Dominica: Hurricane Maria Situation Report No. 8 (as of 26 October 2017)



























This report is produced by the United Nations in collaboration with humanitarian partners in Dominica. It covers the period from 20 to 25 October 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 2 November 2017.

Highlights

- Between 21 and 25 October, the World Food Programme (WFP) dispatched 230 metric tons (MT) of food rations composed of rice, beans, sardines and oil for 14,500 people in 25 settlements and over 35 communities. Food distributions are coordinated with village councils, local distribution committees and constituencies.
- Shelter partners continued the distribution of emergency shelter and roofing materials, including nearly 3,000 tarpaulins during the reporting period.
- With the support of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Ministry of Education reopened 9 primary schools this week joining the 11 secondary schools that initiated classes last week. So far, 757 students are enrolled in secondary. Data for primary school attendance is not yet consolidated.



WFP food distribution in Coulibistri Photo credit: WFP

- Generators are critically needed to support health facilities, collective centres and schools as electrical networks remain non-operational in most parts of the country.
- Emergency repairs to water networks have extended coverage to a total of 42,800 people while water trucking and mobile water treatment units are reaching an estimated 9,000 more people.
- A second mobile storage unit was installed in Portsmouth this week.

\$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: Estimate by Pacific Disaster Center based on Copernicus aerial imagery

Situation Overview

After an intense period of blanket emergency assistance following Hurricane Maria, the Government and humanitarian actors are refining plans and targeting strategies to identify and prioritize the most affected and vulnerable for further assistance. Recovery planning has begun; however, continued humanitarian assistance will be needed in the coming months until longer-term programmes are in place.

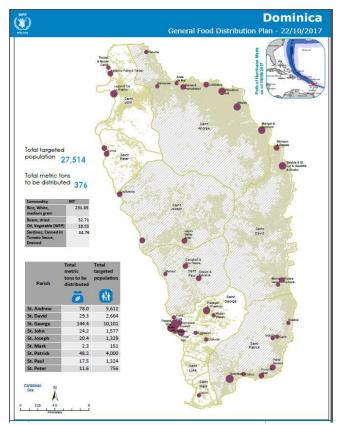
Food distribution continues to be necessary in settlements that are highly vulnerable or did not receive sufficient food since the hurricane to cover the full requirements. WFP's second phase of in-kind food distributions that began this week aims to complement the government's and target those settlements that meet specific vulnerability criteria such as high poverty rate, high density of damage to infrastructure and landslides, and dependency on agriculture as the primary livelihood. The selection settlements will also cover areas where

markets are experiencing pipeline breaks of staples and communities where discussions with the government have highlighted requirements for further attention. WFP will distribute a total of 376 MT in this second phase.

Based on aerial imagery from Copernicus, the Pacific Disaster Center estimates that more than 16,000 houses (some 62 per cent) have been highly damaged or destroyed. Shelter actors continue to distribute emergency shelter materials such as tarpaulins, timber and tents, Post distribution monitoring has identified an urgent need for instruction on effective shelter repair and tarpaulin installation, as well as material and labor support to people who are unable to install or repair on their own. This week, the Ministry of Housing, in collaboration with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), trained 60 enumerators for a country-wide building damage assessment that will begin in the coming days.

An estimated 60 per cent of the population has regained access to water following emergency repairs of the water networks; however, extensive rehabilitation is required to repair the massive damage suffered and to increase resilience in the future. Water trucking and mobile water treatment units are still required to further extend access to improved water to the population, especially to schools, collective centres and health facilities.

Only 21 (43 per cent) health facilities are functional with staff at the facility and available water and electricity. The remaining 28 facilities (57 per cent) are either non-functional or only partially functional with staff but no water or electricity. Seventeen health facilities are connected to the power grid, leaving some 32 facilities in need of power via



WFP General Food Distribution Plan Source: WFP

generators. The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) is supporting the Ministry of Health to prioritize health facilities for the installation of generators that partners are bringing in. Electriciens Sans Frontières has offered to facilitate a training on the use and maintenance of generators to bolster sustainability.

