

# EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## THE CARIBBEAN AND MEXICO: HURRICANE DEAN

Appeal no. MDR49001

Glide no:

TC- 2007-000135

30 August 2007

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

### In Brief

**THIS REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 2,399,670 (USD 1.9 MILLION OR EUR 1.4 MILLION) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 108,550 BENEFICIARIES (21,710 FAMILIES) FOR 6 MONTHS**

[<click here to link directly to the attached revised Appeal budget, or here to view the map>](#)

The projects and activities described below are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity". These are:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

**Operational summary:** This revised Emergency Appeal seeks support to deliver assistance to 21,710 families (108,550 people) affected by Hurricane Dean, the first of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season. Since the onset of the emergency a number of Red Cross Societies, including Belize, Dominica, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico and Saint Lucia have been assessing the needs and delivering immediate support to the most affected families. There is a continued need for food and non-food relief items in the most affected areas to assist beneficiaries in recovering from the effects of Hurricane Dean.

Based on recent assessments and updated plan, this revised Appeal will address the components of emergency relief and early recovery as well as a health component in order to assist the affected populations with psychosocial support and awareness raising activities.

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

- *In Trinidad and Tobago: Thomas Doyle, Disaster Management Delegate Caribbean Regional Representation; [thomas.doyle@ifrc.org](mailto:thomas.doyle@ifrc.org); phone (868)789 9493, fax (507) 316 1082*
- *In Panama: Stephen McAndrew, Head, Pan American Disaster Response Unit, Panama; e-mail [Stephen.mcandrew@ifrc.org](mailto:Stephen.mcandrew@ifrc.org), phone (507) 316-1001; fax (507) 316-1082.*
- *In Panama: Maria Alcazar, Zone Relationship Management Coordinator, Americas; e-mail:*

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

[maria.alcazar@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.alcazar@ifrc.org); phone (507) 317 1300; fax (507) 317 1304

- In Trinidad and Tobago: Tanya Wood, Head of Caribbean Regional Representation, Port of Spain, email: [tanya.wood@ifrc.org](mailto:tanya.wood@ifrc.org), phone (868) 624 15 57; fax; (868) 627 9627
- In Panama: Jose Garcia-Lozano, Head of Zone, Americas, Panama, email: [jose.garcialozano@ifrc.org](mailto:jose.garcialozano@ifrc.org), phone (507) 317 13 00; fax; (507) 317 13 04
- In Geneva: Linda Stops, Operations Coordinator, email: [linda.stops@ifrc.org](mailto:linda.stops@ifrc.org), phone (41 79) 217 3376

All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

## The situation

Hurricane Dean, the first hurricane of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season affected Belize, Dominica, the Cayman Islands, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico and Saint Lucia. Preliminary reports indicate that at least a dozen people have been killed on the hurricane's path across the Caribbean and into Mexico.

Dean entered the Caribbean through the Saint Lucia Channel (between St. Lucia and Martinique) on August 17, while still a Category 2 hurricane. The storm killed three people, damaged houses and buildings throughout the island chain and devastated the agricultural economies of St. Lucia, Martinique and Dominica. Although the toll in terms of loss of life has been limited, there has been a considerable impact on livelihoods, and the fragile island economies.

Preliminary reports from the Office of Disaster Management in Dominica indicate that 771 houses were damaged, while 43 houses were completely destroyed. 95 percent of the agricultural sector suffered damage. Although Dominica did not receive a direct hit from Hurricane Dean (the eye of the storm passed some 40 miles to the south of the island), Dominica's geographic location and topography, including its many steep slopes and rivers, make it vulnerable to natural disasters and especially prone to floods and landslides, resulting in damage to the road network. The two deaths recorded in Dominica resulted from landslides. Major infrastructure (roads and bridges) was extensively damaged.



