



This report is produced by the United Nations in collaboration with humanitarian partners in Dominica. It covers the period from 11 to 14 October 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 19 October 2017.

Highlights

- The Government plans to re-open 24 schools on 16 October and an additional 8 schools during the week. Of these, 19 are being used as collective centres where approximately 700 people are currently residing. UNICEF and partners are urgently preparing the schools with safe spaces, education and recreational materials, and water and sanitation facilities.
- Camp coordination and camp management partners visited the 19 schools that are serving as collective centres to identify the specific needs of the people and plan an urgent response prior to the re-opening of the schools.
- At least 190 metric tons (MT) of food have been delivered as of 10 October, to meet the needs of about 60,000 people during a short period.
- Delivery of potable water to communities, health care facilities, collective centres and schools continues and is required until the remaining water networks are repaired.
- 2,911 people are currently residing in 108 collective centres visited by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- Debris and waste management is coming to a critical point.
- High demand and limited supply of trucks for delivery are constraining the delivery of assistance.



Dominica Red Cross installing a water treatment unit in Saint Soufriere. Photo credit: OCHA

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|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| \$31 million | 71,000 | 65,000 | 90 per cent |
| needed for relief and recovery efforts in Dominica | affected people | people targeted for aid | buildings damaged or destroyed |
| Source: UN Flash Appeal | Source: UN Flash Appeal | Source: UN Flash Appeal | Source: Aerial estimate by Pacific Disaster Center |

Situation Overview

Nearly one month after Hurricane Maria devastated Dominica, humanitarian assistance continues to be required to meet basic needs across the country. According to the Government, 100 per cent of localities have received some sort of relief assistance since the hurricane; however, the amount and type of assistance provided at household and individual level is unclear. While water and electricity are progressively returning in the main urban areas, peri-urban and rural areas remain disconnected from services.

The Dominica Electrical Services Company (DOMLEC) is repairing electrical lines prioritizing public infrastructure and commercial businesses before residential areas. During the reporting period, electricity has been restored

in a number of streets and businesses in Roseau and at the Ross University in Portsmouth. DOMLEC noted that burning debris in the vicinity of electrical poles is hindering the repair of lines.

As of 14 October, the Dominican Water and Sewage Company (DOWASCO) had repaired 14 out of 44 water supply networks serving some 39,000 people (about 55-60 per cent of the population). Water distribution through these networks is turned off during the night to allow DOWASCO to repair leaks. As networks are repaired, water trucks and water treatment units are redeployed to other areas to expand coverage.

Food distribution continues to be a priority across the country as access to and availability of food in markets remains limited. Small shops remain closed particularly in rural areas, and larger to medium importers are facing short-term pipeline breaks of certain staple foods. Major supermarkets, however, are re-establishing operations in urban centres. Food parcels are particularly critical for public servants such as emergency personnel, health workers, social workers and teachers. The World Food Programme (WFP) is expecting a shipment of 376 MT of food on or about 18 October and is liaising with the Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs and other humanitarian partners to prioritize localities and people for assistance.

District Development Officers and Social Welfare Officers of the Government are carrying out a country-wide household damage and needs assessment (DANA) that should be finished by 17 October. IOM has offered to digitize the paper forms so that the information can be shared and used by the Government, local Village Councils and international partners for beneficiary targeting. Humanitarian partners are working closely with the Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs on a harmonized targeting approach for beneficiary selection.

An aerial survey carried out by the Pacific Disaster Center indicates that more than 16,000 houses (some 62 per cent) have been highly damaged or destroyed. The DANA will also inform the housing strategy that is currently under development with partners in the Shelter and Early Recovery sectors.

The Ministry of Education announced plans to reopen at least 24 schools on Monday 16 October. Education and WASH partners accompanied Ministry of Education officers to assess the selected schools and identify priority repairs and needs. UNICEF is working with DOWASCO to ensure water and sanitation services are available and educational and recreational materials are provided. According to IOM, 19 of the schools are currently functioning as collective centres housing some 700 people. Shelter partners are working with the Government to provide emergency shelter materials to people who are able to return home with minimum repairs, and to identify alternative solutions, such as host families or other collective centres, for people who cannot easily return home.

Little is known about the status of private preschools and daycare centres and the children ages 0 to 4 years that were assisted through them prior to the hurricane. The Ministry of Education had provided an annual subsidy to the 83 private preschools and daycare centres but is not responsible for the damage assessment or repairs following the hurricane.

According to IOM, at least 2,900 people are residing in 108 collective centres throughout Dominica. IOM is coordinating site assessments carrying out the displacement tracking matrix (DTM) methodology to gather information on the needs and priorities of people in the centres.

