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## Information Bulletin

### Americas: Hurricane Irma



<b>Information Bulletin N° 3</b>	<b>Date of issue:</b> 8 September 2017
<b>Date of disaster:</b> 7 September 2017	<b>Point of contact:</b> Felipe Del Cid, Disaster and Crisis Department Continental Operations Coordinator, email: <a href="mailto:Felipe.delcid@ifrc.org">Felipe.delcid@ifrc.org</a>
<b>Red Cross Movement actors currently involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the French Red Cross-PIRAC (Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean), Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross, British Red Cross overseas branches, Dominican Red Cross Society, Haiti Red Cross Society, Netherlands Red Cross overseas branches, Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society, American Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	
<b>N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation:</b> Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), United Nation system (Pan American Health Organization [PAHO], the United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF], United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [UN-OCHA], among others)	

**This bulletin is being issued for information only; it reflects the current situation and details available at this time.**

## The Situation

According to the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre (NHC) the eye of Hurricane Irma was located by an Air Force Reserve reconnaissance aircraft near latitude 21.1 North, longitude 71.8 West. Irma is moving toward the west-northwest near 16 mph (26 km/h), and this general motion is expected to continue for the next couple of days with some decrease in forward speed. On the forecast track, the eye of Irma should continue to move near the Turks and Caicos Islands and toward the south-eastern Bahamas this evening.

The core of the hurricane will then



Photo: Volunteers from Haiti Red Cross Society supporting preventive evacuations. Source: HRCS

move between the north coast of Cuba and the Bahamas during the next day or two. Hurricane conditions are expected to continue within the hurricane warning area in the Dominican Republic and Haiti tonight.

Hurricane conditions are occurring on the Turks and Caicos Islands. Tropical storm and hurricane conditions are beginning in the south-eastern Bahamas and will spread into the central Bahamas by tonight or early Friday. Hurricane conditions are expected within the hurricane warning area along the north coast of Cuba late Friday and Saturday. Hurricane conditions are expected in the north-western Bahamas Friday night and Saturday.

Hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area in Florida by Sunday, with tropical storm conditions possible by late Saturday.