**Dean has left many houses severely damaged.  
Source: Saint Lucia Red Cross**

The storm passed to the south of most of the Greater Antilles, but its outer rain bands passed over many of the islands. The outer fringes of hurricane Dean swept over Hispaniola bringing heavy squalls to Haiti on the night of 18 August. On Gonâve Island, power was cut to thousands of people, and some took shelter in schools and churches. Although Dean did not make landfall in Haiti, the accompanying rains and wind gusts caused damage in the country, mostly in the coastal departments of Sud, Sud-est, Grande Anse, Nippes and Ouest. To date, nine deaths have been reported. 25 people were reported injured and in total some 1,858 families are believed to be

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

affected by the passing of the hurricane. In addition, at least 453 houses were destroyed and another 873 damaged. The National System of Risk and Disaster Management have evacuated and provided shelter to 8,244 persons.

Hurricane Dean's sustained winds caused extensive damage to infrastructure and personal property along the eastern and southern coastline of Jamaica. The parishes of St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Clarendon, Kingston & St. Andrew, Portland, Manchester and St. Elizabeth appear to have sustained the most damage. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) has estimated that 160,000 persons have been affected by the effects of the hurricane, which is around 60 percent of the total population in the affected area. Flooding was reported on the east coast of Jamaica, and mudslides on the northeast coast. In Kingston, buildings collapsed, houses lost their roofs and trees were uprooted due to the strong winds. The road from Kingston to the airport was covered in sand, boulders, and downed power lines. Two deaths have been confirmed in Jamaica due to the storm. Based on collective assessment data from the Jamaica Red Cross personnel, the OPDEM, and other relief agencies, more than 4,000 persons were still in emergency shelters at the time of writing.

Corozal Town in Belize was hit by the outer edge of the southern band of hurricane Dean on 21 August. As a result, 8,000 people went to shelters (86 hurricane shelters were opened nation-wide). National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) district offices reported that all shelters are closed now with the exception of 40 families currently being housed in Corozal town. Preliminary assessments show that some 2,500 families have been affected in the districts of Corozal and Orange Walk and the islands of Ambergris Caye and Caye Caulker. Electricity infrastructure was down and subsequently water systems were inoperative in the affected areas. At least 400 homes were completely destroyed, while another 1,500 houses have lost their roof or have received other damage. Livelihoods have been greatly affected as a result of the storm, particularly cash crops (papaya and sugar cane plantations). Some 35,000 acres of sugar cane alone have been rendered unfit for harvesting. Subsistence farmers are also facing extensive loss of their crops. Belize continued to face heavy rainfall which is worsening flooding caused by hurricane Dean.



*Continuous rain is worsening the flooding caused by hurricane Dean in Belize. Source: Belize Red Cross Society*

Dean battered Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula as a strong category five storm before crossing the Gulf of Mexico and making a second landfall in Mexico on 22 August as a weaker category two storm. In Mexico, Dean wrecked homes in poor villages and forced tens of thousands of people, including many tourists, into shelters on the Yucatan Peninsula. The system caused flooding and landslides across central Mexico as it passed over the Sierra Madre Oriental range. According to joint assessments 61,000 persons are affected in the state of Quintana Roo, 16,000 persons are affected in the state of Campeche, 61,000 persons are affected in the state of Veracruz, 10,000 people are affected in the state of Hidalgo, 44,800 people are affected in the state of Puebla and a further 15,000 persons are affected in the state of Tabasco. Furthermore, five deaths were recorded in Puebla as a result of the effects of hurricane Dean. The damage to houses is much higher than was reported earlier, while it is estimated that a total of at least 50,000 houses suffered damage.

## Operational developments

A team of **Dominica Red Cross Society** (DRCS) volunteers in coordination with Local Government District Development Officers carried out assessments of the affected areas in the south and distributed tarpaulins, water bladders, hygiene kits and lanterns. Upon the completion of the distributions, the majority of the Dominican Red Cross relief stocks were depleted.

