



CUBA, DOMINICA AND SINT MAARTEN: HURRICANE RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 24 October 2017



On 18 October, IOM helped to distribute NFIs, including 1,205 blankets and 176 solar lamps, in Soufrière, Dominica
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Highlights

■ On 19 October, the Royal Netherlands Naval ship HNLMS Karel Doorman arrived in Roseau, Dominica, carrying more than 100 metric tonnes of shelter materials for IOM's roofing programme as well as food relief. Supplies will enable launching the first phase of roofing repair support to 300 vulnerable households in the coming days.

■ The first round of DTM rapid site assessments in Dominica was completed on 15 October and the report and related information products are available at www.globaldtm.info/dominica. Out of 102 sites assessed, 63 occupied sites were found to be housing 1,863 individuals in 361 households.

■ In Cuba, the first shipment of IOM NFIs to be distributed to people affected by Hurricane Irma has arrived in the Port of Mariel. The shipment consisting of 2,800 mattresses and 2,800 sheets, is destined for Villa Clara Province. Additionally, 244 250-litre water tanks are on the way to the Port of Mariel and are expected to arrive in the country at the end of October.

Situation Overview

Significant damage was caused to homes by Hurricane Irma's impact on Cuba. The province of Ciego de Ávila was heavily affected: 47.4 per cent of homes were damaged in Chambas, 38.4 per cent in Bolivia, 29.3 per cent in Moron and more than 50 per cent in Júcaro. Displaced persons remain in temporary shelters in Sancti Spíritus, Villa Clara and Ciego de Ávila provinces.

In Dominica, the first round of rapid site assessments was conducted in 102 collective centres using the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) from 11–15 October. Out of 102 sites assessed, 63 were found to be open and housing 1,863 individuals in 361 households. Nine sites were not assessed due to extreme weather conditions. These sites will be prioritised in the second round of assessments scheduled to begin on 23 October.

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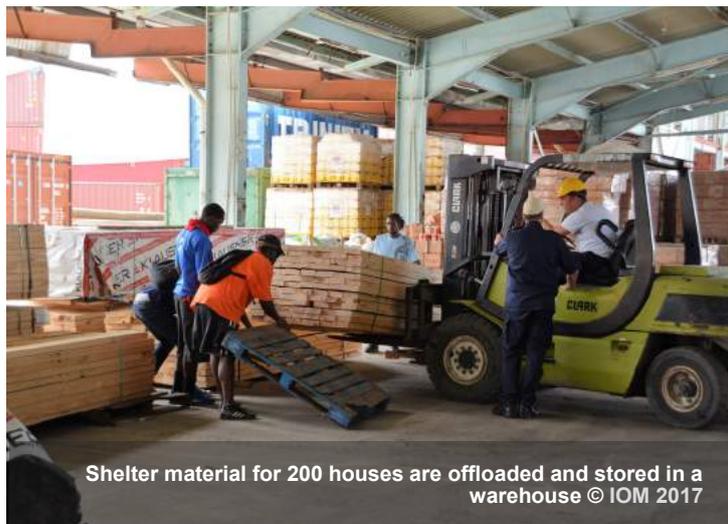
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Situation Overview (continued)

Due to heavy rains between 16–17 October, the first phase of school reopening in Dominica, originally scheduled for 16 October, was postponed. Eleven secondary schools reopened on 18 October and 20 primary schools are scheduled to open on 23 October. IOM, UNICEF and other partners are assisting the Government of Dominica to develop a plan for voluntary returns and alternative shelter solutions for displaced individuals hosted in schools serving as collective centres.

District Development Officers and Social Welfare Officers began to submit the damage and needs assessment forms completed at village level across the country. IOM is digitizing the forms to enable timely processing and analysis of the information, which will facilitate beneficiary selection and prioritization.

Dominica's Ministry of Housing, in collaboration with UNDP, will begin a building damage assessment this week to inform the emergency shelter and housing strategy. Data will be made available to IOM and other shelter partners to assist the coordination and provision of shelter assistance.



Shelter material for 200 houses are offloaded and stored in a warehouse © IOM 2017

IOM Response

Cuba

The first shipment of IOM NFIs to be distributed to people affected by Hurricane Irma has arrived in the Port of Mariel. The shipment consisting of 2,800 mattresses and 2,800 sheets, is destined for Villa Clara Province. Additionally, 244 250-liter water tanks are on the way to the Port of Mariel and are expected to arrive in the country at the end of October. IOM is working closely with the commercial office

for donation (EMED) for custom clearance of the NFIs. For the selection of beneficiaries, IOM is closely coordinating with the Cuban Civil Defense.