Nine primary schools reopened this week thereby increasing the number of schools reopened since the hurricane to 20 in total. Another 20 schools are scheduled to open next week. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Education Sector partners are supporting the Ministry of Education to prepare the facilities for classes.

Lastly, the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, led by the World Bank Group, continued this week in Dominica. The mission includes participants from the World Bank, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, Caribbean Development Bank, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, UN agencies and the European Union. The report is scheduled for publication on 13 November.

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. As of 26 October, the appeal was 19 per cent covered and the largest source of funding remains the UN Central Emergency Response Fund which released \$3 million to jumpstart activities.

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 19 October, the appeal was 32.5 per cent covered through financial and in-kind contributions.

Humanitarian Response

As of 26 October, the Government's Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) remains active with weekly 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.

Seven UN agencies, 13 non-governmental organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (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 and Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force continue to support the Government with logistics, medical assistance and security at the sea and air ports in Roseau.

During the reporting period, the Government of Cuba sent 312 MT of supplies, including 247 MT of construction materials and 65 MT of food commodities. In addition, Cuba deployed 10 electricians in support of DOMLEC and 15 people with chainsaws to assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

The Ministry of Education has announced plans to reopen 20 schools next week, including some that are currently used as collective centres. More schools will reopen in the weeks to come. Therefore, the Department of Local Government and CCCM Sector partners developed a strategy that entails a tailored assistance for voluntary relocation or return to origin of the displaced population, specifying the support individuals need. The International 102

Hotlines

1-767-277-8667

1-767-285-0989

1-767-614-3000

collective centres assessed by IOM and partners

- Organization for Migration (IOM) is currently implementing a Household Intention Survey at collective centres, utilizing the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) methodology, to determine specific needs of the population.
- 32 per cent of the people in collective centres present vulnerabilities. The most common vulnerabilities reported are: elderly persons (25 per cent), single female headed households (13 per cent) and persons with chronic illnesses (12 per cent).
- All people surveyed indicated that the main reason for remaining in the collective centre was the destruction or severe damage of their home.
- In terms of access to services at the 63 occupied centres, people reported having access to food services in 78 per cent of sites, followed by health services in 62 per cent of sites, water and sanitation services (56 per cent of sites), shelter/NFI (46 per cent), protection (44 per cent), CCCM (38 per cent).
- Access to education and livelihoods were key gaps noted in 86 per cent and 79 per cent of the sites, respectively.
- Reproductive health supplies and services should be bolstered in the collective centres.
- A technical assessment of the structural damage at all collective centres is required so they can be included in the recovery activities.
- After one week of flow monitoring at the ferry terminal, early observations indicate that a considerable number of people leaving Dominica intend to remain away for an extended period of time (at least three months). IOM will enhance monitoring the travel of unaccompanied children. Preliminary results will be presented by 2 November 2017.

Response:

- Organizations working in the locations of the collective centres in schools scheduled to reopen are working together with the Local Government Commissioner and Ministry of Education to develop and support solutions for those sheltering in the collective centres. Digicel and IsraAID are supporting identified schools in the east including Concord Government School and Salybia Primary School (Digicel) and Castle Bruce Secondary and Delices Primary School (IsraAID).
- IOM is working with UNICEF, UNFPA and other focal points on a referral mechanism for the high numbers of vulnerable cases identified in the collective centres.
- Site profiles for each collective centre and all DTM reports issued are available at http://www.globaldtm.info/dominica/

Sector Chair (Local Government Department): Glenroy Toussaint, tousg_69@hotmail.com

Sector Co-Chair (IOM): Emmanuelle Deryce, ederyce@iom.int +1-767-245 0631

Sector partners: Digicel, IOM, IsraAID, UNFPA, UNICEF



Needs:

Provide immediate assistance to debris removal and waste management.

 Comprehensive building damage assessment to plan early recovery and recovery initiatives.

Meet the current safe roofing demand.

Rapid establishment of emergency employment opportunities.