**The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001**

Following Dean's path, the **Saint Lucia Red Cross (SLURC)** immediately distributed hygiene kits, kitchen sets, cots (field beds), blankets and tarpaulins to meet the most urgent needs. The Saint Lucia Red Cross as Chair of the National Welfare committee met on 22 August with other members such as the Salvation Army, Chamber of Commerce, Caritas, the Ministry of Social Services and other NGO's. During this meeting the Red Cross was requested to play a lead role in the recovery process and provide assistance to the affected population including reconstruction of houses and repair of roofs.

The needs in **Martinique** will be addressed by the French Red Cross' *Plateforme d'Intervention Regionale Amerique-Caraibes (PIRAC)* who has mobilized their pre-positioned stock to Martinique in order to assist families affected by the effects of hurricane Dean.

The **Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)** - supported by Partner National Societies and the Federation - finalized field assessments in the affected areas. According to need assessments carried out by the HNRCS a total number of 1,858 families were affected in the southern coast of Haiti, including the departments of Sud, Sud-est, Grande Anse, Nippes and Ouest. As a result of these assessments, a total of 900 families will be assisted by the HNRCS in coordination with Civil Protection of Haiti.

The **Jamaica Red Cross (JRC)** participated in 10 assessment missions on 21 and 22 August in coordination with members of other humanitarian organizations present in the country. Based on the air reconnaissance flights of the ODPEM certain areas were prioritized. During the assessments Red Cross branch volunteers provided immediate relief supplies (such as drinking water and food).

The assessment missions demonstrated that the worst affected parishes were Clarendon, Manchester and St. Catherine. In Clarendon, nine schools were affected; a fish market was totally destroyed as well as 314 houses in the Portland Cottage located in Clarendon mainly due to water, wind damage, storm surges and mud. There is a threat of vector-borne diseases due to many blocked drains, dead animals and stagnant water. In Manchester, the strong winds caused major damage to roofs and approximately 10 percent of the houses were completely destroyed. Fallen trees, poles, and power lines were also reported. In St. Catherine, the first 100 metres of shoreline was extensively damaged, and the next 100 metres experienced severe flood damage up to 4-5 feet. In Dagger Bay, located in St. Catherine, about 70 – 90 percent of the houses are estimated to have suffered high levels of damage, with most houses covered in debris. Primary schools are flooded. In Old Harbour Bay, also located in St. Catherine, at least 447 homes were totally destroyed. In total four deaths due to Hurricane Dean have been reported in Jamaica.

The most immediate needs are the delivery of emergency relief non-food items, drinking water, roofing materials and construction timber, regular water supply, garbage and debris collection, repair of the electricity infrastructure, and repairing of schools.

The **Cayman Islands overseas branch of the British Red Cross** established shelters as Dean was on track towards them. A southwards shift in Dean led to less damage than originally anticipated. Following damage and needs assessments by the Red Cross, it was determined that no further action was required.

Three **Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS)** teams, accompanied by a Disaster Management delegate from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), conducted needs assessments in the northern districts along with branch volunteers. Preliminary assessments in the Corozal District, which was the most affected, indicate that at least 1,800 families are in need of immediate assistance. Based on these initial assessments the most affected persons (predominantly the most economically vulnerable) are in urgent need of food parcels, potable water, hygiene kits, buckets, tarpaulins and blankets. At this moment, the Norwegian Red Cross is planning to send a water purification plant to cover the needs of 8,000 persons. The local branch in Corozal is providing hot meals to persons in emergency shelters.

The National Intervention Teams (NIT) of the **Mexican Red Cross (MRC)** local branches in the most affected districts – Campeche, Quintana Roo, Veracruz, Hidalgo and Puebla– carried out needs assessments in coordination

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

with other organizations present in the area, in order to determine the appropriate humanitarian relief aid to be provided. The MRC immediately responded to the situation by distributing 4,500 food parcels to assist the most affected families during the first week. Continued assessments demonstrated the need for additional food parcels, and the need for kitchen kits, hygiene kits and child kits.

