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Emergency Plan of Action (EPOA)

Antigua and Barbuda: Hurricane Irma

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

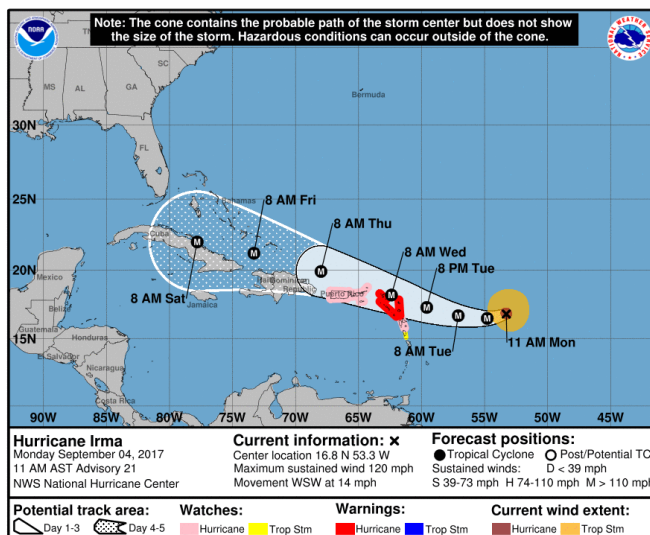
DREF n° MDRAG003	Glide n°: To be confirmed.
Date of issue: 5 September 2017	Expected timeframe: 2 months; the expected end date is 5 of November 2017
Overall operation budget: 61,418 Swiss francs (CHF)	Operation start date: 4 of September 2017
Total number of people affected: 87,858 people	Number of people to be assisted: 475 families (100 families in collective centres and 375 families for emergency shelter).
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross (ABRC) has 1 national headquarters, 100 volunteers, 5 staff members, and 1 branch	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross is supported by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through the Trinidad & Tobago Caribbean Country Cluster and the Panama Americas Regional Office; and by the French Red Cross Platform for Regional Intervention in the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC).	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)	

[<Click here for the DREF budget.>](#)

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Hurricane Irma is currently moving through the Atlantic as a Category 4 Hurricane; it is currently located 560 miles east of the Leeward Islands. The latest forecast suggests Irma could be a Category 4 hurricane on the morning of Wednesday, 6 September, which is when it is expected to approach Antigua and Barbuda; a direct hit on these islands remains possible. Sustained winds close to the eye of the hurricane should reach 130 to 156 mph. The system will also bring torrential rains close to its centre and from spiral bands on its sides. On 3 September 2017, the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s National Hurricane Centre and government of Antigua & Barbuda issued a Hurricane Watch for the islands; On 4 September 2017, a Hurricane Warning was declared for the islands. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from 1 June to 31 November; September and October are the peak of the season, and the months in which the islands are most at risk.



Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

In anticipation of direct impact from Hurricane Irma, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross has activated its internal disaster response protocols in coordination with the activation of the national disaster response system; the National Society has also carried out national assessments ahead of the storm to identify critical areas that are likely to pose a challenge to its response activities. Additionally, the ABRC has positioned Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) and community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) in six high-risk communities to respond to a potential emergency, and it has plastic

sheeting, jerry cans and emergency back packs, which it intends to distribute to families who are at risk of being displaced by Hurricane Irma. Lastly, the ABRC has experience providing food in past emergencies such as Hurricane Earl and Hurricane Gustavo to affected people in collective centres, and it successfully implemented a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in response to Hurricane Earl, in which it provided mattresses to 100 families and restored the livelihoods of 100 fishermen that lost their main source of income during the disaster.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC and Partner National Societies (PNSs) do not have a physical presence in country; consequently, the Caribbean country cluster office in Trinidad and Tobago and the IFRC's regional office for the Americas (ARO) in Panama have been remotely supporting the National Society.

