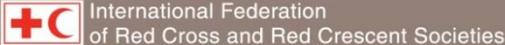




## DREF Operation

### Bahamas: Hurricane Dorian



<b>DREF no. MDRBS003</b>	<b>Glide n° <a href="#">TC-2019-000099-BHS</a></b>
<b>Date of issue:</b> 2 September 2019	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> 3 months
<b>Operation start date:</b> 2 September 2019	<b>Operation end date:</b> 2 December 2019
<b>Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis:</b> <b>Yellow</b>	
<b>DREF allocated:</b> 247,444 Swiss francs (CHF)	
<b>Total number of people affected:</b> 76,278 people <sup>1</sup>	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> 500 families (2,500 people)
<b>Host National Society presence:</b> the Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS) has one national headquarters, 133 volunteers, 16 staff members, and three branches. <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> BRCS is supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through the Trinidad & Tobago Caribbean Country Cluster Support Team 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 and here for the contact information >](#)

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

Hurricane Dorian strengthened into a powerful Category 5 storm on Sunday morning, 1 of September 2019, as it bore down on the Bahamas with maximum sustained winds of 180 mph/ 285 kmh.

A hurricane warning is in effect for much of the northwestern Bahamas, including Freeport, Grand Bahama, and Nassau, New Providence Island. Andros Island is in a hurricane watch.

A hurricane watch is issued when hurricane conditions are possible in the watch area. They are posted 48 hours before the first tropical-storm-force winds are expected. The storm surge watch means that a life-threatening inundation is possible in the area during the next 48 hours.<sup>3</sup>

### Dorian's Forecast Timing

**Sunday:** Dorian's hurricane siege will continue in the northwest Bahamas as it continues to slow down. Large swells should begin to arrive at the coast from North Carolina to Florida.

**Monday:** Dorian will still be hammering the northwest Bahamas as it crawls slowly. Bands of rain, strong winds may affect parts of Florida. Tropical storm-force winds are expected in the tropical storm warning area of eastern Florida.

<sup>1</sup> According to the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) & CDEMA, the population that is potentially exposed to moderate to severe damaging winds (with damage expected closer to the shores).

<sup>2</sup> [Federation-Wide Databank and Reporting System](#).

<sup>3</sup> [Hurricane Dorian](#). National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA. 1 September 2019.

How strong the winds will be depending on how close the center of Dorian is to the Florida coast, which is still uncertain at this time. Battering waves, coastal flooding and beach erosion will increase along the southeast coast of Florida.

**Tuesday:** Dorian will still be affecting at the northwest Bahamas, but conditions, there may slowly improve by night. Bands of rain, strong winds will still affect parts of Florida. Tropical storm-force winds are expected in the tropical storm warning area of eastern Florida. We cannot rule out the potential for hurricane-force winds, depending on how close the center tracks to the coast. Coastal flooding and beach erosion will spread north along the Florida coast.

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Host National Society

In anticipation of direct impact from Hurricane Dorian, the Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS) has activated its internal disaster response protocols in coordination with the activation of the national disaster response system. The National Society has also carried out national assessments ahead of the storm to identify critical areas that are likely to pose a challenge to its response activities and to identify safe buildings that could be used as shelters.

Additionally, BRCS has positioned stock sent by IFRC to cover the immediate needs of 200 families (1,000 people). BRCS has experience providing food in past emergencies such as Hurricane Irene in 2011, Hurricane Joaquin in 2015, Hurricane Matthew in 2016, Hurricane Irma and Maria in 2017 to affected people in collective centres, and it successfully implemented a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in 2011 and 2015<sup>4</sup>.

### 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 and have deployed a Regional Disaster Management Coordinator on Saturday 31 August, who is based in Nassau.

### Movement Coordination

The Americas Regional Office (ARO) declared an internal Alert II for the event on 25-August-2019, and coordination with all the Island Nations in the projected trajectory as well as the BRCS, the Caribbean country cluster and ARO was established that same day. To support its coordination and response, ARO developed a [dashboard](#) to monitor the storm's progress.