Restoring health systems, including rehabilitation of damaged health centres, wellbeing of health staff and surveillance is a priority. As of 14 October, 17 health centres out of the 49 in country remain non-operational. As such, six international emergency medical teams (EMT), coordinated by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), remain in country to provide emergency care and to attend to people with chronic illnesses until health services are restored. The damaged sewage system and abundance of municipal waste is a growing concern. While a comprehensive plan for debris and waste management is under development, urgent action is needed to mitigate the risk of large-scale breaks in the sewage system.



*Debris and solid waste litter side streets in Dominica
Photo credit: UNDP*

Funding

On 29 September, humanitarian partners launched a Flash Appeal seeking US\$31.1 million for life-saving assistance and early recovery activities to be implemented until the end of 2017. The UN Central Emergency Response Fund released \$3 million to jumpstart activities prioritized in the Flash Appeal. As of 14 October, the appeal was 12 per cent covered.

On 9 October, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) issued a revised emergency appeal for CHF 5.5 million (\$5.7 million) in support of the Dominica Red Cross Society to assist 15,000 people with multi-sectoral assistance for 12 months. As of 11 October, the appeal was 25 per cent covered through financial and in-kind contributions.

Humanitarian Response

The Government's Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) remains active with regular meetings with national response committees and international organizations. The EOC activated a hotline for people to call seeking assistance and register concerns. The Government also opened bank accounts for voluntary contributions to support the relief efforts. More information is available at www.dominicarelief.org.

Hotlines

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

Seven UN agencies, 19 non-governmental organizations and the IFRC are providing humanitarian assistance in Dominica. Additionally, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) continues to support the Government with coordination efforts and relief tracking.

Military assets from several countries deployed to support the Government with logistics and delivery of relief supplies. The Jamaican Defense Force (JDF) currently have 122 personnel in Dominica supporting the hurricane response operation. JDF are involved in debris clearance enabling access to communities and repair of critical infrastructure. In support of the Government, JDF are also providing logistics and security support at the port and Canefield Airport in Roseau. The Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force, including a medical team, is also in country supporting the Government's response efforts.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- Urgent support is needed for people residing in schools being used as collective centres that are scheduled to reopen on 16 October and the following days. The Government, UNICEF and shelter sector partners are working together to identify solutions for the displaced people in the schools scheduled to reopen, including emergency shelter assistance (such as tarpaulins or tents for those able to return to their homes) or alternative accommodation in host families or other collective centres.

2,911

people residing in collective centres as reported by IOM

Response

- On 11-13 October, IOM and partners conducted displacement tracking matrix (DTM) assessments in the schools scheduled to reopen. IOM is cleaning the data and will share it on 15 October. The data will inform planning of support to be provided in these locations.
- After the priority schools, IOM will continue rapid site assessments in the remaining collective centres across Dominica, with detailed information anticipated by 21 October.

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Early Recovery

Needs:

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

57,000

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

Response:

- The UNDP/OCHA/UNEP debris management specialists have advanced their analyses of the waste management context and have prepared preliminary findings and recommendations, including on debris management.
- UNDP has advanced discussions with the Ministries of Public Works and Agriculture around cash for work related to debris removal. The programme will be implemented through the National Employment Programme (NEP) along with the distribution of personal protective equipment, such as gloves and boots. The activities should commence in the coming days.
- Regarding the reconstruction of roofs, UNDP will work with IOM and other partners to collaborate in training persons and disseminating public awareness messaging on resilient roof construction techniques. Procurement of roofing materials has advanced and roofing activities may start early December 2017. The training of builders and contractors in roof installation will strive for gender equity.
- Work on rehabilitating the Financial Centre Building, specifically dewatering and desilting the flooded sub-basement, pumping water out of the elevator shafts, and the removal of affected vehicles is almost completed through the efforts of several government agencies such as the Fire Service and the Ministry of Public Works with the technical advice and supervision of UNDP. The next steps will be to advise on the investment required to make the electrical and mechanical systems functional.
- UNDP has been requested to further advise DOWASCO on the Roseau sewage network.
- 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 multi-sectoral assessment of impacts and a recovery strategy.

Operational constraints:

- There remain challenges regarding available resources for early recovery activities, including for cash-for-work support. However, concrete options exist, including working with the National Employment Programme to establish a labour force to complete work on the ground.

