

OPERATION UPDATE #2

Cuba | Hurricane Ian

Emergency appeal №: MDRCU008 Emergency appeal launched: 6 October 2022 Operational Strategy published: 2 November 2022	Glide №: TC-2022-00320-CUB
Operation update #2 Date of issue: 21 December 2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 6 October to 6 December 2022
Operation timeframe: 15 months (6 October 2022 to 31 December 2023)	Number of people being assisted: 25,000
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 9 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1 million

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 9,000,000, is 38 per cent funded. Further contributions are needed to enable the Cuban Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC, to continue providing humanitarian assistance to the families affected by Hurricane Ian.



Cuban Red Cross staff and volunteers at San Simón, Consejo Popular Galope, Municipio de San Juan y Martínez, delivering humanitarian assistance supplies. Provincia de Pinar del Río, 28 November 2022. *Source: Cuban Red Cross.*

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Hurricane Ian made landfall on 26 September lashing the western region of the country, with sustained winds of more than 200 km/h and even stronger gusts, significant storm surge and coastal flooding. The impact of the hurricane left a trail of destruction as it crossed the country. Upon making landfall, Ian was classified as a category 4 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale, with a diameter spanning 600 km.

The numbers that were gathered indicate that 3.2 million people were directly affected in the provinces of Pinar del Río, Artemisa and La Habana, as well as the Special Municipality Isla de la Juventud. Hurricane Ian affected the Cuban territory for six hours, wreaking havoc across several municipalities, including the capital of Pinar del Río Province, where the eye of the hurricane lingered for an hour and a half. Sea waters reached two kilometers inland in several coastal areas, with the height of floodwaters reaching 1.5 meters.

Reported damage was significant and it combined the complexity of the impacts in a major urban area with the loss of livelihoods in rural municipalities. 76,221 people were evacuated to centers set up by local government authorities while others relocated to the homes of friends and family, in compliance with the guidelines of the National Civil Defense General Staff. Despite the prevention efforts of authorities and the warnings issued to the population, this powerful hurricane left three people dead following its passage through Pinar del Río.

The assessments that were conducted indicate critical damage to housing, access to drinking water and electricity, health and educational institutions, facilities that store or distribute food, thousands of hectares of crops, agricultural and livestock production and fisheries, i.e., the fundamental means of livelihood of the population of the affected municipalities. Major challenges persist for reestablishing electricity, which impacts several basic services, including running water, in addition to the damage caused to water reservoirs and distribution systems.

The complex situation has created the conditions for an increased risk of dengue and gastrointestinal diseases in a context where serious damages to health facilities have been reported. Immediate national efforts have been important to restore living conditions and the minimum operation of services, including a recovery strategy that looks to reduce pre-existing vulnerabilities. However, the damage has been devastating.

Hurricane Ian hit Cuba amid a complex post-COVID-19 global context as the country faces economic challenges. Cuba is excluded from major international financial institutions and faces extremely limited access to international capital markets, making it very difficult to finance disaster response efforts and the country's development. In the aftermath of Ian's destruction, it is critical to support Cuba in its ongoing response and recovery efforts.¹

There has been substantial progress in terms of restoring the electricity and cleaning up the debris and fallen trees. However, there is a long way ahead for the affected families to fully recover from the humanitarian impact caused by Hurricane Ian. Gradually the humanitarian aid has been delivered by the humanitarian actors with operational capacity in the ground. Many families have rebuilt their roofs through recycling materials that were spread around. There is a need to provide sustainable shelter solutions so these families can reduce their vulnerability in terms of facing future tropical storms or hurricanes that may hit the affected geographical area.

¹ [Plan of Action: United Nations System Cuba - Hurricane Ian Response \(October 2022\)](#)

Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The Cuban Red Cross (CRC) works as part of the National Civil Defence System and in close coordination with the Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP). The work of the National Society focuses on the Department of Operations and Relief, which is responsible for (1) actions in case of disasters and (2) developing prevention, preparedness/readiness, response and recovery actions in communities. Currently, CRC has 314 staff members and 47,000 volunteers participating in activities in 15 departmental branches and 168 municipal branches.

Cuba has strong early warning systems and preparedness protocols that minimize the impact of hurricanes. Before Ian made landfall, CRC focused the attention on preparedness activities. CRC Staff and volunteers were activated 72 hours before landfall and have since had full access to the affected areas and communities. The National Society has a permanent presence in all affected provinces and has assisted communities in close coordination with the local authorities. A total of 1,664 volunteers and staff have been actively involved in the response. The role of CRC as an auxiliary to government allows the National Society to help coordinate evacuations and CRC teams began evacuating people on 24 September, three days before landfall.