IFRC has been coordinating with the BRCS, American Red Cross and British Red Cross, sharing information and support on information management.

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The government of Bahamas has activated the country's national disaster response system, and several islands are currently under a Hurricane Warning with the expected impact to be within the next 24 hours. In addition, the government has made efforts to alert and evacuate families from the most exposed islands. Finally, it should be mentioned that as an entity that has a seat at all levels of the government's emergency system, BRCS is well positioned to influence the coordination of the response actions.

### Actions taken by IFRC

- Regional Disaster Management Coordinator for IFRC deployed to Nassau to monitor situation, provide support to National Society, coordinate response and liaise with partners.
- Agreement with Airbus Foundation has been activated and a request has been sent for support with a helicopter to fly over impacted areas and drop off and pick up assessment teams.
- Emergency stocks pre-positioned In Bahamas include hygiene items such as, body and laundry soap; polypropylene ropes; lamp/radio cellphone charger hand crank, solar power; plastic buckets; woven blankets; tarpaulins; kitchen sets and jerrycans.
- Emergency response stocks pre-positioned for response to 1,500 families.
- Stock prepositioned in Jamaica, Bahamas, Barbados, Saint Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago and Panama, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Cuba.
- GO Platform is constantly updated and there is a page dedicated to [Bahamas](#).
- Active coordination with Country Cluster Support Team in Port of Spain.

<sup>4</sup> For further reference see: [IFRC Appeals](#).

- Preparedness and safety measures being planned for IFRC staff, offices and assets. Summary of Regional Contingency Plan
- Regional Disaster Management (DM) Coordinators in contact with DM focal points.
- Regional DM from PIRAC on Standby
- Regional DM In Panama on Standby
- Preparedness dashboard published.
- Surge Alert sent.

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

**Shelter and Settlements (and household items):** Initial analysis shows that around 12,000 households will be exposed to severe damages, including roofs and loss of non-food items.

**Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion:** Hurricane Dorian could adversely impact Bahamas potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to islands' residents and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne diseases brought on by unhygienic conditions. The Abaco Islands relies on wells for access to fresh water. Multiple reports indicate the entire island is flooded with sea water, therefore contaminating the water resources in the island. Close to 17,000 people will need urgent access to fresh water. In Grand Bahama 45,700 will need fresh water. It remains unknown how quick the treatment plants will be restored

**Food security, nutrition and livelihoods:** Bahamas is formed by 700 islands, some islands will require support to have access to hot meals and food parcels, communication and transportation system could be affected and consequently the access to food, markets and other basic needs.

#### Beneficiary Selection:

The operation of BRCS aims to reach initially 500 families affected by Hurricane Dorian. The following selection criteria has 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 Dorian's trajectory is still uncertain at this time; however, Red Cross activities will be implemented with high security mechanism. A global agreement with Airbus Foundation has been activated to support the transportation and assessment to insolated areas/islands.

## B. Operational strategy and plan

### Overall objective

The operation will support the Bahamas' preparedness actions to ready the country for Dorian's potential impact and attend to the immediate needs of 500 families in the impacted area, prioritizing people in collective centers and relocated.

### Proposed strategy

The hurricane is still over Bahamas and the initial reports will be released in the next 48 hours; therefore, this DREF is being developed to cover the National Society's preparedness activities. The main focus will be to respond to the two main impacted areas of Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands.

This Plan of Action 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 Bahamas.

This DREF will support the following preparedness and early response activities:

- The distribution of household items for 500 families as a preventive measure to protect people's dwellings; this DREF will replenish the household items distributed by the National Society during the response operation.

