



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

Highlights

- Tropical Storm Nate formed on 5 October, travelling north along the Caribbean coastline of Central America towards the US Gulf Coast causing flooding and evacuations and affecting hundreds of homes.
- United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres will travel to Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica on 7 October to survey the damage and to assess what more the United Nations can do to help.
- Education needs assessments in Dominica cite 18,500 school-aged children are out of school and 57 Government primary and secondary schools were damaged or destroyed.
- As regional emergency response activities are scaling down, the logistics hub in Turks and Caicos and logistics support to Sint Maarten have now been phased out and teams are being extracted.



Contemplating the damage in Dominica / Source: OCHA

2,905

people who remain sheltered in Dominica across 93 shelter centres.

Source: CDEMA

1,070

children from Dominica and Barbuda estimated to be integrated in schools in Antigua

Source: UNICEF

38

Confirmed deaths in Irma and Maria-affected countries

Source: UNICEF

28

deaths reported from countries affected by Tropical Storm Nate

Source: National Civil Protection in Costa Rica Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

Situation Overview

Humanitarian aid in the Caribbean continues to cover a range of response and recovery activities. While early recovery is the focus of humanitarian actors on islands affected by Hurricane Irma, restoration of basic services and provision of life-saving assistance is ongoing in Dominica now that internal access roads are being cleared of the debris left behind by Hurricane Maria.

In Dominica, most military assets from other countries who provided critical relief and support immediately after Maria have left the island. Humanitarian partners are working closely with the Government of Dominica and partners to restore services and access to the remainder of the island.

While there is still a need for emergency supplies such as food, water, tarpaulins and building material, markets are slowly reopening and as of 3 October, banks and businesses started reopening in the capital Roseau. Water distribution has been restored in much of Roseau, as has electricity in Roseau and Portsmouth and in the main hospitals. The restoration and repair of public buildings and businesses remains a priority. Access to isolated parts of Dominica is gradually being restored as roads are being cleared of debris.

While assessments in some sectors are still underway, initial reports cite important needs that must be addressed as Dominica eyes a transition to recovery. According to UNICEF, 18,500 school-aged children are out of school.

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

www.unocha.org

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

Some 57 Government primary and secondary schools were damaged or destroyed. Thirteen schools with only minor damage are currently being used as shelters. Debris collection is ongoing in Dominica, but separation of waste is needed to facilitate recycling and management.

Although markets are resettling, limited food availability and logistics constraints have put the most vulnerable at risk of food insecurity and will likely impact the availability and cost of non-subsidized food commodities in local markets. Even in the main urban areas, the impact of the hurricane has reduced the population's ability to access food due to the economic impact and loss of livelihoods because of the crisis.

Normalcy is gradually returning on islands affected by Irma as national authorities and the humanitarian community transition to recovery activities.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has lifted the mandatory evacuation order of Barbuda, paving the way for people to return to Barbuda. In Sint Maarten, only one evacuation centre remains open and as of 1 October it is in the process of being closed. Primary schools in Anguilla have been repaired and cleaned to sufficient safety standards to allow students to return to regular programming as of 4 October. Cuban authorities have restored power to almost all (99.61 per cent) the residents of Villa Clara, one of the provinces most affected by Irma.

In light of the scaling down of international humanitarian operations, the logistics hub in Turks and Caicos and logistics support to Sint Maarten have now been phased-out and logistics teams sent back to base, or re-deployed to other hurricane-affected countries.

Although Irma-affected islands are on track to recovery, many islands have identified an increase in mosquitos, which follows the seasonal increase seen in arboviruses in the region. Vector control supplies and campaigns have been identified as urgently needed.

In the south-western Caribbean, Tropical Storm Nate formed on the morning of 5 October, travelling north along the coastline of Central America as it makes its way to the US Gulf Coast, where it is expected to make landfall as a hurricane by 7 October.

Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama have all reported incidents of flooding and high winds, fatalities, people evacuated, and hundreds of affected homes. Thus far, the national civil protection systems have been responding with local response capacities.

Funding

A US\$31.1 million Flash Appeal for Dominica was launched on 29 September. US\$3 million has been allocated from the CERF in support of the Flash Appeal. If properly funded, the three-month Flash Appeal will provide some 65,000 people with life-saving assistance, and enable the restoration of basic services and livelihoods across the country. The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility segregated portfolio company (CCRIF SPC), a multi-country risk pool, announced it will pay US\$19.2 million to Dominica.

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

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) has launched an emergency appeal for CHF1,600,000 (US\$1,655,629) to support the Dominica Red Cross Society in delivering assistance to some 5,000 people for a year. In the short-term, this response will focus on health, WASH, shelter and cash transfer programming while providing for disaster risk reduction activities over a longer term.

