



Situation Report 8- Tropical Storm Noel – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 16 NOVEMBER 2007

This situation report is based on information received from United Nations Resident Coordinators in country and OCHA Regional Office in Panama.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Remainders of a low pressure cause rain in most of the country.**
- **Approximately USD 22.2 million in losses in the agricultural sector.**

SITUATION

1. **Weather conditions:** The National Office of Meteorology (ONAMET) reports that remainders of the low pressure system that impacted the Dominican Republic remain over most of the country, increasing cloudiness and causing light rains in the provinces of Samaná, Hato Mayor, Monte Plata, El Seibo and La Altagracia.

2. **Forecast for the next two days:** ONAMET forecasts that rains will continue for the next 24 to 48 hours in most of the country, principally in the regions of Norte, Noreste, Este, Sureste and Valle del Cibao.

3. **Affected area:** On 13 November, there were floods in La Altagracia and El Bajo Yuna due to heavy rainfall, which forced the evacuation of 668 people living in 167 homes. The Emergency Operations Center {Centro de Operaciones de Emergencia (COE)} maintains a red alert for 10 provinces, yellow for 19 and in two alerts were removed.

- **Impact:**

National Emergency Commission / Comisión Nacional de Emergencia (CNE)
Bulletin 28
(06:00 PM of 13 November 2007)

Deaths	87.
Disappeared	42.
Displaced people	In shelters7,620
	Staying with relatives

	friends	...42,272
	TOTAL.....	49,892
Affected homes	Slight damage	7,782
	Severe damage	1,506
	Destroyed	3,185
	TOTAL.....	12,473
Shelters in operation		64.
Cut-off communities		95.

Health, water and sanitation

4. According to PAHO/WHO, there are still 30 water systems which need to be rehabilitated and water supplies are provided through water trucks and donated tanks located in shelters and affected zones. Nonetheless, there are communities in Villa Altagracia province which have received no water and where there are food distribution problems.

5. In Pedro Brand municipality, in Santo Domingo province, wells are being excavated to sustain local populations with potable water.

Food security and nutrition

6. Farmer and cattle rancher organizations in Cibao and Southeast affirm and the government fund of 1.6 billion pesos (approximately USD 47.8million) are insufficient to resolve the serious problems faced by agricultural producers in the country, for which they are requesting that the debts of affected producers be



pardoned. Losses are estimated at 2.6 billion pesos (approximately USD 77.7 million).

Agricultural sector – Damage by region		
Region	Affected parcels	Losses in DR Pesos
North central	223,161	388,401,553
North	138,490	241,035,535
Norwest	52,830	91,948,208
Northeast	380,475	662,199,402
Central	144,050	250,712,462
Southwest	89,535	155,831,588
South	465,086	809,460,993
East	27,373	47,641,459
TOTAL	1,521,000	2,647,231,200

Agricultural sector – Damage by crops		
Crops	Affected parcels	Losses in DR Pesos
Rice	205,605	168,422,725
Plantains	473,554	1,875,770,000
Vegetables	150,370	258,750,000
Yucca	85,892	151,251,930
Onions	14,672	6,406,545
Peas	36,865	46,320,000
Tomatoes	66,558	6,738,000
Fruits	279,847	28,900,000
Sweet potatoes	29,673	21,005,000
Other	177,964	83,667,000
TOTAL	1,521,000	2,647,231,200

Agricultura sector - Emergency plan (RD pesos value)				
Region	Crops	Livestock	Land preparation	Value (in RD pesos)
North central	188,187,646	53,681,000	17,303,808	259,172,454
North	117,422,472	2,965,000	11,230,080	131,617,552
Northwest	5,660,000		543,360	6,203,360
Northeast	31,070,424	36,028,500	3,504,384	70,603,308
Central	105,893,800	21,677,000	8,457,600	136,028,400
Southwest	63,235,332	15,963,000	7,590,720	86,789,052
South	541,065,846	28,700,000	50,896,512	620,662,358
East	6,356,960		484,800	6,841,760
TOTAL	1,058,892,480	159,014,500	100,011,264	1,317,918,244



Shelters

7. Hundreds of families have returned to their homes along the Ozama River after deciding that no other alternative or secure option existed for relocation to a safe area.

Infrastructures

8. Communication: The Secretary of Public Works estimates 1.3 billion pesos (approximately USD 38.8) in damage, 43 bridges and 31 highways and roads.

