



This report is produced by the Office of the Resident Coordinator, United Nations System in Cuba. It covers the period from March 3, 14:00 to 14:00 to March 16 (local time). The next report will be issued on or around March 30, 2017.

Highlights

- The hurricane destroyed 67% of the forest heritage in the province of Guantánamo and the cocoa, coconut, and coffee plantations – main sources of livelihood in the region – suffered severe damages.
- 11 educational centers in Maisí, Baracoa and Imías – out of a total of 280 that were affected by the hurricane – are yet to be recovered.
- Producers and specialists in agriculture in Guantánamo recovered over 10,500 hectares of soil – out of the 70,500 hectares damaged by the hurricane – with the sowing of a variety of short-cycle crops.
- The construction of the new bridge over the river Toa has started so as to replace the one destroyed by the hurricane. The works are expected to be completed within eight months.
- The completion of two concrete factories, one on Baracoa and one in Maisí, will complement the production of local construction materials.



Situation Overview

Five months after the passing of Hurricane Matthew in eastern Cuba, solving the serious housing problems as well as recovering the agriculture and the livelihoods of the affected people, remain the main priorities of the affected territories.

Besides the actions taken to increase the local production of construction materials to repair houses and roofs and the building of new houses, the efforts to build the new bridge over the river Toa is being intensified. Additionally, effort is being made to finish the works on a difficult part of the Yumurí-Jobo Claro road which would allow traffic to avoid the dangerous and limited road between Baracoa and Maisí through the Loma de La Boruga.

The recovery of cocoa, coffee, and coconut – main exporting products of the province of Guantánamo – is being intensified in addition to the sowing of short-cycle crops with more resistant and productive strains to feed the population.

Humanitarian Response

National Authorities

The municipal authorities of Baracoa approved the delivery of kits containing zinc tiles, cement, nails, a sink, and electric appliances to families in the mountainous zones that experienced the total collapse of their homes. This measure complements the free delivery of food products and the subsidy of agricultural products to family units in remote regions.

Since October, the subsidized sale of materials for the recovery of housing and home appliances, the discount in price of basic needs products, and the tax exemption for self-employed people, are benefitting the population of the affected municipalities of Guantánamo.

Baracoa's Municipal Defense Council ordered for the updating of vulnerability and risk studies of the territory, the preparation of shelters prior to disasters so as to save human lives, the preparing of warehouses to safely store drinking water and fuel for longer periods of time, and the creation of a Procedure Manual regarding the adequate response of defense units in case of natural or man-made disasters.

