



This report is produced by the United Nations in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 18 September to 2 October, 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 4 October 2017.

Highlights

- On 29 September, UN and partners launched a Flash Appeal for \$31.1 million to support relief and early recovery efforts in Dominica till the end of 2017.
- The UN has allocated US\$3 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to address the urgent needs of Dominica's people.
- There is a steady flow of food into the country. More than 15.5 metric ton of food and 190,000 litres water has been delivered. Supermarkets are expected to open this week
- Government expects to have access to all parts of the country later this week.
- Provision of potable water to west coast to be prioritized following serious concerns over communicable diseases.



Hurricane Maria displaces in a shelter in Roseau. Photo: IOM/ Patricia Schiavinato

\$31.1 m

needed for relief and recovery efforts in Dominica

Source: UN Flash Appeal

71,000

affected people

Source: UN Flash Appeal

65,000

people targeted for aid

Source: UN Flash Appeal

Situation Overview

The humanitarian community has switched into a high gear ramping up support to the people in need in Dominica. As efforts to provide aid become intense, some focus has shifted towards early recovery, with rehabilitation experts expected to arrive in the island country devastated by category 5 Hurricane Maria this week.

Large container vessels bearing aid to arrive this week. The Government announced that it will allow limited number of commercial flights in another week.

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

Military troops from various countries, who played a significant role in the distribution of the critical initial response have begun to phase out their operation, which is likely to throw-up some challenges in the distribution of aid, particularly in remote locations. However, Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has announced that he expects access to all parts of the country to be restored later this week as roads are being cleared at a rapid rate. Saint Lucia has provided a kilometre of temporary bridges to Dominica, which can be set up in a short space of time.

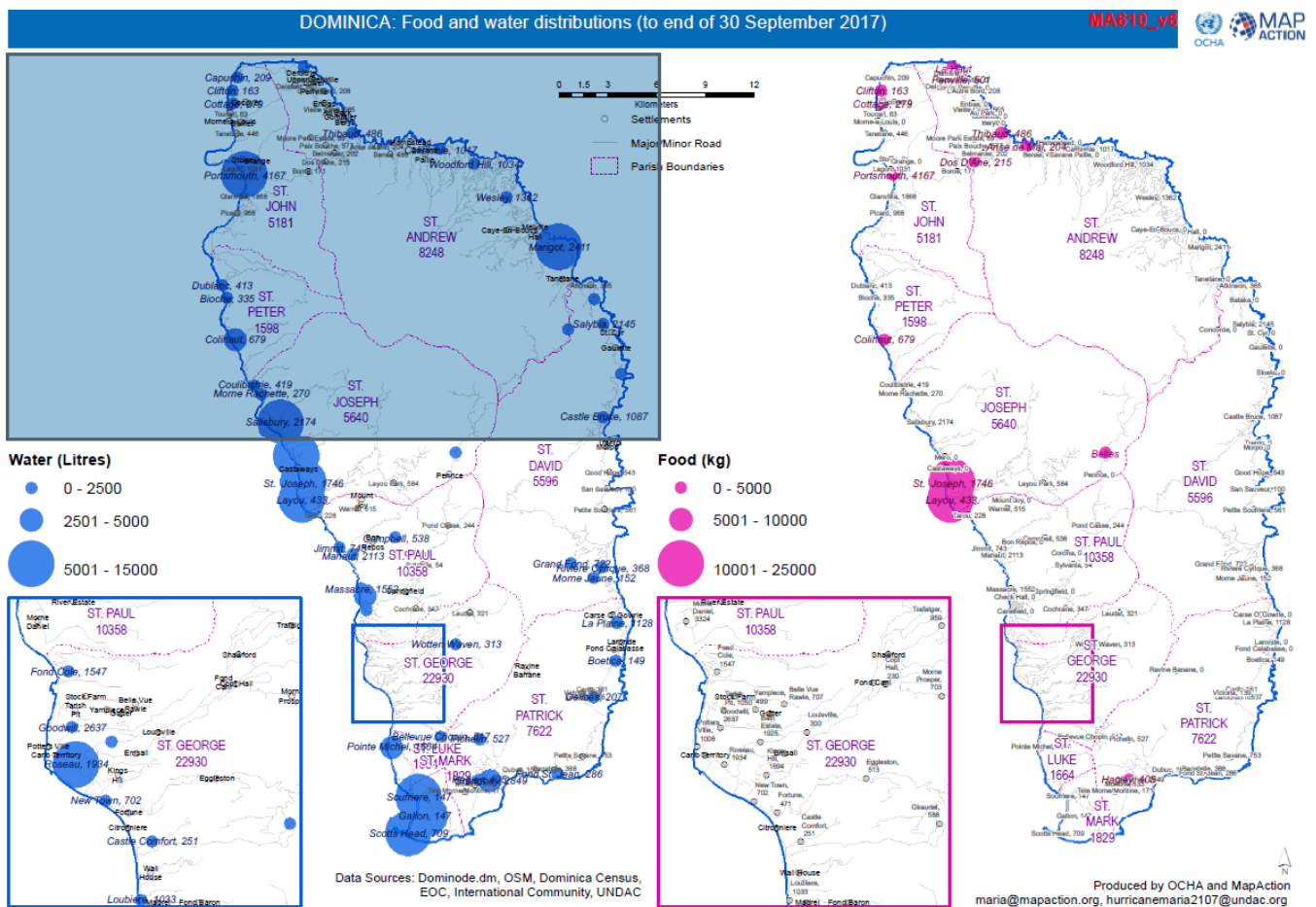
The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) now only flies to Dominica thrice a week.

