and salinization of clean water supplies on affected islands will present major health needs.

Response:

- ADRA International has a stock of family and community water filters in Port au Prince, Haiti, as well as hygiene kits.
- A UNICEF WASH travelled to Barbuda with disaster officials to conduct an initial assessment of the damage as well as met with evacuees in Antigua in the shelters.
- UNICEF's pre-positioned emergency supplies in Barbados and Antigua are being distributed in coordination with national authorities in the most affected communities. The first response supplies include tents, water purification tablets and hygiene kits for displaced families.
- UNICEF has produced radio advertisements on health and hygiene; breastfeeding and child protection in emergencies which has been distributed to local radio stations. More than 3,000 fliers have been produced on handwashing; child protection and these will be distributed by UNICEF teams being deployed to the affected countries.
- DFID/UK will be procuring and shipping UNICEF Hygiene Kits from stocks in Gibraltar to the affected UK Overseas Territories.
- In Haiti, UNICEF has deployed a large team in northern Haiti, comprised mostly of staff that had worked during Hurricane Matthew.
- United Nations Volunteers are in contact with PAHO to procure WATSAN specialists for deployment.
- UN Environment has received a request for a water distribution specialist, which has been channeled to UNICEF.
- In Cuba, UNICEF is coordinating the purchase of 3 million chlorine tablets to support water purification efforts.
- An IOM camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) specialist from Geneva will arrive in Antigua via Barbados on 10 September to support shelter WASH activities.
- IFRC is working to procure WASH kits for Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis.

Contact person at UNICEF in Panama: **Douglas Reimer** (dreimer@unicef.org)



Food security

Damages and Needs:

- Initial reports from Haiti highlight that there is significant damage to agricultural fields, livestock and banana plantations in the affected areas.

- In the Camagüey province of Cuba, severe impact on the agricultural sector have been recorded, especially damage to major crops and plantations, destruction of several poultry farms and other productive units. In the Holguín province, the most affected areas are Antilla, Banés, Gibara and Rafael Freyre, where damage to sugarcane and plantain crops have been reported.

Response:

- FAO has received an initial request from CDEMA for assistance in rapid needs assessments in the agriculture and fisheries sectors in countries impacted by Irma. Two experts are ready to be mobilized for the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) upon confirmation of details of the request from CDEMA.
- In Haiti, the FAO Representative and its staff are in the north-east as part of the team for a quick impact evaluation. A FAO expert from the headquarters in Rome is ready to be deployed to Haiti to assist with rapid needs assessment, in coordination with the UN Country Team and the Ministry of Agriculture
- Dominican Republic FAO staff are in the field conducting a rapid damage evaluation with the Ministry of Agriculture.
- An FAO expert is available and ready to be deployed to Cuba and/or Dominican Republic, depending on confirmation of impacts, needs and requests of respective Governments.
- FAO is in contact with the Ministries of Agriculture of impacted countries in order to determine whether there are any specific requests.
- WFP has a contingency food stock of 3,300 mt pre-positioned in Haiti to rapidly cover the needs of up to 150,000 people and is ready to distribute supplies shortly.
- A WFP sourced Boeing 747 arrived in Haiti on 8 September from the UNHRD containing 64 mt of high energy biscuits (HEBs). This will allow WFP to reach 80,000 persons for four days and work is under-way to dispatch them to the north. WFP monitors are in the field and assessing the situation in remote areas.
- WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment from Haiti is expected on 10 September.
- Discussions are ongoing with WFP's financial service provider, DIGICEL, to be able to rapidly implement Cash-Based Transfers operations if needed.
- WFP is working closely with IOM to address food security for shelters in Gonaïve and Cap-Haïtien.
- To support the Cuban Government's response, WFP confirmed the availability of a contingency food stock of 1,600 mt, pre-positioned in Havana, Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba to cover the food needs of at least 275,000 people for one month.
- WFP has five Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in Cuba that could be re-directed to support the Irma response.

Contact person at FAO in Panama: Marco Minelli (Marco.Minelli@fao.org) and at WFP in Panama: Sofianne Essayem (sofianne.essayem@wfp.org)



Damages and Needs:

- UNICEF estimates that there are approximately 100 unaccompanied minors from Barbuda who have been evacuated to Antigua.

Response:

- Two UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Area specialists are poised to deploy to TCI via Kingston, Jamaica which is the sub-regional staging point for assistance to Turks and Caicos Islands and the Bahamas. Two more are awaiting deployment to Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands as soon as air transport is available. Deployment of relief teams are hampered by inoperable airports and rough seas, especially with the impending arrival of Hurricane Jose.
- UNICEF has disseminated integrated key preparedness messages mainly through radio partnerships, the U-Report Global tool and via Facebook Messenger, Viber and other social media channels. Communication materials have been pre-positioned on child protection and youth volunteers have been mobilized and are prepared for engaging with communities at risk in the Dominican Republic.
- Trained facilitators from non-affected countries are being mobilized to complement local teams to provide psychosocial support for the most affected/impacted children and adolescents, ages 6 through 14 years, through the "Return to Happiness" programme.
- UN Women has surge personnel arriving to Barbados from New York at some point in the coming week (11 September to 15 September) to deploy to affected islands as needed.