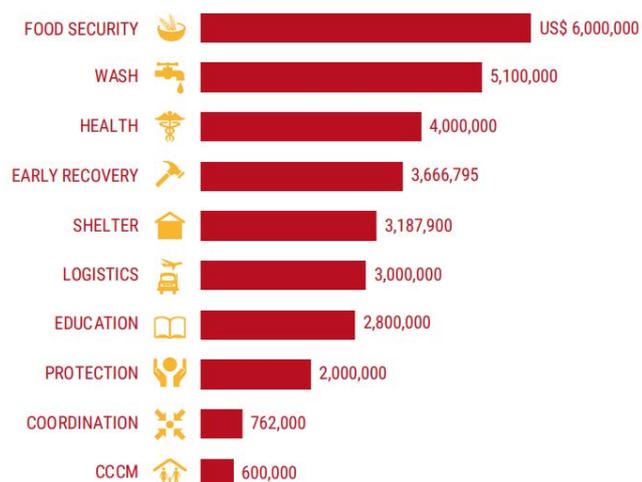
A Plan of Action for Cuba for US\$55.8 million was issued on 19 September to assist more than 2 million people in the 33 most affected municipalities. To date, the Plan of Action has been 23 per cent funded, with contributions from the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, UK Aid/DFID, 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](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/CUB_ActionPlan_ENG_20170918%20(2).pdf)

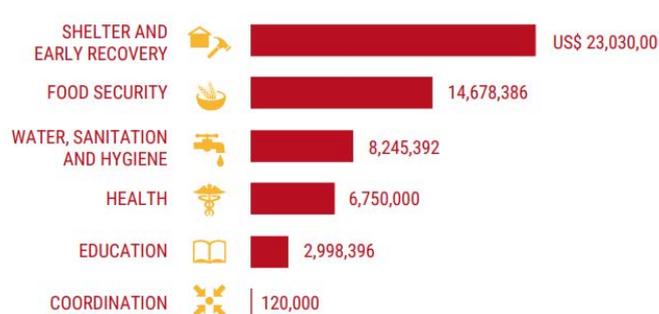
To address the effects of Irma, a \$27 million Regional Response Plan was launched on 15 September to cover the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations. It was developed with the support of national and regional disaster management entities. The Regional Response Plan is due for revision at the four weeks' mark from launch on 15 September, which would be 13 October. The CCRIF SPC, a multi-country risk pool has paid some \$6.7 million to Antigua and Barbuda. The Regional Response Plan can be found at: http://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/Hurricane_Irma_Regional_Response_Plan.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).

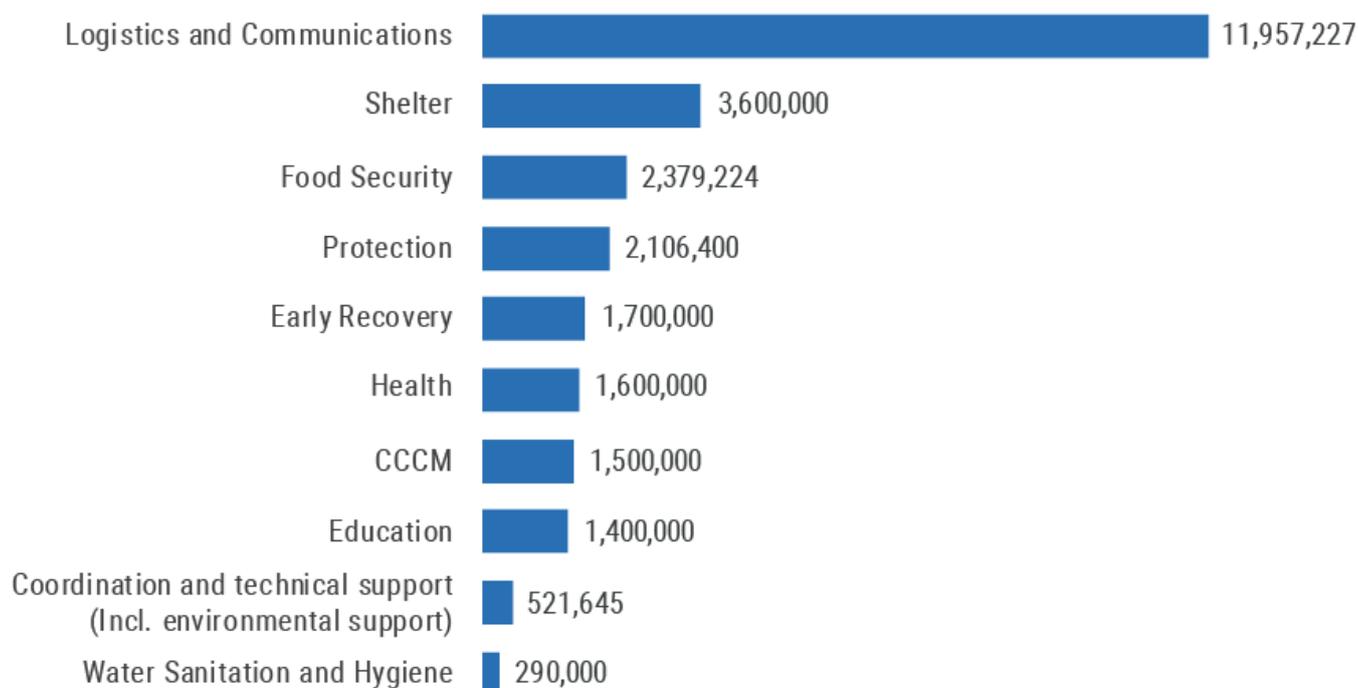
Funding required by sector (US\$): Dominica Flash Appeal



Funding required by sector (US\$): Cuba Plan of Action



Funding required by sector (US\$) - Regional Response Plan



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

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian Response

The humanitarian community is engaged in a wide range of activities across the Caribbean, tending to early recovery in Irma-affected islands that are beginning to resume normal activities, as well as supporting the Government of Dominica and CDEMA as assessment teams and supplies continue to reach communities previously isolated by the destruction wrought by Maria.

