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## Emergency Appeal

### Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis: Hurricane Irma

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Appeal n° MDR49009	500 families (2,500 people) to be assisted	Appeal launched 8 September 2017
Glide n° To be confirmed	61,418 Swiss francs DREF allocated for Antigua and Barbuda	Appeal ends 31 March 2018
	64,301 Swiss francs DREF allocated for Saint Kitts and Nevis	
	1,128,171 Swiss francs current Appeal budget	

This Emergency Appeal seeks a total of some **1,128,171 Swiss francs (CHF)** on a preliminary basis to enable the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)** to support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross (ABRC)** and **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society (SKNRCS)** to deliver assistance and support to **500 families (2,500 people)** for six months, with a focus on the following sectors: **health; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH); and shelter (including household non-food items). Cash transfer programming (CTP) is also a major part of this Emergency Appeal.** The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this time of the evolving operation, and it will be adjusted based on further developments and more detailed assessments. The complete Emergency Plan of Action (EPOA) will be made available shortly.

## The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

**30 of August 2017:** Irma develops near the Cape Verde Islands from a tropical wave. It is the ninth named storm, fourth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season.

**5-6 of September 2017:** Irma makes landfall on north-east Caribbean islands during the early hours of 6 September, affecting Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, St Barthélemy, St. Martin, the Virgin Islands, Saint Kitts and Nevis and other islands in the eastern Caribbean Sea.

**6 September 2017:** The IFRC allocates 61,418 Swiss francs for ABRC and 64,301 Swiss francs for SKNRCS from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

**08 September 2017:** The IFRC issues Emergency Appeal for 1,128,171 Swiss francs to assist 500 families (2500 people) for six months.



A team from the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross on its way to Barbuda to do assessments to verify the island's needs./ Source: ABRC

## The operational strategy

### Background

Hurricane Irma, a powerful Category 5 hurricane packing winds more than 185 miles per hour, impacted several eastern Caribbean countries on 6 September 2017. Irma's wide band swept over Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Montserrat and Saint Kitts and Nevis with Barbuda and Anguilla most heavily affected.

Impact in Barbuda was severe as the eye of the hurricane passed five miles north of the 35-square mile island. 90 percent of all buildings are reported as destroyed or severely damaged. Telecommunication systems in the island are down and power supply remains off across the island. One fatality is reported.

Hurricane Irma is the first storm on record to maintain its Category 5 rating for such a long amount of time, according to the French weather service. The record comes after the storm sustained maximum wind speeds of 185 miles per hour, becoming the only Atlantic hurricane to sustain such powerful wind speeds for so long. The last hurricane maintaining such winds for even close to that long was hurricane Allen, which hit northern Mexico and southern Texas in 1980. Allen had winds of 180 mph and above for around 18 hours.

Irma has killed at least 10 people as it continues its destructive march across the Caribbean. At least eight people were killed and 23 injured in French Caribbean island territories, as stated by the France' interior Minister.

The affected population in both islands face yet another threat — a second hurricane, Jose, which appears to have the same trajectory as Irma. According to the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre (NHC) hurricane Jose is at the moment about 715 miles east of the Lesser Antilles, and is blowing with maximum winds of 90 miles per hour and is a Category 3 hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean. A hurricane watch is in effect for Antigua, Barbuda, Anguilla, Sint Maarten and Saint Martin. A tropical storm warning is also in effect for Antigua and Barbuda and Anguilla. A tropical storm watch has been issued for Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saba and St. Eustatius. This Emergency Appeal will not only help support the response of hurricane Irma, but also the preparation for the future threat of hurricane Jose.

### Needs assessment

**Health:** Early reports from Barbuda suggest that Irma damaged Hanna Thomas Hospital, an eight-bed, outpatient facility; however, the extent of the damage is unknown. Adequate refrigeration and the storage of medication remain a concern, and it is likely that medication and supplies will need to be shipped to Barbuda from neighbouring Antigua. Antigua's one public hospital Mount Saint John's Medical Centre was undamaged by the storm, and it is on standby to assist the affected population.

In the coming weeks, Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis are at risk of outbreaks of vector borne diseases; the countries are particularly vulnerable to Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika, as the floodwaters subside and debris filled with stagnant water provide ideal breeding sites for the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which is the main vector for these diseases. It is expected that cases of Dengue and Chikungunya will rise in the weeks after the hurricane (with possible lag times of 6 to 8 weeks); consequently, efforts to remove breeding sites, cover water storage, and personal protection from mosquitoes during reconstruction efforts will be key to prevention efforts. Finally, leptospirosis is a risk in Antigua and Barbuda; albeit there have been previous reports of the disease. Currently, the Zika Operation in the Americas is currently ongoing in these National Societies and activities to prevent these diseases will be considered.

