



This report is produced by the United Nations in collaboration with humanitarian partners in Dominica. It covers the period from 4 to 7 October, 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 12 October 2017.

Highlights

- Blanket food distribution is ongoing and still required across the country.
- Distribution and installation of emergency roofing supplies such as tarpaulins is needed.
- At least 100 metric tons (MT) of food have been delivered as of 6 October, to meet the needs of about half the people in 80 locations/villages of the country (out of 100) for an average period of three days.
- Potable water in communities, health care facilities, shelters and schools is urgently required until all 44 water networks are repaired.
- 2,751 people are currently residing in 100 collective centers visited by IOM. The total number of displaced people is unclear as some collective centers have not yet been reached and an unknown number of people may be staying with friends or family.
- Road access is improving throughout the island; however, there are limited vehicles available for delivery of relief items and clearance of solid waste.



Unloading relief supplies on 7 October 2017
Photo by Clemens Buter, PAHO

\$31 million

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

90 per cent

buildings damaged or destroyed

Source: Aerial estimate by Pacific Disaster Center

Situation Overview

Three weeks after category 5 Hurricane Maria devastated Dominica, the situation is improving slowly; however, continued assistance is required to meet basic needs. Water and electricity services are returning in the main urban centers although periodic breakages continue to be reported, and much of the rural areas are without water. The Government reports that 100 per cent of communities have been reached with some sort of relief delivery; however, this does not mean that 100 per cent of the people have received individual assistance.

Food and safe water distribution remains a priority as the majority of commercial businesses remains closed and water supply systems have only been partly re-established. Foreign military assets assisted in the air and sea delivery of immediate relief supplies during the first two weeks of the response. Most have now departed as road access improved; however, deliveries by road are hindered by the lack of trucks.

The Government of Dominica has prioritized this week the continued blanket distribution of food and water, as well as emergency shelter materials. According to the Government, shelter assistance should be provided to health facilities, homes for the elderly, and people in collective centers to encourage people to return home and allow the buildings, including schools, to return to their original purpose.

As of 6 October, the Government, with the assistance of its partners and the WFP, had dispatched enough food aid to meet the food security needs of about half of the population located in over 80 locations/villages of the country (out of 100) for an average period of three days. 100 MT of food have been delivered so far, out of which 17 MT were High Energy Biscuits provided by WFP. WFP has also provided the necessary logistical support to ensure that most food distributions were accompanied with water. Some 89,000 liters of water have been delivered. Tens of thousands of people continue to require food and water assistance every day.

As of 3 October, water supply had been restored to 10 water networks, including parts of Roseau water network. Authorities have warned residents that the water of Roseau city water network, although treated, is not safe to drink as there are breaks in pipes. The restoration of supply will free up trucks to provide water to other areas of the country. An assessment of 36 per cent of the 44 water supply systems across the country is pending.

The Roseau city sewage network sustained damage and raw sewage water is outflowing in several streets within the city exposing the population to serious health risks. A rapid assessment by Dominica Water and Sewerage Company Limited (DOWASCO), USAID and UNICEF revealed that the technical, human and financial support required to ensure that sewage system becomes operational again is significant. A detailed assessment conducted by experts is needed.

At least 2,800 people are residing in collective centers throughout the country, including in primary and secondary schools. The Government has prioritized assistance to people in collective centers to support the quick return to their homes; however, equitable assistance should be provided to vulnerable families outside the shelters.

Funding

On 29 September, humanitarian partners launched a Flash Appeal seeking US\$31 million for life-saving assistance and early recovery activities to be implemented until the end of 2017. The UN Central Emergency Response Fund announced \$3 million to jumpstart activities prioritized in the Flash Appeal. As of 7 October, the appeal had received nearly 3 per cent of funding required, excluding the CERF pledge.