- UN Women remains in coordination with the regional office and are actively working to raise awareness of protection issues via social media.
- At the request of the Directorate of Gender Affairs of Antigua and Barbuda, UN Women in Barbados is working the regional office in Panama to issue funds for dignity kits with UNFPA.
- UN Women is working to bring in a specialist from UN Women Ecuador with experience in GBV protection in shelter to provide training and consultation to police officer, to be deployed into affected Eastern Caribbean countries via Barbados.
- UNFPA is mobilizing personnel from other offices in the region to provide support in affected areas.
- UNFPA has freed funds to purchase more dignity kits, in addition to the 900 they have in stock.
- UNFPA is working to increase capacity at their Cuba office and procure pregnancy kits. In the Dominican Republic, UNFPA is looking at the possibility of releasing emergency funding from New York.
- WFP assessments in Haiti are incorporating gender based points of inquiry.
- Plan International in the Dominican Republic and Haiti are reviewing childhood and gender-based violence protection contingencies.
- An IOM specialist in camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) and gender-based violence (GBV) is being mobilized to Anguilla via Barbados and is due to arrive on 13 September. IOM is also sending personnel to Barbados on 10 September to deploy to Antigua.
- Save the Children in Panama is in contact with Save the Children in the Netherlands about a possible response in St. Maarten.

Contact person at UN Women in Panama: Alma Perez (alma.perez@unwomen.org) and at UNFPA in Panama: Jayne Adams (adams@unfpa.org)



Temporary Shelters and Non Food Items

Damages and Needs:

- In Haiti, more than 10,000 people are in temporary shelters in the north.
- In the Dominican Republic, there 24,000 displaced people, with half of them in shelters.
- UNICEF has reported that there are 17,000 people in immediate need of shelter across Anguilla, Barbuda, British Virgin Islands and the Turks & Caicos Islands.
- The Ministry of Health in Antigua and Barbuda has indicated a potential outbreak of conjunctivitis (red eye) in a shelter located in the stadium.

Response:

- An IOM specialist in CCCM and gender-based violence (GBV) is being mobilized to Anguilla via Barbados and is due to arrive on 13 September, and another shelter specialist is being sent to Panama to help with regional operations.
- For shelters, UNICEF will provide other supplies such as tarpaulins, blankets and potable water containers to be shipped from the Panama regional and global Supply Division stocks.
- IFRC has mobilized personnel to Antigua to support Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross shelter activities.

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Education

Damages and Needs:

- Hurricane Irma has hit right at the start of the school year and is affecting school facilities.
- Schools will be delayed for 19,000 children in Anguilla, Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, and Turks and Caicos.

Response:

- UNICEF in the eastern Caribbean is looking at multi-sectoral assessments.
- Save the Children is preparing to coordinate a response in St. Martin/St. Maarten with UNICEF. In Haiti, French-speaking support is being mobilized by request as the agencies are anticipating education needs in

northern Haiti. In the Dominican Republic, a specialist is being deployed to support early childhood related activities.

Contact person at UNICEF in Panama: Douglas Reimer (dreimer@unicef.org)

Early Recovery

Damages and Needs:

- Livelihoods, housing and infrastructure in Anguilla, Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, St. Martin/St. Maartin, the US Virgin Islands, and Turks and Caicos are severely affected.
- In the Dominican Republic and Haiti, the hurricane affected the livelihoods in communities exposed to the storm's path, directly affecting women, men and children, as well as income-generating activities such as agriculture, fisheries and small and medium enterprises.
- The complete extent of the damage to the Bahamas, Cuba, Puerto Rico and Turks and Caicos is unclear.
- The worst of Jose is expected to pass on 10 September in the evening; islands in its path that have been affected by Irma will be delayed in their recovery efforts as a result. The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross did a rapid assessment of needs in Barbuda after Irma, but is waiting until Jose passes to do a more thorough assessment of the situation.