Hurricane Ian has thus far directly impacted 993 Red Cross volunteer's homes in the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, and Mayabeque. The volunteers are nonetheless engaged and performing their humanitarian duties as it has been mandated.

Cuban Red Cross actions:

Since before Hurricane Ian made landfall, the volunteers of the Cuban Red Cross have been engaged in prevention work, family relocation to safe locations, rescue, and other more varied tasks.

According to information provided a total of 1,664 volunteers have helped in:

- As part of the Council of Civil Defence, CRC has the mandate to be active in evacuation through their staff and volunteers trained in evacuation. In this event, 2,391 people that were at risk were evacuated. Other services provided by the Cuban Red Cross include 557 people reached with Psychosocial Support (PSS) interventions, 145 people reached with first aid, and 173 people rescued directly by CRC staff.
- 523 volunteers clean up and rebuild communities across 4 provinces (Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, La Habana, and Mayabeque).
- The installation of three protection centers for affected families, in which 17 volunteers assisted.
- Damage assessments have been conducted by 43 volunteers, who have also identified homes with partial and complete roof loss, complete and partial collapse, and varied other needs.
- 57 volunteers have been actively involved in aiding social workers who oversee raising "social cases," such as single mothers with young children, elderly persons living alone, and people with impairments, among others.
- In the City of Havana, 17 volunteers have given blood, while 36 volunteers have helped build Cuban Red Cross emergency tents to support a total of 887 people.
- In three communities of Pinar del Rio Province, 180 cases have been attended because of the assistance given by 36 volunteers in immunization campaigns (COVID-19 and other vaccines) and HIV testing.
- A total of 75 volunteers have worked on initiatives to promote health, sanitation, access to clean water with a focus on dengue control, Sexual Transmission Infection prevention, information sharing with pregnant women and the elderly, and distributing donations gathered in the territories to the local populace.
- Hurricane Ian has thus far directly impacted 993 Red Cross volunteer's homes in the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, and Mayabeque. The volunteers are nonetheless engaged and performing their humanitarian duties as it has been mandated.

- During November, the CRC staff and volunteers worked on the assessments and targeting to reach 33 communities located in 9 “Consejos Populares” in San Juan y Martínez, which have been identified following the selection criteria stated in the Emergency Appeal.
- 21 Cuban Red Cross volunteers from Pinar del Río provincial branch participated loading and unloading the 3 trucks that were transporting the humanitarian assistance coming from Mariel Port customs.
- The first distribution of humanitarian assistance was done on 28 November in the community of San Simón, Consejo Popular Galope in San Juan y Martínez municipality of Pinar del Río Province. So far, 595 families have received hygiene kits, kitchen sets and solar lamps. The community is reachable using rural roads by an agricultural tractor. The distributions have been supported by 36 Cuban Red Cross volunteers of San Juan y Martínez branch.
- There are daily distributions in San Juan y Martínez led by CRC staff and volunteers. CRC has set up a distribution plan which mobilizes around 8 volunteers per day, so the volunteers can rotate and organize themselves accordingly.
- CRC in San Juan y Martínez is targeting isolated communities that require some extra logistic support. Sometimes the volunteers have to walk long distances to carry the humanitarian supplies in order to reach the targeted communities
- An extra activity has been conducted by 14 Cuban Red Cross volunteers of Artemisa Province during this time in terms of attending people injured involve in 4 major road accidents mainly because Fire and Rescue Department (Mariel municipality) was not able to attend since they are involved in Hurricane Ian response and their capacity is limited. This is a special request coming from Fire and Rescue Department to Cuban Red Cross, knowing the level of preparedness of Red Cross volunteers.



CRC volunteers from San Juan and Martínez, Pinar del Río Province distributing kitchen sets, hygiene kits and solar lamps to the affected families in Nuevo Galafre and Pamplona communities.