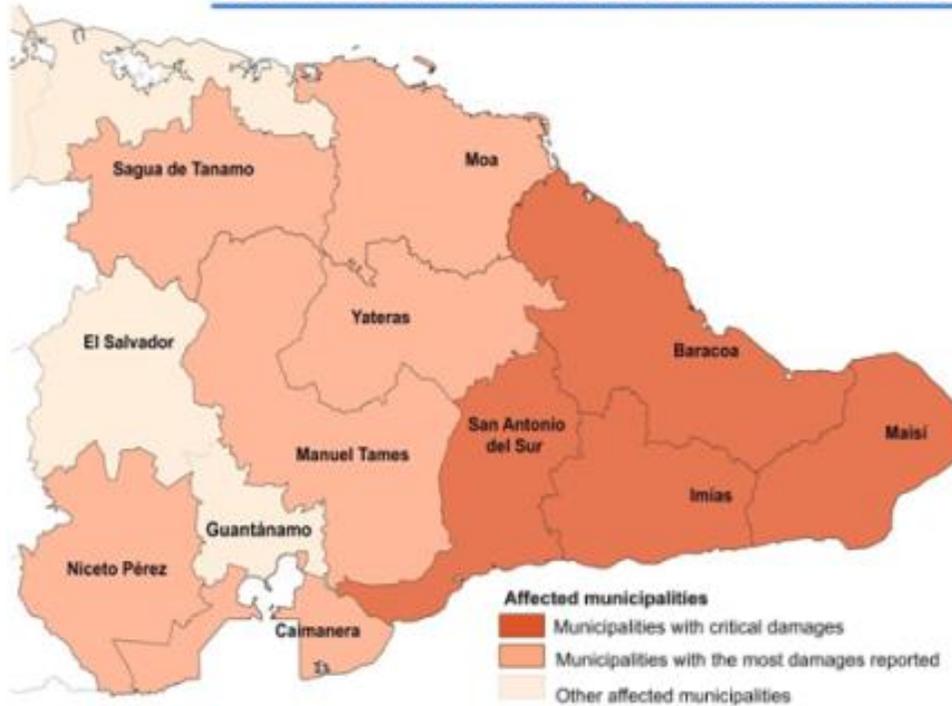
International Community

In order to speed up the recovery process, an automatic factory to produce concrete donated by the government of Venezuela has been activated in the municipality of Baracoa, while a second one in Maisí is currently in its test phase. With a capacity of 30 cubic meters per hour, they will produce tiles, panes, building bases, pillars for different types of buildings, as well as hydraulic concrete for the construction and reparation of roads.

With Venezuela's support, the construction of the new bridge over the river Toa in Baracoa will commence soon and is expected to be completed within eight months. Previously, work was being done in completely demolishing the bridge destroyed by the hurricane, as well as the setting up of a warehouse to collect construction materials as well as the preparation of two workshops – one for the production of steel and another one for the production of tiles.

CUBA: MATERIALS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANE MATTHEW

March 17th, 2017



Baracoa



Yateras



Imías



Moa



Niceto Pérez



Maisí



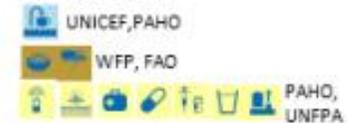
San Antonio del Sur



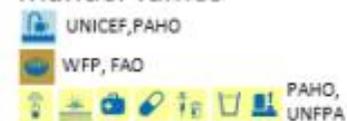
Sagua de Tánamo



Caimanera



Manuel Tames



Materials received by the territories according to agencies

UNDP	UNICEF	UNFPA
Tarps	Water containers	Dignity Kits and SRH
Mills	Family hygiene kits	
Roof sheets	Water purifying tabs	
Bed sheets and Mattresses	Recreational kits	
Cooking kits	School in a Box	
Basic needs kits	ECD Kits	
Tool kits	Riesgolandias	
PAHO	WFP	FAO
Water purifying tabs	Food products	Warehouses
Mosquito nets	Pallets	Motor cultivators
Generators and Water pumps	Mattresses	Agricultural tools and resources
Diagnostic and diarrhea kits	Roof sheets	Training materials
DPD y Doxycycline		
Pre-paid mobile cards		
Water tanks And Hipochlorite		

Sectors



Source: Made by the Resident Coordinator's Office based on information received from UN agencies in Cuba.

Sectors



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Damages:

- No new information on the sector.

Response:

- After an analysis on the experiences of the recovery process after hurricane Matthew, authorities of the Baracoa's Municipal Defense Council have ordered for the preparation of warehouses, whether in work places or residential zones, to safely store drinking water and fuel for longer periods of time.

UNICEF

- USD 120,000 were collected by the UK Committee, as part of the Emergency Response Plan of Action. Out of that fund, USD 50,000 are intended to be destined to the water and sanitation sector.
- These funds will be used for the purchase of 2,490 water tanks of 250 liters for water storage, and will benefit families in the municipalities of Maisí, Imías, San Antonio del Sur and Baracoa.



Food Security

Damages:

- Food security risks for the affected population are maintained due to the damages to the plantations and the food storage facilities, mainly in the municipalities of Baracoa, Imías, Maisí, and San Antonio del Sur.
- In the province of Guantanamo, in the sector of agriculture, one of the most affected sectors by the hurricane, it is estimated that over 70,500 hectares of agricultural land has been damaged, with a loss of 27% of cocoa, coconut and coffee plantations, and 67% of the forest heritage.
- It is estimated that 5 years will be needed for the coconut plantations in the province of Guantanamo to go back to the productivity levels they had before the hurricane.
- In Baracoa, the damaged hectares of cocoa plantations are estimated at 3,600 of which 2,255 have yet to be recovered depending on the severity of the damage, the age of the plants, and their productivity.