9. Education sector: The number of affected schools rose to 72, of which 6 were entirely destroyed. 109 educational centers were used as shelters, while 235 require substitution and repairs to school equipment, including cleaning and fumigation. There are 50,000 students who lost textbooks, uniforms, backpacks and school supplies.

NATIONAL RESPONSE

Organization

10. COE reports that the number of sheltered persons in official shelters fell to 7,620 in 64 shelters. The total of deaths is still 87 and 42 are unaccounted for. Cut-off communities are at 95.

11. The Government of DR will invest 1.613 billion pesos in rehabilitating hydraulic infrastructure and water systems which were impacted by flooding, principally irrigation systems, small dikes, reservoirs, pumps, canals, water drains and other systems.

12. Public Health reports that three have died from meningococemia out of seven cases registered over the past 21 days in affected zones.

Actions

13. Water and food assistance and distribution are maintained as well as of medicine, blankets, mattresses and mosquito nets for the affected population.

14. The Directorate of Epidemiology of the Secretary of Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS) and PAHO/WHO investigate 18 probable cases of leptospirosis in Area II (sectors of La Barquita, los Tres Brazos, Los Mina Viejo) and in area IV (sectores La Zurza, La Ciénega, Los Guandules). Reported cases affect ages 21 to 80. Three have been confirmed.

15. According to COE, the main dams in the country are at their maximum levels, therefore they are being permanently monitored.

Dam	Current level	Maximum level	Exit current
Tavera	325.80	327.50	95M3/Sec.
Valdesia	149.00	150.00	46M3/ Sec.
Sabana Yegua	397.38	400.80	122.98 M3/Sec.
Sabaneta	644.43	644.00	37.52 M3/Sec.
Hatillo	89.49	86.50	286.14 M3/Sec.
Rincón	122.04	122.00	31.42 M3/Sec.
Jigüey	541.59	541.50	31.74 M3/Sec.
Monción	124.25	280.00	42.50 M3/Sec.

16. National resources mobilized (cash):

Institution	Amount (USD)	Contribution	Beneficiaries
Government of DR	\$7,666,667	Food	246,000



17. National resources mobilized (in-kind contributions):

Institution	Sector	Type of contribution	Quantities
Government of DR	Shelters	Housing reconstruction	
Government of DR	Logistics	Fuel	
Government of DR	Agriculture	Planting	1,521,000 parcels
Government of DR	Food	Food	106,040 rations
SESPAS	Food / water		50,000 baby food packages, 800,000 water purification tablets

18. The Dominican Industrial Society / Sociedad Industrial Dominicana (SID) donated 3 million DR pesos (approximately USD 89,000) to “Fundación Sur Futuro, Fe y Alegría”, and the Archdiocese of Santo Domingo.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

19. International resources mobilized (cash contributions):

Institution	Amount (USD)	Sector	Type of contribution
United Nations Agencies			
FAO	\$50,000		
OCHA	\$50,000		
UNAIDS	\$15,000		
PAHO/WHO	\$50,000		
WFP	\$500,000	Food	
UNDP	\$100,000		
UNFPA	\$50,000	Shelter	
UNICEF	\$60,000 + \$254,000	Food, health/hygiene, psychosocial support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2000 nutrition and hygiene packs for children Funds to purchase food for children under 2 (1,500 packages) and children 2 to 5 (1,500 packages), 750 cleaning kits, 20 recreation kits, 50 education packages Materials, technical assistance and training for psychosocial support



Multilateral			
AECI	\$290,120	Food	Food / shelter
BID	\$200,000		
ECHO	EUR 1,500,000	Water / Sanitation / Food	
USAID	\$600,000		
Bilateral			
Canada	\$535,217		
Germany	\$29,737	Food	Food / Shelter
Japan	\$112,300	Shelters	
Puerto Rico	\$25,000		
Taiwan	\$100,000		
NGOs			
DREF / IFRC	\$199,280		
Other			
ABA	\$295,000		
Grupo Vicini	\$352,000		
Nestle	\$166,667		
Xstrata plc (Falconbridge Dominicana)	\$1,000,000		

