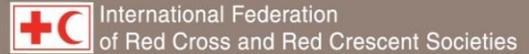


www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

# Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

## Saint Kitts and Nevis: Hurricane Irma



<b>DREF n° MDRKN001</b>	<b>Glide n°:</b> To be confirmed
<b>Date of issue:</b> 05 September 2017	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> 2 months; the expected end date is 05 November 2017
<b>Overall operation budget:</b> 64,301 Swiss francs (CHF)	<b>Operation start date:</b> 05 September 2017
<b>Total number of people affected:</b> To be determined	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> 200 families; 1,000 people
<b>Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches):</b> The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society (SKNRCS) has 1 national headquarters, 250 volunteers, 1 paid staff member and 6 branches	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The SKNRCS is supported by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through the Trinidad & Tobago Caribbean Country Cluster and the Panama Americas Regional Office; and by the French Red Cross Platform for Regional Intervention in the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC).	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)	

[Click here for the DREF budget.](#) [Click here for the contact information.](#)

## A. Situation analysis

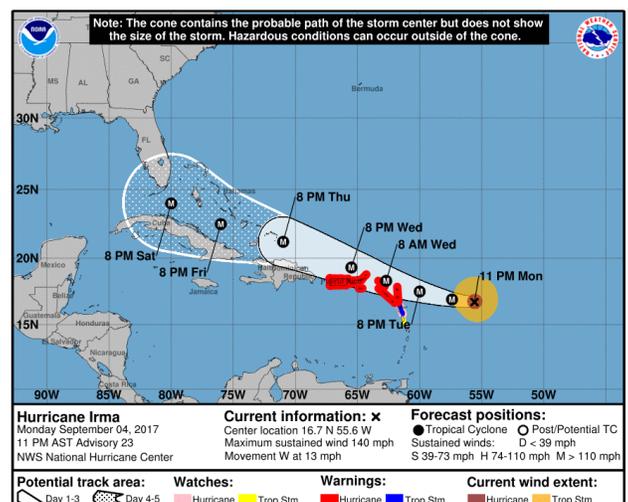
### Description of the disaster

Hurricane Irma is currently moving through the Atlantic as a Category 3 Hurricane; it is located 885 miles east of the Leeward Islands. The latest forecast suggests Irma could be a Category 4 hurricane on the morning of Wednesday, 6 September, which is when it is expected to approach Saint Kitts and Nevis; a direct hit on these islands remains possible. Sustained winds close to the eye of the hurricane should reach 130 to 156 mph. The system will also bring torrential rains close to its centre and from spiral bands on its sides. On 3 September 2017, the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre and government of Saint Kitts and Nevis issued a Hurricane Watch for the islands; On 4 September 2017, a Hurricane Warning was declared for the islands. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from 1 June to 31 November; September and October are the peak of the season, and the months in which the islands are most at risk.

### Summary of the current response

#### Overview of Host National Society

To date, the St Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society has mobilized volunteers 6 districts around the island, and it has pre-positioned supplies in 5 areas: Saint Kitts' north-western, western, eastern side and the southern and one on the island of Nevis. The volunteers are prepared to conduct assessments immediately after Irma's passage, and they received necessary forms such as the initial 24-hour assessment form, the distribution form and message handling forms.



Irma's predicted trajectory as of 11 am AST Monday, 4 September 2017. Source: NOAA

## **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

The IFRC and Partner National Societies (PNSs) do not have a physical presence in country; consequently, the Caribbean country cluster office in Trinidad and Tobago and the IFRC's regional office for the Americas (ARO) in Panama have been remotely supporting the National Society.

## **Movement Coordination**

ARO declared an Alert II for the event on 31 August 2017, and coordination among the SKNRCS, the Caribbean country cluster and ARO was established that same day. Lastly, ARO developed a [Dashboard](#) to monitor the storm's progress.

## **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society is closely coordinating with national authorities to provide an efficient, timely and adequate response to the at-risk populations.

## **Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning**

**Shelter and Settlements (and household items):** The government will not issue relief items to the affected people in the collective centres; consequently, the SKNRCS must provide the affected families with family kits to cover this need. Shoddy infrastructure could expose vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to storm damage, requiring the distribution of tarpaulins.

**Food security, nutrition and livelihoods:** The government will not provide food to the families in the collective, who may have to shelter in the centres for at least 24 hours; consequently, the SKNRCS must cover the families' food needs while they are in the collective centres.

**Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion:** Hurricane Irma could adversely impact Saint Kitts and Nevis' potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to the islands' residents and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses brought on by unhygienic conditions.

### **Beneficiary Selection:**

The SKNRCS aims to reach 200 families affected by Hurricane Irma. The following selection criteria have been established for the operation at community and family level:

- Families affected by the event in critical areas.
- Exposure to health and survival risks
- Families whose livelihoods have been affected
- Families in shelter
- Families who have not received similar assistance from another institution

### **Risk Assessment**

Hurricane Irma's trajectory is still uncertain at this time; however, a small deviation in the storm's path could mean a greater or lower impact on the islands.

