

# DREF operation



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Antigua and Barbuda: Hurricane Omar

DREF operation n° MDRAG001  
23 October 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

**CHF 55,000 (USD 50,274 or EUR 35,032) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society in restocking its warehouse with relief times to assist 500 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** Hurricane Omar brushed past Antigua and Barbuda on 15 -16 October 2008, causing severe rains that affected the two main islands, Antigua and Barbuda, and the smaller islets.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 21 January 2008 a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 21 April 2009).

[<click here for the DREF budget , here for the map or here for contact details>](#)

### The situation

On 16 October 2008, the centre of hurricane Omar was located approximately 180 miles northeast of the northern Leeward Islands. In **Antigua and Barbuda**, the National Emergency Management Organisation met and prepared for the passage of Hurricane Omar.

As the hurricane moved through the northern and central Lesser Antilles, between 15 -16 October, heavy rains affected the two main islands of the nation of **Antigua and Barbuda**, which has an approximate total population of 70,000 inhabitants. In three hours, six inches of rain fell on Antigua and Barbuda, causing the closure of the V.C. Bird International Airport for one day. The islands suffered loss of electric power for two days. Also, business and schools had to close for one and two days respectively.

According to the National Office of Disaster Services, national rescue teams evacuated more than 30 people from flooded homes that were submerged under water or had slipped from their foundations. No casualties have been reported.

The Antigua and Bermuda Red Cross Society assessed that approximately 5,160 houses sustained flood damages. The intense rains also caused damages to roads in several areas. However, no wind damages

were sustained in the islands. Meanwhile, the agricultural sector and coastal areas suffered severe damages, as crops were lost and fishermen traps were completely destroyed by the passing of the storm.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society is coordinating with the National Authority of Disaster Services to avoid duplication of efforts. The government is distributing beds to beneficiaries that suffered losses caused by the storm, as well as coordinating the allocation of donations received.

The Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for the Caribbean in Port of Spain are communicating with and providing support to the National Society to replenish stocks as soon as possible so that Red Cross in Antigua and Barbuda may continue to assist the people most affected by hurricane Omar.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society quickly responded to the emergency by mobilizing volunteers to the most affected areas. Response actions were focused on assisting to rescue and evacuate people affected by the floods. In addition, the National Society distributed relief items such as food, clothing, beds, plastic sheeting and blankets to the most affected families. People affected by flooding were also transported by the National Society to safer areas.

## The needs

This DREF operation will support the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society in replenishing its stock to enable them to continue assisting the most affected families through the distribution of relief items. The National Society identified as priorities the distribution of food and non food items including hygiene kits, beds, plastic sheeting and school supplies for children, as well as seeds and plants for farmers and materials to rebuild fishermen's traps.

## The proposed operation

### Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

**Objective: Replenishment of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's warehouse with non-food items such as hygiene kits, plastic sheeting, wiring for fishing nets and blankets to assist 500 beneficiaries in future emergencies.**

#### Activities planned:

- Procurement of relief items.
- Transportation of items from PADRU's warehouse to the National Society's warehouse.
- Stock replenishment.
- Issue of cash vouchers to fishermen most severely affected by the disaster, so that they can purchase the wires for their fishing nets and restore their livelihoods.

Replenishment of warehouse will consist of:

Item	Quantity
Plastic sheeting	500
Blankets	500
Hygiene kits *	500

\* Hygiene kits consist of toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, soap, shampoo, sanitary pads, towel, bath soap and deodorant.

## How we work

*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.*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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".

### Global Agenda Goals:

- 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.

## Contact information

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

- **In Panama:** Jono Anzalone, Disaster Management Delegate, Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; email: [jono.anzalone@ifrc.org](mailto:jono.anzalone@ifrc.org)
- **In Antigua and Barbuda:** Gerald R. Price, Director General of Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society; phone: (1) (268) 462-0800 / 460-9599; fax: (1) (268) 460-9595; email: [gerryprice@live.com](mailto:gerryprice@live.com)
- **In Trinidad and Tobago:** Tanya Wood, Representative, Caribbean Regional Representation Office; phone: (868) 624 1557; fax: (868) 627 9627; email: [tanya.wood@ifrc.org](mailto:tanya.wood@ifrc.org)
- **In Panama:** Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; email: [maria.alcazar@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.alcazar@ifrc.org); phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41 22) 730 42 74; fax: (41 22) 733 03 95; email: [pablo.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:pablo.medina@ifrc.org)

[<DREF budget below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

## **DREF BUDGET SUMMARY**

**Antigua and Barbuda: Hurricane Omar**

**MDRAG001**

**ORIGINAL**

### **RELIEF NEEDS**

Shelter	7,500
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	2,500
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	10,550
	20,300
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>40,850</b>

### **CAPITAL EQUIPMENT**

Land & Buildings  
Vehicles Purchase  
Computers & Telecom Equipment  
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.  
Medical Equipment  
Other Machinery & Equipment

### **TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES**

Storage - Warehouse	
Distribution & Monitoring	6,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	
Service fee & recovery	2,400

### **PERSONNEL**

International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	1,500
Consultants	

### **WORKSHOPS & TRAINING**

Workshops & Training

### **GENERAL EXPENSES**

Travel	
Information & Public Relations	
Office running costs	
Communication Costs	425
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	250
Other General Expenses	