### Red Cross action - objectives, progress, impact

This Emergency Appeal seeks to support response activities in Belize, Dominica, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico and Saint Lucia.

#### Objectives and activities planned

##### Emergency relief

**Objective 1: 21,710 families (108,550 people) affected by hurricane Dean (500 families in Belize, 200 families in Dominica, 900 families in Haiti, 5,000 families in Jamaica, 15,000 families in Mexico and 110 families in Saint Lucia) will benefit from the provision of relief items to accelerate recovery.**

**Belize:** The Belize Red Cross Society immediately responded to the needs of the affected families by distributing the following relief items:

Items	Amounts
Hygiene kits	355
Buckets	165
Kitchen Sets	65
Tarpaulins	116
Blankets	367

Due to the fact that household items, along with other personal items, were damaged by flooding and roof loss, 500 families need urgent assistance with items such as household utensils and bedding - particularly blankets. To support this response, the BRCS will provide 500 affected families (2,500 persons) in the two most affected districts: Corozal (400 families) and Orange Walk (100 families) with the following relief items:

Items	Amounts
Tarpaulin	500
Hygiene kits	500
Kitchen Sets	500
Blankets	2,500
Buckets	500
Food parcels	500

As pre-positioned stocks of the Belize Red Cross Society have been depleted, this National Society is seeking to replenish these stocks.

**Dominica:** According to the needs assessed in Dominica, the DRCS have assisted 200 families with the following relief items:

- Tarpaulin.
- Kitchen kits.
- Cleaning kits.
- Household items such as mattresses and lanterns.
- Jerry cans.

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

The DRCS immediately distributed their pre-positioned stocks and is seeking to replenish these stocks in order to be equipped when other hurricanes or disasters may occur.

**Haiti:** The HNRCS has coordinated their activities with other humanitarian organizations present in the affected areas and decided to provide assistance to 900 of the most affected families in the departments of Sud, Sud-Est, Grand Anse and Nippes. The selected families will benefit from the distribution of the following items:

- Kitchen sets.
- Hygiene kits.
- Jerry cans.
- Buckets.
- Mosquito nets.
- Blankets.
- Water purification tablets.

**Jamaica:** In response to the immediate needs the Jamaica Red Cross has distributed to date:

Relief items	Amounts
Tarpaulin	2,380
Jerry Cans	1,419
Food Packages	1,839
Buckets	103
Beds	87
Drinking Water (12 bottles)	542
Kitchen Kits	32
Hygiene Kits	715
Blanket	2,024
Shelter Kits	10

Based on the assessed needs, the JRC will provide non-food to 5,000 families (25,000 persons) in the parishes of Clarendon, St. Catherine, St. Thomas, Manchester, St. Elizabeth and Kingston and St. Andrew with the following non-food items:

- Tarpaulin/plastic sheeting.
- Bedding (mattresses, sheet sets, blankets).
- Hygiene kits.
- Kitchen kits.
- Jerry Cans.
- Buckets.
- Tents.

As food needs were also assessed, the JRC is providing 1,000 families (5,000 persons) with food parcels. As families attempt to recover from the impact experienced by hurricane Dean, the provision of these food and non-food items is expected to provide interim assistance. The JRC immediately distributed their pre-positioned stocks and is seeking to replenish these stocks in order to be fully equipped when other hurricanes or disasters may occur.

**Mexico:** The MRC will distribute food parcels to a total of 15,000 families in the most affected districts of Campeche, Hidalgo, Puebla, Quintana Roo, and Veracruz. The Mexican Red Cross has sufficient food parcels in stock, which enabled them to commence immediately with the provision of food parcels to 4,500 of the most affected families. The food parcels to assist the remaining 10,500 families will also be allocated from the existing stock of the Mexican Red Cross. Replenishment of stocks will also be necessitated for the Mexican Red Cross.