Electricity and water supply is being restored gradually. Parts of the capital, Roseau now have access to running water. Pharmacies and some banks have begun operating. Some supermarkets are expected to open for business this week. Mr. Skerrit has said the Government was considering several options such as providing cash grants to people who lost their livelihoods, advance on salaries and pensions to other affected people to help them cope through the recovery process.

The Dominican Government has developed a strategy to ensure equity, transparency and accountability in the distribution of relief goods. The strategy outlines details of the ports of entry, warehouses for storage of aid, distribution centres, transport logistics and Government officials responsible for coordinating delivery of aid to people including vulnerable communities.

The Government intends to issue aid vouchers to affected people to ensure there is transparency and accountability.

The shelter sector leads have underlined the need to prioritize the opening of local hardware stores, which would help reconstruction efforts.



The country's main hospital is now fully functional, while the other centres, that have been stocked with medical supplies are limping back to normalcy. Generators that have been keeping some of the centres running require a steady supply of fuel, which has become a challenge.

Authorities have started fumigating Roseau to prevent health issues related to accumulated organic waste and dead animals.

Mr. Skerrit reported that there had been no outbreak of diseases and the quality of water is being monitored constantly. There has been a concern that people in the west coast, unlike east coast residents, who have access to fresh water springs, might be susceptible to communicable diseases, hence water supply should be prioritized in this part of the country.

Another cause for concern is that several children are being deprived of an education as public school buildings are being used as shelters. Mr Skerrit said the Government with support from the private sector hope to set up temporary schooling facilities by 15 October for some of the younger children.

According to the Government, while peace has been restored, following some incidents of looting in the early days of the disaster, the daily curfew (from 4 pm to 8 am) will remain in the place.

On 29 September, the United Nations and partners launched a flash appeal for US\$31.1 million to provide urgent humanitarian assistance and support the early recovery of Dominica. The funds will not only be used to provide life-saving assistance to the targeted 65,000 Dominicans but aid the immediate restoration of primary and reproductive health services, most urgently needed water distribution infrastructure, and essential repairs of school infrastructure consistent with the New Way of Working.

The funds will provide immediate livelihoods assistance, as well as short-term sources of income for affected women and men through emergency removal and safe disposal of debris.