Movement Coordination

ARO declared an Alert II for the event on 31 August 2017, and coordination among the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross, the Caribbean country cluster and ARO was established that same day. Lastly, ARO developed a [Dashboard](#) to monitor the storm's progress.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The government of Antigua and Barbuda has activated the country's national Disaster response system, and islands are currently under a Hurricane Warning, with the expected impact to be within the next 24 to 48 hours; in addition, the government has made efforts to clear blocked drains and trim overhanging trees from power lines. Finally, it should be mentioned that as an entity that has a seat at all levels of the government's emergency system, the ABRC is well positioned to influence the coordination of the response actions.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Based on the National Society assessments ahead of the storm to identify critical areas, the following sectors have been identified to be supported:

Shelter and Settlements (and household items): The government will not issue relief items to the affected people in the collective centres; consequently, the ABRC must provide the affected families with family kits to cover this need. Shoddy infrastructure could expose vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to storm damage, requiring the distribution of tarpaulins.

Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion: Hurricane Irma could adversely impact Antigua and Barbuda's potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to the islands' residents and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses brought on by unhygienic conditions.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods: The government will not provide food to the families in the collective, who may have to shelter in the centres for at least 24 hours; consequently, the ABRC must cover the families' food needs while they are in the collective centres.

Beneficiary Selection:

The operation of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross aims to reach 475 families affected by Hurricane Irma. The following selection criteria have been established for the operation at community and family level:

- Families affected by the event in critical areas.
- Exposure to health and survival risks
- Families whose livelihoods have been affected
- Families in collective centres
- Families who have not received similar assistance from another institution

Risk Assessment

Hurricane Irma's trajectory is still uncertain at this time; however, a small deviation in the storm's path could mean a greater or lower impact on the islands.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The operation will support the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross' preparedness actions to ready the country for Irma's potential impact and attend to the immediate needs of 475 families in collective centres.

Proposed strategy

The hurricane has yet to impact the islands; therefore, this DREF is being developed to cover the National Society's preparedness activities. This EPoA will be revised once the rapid emergency assessments have been completed, and the National Society has a clearer picture of the storm's impact on Antigua and Barbuda.

This DREF will support the following preparedness activities:

- The distribution of 750 tarpaulins as preventive measure to protect people's dwellings for 375 families; this DREF will replenish the non-food items (NFIs) distributed by the National Society during the response operation.
- The mobilization of a team of volunteers, which will be provided with adequate equipment, in strategic places to conduct early assessments of the situation before and after the storm's passage.
- Distribution of food, blankets and jerry cans and emergency backpacks to 100 families in collective centres, which will be established by the national authorities and supported by the ABRC.

Operational support services

Human resources

Irma is expected to cause significant damage, affect over 80,000 people and require the mobilization of around 100 volunteers to take part in the clean-up and restoration day-to-day activities in the country; the DREF will cover the volunteers' operational costs.

The ABRC has a well-equipped cadre of staff to respond to the country's current needs of the country; however, it is difficult to predict the demands that will be placed on ABRC's staff by the storm. The ABRC currently has the following staff members:

- Director General
- Office Secretary
- Resource Mobilization and Marketing Director
- Branding and Communications Director
- Youth and Volunteer Director- unpaid
- Health and Wellness Director
- Health Intern
- Disaster Director- Unpaid

One General Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member will be deployed to support operational activities.

Logistics and supply chain

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross will activate a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with local supermarket to purchase food parcels to be distributed to the collective centres. ABRC will distribute all the NFI stock that is pre-positioned items in the country ([please see the Annex for the complete list of pre-positioned items](#)). These stocks will later be replenished as soon as possible through the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama. Lastly, the ABRC will organize local transport for goods and personnel to the designated areas of intervention.

Information technologies (IT)

The DREF allocation will cover the costs of mobile phone plans and 10 sim cards for staff and volunteers. The ABRC will ensure that staff and volunteers involved in the operation are reachable via mobile phones as soon as network are up and running.