In response to the damage suffered in the Caribbean in the last month, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will make a high-level visit Antigua and Barbuda on 7 October and Dominica on 8 October to survey the damage and meet with the Prime Minister of each country to assess what more the United Nations can do to help people recover from the devastation of Irma and Maria.

As of 6 October, there are some 27 UN staff in Dominica, including IOM, UNDP, OCHA/UNDAC, PAHO, UNICEF, and WFP, with more scheduled to arrive by 7-8 October. IFRC is presently supporting the Dominican Red Cross. International NGOs such as Samaritan's Purse, Shelter Box, Catholic Relief Services are also supporting the response.

The Dominican Government and CDEMA have been at the forefront in leading assistance efforts in Dominica, with CDEMA facilitating the regional response and coordination in collaboration with other CDEMA Participating States, regional and international agencies.

The CDEMA-led CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) continues to manage the logistics warehouse that issues relief supplies to the communities located in and around Roseau. CDEMA Technical Teams have conducted assessment of 320 homes in the communities of Sinker, Bataka, Concord and Monkey Hill and provided food supplies to 200 affected families.

Overall, CDEMA's coordinating unit has provided response teams for operational support, disaster relief, search and rescue, security and medical needs, placing some 360 response personnel in the region to address the effects of Irma and Maria. Through its Regional Response Mechanism (RRM), CDEMA worked with international partners in responding to the many crises brought on by both Category 5 storms in every sector.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- **Dominica:** Per CDEMA, 2,905 people are currently sheltered across 93 shelter centers on the island.

The Government of Dominica and IOM have gathered information from 78 of the 143 hurricane shelters there were designated prior to Maria's arrival. Many shelters are believed to have been damaged, prompting displaced people to shelter in unofficial centres and with host families. These unofficial centres are being identified as assessments progress. One such centre, St. Alphonsus Church, was identified housing 90 people.

- **Sint Maarten:** Only 219 persons had to flee to the evacuation centres during Irma. As of 1 October, only one evacuation centre remains open, mostly housing health patients, and is itself in the process of being closed.

Response:

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

- A digital map of previous and verified collective centres is available to download on mobile phones and tablets: any interested individuals are requested to contact Fernando Novoa (fnovoa@iom.int) for more information. A PDF map is available at <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/hurricane-irma-response/infographic/dominica-emergency-shelters-overview>
- The Displaced Tracking Matrix (DTM) rapid site verification is planned for 4 and 5 October and will aim to verify the status (open/closed) of all pre-existing collective centres, the number of displaced people and the name and contact number of the shelter manager. More in-depth assessments will follow this site verification phase.
- **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 prepositioned 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.

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Early Recovery

Needs:

- **Dominica:** Early recovery needs include the provision of immediate assistance to debris removal and waste management, waste separation for debris management, support in the immediate restoration of basic services and meeting the demand for safe roofing. A shelter housing plan must be developed to promote quick action towards recovery. Livelihood and emergency employment opportunities are also a priority. Debris collection is ongoing, but separation of waste is needed to facilitate recycling and management.

Per UNDP, weekend field trips with the shelter sector saw impacts on the West coast of Dominica and corroborated overwhelming impact to roofing. Some communities are getting on with clean up including separating out the corrugated iron sheets.

Response:

- **Dominica:** Priority areas for debris removal have been identified. Early recovery partners have begun coordinating, and experts have arrived to support assessments. UNDP and OCHA, along with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and ECHO are deploying environmental and waste management experts to support a Government-developed plan. The Government has trucks at its disposal for debris and waste removal. People are clearing debris from their homes and businesses and leaving it outside for pick-up by Government collectors. UNDP is evaluating pre-existing social protection programs as a potential resource for emergency employment activities.

A Senior UNDP officer has been deployed to serve as head of the Crises Management Unit based on the request from the Prime Minister, Mr. Roosevelt Skerit.

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Education

Needs:

- **Anguilla:** All primary schools on the island suffered some damage, but significant repairs and extensive cleaning has prompted the primary schools and preschools that serve 3-5 age group to open for regular programming from 4 October. The only secondary school on the island, The Albena Lake Hodge Comprehensive School, received major damage to one of its two campuses and some damage to the other. The schools reopened on 2 October using a shift system in the less damaged campus.