57,000

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

Response:

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Housing, a Building Damage Assessment (BDA) training started this week. Two engineers from Engineers Without Borders and other specialists from UNDP support the training which is a prelude to the housing assessment that will commence on 27 October with seven UNDP-supported engineers arriving in Dominica. UNDP in consultation with the Ministry of Housing and the support of Microsoft has provided tablets loaded with an application to undertake the assessment and facilitate more efficient collection, storage and analysis of the data.
- Following the analysis of the UNDP/OCHA/UNEP debris management specialists, work has advanced on finalizing preparations for the cash-for-work programme, including the procurement of equipment with a first cohort scheduled to start activities on 1 November.
- UNDP continues to work with IOM and other partners of the Shelter to Housing sector on issues in this area.
 Training will be advanced in resilient construction of roofs particularly, as well as a review of the building codes. UNDP will utilize the Engineers Without Borders to advance these areas. Procurement of roofing materials has advanced and roofing activities will start early December 2017.
- A Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) is ongoing and is expected to be completed this week. The PDNA is being coordinated by the World Bank, UNDG and the European Union with the team comprising three UNDP representatives with the intention to develop a comprehensive multi-sectoral assessment of impacts and a recovery strategy.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Planning): Gloria Joseph; psplanning@dominica.gov.dm

Sector Co-Chair (UNDP): lan King, ian.king@undp.org, +507-6404-4154

Sector partners: IOM, UNEP

Education

Needs:

- 81 per cent of primary schools are partially or mostly damaged, affecting more than 6,100 primary students.
- Psychosocial support activities for teachers and students, and the provision of essential education and recreational materials are needed across the country.

20

primary and secondary schools re-opened since the hurricane

129

educational facilities remain closed

4

- Support for the re-establishment of the Government's School Feeding, school transportation and other social programmes through schools is a critical need.
- Pedagogical material is needed for teachers and students.
- Furniture and material support is also needed.

Response:

- Nine primary schools reopened this week in addition to the 11 secondary schools that opened last week amounting to 20 schools functioning. Including Early Childhood Development centres, this represents only 13 per cent of all educational facilities in the country.
- UNICEF installed temporary learning spaces benefiting 315 students. UNICEF aims to provide 1,000 students with additional temporary learning spaces (tents), in close coordination with the Ministry of Education (MoE).
- MoE and UNICEF are planning the distribution of an additional 34 recreational kits, 13 early childhood development kits, and 13 tents to be used as temporary learning spaces.
- 757 secondary students returned to classes this week.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Education): Melena Fontaine; chiefeduoff@education.gov.dm; +1-767-295-8879

Sector Co-Chair (UNICEF): Unai Sacona; usacona@unicef.org; +1-246-836-9958

Sector partners: IsraAID, Rapid Response



Needs:

- Immediate food assistance will still be needed in the next weeks in selected settlements, particularly in remote and rural locations and urban communities where food supply in markets continues to be limited.
- A monitoring mechanism should be established in each targeted area to continue monitoring food prices and market reactivation.

100 per cent

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

393 MT

of population targeted for food assistance delivered one-month food by WFP

- Interventions that integrate all aspects of food systems are required to support food market recovery. Due
 consideration should be given to integrate pipeline breaks of importers due to storage, security and cash flow
 constraints, and transport requirements.
- Grants to support small businesses and shops to reopen are needed.
- Human resources and equipment are required to finalize damage and needs assessments at household level
 in order to inform targeting of food security and livelihoods interventions.
- Equipment such as chainsaws for clearing agricultural fields and forest land is needed in many rural communities in addition to heavy machinery to unblock feeder roads.
- Preliminary results of the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in the agricultural sector show that about 90 per cent of the poultry in the country was lost due to the hurricane, in addition to 65 per cent of the rabbits and 50 per cent of the cattle and small ruminants. Building materials are required to rehabilitate or reconstruct animal shelters before starting restocking livestock, especially poultry.
- The repair of fishing vessels together with procurement of new boats and engines are necessary to resume
 the livelihoods of many fisherfolk who have lost their productive assets. Cooling systems like refrigerators
 and ice-machines, and electric generators are also needed in most of Fisheries Cooperatives Centres across
 the country in order to preserve the fish caught.