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched a preliminary appeal for CHF 1.6 million (\$1.65 million) to support the Dominica Red Cross Society to assist 5,000 people for 12 months. As of 7 October, the appeal was 77 per cent covered through financial and in-kind contributions. The IFRC announced that it will revise its appeal in the coming days to increase coverage to some 5,000 households.

Humanitarian Response

The Government opened the Emergency Operation (EOC) from which national, regional and international assistance has been coordinated. The EOC activated a hotline for people to call seeking assistance and register any concerns. The Hotline Telephone Numbers are 1-767- 277-8667; 1-767-285-0989; 1-767-614-3000. The Government uses the feedback provided to target areas believed to have been underserved.

International assistance was quickly mobilized from within the Caribbean region and from other parts of the world. Military assets from several countries deployed to support the Government with the logistics and delivery. Countries have provided in-kind contributions of food, water, tarpaulins and other relief supplies, as well as technical expertise.

Hotlines

1-767- 277-8667
1-767-285-0989
1-767-614-3000

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) remains in country supporting the Government with coordination efforts and relief tracking. The CDEMA Coordinating Unit facilitated the deployment of seven response teams in the initial days of the response. As of 4 October, a team of six officers continued to manage a warehouse at the Port and CDEMA assessment teams were conducting a housing assessment in the Kalinago Territory.

During this reporting period, DG-ECHO deployed a humanitarian aid expert and the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism seconded two experts in debris management and hazardous, industrial, chemical and hospital waste to the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team. On 5 October, USAID delivered 200 rolls of plastic sheets and 2,400 water jugs to the Government's Office of Disaster Management. On 7 October, the Dutch vessel HNLMS Karel Doorman offloaded French relief supplies, including tarpaulins, solar lamps, blankets, and medicines and medical equipment, amongst other items.

Humanitarian partners have begun rapid market assessments to determine the feasibility of cash transfer programming in Dominica. A Cash Working Group was established to harmonize assessment methodologies and initiate discussions on standards for potential cash programming in various sectors. IFRC has started mapping functioning and non-functioning stores, markets and financial institutions. The map is available at: <https://americanredcross.github.io/dominica-market-survey/>



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- The Government has visited 88 collective centers and reported 2,832 displaced individuals.
- As at 6 October, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team conducted rapid site verification in 130 collective centers (hereafter referred to as collective centers) including 94 out of 143 that were pre-identified before the arrival of Hurricane Maria and 36 new sites. Of these collective centers, 100 are open and housing 2,751 people, and 30 centers are closed predominantly due to damage sustained during the hurricane. The status of the other 49 official centers is unknown. In addition to the official collective centers, the team identified 36 unofficial centers often in locations where the official center suffered damage.
- Data cleaning is ongoing to consolidate IOM and government figures and an overall analysis will be available shortly.
- 32 collective centers are in primary and secondary schools, hosting 1,242 people. There is increasing pressure to support returns from collective centers to enable schools to reopen.
- An as yet unknown number of people are temporarily sheltering with host families.

2,832

people residing in
collective centers as
reported by Government

Response:

- According to the strategy endorsed by the Government, an initial focus of the response should be to support as many people to return as possible, which will also relieve pressure on collective centers. At the same time, collective centers should be upgraded and consolidated where necessary to support the residual displaced population who cannot yet return.
- From 4 to 6 October, IOM DTM teams conducted rapid site verification and identified the status (open/closed) of pre-existing collective centers, the number of displaced people and the name and contact number of the shelter manager.
- The next phase of DTM is the rapid site assessment, collecting more in-depth information at each location.
- A digital map of previous and verified collective centers is available to download on mobile phones and tablets. <http://displacement.iom.int/caribbean-emergency-2017/dominica>

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Early Recovery

Needs:

- Provide immediate assistance to debris removal and waste management.
- Waste separation for debris management.
- Support the immediate restoration of basic services.
- Meet the current safe roofing demand.
- Develop a shelter to housing plan to promote quick action towards early recovery.
- Livelihood and emergency employment opportunities.