- Generators are being installed at each site to support access to electricity and running water. The ECD Centres (day care) which serves 0-2+ age group are under the responsibility of the Social Development Sector. The status of these ECD centres is now being assessed.
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** To date, 1,070 children from Dominica and Barbuda are estimated to be integrated into Antigua schools. While the shelters have basic food and clothing supplies, and children are attending school, trauma has been highlighted as a key problem. With the mandatory evacuation order lifted, some people have begun returning to Barbuda.
- **Dominica:** UNICEF education needs assessments are underway with partners. Some 18,500 school-aged children are out of school. Some 57 Government primary and secondary schools were damaged or destroyed. Thirteen schools with only minor damage are currently being used as shelters.
- **Turks and Caicos:** More than 20,000 undocumented Haitians are in TCI. Children of illegal Haitians do not receive TCI nationality and are not going to public schools mainly because of lack of physical space. UNICEF reiterated the importance of protecting all children's rights in TCI, regardless of nationality.

Response:

- **Anguilla:** Per UNICEF, generators are being installed at each primary school site to support access to electricity and running water. The ECD Centres (day care) which serves 0-2+ age group are under the responsibility of the Social Development Sector. The status of these ECD centres is now being assessed. To date, five Recreation Kits have been delivered for use in schools. The bulk of supplies for Anguilla are awaiting shipment.

UNICEF has also supported the Government in collaboration with the Pure Anguilla Foundation to undertake psychosocial recovery through the Return to Happiness programme supporting approximately 600 children aged 4-12 years. The programme will be fully implemented within the school's programme with an external team of trained facilitators arriving to support the process.

A UNICEF staff member has been deployed for a month to support Government initiatives in education and protection.

- **Antigua and Barbuda:** Barbudan children will be reached with psychosocial support through the schools they attend. These sessions will be facilitated by 10 external facilitators from St. Lucia that UNICEF has supported to ensure that those who work with children provide urgent psychosocial support. School in a Box and recreational kits were handed over. UNICEF is also working with the Ministry of Education to establish an additional class for early learners. Plans are underway to convert existing space to accommodate children (aged 3-5) from Barbuda.

Full roll out for the UNICEF-supported Return to Happiness (RTH) started on 3 October, through the Ministry of Education under a partnership agreement with Organisation of Eastern States Commission. On 4-5 October, all school counsellors from Antigua and Barbuda participated in a RTH training of trainers workshop for spotting children with psycho-social needs in school.

UNICEF also took part in drawing up plans for partners involved in Social Protection (cash transfers in emergencies) convened by the Ministry of Social Transformation to focus on using existing social protection schemes in Barbuda to provide food vouchers, utilities subsidies, school text books and uniforms.

- **British Virgin Islands:** UNICEF is targeting 3,300 with Return to Happiness Programmes and 1,200 with its education activity. Initial small group child protection activities have begun in improvised settings. Education needs assessment and agreements are underway.

UNICEF has trained 40 teachers to provide psycho-support to 1,800 children. A debriefing was organized for 22 teachers, two shelter leaders and the leaders of the Crisis Intervention Team of the Ministry of Health on 27 September. The methodology used was replicated by the Ministry of Education with in debriefings with 9 schools and 200 teachers. An agreement reached on basic organization of temporary learning and protection spaces which will provide a space while debris is removed and the schools are repaired. UNICEF has provided technical support to the Ministry of Education in relation to organization of school start up, teacher wellbeing and integration of RTH into curriculum.

- **Dominican Republic:** UNICEF will provide supplies and school kits to 2,152 children in 9 schools in Montecristi, if requested by the Ministry of Education.
- **Haiti:** Back-to-School activities in the North and North-East are ongoing in areas affected by both hurricanes, with cleaning of schools and the distribution of school materials and students' kits for 6,000 children in 18 schools.
- **Turks and Caicos:** A few schools will open on 2 October in Provo, with higher grade students only, as the Ministry of Education is waiting for the full health clearance to ensure children's safety. The schools have been cleaned, many with cash for work programmes, as several schools were affected or used as shelters. A shipment of 48 School in a Box kits and 96 Recreation kits arrived and will reach more than 8,600 children; 2,000 mosquito nets and tarpaulins are also being distributed. Additionally, 18 School in a Box kits and 46 Recreation kits were air-lifted by the British Army to Grand Turk and South Caicos for 1,920 children.

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Food Security

Needs:

- **Dominica:** Hurricane Maria decimated Dominica's agricultural sector, including fishery, directly affecting income and food and nutrition security of a large percentage of the island's population. Due to the scale of the damage, immediate food assistance is urgently needed until markets can resupply. The level of destruction has resulted in closure of supermarkets and shops. All of this has resulted in a significant portion of the population continuing to be without food, water, shelter, basic services and security.

The situation is expected to normalize in main cities in the coming weeks, however, limited food availability and logistics constraints have put the most vulnerable at risk of food insecurity and will likely impact the availability and cost of non-subsidized food commodities in local markets. Even in the main urban areas, the impact of the hurricane has reduced the population's ability to access food due to the economic impact and loss of livelihoods of the crisis.

Agricultural tools and infrastructure such as pruning shears, spades, forks, mattock, hoes, cutlasses and files, greenhouse, etc. have been reported lost, damage and or/destroyed. Livestock feed, antibiotics and other medicines for sick and/or injured animals are also required.