Country	Assessment	Actions taken by the Red Cross
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact in Barbuda is severe as the eye of the hurricane passed five miles north of the 35-square mile island. Ninety per cent 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.</li> <li>Approximately 60 percent of the island's 1,400 residents were left homeless.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributing relief items in the collective centres</li> <li>Activated Airbus foundation agreement to make 1 helicopter available for assessments and team deployment on hold.</li> <li>1 NIT activated and working on needs and evaluation assessment.</li> <li>1 General Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member is in Antigua and Barbuda</li> <li>Activated response teams</li> <li>IFRC approved a <a href="#">DREF</a> for 61,418 Swiss francs (CHF)</li> </ul>
<b>Anguilla</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Widespread devastation in Anguilla with many homes and critical facilities reported damaged, including most schools, the hospital and the police station. Three of the four shelters were also damaged. Communication with the island is limited and the airport is not functional with its air traffic control tower damaged.</li> <li>Local Red Cross building severely damaged, and the Red Cross lost all material response capacities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General RIT on standby for possible deployment to Anguilla to support British Red Cross if requested.</li> </ul>
<b>Montserrat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major damage reported</li> </ul>	
<b>Saba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Damage is low and no casualties reported, but the government on Saba has put in a formal request for support from Netherland Red Cross and Dutch government today, as they are running extremely low on drinkable water supplies (approx. 2 days left) and certain medicines.</li> <li>More food, building equipment and tarpaulins are also necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 operational volunteers on standby on Saba.</li> <li>4 volunteers and staff shelter from Curacao will be deployed on Saba as soon as possible, to help and prepare for Jose Hurricane.</li> </ul>
<b>Sint Eustatius</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has weathered the storm reasonably well – damage to structures (mainly collapsed roofs) and infrastructure is limited and communications are up and running.</li> <li>Coordination with local government is going well. No casualties reported.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 operational volunteers on standby on Sint Eustatius.</li> <li>Specific needs are not known yet.</li> </ul>
<b>Sint Maarten</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dutch Saint Martin airport closed.<sup>1</sup> It is expected to have the airport operational for relief flights soon.</li> <li>The communication infrastructure has been affected – all regular communication lines are down. Some radio contact has been managed between Curacao and Sint Maarten and today the first SATPHONE contact.</li> <li>Damage is devastating, and the local Red Cross branch is completely overwhelmed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 20+ active volunteers on Sint Maarten, but operational deployments are unknown.</li> <li>Transportation is an issue at the moment, 6 international relief delegates (mainly for damage and needs assessment) will fly to Curacao tomorrow. Air lifts are being established with the Dutch armed forces from Curacao to Sint Maarten. Local volunteer relief teams are formed on Aruba (20) and Curacao (12). These also rely on transportation by</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> [OCHA Report. The Caribbean: Hurricane Irma Situation Report No. 01 \(as of 6 of September 2017\)](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff from the NS is ok but unsure about any deployments, needs, casualties, etc.</li> <li>The Dutch marines have managed to dock a ship carrying marines, transportation equipment, boats, helicopter and emergency supplies and can provide 25,000L drinking water per day on the frigate nearby.</li> <li>Marines have been flying over Sint Maarten and filming damage. Parts of the island are severely or totally devastated. Reports of looting make relief efforts unsafe at this time. It is expected additional marines and police force (from Curacao) to establish order as soon as possible.</li> </ul>	<p>ministry of defence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next week additional staff will be transported: WASH assessment, Operational support, Disaster Coordination.</li> <li>On Saturday relief items (tarpaulins, jerry cans, generators and possibly solar panels) by cargo flight to Curacao. Still depending on defence to transport to Sint Maarten at the moment.</li> <li>Specific needs are not known yet.</li> </ul>
<b>Statia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No information available yet</li> </ul>	
<b>Saint Barthelemy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The French Government has confirmed widespread flooding and power outages on the islands of St Barthelemy and St Martin. Several homes have been damaged and roofs blown off.</li> <li>The damage in St Barthelemy is being described as "devastating".<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Assessments ongoing</li> </ul>	
<b>Guadeloupe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major damage reported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 surge capacity team members deployed from Paris, France; on the 5 of September 2017.</li> <li>15 surge capacity team members deployed from Paris, France; on the 6 of September 2017.</li> <li>Guadeloupe and Martinique branches mobilizing volunteers for assistance to Saint Martin.</li> <li>Additional resources (18 volunteers on the 6 of September and 17 on the 7 of September) have been sent to Guadeloupe and are waiting to reach Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy, which are not yet accessible for the time being.</li> </ul>
<b>Saint Martin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The French Government has confirmed widespread flooding and power outages on the islands of St Barthelemy and St Martin. Several homes have been damaged and roofs blown off. Government offices in St. Martin have been partially destroyed.<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy, are not yet accessible for the time being.</li> <li>French network has been partly re-established (on Saint Martin island).</li> </ul>
<b>Saint Kitts and Nevis</b>	<p>Per the Damage Assessment Report from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) of 6 of September 2017:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAINT KITTS</b></p> <p><b>HOUSING SECTOR</b>  <u>Residential Houses:</u>  Generally, there was minor damage to the residential housing stock consisting mainly of shingles and galvanize being blown from roofs. It is estimated that about 10 percent (very preliminary) of houses suffered minor damages.  <u>Commercial Houses:</u>  No noticeable structural damage to the commercial housing stock has been reported by the Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p><b>AGRICULTURAL SECTOR</b>  <u>Tree Crops and Livestock:</u>  The Ministry of Agriculture has reported that (preliminarily) damage is light to medium, but potentially costly. No reports of dead ruminants. Loss of poultry is minimal. Crops and Trees are medium. Damage to green houses and fences reported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Society is conducting damage assessments</li> <li>Emergency operations centre (EOC) activated, pre-positioned supplies in 5 areas around the island for National Society volunteers to access after the passage of Hurricane Irma</li> <li>IFRC approved a <a href="#">DREF</a> for 64,301 CHF to assist 200 families.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> OCHA Report. The Caribbean: Hurricane Irma Situation Report No. 01 (as of 6 of September 2017)