**Water and sanitation:** This sector is one of the main concerns for Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis. In Barbuda, which was the hardest hit island by Irma, most of the water supplied to the population comes from shallow wells; it is expected that many of these have been destroyed or contaminated following the widespread destruction wrought by Irma.

Waterborne diseases, including acute watery diarrhoea, are a concern for the affected countries affected due to disruption of the water supply and the potential contamination of the countries' drinking water supply; additionally, there is a risk of acute respiratory tract infections. The provision of hygiene kits, mosquito nets, and hygiene promotion will be essential to preventing outbreaks of these disease, especially for children under five years of age.

**Livelihoods:** Hurricane Irma affected the livelihoods of people in Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis, leaving many families without the means to meet their basic needs; the storm may have particularly impacted small businesses and small markets/shops, due to damage to essential service infrastructure such as the power supply, fuel supply, ports, roads, etc. Additionally, both countries' service sector, including tourism industry, which accounts for 80 per cent of the Gross Value Added, is expected to have suffered serious losses due to infrastructural damage and the expected time of recovery; as a result, there will be a considerable shock to the local and national economy. Many small-business owners and entrepreneurs, as well as employees and self-employed labourers, who depend on service sector as well as agriculture and fishing, will likely have lost a good percentage of their future income. Given that markets should recover quickly, support could be provided through cash transfers, as beneficiaries can then use their cash grants to replace lost productive assets or restart small business and enterprises, which in return will provide employment. The amount of cash has been estimated as 100 per cent of the monthly food basket and housing water, electricity, gas and other fuel consumption costs, plus about 170 U.S. Dollars (USD) top up allowance. A market study will be carried out to assess if the regional card system is feasible or if other options need to be explored.

**Shelter and settlements:** The impact on housing is still evolving as information comes in from the affected National Societies. The latest reports from the National Societies, various media outlets and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) indicate that some 70 to 90 per cent of the houses are affected on Barbuda. In Nevis minor damage is being reported and Saint Kitts is conducting an initial situation assessment. To meet the emergency shelter needs, tarpaulins will be provided; in addition, the hardest hit communities will be provided with a combination of a cash transfer and non-food items for them to repair their dwellings.

### **Overall objective**

The overall objective of this operation is to ensure that at least 2,500 people (500 families; 300 families in Antigua and Barbuda and 200 families in Saint Kitts and Nevis) affected by the hurricane receive appropriate assistance in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, and that they are provided with the necessary support to recover with increased disaster resilience. This operation will ensure that all affected women, men, children, persons with disabilities and minority groups are reached through this operation.

The immediate response efforts will focus on the sectors of health; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; shelter and settlements; and household non-food items. More than 50 per cent of this operation is dedicated to carrying out CTP to the affected population to contribute to the restoring of the local economy and to re-establish households' structures. Considering that local markets had been severely affected, the operation will distribute relief items in its first phase, continuing with CTP transfers to beneficiaries for three months.

### **Beneficiary selection**

Interventions will be aligned with IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming, for example by targeting women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, men and boys made vulnerable by the disaster, households that have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to the socially vulnerable households, and those who lack relevant resources to cope with basic humanitarian needs on their own. These groups will be considered according to level of impact.

Additional adjustment on the EPoA will be made, according to updated needs and evaluation assessments and if needed after the impact of the trajectory of hurricane Jose.

### Coordination and partnerships

The National Societies have participated on a daily basis in the National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). In these coordination meetings, information has been shared with humanitarian partners in both countries. The ABRC and the SKNRCS are working in close relationship with National Authorities in charge of disaster response in the countries. Joint assessments of the situation have been ongoing.


Since declaration of Alert by the IFRC Regional Office for the Americas on 21 August 2017, continuous coordination with the National Societies has been established and a [Dashboard](#) was developed to monitor the storm's progress.

The IFRC Country Cluster Support Team in Trinidad and Tobago for the English and Dutch Caribbean Islands, together with the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC) of the French Red Cross and the IFRC Regional Office have been participating in coordination meetings to articulate the Movement response to the emergency. The American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and International Committee of the Red Cross have been in constant communication and participating in the IFRC EOC preparations. The IFRC has been coordinating with the headquarters of the Netherlands Red Cross, French Red Cross and British Red Cross concerning their overseas branches also with the support of PIRAC.

The IFRC also has been participating in REDLAC (OCHA meeting for its acronym in Spanish) coordination meetings in Panama and the CDEMA meetings in Barbados.