Response:

- On 18 October, WFP received 376 MT of food commodities for immediate distribution to up to 30,000 people in over 40 settlements with a nutritionally balanced ration for 12 to 27 days. Of this, 230 MT have been delivered for 14,500 people in 25 settlements and over 35 communities for 27 days, since 21 October. WFP is coordinating with District Development Officers, constituencies, town and village councils and community committees to organize and hold food distributions.
- The amount of WFP in-kind food received complements the government's distributions. The government will continue food assistance in areas not targeted by WFP in this second phase of in-kind food distributions.
- WFP and partners have concluded a rapid market capacity assessment and results will provide an indicative snapshot of the market functionality after the hurricane.

- FAO is finalizing the procurement plan of agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilizers), hands tools, building
 material for animal shelters, and other equipment for the rehabilitation of greenhouses. Two emergency
 projects funded by CERF and DFID will contribute to the restoration of the short-term crop and livestock
 production.
- A FAO fisheries expert is currently in Dominica to work closely with the fisheries department and provide technical support for the rehabilitation of the sector.
- The Ministry of Trade conducted a review of commercial activities to complement information on markets.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Planning): Mr. Sam Carrette, Sam285@hotmail.com
Sector Co-Chairs (WFP and FAO): Elisabet Fadul; elisabet.fadul@wfp.org; and Daniele Barelli,
daniele.barelli@fao.org



Needs:

- Health workers continue to have difficulty accessing food.
- Connectivity for health centres is needed to improve regular reporting on priority needs.
- 50 per cent of the six T3 health facilities assessed by PAHO are partially operational or non-operational and require support. PAHO will assess the one remaining T3 facility in the coming days.
- Only 50 per cent (3 out of 6) refrigerators at the Central Medical Store are functioning.

Response:

- PAHO and OCHA collaborated on a database registry to capture information on generators imported and planned by humanitarian actors to allow for more precise planning and prioritization with the Ministry of Health.
- PAHO repatriated six people who were previously evacuated to the Dominican Republic due to medical emergencies.
- During the reporting period, PAHO facilitated the donation of blood from St. Lucia.
- PAHO also supported the Ministry of Health to coordinate the deployment of one anesthesiologist from St. Lucia and three nurses from St. Vincent.
- PAHO, IOM, the Ministry of Health and Electriciens Sans Frontières are preparing a training workshop for 30
 people to establish a pool of qualified maintenance workers to ensure sustainability of generators.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Health and Environment): Mr. Davis Letang, pssechealth@dominica.gov.dm Sector Co-Chair (PAHO): Robert Lee; robertkendallee2015@gmail.com Sector partners: Americares, International Medical Corps, IsraAID



Needs:

- Psychosocial support for children, teachers and caregivers is needed.
- Child Friendly Spaces should be established quickly.
- Enhanced child protection system with expanded case management capacity is needed, especially in support of migrating children.

38,251

65,000

people targeted by the

sector under the UN &

women and children targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal 1,655

10

non-operational health

facilities out of 49

children reached with psychosocial support

Response:

- 208 teachers trained to date on psychosocial support as part of the 'back to school' strategy.
- An estimated 1,160 children have been reached with psychosocial support through schools. Final attendance figures are still under compilation at MoE.
- 180 children benefited from IsraAID's and UNICEF Return to Happiness programme at community level.

6

Operational constraints:

 The delayed 'back to school' process has limited the reach of child protection systems normally carried out through the school system.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Social Services): Mrs. Jemma Azille-Lewis, jemmazille@hotmail.com Sector Co-Chair (UNICEF): Heather Stewart, hstewart@unicef.org, +1-767-225-0322; and Ainga Razafy,

arazafy@unicef.org

Sector partners: IOM, IsraAID



Needs:

 Based on the current damage estimations, 15 per cent homes (3,750 units) are destroyed. As of yet, only a few interventions are planned to target this most affected group while most shelter actors have resources to implement roofing support programmes.

