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Emergency Plan of Action operation update Haiti: Hurricane Irma



DREF operation no. MDRHT014	Glide n° TC-2017-000125-HTI
Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) update n° 1 Date of issue: 19 September 2017	Expected timeframe: 2 months; the expected end date is 7 November 2017
Overall operation budget: 139,893 Swiss francs (CHF)	Operation start date: 6 September 2017
Total number of people affected: 20,000 people	Number of people to be assisted: 1,000 families; 5,000 people
Host National Society presence: 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), the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC for its acronym in French) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA)	
Summary of revisions made to the emergency plan of action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of people to be assisted has been reduced from 2,000 families (10,000 people) to 1,000 families (5,000 people) The budget has been reduced from CHF 298,588 to CHF 139,893 <p>The following changes have been made to Outcome 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced the amount of tarpaulins from 4,000 to 2,000 Removed the distribution of shelter kits and kitchen sets activity <p>The following changes have been made to Outcome 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed the pre-positioning of water treatment tanks Removed the distribution and replenishment of 2,000 buckets Reduced amount of hygiene kits from 2,000 to 1,000 Addition of hygiene promotion campaigns on handwashing, open defecation and waste water management Addition of the distribution and replenishment of 2,000 jerry cans 	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Hurricane Irma impacted Haiti on the evening of 7 September 2017 into the early hours of 8 September. The eye of the hurricane passed north-east of the coastline of the country, creating storm surges on the north coast and wind and flood damage to vulnerable communities. The storm mainly impacted Haiti's three northern departments.

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



Damage assessments in Malfety, Nord Est department.
Source: HRCS

protocols in coordination with the activation of the national disaster response system, in six departments. Additionally, the Haiti Red Cross Society pre-deployed staff into the field, 8 vehicles and mobilized 120 volunteers to conduct sensitization/alerts and assist in evacuations in four departments (Grand Anse, Nord, Nord Ouest and Nord Est) before the passage of Hurricane Irma, and it pre-positioned hygiene kits, jerry cans, long-lasting insecticide treated [mosquito] nets (LLITNs) and tarpaulins before 8 September 2017 in the communes of Port de Paix, Cap Haitien and Fort Libertie for the families displaced by Hurricane Irma. HRCS volunteers worked before the passage of Hurricane Irma to sensitize the community on preparedness actions, and it also worked closely with the DPC to assist with the evacuations of vulnerable people to identified collective centres. After the passage of the Hurricane, HRCS volunteers began conducting damage assessments in the different communes of the Nord, Nord Ouest and Nord Est departments on 8 September 2017; the assessments continued until 13 September 2017; the data gathered thus far indicates that the heavy winds and subsequent flooding affected 3,838 families, and HRCS volunteers also carried out joint assessments with the DPC in the Nord Ouest department (including Port de Paix, St. Louis de Nord, Anse-a-Foleur, Jean Rabel, Baie-de-Henne, Detipotpe, Ile de la Tortue, Bassin Blue, Chansolme, Mole St. Nicolas) and Nord Est department (Caracol, Ferrier, Ouanaminthe, Fort Libertie), which were supported by the American Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and the IFRC. To date, 188 families have been assisted with non-food items (NFIs) from the pre-positioned stocks.

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, and they have had three meetings since that day; additionally, Movement partners have shared data on available stock and equipment. The German, French and American National Societies have pre-positioned relief items in the Nord Ouest and Nord departments for 100 and 300 families, respectively.

In response to the rapidly developing weather phenomenon, the regional office for the Americas (ARO) declared an Alert II on 31 August 2017, and coordination among the HRCS, the IFRC country cluster and ARO was established that same day. ARO developed a [Dashboard](#) to monitor the storm's progress. One DM was pre-deployed to Nord Est, and supported the HRC regional committee and volunteers to carry out the preliminary assessments after the passage of Hurricane Irma.

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 was under a Hurricane Warning, with the expected impact to be evening of Thursday 7; in addition, the government have conducted 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. Since the passing of Hurricane Irma, the DPC in the northern departments have been coordinating joint assessments with partners.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Shelter and Settlements (and household items): Poor infrastructure exposed vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to flood and wind damage. Results of preliminary assessments indicate 2,643 houses suffered damages.

Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion: Hurricane Irma adversely impacted the existing household sanitation infrastructure, exposing persons to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses.

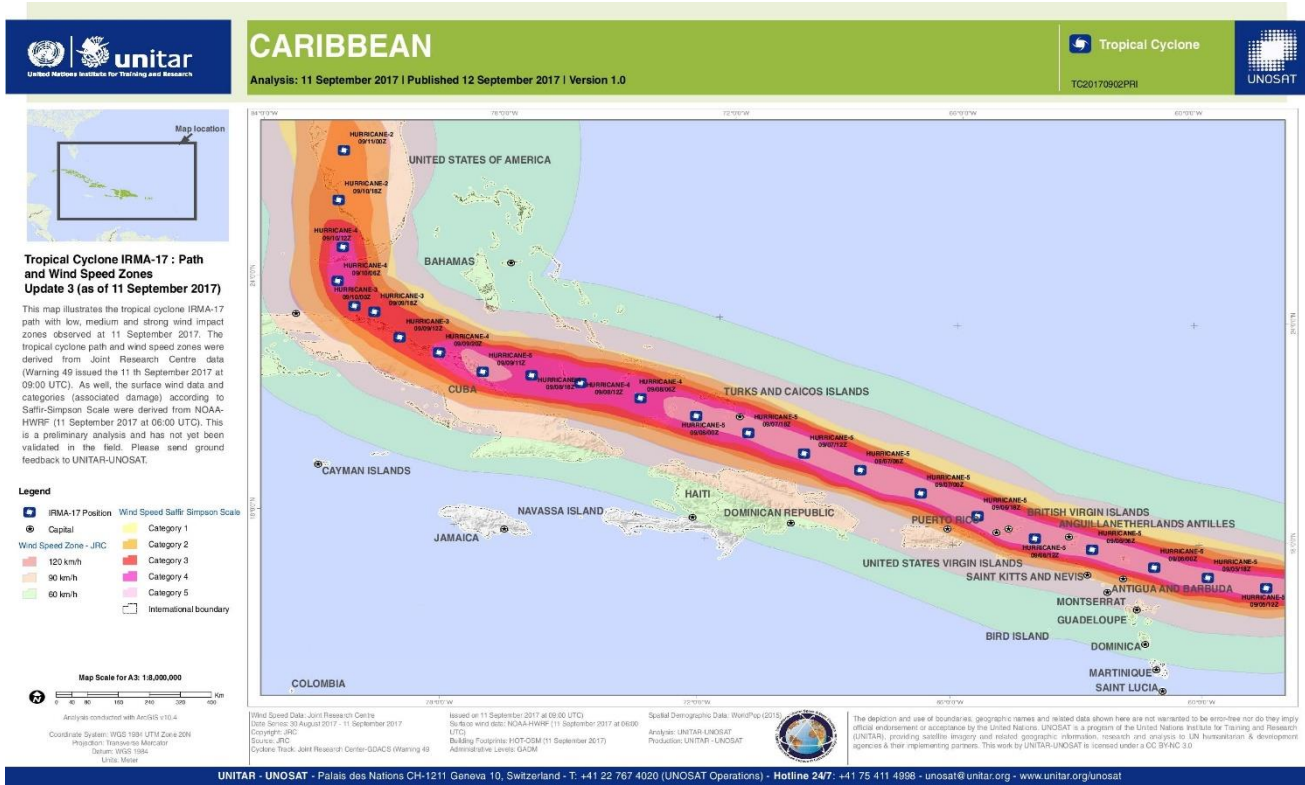
Beneficiary Selection:

This Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation aims to reach 1,000 families affected by the effects of Hurricane Irma. The following selection criteria have been established for the operation at community and familial level:

- Families affected by the event effects 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 did not affect directly Haiti; however, flooded rivers, whose headwaters are in the more heavily affected Dominican Republic-side of the Island of Hispaniola, caused flooding in the impacted communes in Haiti. Moreover, there are two tropical depressions that are expected to affect further the already saturated soil in the Dominican Republic, which could also could also impact Haiti.



