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Emergency Plan of Action (EPOA)

Haiti: Hurricane Irma

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRHT014	Glide n°: To be confirmed
Date of issue: 7 September 2017	Expected timeframe: 2 months; the expected end date is 7 of November 2017
Overall operation budget: 298,588 Swiss francs (CHF)	Operation start date: 7 of September 2017
Total number of people affected: 6 million people	Number of people to be assisted: 2,000 families; 10,000 people
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Haiti Red Cross Society (HRCS) has 1 national headquarters, 1,000 volunteers, 300 staff members, and 116 branches	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Haiti Red Cross Society is supported by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through the Country Cluster and the regional office for the Americas (ARO) in Panama, and the French Red Cross, American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross Society, Swiss Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, German Red Cross and Netherlands Red Cross in country	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Permanent Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management (SPGRD for its acronym in French), Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Public Health (MSPP for its acronym in French) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA)	

[<Click here for the DREF budget.>](#)

A. Situation analysis

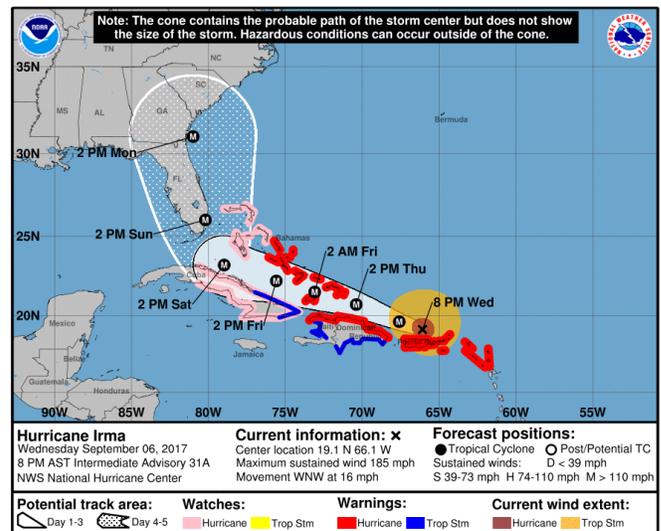
Description of the disaster

Hurricane Irma is moving through the Atlantic as a Category 5 Hurricane; it is currently located 15 miles west of Saint Martin. Sustained winds close to the eye of the hurricane are at 185 mph. The system will also bring torrential rains close to its centre and from spiral bands on its sides. On 6 September 2017, the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre issued a Hurricane Watch for northern Haiti and tropical storm watch for Haiti from south of Le Mole Saint Nicolas to Port au Prince. 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 Haiti is most at risk.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

In anticipation of direct impact from Hurricane Irma, the Haiti Red Cross Society has activated its internal disaster response protocols in coordination with the activation of the national disaster response system. Additionally, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is positioning response personnel in the three high-risk departments to respond to a potential emergency, and it has hygiene kits, jerry cans and tarpaulins, which it is in the process of pre-positioning for distribution to families that are at risk of being displaced by Hurricane Irma.



Storm's predicted trajectory as of 8 PM AST Wednesday, 6 September 2017. Source: NOAA

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC has a cluster office located in Port-au-Prince and following Partner National; Societies (PNSs) have a physical presence in country; the French Red Cross, American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross Society, Swiss Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, German Red Cross and Netherlands Red Cross. The IFRC's ARO in Panama has been remotely supporting the country cluster office and the National Society.

Movement Coordination

The IFRC and HRCS initiated Movement coordination meetings on 1 September 2017; Movement partners have shared data on available stock and equipment. The German, French and American National Societies are pre-positioning relief items in the Nord Ouest and Nord departments for 100 and 300 families, respectively.