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Education

Needs:

- Based on preliminary reports, a deeper comprehensive assessment is required in the schools with major damages.
- It is important to ensure that all schools that will reopen have basic water and sanitation services.
- Psychosocial support activities for teachers and students, and the provision of essential education and recreational materials is needed across the country.
- Support for the re-establishment of the Government's School Feeding Programme is a critical need.
- An assessment of childcare centres and preschools is needed.

18,251

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

42 per cent

of primary and secondary
schools currently used as
collective centres

Response:

- The Ministry of Education asked teachers and principals of all primary and secondary schools to report for work as of 10 October and announced the progressive reopening of schools beginning on Monday 16 October.

- With the support of UNICEF, 12 primary schools (with 1,756 students and 123 teachers) and 12 secondary schools for upper grades (with 1,625 students) will reopen on Monday 16 October. Upper year secondary school classes (third through fifth form) will be prioritized as students are preparing for national exams.
- On 18 October, eight additional primary schools will reopen. Psychosocial support has been offered by IsraAID in conjunction with UNICEF and other partners.
- The Government has temporarily suspended the requirement for school uniforms.
- UNICEF and partners are working on the rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in schools focusing first on those to reopen next week.
- UNICEF continues with the distribution of education, recreational supplies and tents.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF has started the distribution of tarpaulins to schools and teachers affected.
- Reports of affected schools were systematized by UNICEF and are being used for the distribution plan.

Operational constraints:

- Limited options of local companies to support the repair of water, sanitation and hygiene systems at the schools.
- The identification of specific needs in the back to school programme is a challenge considering the limited information available.

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Needs:

- Immediate food assistance is still required for the next weeks until roads and markets recover, especially in remote and rural locations dependent on agriculture, as well as urban communities where markets are not yet fully reactivated with an ample supply of basic food commodities.
- Access to farmland and secondary roads remains imperative for the rehabilitation of the agriculture sector and production of food in the country, as well as equipment such as chainsaws and heavy machinery.
- Additional tanks to contain rain water and ensure sufficient irrigation for the newly planted crops will be needed in the short term, especially considering the uneven rainfall distribution in the country in the past weeks.
- Provision of new boats and engines will be needed to resume fishing activities.
- Forest fires are reported in many areas of the country and there is a need to establish an effective fire management system outside the urban areas. Most likely aerial firefighting capacity will be needed in the country to monitor the situation and rapidly extinguish any large fire.
- Material for fencing and providing shelter to livestock is essential before restocking and distribution of animal feed can begin.
- Additional information is needed to define targeting criteria considering livelihoods, vulnerability and damage to prioritize food assistance interventions and support livelihood recovery.
- Establishment of monitoring mechanisms in each targeted area to monitor food prices and market reactivation.

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| 100 per cent | 190 |
| of population targeted for one-month food assistance by Government and WFP | metric tons of food assistance delivered |

Response:

- As of 13 October, the Government, with the assistance of its partners and WFP has dispatched enough food assistance to cover the food security needs of around 60,000 people in most locations/villages of the country (out of 100) during a short period. Over 190 MT of food have been delivered so far, out of which 17 MT were High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) provided by WFP. The government is continuing provision of food assistance for the current and next week.
- WFP and the Government are consolidating a tracking list of distributed food items by settlement.
- WFP's immediate response plan consists of in-kind food distributions of 376 MT that will allow a nutritionally balanced ration to up to 30,000 people in 40 settlements for 15 to 30 days through blanket or targeted distribution. The in-kind distributions will ensure food assistance reach settlements that have received

assistance less frequently and meet specific vulnerability criteria. As markets are reactivated, WFP will follow with cash-based transfers to meet immediate needs and support local economic and livelihoods recovery. Market and food supply assessments are underway, carried out by WFP and other partners.

- FAO received CERF funds for the rehabilitation of crop and livestock production for ensuring food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable population through distribution of agricultural inputs, hand tools, fencing and wiring material as well as animal feed and restocking of poultry.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and FAO are planning to distribute agricultural inputs, small hand tools and other equipment at collection points set up in the Governmental Agricultural Centres operating across Dominica.
- More than 10,000 seedlings of vegetable crops have been secured in addition to 150,000 seedlings of citrus that will be distributed to farmers in the next coming weeks.
- Livestock, fishery and forestry will be also supported with various rapid interventions such as distribution of fencing material, animal feed, and cooling equipment (i.e. refrigerator and ice making machines) in addition to rehabilitation of nurseries.

Operational constraints:

- The lack of transport vehicles is hindering distributions.
- The main operational constraints remain clearance of farmland and roads (mainly secondary and tertiary) as well as the identification of the rural areas across the country.
- Precise data on quantities, types of food and destinations covered is a challenge for all actors involved.