IFRC actions:

- IFRC deployed a response team from Regional Office and Latin Caribbean Cluster Delegation on 30 September to support CRC on the humanitarian response.
- 1,280 hygiene kits, 1,280 kitchen sets and 1,280 solar lamps were cleared from customs in mid-November.
- IFRC has mobilized an Operation Manager as part of the Surge Capacity scheme for 2 months, to ensure that there is a permanent presence in the country until long-term staff is assigned to the operation.
- IFRC operation manager and disaster management coordinator from IFRC Regional Office have worked closely with CRC on monitoring visits to the field and has participated in the distributions and activities related community engagement to get feedback on the humanitarian supplies that were already distributed.
- The Procurement of the initial 600 roofing kits has already started and the purchase orders have already been processed. The first roofing kits will arrive in Cuba in January 2023. It is crucial that as many shelters as possible are built before the next hurricane season so the targeted families can be better prepared to face potential tropical storms and hurricanes that may hit Cuba in the second semester of 2023.
- All the items are procured internationally and follow the IFRC procurement procedures in terms of transparency and looking for the most competitive offers ensuring the quality standards and technical guidance.
- Funding from BHA USAID, ECHO, South Korean Government, Italian Government, AECID, Zurich Foundation, Monaco Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross has been confirmed to support the Emergency Appeal and American Red Cross, Netherland Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross also confirmed their support with specific humanitarian items needed in the appeal.

CRC teams and government authorities are frequently visiting the most affected territories. The strengths and resources of the government, national organisations and civil society are being used to respond to the crisis. CRC has activated many volunteers to support on the assessment and distribution during the last weeks and distributing plans have been designed as part of the relief operation. Solid and fluent coordination among the CRC teams and government authorities are in place to reach the targeted communities through the distribution of the humanitarian supplies

CRC fulfills its auxiliary role as part of the National System of Prevention, Mitigation and Response to emergencies and disasters. The Cuban Civil Defence System³ also integrates all levels, from nation to community, with measures for prevention, mitigation and preparedness. It is also responsible of the dissemination of guidelines on the protection of the population, their property and the national economy. The National Civil Defence General Staff is the main governing body of this system, in charge of overseeing compliance with Civil Defence measures and international conventions related to civil protection. It is also responsible for coordinating international cooperation and assistance during natural disasters.

Needs analysis

Needs analysis

The information provided below comes from the assessments and the information that has been published.

Health sector: Even though many of the healthcare facilities have not yet undergone rehabilitation, more than 99% of the health professionals in the province of Pinar del Rio have reported to work. Out of a total of 319 hospitals, 87 have been restored (27%), and work is still being done to restore the remaining hospitals. Despite this, medical facilities continue to offer essential services to individuals in need. The Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP) reported significant structural damage to health facilities located in the impacted areas, including a total collapse of some 22 CMFs (child and maternal health centers), partial or complete loss of roofs (asbestos cement and zinc roof tiles), roofing (waterproofing sheets) and false ceilings, broken glass in windows and doors, as well as damage to water tanks and lines and power supply sources since the generators of several health facilities were affected. The

damaged health institutions in the most affected areas include 9 hospitals, 25 outpatient clinics, 106 family practitioner clinics and nursing clinics (CMF, child and maternal health centers), 8 pharmacies, 11 social institutions and 17 other institutions (nursing homes, maternity homes and others).

Shelter: there are around 100,000 houses that have been affected in the province of Pinar del Río alone with different level of damaged. Meanwhile, in the province of Artemisa, more than 9,000 houses have been affected. Out of the more than 100,000 impacted houses around the affected area, 5,374 have been rebuilt as of this writing. The worst delays are centered on the three most populous and severely damaged municipalities in the province of Pinar del Río: Pinar del Río, Consolación del Sur, and San Juan y Martínez. Likewise, there is considerable damage to water tanks due to the destruction of rooftop tanks and the considerable number of trees that have fallen, obstructing roads and damaging buildings.

There has been restricted access to building supplies; for instance, there are 13 points of sale in the City of Havana without roofing materials. However, 15,000 tiles are expected to arrive in the coming days. Therefore, local manufacturing of building blocks, window frames, prefabricated tanks, and timber modules is promoted.

Electricity service: Since the service recovery has reached 89.52% of the overall impacted population, there are still municipalities without electrical service like Pinar del Río, San Juan y Martínez, as well as San Luis, whose rehabilitation has been much more challenging due to the limited access to the area.

Water sector: According to reports, 171 out of 176 water sources and networks (97 per cent) have already been renovated and are currently operational. The remaining systems to be rehabilitated are the most challenging due to access in remote areas. The lack of electric power supply for several days throughout the province of Pinar del Río, and a large part of other western territories, has affected the reestablishment of the water supply service. The situation in Pinar del Río several days after the passage of the hurricane continues to be complex. Water is being distributed in communities through tanker trucks in regular distribution cycles according to local authorities. Public institutions have also suffered major impacts in this sector: in Pinar del Río 102 family doctors' offices, the 5 hospitals and 23 other health entities were affected, including the loss of water tanks.

