



Hurricane Matthew

IFRC SITUATION REPORT

SITREP NO. 1

Period covered

28/08/16 to
29/09/16

Time of validity

29/09/16

IFRC Office

ARO

Number of people affected

TBC

Number of displaced persons

TBC

Number of people evacuated

TBC

Number of dead

TBC

Number of injured

TBC

1. Image Zone Affected



Flooding in Bexon, St. Lucia. Source: St. Louis Red Cross

2. Situation

According to the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre, Matthew has strengthened into a category 1 hurricane. As of 2 pm Atlantic Standard Time (AST) (6 pm Universal Time Coordinated [UTC]), Matthew was around 190 miles (300 km) north-east of Curacao, with sustained winds of 75 mph (120 km/h) and higher gusts and a minimum central pressure of 993 mb (29.32 inches), according to reports from a United States Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter aircraft; gradual strengthening is expected over the next 48 hours. NOAA reports indicate that hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 70 miles (110 km) from the storm's centre.

The hurricane is expected to continue to move in a westerly direction over the next few days; however, its forward speed is forecasted to diminish. Tropical storm conditions are possible in Bonaire, Curacao and Aruba beginning later today, 29 September 2016. Rainfall associated with Matthew is expected to decrease across the Lesser Antilles this afternoon, with additional amounts of an inch or less expected. Rainfall totals of 2 to 4 inches with isolated higher amounts are expected over Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao through Saturday, 1 October 2016. Hurricane Matthew-generated storm swells are forecasted to affect coastal areas in Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Venezuela, and Colombia over

the coming days; people in these areas are urged to exercise extreme cautions as these swells will likely cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

Tropical Storm Watches are in effect for Bonaire, Curacao, and Aruba; a Tropical Storm Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area. Coastal areas in Venezuela and Colombia in the storm's path are advised to monitor the progress of Matthew.

3. Aid and assistance required / needs assessment

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dominican Republic

Thunderstorms with torrential rain and wind gusts are forecasted primarily for the provinces of Samaná, Hato Mayor, El Seibo, La Altagracia, La Romana, San Pedro de Macorís, Sánchez Ramírez, Monseñor Nouel, San Cristóbal, Azua, San Juan and Santiago Rodríguez in the afternoon and evening of 29 September 2016; the thunderstorms will affect other provinces as Matthew moves westward in the Caribbean Sea. The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has issued green alerts for the following six provinces:

Green Alert	
Azua	San José de Ocoa
Peravia	Pedernales
San Cristóbal	Barahona

Haiti

- Possible areas of impact are Grand D'Anse and Dossus

St. Lucia

DISTRICT-LEVEL REPORTS

1. Gros-Islet
 - Power outages are reported in several areas of Gros-Islet including Marisule and Beausejour
 - A wall has fallen near the old Sunset Motors in Marisule
2. Castries East
 - Flooding in George Charles Boulevard
3. Castries Central
 - There is debris on the roadway at Castries waterfront. A power outage is reported in Georgville
4. Castries South-East
 - Flooding reported in Bexon.
5. Laborie
 - Flooding near Laborie Police Station and Bay Street



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

6. Vieux-Fort North

- The rivers running under the Joyeux, Aupicon and Lataniel Bridges overflowed their banks

7. Vieux-Fort South

- Flooding reported in the Bruceville area

8. Dennery North

- Thomazo Bridge is flooded. Power outage reported in the area.
- Land slippage in Aux Leon.

9. Dennery South

- Flooding reported at Church Street

10. Micoud North

- Flooding reported in Malgretoute

Although the all clear was given at 8:00am on 29 September 2016, schools around the island remain closed.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- The Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force confirmed the death of one person as a result of Tropical Storm Matthew
- The deputy director of National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) appealed for people to remain vigilant as drains and rivers have overflowed their banks, dumping debris and other materials on the roads and making some roads impassable. The local Met Office indicates that moderate to heavy rainfall will continue into tomorrow, 30 September 2016
- NEMO is urging residents not to go sightseeing as emergency services will be responding to reports and roads have been impacted by landslides and flooding.
- NEMO has received confirmed reports of damage to several homes, landslides and road blocks.
- Confirmed reports of flooding in Vermont in the area of the casino, South Rivers, sections of Kingstown, Campden Park, Arnos Vale including the E. T Joshua Airport, Langley Park and Buccament. The Mespo and the Spring Village Rivers are also rising.
- The Central Water and Sewage Authority has reported that Hermitage River has risen by 1.10 meters and 33.8 mm in the last hour and Dalaway 81 mm in the last 3 hours.
- Schools will remain closed for the rest of the week and businesses across St. Vincent and the Grenadines remained closed on 29 September 2016
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines was placed on a Tropical Storm Warning as of 11:00 am on Wednesday, 28 September 2016, and a full shut down of all activities- public and private- was issued at 11:00 a.m.
- There are no reports of damage to infrastructure, expect for the road at Kamacabou, Diamonds village, which was blocked. The Roads, Building and General Services Authority and the Ministry of Transport and Works will conduct assessments when the all clear is given.

Shelter:

As at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, 28 September 2016, 288 people are in emergency collective centres in 12 locations across the country.

Health:

All District Hospitals are functioning and the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital (MCMH) remains the last referral point with patient capacities in each facility as follows:

Georgetown Hospital – 4 adults, 1 baby

Chateaubelair Hospital – no inpatients

Union Island Hospital – no inpatients

Levi Latham – no inpatients

Bequia – 1 patient

MCMH – 130 patients, including 6 in Accident and Emergency

LPH – 32 were evacuated on the 27 September 2016 and remain at the Fair Hall

Government School (collective centre)

44 male residents are still housed at the plant

Mental Health Centre (MHC) – Census remains the same, adequately staffed for 28 September 2016 and 29 September 2016.