IOM, with the support of its Regional Office, continues to work on mobilizing funds to implement the Cuba Plan of Action projects, which are aimed at improving the quality of life of evacuees, mainly in Villa Clara Province, and supporting the repair of housing to promote the rapid return of evacuees to their homes.

Dominica

Displacement Tracking

1,862 individuals in 361 households were identified in 63 occupied collective centres in DTM Round 1 from 11 to 15 October 2017. 87 per cent of sites are evacuation shelters identified before the hurricane, and 13 per cent are new centres spontaneously occupied during or after the hurricane, often due to damage sustained to the official centre. 32 per cent of sites are in schools, housing 53 per cent of the IDP population. 603 individuals (32 per cent of the displaced population) present a vulnerability: this includes 25 per cent of elderly persons, 13 per cent of single headed households and 12 per cent of chronically ill people. Four vulnerable minors were identified and suitable referral pathways are being identified to the Ministry of Social Services, UNICEF and IFRC's Restoring Family Links teams. The full report and associated information products are available at www.globaldtm.info/dominica.

Flow monitoring of people travelling outside of Dominica commenced on 19 October. The travel intentions survey is being used to gather information on the demographics, origin, destination, purpose and intended length of travel outside Dominica for people using the ferry services to travel to Guadeloupe or St Lucia. A report is anticipated in the coming days.



Distribution of blankets in Soufrière, Dominica © IOM 2017

IOM Response

Dominica (continued)

Collective Centre Support

IOM is providing support to school reopening by assisting the Government of Dominica to develop solutions for displaced people hosted in in schools serving as collective centres. Voluntary returns are being supported wherever possible by shelter actors, including with the provision of tents (donated in kind by DFID) and tarpaulins (donated in kind by ECHO), as well as shelter partners' own shelter/NFI pipelines. Where returns are not possible (often due to total destruction of homes, or specific vulnerabilities), alternative solutions are proposed, including host families, an alternative collective centre or rental support.

IOM is identifying collective centres which can receive additional assistance to improve living conditions. The support will target community and resource centres where displaced people may remain for some time. A plan for support is being developed using DTM data and in coordination with the Local Government Commissioner.



Distribution of NFIs donated by USAID, in Scotts Head, Dominica © IOM 2017

Shelter

IOM is providing pipeline, distribution and coordination support to in-kind shelter and NFIs received from DFID, ECHO/Government of France and USAID. As of 23 October 2017, IOM's direct distributions have reached 3,171 households (estimated 9,000 individuals) in addition to delivering shelter/NFI pipeline goods to shelter working group members, including Shelterbox, IsraAid, CRS and IFRC/Dominican Red Cross, for downstream distribution. On 17 October, IOM delivered 30 hygiene kits, 30 kitchen kits, 30 buckets and 270 pick axes in Roseau. On 18 October, IOM delivered 150 blankets in Roseau, and 1,205

blankets and 176 solar lamps in Soufrière. On 20 October, IOM delivered 41 hygiene kits, 119 kitchen sets and 425 blankets in Scotts Head.

Regular coordination meetings are held by the Government of Dominica with support from IOM and the participation of IFRC, Samaritan's Purse, CRS, Shelterbox, Digicel and UNDP. A shelter coordination meeting was held on 19 October to discuss support to collective centres in schools that are scheduled to reopen, early recovery planning, remaining gaps and targeting for emergency shelter and NFI assistance. According to the joint distribution record, as of 21 October, over 22,000 tarpaulins or shelter grade plastic sheeting have been distributed by shelter partners in Dominica. Shelter partners are also distributing kitchen kits, solar lamps, blankets, hygiene kits and other NFIs.

Shelter actors are currently planning to assist 6,800 households to repair their roofs, and the procurement pipelines for a number of partners are already in process. IOM has procured almost 100 metric tonnes of shelter materials from the Dominican Republic, and secured logistical assistance from the Royal Dutch Navy and HNLMS Karel Doorman. These items arrived on 18 October and will be used to start IOM's roof repair program in the north-east of Dominica.



IOM, WFP and Karel Doorman colleagues awaiting the arrival of materials shipped by Karel Doorman © WFP (Maria Anguera de Sojo Pericas) 2017

Sint Maarten

To date, a total of 31,000 tarpaulins have been distributed; Red Cross (19,000), Samaritan's Purse (8,000), CordAid (2,000), USAID (1,000) and IOM (1,000). IOM through UNHRD airlifted 1,000 tarps and 1,000 ropes from its contingency stock in Panama to fill critical gaps identified by ESF 7 for beneficiaries not yet reached and for health facilities that required roofing elements.