57,000

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

Response:

- Four debris management specialists deployed through UNDP and OCHA/UNEP arrived in Dominica to support debris management and engage the national partners involved to support assessment, planning and implementation. This will include advising on a collection, sorting and management plan; supporting national programs including cash for work modalities; and reviewing and advising on reuse, recycling and disposal.
- UNDP is supporting the full functioning of the main government agencies through technical advice and supervision of the clearance of the flooded sub-basement of the Financial Center Building housing several ministries including the Office of the Prime Minister.
- UNDP is also advising DOWASCO on the clearance of blocked sewage pipes including on the ground use of high capacity pumps.
- UNITAR carried out a preliminary damage assessment via satellite imaging to determine the extent of infrastructure and building damages. The pictures are available at <https://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps/114>
- A Post Disaster Needs Assessment is scheduled to commence on 16 October coordinated by UNDP, the World Bank and the European Union. Multiple partners such as the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, other UN agencies and partners will participate. The intention is to develop a comprehensive multisectoral assessment of impacts and a recovery strategy.

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Education

Needs:

- Schools remain closed leaving 18,251 children and adolescents without access to education.
- Preliminary assessments indicate that 32 of the country's 76 primary and secondary schools are being used as collective centers. An alternative solution is necessary to guarantee the children the right to education in safe and protective spaces.
- 1,061 teachers were affected by the hurricane constraining their ability to carry out their functions.
- Immediate establishment of temporary safe and protective learning spaces, accessible, inclusive, and gender-sensitive which promote the protection and well-being of learners.
- Comprehensive education needs assessment including the structural component of the schools with major damages.
- Training of teachers and facilitators on psychosocial support and life-saving messages relating to disaster preparedness, protection, sanitation and hygiene promotion, nutrition and health.
- Provision of psychosocial support for children, adolescents and teachers affected by the hurricane
- Provision of essential education supplies and recreational materials that enable the rapid return to school.
- Rehabilitation of roofs, windows and water and sanitation systems in educational institutions.

18,251

children and adolescents
(100 per cent) without
access to school

42 per cent

of primary and secondary
schools currently used as
collective centers

Response:

- An Education and Child Protection Working Group was established with UNICEF as a focal point for the international organizations and is co-led by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs.

- A school assessment is being conducted by the Ministry of Education officers and preliminary results will be shared by 17 October.
- The Ministry of Education is planning to reopen 15 schools with minimum damages in two weeks, and will share a detailed plan for the rest of the schools once the school assessment is finalized.
- Upon request of the Ministry of Education, two trainings on psychosocial support for education officers and teachers will commence next week.

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Needs:

- Immediate food assistance is needed to support the affected population, especially in remote locations, until roads and markets open again.
- Clearing of farm roads and agricultural land.
- Agricultural tools and infrastructure such as pruning shears, spades, forks, mattocks, hoes, cutlasses and files, greenhouses, etc. have been reported lost, damaged 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.)

100 per cent

of population targeted for one-month food assistance by Government and WFP

100

metric tons of food assistance delivered

Response:

- As of 6 October, the Government, with the assistance of its partners and WFP has dispatched enough food assistance to cover the food security needs of around half of the population in over 80 locations/villages of the country (out of 100) for an average period of three days. Over 100 MT of food have been delivered so far, out of which 17 MT were High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) provided by WFP.
- WFP provided the necessary logistical coordination support to ensure that most food distributions were accompanied with water. Over 89,000 liters of water have been delivered.
- Under the leadership of the Government, WFP is also providing technical assistance to ensure that distributions are as transparent and protection sensitive as possible at the local level. A meeting with District Development Officers and Social Welfare Officers was held to review distribution guidelines. WFP has deployed staff to support planning and distributions in coordination with national and local authorities.
- Plans are underway to provide food assistance to up to 25,000 people for three months. Depending on the time needed for the reactivation of markets, WFP could provide both direct assistance through an initial in kind ration followed by cash-based transfers designed to meet immediate needs as well as support local economic recovery. WFP and other partners have begun to map the status of markets and food supply.
- Under Government leadership, the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector held its first meeting, co-chaired by WFP, with the objective of reviewing the food security situation, distributions carried out so far and immediate requirements.
- In close coordination with the Government, FAO identified a number of emergency agricultural response interventions to lessen the duration of the impact of Hurricane Maria on farm/fisher folk's livelihood, ensure immediate restoration of food production, and avoid a rapid deterioration of food insecurity and malnutrition in the country.