 Solar lamps and generators are highly needed as approximately 95 per cent of electricity networks are non-operational. 43,620

23,500

people targeted by the sector under the UN & partners' Flash Appeal Houses are estimated to be moderately to highly damaged or destroyed

- Emergency and transitional shelter materials, such as tarps, corrugated galvanized iron sheets and installation supplies like nails and straps are still required.
- Training on tarpaulins and roofing is urgently required to ensure that materials are used effectively and safely, particularly on the east side of the island where winds are very strong.
- Other non-food items, such as mosquito nets and mattresses, were prioritized by displaced and affected people interviewed in IOM's site assessments in collective centres.
- There are rumors that the situation in host families is becoming more tense, due to people sharing homes
 for more than one month now. This could result in another wave of displacement and an urgent need for
 emergency shelter support.
- More information is needed on the percentage of people insured, the percentage of the damage covered by insurance and when the insurance companies will pay the compensations.

Response:

- As per the collective distribution tracking matrix managed by OCHA, shelter actors have delivered more than 23,780 tarpaulins throughout Dominica since the hurricane, reaching approximately 11,890 households on an assumption of two tarpaulins per household.
- During the reporting period, Samaritan's Purse distributed 1,840 tarpaulins in Grand Bay, Toucari/Capuchin, Vieille Case, Massacre, Calibishie, Salisbury, Portsmouth, Glanvillia and Lagon.
- IsraAID provided 51 tents, 126 tarpaulins, as well as solar lamps and blankets in Boetica, Riviera Cirque and Grand Fond.
- Dominica Red Cross / IFRC distributed 476 tarpaulins and timber for roof repair, as well as numerous blankets, mosquito nets and kitchen sets to Scotts Head, Roseau, Goodwill, Fond Cole and Citronniere.
- IOM distributed kitchen kits and blankets in Scotts Head.
- Additionally, the Ministry of Housing, Lands and Water Resource started training 60 enumerators for the country-wide building damage assessment, supported by UNDP.
- Shelter sector actors are planning to repair 1,700 houses with tarpaulin / timber roof repairs and 1,500 houses with CGI-based roof repair, and to provide 150 transitional shelters.
- IOM announced a plan to combine the procurement of shelter materials. Five organizations have shown interest for this initiative.
- Electriciens Sans Frontieres have delivered 15 generators and 236 solar light kits to health centres, schools and collective centres in the south and southeast.

Operational constraints:

As the Shelter Sector moves towards early recovery, insufficient building materials are a key concern.

Sector Chair (Ministry of Housing): Mr. Hilerian Jules, julesh@dominica.gov.dm
Sector Co-Chair (IOM): Jan-Willem Wegdam, jwegdam@iom.int, 1-767-245-0658
Sector partners: Dominican Red Cross/IFRC, Samaritan's Purse, Catholic Relief Service/Caritas Antilles, IsraAID, Shelter Box, IOM, Digicel Foundation, UNDP, Emergency Architects, Electriciens Sans Frontieres

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- According to DOWASCO, more than 42,800 people (approximately 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" approach.

42,800

people have regained access to water following rapid repairs of water networks

29

water network systems require repairs

- Continuous distribution of water to priority collective centres and to schools scheduled for reopening is needed.
- Specialized staff to evaluate, design and reinforce the initial repairs are required. The leaking Roseau city
 wastewater system requires an urgent assessment by qualified experts and emergency repairs until
 rehabilitation is complete.
- Domestic solid waste management remains a major concern.
- Water systems at healthcare facilities and schools need repairs and several 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.

Response:

- 42,800 persons regained access to their former water supply thanks to quick reparations of the water networks including Roseau metropolitan area and suburbs by DOWASCO. The challenge remains to repair the network where quick solutions are not possible. DOWASCO has prepared a list of materials and staff needed, asking support from WASH partners.
- The Environmental Health Department and DOWASCO are leading the WASH sectoral response, with the support of UNICEF and the participation of Samaritan's Purse, IsraAID, CRS, Global Medic, IFRC, PAHO, UNDP, and International Medical Corps.
- Water trucking by DOWASCO, Samaritan's Purse and UNICEF continues in areas where networks remain non-operational.
- DOWASCO, Samaritan's Purse and IFRC are operating seven mobile treatment plants in strategic areas throughout Dominica.
- DOWASCO, UNICEF and IsraAID assisted the Ministry of Education in the first phase of the schools' reopening, with 18 schools identified as priority. Eight of these schools already have access to water through DOWASCO service or water trucking, benefitting 1,081 students.