Response:

- The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission is working with FAO, the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and an agricultural consultant to establish seedling projects in Dominica and the other affected OECS member states to grow seedlings of fast growing food crops such as tomatoes, eggplant, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, spinach, lettuce, cabbage and kale. The project will engage unemployed youth or students studying Agriculture to help restore food sufficiency.
- WFP has finalized operations in Sint Maarten and the Turks & Caicos islands and transitioned support to the respective Governments.
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** FAO is remotely assisting the ongoing post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA), with impact analyses of the agricultural sector including crop, livestock and fishery sub-sectors. The assessment is due to end at the end of this week and results will most likely be made available by the 2 week of October.
- **Cuba:** Food deliveries will continue in the coming days to cover all 22 targeted municipalities in Camagüey, Ciego de Ávila, Matanzas, Sancti Spiritus and Villa Clara provinces. WFP is in the process of purchasing approximately 3,000 mt of food (rice, beans and vegetable oil).
- **Dominica:** CDEMA's coordinating unit has provided food supplies for 200 affected families.

WFP's Regional Director and the UN Resident Coordinator for Barbados visited Dominica on 27 September to

meet with the prime minister and witness first-hand the damage caused. WFP is working closely with the Government of Dominica to ensure food distribution to the affected population. The distribution of Government and WFP food has reached 33,900 people in about 50 locations. WFP's High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) were used to supplement Government food and distributed jointly with water and other food and non-food relief items. Due to inaccessible areas, the support of military actors in the region, mainly Dutch and Canadian navies was crucial in reaching the affected areas.

Additionally, given the scope of the emergency, WFP is exploring the need to set up a new emergency operation to provide assistance for an estimated 30,000 people for three months, primarily through cash based transfers once markets re-open. Any new operation would be closely coordinated with other partners planning food assistance (cash, vouchers and in-kind) as part of either the immediate response or early recovery.

WFP continues to support the immediate needs of the most vulnerable groups in response to the impacts of hurricanes Irma and Maria.

- **Haiti:** UNICEF is supporting food security assessments that are currently being implemented to measure the impact of the two hurricanes on crops production and livelihoods. Assessment results will allow identification of geographical areas at risk of food insecurity, feed into the upcoming country Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and inform nutrition programming in the coming weeks.
- **St Kitts and Nevis:** FAO is assisting the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to conduct an in-depth post-disaster needs assessments to identify priority areas of intervention to support the restoration of the agriculture sector in these countries. The Ministry of Agriculture is compiling the final reports of these assessments which will be shared with FAO in the coming days.

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Health

Needs:

- Logistical challenges remain with access inland in newly impacted islands by Hurricane Maria due to landslides, particularly in Dominica. Logistical challenges may also delay restoring access to needed water and electricity services. In places where water services are being restored, epidemiological surveillance need to be vigilant of water-borne diseases considering the lack of access to safe water for many communities.
- Many of the islands have identified an increase in mosquito vectors, which follows the seasonal increase seen in arboviruses in the region. Vector control supplies and campaigns have been identified as urgently needed.
- As the islands continue their relief efforts, there is a focus on psychosocial help for the affected population. Focus on repairing damaged health facilities in impacted islands remain crucial for managing emergency patients, quick diagnosis and treatment of diseases, and reestablish treatment of non-communicable diseases. Continued improvements in healthcare access including patient referrals and medical evacuations are needed.
- **British Virgin Islands:** Twelve health facilities have been assessed, of which six are operational. Five of the health facilities suffered major damage, and 7 had minor damage. 209 people remain in shelters. A heightened surveillance system is being implemented, and no outbreaks have been reported so far. The pharmacy confirmed that medicine supply surge is not necessary, and regular supply chain is partially re-established. The Peebles Hospital reported that medicine needs are met, and orders are being received through the regular supply chain. There is urgent need for mental health support.
- **Cuba:** Needed medicines have been identified by the Ministry of Health, including medicines, medical supplies and equipment. The oxygen regulators are also identified as needed. Vector disease prevention materials including insecticide-impregnated mosquito nets have been prioritized.

- **Sint Maarten:** Three out of 12 pharmacies suffered extensive damage. The dialysis is not available at the Sint Maarten Medical Center, although the center was repaired and currently operational. The distribution of safe water has improved in most parts of the island.
- **Turks and Caicos:** The health authorities and PAHO assessed 4 health facilities. Two of three health facilities in North and Middle Caicos are operational, and the damaged health facility needs repairs. One health center in Providenciales is not operational. Assessments of health centers in Grand Turk are ongoing. Vector control interventions continue. Shelters are being closed as people return to their homes or stay with friends or family.