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Needs:

- Partners to coordinate health response with the health emergency operations center (EOC).
- Urgent repair of the estimated 29 damaged or non-operational health facilities, including key facilities for Princess Margaret Hospital.
- Access limitations hamper assessments of 30 health facilities, re-establishing surveillance, and delivering critical medicines, supplies, and water to health facilities.
- Donations of medicines, supplies, and equipment that meet a demonstrated need requested by the country.
- Strengthen and expand Ministry of Health and Environment (MOH) epidemiological surveillance to all health facilities and collective centers.
- Psychosocial support needed for medical staff.
- Safe disposal of damaged and unusable medical supplies and equipment.
- Continued security to guarantee supplies of the hospital.

65,000

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

29

damaged or non-operational health facilities

Response:

- The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) is supporting the MOH to coordinate international response efforts, and is mobilizing resources to ensure continuous support for recovery efforts.
- Medicines, supplies, vehicles, and a generator have been procured by PAHO, and have been delivered to Dominica's health facilities, collective centers, and affected communities with partner support.
- Relief medical teams have arrived in Dominica, working under the coordination of PAHO and national authorities.
- Support from PAHO was provided to install a system that enables health authorities to manage critical health supplies.
- Assessments on health facilities were conducted by PAHO and recommendations have been issued.
- PAHO made urgent repairs in Princess Margaret Hospitals and facilitated the medical evacuation of critical patients for emergency care abroad.

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Needs:

- Partners to coordinate the child protection response with social services partners and emergency operations center.
- Comprehensive assessment of child protection sector and integration of these needs across all sectors.
- Psychosocial support for children and their caregivers.
- Safe recreational spaces for children.
- Case management workers to complement limited team and expanded need.
- Strengthening systems to ensure homes and collective centers keep children from abuse and harm.

38,251

women and children targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal

Response:

- UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Services to establish a Education/Protection Working Group, which includes national NGOs - East Federation and West Federation, and international partners ChildFund, IsraAID, Digicel and UNICEF.
- Roll-out strategy for psychosocial support for 1000 children in 13 communities with support of UNICEF-trained national facilitators, IsraAID and ChildFund facilitators completed.
- Establishment of safe recreational spaces for children in Pointe Michel and Atkinson communities.
- Distribution of messages to caregivers in collective centers on keeping children safe.

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Needs:

- The Pacific Disaster Center 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 destroyed. (<http://www.pdc.org/event-products/preview/?id=1651>). Extrapolating these figures to the total 26,085 houses in Dominica based on Government census data, damage figures are estimated at 7,255 moderately damaged, 10,272 highly damaged and 5,961 destroyed houses.
- Improved targeting and coordination of the shelter response are needed.
- Significant rates of tarpaulin installation to patch roofs has not been observed to date; shelter actors will focus on gathering feedback on emergency shelter and tarpaulin use over the coming days.
- Tents are not a recommended shelter solution for the hurricane response. However, there may be needs in specific rural locations where houses have been destroyed and collective centers are not an option.
- Procurement of roof material and installation support for homes of the most vulnerable, as well as public buildings such as school and hospitals.,
- Training programs and public awareness material on effective roof construction.
- The diagram to the right shows the downstream distribution arrangements for shelter and non-food items (NFIs) involving district focal points and village councils as required by the Government.