**The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001**

Distributions will take place as follows:

<b>Districts</b>	<b>Distributed food parcels</b>	<b>Planning to distribute</b>	<b>TOTAL food parcels</b>
Campeche	500	2,000	<b>2,500</b>
Hildago	1,000	0	<b>1,000</b>
Puebla	0	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Tabasco	0	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Veracruz	1,000	2,000	<b>3,000</b>
Quintana Roo	2,000	2,500	<b>4,500</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>15,000</b>

Besides the food parcels, the Mexican Red Cross will assist 4,000 affected families with the following non-food items:

<b>Area</b>	<b>Relief items</b>
Veracruz:	1,000 kitchen sets 1,000 hygiene kits 500 children kits
Quintana Roo	1,000 kitchen sets 1,000 hygiene kits 500 children kits
Campeche	1,000 kitchen sets 1,000 hygiene kits 500 children kits
Puebla	1,000 kitchen sets 1,000 hygiene kits 500 children kits
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,000 kitchen sets</b> <b>4,000 hygiene kits</b> <b>2,000 children kits</b>

**Saint Lucia:** In response to the urgent needs resulting of the effects of hurricane Dean the SLRC immediately distributed their pre-positioned stocks to 110 affected families. The following relief items were distributed according to the needs identified by families:

<b>Relief items</b>	<b>Amounts</b>
Hygiene kits	55
Folding cots (field beds)	40
Blankets	120
Tarpaulins	95
Kitchen sets	50

As a result of the passage of the storm a proliferation of mosquitoes is reported. The SLRC will distribute 1,000 mosquito nets to help reduce possible incidence of an outbreak of dengue. Pre-positioned stocks are depleted, and the SLRC is seeking to replenish these stocks in order to be equipped when other hurricanes or disasters may occur.

The Caribbean islands are very vulnerable to disasters. Hurricanes and the resulting damage, floods and landslides threaten and affect many islands annually and Dean was the first of the Atlantic hurricanes this season. Mexico is also frequented by disasters; hurricanes being an important threat, as became clear after the passing of hurricanes Stan and Wilma in 2005. Therefore, in order to ensure the NS are equipped to response to further disasters that may occur, stock replenishment is an urgent need for those affected National Societies

### **Early recovery**

**Objective 1: Early recovery and rehabilitation activities are assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.**

## **The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001**

In order to facilitate transition from temporary shelters to proper housing the National Societies of Belize, Dominica, Jamaica and Saint Lucia will provide families with the means to repair the damage inflicted by Dean on their housing. To facilitate the recovery of those who have lost means of livelihood the Jamaica Red Cross will support restoration of livelihoods.

**Belize:** Livelihoods have been severely affected by Dean, especially among the papaya and sugar cane farmers. Further assessments need to be carried out after the emergency phase to determine longer term needs and to identify key recovery activities.

**Jamaica:** The JRC will facilitate the recovery of those affected by the disaster, particularly small farmers and fishermen who have lost their means of livelihood by the following means:

- Provision of seeds and fertilizers for cash crops to quickly generate an income to 200 farmers in the parishes of St. Thomas, Manchester, St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth, St. Andrew.
- Provision of agricultural tools to 200 farmers in the parishes of St. Thomas, Manchester, St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth, St. Andrew
- Provision of fishing nets and lines to 100 fishermen in Clarendon and St. Catherine.
- Support the recovery of the family, by providing meals in basic schools (ages 3 to 6) for 500 children of affected families in the target parishes, for one school term, (three months) to ensure a rapid return to the classroom, allowing the family to resume normalcy and income generating activities.

**Saint Lucia:** The Saint Lucia Red Cross, as Chair of the National Welfare committee, met on 22 August with the other members such as the Salvation Army, Chamber of Commerce, Caritas, the Ministry of Social Services and other NGO's. In this meeting the Red Cross was requested to play a lead role in the recovery process and provide assistance to the affected population with repairing and reconstructing houses.

The SLRC will provide the affected families with:

- Galvanized roofing material.
- Retrofitting material.