Planned coordination and communication mechanisms between entities will insure efficient support to actions and will provide a platform for adequate and timely decisions on all requests related to the operation. The IFRC Surge capacities deployed to the islands will support the National Societies in the implementation of the action plan.

## Proposed sectors of intervention

	<b>Health</b>
<b>Outcome 1 The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced</b>	
<b>Output 1.1</b> Target population is provided with first aid services	
Activities planned:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement and deployment of first aid kits</li> <li>• Mobilisation of volunteers to provide first aid service to beneficiaries</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 1.2</b> Psychosocial first aid and psychosocial support activities are provided to people affected by hurricane Irma	
Activities planned:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Printing and distribution of information on stress management and coping mechanisms</li> <li>• Training of Red Cross and staff volunteers in Psychosocial Support (PSS) in Emergencies</li> <li>• Implementation of PSS activities (managing stress, strengthening coping mechanisms, preventing violence in shelters) for beneficiaries and volunteers</li> <li>• Mobilization of a PSS Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member to support the National Societies</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 1.3</b> Epidemic prevention measures carried out in areas affected by hurricane Irma	
Activities planned:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Printing of Information of Education and Communications materials on epidemic control</li> <li>• Household and collective centre visits to sensitize and develop prevention activities to decrease the risk of communicable diseases</li> <li>• Carry out a community mobilization strategy of Community-Based Surveillance approach</li> <li>• RIT deployment to support Health assessment</li> </ul>	



## Water; Sanitation; Hygiene promotion

**Outcome 2 Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water-related diseases in targeted communities for at least 500 families**

**Output 2.1** Distribution of hygiene-related goods (non-food items), which meet Sphere standards, to at least 500 families in areas affected by Hurricane Irma

Activities planned:

- Training of Red Cross volunteers on conducting water, sanitation and hygiene assessments
- Initial assessment of the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities
- Procurement and pre-positioning of 500 hygiene kits (1 per family)
- Procurement of 1,000 jerry cans (2 per family)
- Procurement of 500 14-litre buckets (1 per family)
- Procurement of 1,000 mosquito nets (2 per family)
- Coordination with other water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) actors on target group needs and appropriate response.

**Output 2.2** Hygiene promotion activities, which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items, is provided to the target population

Activities planned:

- Production of educational hygiene promotion materials to the most vulnerable households
- Hygiene promotion activity for 500 families



## Livelihoods; Nutrition; Food security

**Outcome 3 Immediate food needs of the disaster affected population are met**

**Output 3.1** Appropriate food rations are distributed to vulnerable households

Activities planned:

- Mobilization of volunteers and orientation on distribution protocols.
- Distribution of food rations to 500 households (300 Antigua and Barbuda, 200 Saint Kitts and Nevis)
- Monitoring and reporting on distributions



## Shelter (including household non-food items)

**Emergency Phase**

**Outcome 4 The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population are met**

**Output 4.1** Essential non-food items are provided to the target population

Activities planned:

- Replenishment of 100 emergency backpacks from Antigua and Barbuda's initial emergency response
- Distribution of non-food items (kitchen sets, blankets) to 500 households (300 in Antigua and Barbuda, 200 in Saint Kitts and Nevis)
- Mobilization of volunteers and orientation on distribution protocols
- Shelter RIT/Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) deployment to support detailed assessment
- Monitoring and reporting on distributions

**Output 4.2** Target population is provided with emergency shelter assistance

Activities planned:


- Replenishment of 1,150 Tarpaulins of the Emergency Phase
- Distribution of shelter kits (2 tarpaulins and 1 Shelter Tool Kit) to 500 families

- Technical orientation for volunteers and beneficiaries on the construction of emergency shelters
- Selection and registration of beneficiary households that will receive shelter assistance
- Preparation and dissemination of beneficiary and stakeholder communication (including feedback and response mechanism)
- Monitoring and reporting on distributions and assistance
- Develop the shelter strategy for recovery phase

In addition to the sectors above, the operation will be underpinned by a commitment to quality programming that involves:

- Continuous and detailed assessments and analysis to inform the design and ongoing implementation of the programme
- Ongoing process of adjustment based on these assessments
- The establishment of mechanisms to facilitate two-way communication with, and ensure transparency and accountability to, disaster-affected people
- Management and delivery of the programme will be informed by appropriate monitoring and evaluation.


