

Emergency Appeal Operations Update

Dominican Republic: Floods

Emergency Appeal Operations Update No. 2: MDRDO009	Glide No. FL-2016-000123-DOM
Date of issue: 29 December 2016	Date of disaster: 10 November 2016
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Operation start date: 24 November 2016	Expected timeframe: 12 months; 26 November 2017
Overall operation budget: 2,459,751 Swiss francs (CHF)	Current appeal coverage:
Number of people affected: 1,792,000 people affected based on population figures from the 2010 census	Number of families to be assisted: 5,000 families (25,000 people)
Host National Society Presence (no. of volunteers, staff, branches): 176 branches, 20,000 volunteers	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The Partner National Society present in the country is the Spanish Red Cross, who has offered their support if required.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Civil Defence, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Housing (INVI), National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), Ministry Public Works, municipalities, Ministry of Defence, and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA).	

Summary: This update provides an overview on Dominican Red Cross (DRC) actions for the first 1 month. [Appeal coverage](#) at the time of writing is 13%, donors are encouraged to support the appeal to enable DRC provide assistance to the targeted beneficiaries through the planned activities as detailed in the [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#). A DREF loan of 240,000 Swiss francs was processed at the beginning of the Appeal to support the start-up of activities by DRC.

[<Click here to view the contact information>](#)

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Following the passage of Hurricane Matthew, the Dominican Republic was affected by a series of hydrometeorological events, which saturated the soil. Due to the adverse effects from the recent weeks' heavy rainfall in the Central and Northern Cibao regions of the country, which caused the displacement of vulnerable populations and cut off various communities, the Dominican Republic's president declared a national emergency for the provinces of Puerto Plata, La Vega, Espailat and María Trinidad Sánchez on 10 November 2016 in order to expedite procurement and hiring processes.

According to preliminary reports, 20,055 people have been moved to safe places with relatives and friends since 10 November 2016. Approximately 4,200 homes were affected, 60 were destroyed and 234 people are still seeking shelter in the 4 official collective centres in the provinces of Puerto Plata, La Vega and Nagua. The main tourist road connecting the provinces of Puerto Plata and Espailat and the road connecting the tourist towns of Samaná and Las Terrenas was also damaged.



Photo 1: Volunteers carrying out assessments in isolated communities. Source: Dominican Red Cross.

Approximately 132 communities in the provinces of La Vega, Puerto Plata, María Trinidad Sánchez and Espaillat have been cut off by the flooding, 13 bridges were damaged and 3 of the main roads that connect with the touristic municipalities of Las Terrenas (the Limón Road that connects with Sánchez and Samaná), Gaspar Hernández (the road that connects Gaspar Hernández with Río San Juan and Nagua) and Luperón (the road that connects Luperón with Puerto Plata) were damaged; additionally, the road that connects Jamao with Sabaneta de Yasica was blocked due to a damaged bridge.

Due to increased water levels caused by the heavy rainfall, the Dams Committee was forced to release water from the Tavera Dam in the province of Santiago to prevent it from bursting; the release of water flooded some of the communities in the provinces of Santiago, Valverde and Montecristi.

The overflowing of the Yuna River and its tributaries caused traffic delays on the North-east highway, which connects Santo Domingo with the Atlantic tourist zone in the provinces of Samaná and María Trinidad Sánchez; it also affected the communities of Los Peinados, Los Contreras, Los Rieles, Reforma, Aguacate, Callejón de Tilo, Las Garzas, where the flooding caused significant damage to their rice crop.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Dominican Red Cross has been coordinating with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)'s country cluster support office in Haiti; and the Spanish Red Cross's office in the Dominican. The National Society has maintained contact with the IFRC's Disasters and Crisis department coordinator for the Americas since the beginning of the emergency.

The Dominican Red Cross continues working with flood-affected communities through the activation of its branches and its communication networks, which play a fundamental role in disaster management at the community level. The DRC jointly coordinates the networks with institutions from the National Disaster Management System.

The recession of the floodwaters allowed the Dominican Red Cross to begin conducting assessments, the affected families to return to their homes and the volunteers to access the affected communities.