Agriculture and Livestock sector: While the recovery for the infrastructure of the poultry and swine program is being prepared, 23 hectares of land devoted to tobacco had been recovered and 423 houses have been repaired to cure the crop. The damage to the agricultural sector has affected the livelihoods of a substantial portion of the population, related to tobacco, vegetable and horticultural crops, and livestock, with severe effects on the poultry, dairy and swine sectors, as well as fishing.

Currently, CRC staff are working on the targeting of the families that fulfill the criteria to get roofing support based on the targeting criteria and categorization of shelter damage. CRC will target roofing repairs that demand light roofing structure.

Operational risk assessment

Anticipated climate related risks and adjustments in operation

Although the Hurricane season has officially ended, it is important to continue monitoring hydro-meteorological activity in the Caribbean. This year the Hurricane season started later than expected so it will not be a surprise if there are still some threats related to potential new tropical storms or even hurricanes in the upcoming weeks. Likewise, it is necessary to monitor reservoirs and watersheds to avoid any flooding. And as some homes have been severely damaged, but remain standing, it is necessary to monitor their roofs and structure (including walls) to avoid additional damage or physical damage to any people living in them.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY


Update on the strategy

[MDRCU008 Operational Strategy](#)

There have been no changes to the Operational Strategy.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

 Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Female > 18: 8,000	Female < 18: 4,750
	Male > 18: 7,750	Male < 18: 4,500

Objective:	<i>Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions</i>		
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Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of people provided with basic emergency shelter that is safe and that adequately enables essential household and livelihoods activities to be undertaken with dignity.</i>	2,975	25,000

- The humanitarian supplies that arrived in country were cleared from customs, transported to a provincial warehouse, then to the Cuban Red Cross branches. The first distribution of humanitarian assistance was done in the community of San Simon, Consejo Popular Galope in San Juan y Martinez municipality of Pinar del Rio Province and 595 families received 1 kitchen set and 1 solar lamp each. The community is reachable using rural roads by an agricultural tractor.
- Procurement of 600 roofing kits is on the way to Cuba after issuing the purchase orders. The materials are expected to arrive in the country between the first and second week of January. Roofing tools procurement process also had been launched so it can be transported to Cuba at same time as roof kits.

Each family that received a kitchen set, obtained the following items:

Item in the Kitchen Set	Quantity
CUP, for food, 1L, stainless steel.	5
HOLDER, tabletop, stainless steel.	5
FRYING POT, 2.5L, used as lid for 7L pot.	1
KNIFE, kitchen, stainless steel blade 15 cm, plastic handle.	1
KNIFE, table knife, stainless steel.	5
SPOON, wooden, stirrer, 30 cm.	1
SPOON, soup, stainless steel, 10 ml.	5
POT, 5L, stainless steel, 20 cm diameter, with handles and lid.	1
POT, 7L, steel, 25 cm diameter, with handles.	1

GLASSES, stainless steel, with handle, 300ml.	5
DEEP DISH, stainless steel, 22 cm diameter, lid. 0.75L.	5
GLOSS (SPONGE) WASH.	1
SPOON, 100 ml, stainless steel.	1
SERVING SPOON, stainless steel, 35 ml.	1

Solar Lamp Technical characteristics:

- ✓ Rechargeable by solar panel and 220 V (separate cable and charger supplied with the lam)
- ✓ Connectors: Female USB socket (for charging a cell phone) and Micro-USB female input (for connecting solar panel or charger)
- ✓ 2 positions (high light and low light)
- ✓ Battery charge indicator light
- ✓ Shockproof plastic housing
- ✓ Rainproof
- ✓ Low self-discharge: 500+ charges
- ✓ Automatic deep discharge and battery overcharge protection
- ✓ Light Output Angle: 360 degrees, omnidirectional
- ✓ Solar panel: Built-in or separate (with a 3m cable with Micro-USB male connector to connect to the Micro-USB input of the lamp or to charge a cell phone)
- ✓ Time to fully charge: 12 hours max. in sunlight
- ✓ Charging socket performance (USB-A): Minimum output voltage without charging: 5V
- ✓ Fixing system: Folding handle, hook, strap or other mechanism to suspend the lamp, e.g., from tent pole or branch.
- ✓ Packaging: Wrapped in soft carton for protection (no plastic bags), packed in individual strong carton box. IATA packaging compatible with lithium-ion battery regulation.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
		<i>Number of people assisted with roof repair to fix their damaged houses</i>	0