### **PROGRAMME SUPPORT**

Programme Support - PSR	3,575
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**Total Operational Needs 14,150**

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**Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind) 55,000**

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**Available Resources**

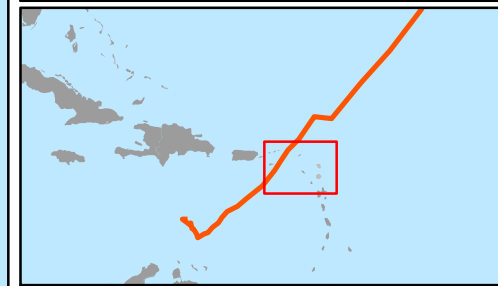
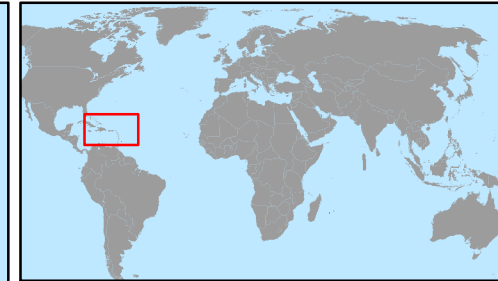
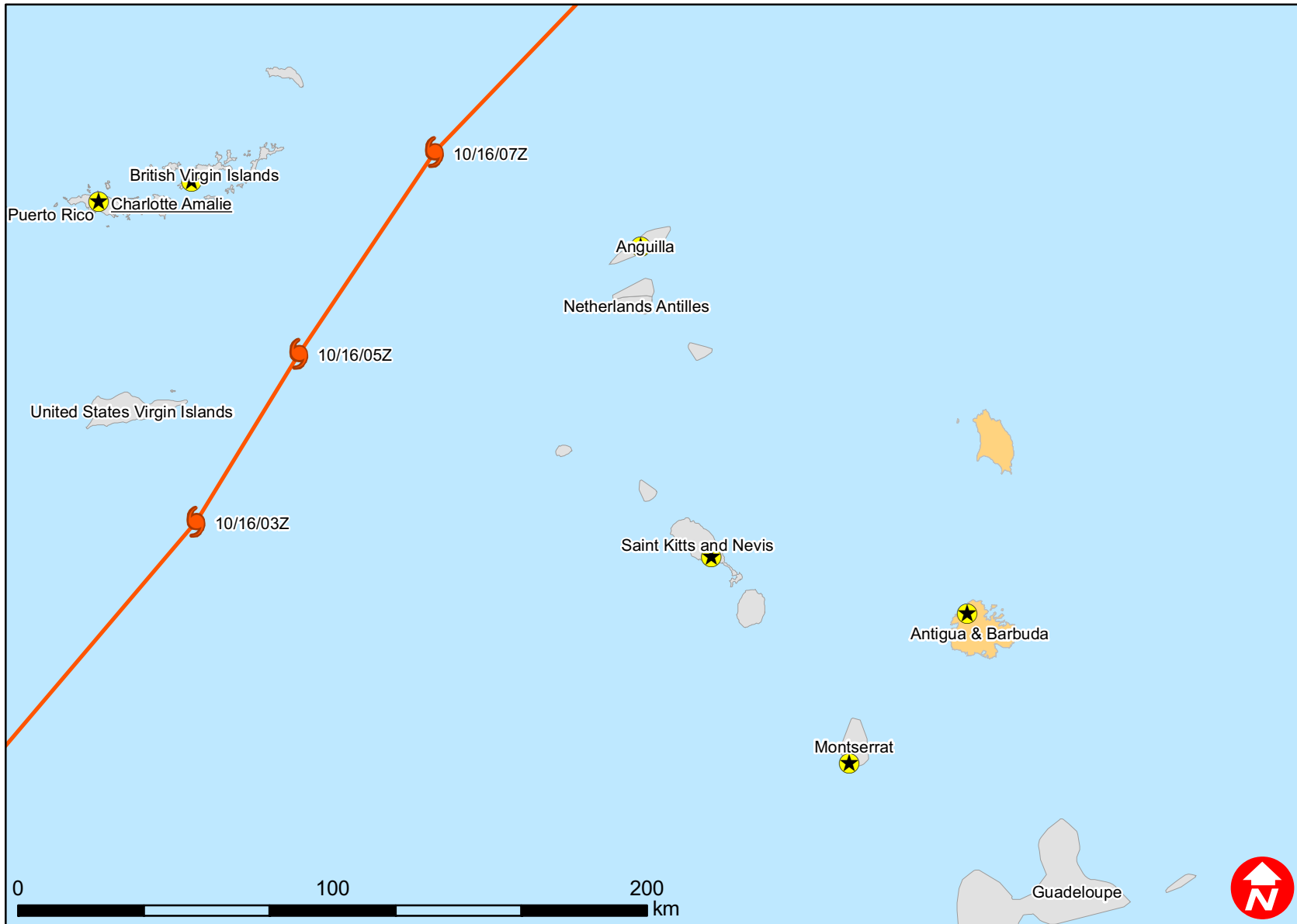
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**Net Request 55,000**







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# Antigua and Barbuda: Hurricane Omar



## Omar

-  HURRICANE-3
-  HURRICANE-2
-  HURRICANE-1
-  TROPICAL STORM
-  TROPICAL DEPRESSION
-  Antigua and Barbuda