Response:

- The recovery of agricultural zones affected by the hurricane in the province of Guantanamo is making progress. Teams of workers, technicians, and specialists of the Agriculture Delegation in Guantanamo, are working on the recovery of over 10,500 hectares of land (equivalent to 15% of the total affected area). Out of the 10,500 hectares, 3,310 have been sowed with root vegetables, vegetables, and grains, prioritizing the short-cycle crops so as to feed the population of the most affected regions.
- 120 hectares of coconut plantations in Baracoa have been recovered. Efforts are ongoing so as to strengthen this crop in the municipalities of Imías and Maisí, where 97% of these plantations have been destroyed by hurricane Matthew.
- In Maisí, over 1,700 hectares of coffee (35% of the 4,940 damaged coffee hectares) have been recovered as well as 160 out of 570 damaged cocoa hectares.

In Baracoa

- The recovery efforts regarding the cocoa plantations are being carried out. To this day, around 2,000 hectares (89%) have been recovered.
- The 53 destroyed cocoa tree nurseries and other structures have been recovered.
- Efforts are being made to clean up organic waste and to transfer cocoa seeds from other municipalities such as Sagua de Tánamo (Holguín), Tercer Frente (Santiago de Cuba) and San Antonio del Sur (Guantánamo), to Baracoa so as to use them grafting stock.

FAO:

- As part of FAO Emergency Response Framework to assist producers in the most affected municipalities after the passing of Hurricane Matthew, agricultural supplies and tools arrived to Cuba in February and

March aimed at supporting the local production of short—term crops, particularly in urban and peri-urban agricultural areas.

- In collaboration with the Ministry for Agriculture, FAO is organizing the distribution of the materials that have arrived to Santiago and Havana to be distributed in the Eastern provinces. Additionally, FAO is organizing the distribution and delivery of supplies and tools, as well as the technical capacity building. Operations based on the Central Response Fund Emergency (CERF) funding worth USD 419,148 will benefit 157,000 people from the municipalities of Baracoa, Imías, Maisí and San Antonio del Sur in the province of Guantánamo.
- FAO will provide two dozens of chainsaws and chains for the recovery of coconut wood; the chainsaws were acquired from Stihl German Company.
- FAO will allocate USD 496,400 from its own resources to assist the farmers' livelihood rehabilitation in the most affected municipalities in the province of Guantánamo, to ensure the resumption of agricultural activities in the short term.
- FAO is also mobilizing additional funds from other international cooperation partners to cover the needs jointly identified by local institutions and representatives of the agricultural sector.

WFP:

- WFP is following up on its approved emergency operation expecting to assist 180,000 vulnerable people in areas affected by Hurricane Matthew.
- WFP facilitated a loan of rice and beans with the governmental institutions so as to speed up the distribution of food products in the four most affected municipalities.
- Approximately 1,300 metric tons of beans and 200 metric tons of oil have arrived to the port of Santiago. The containers are currently being unloaded in order to be transported to the most affected municipalities of Guantánamo. Progress is also being made with the purchasing of over 1,400 metric tons of rice.
- Besides assisting vulnerable people, this purchase will allow completing the total amount of pre- positioned rice and beans under the Country's Program, aimed at ensuring an immediate response in future emergency situations.
- WFP continues mobilizing funds for its emergency operation after Hurricane Matthew, amounting to USD 4.1 million. So far, contributions were secured from the Governments of Canada, Italy and the Republic of Korea, as well as from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and funds from the World Food Program.



Infrastructure and Rehabilitation of Basic Services

Damages:

- No new information reported in this sector.

Response:

HOUSING

Baracoa

- A new automated concrete factory with a capacity of producing 30 cubic meters of the material per hour has been inaugurated.
- 394 of the 700 so-called "mountain kits" aimed to benefit families that have experienced a complete collapse of their houses, have been distributed. It consists of 18 zinc tiles, 20 cement sacks, 30 kg of nails of 5, 4, and 2 and a half inches, a washing zinc, 4 lamp, light bulbs, switches, and outlets. The materials have arrived to Cabacú, Sabanilla, Mabujabo, Jamal, Mata-Guandao, Mosquitero, Mandinga y Quiviján. The families that benefit from these kits have to acquire their own wood by their own means. The kits will also be distributed to the residents so as to speed up the recovery process.
- The first houses that have been rehabilitated in Cuba with the help of Venezuela are ready in Maisí. About 200 houses have been rehabilitated in Maisí and Santa Marta.