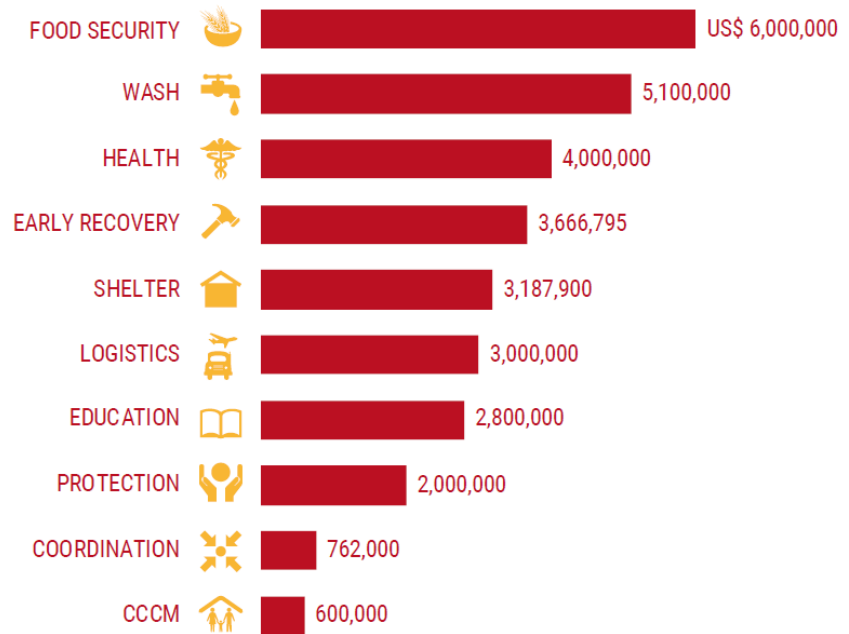
On the same day, Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock announced the allocation of US\$3 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to meet the most pressing needs of the people of Dominica affected by Hurricane Maria.

Funding

As reported in the overview, the UN has provided \$3 million from CERF for relief efforts in Dominica. A flash appeal for more than \$31 million by the UN and partners for lifesaving assistance and early recovery projects to be implemented till the end of 2017 has been made.

Last month, the International Federation for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) had launched an emergency appeal for CHF1,6m (\$1,65m) to support the Dominica Red Cross Society to deliver assistance to some 5,000 people for a year.

Funding required by sectors under the Flash Appeal by the UN and partners (in US\$ millions)



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian Response

The Dominican Government is leading the response and recovery efforts in Dominica. As reported in the overview, the Government has developed a response strategy. Mr. Skerit announced the Government had procured 350 tons of relief supplies and 165 tons of food in Barbados, which have arrived in Dominica last week. One of the shiploads will head towards Woodbridge Bay port in Roseau to cover communities in the south-west and south-east, while another will make its way to Portsmouth destined for communities in the north and north-east of the island.

He said credit lines has been opened with suppliers in Barbados to ensure a continuous flow of food into the country. In the distribution of food, impoverished communities will be prioritized, Mr. Skerit assured in one of his daily messages.

The Government has rallied the private sector to restore telecommunications in parts of the island. Government workers have been involved in the clearing of debris to open some of the major roadways, blocked by landslides the island.

The main ports of entry are Douglas Charles Airport, Canefield Airport, Long House Portsmouth and Woodbridge Bay Port. Six regional warehouses including the Windsor Park Sports Stadium have been identified for storage of relief goods. More than 30 distribution centres have been determined by the Government across the country.

Developed countries such as the Belgium, Canada, France, Netherlands United Kingdom (UK) and the United States have made a substantial contribution in the relief and recovery efforts in Dominica,

A European Union (EU) Civil Protection Team of nine experts has been deployed to Dominica and is coordinating EU aid efforts. Another disaster expert from EU will reinforce the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team in Dominica.

In addition, France, Belgium, United Kingdom and the Netherlands have offered in-kind assistance to Dominica through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. France has offered tarpaulins, Germany might deploy additional water treatment units and power generators.