## **B. Operational strategy and plan**

### **Overall objective**

The operation will support the Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society's preparedness actions and help its volunteers increase their response capacities to respond to the needs of 200 affected families (1,000 people) and enable the SKNRCS to deploy volunteers with adequate safety and visibility equipment.

### **Proposed strategy**

The hurricane has yet to impact the islands; therefore, this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is being developed to cover the National Society's preparedness activities. The EPoA will be revised once the rapid emergency assessments have been completed, and the National Society has a clearer picture of the storm's impact on Saint Kitts and Nevis. The DREF will support the following preparation and early response activities before, during and after Hurricane Irma's impact on the country.

- 200 family hygiene kits will be purchased and pre-positioned on both islands: St Kitts and Nevis. The content of the kit is: toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, combs, sanitary napkins, shavers, shampoo, towels.
- 400 tarpaulins (2 per family) and 400 blankets (2 per family) will be distributed to families from pre-positioned stock on the islands as an early response to the hurricane's aftermath; the stock will be replenished as soon as possible.
- 2 teams of 50 trained volunteers, equipped with adequate visibility and safety equipment, will be deployed to conduct the assessments as soon as possible; the equipment includes 100 pairs of gloves and 25 raincoats marked with the Red Cross emblem.
- The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society is planning to purchase food parcels to feed displaced populations in the first 24 hours after impact; the initial target for the food distribution is 200 families.
- The National Society will disseminate early warning advisories, evacuate people to safe places as needed and help manage the collective centres.

## **Operational support services**

### **Human resources**

The National Society has 250 volunteers including 4 Regional Intervention Team (RIT) personnel, 1 Logistics volunteer, 4 Humanitarian Supply Management System (SUMA)-trained personnel, 15 National Intervention Team (NIT) personnel, 21 First Aid/ Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)/ Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Instructors, 3 First Aid/CPR/AED trainer of trainers (TOTs), 1 disaster management/mass casualty management instructor (Pan American Health Organization [PAHO]), 6 volunteers trained in the "Zika training module" and 2 in Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV), 2 in Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (SHP), 2 Psychosocial Support (PSS) and 3 soon-to-be certified Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs).

Through this DREF operation the National Society will mobilize 50 volunteers for the initial response activities including assessments and the provision of relief and food items. Moreover, 1 General RIT will be deployed for 1 month.

### **Logistics and supply chain**

The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society will activate a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with local supermarkets to purchase food parcels to be distributed to the collective centres and hygiene kits to be distributed to the affected population; additionally, the SKNRCS will distribute non-food items (NFIs) from its pre-positioned stock on the islands, with a preliminary target of 400 tarpaulins and 400 blankets. The distributed NFIs will be replenished as soon as possible through the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama. Lastly, the SKNRCS will organize local transport for goods and personnel to the designated areas of intervention.

### **Information technologies (IT)**

The DREF allocation will cover the costs of mobile phone plans for 20 volunteers, and the SKNRCS will ensure that staff and volunteers involved in the operation are reachable via mobile phones as soon as network are up and running.

### **Communications**

The IFRC's Communications Unit will provide technical support and assistance to the communications strategy, and its communications officer will be deployed as necessary to support these activities. Press releases will be shared with national / Regional and global media outlets and uploaded to social media and the institutional website as events develop.

At the country level, the National Society will use social media, its web site and the local media to disseminate information on the operation, and it will also coordinate with IFRC's Communication Unit to share information at the regional level; all communications are being coordinated and shared with the SKNRCS before publication. Lastly, the IFRC issued [Information Bulletin no. 1](#) on Hurricane Irma on 1 September 2017.

### **Security**

Saint Kitts and Nevis' 50 first responders have been put on alert, and the volunteers providing support to the operation have the necessary profiles, degree of visibility and the level of security to conduct this operation, as established by the National Society; however, it is still necessary to procure insurance and protection for the participating volunteers, such as:

#### **Personal protective gear**

- Raincoats
- Water boots
- Gloves

## Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

Reporting on the operation will be conducted in accordance with the IFRC's minimum reporting standards. A final report will be issued within three months of the end of the operation.

## Administration and Finance

The IFRC provides the necessary operational support for the review, validation of budgets, bank transfers and technical assistance to National Societies on procedures for the justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

### Shelter and settlements (and household items)

**Needs analysis:** The government will not issue relief items to the affected people in the collective centres; consequently, the SKNRCS must provide the affected families with family kits to cover this need. Shoddy infrastructure could expose vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to storm damage, requiring the distribution of tarpaulins.

**Population to be assisted:** The 200 target families on the affected islands will receive 400 tarpaulins (2 per family) and 400 blankets (2 per family).