Response:

- CDEMA has requested support from UN Environment for two disaster waste management specialists.
- UNDP has deployed crisis response experts in Cuba, as well as an expert in both Haiti and in Jamaica for strategy.
- UNDP Barbados office has received request from CDEMA for needs assessments in Antigua and Barbuda.
- UNDP in Jamaica has reached out eastern Caribbean governments to see what help is required.
- In Cuba, UNDP has activated its emergency response mechanism. Two UNDP experts will travel to the country on 11 September to support the UNDP Office in their response. The Housing and Early Recovery Sector, led by UNDP with the support of IOM, UN Habitat and UNESCO, continues preparing information on products needed for response, including: roofing, mattresses, kitchen kits, sheets and tools. These actions will be coordinated with those of the United Nations agencies that work in the water and sanitation, food security and health sectors.
- UN Environment has teams on standby in the Dominican Republic and Haiti that are currently working to update information.
- World Vision, Oxfam, J/P Haitian Relief Organization, UNDP, Foundation Mission pour l'Espoir, Concern Worldwide, the consortium (Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Lutheran World Federation, Norwegian Church Aid) World Renew, Premiere Urgence, ASA, CRS, PUI, CRF and Heifer International Haiti have staff and/or pre-positioned stocks and are ready to support the response in the affected areas through activities such as cash-for-work, distribution of materials for debris removal, upon local authorities' request.

Contact person at UNDP in New York: Ugo Blanco (ugo.blanco@undp.org)

Funding

The UN resource mobilization strategy, at present, will be carried out through a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) that will focus on supporting CDEMA, national governments, and vulnerable populations. The objective of the HRP is to mobilize funding to technical teams that are being deployed, needs analyses, technical support and supplies. The HRP will address funding for areas of intervention rather than funding for individual projects in order to support the governments of the affected countries.

Several organizations have already activated emergency funding mechanisms and agreements or are actively pursuing the release of emergency funding.

The Spanish Agency for International Development and Cooperation (AECID) has a funding agreement between OXFAM, Spanish Red Cross and Action against Hunger that would immediately release another funding round of EUR 1 million (\$1,203,535), but no contact has been made.

IFRC is awaiting information from Cuba and approval from the Cuban Government to launch an appeal.

UN Women will release funds for dignity kits in Barbuda and the rest of the affected islands in the Caribbean.

Funding information as of 10 September:

Organizations	Amount	Countries
AECID (in support of IFRC funding)	EUR 30,000 (\$36,106)	Dominican Republic
AECID (in support of IFRC funding)	EUR 30,000 (\$36,106)	Haiti
AECID (in support of IFRC funding)	EUR 10,000 (\$12,035)	Antigua and Barbuda
AECID (in support of IFRC funding)	EUR 10,000 (\$12,035)	St. Kitts and Nevis
IFRC	CHF 1,128,171 (\$1194843)	Antigua and Barbuda St Kitts and Nevis
IFRC	CHF 298,588 (\$316,233)	Dominican Republic
IFRC	CHF 298,588 (\$316,233)	Haiti
UNICEF Barbados	US\$700,000	Eastern Caribbean
UNDP	US\$50,000	Haiti
UNDP	US\$25,000	Antigua and Barbuda
UNDP	US\$25,000	St. Martin/St. Maarten
UNDP	US\$100,000	Cuba
IOM	US\$100,000	Anguilla St. Martin/St. Maarten Barbados (Regional Office)
Save the Children	US\$50,000	Haiti
Save the Children	US\$100,000	Dominican Republic
UNFPA	US\$100,000	Cuba
UNFPA	US\$30,000	Jamaica (Regional Office)
DFID/UK	GBP32,000,000 (\$42,247,840)	Eastern Caribbean
The Caribbean Development Bank	US\$200,000	Anguilla Antigua and Barbuda The Bahamas Turks and Caicos

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>

General Coordination

The UNDAC team in Antigua has been split in two to join a CDEMA/UN/DFID team to undertake assessments in each country.

The British Virgin Islands team comprises Martin Sjolholm (UNDAC), Knut Kjorkleiv (IHP) and Alan Mills (MapAction), who have departed with RAF this afternoon for the islands with the CDEMA/RNAT team, including Fergus Thomas (DFID).

The Anguilla team comprises Silva Lauffer (UNDAC), Frode Tangen (IHP) and Kirsty Ferris (MapAction). They have taken a charter paid by DFID to Anguilla with the CDEMA/UN team and DFID.

Peter Muller, head of the UNDAC team is in the Antigua working directly with CDEMA and the Government to help coordinate incoming UN assistance.

UNDAC Information Management in Barbados is presently working on a 3W.

The UNDAC team in Jamaica are on standby and awaiting confirmation of mobilization to Turks and Caicos to begin assisting in urgently needed assessments.

OCHA continues to work with CDEMA and partners to analyse needs assessments as they come in from affected areas. OCHA and partners are presently coordinating inputs for the HRP.

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>

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, US Virgin Islands, St Barthélemy, St. Martin and other islands in the eastern Caribbean Sea. Since then, thousands of people have been evacuated from at-risk areas and different level of impact reported from the affected areas.

For further information, please contact:

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To find updated information online please visit: www.reliefweb.int and <http://www.redhum.org>

To provide inputs to this report, please send information to: hurricaneirma@undac.org and ocha-rolac@un.org

To be added or deleted from this Sit Rep mailing list, please e-mail: ocha-rolac@un.org