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Needs:

- Key issues in health centres remain wellbeing of medical staff, including food, water and shelter; water for the health care facilities, fuel for existing generators and tanks for water and generators. Inter-sectoral support is required to resolve these gaps.
- Local health staff are overstretched and need continued support from the emergency medical teams (EMTs) currently in country. Ongoing provisions of additional support will be challenging for the long term.
- Reagents and fixing of chemistry laboratory are required for a fully functioning lab.
- Vector control efforts appear sub-optimal and require urgent bolstering.
- Communication between health facilities and the Ministry of Health needs strengthening. Telecommunication connectivity is urgently needed.

65,000

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

17

non-operational health facilities out of 49

Response:

- Health sector partners, including six international EMTs from Samaritan's Purse, Team Rubicon, NYC Medics, ITNAC, and International Medical Corps are deployed to districts and the Princess Margaret Hospital to support the response and relieve local health workers. PAHO is coordinating the six international EMTs.
- Some of the food to be delivered by the HNLMS Karel Doorman will be distributed to health facilities.
- Generators (7) and fuel tanks have been purchased for health facilities and the Central Medical Store (CMS) temporarily located in Newtown School and shelves for the CMS.
- PAHO is supporting the reinstatement of the syndromic surveillance system, hospital chemistry testing, laboratory testing of suspected leptospirosis cases and tuberculosis, and medical evacuations and repatriations.
- Four cases of suspected leptospirosis were identified. One case has been confirmed. The cases are being investigated and mitigating measures implemented.
- Clean up and repairs at the Princess Margaret Hospital, including morgue, oncology, dialysis, roof repairs, office area, maternity ward, etc., are ongoing.
- All medical supplies received in country should be sent to the Central Medical Store at Newtown, c/o Mrs. Jasmine Lambert. The priority list of medical needs will be updated and presented on 11 October.

Operational constraints:

- Exhaustion of national health workers.
- Communications with health centres, particularly for surveillance and reporting.
- Health workers and their families were also affected by the hurricane and need to ensure their own family needs are covered, which hampers their ability to operate in their health work capacities.
- The environmental health unit has limited staff for many crucial tasks.
- Lack of adequate accommodations in Dominica for international medical support. Incoming teams need to be fully self-sufficient when deployed.

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Needs:

- Social service and border control interventions for migrating children.
- Psychosocial support for children.
- Safe spaces for recreation for children.
- Enhanced child protection system with expanded case management capacity.

38,251

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

Response:

- Protection partners are issuing protection messaging through shelters, radio, social media on keeping children safe from harm and abuse; caregiver tips for consideration before potential emigration of children for education purposes.
- UNICEF continues to roll out of the "Return to Happiness" psychosocial programme for children in 13 collective centres.
- Protection partners debriefed 13 school counsellors and implemented a training of trainers to support teachers in the schools scheduled to reopen next week.
- The Ministry of Education and protection partners developed a timetable for psychosocial support for children.
- UNICEF and partners have established six dedicated safe spaces for children's recreation.
- An initial basic assessment of trends in migration of children and their families was started.

Operational constraints

- Limited communication hinders the ability to monitor Return to Happiness programme.
- Lack of accommodation is limiting the ability of external psychosocial support for children.
- There is a limited number of national partners to expand programmes across the country.

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Needs:

- Needs and gaps analysis of the distribution of tarpaulins to date has identified that 50 per cent of settlements have not received emergency shelter assistance to date.
- Among the 50 per cent that have received shelter assistance, there is a wide variance in the degree of coverage, with some settlements significantly over-served and some significantly under-served.
- The gaps analysis has been shared with shelter actors for them to clarify the distribution locations if these were incorrectly entered, and target remaining gaps with the remaining pipeline of shelter items both within and en route to Dominica.

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

- Shelter assistance to the displaced population currently in schools scheduled to reopen is urgently needed to assist return or identify alternative shelter solutions.
- Mattresses, mosquito nets and mosquito repellent are key needs requested by the affected communities.

Response:

- According to the WFP/CDEMA pipeline tracker, over 26,000 tarpaulins have arrived in Dominica to date, and an additional 7,500 tarpaulins are en route.
- According to the joint distribution record, over 16,000 tarpaulins have been confirmed as distributed to date, including some 1,281 during the reporting period.
- IOM urges humanitarian partners and government counterparts to distribute any emergency shelter items currently in warehouses and report the distributions accurately to update the gaps analysis and effectively target the remaining pipeline of goods.
- Additionally, shelter actors are distributing kitchen kits, hygiene kits, solar lamps, blankets and other priority non-food items.