B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The operation will support the Haiti Red Cross Society's preparedness actions, which it conducted in preparation for Irma's potential impact, and it will enable to attend to the immediate needs of 1,000 families (5,000 people).

Proposed strategy

The damage assessments in northern Haiti are ongoing; however, preliminary reports indicate that Irma's strong winds and heavy rainfall caused flooding in the affected areas; therefore, this DREF is being developed to cover the National Society's previous preparedness activities, the distribution of NFIs and the water, sanitation and hygiene promotion response.

This DREF will support the following activities:

- The distribution of 2,000 tarpaulins (2 per family) available in country, 2,000 LLITNS and for 1,000 families as preventive measures to protect people's dwellings.
- The distribution of 1,000 hygiene kits
- 2000 jerry cans in the northern departments
- The pre-positioning of several teams of volunteers, who was provided with adequate equipment, in strategic places to conduct early assessments of the situation.



Photo 2: Flooded crops in Haiti's Nord Est department. Source: HRCS

Operational support services

Human resources

Irma is expected to cause some damage and require the mobilization of 336 volunteers to take part in the assessments and distributions of NFIs in the country.

Logistics and supply chain

The Haiti Red Cross Society will distribute all the NFI stock that was 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 3 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 a 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 HRC before publication. A communications officer will be recruited to specifically support these actions. Lastly, the IFRC issued [Information Bulletin no. 1](#) and [Information Bulletin no. 2](#), [Information Bulletin no. 3](#) and [Information Bulletin no. 4](#) on Hurricane Irma .

Security

The Haiti Red Cross Society's volunteers that are 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
- Rubber boots
- Flashlights

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Reporting on the operation will be conducted in accordance with the IFRC's minimum reporting standards, and 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: Poor infrastructure exposed vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to flood and wind damage; the results of the preliminary assessments indicate that 2,643 houses suffered damages.

Population to be assisted: The target population is 1,000 families in the collective centres.

Outcome 1: The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population are met.									
Output 1.1 The affected population's shelter needs are covered following Hurricane Irma's impact									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Coordination with local emergency departments and local authorities									
Distribution and replenishment of the following NFIs: 2,000 tarpaulins and 2,000 LLITNs for 1,000 families									
Development of a distribution plan according to the existing contingency plan									
Monitoring of procurement and the supply chain									

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: Hurricane Irma adversely impacted the existing household sanitation infrastructure, exposing persons to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses.

Population to be assisted: The target population is 1,000 families.

Outcome 2: Reduce the risk of water and vector-borne diseases for the population affected by Hurricane Irma									
Output 2.1 Access to safe water and hygiene promotion for 1,000 families									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rapid assessments									
Hygiene promotion campaigns on handwashing, open defecation and waste water management									
Distribution of 2,000 jerry cans (2 per family)									
Distribution and replenishment of 1,000 hygiene kits									

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 a Movement coordinator to support the National Society									

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

In Haiti:

- JP Guiteau, Haiti Red Cross Society president; phone: +1 509 3416 9069; email: president@croixrouge.ht
- Marie Marcelle Cauvin, Haiti Red Cross Society director general; phone: +1 509 3856 7470; email: mm.cauvin@croixrouge.ht
- Priyadarshni Rai, IFRC community resilience delegate; mobile: + 509 3170 7252; email: pryadarshni.raif@ifrc.org

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.
- Diana Medina, communications coordinator; email: diana.medina@ifrc.org
- Mauricio Bustamante, Regional Logistics coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: 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

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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

In IFRC Geneva:

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

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DREF OPERATION

19/09/2017

MDRHT014 - Haiti Hurricane Irma

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	26,928
Clothing & Textiles	4,520
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	32,699
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	4,809
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	68,956
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	10,029
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,319
Logistics Services	11,032
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	29,380
International Staff	8,656
Regional Deployed Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	2,885
Volunteers	10,371
Other Staff Benefits	4,809
Total PERSONNEL	26,720
Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	2,885
Information & Public Relations	289
Office Costs	962
Communications	1,587
Financial Charges	577
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	6,299
Programme and Services Support Recovery	8,538
Total INDIRECT COSTS	8,538
TOTAL BUDGET	139,893