The detailed plan of action under quality programming is as follows:

 <b>Quality programming (areas common to all sectors)</b>
<b>Outcome 5 Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) is ensured through the realization of CEA activities</b>
<b>Output 5.1</b> Target population stays informed through consistent, reliable and actionable key messages
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiring of a CEA Officer for three months (one in Antigua and Barbuda and one in Saint Kitts and Nevis)</li> <li>• Consistent dissemination of lifesaving messages through context-specific communication channels (community radios, loud speakers, social media, <i>What Now</i> messaging service etc.)</li> <li>• Production and printing of CEA materials for emergency distribution kits to inform affected population</li> <li>• Rumour and feedback tracking system established to tackle misinformation originating from target population</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome 6 Contribute to household economic security of the disaster targeted population</b>
<b>Output 6.1</b> Unconditional cash transfers are provided to targeted households to meet their essential needs
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of RIT specialized in CTP</li> <li>• Conduct a cash feasibility study</li> <li>• Rapid market assessment</li> <li>• Induction CTP training for volunteers</li> <li>• Open Data Kit (ODK) training for volunteers</li> <li>• Identification and selection of beneficiaries</li> <li>• Selection and procurement of financial service provider (if necessary, a new provider)</li> <li>• Distribution of unconditional cash to beneficiaries (200 households in Saint Kitts and Nevis and 300 in Antigua and Barbuda)</li> <li>• Monitoring and beneficiary communication and accountability system</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome 7 Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.</b>
<b>Output 7.1</b> The management of the operation is informed by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system.
<b>Output 7.2</b> Operation activities are disseminated at the local, national and regional levels.
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiring of operational staff, including an operations manager to support the activities in the field</li> <li>• Training for volunteers</li> <li>• Community assemblies to present the project</li> <li>• Monitoring visits</li> </ul>

- Progress reports on the affected communities
- Documentary on activities
- Beneficiary satisfaction survey
- Lessons learned workshop
- Development of beneficiary stories
- IFRC monitoring

**Programme support services**

To ensure effective and efficient technical coordination, the following programme support functions will be put in place: **human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology (IT); information management (IM); communication; security; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; finance and administration; legal and risk management.**

 **Budget**

[See attached IFRC Secretariat budget Annex for details.](#)

Jagan Chapagain  
Under Secretary General  
Programmes and Operations Division

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Secretary General

## Reference documents



Click here for:

- [DREF Operation Antigua & Barbuda - Hurricane Irma.](#)
- [DREF Operation Saint-Kitts and Nevis - Hurricane Irma.](#)

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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.**

# EMERGENCY APPEAL

## APPEAL ST. KITTS & NAVIS / ANTIGUA & BARBUDA - HURRICANE IRMA

MDR49009

2017-09-08

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Inter-Agency Shelter Coord.	Bilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	40,764			40,764
Shelter - Transitional	0			0
Construction - Housing	0			0
Construction - Facilities	0			0
Construction - Materials	0			0
Clothing & Textiles	10,861			10,861
Food	49,950			49,950
Seeds & Plants	0			0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	15,310			15,310
Medical & First Aid	2,392			2,392
Teaching Materials	28,707			28,707
Utensils & Tools	3,588			3,588
Other Supplies & Services	957			957
Emergency Response Units	0			0
Cash Disbursements	502,370			502,370
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>654,898</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>654,898</b>
Land & Buildings	0			0
Vehicles	0			0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	4,784			4,784
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0			0
Medical Equipment	0			0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0			0
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>4,784</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,784</b>
Storage, Warehousing	0			0
Distribution & Monitoring	79,805			79,805
Transport & Vehicle Costs	45,644			45,644
Logistics Services	17,607			17,607
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>143,056</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>143,056</b>
International Staff	146,874			146,874
Rit Deployment	17,224			17,224
National Staff	0			0
National Society Staff	14,258			14,258
Volunteers	28,822			28,822
Other Staff Benefits	0			0
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>207,177</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>207,177</b>
Consultants	0			0
Professional Fees	0			0
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Workshops & Training	15,310			15,310
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>15,310</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,310</b>
Travel	5,741			5,741
Information & Public Relations	23,540			23,540
Office Costs	239			239
Communications	2,560			2,560
Financial Charges	2,009			2,009
Other General Expenses	0			0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0			0
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>34,089</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34,089</b>
Partner National Societies	0			0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0			0
<b>Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	68,856	0	0	68,856
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>68,856</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68,856</b>
Pledge Earmarking & Reporting Fees	0			0
<b>Total PLEDGE SPECIFIC COSTS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1,128,171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,128,171</b>
<b>Available Resources</b>				
Multilateral Contributions				0
Bilateral Contributions				0
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS</b>	<b>1,128,171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,128,171</b>