<sup>3</sup> OCHA Report. The Caribbean: Hurricane Irma Situation Report No. 01 (as of 6 of September 2017)

	<p><u>Fisheries:</u> The Department of Marine Resources has not provided any report yet</p> <p><b>PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES SECTOR:</b></p> <p><u>Roads:</u> There was no major damage to the Island Main Road. There were several areas where the road was blocked by fallen trees and debris. These have all been cleared enough to allow traffic flow. There are some areas where the road remains partly blocked due to fallen cables. There were also blockages on minor roads by fallen trees which are being cleared.</p> <p><u>Water Services:</u> The Water Services Department has not suffered any damage based on initial surveillance; however, there is the possibility of a major leak/breakage on the Morne Peake Reservoir Line that supplies Frigate Bay. As usually happens during heavy rainfall events, the Water Intakes (Sources) are silted up; these will be cleared tomorrow. Over 90 % of Water Consumers are currently without supply. There is no Electrical supply from SKELEC at our wells. Standby Generators will be used and about 75% of consumers should have water by this evening.</p> <p><u>Electricity Supply:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 50% of supply was maintained.</li> <li>• Several poles and wires were blown down.</li> <li>• The following feeders are off as a result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sandy Point Feeder – Challengers to Newton Ground</li> <li>○ Cayon Feeder – Keys to St. Pauls</li> <li>○ Canada Feeder – Conaree and Half Moon</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The following essential services are online: JNF, Airport, Water wells at Needsmost.</p> <p><u>Air and Sea Ports:</u> There was minor damage to the roof of Shed 1 and Shed 2 as well as the fence at the Sea Port at Bird Rock. The RLB International Airport did not have any damage except minor damage to its fence. However, the airport remains closed until inspections are completed.</p> <p><u>Public Buildings and Facilities (Schools, Stadiums, Government Office Buildings etc.):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minor damage to four (4) windows at the Sir Lee L. Moore Court House.</li> <li>2. Generally minor damages, mainly loss of shingles.</li> </ol> <p><b>HEALTH SECTOR:</b> No structural damage reported to any of the four (4) hospitals; only minor damage to the fence at Mary Charles Hospital. Leaking was reported at the Cardin Home. Minor flooding at St. Peters Health Centre. No report of damage to other health centres.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEVIS</b></p> <p>The Nevis Disaster Management Office has reported minimal damage to housing stock. Damage include: down trees; electrical poles; small fishing pier at Charlestown; The Four Seasons Pier (major damage); the pier at Oualie (minor); and the terminal Building at Vance Amory International Airport had leaking.</p>	
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<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hurricane Irma remains in category 5, moving in Atlantic waters, its associated effects are causing damage in the Dominican territory, while Hurricane Jose continues to strengthen, moving west-northwest at about 26 kph.</li> <li>• Hurricane Irma has caused damages and floods in Veron, Higuey, Samaná, La Romana, Puerto Plata, forcing the mobilization of residents and tourists to areas of shelter. With the support of the DRC, 2,526 people have been evacuated to homes of relatives and friends. 3,002 people have been mobilized to official collective centres. Falling trees and landslides cause temporary breakages in communications in Miches.</li> <li>• 17 provinces have been placed on Red alert, 12 in Yellow and 3 in Green. Falling of trees, strong winds and rains are reported in the provinces of the east and north of the country. The Government of the Dominican Republic has suspended classes and declare close of businesses until Monday, 11 of September.</li> <li>• Boats are ordered to remain in the ports. Flights have been disrupted from the main airports in the country due to the ongoing weather situation as well as Hurricane Jose approaching the eastern Caribbean.</li> <li>• Evacuations are being conducted at places in Yellow and Red Alert.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search and rescue operations, first aid and psychosocial support are on-going in Nagua, Santiago, Bajo Yuna and the east regions. Teams are on standby to provide support to vulnerable communities.</li> <li>• Volunteers have been supporting national and local authorities in shelter management and providing support to victims of the hurricane.</li> <li>• Support Teams of the Dominican Red Cross are being deployed to branches to the east, northeast and north of the country. The Dominican Red Cross in its auxiliary role to the public authorities mobilized its network of volunteers, integrating itself to the Committees of Prevention Mitigation and Response (PMR) and activating its community networks. The teams specialized in water and sanitation, psychosocial support, damage assessment, radiocommunications are kept active to be deployed for damage and needs assessment.</li> <li>• Dominican Red Cross maintains its national radio-communication network.</li> <li>• IFRC approved a <a href="#">DREF</a> for 298,588 CHF to assist 10,000 people.</li> </ul>
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, damage and needs assessments are being conducted in Puerto Rico and USVI.</li> </ul>	
<b>United States Virgin Islands (USVI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, damage and needs assessments are being conducted in Puerto Rico and USVI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little contact with USVI at this moment but work is already under way to restore communications.</li> </ul>