The Americas Support Team, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is in Dominica to support UNDAC and help establish adequate inter-agency office space. The Canadian military has left and only Netherlands and US military assets will remain.

Several disaster management experts from EU, Swiss Development Agency (SDC) and UNDP are deploying next week.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- Coordination with local government representatives in Roseau gathered information regarding 20 hurricane shelters known to be damaged, mostly with damaged roofs.
- There is no information on the status of the remaining 123 hurricane shelters (143 were identified prior to the hurricane's impact).
- There are 1,955 people in hurricane shelters in Roseau and the surroundings. There are many people staying with host families, and these are facing increasing pressure.
- People who have lost their homes are arriving in Roseau, and the government has commenced registration processes.

15,000

people with destroyed homes targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- According to the strategy endorsed by the Government of Dominica, an initial focus of the response should be to support as many people to return as possible, which will also relieve pressure on shelters/ collective centres.
- At the same time, collective centres should be upgraded and consolidated where necessary to support the residual displaced population who cannot yet return.
- The Government of Dominica approved the roll out of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), which will help to identify location, population and conditions in the collective centres.
- Two DTM specialists are en route to Dominica, and will recruit and train enumerators to rapidly commence assessments.

Contact person at IOM in Dominica: Jean Philippe Antolin (jantolin@iom.int)



Early Recovery

Needs:

- Provide temporary facilities and roofing or basic living conditions for the most vulnerable identified population.
- Provide immediate assistance to debris management.
- Support the immediate restoration of basic services.
- Meet the current safe roofing demand.
- Disaster waste management.

57,000

people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- Priority areas for debris removal have been identified.
- Experts arrive this week for assessments. UNDP and OCHA (with Swiss SDC and ECHO) are deploying three environmental and waste management experts in the coming days.

Contact person at UNDP: Chika Mikami, Chisa.mikami@undp.org; at UN Environment: Dan Stothart, dan.stothart@pnuma.org

**Food Security****Impact:**

- All crops grown in the island were destroyed both annual and perennial. FAO says, according to information received from the Director of Agriculture the following crops were the most affected:
 - Annual Crops: Tubers (sweet potatoes, white potatoes and yam) and vegetables (cucumbers, lettuce, green beans, carrots, cabbages, onions, beans and tomatoes among others).
 - Perennial Crops: Banana, coconuts, citrus fruits, mangoes, guavas, papaya, avocado, coffee and cocoa.
- The crops mentioned are both used for export and internal consumption. The most important crops for export are banana and tubers and to less extent some vegetables.
- There has been severe damage to farm housing, irrigation infrastructure, feeder roads, as well as crop and livestock production in addition to forests reserves and coastal fishery.
- Loss of unconfirmed numbers of cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, pigs and other livestock.
- There has been severe damage to farm housing, irrigation infrastructure, feeder roads, as well as crop and livestock production in addition to forests reserves and coastal fishery,

10,000
households targeted
by the sector under the
UN & partners Flash
Appeal

Needs:

- Immediate food assistance is needed to support the affected population, especially in remote locations, before roads and markets open again.
- Clearing of farm roads as well as agricultural land.
- Agricultural tools and infrastructure such as pruning shears, spades, forks, mattock, hoes, cutlasses and files, greenhouse, etc. have been also reported lost, damage and or/destroyed.
- Livestock feed, antibiotics and other medicines for sick and/or injured animals including pets.
- Material to repair damaged boats and fishing equipment including gears (i.e. nets, hooks, etc.)

Response:

- As of 30 September, 17 tons of High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) supplied by WFP had been distributed by the Dutch military.
- At least 5.7 metric tons of food has been delivered (9,700 kg of food by truck).
- WFP has deployed food security staff on assessments and they are liaising with authorities on further assistance needed. The WFP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean has also met with local authorities to discuss the response and a cash/voucher based intervention through local market is being developed.
- A FAO expert will participate in a Damage Assessment Needs Analysis (DANA) led by CDEMA.
- The food security sector is expected to start holding meeting regularly from this week.
- A new food distribution map has been created by OCHA and MapAction.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Some of the main roads and bridges are either fully or partly damaged, making food deliveries difficult, helicopters and boats needed.
- Many feeder and farm roads are impassable resulting in loss of available food for both consumption and marketing.