The SLRC is also looking into the possibility to provide assistance with the reconstruction of eight homes lost as a result of hurricane Dean.

## **Health - Psychosocial support**

**Objective 1: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.**

The **Jamaica Red Cross** is a leading National Society in the region in developing PSP support. The JRC is cognizant of the need to take a holistic approach to serving persons after a disaster event and therefore has been providing immediate psychological support to families in the two most affected communities: Old Harbour Bay and Portland Cottages. Many of these families have suffered a loss of property and/or temporary displacement as a result of Dean. The JRC's Disaster Mental Health (DMH) unit has experience in responding to local and international Emergency Response Operations, with professionally trained volunteers ready to respond to the needs in this emergency situation.

**Activities planned to reach this objective include:**

- Needs assessments with the affected communities.
- Carry out a needs assessments in target communities.
- PSP services in affected target communities in consultation with local authorities.
- Training of National Society staff and volunteers in PSP techniques.
- Training of Trainer workshops for National Society and partners.

**Objective 2: Vulnerable families will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.**



## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

With the passage of Dean, water levels in Belize increased considerably and there remains a continued threat of greater flooding if rainfall continues. Based on this situation and the fact that Belize has a history of dengue, there is a threat of an outbreak of waterborne diseases. The Belize Red Cross Society will therefore carry out a health awareness campaign related to vector control and waterborne diseases. Posters and media spots will be used to communicate appropriate messages related to vector control and personal hygiene practices.

Activities planned to reach this objective include:

- Production / replication of educational material with key prevention messages.
- Educational visits to target communities and sharing of key health messages.
- Media campaign through passing of key health messages.

The other National Societies included in this appeal will be encouraged to develop and execute similar psychosocial support or health activities to the affected population.

## Capacity Building

**Objective 1: The capacity of the Red Cross National Societies in needs assessment and humanitarian response is increased.**

The Mexican Red Cross will organize two workshops focused on Evaluation in Emergencies to strengthen their capacity and skills in emergency evaluation.

**Activities planned increase Mexican Red Cross capacities include:**

- Identification of workshop participants.
- Selection of the topics to be addressed.
- Preparation of the 2 workshops.
- Reporting on the workshops.

## Coordination

The Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) is in close contact with the Federation's Caribbean Regional Representation in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as with the Central America and Mexico Regional Representation in Panama, PIRAC, Partner National Societies (PNS), affected Caribbean National Societies and Overseas Branches and the Mexican Red Cross. PADRU and the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) based in Panama are in coordination with the American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, French Red Cross, and the Norwegian Red Cross, who have expressed the intention to send assistance to those National Societies affected by the hurricane. A charter flight transporting relief items to Belize as well as a boat with relief items to Jamaica was arranged by the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) within days of the emergency.



Coordination meetings have taken place between the International Federation, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) and the Eastern Caribbean Donor Group (ECDG) to discuss participation in any joint coordinated response operation. Red Cross National Societies have been and continue to be in close contact with their respective national disaster response agencies.

*The RLU immediately sent relief items to Belize. Source: Belize Red Cross Society.*

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001

Communication is open and information is constantly shared with stakeholders such as Movement partners and European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO).

### **Communications – Advocacy and public information**

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency. There has been close coordination and support to the NS to increase the visibility of their actions in regards to the communication through PADRU, the Regional Representation Offices and the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

Regular situation reports have been issued by Red Cross National Societies through the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) on the global International Federation website. Several articles about Dean were posted on the website of the International Federation. Press releases have been issued by the Jamaica Red Cross and Mexican Red Cross in order to raise funds and develop a better understanding of the mission of International Federation of the Red Cross and the activities the organization undertakes in serving affected communities. In the same line, local and international media were provided with interviews directly from the affected National Societies.

### **Capacity of the National Societies**

During the pre-hurricane meeting that took place in Panama from 14 to 17 May 2007, National Societies from countries prone to hurricanes in the Americas participated actively in the development of a Contingency Plan for the Region. The development of the Regional Contingency plan helped explore disaster preparedness tools, available capacities within the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, which provided participants with hands-on practice.