*Photo: Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross volunteers preparing the response to Hurricane Irma/ ABRC*

### **American Red Cross**

- American Red Cross (ARC) Haiti Team is pre-positioned in northern Haiti and prepared to conduct rapid damage assessments and early-relief operations; \$USD600,000-worth of non-food item (NFI) stock is in country and available for distribution. Currently, mobilizing people and supplies to northern Haiti to support assessment and early-relief operations. All activities in Haiti are planned in close coordination with Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.
- Staff and volunteers are ready to be deploy as needed from US, Panama, Colombia, El Salvador and Honduras with a range of technical and language skills; additional human resources are being identified by national headquarters
- Ongoing coordination and information sharing with the Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)
- Telecommunications Regional Response Unit (RRU) in Panama is ready to deploy and provide a range of support, including high frequency (HF), very high frequency (VHF), and satellite communications
- National headquarters working to prepare Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite communications system (VSAT) capability for deployment to the field
- National headquarters geographic information system (GIS) team is providing Surge Information Management Support (SIMS) Remote Coordination for the IFRC
- Close coordination and information sharing with IFRC in Panama through ARC's Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Regional delegation.
- LAC Regional Delegation is supporting the IFRC EOC through information management support.
- The ARC Team is supporting Restoring Family Links (RFL) team in the French territory.
- ARC Domestic: United States Virgin Islands (USVI), Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Puerto Rico are being prepared for significant mass care operations (feeding and sheltering). Working on mobilizing 9,000 Red Cross volunteers to support the operations through US and territories. Mobilizing vehicles, fuel, and resources to support operations and balance with ongoing Harvey Operations.

### **Canadian Red Cross Society**

- Deployed a RIT and operations manager.

- Canadian Red Cross mini-base camp is packed and ready to deploy from the warehouse in Port-au-Prince.
- Several vehicles from the Canadian Red Cross delegation in Haiti has been seconded to the Federation and Haiti Red Cross Society to undertake assessments in Northern Haiti
- Canadian Red Cross staff is supporting NS responses in Dominican Republic and Haiti
- Several FACT trained staff in the Canadian Red Cross delegation in Haiti are on stand-by for support
- Red Cross health personnel in Canada are on stand-by to support with RIT or FACT alerts for health assessments
- Red Cross emergency clinic (EMT Type 1) and emergency hospital (EMT Type 2) are on stand-by in Canada ready to deploy at the request of the Federation
- Public appeal in Canada is starting to raise funds, and Canadian Red Cross completed more than a dozen interviews in the last 24 hours
- Canadian Red Cross and Canadian Government will analyse the recently launched DREFs to see if we can provide funding to replenish.
- Federation standard non-food items are on stand-by in Canada ready for dispatch at the request of the Federation.