- **Contact person at WFP: Alessio Orgera, alessio.orgera@wfp.org**



Needs:

- Partners to inform the health emergency operations centre (EOC) on all health facilities and health-related information obtained.
- Psychosocial support needed for doctors and nurses.
- Additional storage space given constraints at the Central Medical Supply Unit.
- Shelters need medical supplies and to establish a syndromic surveillance system.
- Identified emergency medicines, supplies, and equipment.
- PMH has communicated needs for specialized doctors, nurses, technicians, medicines, etc.

65,000

people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners Flash Appeal

Response:

- Authorities have started fumigating Roseau to prevent health issues related to accumulated organic wasted and dead animals.
- PAHO distributed tarpaulins to PMH and the MOH.
- PAHO has installed the Logistics Support System/Humanitarian Supply Management System (SUMA) for health supply management.
- PAHO coordinated with the Dominican Republic and the Dutch and UK air forces to evacuate 17 trauma patients.
- PAHO is coordinating with foreign armed forces /partners to ensure distribution of food and water to health facilities.
- PAHO is continuing with health facilities assessment and distribution of medicines/supplies.
- Three PAHO vehicles were procured for assisting in distributing medicines /supplies & assessing health facility damage.
- PAHO is supporting the re-establishment a mobile-phone-based surveillance system, with credit provided by PAHO to allow national epidemiologist to report cases on a daily basis
- PAHO is procuring and sending emergency medical supplies, medicines, and equipment.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access limitations hamper assessments of 30 health facilities, and re-establish surveillance.
- Support for national Health EOC is needed.
- Continued security to guarantee supplies of the hospital.
- Persisting coordination challenges with international partners and medical brigades.

Contact person at PAHO/WHO: Keith Carter, carterke2015@gmail.com



Needs:

- There are protection concerns around the 11 operational shelters/collective centres in Roseau. As all individuals are sleeping in the same area on mats on the floor and there are no separated areas.
- There is no special provision for disabled, no privacy/no dignity.
- Only two of the shelters (apartment building and school) have individual rooms which is a protection issue as non-family members were being placed together (in the apartment).

**20,000
women
and 18,251
children**

targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- On Sept 26th, UNFPA, UNWOMEN and the Directorate for Gender affairs in Antigua collaborated for the provision of 250 dignity kits to be distributed to women and girls. The kits include: sanitary pads, underwear, soap, hand sanitizer and body lotion, toothpaste and toothbrush, towels, condoms, combs, deodorant. The kits will be distributed through the Government of Dominica, Bureau for

Gender Affairs. On 27 September, UNFPA, UNWOMEN and DGS were notified that the kits had reached Dominica and were to have been distributed that day.

Contact person at UN Women in Panama: Alma Perez (alma.perez@unwomen.org) and at UNFPA in Panama: Jayne Adams (adams@unfpa.org)

Child protection

Needs:

- UNICEF has been in contact with the Child Protection Sector in Dominica and was informed that both of the country's children's homes received substantial damage.

Response:

- UNICEF is preparing to conduct assessments on the status of children during this post-disaster period.

Contact person at UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Area Office: Muriel Mafico (mmafico@unicef.org)



Shelter

Needs:

- Latest information from the Pacific Disaster Centre using satellite imagery estimates that of 6,770 houses aerially surveyed to date 10 per cent are slightly damaged, 28 per cent moderately damaged, 39 per cent highly damaged and 23 per cent totally destroyed [<http://www.pdc.org/event-products/preview/?id=1651>]. Extrapolating these figures to the total 26,085 houses in Dominica {Government census data}, damage figures are therefore 7,255 moderately damaged houses, 10,272 highly damaged houses and 5,961 totally damaged houses.