43,620

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

23,500

Houses are estimated to be moderately to highly damaged or destroyed


Response:

- According to joint distribution record, as of 6 October, 8,698 tarpaulins or shelter grade plastic sheeting have been distributed. Shelter partners are also distributing kitchen kits, blankets, hygiene kits and other NFIs.
- On 3-4 October, IOM delivered 150 shelter kits including tarpaulins, ropes, kitchen kits, hygiene kits and solar lamps in Dublanc, Bioche and Colihaut. On 6 October, IOM delivered 500 solar lights and 500 water purification kits to the community center in Pointe Michel. The items were supplied in kind by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and distributed by the Village Council.
- USAID organized the shipment of 4,000 tarpaulins and is distributing these via the Government, predominantly on the west coast between Calabreche, Marigot and Castle Bruce.
- During the reporting period, IFRC distributed 2,181 tarpaulins in St George, St Joseph and St Luke parishes and will distribute an additional 498 tarpaulins in the same parishes. IFRC is also distributing toolkits, blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, buckets and food parcels in the same locations.
- Catholic Relief Services is planning to distribute 4,000 tarpaulins, and will be targeting needs in the south: Soufriere, Grand Bay, Scott's Head and Pointe Michel.
- A technical working group meeting on 5 October discussed and proposed specifications for shelter fixing kits, toolkits and roofing kits, as well as training and awareness materials.
- Two recommended technical guidance materials include:
 - "Make the right connections" A Manual on Safe Construction Techniques from Caribbean Disaster Mitigation Project (1995) <https://www.oas.org/cdmp/document/connect/index.htm>
 - Tarp Installation Best Practices Video from J/P HRO & USAID/OFDA Emergency Shelter Program: https://youtu.be/NB9cqYRd1_A

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- 34 water network systems still require repairs.
- WASH actors have agreed that every water distribution point created via water trucking should be revisited every 3-4 days until the water network is repaired to ensure continuous access to safe water for drinking and cooking (7.5 liters/person/day).
- An assessment of 16 out of 44 (36 per cent) water supply systems is pending.
- At least 14 water and wastewater technicians are needed to support DOWASCO's teams.
- Domestic solid waste management remains a major concern.
- The leaking Roseau city wastewater system needs urgent assessment by a qualified expert.
- Water systems at healthcare facilities and schools need to be repaired or replaced.
- Collective centers need regular access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation (minimum WASH package).
- Expand distribution of water to priority collective centers (i.e. most populated, those relying on river water)
- Support DOWASCO and the Environmental Health Department to repair damages to their offices to become fully operational.

57,000

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

34

water network systems require repairs

Response:

- A WASH sectoral response plan is under validation by the local authorities.
- 16,000 persons regained access to water supply, thanks to 10 water networks of Roseau metropolitan area and suburbs repaired by DOWASCO. Assessments and repairs of the remaining 34 networks is underway by DOWASCO with the support of USAID, Samaritan's Purse, PAHO and UNICEF.
- Eleven mobile water treatment plants have been brought to Dominica, of which five are installed by Samaritan's Purse (3), IFRC (1) and B-FAST (1) in locations mainly on the West coast prioritized for their large populations and more turbid river waters. The remaining six will be installed in the coming week. The treatment plants provide water to almost 10,000 persons daily. In addition, water is being trucked by PAHO, USAID and UNICEF from sources other than the mobile water treatment plants (DOWASCO fire hydrants and the military boats) to provide water to another 2,000 persons every day.
- USAID, IFRC, Samaritan's Purse and UNICEF have distributed, mainly through the Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs, 2,800 hygiene kits and 3,000 collapsible jerry cans for the safe storage of drinking water at household level.
- USAID and UNICEF have provided technical assistance to DOWASCO to produce a rapid assessment report of the damages suffered by the Roseau city sewage network.
- PAHO and partners procured and distributed generators, water storage, and water purification kits.
- PAHO repaired the Princess Margaret Hospital's water system needed for dialysis.
- The local Rotary club supported the recruitment of volunteers for drinkable water distribution to communities and shelters.