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

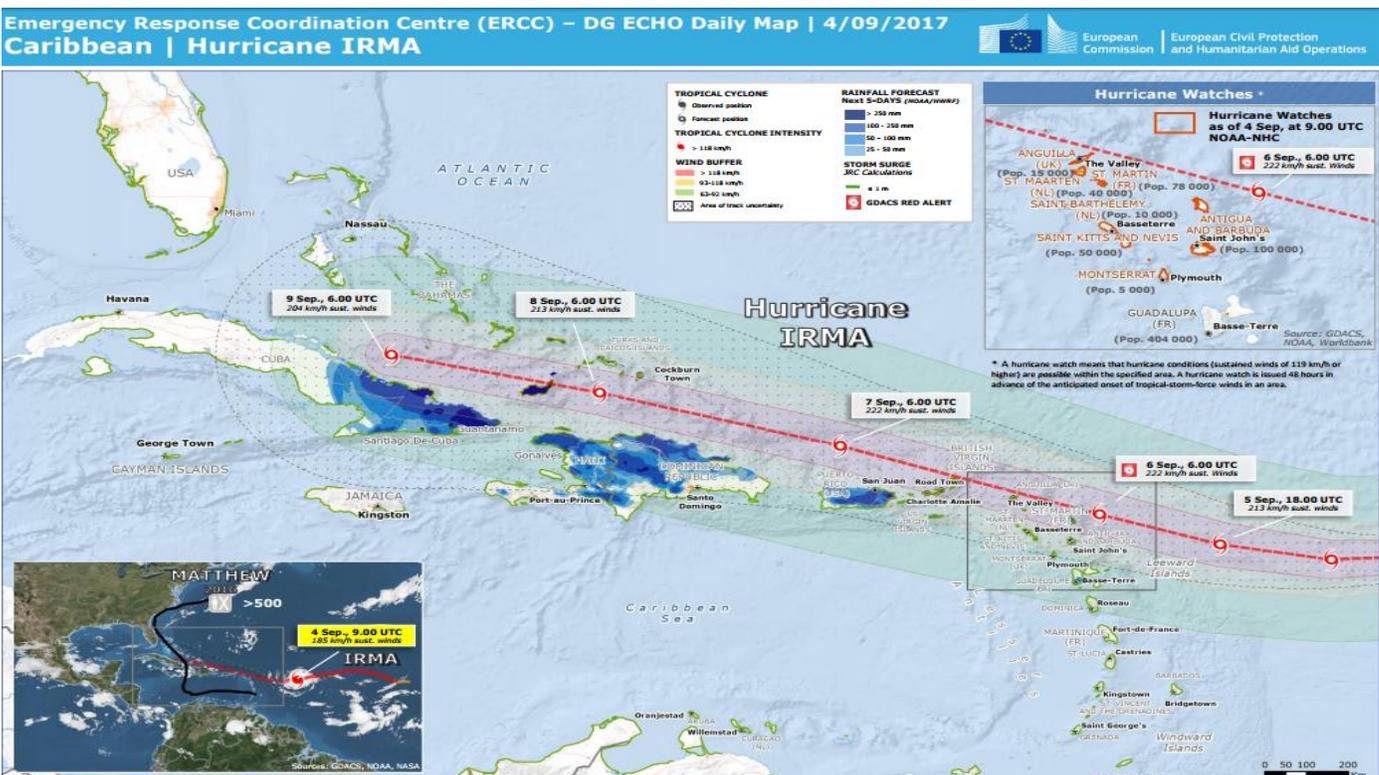
Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Permanent Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management (SPGRD) has activated the country's national Disaster response system, and the northern part of the country is currently under a Hurricane Warning, with the expected impact to be within the next 24 to 48 hours; in addition, the government has initiated awareness campaigns through media, mobile operators and community networks. UN-OCHA has initiated coordination meetings, and the National Emergency Operation Centre (COUN for its acronym in French) has been activated. The MSPP mobilized mobile cholera response teams in the northern departments, and 601 collective centres are available to shelter people. Lastly, the Ministry of Finance has made 2,000,000 gourdes (CHF 30,305.74) available per department for the initial response interventions.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Shelter and Settlements (and household items): Poor infrastructure could expose vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to storm damage, requiring the distribution of tarpaulins.

Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion: Hurricane Irma will adversely impact access to Haiti's potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to communities and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses.



Areas in Haiti and surrounding countries expected to be impacted by Hurricane Irma. Source: ECHO

Beneficiary Selection:

This Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation aims to reach 2,000 families affected by Hurricane Irma. The following selection criteria have been established for the operation at community and familial level:

- Families affected by the event in critical areas.
- Exposure to health and survival risks
- Families whose livelihoods have been affected
- Families in collective centres
- 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 Haiti.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The operation will support the Haiti Red Cross Society's preparedness actions to ready the country for Irma's potential impact and attend to the immediate needs of 2,000 families (10,000 people).

Proposed strategy

The hurricane has yet to impact the island; therefore, this DREF is being developed to cover the National Society's preparedness activities. Additionally, this 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 the northern departments.

This DREF will support the following preparedness activities:

- The distribution of 4,000 tarpaulins (2 per family) available in country, 2,000 shelter kits, 2,000 long-lasting insecticide [mosquito] nets (LLITNS) and 2,000 kitchen kits for 2,000 families as preventive measures to protect people's dwellings.
- The distribution of 2,000 hygiene kits and 2,000 buckets in the northern departments
- The pre-positioning of several teams of volunteers, who will be provided with adequate equipment, in strategic places to conduct early assessments of the situation.
- The deployment of 2 water treatment plants to the northern departments and the necessary technical staff for 1 month.

Operational support services

Human resources

Irma is expected to cause significant damage and require the mobilization of 1 planning, monitoring evaluation and reporting (PMER) Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member, 1 Relief RIT and 336 volunteers to take part in the assessments and distributions of non-food items (NFIs) in the country.

Logistics and supply chain

The Haiti Red Cross Society will distribute all the NFI stock that is pre-positioned in the country's northern departments; this stock will be replenished as soon as possible through the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama. Lastly, the HRCS will organize the local transport of goods and personnel to the designated areas of intervention.

Information technologies (IT)

The DREF allocation will cover the cost activating 8 satellite phone (1 per affected department), mobile phone plans and subscriber identity module (SIM) cards for staff and volunteers, and the Haiti Red Cross Society will ensure that staff and volunteers involved in the operation are reachable via mobile phones as soon as telecommunications networks 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.

Rapid assessments										
Distribution and replenishment of 2,000 hygiene kits (1 per family)										
Distribution and replenishment of 2,000 buckets (1 per family)										

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 3: Response operation is well planned, coordinated and monitored										
Output 3.1: Continuous monitoring and assessment of Hurricane Irma informs the planning and implementation of the response operation.										
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Assessment of the present humanitarian situation while considering assessments conducted by other stakeholders										
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.										
IFRC monitoring by the regional disaster manager or country cluster										
Deployment of 1 RIT to support the NS										

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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DREF OPERATION

2017-09-06

DREF -Haiti - Hurricane Irma

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	101,645
Clothing & Textiles	4,507
Food	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	75,754
Utensils & Tools	34,521
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	216,427
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	16,839
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,890
Logistics Services	20,700
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	42,429
International Staff	0
Regional Deployed Staff	8,630
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	0
Volunteers	8,180
Total PERSONNEL	16,810
Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	2,877
Information & Public Relations	288
Office Costs	0
Communications	959
Financial Charges	575
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	4,699
Programme and Services Support Recovery	18,224
Total INDIRECT COSTS	18,224
TOTAL BUDGET	298,588