Sector Chair (DOWASCO and Environmental Health Department): Bernard Ettinoffe,

b.ettinoffe@dowasco.dm; Eva James i.james@dowasco.dm and Eric Saintville, ericstville@yahoo.com

Sector Co-Chair (UNICEF): David Simon; dsimon@unicef.org

Sector partners: Catholic Relief Service/Caritas Antilles, Dominica Red Cross/IFRC IsraAID, International Medical Corps, Global Medic, PAHO, Samaritan's Purse, UNDP



Needs

- Humanitarian cargo planned to arrive in Dominica require 48 hours' prior notice to prepare handling and reception at the main entry points in Dominica: Roseau Sea Port, Canefield Airport and Douglas-Charles/Meville Hall Airport.
- Dispatch of humanitarian cargo from sea port in Roseau requires 24 hours' prior notification to enable preparation of cargo.
- Lack of regular commercial flights require ongoing UNHAS humanitarian air service from Antigua.

217 MT

of relief cargo dispatched from Roseau sea port

Response:

- WFP continues to coordinate logistics in support of the government at the Roseau sea port.
- During the reporting period, a second Mobile Storage Unit was installed in the vicinity of Portsmouth.
- UNHAS continues to provide air service for movement of humanitarian personnel and light cargo to and from Dominica three times per week and for special missions from Antigua to Barbuda, Anguilla and Sint Marteen.

More information on logistics can also be found on http://www.logcluster.org/sector/irma17

Sector Lead (WFP): Giuseppe Linardi, giuseppe.linardi@wfp.org; Flavia Lorenzon (IM Officer), flavia.lorenzon@wfp.org



Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

 The lack of telecommunication has resulted in information gaps between the humanitarian responders and affected communities. 12

locations provided with ETC connectivity

Response:

- More than 2,956 unique users with well over 27,000 unique devices are registered on the expanded ETC networks in Roseau and Douglas-Charles airport areas.
- Ericsson Response/Emergency.lu is providing ETC connectivity to twelve locations in Roseau and will deploy
 equipment from Douglas-Charles airport, Marigot and Wesley where local operators have re-established
 services.
- Services for Communities (S4C) will provide connectivity for the affected communities by means of hotspots at the Grand Fana health centre, technological school and collective centres where approximately 700 people can connect every day.
- ETC partners are continually evaluating service availability and technical viability to expand coverage to
 priority locations. ETC will soon redeploy services from Roseau to cover San Sauveur and Good Hope areas
 in the east.
- La Plaine and Grand Fana connectivity needs are being coordinated as a joint response with the government installing communication equipment in La Plaine and ETC providing coverage in Grand Fana.

Sector Chair (Director of Telecommunications): Mr. Bennette Thomas, bennette.thomas@gmail.com Sector Co-Chair (WFP): Debora Natareno, debora.natareno@wfp.org

Sector partners: Ericsson Response/Emergency.lu

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; Emergency Telecommunications; 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.

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-Ll08biZt7EXopUjiBV-gnaFfXZWDeN3QPPOk78s/edit#gid=1290267400
Contact List	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vcucPQrFhkSk- 23eniyJfpfbPoSS9yBBEXEVdjkfe_8/edit#gid=0
Sector Leads	https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ZKStID-ZDM_ZNEwYpjMoRL89RfOGFceIEZ6f1TPNjo/edit

For further information, please contact:

Marie Spaak, OCHA Team Leader in Dominica, spaak@un.org; +1-246-832-4573 Wendy Cue, Head of OCHA Regional Office in Panama, cue@un.org

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.