<b>Outcome 1: The resilience of 200 families is increased through the distribution of tarpaulins and blankets, which will later be replenished through the DREF.</b>									
<b>Output 1.1 200 affected families receive 400 tarpaulins and 400 blankets</b>									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Coordination with local emergency departments and authorities									
Distribution of 400 tarpaulins and 400 blankets									
Development of a distribution plan according to the assessments									
Replenishment of 400 tarpaulins and 400 blankets									
Monitoring of the distribution and supply chain									
Mobilization of volunteers									

### Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

**Needs analysis:** The government will not provide food to the families in the collective, who may have to shelter in the centres for at least 24 hours; consequently, the SKNRCS must provide the families with food while they are taking refuge in the collective centres.

**Population to be assisted:** The target population is 200 families in the collective centres.

<b>Outcome 2: The National Society covers the food needs of 200 families displaced to the emergency centres.</b>									
<b>Output 2.1 The National Society distributes food in the emergency's first 24 hours to 200 families in emergency centres during the storm's passage and the immediate response.</b>									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SKNRCS Red Cross mobilizes volunteers to distribute food to emergency centres in the first 24 hours									
SKNRCS activates MoU with local suppliers to purchase food for emergency centres									
SKNRCS transports food to the emergency centres									
SKNRCS conducts assessments in the targeted centre to help plan and provide guidance on response operations									

### Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

**Needs analysis:** Hurricane Irma could adversely impact Saint Kitts and Nevis' potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to the islands' residents and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses brought on by unhygienic conditions.

**Population to be assisted:** The target population is 200 affected families in the collective centres.

<b>Outcome 3: Reduce hygiene-related issues in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.</b>									
<b>Output 3.1 The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society pre-positions and distributes hygiene kits to 200 families.</b>									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Local procurement of 200 hygiene kits									
Pre-positioning of 200 hygiene kits									
Development of a distribution plan according to the Damage Analysis and Needs Assessment (DANA)									
Monitoring of supply chain and procurement									

## Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors.

<b>Outcome 4: The response operation is well planned, coordinated and monitored.</b>									
<b>Output 4.1 Continuous monitoring and assessment of Hurricane Irma informs the response operation's planning and implementation.</b>									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Assessment of the present humanitarian situation while considering assessments conducted by other stakeholders									
Assess the response and preparedness capacity of the SKNRCS and make recommendations for improvement									
Recommend a strategy for an appropriate response to the current emergency									
Pre-positioning of trained volunteers to strategic areas in advance of the hurricane									
Appoint a focal person in the emergency operations centre (EOC) to prepare daily situation reports, which will be posted on the Dashboard and shared with all stakeholders.									
Monitoring by IFRC disaster manager									
<b>Output 4.2 Strengthening of SKNRCS' capacities to optimize its role as an auxiliary to the local authorities in the response operation.</b>									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SKNRC provides adequate protective equipment to the volunteers involved in the distribution and assessment activities.									

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

### In Saint Kitts and Nevis:

- Natalie Fough, Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society director general; phone: +1 869 660 9750 or +1 869 765 7492; email: [n-fough@hotmail.com](mailto:n-fough@hotmail.com)
- Trevor Seaton, Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society vice president; phone: +1 869 667 4848; email: [trevorseaton@gmail.com](mailto:trevorseaton@gmail.com)

### In the IFRC Americas regional office, Panama (+507 317-3050):

- Inigo Barrena, disaster response and crisis and early recovery head; email: [ci.barrena@ifrc.org](mailto:ci.barrena@ifrc.org).
- Diana Medina, communications coordinator; email: [diana.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:diana.medina@ifrc.org)
- Mauricio Bustamante, Regional Logistics coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: [mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org](mailto:mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org)

### For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries):

- Priscila Gonzalez, planning and monitoring coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: [priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org](mailto:priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org)

### For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- Marion Andrivet, emergency appeals and marketing officer, phone: +507 317 3050; email: [marion.andrivetj@ifrc.org](mailto:marion.andrivetj@ifrc.org)

**In IFRC Geneva:**

- Susil Perera, senior officer response and recovery; +41 (0)22 7304947; email: [susil.perera@ifrc.org](mailto:susil.perera@ifrc.org)
- Sune Bulow, emergency operations and information management-Disaster and Crisis Department; email: [sune.bulow@ifrc.org](mailto:sune.bulow@ifrc.org)

**DREF OPERATION**

2017-09-04

DREF - St. Kitts and Nevis - Hurricane Irma

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Shelter - Relief	5,406
Clothing & Textiles	3,475
Food	7,337
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	5,792
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>22,010</b>
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	676
Transport & Vehicle Costs	16,073
Logistics Services	1,448
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>18,197</b>
International Staff	0
Regional Deployed Staff	8,688
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	1,158
Volunteers	5,667
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>15,513</b>
Workshops & Training	0
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>0</b>
Travel	2,896
Information & Public Relations	290
Office Costs	241
Communications	941
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,658</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	3,925
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>3,925</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>64,301</b>