43,620

people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- IOM has developed a tarpaulin distribution plan with partners for the country.
- OFDA/USAID informed 4,000 plastic sheeting (400 rolls) are arriving in Dominica shortly and asked the assistant local government commissioner to identify distribution locations.
- IFRC has distributed tarpaulins to 1,000 households in Roseau, and is extending their appeal to a further 1,500 households.
- IOM will study the Dominican construction code and come up with some recommendation for future construction to make sure buildings are able to withstand future storms.
- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team visited 14 shelters in Roseau and found:
 - Eleven shelters or collective centres are housing 407 people (from ages 13 to 78) were staying at 11 while three centres have been destroyed.
 - Hygienic conditions were relatively okay as people kept the places clean. Toilets were not damaged but the roofs were. However, people were found to have diarrhea and some other sickness probably because of drinking water from rivers or natural fountains.
 - There has been no NFI distribution nor mosquito nets in those centers (as of 28 September).
 - IOM plans to collect more data in coordination with the Government, numerators and amateur radio associations.
- On 28 September shelter coordination meeting, IFRC introduced a census data (2011) which indicated 26,085 houses in Dominica. It was agreed to use that number as the basis for response.
- At least 4500 tarpaulins and 19 plastic sheeting rolls have been delivered by IFRC, Samaritan Purse, UK military, PAHO and Venezuela.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access is a major issue with many roads blocked, landslides, washed-out river valleys and destroyed bridges.

Contact person at IOM: Brian Kelly, bkelly@iom.int



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Transportation and distribution of water to all areas.
- Strategic placement of Aquatabs, chlorine, and water storage.
- Hygiene promotion.
- WASH assessment for schools and shelter still pending.
- WASH supplies and vector control needs still to be determined.
- Water quality testing and control measures needed.
- Access to potable drinking water.
- Need to prepare messages for population about hygiene.
- Need for points where people can collect water.

54,000

people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- *BFAST*, the ship has started to provide water in the north-east with its water treatment unit. Lack of trucks is hampering the delivery of water. Local authorities are trying to find a solution. The ship will relocate to Pagua Bay, as this location is much better situated for distribution as people can reach the location easily themselves.
- As of 30 September, 190,000 litres of bottled and bulk water has been delivered by French Fire brigade, Canadian military, UK military, USAID, Venezuela, Dutch military, Dominican Red Cross, WFP, Government, UNICEF, *BFAST*.
- Water supply has been restored in parts of Roseau.
- PAHO delivered six water quality testing kits and 70,000 Aquatab tablets and water.
- PAHO leads the WASH coordination group meeting with national authorities and partners
- PAHO dispatched water purification and testing supplies and bladders.
- PAHO deployed one WASH expert to support the Ministry of Health.
- UNICEF dispatched emergency supplies comprising 191 boxes Rehydration tablets, 640 boxes (30,000) water purification tablets, 100 family Hygiene kits and 5 tents via the Barbados Defense Force to be rapidly distributed in coordination with national authorities in the most affected communities.
- As of 30 September, 1,309 hygiene kits have been distributed by UNICEF and Samaritan Purse and USAID.
- As of 30 September, UNICEF has provided 70,000 water purification tablets that was distributed by MSF.
- USAID has distributed 245 kitchen kits.
- UNICEF's four-person team (Emergency Coordinator, WASH Specialist, Logistician, arrived in Dominica on 27 September to (1) Conduct assessments in WASH, Child protection and Education (2) Support distribution of supplies and (3) Determine a plan for UNICEF's longer-term interventions.
- A new water distribution map has been created by OCHA and MapAction.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Limited means to transport water.
- Identify location and quantities of Aquatabs and chlorine.
- Challenges in establishing distribution points of the purification tabs.
- Access to affected areas for conducting assessments and distributing water.

Contact person at PAHO/WHO: Ton Vlugman, vlugmana@paho.org; Contact person at UNICEF: Douglas Reimer /Panama, dreimer@unicef.org; & Muriel Mafico/ Eastern Caribbean Area Office, mmafico@unicef.org;



Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- Telecommunications system severely damaged.