- Assessment and mobilization of red cross volunteers for preparedness and early response, who will be provided with adequate equipment, in strategic places to conduct initial assessments of the situation before and after the storm's passage.
- Vector control and vector transmitted illnesses awareness activities.
- Psychosocial support (PSS) in collective centres and for red cross volunteers.
- Cash feasibility assessment and cash cards distribution.
- Deployment of Red Cross Surge Personnel (National Intervention Teams, Regional Intervention Team, IFRC Delegates and BRCS staff)

Restoring Family Link activities will be considered in the revision of this Plan of Action and will be coordinate with the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Activities aiming at sensitizing the government of Bahamas and building the capacities of the NS regarding the need to adopt and implement an optimal policy framework to receive incoming international disaster relief (IDRL) are currently conducted in the framework of OFDA "Capacity Building Initiative" (phases 1, 2 and upcoming phase 3).

The relief items that were sent to Bahamas with the objective of prepositioning stocks in view of Hurricane Dorian have been reported as successfully cleared at customs without any difficulties.

For the time being, there is no specific and urgent need to include an IDRL component for the purposes of this DREF.

## **Operational support services**

### **Human resources**

Dorian is expected to cause significant damage and require the mobilization of around 200 volunteers to take part in the clean-up and restoration of day-to-day activities in the country. The DREF will cover the operational costs for preparedness and initial response activities of BRCS.

The BRCS has a well-equipped staff to respond to the country's current needs of the country; however, it is difficult to predict the demands that will be placed on BRCS's staff by the storm.

Two General Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members will be deployed to support operational activities (one general RIT and one PMER RIT).

### **Logistics and supply chain**

BRCS will distribute the household items stock that is pre-positioned in the country. These stocks will later be replenished as soon as possible through the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama.

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including mobilization, procurement, customs clearance to the country in accordance with the operation's requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures. BRCS will organize local transport for goods and personnel to the designated areas of intervention.

RLU is following up the international supply chain development regarding the maritime and air services that need to be reestablished to the island and neighbor countries, to ensure the safety mobilization of the relief items for the immediate response, after the hurricane impact.

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

The DREF allocation will cover the costs of Data Collection and communication equipment during the assessment and distribution phases.

### **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 BRCS before publication.

The IFRC issued an [Information Bulletin no. 1 on Hurricane Dorian](#) on 24 August 2019 and has so far issued six internal information messages.

## **Security**

200 volunteers 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. Some of the additional equipment required includes:

- Personal protective gear
- Raincoats
- Water boots
- Flashlights

## **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.





## Livelihoods and basic needs

**People targeted: 500 families (2,500 people)**

Male: 1,250

Female: 1,250

**Requirements (CHF): 114,712**

**Needs analysis:** The passing of Hurricane Dorian will interrupt people's income generating activities and affect their means of production and of well-being because of the damage that will be caused to infrastructure of basic services, people's houses, businesses, local markets, roads. Many services will be affected and interrupted until further notice, and while the families in the most critical areas of impact of the hurricane will have to shelter in the emergency's centres, loss of assets will leave them with barely anything to re-start activities and recover. The cash programming for this operational strategy will provide multipurpose cash grants to families sheltered in the emergency centres, through a debit card provided by a local financial service provider with whom The Bahamas Red Cross Society already holds a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). A feasibility analysis and Ram will be performed to confirm the initial stated amount of USD\$500.00<sup>5</sup> and the vulnerability criteria, to cover the most vulnerable ones. A Community, Engagement and Accountability (CEA) plan will be required to accompany and support the implementation of this Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA).

**Population to be assisted:** Based on household level assessment, The Bahamas Red Cross Society will identify the affected families in the emergency shelters that cannot access basic needs (food, water, hygiene, medical care) in the most affected areas of the Abaco Islands and Grand Bahama.

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** Provide humanitarian assistance to the affected population, considering the Minimum Standards set out in the Sphere Manual; the IFRC's Fundamental Principles and mandate; the IFRC's Strategic Framework on Disability Inclusion; the IFRC's Minimum Standard Commitments to Gender and Diversity in Emergencies; the Code of Conduct; and other documents related to the Movement and other organizations that provide quality humanitarian assistance in a dignified manner.