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Logistics

Needs:

- The lack of commercial air flights requires ongoing humanitarian air service from Antigua.
- Repair and coordination support at port, airports and warehousing facilities.

100

metric tons of government food and non-food items dispatched

Response:

- UNHAS continues to provide air services for the transport of humanitarian personnel and light cargo to and from Dominica three times per week.

- Logistics partners created a 55m x 75m safe landing zone at the port for helicopters to use for emergency relief dispatch from the port, freeing up trucks for land dispatch.
- WFP organized the dispatch of some 100 MT of Government and WFP food supplies.
- Logistics partners facilitated the medical evacuation of five Dominican nationals with UK military assets.
- WFP coordinated the dispatch of relief items, food and water to various locations in Dominica via the Dutch vessel HNLMS Zeeland and its helicopter assets, the Canadian vessel CNS St. John and its helicopter assets; the UK vessel RNS Ocean and its helicopter assets; and USAID's Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance and the US Department of Defense.
- WFP continues to support the berthing of ships at Roseau port and coordinating security at the port with the Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard.
- WFP is supporting the Government to rehabilitate 1,200m² of warehouse space at Roseau port.

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Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- Together with its partners, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is identifying telecommunication gaps in Dominica and providing temporary services to the humanitarian community.
- The lack of telecommunication is leading to information gaps between the humanitarian responders and affected communities.

2,000

unique users registered
on ETC networks

Response:

- More than 2,000 unique users are registered on the expanding ETC networks in Roseau and Douglas-Charles airport area in Melville.
- Ericsson Response/Emergency.lu is providing ETC connectivity to eight locations in Roseau, and four in Douglas-Charles airport, Marigot and Wesley.
- Drone mapping was done for seven areas in the South and the North to register the damage, including in Roseau and Louisville, Castle Bruce, Marigot, Wesley, Woodford Hills and Calibishie. The recordings are available at <https://map.openaerialmap.org/#/-/61.34765625,15.456327490043542,8/0323030023/59d4159146e19904aab0aea6?k=s7mtu9>
- Services for Communities (S4C) established connectivity for the affected communities by means of hotspots at the Wesley health center and the Marigot community center.
- Discussions with mobile network operations for sending bulk SMS to communities to receive humanitarian support information are ongoing.

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General Coordination

The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) is coordinating the response, with the support of CDEMA and UNDAC/OCHA. Coordination meetings are held at the NEOC and sector specific groups are also meeting (Early Recovery; Education and Protection; Food Security and Livelihoods, Health; Logistics; Shelter/CCCM; and WASH). Over the next week, UNDAC will be phasing out its operations in Dominica and will hand over to OCHA and national coordination mechanisms.

The UN Secretary-General established a Crisis Management Team led by UNDP and OCHA to support the government coordination efforts from relief to recovery.

Weekly coordination meetings with international partners are held at the NEOC on Fridays at 16:00 hours. Twice weekly meetings between the EOC and sector leads are held at 15:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sector meeting notes and meeting schedules will be posted on Humanitarian Response Info www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/dominica

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/>

You can also find, and share, reports and infographics on ReliefWeb at <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2017-000136-atg>

OPERATIONS AND REPORTING	
Distribution Tracking List	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10F4-Li08biZt7EXopUjiBV-gnaFfXZWDeN3QPPOk78s/edit#gid=1290267400
Contact List	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vcucPQrFhkSk-23eniyJfjfbPoSS9yBBEXEVdjke_8/edit#gid=0
Sector Leads	https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ZKStID-ZDM_ZNEwYpjMoRL89RFOGFceIEZ6f1TPNjo/edit

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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 centers 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.