All of the sectors are developing plans for the distributions, health actions and vector control, among other humanitarian interventions.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

Moreover, the IFRC mobilized its operations coordinator to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on 17 November 2016 as part of a technical team supporting the field assessments (Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis [DANA]) and the development of the plan of action. Lastly, IFRC deployed a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member, who also helped develop this Operations Update, to the country on 29 November 2016 to assist with the operation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The President of the Dominican Republic declared a national emergency in the provinces of Puerto Plata, La Vega, Espaillat and Maria Trinidad Sánchez through [Decree 340-16](#).

The Ministry of Health requested support from the DRC on a Leptospirosis outbreak, which responded by deploying its health teams to the affected areas to conduct a detailed evaluation and develop a plan of action.

The National Meteorological Office (ONAMET for its acronym in Spanish) issued an alert for the Atlantic coast urging small to medium vessels to stay in port and recommending that vessels in Samana and Caribbean Bay navigate with caution; this alert is due to increased wave action and unusual activity.

B.Detailed Operational Plan

Health



Photo 2: Volunteers evacuating affected people during the flooding. Source: DRC

Water and Sanitation

[illegible]

Distribution of 10,000 jerrycans (2 per family)	X	X											
Achievements to date													
Disinfection of affected areas													
Cleaning of wells in Gaspar Hernandez, Espailat and Sabaneta de Yasica, Puerto Plata													
Hygiene promotion and water handling workshops for the communities													
Hygiene promotion in Gaspar Hernandez, Espailat and Sabaneta de Yasica, Puerto Plata													

Livelihoods

OBJECTIVES		INDICATORS											
Outcome 3: Contribute to the food security and the re-establishment of the livelihoods for 1,000 families affected by the floods in Montecristi, Puerto Plata and Duarte.		<i># of people reached with food assistance in accordance with SPHERE standards</i> <i># of families reactivating their livelihoods.</i> <i># people participating in DRR activities to protect livelihoods</i>											
Output 3.1: 1,000 homes have sufficient food supplies, based on the Sphere standards, to ensure food security		<i># of food kits distributed</i> <i># of people reached by public awareness and education on reducing food loss and waste</i>											
Activities	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Beneficiary identification and selection		X											
Tender process to select providers		X											
Provider identification and selection		X											
Distribution and monitoring through the Mega V system.		X											
Promotional campaign for the reduction of food waste		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Distribution of food parcels to 1,000 families for 1 month		X	X										
Output 3.2: 250 families have more resilient livelihoods through the support provided for the recovery of productive assets, technical capacities and protection activities for their livelihoods		<i># of families that benefit from cash transfer programme (CTP)</i> <i>% of beneficiaries that receive technical training</i> <i>% of beneficiaries that implement protection of livelihoods activities</i>											
Activities	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conduct a market study/identification and selection of programme suppliers for CTP		X											
Training for families on how to use the CTP			X										
Implementation of the CTP for 250 families			X	X	X	X							
Training for families on better agricultural practices, marketing, business management and livelihoods protection actions					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Families implement livelihoods protection activities					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Accompaniment to families in livelihoods protection activities to be implemented							X	X	X	X	X	X	
Monitoring and evaluation			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Achievements to date													
There have not been any advances in this sector since Operations Update No. 1 was issued.													

Shelter and Settlements (including household non-food items)

Objectives	Indicators
Outcome 4: Cover the needs of the families in the collective centres and settlements.	<i>% of families that improve their living conditions according to the emergency housing standards</i>
Output 4.1: 5,000 families receive humanitarian aid (non-food household items)	<i>No. of households that receive kits that meet operational standards</i>
Output 4.2: 100 homeless families have temporary shelters	<i>No. of families that have temporary shelters</i>

Activities	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Distribution of 5,000 shelter tool kits to 5,000 families		X	X	X									
Distribution of 10,000 tarpaulins			X	X	X								
Training for volunteers in Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA)					X								
Community development of PASSA						X	X	X	X	X	X		
Training for volunteers in safe shelters						X							
CTP for 100 families						X	X	X	X	X			
Monitoring of household repairs							X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Achievements to date													
There have not been any advances in this sector since Operations Update No. 1 was issued.													