Response:

- PAHO continue to assess the needs of impacted countries and territories, and deploy supplies and human resources as needs are identified by impacted islands. As new information emerges from the field, new deployments are being organized to continue PAHO support for health authorities in areas of coordination, damage assessment, epidemiological surveillance, logistics, information management, and water and sanitation.
- Heightened epidemiological surveillance has been established which monitors healthcare centers and shelters. Epidemiologists have been deployed to support the ministry of health for rapid detection and response. The environmental health specialists have also been deployed to support local health authorities in testing water quality and ensuring access to potable water.
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** Per PAHO, The Ministry of Health led committee is coordinating the health needs of Barbuda. Vector control materials and equipment have been sent, and vector control activities against mosquitos and rodents have been intensified in Barbuda. The solid waste management authority has commenced a cleanup campaign on Barbuda to remove all construction materials and burial of dead animals. An intensified syndromic surveillance system continues for shelters.

PAHO response includes a deployment of one infectious disease specialist and four public health nurses to continue support in disease surveillance, WASH, disaster management, vector control, environmental health, and health facility assessments. PAHO has sent a vehicle to facilitate essential operations including delivery of supplies, food, and water.

- **British Virgin Islands:** The Public Health UK and UNICEF are providing support for logistics and distribution. PAHO has deployed two additional personnel for damage assessment and logistics. An ER doctor from Barbados has been deployed with coordination with PAHO. Three medical staff has arrived, including doctor, nurse, and environmental health specialist. Additional support to assist in mental health, social services, accident and emergencies, and environmental health are being coordinated with neighboring countries and PAHO. The Supply Management System (SUMA) has been installed in BVI to support logistics.
- **Cuba:** The Cuban health authorities have intensified health promotion activities for arboviruses, leptospirosis, and hemorrhagic conjunctivitis. Epidemiological surveillance and control of Aedes mosquito in urban centers is continuing. Water quality assessments are being carried out at distribution points and water delivery trucks. Mental health support has been prioritized, and follow-up is continuing for people with mental health conditions.

PAHO is working with the National Mental Health Coordinator of the Ministry of Health to identify activities aimed at the community of affected municipalities in mental health promotion issues.

- **Dominica:** A shipment of 70 types of medication valued at ECD12,000 (US\$ 4,444) and sent by the OECS Pharmaceutical Procurement Service through the assistance of the Ambassador of Grenada was distributed to three specifically targeted communities in Dominica: Soufriere, Scotts Head and Galleon.

Provided medical supplies through the OECS Pharmaceutical Procurement Service for 200 elderly persons in the Soufriere area who required specialized treatment. The medications were dropped by helicopter on September 29. Other supplies were sent via the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) by boat from Amerijet to Dominica.

PAHO has coordinated with the Dominican Republic and the Dutch and UK air forces to evacuate 17 trauma patients; some patients are scheduled to return safely to Dominica next week. PAHO has also deployed seven personnel to support with coordination, hospital management, emergency response and epidemiological

surveillance, as well as three vehicles to distribute medical supplies and transport assessment teams. PAHO is coordinating the deployment of health personnel from St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines for the week of 9 October as well.

- **Dominican Republic:** The Ministry of Health is coordinating the response, and water treatment plants, trucks and tanks have been deployed with support of the Red Cross to El Seibo and Espaillat Province. The Ministry of Health is planning two rapid response groups to be deployed to Duarte and Espaillat Province to support the local health authorities.
- **Sint Maarten:** PAHO is working to ensure the prompt delivery of urgently-requested vector control supplies, vehicles, and machinery.
- **Turks and Caicos:** British Army and UNICEF are distributing supplies. PAHO has deployed three persons to Turks and Caicos for damage assessment, humanitarian supply management, and environmental health. A point of command for emergency coordination and planning has been established. Equipment to set up Logistics Support System/Supply Management System (LSS/SUMA) was procured.

The distribution of the remaining items is being coordinated with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Social Service Department. The Government is aggressively working to reduce the mosquito population to avoid any outbreak of mosquito-transmitted diseases. Mosquito nets are in high demand.

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Protection

Needs:

- **Dominica:** UNICEF has been in contact with the Child Protection Sector in Dominica and was informed that the two children's homes in the country were substantially damaged.
- **Turks and Caicos:** More than 20,000 undocumented Haitians are in TCI. Children of illegal Haitians do not receive TCI nationality and are not going to public schools mainly because of lack of physical space. UNICEF has reiterated the importance of protecting all children's rights in TCI, regardless of nationality.

Response:

- UNFPA has procured and delivered 97 Dignity Kits to Dominica, with an additional 352 already procured and sent to Dominica and Antigua on 3 October. So far, UNFPA has deployed five surge staff (2 GBV; 1 SRH; 1 communications and 1 coordination) and an additional two surge staff are expected to be deployed to provide additional support. Approximately US\$200,000 has been allocated from regular programming to support the emergency response and recovery efforts.
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** UNFPA has developed guidelines to integrate gender based violence (GBV) protection in Shelter Management - training with shelter managers is currently coordinated by UNFPA and national authorities in Antigua. UNFPA has also developed participatory assessment guidelines and tools to understand needs, risks and coping mechanisms of hurricane affected women and adolescent girls. Focus Groups Discussions were conducted this week with UNFPA, UN Women and Gender Affairs in Antigua.
- **Dominica:** UNICEF is preparing to conduct assessments on the status of children during this post-disaster period and will deliver a rapid training on group psychosocial assessment interventions for 6 October, with staff and volunteers at the Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Welfare. The Minister of Social Services, Family and Gender Welfare has reported that the lack of lighting in shelters is leading to inappropriate behavior towards children.

