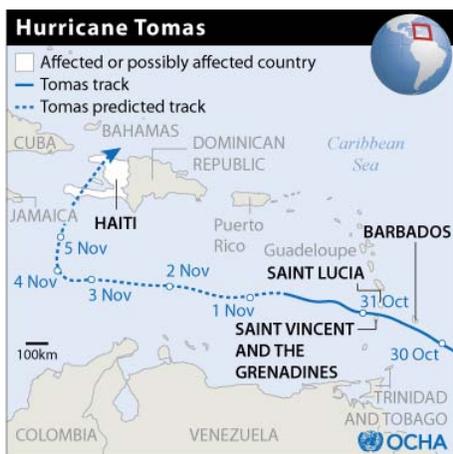




*This report was issued by OCHA ROLAC. It covers the period from 03.11.2010 to 06.11.10. The next report will be issued depending on the evolution of the situation.*

## I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Heavy rains associated with Hurricane Tomas affected many countries in Central America and the Caribbean
- The most affected countries have been Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.



Tracking Map of Hurricane Tomas  
Source: Reliefweb

Hurricane Tomas is the nineteenth named storm and twelfth hurricane of the 2010 Atlantic hurricane season and is currently active. Tomas developed east of the Windward Islands on 29 October. Quickly intensifying into a hurricane, it moved through the Windward Islands and passed very near Saint Lucia.

After reaching Category 2 status on the Saffir-Simpson scale, Tomas weakened to a tropical storm in the central Caribbean Sea. Tomas later regained hurricane status as it crossed offshore Haiti on 5 November.

Haiti is of special concern, as Hurricane Tomas's route was forecasted to cross over Port-au-Prince. Haiti's capital has a very large vulnerable population who was affected by a major earthquake at the beginning of this year and is currently living in tents.

## II. Situation Overview

### BARBADOS

#### IMPACT

- 500 houses damaged

#### RESPONSE

- Barbados Red Cross is distributing plastic sheeting for 37 families.
- The UN system in Barbados has requested an OCHA Emergency Cash Grant to support relief efforts in St Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which is under their responsibility.
- UNICEF is sending 2,000 hygiene kits in coordination with International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD).

### COSTA RICA

#### IMPACT

- Approximately 3380 people evacuated; 24 dead
- 600 families in 50 shelters throughout the country
- 55% of the country is affected; 348 communities with some degree of damages
- 75 main roads affected
- Losses in agriculture and fishing sectors

#### RESPONSE

- State of emergency issued on 4 November, but no request for international assistance
- Sectoral assessments are being carried out

- An OCHA Emergency Cash Grant has been requested to support relief efforts
- IFRC has mobilised US\$28,400 from their emergency fund (DREF) to support needs assessments in six of the country's seven provinces and initial response.

## **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

- Red alert due to heavy rains and landslides remains in effect for 20 of the country's 35 provinces.

### *IMPACT*

- Approximately 1,300 people registered in official temporary shelters
- Currently 39 communities are reported inaccessible by road
- Preliminary assessments estimate 2,400 houses damaged

### *RESPONSE*

- 12,190 people were evacuated as a preventative measure
- International organizations in coordination with the UN agencies and COE have prepositioned transport facilities and human resources for assessment missions if necessary.

## **HAITI**

### *IMPACT*

- The most heavily hit departments are the South and Grand'Anse; major needs in these area are food, potable water and hygiene kits.
- Across the country, more than 6,000 persons were evacuated
- Rains continue in the north and west parts of the country