There has been discussion to define the technical specifications on the roofing following the constructions modalities in the affected areas and the “build back better” approach. It was agreed the content of the roofing kits based on the analysis from different shelter experts. It has been agreed the content of the construction materials that are necessary to attach the roofing kits. Initially 20 shelter brigades will be organized to work on the roof repairs. CRC team has an extended experience working in the roof repairs in previous shelter operations. The interaction between CRC staff and the shelter brigades will contribute to ensuring the proper construction of the roofing repairs. Capacity building session to the shelter brigades will be arranged once the roofing materials and the contractions material arrive to Cuba.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
		<i>Number of staff and volunteers who completed training in emergency shelter and emergency household items</i>	



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Female > 18:
8,000

Female < 18:
4,750

Male > 18: **7,750**

Male < 18: **4,500**

Objective:

Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community level interventions and health system strengthening

Key indicators:

Indicator

Number of people reached by CRC on health services in emergencies

Actual

702

Target

25,000

The CRC has strong capacity in supporting the communities while responding to emergencies. The Red Cross Movement response to the Cuban Red Cross during the COVID-19 pandemic strengthened the National Society's capacity to collaborate with communities. As part of the national response system, CRC volunteers are present immediately after a disaster with enhanced capacity in risk communication at the community level, psychosocial support, among other services.

The 702 people that were reached belong to the early emergency phase through the primary health services that CRC staff and volunteers carried out during the first week of the emergency response.

The Cuban Red Cross

Objective: Activities to promote health, provide first aid services at the community level to reduce the risk of increased morbidity and mortality among affected populations.

Planned actions

- First aid training for volunteers
- Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) training for volunteers
- Distribution of first aid kits to CRC local branches
- Health promotion at the community level
- First aid at the community level

During the first days after the impact of Hurricane Ian, CRC staff and volunteers were responding to primary health care, providing services, on psychosocial social support, reaching 557 people and 145 affected people through first aid support. CRC continues to exercise its auxiliary role, supporting the Minister of Health with regards to the delivery of health services.

In early November, IFRC shipped 20 standard first aid kits to Cuba as part of the support to CRC on primary health care.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Female > 18:
8,000

Female < 18:
4,750

Male > 18: **7,750**

Male < 18: **4,500**

Objective:

Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of people reached by WASH assistance	2,975	25,000

The first distribution of humanitarian assistance was done on in the community of San Simón, Consejo Popular Galope in San Juan y Martínez municipality of Pinar del Río Province where 595 families received one hygiene kit each. Distributions continued and will reach 595 families at middle of December. Please find below the content of the hygiene kit.

Item	Quantity
Washing soap, 200g	1
Toilet paper	12
Hand washing soap 100g	13
Toothpaste, 75 ml	6
Toothbrush	5
Shampoo, 250 ml	5
Dispensable razor	5
Sanitary napkin	80
Hand towel	5
Comb	2
Plastic bag	1

 Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		8,000
	Male > 18: 7,750	Male < 18: 4,500

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of people trained in DRR (vulnerability and capacity assessment or climate change adaptation, first aid, contingency)	0	25,000

Nothing to report at this stage. Trainings on DRR and capacity building for CRC will be discussed based on the availability of funding. There was an initial discussion to define the potential content of the trainings and initiatives for capacity building that will be carried out during 2023.

IFRC plans to support CRC with “riesgolandias”² to strengthen disaster risk reduction at the community level, since CRC has successfully used this methodology in recent years.

² [UNDRR Educational Materials](#)

Enabling approaches



National Society Strengthening

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
		<i>Number of volunteers involved in the response operation that have increased their skills in response and management of operations</i>	0

Although the main attention from CRC is channeled to provide relief assistance to the affected population, there is an ongoing dialogue with CRC to define potential training for staff and volunteers that will increase the CRC capacity in different thematic areas.

Sessions on management of operations could be delivered in the upcoming months based on the availability of funds to conduct workshops for volunteers to increase skills and capacities.

There is an intention to maximize the role of the IFRC staff deployed to Cuba in terms of increasing capacities of the CRC. Since pressing the priority is to support the affected people by the impact of Hurricane Ian, in the upcoming months the content of the National Society strengthening will be further defined.

There has been a continuous presence and support from the IFRC Latin Caribbean Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) and Regional Office staff, as well as daily support from the Regional Logistic Unit. In terms of Movement Coordination, there has been a fluent dialogue with the PNSs that have shown interest in the operation. The mobilization table that shows the status of the humanitarian needs in terms of humanitarian supplies and the updated information related to in-kind donations have been shared among Movement Partners several times over the last weeks.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
		<i>Number of volunteers that received protection or visibility equipment</i>	51

51 sets of visibility materials (vests, caps and T-Shirts) have been shipped to Cuba to support CRC staff and volunteers in their daily activities.

There are commitments to support CRC staff with protection equipment based on the availability of funds.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:

Key indicators:

Indicator

of pledges registered

Actual

9

Target

15

Work on resource mobilisation/generation:

A RCRC Movement Partners Call was held on 25 October, hosted by PRD ARO. Regular information and fundraising resources related to this emergency have been shared with partners and potential donors since the day this Emergency Appeal was launched. The Partnerships and Resource Development Unit has maintained a regular dialogue with partners and donors and developed several funding proposals with the aim of securing needed resources for this emergency appeal.

Donors and partners to this Operation: AECID, Canadian Red Cross Society, Canadian Government, ECHO, Italian Government, Netherlands Red Cross, South Korean Government, Spanish Government, Spanish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, USAID/BHA, Zurich Foundation and Monaco Red Cross.

Link to Donor Response document: (automatically updated weekly):

<https://go-api.ifrc.org/publicfile/download?path=/docs/appeals/Active/&name=MDRCU008.pdf>



Secretariat Services

Objective:

Key indicators:

Indicator

Number of surge missions or deployments

Actual

10

Target

25

During the first weeks of implementation there has been a constant presence and support from IFRC ARO and the Latin Caribbean Country Cluster Delegation (CCD).

There have been 9 missions to Cuba from different members of IFRC staff: Disaster Management Coordinator (3) Head of Latin Caribbean Country Cluster Delegation (3), ARO Head of Operations (1) Finance Caribbean Cluster Delegation (1). As part of Surge Capacity an Operation Manager has been deployed for 2 months.

IFRC will keep supporting CRC through deployments across the whole operation to ensure that the CRC receives the support that is needed from the IFRC Secretariat staff.

Key indicators:

Indicator

Logistics department provides constant support to the National Society's logistics unit for replenishment and other procurements.

Actual

Target

The Regional Logistic Unit has been continually active during the initial phase of the response. All the procurement of relief items will be processed internationally, which entails a heavy workload on procurement and shipment of relief supplies.

Another key role that the Regional Logistic Unit has played is related to the support provided by different National Societies that have contributed through in-kind donations. The contributions are from the Netherlands Red Cross (1,382 kitchen sets), Canadian Red Cross (50 tents) and Spanish Red Cross (3,000 kitchen sets and 9,129 tarpaulins). There is a new contribution that has been registered from American Red Cross that includes 3,500 shelter tool kits, 2,000 hygiene kits and 2,000 solar lamps. There is an ongoing dialogue with British Red Cross around donations of different items based on the IFRC mobilization table.

D. FUNDING

Link to the donor response on the [IFRC GO Emergency Page](#).

Contact information

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

In the Cuban Red Cross

- **Secretary General:** Dr Luis Foyo; crsn@infomed.sld.cu
- **Sub Director at National Level:** Susana Llovet; susyllovet@infomed.sld.cu
- **Disaster Management Delegate:** Gonzalo Atxaerandio; gonzalo.atxaerandio@ifrc.org

In the IFRC

- **Head of Country Cluster Delegation – Latin Caribbean:** Elias Ghanem elias.ghanem@ifrc.org
- **Head of Disaster Climate and Crisis:** Roger Alonso Morgui, roger.morgui@ifrc.org
- **Operations, Evolving Crisis and Disasters Manager:** Maria Martha Tuna; maria.tuna@ifrc.org
- **Communications Manager:** Susana Arroyo, susana.arroyo@ifrc.org
- **Planning, Evaluation, Monitoring and Reporting Manager:** Pradiip Alvarez (acting); pradiip.alvarez@ifrc.org

At the IFRC Geneva Headquarters

- **Senior Officer, Operations Coordinator:** Antoine Belair; antoine.belair@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **Head of Partnerships and Resource Development:** Mei Lin León (acting), meilin.leon@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Regional Head, Global Supply Chain:** Mauricio Bustamante, mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org
- **Regional Logistics Manager:** Stephany Murillo; Stephany.murillo@ifrc.org

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. 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.