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Needs:

- **Dominica:** Per satellite imagery from the Pacific Disaster Centre of some 6,770 houses aerially surveyed to date, 10 per cent are slightly damaged, 28 per cent moderately damaged, 39 per cent highly damaged and 23 per cent totally destroyed (<http://www.pdc.org/event-products/preview/?id=1651>); Extrapolating these figures to the total 26,085 houses in Dominica [Government census data], damage figures are therefore 7,255 moderately damaged houses, 10,272 highly damaged houses and 5,961 totally damaged houses.

A joint technical shelter assessment was carried out by members of the shelter coordination group (including IOM, IFRC, Samaritan's Purse, USAID/OFDA and UNDP) to Mahaut, north of Canefield on 30 September. A number of houses were visited to survey reasons for roof failure. These findings will be used to inform the adaptation of technical guidance for building back safer during emergency repair, early recovery and permanent reconstruction.

There is a need for improved targeting and coordination of the shelter response to ensure that resources are being allocated to remaining emergency gaps. Procurement and logistics constraints are significant, with lengthy lead times and high logistics costs for inputs. Construction companies in Dominica have been significantly impacted by the hurricane; only two importers of construction materials are currently open for business.

Response:

- **British Virgin Islands:** UNICEF has inspected 3 shelters for Child Protection standards.
- **Dominica:** CDEMA's Technical Team conducted assessment of 320 homes in the communities of Sineku, Bataka, Concord and Monkey Hill. 75% sustained levels 3-4 damage.

UNICEF has visited both official and unofficial shelter sites to assess locations for psychosocial support and learning spaces. Additionally, UNICEF has begun distribution of hygiene kits in Roseau to support 45 families in four shelters.

As of 30 September, 3,640 tarpaulins and 110 tents had arrived in Dominica. An additional supply of 6,766 tarpaulins, 100 tents, 3,680 blankets and 9,072 mosquito nets is expected to arrive soon.

On 3 October, IOM distributed 165 solar lights and 35 hygiene kits to displaced people in DuBlanc, 110 solar lights to displaced people in Bioche and 40 solar lights and 87 hygiene kits in Colihaut. Water purification kits, shelter kits and kitchen kits will be delivered to the same locations in the coming days. All relief items are supplied in kind by the UK Department for International Development (DFID). Distributions were carried out with assistance from the shelter managers in each location.

OFDA/USAID has received the shipment of 4,000 tarpaulins and is distributing these, predominantly on the west coast between Calabreche, Marigot and Castle Bruce. The IFRC has provided family kits and distributed 650 tarpaulins to 379 families in Roseau. Catholic Relief Services is planning to distribute 4,000 tarpaulins, and will be targeting needs in the south: Soufriere, Grand Bay, Scott's Head and Pointe Michel. IFRC and Samaritan's Purse shared the Government of Dominica building code for reference by shelter actors.

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- **Antigua and Barbuda:** Per UNICEF, there is the anticipation that the need for bottled water for drinking in schools will be a long-term requirement.
- **Dominica:** As of 4 October, the assessments of 16 of 44 water supply systems are pending. The need to restore clean water to the population of the island is the highest priority. Vector control and WASH technicians will be required as water systems at health facilities and other key infrastructure buildings need to be repaired or replaced. Shelters and health facilities require safe water and improved hygiene and sanitation. Water purification and distribution in rural areas with low population density and difficult terrain.

At present, the means to conduct assessments and transport water to areas isolated by damage to roadways are limited. Many water systems require the full restoration of electricity to resume normal functions. There are also challenges in establishing distribution points for purification tabs.

Response:

- **British Virgin Islands:** ADRA has destined US\$200,000 USD to support WASH and logistics of 10-12 tarpaulins. Management, communication and monitoring of the tarpaulins is required. Ten tarpaulin sites were assessed by UNICEF and ADRA, which could reach up to 1,000 children.
- **Cuba:** Some 109,000 Aquatabs will arrive on 5 October for all the families in the municipalities of Esmeralda, Minas and Sierra de Cubitas in Camaguey to make their water safe to drink. Needs assessment are being conducted by the Government and informed through official channels. The Government is responsible for distribution reporting to UNICEF once supplies have been delivered to the target population.
- **Dominica:** Generators, water storage, and water purification kits were procured by PAHO, and distributed with support from partners. The Dominica Water and Sewage Company (DOWASCO) and PAHO have conducted joint assessments of damages to the water supply system; PAHO has made some needed repairs, liaising with partners to bridge gaps.

As of 2 October and per UNICEF reports, WASH sector members have finalized the consolidated response plan, including the following components: water supply, WASH in collective shelters, WASH in school and temporary learning spaces, WASH in healthcare facilities, hygiene promotion and distribution of hygiene kits; Roseau wastewater system; solid waste and vector control and coordination and accountability to the communities.