### **Cuban Red Cross**

- IFRC Communication delegate deployed to support the NS.
- Volunteers already initiated the prevention and evacuation actions according to the response plan; these actions are being conducted in coordination with Cuban authorities.
- From 11 am on Thursday, 7 September 2017, Cuban government declared the cyclonic alarm for the eastern region of Cuba, from Guantanamo to Villa Clara.
- Up to now, there are 90 municipalities activated in the provinces with potential damages. More than 5,000 volunteers, prepared in search and rescue, relief and restoring of family links are ready and in their positions waiting for the hurricane to hit. Among these volunteers are also a group of amateur radio operators who support the operational communication system.
  - 13 GEO Groups (English: Special Operations Group): 249 volunteers
  - 76 municipal relief groups: 1,054 volunteers
  - 340 community groups activated in all the municipalities of the north coast with 2,539 volunteers.
  - 92 Restoring Family Links brigades activated: 466 volunteers.
  - Other volunteers working in securing supplies: 633
  - 80 radio amateurs
- Since yesterday, evacuations of people from the areas that will receive the greatest impact have begun. People are being encouraged to move to the homes of friends and family in safer areas.
- In the province of Villa Clara, protection centres have been started, with a capacity to house around 200 thousand people. The Cuban Red Cross will provide support with its volunteers, once they are established.
- The province of Las Tunas, another of the provinces in which Irma is expected to have a significant impact, has already activated its 1,750 volunteers and is supporting the evacuation work started since this morning once the cyclonic alert was issued.
- The main impacts are expected to be caused by flooding by sea and rainfall, falling trees and houses affected by the type of construction.

### **French Red Cross**

- Volunteers of the French Red Cross' local branches are working to restore family links and to facilitate sheltering.
- The emergency Platform for Americas and Caraïbes of the French Red Cross (PIRAC) based in Guadeloupe has been activated and is ready to be deployed and reinforce actions on the French territory and abroad if necessary.

- French network has been partly re-established (on Saint Martin island). International network (US) and some part of the Netherland network are available.
- An evaluation team will be deployed as soon as possible to assess Restoring Family Links needs.
- The FRC has 3 warehouses in Martinique, Guadeloupe and Guyana with essential humanitarian stocks, pre-positioned emergency water purification stations and some 30 teams specialized in water and emergency logistics.
- Has launched an [appeal for donations on its official website](#) to support the Caribbean Regional Intervention Platform (PIRAC) in the French territories.

### **Haiti Red Cross Society**

- The Haiti Red Cross Society (HRCS) is mobilizing its resources towards the preparation and response to Hurricane Irma, with the support of the other Movement partners, including the IFRC, the American Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross Society, the German Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the French Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross and the French Red Cross
- An initial meeting to prepare the activation of the emergency operation centre was held on the 5 of September and a second meeting on the 7 of September, at the National Society's headquarters under the leadership of the President of the HRCS and with the active participation of heads of delegation of the in-country PNSs.
- The HRCS' executive director, accompanied by the director of communication, joined the Departmental Emergency Operations Centre (COUD for its acronym in French) on Tuesday afternoon, 5 September 2017 to discuss the Department of the Civil Protection's contingency plan, the latest government decisions and provide Movement support to the national system for managing risks and disasters.
- The departments' Regional Committees most likely to be affected by the hurricane will be reinforced by the presence of managers and technicians from the central office, in coordination with Red Cross Movement partners.
- Eight teams of volunteers from the Haiti Red Cross Society (North, North-East, North-West, Upper and Lower Artibonite, Upper and Lower Central Plateau, West) have been deployed in support of the authorities to sensitize communities on the contingency plan and to make the population aware of the measures to be taken, including the voluntary evacuation of populations at risk.
- Equipment and kits to facilitate the first interventions will be pre-positioned in the Far North.
- Haiti Red Cross Society volunteers are working with the Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) on evacuating residents (voluntary evacuations). Evacuations started in Nord Est (Fort Libertie) and Grand Anse.
- Shelters have been opened in the northern departments.
- Prisoners have been evacuated in Fort Libertie, Nord Est.
- Rivers in Nord Est department have begun flooding.
- National road connecting Central Plateau department with the north has been cut off.
- IFRC approved a [DREFDREF](#) for 298,588 CHF to assist 10,000 people.