Disaster Risk Reduction

Objectives	Indicators												
Outcome 5: Disaster Preparedness and early warning actions are implemented for response at the community and institutional level for flooding and landslide.	% of targeted communities with a contingency plan that includes measures for households and schools												
Output 5.1: At least 500 families in the affected areas know how to prepare and respond to hydro-meteorological hazards	No. of people reached with information on community based risk reduction												
Activities	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Initial baseline study for community activities		X	X	X									
End baseline study for community activities													X
Trainer of trainers (ToT) on the Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS) Toolkit					X								
Training for volunteers and partners on CEWS toolkit						X	X	X	X	X	X		
Training volunteers and partners in Public Awareness Campaigns – hydrometeorological hazards						X							
Printing Materials for public awareness campaigns on hydrometeorological hazards						X	X	X	X	X			
Workshop on establishing linkages between CEWS/early warning systems (EWS)							X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE) methodologies harmonization workshop					X	X							
National Strategic Targeting Methodology (STM) workshop		X	X										
Disaster preparedness activities for the communities					X	X							
Achievements to date													
There have not been any advances in this sector since Operations Update No. 1 was issued.													

National Society Capacity Building

Objectives	Indicators												
Outcome 6: Strengthen the Dominican Red Cross's capacity in its headquarters and provincial branches.	% of trained volunteers.												
Output 6.1: 100 volunteers trained to provide an effective response according to the National Society's contingency plans	No. of workshops for the Dominican Red Cross No. training sessions for the Dominican Red Cross												
Activities	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Well-Prepared National Society (WPNS) assessment		X											
DANA training					X								
Strengthening of contingency planning						X							
National Intervention Team training							X						
Strengthening of Emergency Operations Centre								X					
Leadership training on emergency response									X				
Update and revision of the contingency plan										X			

		# of visitors to the website, blogs and other relevant sites (this does not include social media). # of alliances established with traditional media to issue the National Society's communication campaigns # of media outlets using the Red Cross's graphic materials as a source of information											
Activities	month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Develop a national communications campaign and strategy		X											
Produce 6 videos		X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X
Develop graphic material (posters, infographics, brochures)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Launch a social media campaign		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Purchase 2 cameras with tripods					X				X		X		X
Achievements to date													
There have not been any advances in this sector since Operations Update No. 1 was issued.													

Community Engagement and Accountability

Objectives	Indicators												
Outcome 9: Communities and families are engaged in a meaningful dialogue to promote risk reduction actions, healthy behaviours reduce anxiety, dispel rumours and psychosocial recovery.													
Output 9.1: Define community engagement framework	# of tools developed												
Activities	month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Develop a community engagement and accountability strategy, plan and tools for the Dominican Red Cross implement		X	X										
Output 9.2: Adequate communication with communities	# of radio spots and interactive programmes produced and transmitted (# of broadcasts) # of people reached through mobile phone campaigns												
Develop national Radio/TV Broadcast products (spots, animations, live programmes...)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Establish dialogue platforms (call-in radio programmes and online interactive spaces)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Output 9.3: Dialogue and community engagement: working with communities on two-way communication campaigns to provide accurate information	# of two-way communication materials produced # of interactive activities developed with the community												
Develop and disseminate targeted messages for media, volunteers, local and traditional leaders, churches, schools and other stakeholders to inform community debates					X	X	X		X		X		X
Carry out communication and engagement guidelines through community volunteers at the field and community level					X	X	X						
Output 9.4: Data collection and analysis for programmatic decisions: Utilize systems of data and information management to inform communication with communities and revise programmes regularly	# of baseline studies/or other risk communication surveys # of baseline monitoring surveys/or other risk communication surveys												
Establish a national system for data collection and analysis from all beneficiary communication activities to inform behaviour change communication approaches, including mediated communication short message service (SMS), interactive voice response (IVR), social mobilization work with a clearer understanding of current community thoughts and understandings (identify gaps and community perceptions –					X	X	X						

Knowledge, Attitude and Perception [KAP] studies)												
Assess risk perceptions and key strategies to increase/address risk				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assess trusted sources of information and channels by communities and individuals on hurricane-related issues				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Achievements to date												
There have not been any advances in this sector since Operations Update No. 1 was issued.												

Contact information

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

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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**.