Communications

The IFRC's Communications Unit will provide technical support and assistance to the communications strategy, and its communications officer will be deployed as necessary to support these activities. Press releases will be shared with national / Regional and global media outlets and uploaded to social media and the institutional website as events develop.

At the country level, the National Society will use social media, its web site and the local media to disseminate information on the operation, and it will also coordinate with IFRC's Communication Unit to share information at the regional level; all communications are being coordinated and shared with ABRC before publication. Lastly, the IFRC issued [Information Bulletin no. 1](#) on Hurricane Irma on 1 September 2017.

Security

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross' 150 volunteers have been put on alert, and the volunteers providing support to the operation have the necessary profiles, degree of visibility and the level of security to conduct this operation, as established by the National Society; however, it is still necessary to procure insurance and protection for the participating volunteers, such as:

Personal protective gear

- Raincoats
- Rubber boots
- Flashlights

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

Reporting on the operation will be conducted in accordance with the IFRC's minimum reporting standards. A final report will be issued within three months of the end of the operation.

Administration and Finance

The IFRC provides the necessary operational support for the review, validation of budgets, bank transfers and technical assistance to National Societies on procedures for the justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Shelter and settlements (and household items)

Needs analysis: The government will not issue relief items to the affected people in the collective centres; consequently, the ABRC must provide the affected families with family kits to cover this need. Shoddy infrastructure could expose vulnerable families' dwellings and their belongings to storm damage, requiring the distribution of tarpaulins.

Population to be assisted: The target population is 100 families in the collective centres, and 375 families that will require tarpaulins to protect their dwellings from the storm, resulting in a total of 475 families.

Outcome 1: The resilience of potentially affected communities is increased through distribution and replenishment of the National Society's emergency stock: 100 families in emergency shelters will receive 100 emergency backpacks, 200 blankets, and 375 families will receive 750 tarpaulins to protect their dwellings									
Output 1.1 The affected population's shelter needs are covered following Hurricane Irma's impact (a collective centres activities)									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Coordination with local emergency departments and local authorities									
Distribution and replenishment of 100 emergency backpacks and 200 blankets									
Development of a distribution plan according to the existing contingency plan									
Monitoring of procurement and the supply chain									
Output 1.2 750 tarpaulins are distributed to 375 families to protect dwellings (emergency shelter activities)									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Coordination with local emergency departments and local authorities									
Distribution and replenishment of 750 tarpaulins									
Development of a distribution plan according to the existing contingency plan									
Monitoring of distribution and the supply chain									

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Needs analysis: The government will not provide food to the families, who may have to shelter in the centres for at least 24 hours; consequently, the ABRC must provide the families with food while they are taking refuge in the collective centres.

Population to be assisted: The target population is the 100 families in the collective centres.

Outcome 2: The National Society covers the food needs of the families displaced to the emergency centres									
Output 2.1: The National society distributes food in the emergency's first 24 hours to 100 families in emergency centres during the storm's passage and the immediate response operation									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mobilization of ABRC volunteers to distribute food to 100 families in emergency centres during the emergency's first 24 hours									
Activation of MoU with local supplier to purchase food for emergency centres									
Pre-positioning of 100 food kits in the targeted emergency centres									
ABRC conducts assessments in the targeted centres to plan and provide guidance on response operations									

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: Hurricane Irma could adversely impact Antigua and Barbuda's potable water system, thereby disrupting the provision of drinking water to the islands' residents and exposing them to potential waterborne and vector-borne illnesses brought on by unhygienic conditions.

Population to be assisted: The target population is 100 families in the collective centres.

Outcome 3: Contribute to reducing the risk of water and vector-borne diseases to the population of Antigua and Barbuda									
Output 3.1 Access to safe water storage for 100 families in Antigua and Barbuda									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Procurement and replenishment of 200 Jerrycans.									