UNDP

- A mission led by the Deputy Resident Representative and a technical UNDP team will be in the field from the 20th to the 24th of March. They will hold meetings with government officials of Guantánamo and will

discuss the recovery process of the province and UNDP's cooperation efforts. The local capacities for producing local materials is being strengthened.

- During this visit, the team will receive an update on the progress of the roof building process, particularly regarding the joint efforts of OXFAM and UNDP in support to the housing reconstruction process. Similarly, they will discuss the process of distribution of materials to the population (bed sheets, mattresses, tarps, and cooking kits). Work for the project "Plataforma Articulada para el Desarrollo Integral Territorial" (PADIT), is to commence in Guantánamo soon.
- 8 containers have arrived to the country with great part of the tiles and screws for the setting up of the acquired 757 roof kits of 35m² and 540 roof kits of 75 m². It is expected for the remaining 10 containers to arrive throughout the coming week and for the building process to commence. The local government has already defined a plan for the recovery.
- These resources are additional to the humanitarian supplies already received and sent to the affected municipalities: 7,500 kitchen kits, 18,462 mattresses, and 23,870 tarpaulins. Until present, more than 90,000 people have been benefited.

IOM

- 2,890 galvanized roof tiles to be distributed among affected families are already at the port of Santiago de Cuba.



Health

Damages:

- 120 health institutions confirmed as the most affected. Damages in the sector not yet quantified.

Response:

In purchasing process:

- Hepatitis B and C tests – 100 of each. Each pack contains 50 units.
- Hygiene control tests – 2,000
- Quick malaria diagnosis test – 2,000
- Mosquito nets – 2,000
- Water purification tablets (8,5mg per 1 liter): box of 50,000 units, 25 boxes
- Phenol Red Tablets: box of 250 units, 100 boxes
- DPD Tablets: 3 boxes of 250 units, 100 boxes
- DPD Tablets: 1 box of 250 units, 100 boxes
- Chlorine--testing Kits by DPD 100 units
- Rechargeable Led Lights: 300 units
- Quick cholera diagnosis test: 50 per box - 50 units
- Quick Rotavirus diagnosis test: 50 per box - 50 units
- Quick leptospirosis diagnosis test: 50 per box - 50 units

The following supplies received are in distribution process:

- 9 calcium hypochlorite recipients
- Cholera, malaria and e. coli tests
- 30,920 water purification tablets of different grams
- 8,700 chlorine--testing kits
- 30 water tanks of 500 liters
- 20 water pumps
- 7,200 mosquito nets impregnated with insecticide
- 8 three-phase 7.5 kva generators
- 4 Diarrhea treatment Kits for 1000 people each
- 10 recipients for coliform detection in water
- 32 water tanks of 2,500 liters (in extraction process at Mariel Port)
- 480,000 Doxycycline tablets

Source: Technical offices of PAHO/WHO

UNFPA:

- Three capacity-building workshops for doctors and staff of the Ministry for Public Health in the municipalities of Baracoa, San Antonio del Sur y Guantánamo have been held on March 8, 9 and 10 regarding the proper use of the Reproductive Health Kits.
- The third shipment of SRH kits (28 in total) is expected to arrive to Santiago de Cuba in the upcoming days so as to be distributed to health institutions of the most affected municipalities, particularly to the hospital of Guantánamo that caters to all affected areas. These kits that include contraceptives and medical and pharmaceutical tools for obstetric use, will benefit a total of 9,300 women.
- A visit to Baracoa, Maisí and Imías municipalities by representatives from a UNFPA team, together with representatives from the Cuban Government checked the high positive impact of donations delivered to assist pregnant women, those who have just given birth, and their babies, and to meet needs related to sexual and reproductive health as well as safe deliveries. UNFPA working team acknowledged the work of the Ministry of Public Health for pregnant women monitoring and their early identification and follow-up, as well as for their responsibility at handling and distributing donations. Next week, capacity building workshops will be held to train health personnel on the use of Sexual and Reproductive Health kits in the municipalities affected by the meteorological phenomena.
- In addition to the USD 80,137 agency funds, UNFPA received approval from the Central Response Fund Emergency (CERF) for the implementation of the project "Sexual and Reproductive Health Services for the affected population of the areas affected by hurricane Matthew", estimated to be worth USD 101,012.

**Education****Damages:**

- 11 schools are yet to be recovered in the municipalities of Maisí, Baracoa e Imías, out of a total of 280 that suffered damages.