Staffing – all facilities are adequately staffed for tonight into tomorrow

Emergency responses – one from Caratal – aged gentleman unable to walk and admitted for safe keeping at Georgetown Hospital.

Response and recovery teams remain on alert at MCMH.

Water and Sanitation:

The Central Water and Sewerage Authority (CWSA) as a precautionary closed all of its water systems from 11:30 pm on Tuesday, 26 September 2016. All systems were reactivated early Wednesday, 28 September 2016; however, there is one report of water outage in Park Hill.

4. Regional and local response

Regional

- The Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) placed its regional response mechanisms on alert, and it is in contact with the national emergency management offices in the affected areas.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- The National Emergency Council (NEC) of NEMO met on Tuesday, 26 September 2016 and based on information received from the Local Meteorological Office, the National EOC was activated on Tuesday, 27 September 2016 at 6:00 pm.
- The government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines authorized: The closing of all schools on Tuesday, 27 September 2016 at 2:00 pm. Schools across St. Vincent and the Grenadines will be closed for the rest of the week; it also closed all businesses.
- NEMO continues to coordinate the response to this emergency, and the National Emergency Operations Centre remains activated.
- Press releases and public service announcements have been penned and distributed to all media outlets and to NEMO's social media platforms, the Agency for Public Information (API) and NBC Radio.
- The prime minister made two national addresses on the National Broadcasting Corporation, and Star FM on Wednesday, 28 September 2016. These addresses were also distributed via email to all of the media outlets



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

- All notifications and any other communication are prepared and disseminated as required.
- The Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force has been patrolling the affected districts and providing status reports to the Telecoms Unit every hour. They have assisted with the transportation of people to the collective centres throughout the country, and its search and rescue team is on standby to respond if the need arises.
- Personnel at Out stations are awaiting deployment should the need arise. They are closely monitoring the businesses in and around Kingstown.

CUBAN RED CROSS ACTION

- A Norwegian Red Cross delegate is in country to support and coordinate with the National Society
- The National Society will take inventory of its stock level

DOMINICAN RED CROSS ACTION

- Radio communications network has been activated
- Crisis Management Room has been activated
- The hurricane's progress is being monitored
- Sent link to National EOC
- Dissemination of information to branches and partners
- Stock for approximately 2,500 people
- The National Society has 21 water treatment plants at its disposal
- Pre-positioning water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH), psychosocial support (PSS), and Restoring Family Links (RFL) and health teams in at-risk areas

HAITI RED CROSS SOCIETY ACTION

- Held a meeting with Civil Protection on 29 September 2016 to coordinate actions
- Alerted all of its regional branches to make volunteers available
- Sensitized the community on the possible impact of the hurricane
- Mobilizing volunteers to perform an assessment in case of an impact.
- Held a meeting with Movement partners to plan in case of a disaster
- Preparing a plan for an intervention in case of an impact
- Have stock for 3,000 families

JAMAICA RED CROSS ACTION

- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Logistics delegate is supporting the National Society
- National Society took inventory of its stock level; it has blankets for over 1,000 families, kitchen kits for over 1,000 families and cleaning kits for 300 families
- Considering requesting a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) for 500 families if needed

ST. LUCIA RED CROSS ACTION

- The president of the Saint Lucia Red Cross attended the NEMO pre-strike meeting on Tuesday, 27 September 2016.
- All volunteers and standard operating procedures (SOPs) were activated.
- Full-time staff including the president and director general stayed on call at the headquarters.
- In order to facilitate efficient and effective relief operations, information is currently being received and updated from all of the Red Cross branches and units. Information is also being relayed to the office predominantly via landline, WhatsApp and mobile text from Red Cross units around the island.

- The Communications officer continues to provide updates on Facebook and Hazard app using push notifications.
- 45 people in collective centres fed (dinner and breakfast)

National actions taken

1. The National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC) met yesterday on the situation. After consultation, the Ministry of Education suspended school activities for yesterday, 28 September 2016.
2. The prime minister has issued statements on the situation.
3. All schools will remain closed through Thursday, 29 September 2016.
4. The EOC was partially activated from 7:00 hrs yesterday, 28 September 2016.
5. District Disaster Committees have been briefed and continue to update NEMO Secretariat on their areas.
6. As of 8:30 am the George FL Charles Airports were re-opened.
7. The Soufriere Hospital has moved to the Environmental Health Building at Deliau Street, Wingsville.
8. Four collective centres have been opened.
9. Water Authority (WASCO) is doing damage assessments of infrastructure to re-open lines.

Serial	Name	No. of Persons	Categories
1.	Beanfield Secondary School	45	
2.	Fond St. Jacques RC church	20	
3.	Choiseul RC Church	10	
4.	Anse-la-Raye Parish Hall	40	

* At the time of the submission of its situation report on 29 September 2016, the island was still experiencing rain and gusty winds.

Next steps

1. Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA) to be conducted.
2. Initial distribution of non-food items (NFIs), (blankets, hygiene kits, water bladders, tarpaulins)

5. Response by humanitarian organizations

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) is in contact with CDEMA as well as United Nations resident coordinators in the region. The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) system is on alert in the event that international assistance is required.

Regional humanitarian partners are on alert and monitoring the situation.



6. Implications for the IFRC

The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has indicated that it is at the disposal of the Caribbean National Societies if needed.

7. Overall recommendations

Affected National Societies should alert all of their branches and update their stock levels

8. Other elements

Nothing to report

-----END-----