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 4: Response operation is well planned, coordinated and monitored									
Output 4.1: Continuous monitoring and assessment of Hurricane Irma informs the planning and implementation of the response operation.									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Assessment of the present humanitarian situation while considering assessments conducted by other stakeholders									
Assess the ABRC's response and preparedness capacity and recommend strategic orientations for improvement									
Recommend a strategy for an appropriate response to the current emergency									
Pre-positioning of trained volunteers to strategic areas in advance of the hurricane									
Appoint a focal person in the emergency operations centre (EOC) to prepare daily situation reports, which will be posted on the Dashboard and shared with all stakeholders.									
Deployment of a RIT member for one month									
IFRC monitoring									
Output 4.2 Strengthening of ABRC capacities to optimize its role as an auxiliary to the local authorities in the response operation									
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ABRC secures its facilities ahead of the hurricane									
ABRC provides adequate protective equipment for the volunteers involved in the distribution and assessment activities									

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**In Antigua and Barbuda:**

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DREF OPERATION

2017-09-04

DREF - Antigua & Barbuda - Hurricane Irma

**DREF Grant
Budget CHF****Budget Group**

Shelter - Relief	16,893
Clothing & Textiles	869
Food	2,896
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	579
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	21,237

Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	676
Transport & Vehicle Costs	9,248
Logistics Services	2,124
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	12,047

International Staff	0
Regional Deployed Staff	8,688
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	1,641
Volunteers	8,939
Total PERSONNEL	19,268

Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0

Travel	2,896
Information & Public Relations	290
Office Costs	0
Communications	1,641
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,116

Programme and Services Support Recovery	3,748
Total INDIRECT COSTS	3,748

TOTAL BUDGET	61,418
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Annex

Pre-Positioned Items	Quantity
10'10' Tent	1
16 Ports Distribution Switch	2
20'12' Tent	2
2'4' Tables	7
3'3' Wooden Red Cross	1
40' Containers	5
5 Gallon Water Bottle	10
5' Step Ladder	1
5'2' Tables	4
60,000 Gallon Water Tank	1
Adult Mannequins	10
Air Beds	200
Air Conditioner	7
Ambulance	2
Automatic Hand Dryer	2
Awards	10
Baby Mannequins	10
Bathrooms	3
Blackboard	2
Blankets	500
Board Room Table 2.5' 6'	1
Building	1

Ceiling Fans	5
Chain Saw	2
Clock	5
Close Dryer	1
Coffee Table	1
Collapsible Stretchers	360
Collapsible Jerry Cans	1,050
Condoms	2,500 (Male) 2,700 (Female)
Couch	2
Cupboard	8
Deep Freezer	1
Desk Top	7
Doors	23
Emergency Backpacks	
Fencing Wire	8 Roles
Filing Cabinet	6
Fire Extinguisher	3
Flip Chart Pads	14
Ham Radio	1
Junior Mannequins	8
Kerosene lantern	55
Kitchen Table	4
Life Savers	18

Lights	48
Manual Heat Extractor	4
Matches	10,000
Microwave Oven	1
Mosquito Nets	300
Office Chairs	12
Office Desk	15
Paintings/ Drawings	3
Paraphernalia	
Peas	800 lbs
Pick Ax	8
Picture Frames	3
Plants	18
Plastic Containers	8
Portable Generators	4
Portable Lights	2
Power Wash	1
Pressure Tank	1
Printer /Scanner	2
Radio	2
Rake	4
Red & White Buckets	400
Red Cross Donation Boxes	25

Refrigerator	6
Regular Chairs	70
Rice	700 lbs
Round Tables	4
Rubbish Bins	5
Shovel	13
Shower	2
Sleeping Bags	32,
Stove	2 (1 Four Burner & 1 Six Burner)
Switch Board	1
Tarpaulins	750
Telephone	7
Toaster Oven	1
Trailer	2
Truck	1
VCR	1
Water Filter	1
Water Pump	1
Weed whacker	2
Wheel Chairs	10
Windows	30
Wireless Routers	3