### *RESPONSE*

- A United Nations Disaster Assessment Coordination Team (UNDAC) was prepositioned along with a member of Telecom sans Frontieres.
- Logistics UNHRD will provide transportation and procurement as requested. In case of large scale operation, supplies will be sent directly to Haiti.
- The World Food Programme (WFP) has a helicopter in Haiti; a second one will arrive on Tuesday and a third one on Thursday.
- There is over 40,000 MT of food in Haiti which should suffice the food needs.
- WFP has three (3) regional staff member on stand-by: Logistics, Emergency and ICT officers.
- PLAN has 16 assessment teams and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has deployed 4 further teams working in coordination with the Civil Protection.
- The Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) has a technician at the emergency operations centre and ready to support the inter-agency mission evaluation. Target for Resource Assignments from the Core (TRAC) Funds for US\$100,000 are available.
- Serious concerns about the spread of cholera with flooding and the displacement of populations;
  - A CARE mission is arriving in Haiti to support the cholera epidemic and the emergency response if needed. A Regional Emergency Coordinator is on stand-by.
  - PAHO/WHO continues to support the government and has reiterated its support to the response of those affected by the cholera epidemic as well as Hurricane Tomas.

\*for more detailed information on the situation in Haiti, please see the Situation Reports posted on ReliefWeb ([www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)) or Redhum ([www.redhum.org](http://www.redhum.org))

## **PANAMA**

### *IMPACT*

- More than 2,000 people have been affected by heavy rains and landslides in the Western part of the country - in the province of Chiriqui.
- Some 1,160 people are in 50 in temporary shelters
- Estimates of 1,000 hectares of crops have been affected, which could represent millions in losses.

*The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.*

## RESPONSE

- Needs assessments are being carried out and including a fly-over of the province by government authorities.

## SAINT LUCIA

### IMPACT

- Over 1,000 people remain in shelters; 10 have died
- A major concern is damage to the water distribution system in the north of the island. Emergency water supply will be required.
- Over 100 homes have been completely destroyed or significantly damaged
- The agriculture industry was severely affected with 80 – 100% crop damage to banana plantations.

## RESPONSE

- The government declared a national disaster and requested international assistance
- The Eastern Caribbean Donors Group's Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT) and The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency's (CDEMA) Technical Emergency Assessment Team deployed to Barbados and St. Lucia to support the National Emergency Management Organization with help from OCHA ROLAC, and other regional partners.
- The Regional Security System (RSS) provided air transportation to deploy the RNAT, CDEMA and RSS.
- Map Action deployed one volunteer to Saint Lucia.
- The IFRC has mobilized resources out of the Guadeloupe to assist in recovery efforts in Saint Lucia. This includes distribution of non-food items (NFIs), a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and a Regional Appeal (see Financing section below).
- CDEMA sub regional focal point in Barbados sent 400 blankets to Saint Lucia
- The UK Department for International Development deployed a fleet for aerial reconnaissance, search and rescue, logistic support, provision of water and hospital repairs.

## SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

### IMPACT

- As of 5 November, there is an estimated 485 persons in 21 shelters
- 1200 homes have been damaged and 20 completely destroyed
- There has been widespread destruction in the agriculture sector with almost 98% affectation to banana and plantain crops

## RESPONSE

- On 2 November, the government declared a state of national disaster
- The Relief Supplies and Shelter Management Sub- Committees continue to coordinate the distribution of relief supplies.
- The Building Roads and General Services Authority (BRAGSA) are still conducting road clearing and cleaning operations
- CDEMA and partners are supporting initial assessment.

## NOTE

**TURKS & CAICOS, JAMAICA, BAHAMA:** Reports from these countries state that the situation is under control and there has been no significant damage.

### III. Funding

- United States Agency for International Development /Office of U.S Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) - US\$50,000 to both Saint Vincent and Grenadines and Saint Lucia.
- Australia Agency for International Development (AusAID) – Aus\$100,000 to support CDEMA's assistance to the affected states.
- IFRC has issued a Preliminary Emergency Appeal for US\$622,109 in cash, in-kind, or services to support the National Societies of Barbados, Saint Lucia and the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to assist 1550 families for six months. US\$52,000 were allocated from the IFRC emergency funds to support this operation.
- CDEMA has requested a grant of US\$200,000 from the Caribbean Development Bank for each of the affected States.

*All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: [fts@reliefweb.int](mailto:fts@reliefweb.int).*

### IV. Contact

Please contact

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