20. International resources mobilized (in-kind contributions):

Institution	Sector	Type of contribution	Quantities
United Nations Agencies			
UNFPA	Health	Reproductive health	10,000 kits
Multilateral			
MAAG		Logistics	12 helicopters
Bilateral			
Cuba	Health	Medicine	5.3 tons
USA	Health	35,000 vaccines against typhoid fever (valued at US\$750,000)	5,000 pediatric vaccines 30,000 for ages 5 to 19
France	Food		7000 food packages
Japan	Water		10,000 bottles
Panama	Water		96,000 bottles
Venezuela	Food / water / fuel / prefab houses		
United Kingdom		Logistics	Helicopters
NGOs			
ICRC	Food		2,000 food packages for children
Other			



Autobritánica		Food, water, medicine and clothing
Carrefour	Food	5,000 food packages
Casa Calín	Food	1,565 onion seeds to agricultural producers
Chlorox / Colgate	Water	Chlorine and cleaning items
Tropigas Dominicana, Mundo Gas América Dominicana y Geogas Trading		1,000,000 gallons of gas for the southeast

21. Ecuador donated two shipments of food, clothing and mattresses.

22. The Interamerican Institute for Cooperation / Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA) provided USD 20,000 for damage evaluation, project preparation for recovery and direct technical support, as well as material support.

Health, water and sanitation

23. PAHO/WHO and UNICEF support the National Institute for Potable Water and Sewage / *Instituto Nacional de Aguas Potables y Alcantarillados* (INAPA) and SESPAS as part of an awareness campaign for sanitation in schools in affected communities.

Food security and nutrition

24. FAO is preparing, together with the Secretary of Agriculture, the project “Emergency Assistance in recovery of productive capacity and vulnerability reduction for small producers affected by Tropical Storm Noel in the Dominican Republic”.

Coordination

25. On 13 November, OCHA approved the disbursement of USD 2.8 million from the CERF for 10 disaster response projects for UNFPA, PAHO/WHO, WFP, FAO and UNICEF. The projects are focused on the health, water and sanitation, food security and sustainability, food and nutrition, education and protection sectors. CERF funds form a part of emergency funds requested to OCHA by the UN Country Team through the flash appeal. Activities include:

- Response to sanitary and psychosocial needs for the most vulnerable: children, elderly, women and girls, as well as persons with HIV/AIDS.
- Distribution of food and recovery of living conditions for small agricultural producers.
- Establishment of temporary spaces to reinstate education and recreation activities.
- Prevention of sexual abuse and violence in shelters.

26. On 14 November, the United Nations participated in a Working Group on *Cooperation in Emergencies caused by Disasters* in which a report on damages caused by Tropical Storm Noel was presented. In addition, the Deputy Secretary for International Cooperation, Mrs. America Bastidas, revealed a new information tool, (www.cooperaciondominicana.com) the goal of which is to reinforce updated information on the response by national and international organizations to this emergency.

27. UNDP is debating with several Government entities a series of technical support proposals to reduce vulnerability levels among the population, increase security for settlements and provide sustainability to early recovery activities.



28. UNICEF is coordinating with the Secretaries of Education and Public Health, Plan International, World Vision and UDECOP to begin a psychosocial recovery process for children and adolescents affected by Tropical Storm “Noel”. The first training workshop for adolescents and adult facilitators will be in Barahona.

PRIORITY NEEDS

Most recent needs identified: See table below:

Province	Shelters	N° Persons	NEEDS			
			water	Items for personal use	Food	Sanitation
National District	2	131	319 20 liter-jerrycans		202 cooked rations , 601 baby milk packs and 60 baby meals	3,000 garbage bags 429 Hygiene Kits
Santo Domingo	3	628	918 20 liter-jerrycans		1,224 daily rations	
Peravia	5	955	NOT REPORTED			
San Cristóbal	3	1,150	863 20 liter jerrycans		272 rations	350 Hygiene Kits
Sánchez Ramírez	1	245	Medicines (diclofemac y acetaminofen)			
Azua	5	395	296 20 liter jerrycans			Clearing equipment for shelters



Duarte	5	213	NOT REPORTED			
María Trinidad Sánchez	1	70	NOT REPORTED			
Monseñor Nouel	7	838	NOT REPORTED			
La Vega	3	62	NOT REPORTED			
Monte Plata	1	44	NOT REPORTED			
San José de Ocoa	12	1,139		1,139 Mosquito nets		
Bahoruco	1	244	NO REPORTADOS			
Barahona	11	1,506	1,130 20 liter-jerrycans		1,506 rations	Cleaning equipment
TOTAL	65	7,620	3,256 20 liter-jerry		3,204 daily baby meal rations	

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