In general, the National Societies affected by hurricane Dean were well prepared with pre-positioned stocks, radio networks both within county and between National Societies in the region, trained personnel and pre and post emergency coordination meetings. All the National Societies have a place in the National Emergency Operations Centre and have specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

Over the last decade, the **Belize Red Cross Society's** (BRCS) disaster preparedness and response capacity has been highly tested by the landfall of two Category 4 hurricanes, Keith in 2000 that impacted the north of the country (again Corozal and Orange Walk) and Iris in 2001 that devastated the southern districts. Lessons learned helped to strengthen the Disaster Management Committee, the body that provides technical support and manages the National Society emergency response. This committee has a widely representative membership that includes the Director of the National Disaster Management Organization (NEMO). Eight branches ensure the reach of the National Society into all six administrative districts of the country and to the highly vulnerable island of Ambergris Caye. Both Corozal and Orange Walk Branches activated their EOCs a day prior to the impact of Hurricane Dean and are a key part of the response.

The response capacity of the **Dominica Red Cross Society** (DRCS) was tested following the passage of Hurricanes Luis & Marilyn in 1995 and Hurricane Lenny in 1999. In the former event, the DRCS was mandated by the government to chair the NGO Relief Committee responsible for managing and implementing the main relief distribution programme. The National Society has provided Disaster Management training to personnel of the Local Government Department and liases closely with them in the implementation of relief operations in communities. As a member of NEPO (National Emergency Planning Organisation) and a Task Force member which serves in the EOC, the DRCS collaborates with the Office of Disaster Management in all stages of preparedness and response. The response capacity of the society has since been enhanced through the further training of two FACT members and four RIT members.

## **The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001**

The **Haitian National Red Cross Society** (HNRCS) has several National Intervention Teams (NIT) trained in Evacuation, Search and Rescue, First Aid actions, Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA), emergency logistics, and humanitarian relief. In addition, 200 trained “Relais Communautaires” (community volunteers trained by the National Society) worked during six months on the implementation of a disaster preparedness programme, which mainly focused on raising community awareness and disaster preparedness within the vulnerable populations. Due to the vulnerability of Haiti in terms of impact and quantity of disasters the Emergency Operations Committee has been activated on several occasions. However, capacities in disaster management, suitable equipment and a broader base of volunteers are limited. The Red Cross Federation is currently in the process to revise the current organisational structure at HNRCS Head Quarters.

Jamaica has experienced four major hurricanes in the past fifty-six years: hurricane Charlie in 1951, hurricane Gilbert in 1988, hurricane Ivan in 2004 and now hurricane Dean. Lessons learnt from hurricanes Gilbert and Ivan were used by the **Jamaica Red Cross** (JRC) to make better preparations for Dean, so the impact was reduced and response effort well organized. The JRC has a signed MOU with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), with whom a close working relationship has been established. The 13 branches of the JRC are activated in the response to hurricane Dean along with fourteen community disaster response teams (CDRTs), trained through the DIPECHO Projects. The National Society has the mandate by government to manage shelters.

Especially in the coastal Mexican state of Quintana Roo, memories of the devastation caused by Hurricane Wilma in 2005 are fresh. Due to the fact that Mexico is experiencing impact of tropical storms and hurricanes almost every year in the last ten years, the **Mexican Red Cross** (MRC) has a long history of working in disasters and has developed a strong capacity in disaster response. Among other capacities, the MRC can count on trained National Intervention Teams (NIT) and a large base of volunteers. The MRC has 449 departmental branches, 127 schools for technicians in medical emergencies, 87 relief schools, and 14 nursing schools and is well equipped with ambulances, rescue units and vehicles. The Mexican Red Cross owns a national training centre (CENCAD), which houses a new warehouse with ability to store up to 100,000 relief kits.