### **Italian Red Cross**

#### **In Haiti:**

- 3 staff members prepared to conduct damage assessments in the West; they are on alert and working to support the Haiti Red Cross Society
- 1 car available for the Haiti Red Cross Society operations.
- Resources available to buy aquatabs, water filters and to conduct assessments and cholera campaigns in the West



**In the Caribbean Region:**

- Coordination to support the Caribbean, bilaterally or through IFRC.

**Norwegian Red Cross**

- Deployment of a delegate to Cuba
- Pre-positioned stock in Panama:

Item group	Total units
Blanket light thermal	2500
Family tent	500
Hygiene kit	500
Jerrycan	1000
Kitchen set	500
Mosquito net	1000
Shelter and construction materials	1000
Tarpaulin	2000
Water and Sanitation K 5	1

**Netherland Red Cross**

- The Netherlands Red Cross [Safe and Well](#) website has been launched on the 6 September to facilitate the communication inside the disaster affected areas to family members.
- At present, the Netherlands Red Cross cannot conduct active tracing on the ground.

**Spanish Red Cross****In Haiti:**

- 100 hygiene kits prepositioned
- 4 delegates and 35 national personnel with experience in WASH, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and field evaluations
- 7 vehicles
- Capacity to provide technical support to WASH response teams (production and distribution of water, sanitation and hygiene promotion)
- Coordinating with the Spanish RC delegation in country

**Regional level:**

- 1 humanitarian relief and livelihoods delegate coordinating RCRC Movement support in Panama
- Fundraising campaign started

**In Spain:**

- NFI stock updated and ready
- ERU and emergency staff roster alerted

**International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) actions**

- The ICRC will deploy personnel for Movement Coordination under the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC).
- Participating in Movement coordination meetings

## **IFRC actions**

### **Surge actions:**

- ✓ 1 RIT member will be deployed to Antigua and Barbuda
- ✓ 1 RIT will be deployed to Saint Kitts and Nevis
- IFRC staff roster is ready
- Partner National Societies (PNSs) staff roster will be developed soon
- Informational message sent to the National Societies in the Americas
- Staffing plan developed for Saint Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba
- IFRC participation in Latin American and Caribbean Network of Environmental Funds (REDLAC for its acronym in Spanish) coordination meetings
- Shelter: Inform the Global Shelter Cluster in Geneva about the situation
- Americas Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER): held a regional coordination meeting to determine PMER coverage for a possible regional emergency
- Holding daily Joint Task Force meetings with headquarters in Geneva
- Activated its EOC
- Issued an Orange Alert
- Coordinating with the British, French and Netherlands Red Cross Societies
- Relief supplies are on standby in Panama and the Dominican Republic to ensure an immediate response.
- All regional emergency teams are on high alert and ready to deploy.

### **Health actions:**

- A roster for the health response was established. The list is composed by IFRC ARO staff located in different countries, including staff from the Zika Caribbean project. Key personnel from NS is already identified.
- A key health messages package was developed to share with NS. It will be shared soon.
- Contact with NS with possible affectation has been established, as same as with the related clusters.
- Update of the health profile of possibly affected and affected countries is being done.
- No deployments are defined so far, but roster is in standby.
- Technical support is being provided for the developing of the Emergency Appeal for St Kitts & Nevis and Antigua & Barbuda.
- A line of communication with global focal points in Geneva was established.

### **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 (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster 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:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace