

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Information Bulletin no. 1

Hurricane Isaias

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin N° 1	Date of issue: 31 July 2020
Date of disaster: Ongoing	Focal Points: <u>In Dominican Republic:</u> Raphael Hamoir; Disaster Management Coordinator raphael.hamoir@ifrc.org <u>In The Bahamas:</u> Baylar Talibov; Operations Manager baylar.talibov@ifrc.org Priscila Gonzalez; PMER Delegate; Priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org <u>In the Port of S CCST:</u> Daniel Arango, Disaster Management Coordinator; Hurricane Season, Preparedness & Response; daniel.arango@ifrc.org Rhea Marie Pierre, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator; rhea.pierre@ifrc.org
IFRC Category allocated to the disaster: To be defined. IFRC Alert II activated. ¹	
National Societies activated: Bahamas Red Cross Society, Dominican Red Cross, Haitian Red Cross Society, and American Red Cross.	
Red Cross partners involved: American Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross.	
Other partner organizations involved: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA); United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA); National Emergency Operations Center in Bahamas (EOC), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) / World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP).	

This bulletin is being issued for information only; it reflects the current situation and details available at this time.

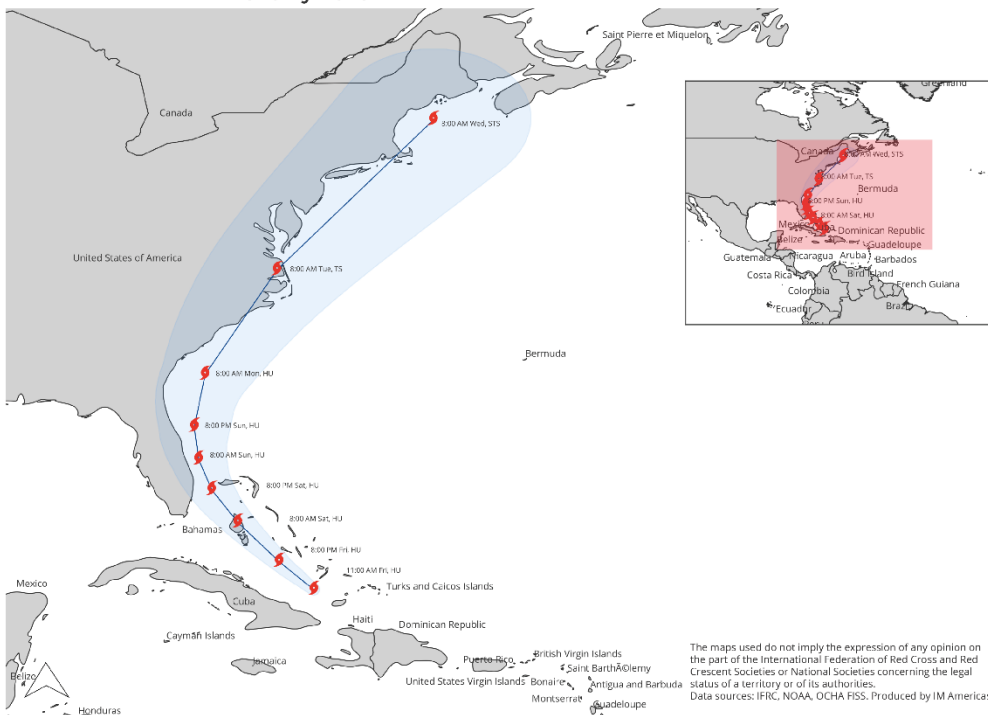
CONTEXT

The situation

Hurricane Isaias will track through the Bahamas into Saturday and near Florida this weekend, before tracking up the East Coast as far north as New England next week. Isaias became a hurricane following an investigative flight by the Hurricane Hunters late Thursday, which found winds of 80 mph. Isaias remains a Category 1 hurricane, on the Saffir-

¹ Issued when an event or crisis occurs and there is a need to take specific and predetermined protection measures and ensure that appropriate monitoring of the event is conducted due to its development, behaviour and characteristics, and the possibility the event causing adverse effects.