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- According to DOWASCO, more than 39,000 people (approximately 55-60 per cent of the population) have access to water through the official water network following extensive and quick repairs.
- 43 of the 44 systems have been severely damaged and need larger-scale and more specific rehabilitation to regain their status before the hurricane, and to ensure the resilience through the “build back better”.
- At least 14 water and wastewater technicians are needed to support DOWASCO’s teams.
- Domestic solid waste management remains a major concern.
- The Environmental Health Department, as the national regulator for water quality control, needs supports to fulfill its mission. DOWASCO as the national operator utility also requires support to regain its capacity to control the quality of the water it provides.
- The leaking Roseau city wastewater system requires an urgent assessment by qualified experts and emergency repairs until rehabilitation is complete.
- Water systems at healthcare facilities and schools should be repaired and several of them will require continued water trucking until water networks are fully operational.
- Collective centres need regular access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation. The minimum WASH package in shelters has been agreed by the WASH partners and needs to be validated by DOWASCO.
- Distribution of water to priority collective centres is needed.
- DOWASCO and the Environmental Health Department need support to repair damages to their offices to become fully operational.
- WASH partners should closely monitor more the WASH response plan to better reflect the interventions.

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| <p>57,000</p> <p>people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners’ Flash Appeal</p> | <p>30</p> <p>water network systems require repairs</p> |
|---|---|

Response:

- Environmental Health Department and DOWASCO are leading the WASH sectoral response, with the support of UNICEF, with the participation of Samaritan’s Purse, IsraAID, CRS, Global Medic, IFRC, DFID, PAHO, UNDP, and International Medical Corps.
- 39,000 persons regained access to their former water supply thanks to quick reparations of the water networks including Roseau metropolitan area and suburbs by DOWASCO.
- While the networks remain under repair, these efforts are complemented by drinking water trucking supported by UNICEF and USAID at community level and PAHO at community level and health centers.
- Eleven mobile water treatment plants have been brought to Dominica, of which seven have been installed in the west coast by Samaritan’s Purse (5), IFRC (2) and B-FAST (1) and three are functioning on the east coast. These efforts reach an estimated 9,000 people daily with the basic needs in drinking water.
- UNICEF, Samaritan’s Purse and the Ministry of Education assessed 15 priority schools to identify the immediate WASH actions to carry out in support of the back to school on 16 October.

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Contact persons at EHP: Eric Saintville; ericstville@yahoo.com



Logistics

Needs:

- Pipeline reports are required to inform and plan warehousing and offloading at the port.
- Repair and coordination support at port, airports and warehousing facilities.
- The lack of commercial air flights requires ongoing humanitarian air service from Antigua.

190

metric tons of government
food and non-food items
dispatched

Response:

- WFP is preparing the port for the arrival of some 376 MT of WFP food commodities via the Dutch ship HNLMS Karel Doorman on or about 18 October.
- WFP has organized the dispatch of some 190 MT of Government and WFP food supplies.
- UNHAS continues to provide air services for the transport of humanitarian personnel and light cargo to and from Dominica three times per week.

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Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- The lack of telecommunication is leading to information gaps between the humanitarian responders and affected communities.

12

locations provided with ETC
connectivity

Response:

- Together with its partners, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is identifying telecommunication gaps in Dominica and providing temporary services to the humanitarian community.
- More than 2,364 unique users with well over 27,000 unique devices are registered on the expanding ETC networks in Roseau and Douglas-Charles airport areas.
- Ericsson Response/Emergency.lu is providing ETC connectivity to twelve locations in Roseau, and five locations at Douglas-Charles airport, Marigot and Wesley.
- Services for Communities (S4C) continues to provide connectivity for the affected communities by means of hotspots at the Wesley health centre and the Marigot community centre where approximately 250 people are connecting every day.
- Status of the services availability and technical viability evaluation carrying out to expand the coverage for the different new requests of connectivity.

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General Coordination

The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is coordinating the response, with the support of CDEMA and OCHA. Coordination meetings are held at the NEOC and sector groups are meeting (Early Recovery; Education and Protection; Food Security and Livelihoods, Health; Logistics; Shelter/CCCM; and WASH).

Upon request of the Prime Minister, the UN established a Crisis Management Unit led by UNDP and OCHA to support the government coordination efforts from relief to recovery. Members of the unit include: Mr. Luca Renda of UNDP (luca.renda@undp.org), Team Leader; Ms. Marie Spaak of OCHA (spaak@un.org); and Mr. Ian King of UNDP (ian.king@undp.org).

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-23eniyJfxfbPoSS9yBBEXEVdjke_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 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.