P&B Output Code	Outcome: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, receive support to protect the household economic security	# of families that receive CVA debit cards Target: 500 families											
	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs	# of assisted households able to meet (Survival) Minimum Expenditure Basket needs (including food items, food-related non-food items) Target: 500 households											
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP081	Cash feasibility study and Rapid Market Assessment												
AP081	Deployment of RIT specialized in Cash transfer												
AP081	Unconditional/multipurpose cash distributions for 500 families												
AP081	Design and roll out of a CEA plan for awareness, involvement and feedback mechanisms.												

<sup>5</sup> The Bahamas is a high-income level country –one of the richest in The Caribbean- according to the World Bank 2018 World Development Report.







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## Budget

Please see budget for this operation [below](#).

## Contact information

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

**In the Bahamas Red Cross Society:**

- Caroline Turnquest, Director General, phone: +1 242 424 4201 email: [DirectorGeneral@bahamasredcross.org](mailto:DirectorGeneral@bahamasredcross.org);
- Alicia Pinder, Disaster Manager; phone: +1 242 535 0073 ; email: [lpinder@bahamasredcross.com](mailto:lpinder@bahamasredcross.com)

**In the IFRC Americas Regional Office:**

- Steve McAndrew, Deputy Regional Director [stephen.mcandrew@ifrc.org](mailto:stephen.mcandrew@ifrc.org)
- Felipe Del Cid Continental Operations Coordinator, [felipe.delcid@ifrc.org](mailto:felipe.delcid@ifrc.org)

**In the IFRC Trinidad & Tobago Caribbean Country Cluster Support Team:**

- Ariel Kestens, Head POS CCST, [ariel.kestens@ifrc.org](mailto:ariel.kestens@ifrc.org)
- IFRC Delegate in Bahamas: Raphael Hamoir, Regional DM Coordinator, [raphael.hamoir@ifrc.org](mailto:raphael.hamoir@ifrc.org)

**In IFRC Geneva**

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

**For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:**

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

**For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:**

- Mauricio Bustamante, Regional Logistics coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: [mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org](mailto:mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org)

**For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

- Paula Martes, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: [paula.martes@ifrc.org](mailto:paula.martes@ifrc.org)

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace.**

**DREF OPERATION**

02/09/2019

## MDRBS003 - Bahamas Hurricane Dorian

Name in financial system (TBC)	Budget CHF
	0
Shelter assistance to households	41,138
Shelter tech. support and awareness	0
<b>Total Shelter</b>	<b>41,138</b>
	0
Improvement of income sources	0
Livelihoods assistance	0
Food production & income generation	0
Multipurpose cash grants	114,712
Livelihoods awareness	0
<b>Total Livelihoods &amp; basic needs</b>	<b>114,712</b>
	0
Psychosocial support	12,361
Search and rescue	0
<b>Total Health</b>	<b>12,361</b>
	0
Access to safe water	17,405
Treatment/reuse of wastewater	0
Reduction of open defecation	0
WASH knowledge and best practice	0
Hygiene promotion	0
<b>Total WASH</b>	<b>17,405</b>
	0
	0
NS organisational capacity assessm.	0
NS volunteering deveelopment	7,367
NS corporate /organisational systems	8,406
<b>Total Strenthening National Societies</b>	<b>15,773</b>
	0
IFRC surge capacity	26,997
Humanitarian principles and Rules	0
Integrated services for NS	0
IFRC coord. in humanitarian system	0
Supply chain and fleet services	3,956
Movement coordination	0
Movement shared services	0
<b>Total Influence others as leading strategic partner</b>	<b>30,953</b>
	0
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	15,102
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>15,102</b>
	0
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>247,444</b>