Response:

- The ETC continues the expansion of their connectivity network to support the humanitarian actors and government in Dominica

Constraints:

- Telecommunication system has been badly affected, making coordination of the relief effort and communication with affected communities difficult.

**Logistics****Needs:**

- Disruption to power supplies, lack of fuel and road access constraints, especially in the south of the island, are severely hampering emergency relief efforts to hurricane-affected people.
- Due to road blockages, landslides, washed-out river valleys and destroyed bridges, humanitarian responders are unable to reach some of the most remote communities.
- Damage to, or lack of adequate infrastructure, is affecting the storage and processing of humanitarian relief supplies which are pouring into the country.

\$3 m
required by the
Logistics and
Emergency
Telecommunications
sectors under the UN
& partners' Flash
Appeal

Response:

- In support of the Government of Dominica, WFP is augmenting existing storage capacity with the provision of 3 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) to service humanitarian operations in the west and northeastern part of the country.
- A multi-agency office space and reception and departure centre type facility will be set-up in Charles Douglas airport with Americas Support Team support.
- A Logistics Coordinator, Civil-Military Coordination Officer and two MSUs specialist are on site, to support the Government-led response with logistics coordination, facilitation of the use of military assets and the transferring of technical capacities to government counterparts in the construction and maintenance of the MSUs.
- UNHAS now only flies to Dominica on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The air asset is primarily used for the transportation of humanitarian responders and some light cargo.
- WFP has also mobilized and made available free-to-use helicopter with a lift capacity of 1.5 metric ton that will be used to support assessments and distribution activities in hard-to-reach locations.
- Need for humanitarian agencies to follow protocol in the delivery of aid:
 - Reception and dispatching of food/water should take place in the morning.
 - Consolidation of goods and organization of the following day's deliveries, should take place in the evening.
- WFP as sector co-lead to hold logistics sector meetings regularly from 2 October, 2017.
- A new map showing accessible roads/ports/airports has been produced by OCHA and MapAction.

Constraints:

- In light of the gradual phasing-out of foreign military assets in the region, critical transportation gaps will need to be addressed to ensure an uninterrupted flow of supplies and maximization of ongoing emergency response operations.
- Limited space at the port for ship, limited access to port, limited access to forklift.

Contact person at WFP: Mark Warne-Smith, mark.warne-smith@wfp.org; and more information on logistics can also be found on <http://www.logcluster.org/sector/irma17>

General Coordination

The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) is coordinating response, with the support of CDEMA and UNDAC/OCHA. Coordination meetings are held at the NEOC and sector specific groups are also meeting (health, shelter).

UNDAC will be phasing out its operations in Dominica this week and will hand over to OCHA Crisis Management Unit and national coordination mechanisms.

Daily coordination meetings with international partners are held at 4 pm in the NEOC.

Regional partner coordination meetings are held by CDEMA in Barbados to consolidate information on

assessments, needs and gaps. CDEMA situation reports can be found on <http://cdema.org/>;

Visualization of damage mapped from social media and open source photos: <https://arcg.is/1XzCz>;

Information about international response and inputs to this report can be sent to hurricanemaria2017@undac.org;

Latest news and updates

<http://www.unocha.org/hurricane-season-2017>;

For further information, please contact:

Marie Spaak, OCHA Team Leader in Dominica, Spaak@un.org; HurricaneMaria2017@undac.org;

Wendy Cue, Head of OCHA Regional Office, cue@un.org; Tel: (+507) 317 1748; M: (+507) 6679-1861

Background on the crisis

Category 5, Hurricane Maria made landfall in Dominica on 18 September directly affecting the lives of at least 71,000 people (almost the entire population). The hurricane, the strongest on record to strike Dominica, destroyed entire crops, disrupted power and water supplies. All the health centres in the island have been affected. Landslides have blocked roadways making it difficult for aid workers to access affected people in remote corners of the island.