The **Saint Lucia Red Cross** (SLURC) responded to Tropical Storm Debbie in 1994, Hurricane Lenny in 1999 and severe floods in Anselaraye in 2000 and 2001. The National Society has a Disaster Management Committee chaired by a full time Disaster Management Coordinator. Among the responsibilities mandated to the National Society in times of disaster are feeding of the nation in the first 72 hours, support with shelters and to the medical teams. The National Society chairs the National Social Welfare Committee and has the vice chair of the National Supplies Management Committee. All three of the SLRU branches, Castries, Vieuxfort and Grosislet were activated as Dean approached and are involved in the National Society response.

### **Capacity of the Federation**

PADRU, in coordination with the Caribbean and Central America and Mexico Regional Representation offices, is providing support to the affected National Societies in the response needs such as organizing the provision of initial relief items, development of Plans of Action, logistics and human resources as needed.

Two Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members from the Canadian Red Cross and one RIT member from PIRAC are providing direct response to the Haitian National Red Cross Society. In Jamaica a Federation representative has been with the NS since before the passage of Dean, providing immediate support to the Jamaica Red Cross and assist them with the development of the Plan of Action. A PADRU delegate has been deployed to Belize within 36 hours of the hurricane passing, again to help with the relief distributions and the development of the Plan of Action in coordination with other partners.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

PADRU together with the Caribbean and Central America and Mexico Regional Representations will ensure regular monitoring of the implementation of the operation. Regular reports on the operation will be published on the Federation’s website. In addition, an evaluation with direct participation and involvement of the beneficiaries will be carried out once the operation has finished in order to review achievements and constraints and to ensure the

**The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean; Revised Appeal no. MDR49001**

identification of lessons learnt for future relief operations. The Caribbean DM network, which comprises of some of key NS disaster response personnel, many from the islands impacted by hurricane Dean, will also conduct an internal lesson learning review.

**Budget summary**

See Annex 1 for details of the revised budget.

Thomas Gurtner  
Acting Director  
Coordination and Programmes Division

Markku Niskala  
Secretary General

**[Revised budget and map below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)**

## APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

### HURRICANE DEAN

MDR49001

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
Shelter	259,875	179,205	80,670
Construction Materials		60,200	-60,200
Clothing & Textiles	212,241	211,579	662
Food	86,688	503,469	-416,781
Seeds & Plants			0
Water & Sanitation		4,334	-4,334
Medical & First Aid		15,652	-15,652
Teaching Materials			0
Utensils & Tools	408,408	450,090	-41,682
Other Supplies & Services	147,490	372,902	-225,412
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>1,114,702</b>	<b>1,797,431</b>	<b>-682,729</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>			
Land & Buildings			0
Vehicles Purchase			0
Computers & Telecom Equipment	2,167	2,167	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.			0
Medical Equipment			0
Other Machinery & Equipment			0
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Storage - Warehouse	15,000	15,000	0
Distribution & Monitoring	120,400	147,598	-27,198
Transport & Vehicles Costs	12,040	12,040	0
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
International Staff	37,380	37,380	0
Regionally Deployed Staff	21,198	21,198	0
National Staff	20,880	20,880	0
National Society Staff	36,120	36,120	0
Consultants	12,040	12,341	-301
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training	12,040	16,433	-4,393
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
Travel	24,200	36,120	-11,920
Information & Public Relations	12,040	20,468	-8,428
Office running costs	28,896	40,603	-11,707
Communication Costs	10,836	3,834	7,002
Professional Fees			0
Financial Charges			0
Other General Expenses	6,020	24,080	-18,060
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR	105,040	155,977	-50,937
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>476,298</b>	<b>602,239</b>	<b>-125,941</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>1,591,000</b>	<b>2,399,670</b>	<b>-808,670</b>
<b>Available Ressources</b>			
<b>Net Request</b>	<b>1,591,000</b>	<b>2,399,670</b>	



# Caribbean: Hurricane DEAN