Response:

- The Cuban education minister praised the 241 families that offered their house as alternative classrooms so as to avoid the delay of the educational process in these territories.

UNICEF

- UNICEF visited the affected areas 19th to 23rd February to follow up the implementation of CERF funds in the four most affected municipalities of Guantánamo (Baracoa, Maisí, Imías and San Antonio del Sur). A total amount of 352 early development kits have been distributed, as well as 351 recreational kits and 493 School in a Box meant to help children return to educational activities in safe spaces and protective learning environments.
- UNICEF will support the rebuilding of 10 schools in Baracoa with the purchase of carpentry, mainly from the USD 70,000 fund collected by the United Kingdom National Committee, UNICEF.

**Logistics****Damages:**

- Severe damages are still being reported to warehouses and storage rooms' network in municipalities affected by Hurricane Matthew, representing a serious challenge to ensure the proper storage of humanitarian supplies in the affected areas.

Response:

- The construction of the new bridge over the river Toa is underway on the same place where the bridge stood that was destroyed by hurricane Matthew. This will allow for the creation of on-land connections between the municipalities of Toa and Moa and support the transport of assistance materials.

WFP

- Thanks to a donation from the Republic of Korea, WFP is in process of purchase of two additional temporary warehouses to be placed in Baracoa at the request of the Municipal People's Power. Warehouses should be arriving to Cuba in March. Likewise, other two temporary warehouses are in purchase process, as well as two portable light towers, with CERF funds.

General Coordination

The United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator in Cuba published a Needs and Progress Assessment Report, three months after the passing of Hurricane Matthew, as part of the Plan of Action- Response to hurricane Matthew. The document details emergency response actions undertaken by the United Nation System agencies, which can be found at http://onu.org.cu/files/files/Informe_03_febrero.pdf.

The Plan of Action of the United Nations System in response to Hurricane Matthew was launched on the 20th of October in Havana and the 28th of October in New York, and can be found at: <http://onu.org.cu/subsection/huracanmatthew/nuestro-plan-de-acciononu.org>

The United Nations System in Cuba invites the international community to join them in supporting the Plan of Action. Out of the 26.5 million USD required to cover the basic needs of 661,606 people, 15.7 million USD are yet to be mobilized, 59% of the amount required.

Funding

Plan of Action of the United Nation in Cuba as of March 24th 2017

(All funds in \$US)

 **US\$ 26.5M**
required



Donation Sources

Funds in US\$

CERF	5,352,736
Russian Fed.	1,500,000
UNDP	719,025
WFP	468,157
FAO	500,000
Swiss Coop.	500,000
PPD GEF	300,000
Rep. of Korea	300,000
Canada	226,415
Italy	218,579
PAHO	200,000
Com.Unicef UK	120,000
IOM	150,000
OCHA	100,000
UNFPA	81,158
SHERRITT	80,045
UNICEF	41,195
WWF	10,800
Total	10,868,110

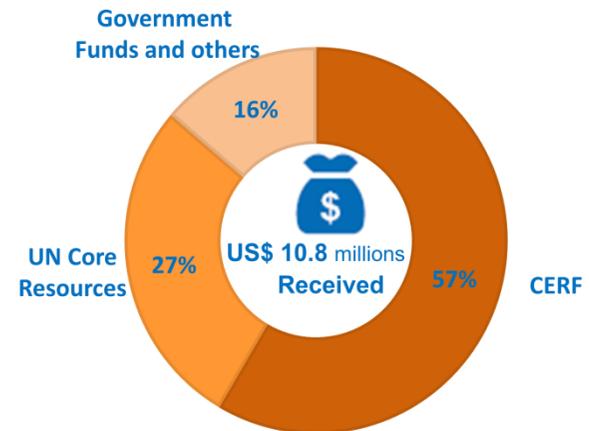
Funding Gaps by Sector

(CERF + other sources)

Funds in US\$

	FUNDED	GAP	TOTAL
	4.2	7.8	11.8
	4.0	3.7	7.7
	1.6	1.9	3.5
	0.7	0.8	1.5
	0.3	1.6	1.9
	0.04	0.1	0.15

Funds Received



Source: United Nation System in Cuba.

Creation: Office of the Resident Coordinator in Cuba

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