- **Dominican Republic:** To ensure UNICEF's emergency response reaches the most vulnerable children, and due to the funds received, in agreement with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF has concentrated their WASH intervention on El Seibo. The government has focused its response in the Duarte Province – UNICEF has revised their plan to avoid duplicating efforts. In coordination with local partners, UNICEF will distribute hygiene kits for 1,500 children, 1,500 plastic drums with water and 50 water tanks for distribution at community level (water points). Health promotion material will be produced and distributed for the prevention of diarrhea/cholera as well as Zika, Dengue and Chikungunya; the preparation of ORS and the use of chlorine for water purification.
- **Haiti:** As there is an ongoing outbreak of cholera in Artibonite, UNICEF's cholera response partners are ensuring that people have access to quality water, with the installation of a chlorination point, while the repairs are underway.

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Emergency Telecommunications

Response:

- ETC continues to provide internet connectivity at the Roseau area (South Dominica) and Charles- Douglas Airport area (North Dominica). Currently the ETC has a total of 1674 unique users with over 2000 devices, serving government, airports, ports, fire brigades, health facilities, mobile network providers, humanitarian workers as well as affected population.
- Services for communities (S4C) have completed setting up two community internet hubs in North Dominica; one in Wesley and other in Marigot. The two community internet hubs are supporting neighboring communities who had no connectivity since Hurricane hit the populations
- Various drone flights were made assessing the damage in areas in both North and South; Digital high resolution maps will be made available to government and humanitarian response community to further improve relief efforts

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Logistics

Response:

- In light of the scaling down of international humanitarian operations, the logistics hub in Turks and Caicos and logistics support to St Maarten have now been phased-out and logistics teams sent back to base, or re-deployed to other hurricane-affected countries. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) aircraft continues to provide regular flights between Antigua and Dominica. This plane is primarily used for the transportation of humanitarian staff and some light cargo. In Guadalupe, WFP has also mobilised and made available a helicopter with a lift capacity of 1.5 mt that is being used to support assessments and distribution to hard to reach locations of Dominica.
- **Antigua and Barbuda:** Debris clearing operations and maintenance work to re-establish water supplies are underway in Barbuda. Lack of generators continues to be an issue. Barbuda's airfield is operational; however, some repair works are still needed especially with regards to the airfield fencing. The daily ferry service from Antigua to Barbuda has resumed. Organisations interested in this service to transport cargo need to notify the National Office of Disaster Services (NODS). Additional clearances are required for overnight movement.
- **Dominica:** WFP has circulated a request for humanitarian organisations to share information on their projected and planned cargo transportation requirements (sea and/or air) to identify needs and potentially mobilize additional transport assets in the region. Additionally, WFP has installed one Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) at Douglas-Charles airport with capacity of 320 m2 and two additional units are repositioned in Roseau and ready to be installed at airport and port, to provide logistics augmentation and serve the service humanitarian operations in the West and North-eastern parts of the country.

A Port Authority warehouse has been cleared and it is currently storing Hurricane Maria relief supplies from a variety of humanitarian organisations and cooperation agencies.

The Logistics Coordination Cell in Antigua continues to support humanitarian organisations and liaise with relevant authorities to consolidate and facilitate the dispatch of relief commodities to Dominica. 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. WFP has also mobilised and made available free-to-use helicopter with a lift capacity of 1.5 mt that is being used to support assessments and distribution activities in hard to reach locations.

A Logistics Coordinator, Civil-Military Coordination Officer and two MSUs specialist are on site in Dominica

(Roseau and Douglas-Charles Airport), to support the Government-led response with logistics coordination, facilitation of the use of military assets and the transferring of technical capacities to government counterparts in the construction and maintenance of the MSUs.

As of 02 October, regular Logistics Coordination meetings will be 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>

- Turks and Caicos: The MSUs set up in Turks and Caicos Islands, packed in view of the passage of Hurricane Maria, did not sustain any damage and have been re-erected. Both units are now functioning.

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General Coordination

In Dominica, The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is coordinating response, with the support of CDEMA and UNDAC/OCHA. Coordination meetings are held at the NEOC and sector specific groups are also meeting (health, shelter). On 4 October, UNDAC/ OCHA installed a larger coordination hub for humanitarian partners. UNDAC will be phasing out its operations in Dominica over the next week and will hand over to the UN Crisis Management Unit and national coordination mechanisms.

Daily coordination meetings with international partners are held at 4 pm in the NEOC. All sector meeting notes and meeting schedules on Humanitarian Response Info www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/dominica. An early recovery group and a cash working group have started to meet as well. Reports and infographics can be found and shared on ReliefWeb: <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2017-000136-atg>

The last Regional Response Mechanism partner meeting was held by CDEMA on 6 October to consolidate information on assessments, needs and gaps - CDEMA situation reports can be found on <http://cdema.org/>

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

Information about international response and inputs to this report can be sent to hurricanemaria2017@undac.org
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>

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, Sint Maarten, St. Martin, the Virgin Islands 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.

Hurricane Maria is the second category 5 to make landfall in the Caribbean in less than two weeks, generating severe humanitarian needs for all of Dominica.

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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