+CIFRC Hurricane Isaias Path as of 31-July-2020



Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Bands of heavy rain also remain in parts of Hispaniola, particularly over the Dominican Republic.

Hurricane warnings have been issued for the Bahamas, including Nassau, Freeport, and the Abacos Islands, where hurricane conditions are expected into Saturday. Strong winds and bands of rain are lashing the southeast Bahamas, as well as the Turks and Caicos. Wind gusts over 50 mph have been measured in the Turks and Caicos late Thursday night and early Friday.

Heavy rain triggered flash flooding in several areas of

Puerto Rico on Thursday. Multiple fallen trees, mudslides, and flooding were reported in southwest Puerto Rico, according to local emergency management.²

Early Damage Assessments and Response

According to the Pacific Disaster Center³, for the extended forecast, an estimated of 3.46 million people, 1.29 million households, and 492 billion American dollars (USD) of infrastructure⁴ are potentially exposed to moderate to severe damaging winds (with damage expected closer to the shores). All shorelines in the path of the storm are exposed to potential storm surge, and inland areas within the proximity of the storm are exposed to potential flooding. Additional updates will be provided as they become available by official sources and by the National Societies assessments.

Tropical Cyclone Impacts for ISAIAS, Advisory #14

Exposure Bahamas

Population and Residential Units (total population: 295K)						
Estimated Wind Impacts		Wind Speed	Population		Residential Units	
		km/hr	People	%	Units	%
■	Widespread Damage	129.6 - 152.3	167,289	56.7	34,461	63.4
■	Moderate Damage 5% of value	105.8 - 129.6	109,009	36.9	15,143	27.9
■	Minor Damage; power out	91.1 - 105.8	6,672	2.3	1,668	3.1
■	Trees Down; some power loss	76.0 - 91.1	11,677	4	2,919	5.4
Total Exposed			294,647	99.8	54,191	99.7
■	Minimal to No Impacts	< 76.0	572	0.2	143	0.3

Exposure United States of America - Florida

Population and Residential Units (total population: 18.98M)						
Estimated Wind Impacts		Wind Speed	Population		Residential Units	
		km/hr	People	%	Units	%
■	Moderate Damage 5% of value	105.8 - 129.6	2,837,041	14.9	446,570	14.2
■	Minor Damage; power out	91.1 - 105.8	4,853,247	25.6	660,587	21
■	Trees Down; some power loss	76.0 - 91.1	2,361,442	12.4	413,739	13.1
Total Exposed			10,051,730	53	1,520,896	48.3
■	Minimal to No Impacts	< 76.0	8,930,176	47	1,630,570	51.7

² NOAA. Atlantic 5-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook. 31 July 2020.

³ PDC. Hurricane Isaias. Area Potentially Affected. 31 July 2020.

⁴ The cost represents the total replacement value of the infrastructure.

Exposure United States of America - South Carolina

Population and Residential Units (total population: 4.72M)						
Estimated Wind Impacts		Wind Speed	Population		Residential Units	
		km/hr	People	%	Units	%
Minor Damage; power out	91.1 - 105.8	96	0	24	0	
Trees Down; some power loss	76.0 - 91.1	325,160	6.9	63,802	6.8	
Total Exposed		325,256	6.9	63,826	6.8	
Minimal to No Impacts	< 76.0	4,394,943	93.1	871,195	93.2	

Exposure United States of America - North Carolina

Population and Residential Units (total population: 9.81M)						
Estimated Wind Impacts		Wind Speed	Population		Residential Units	
		km/hr	People	%	Units	%
Minor Damage; power out	91.1 - 105.8	83,015	0.8	18,011	0.9	
Trees Down; some power loss	76.0 - 91.1	421,245	4.3	82,709	4.3	
Total Exposed		504,260	5.1	100,720	5.2	
Minimal to No Impacts	< 76.0	9,307,636	94.9	1,839,966	94.8	

NATIONAL SOCIETIES ACTIONS



Bahamas Red Cross Society

Bahamas Power and Light Company advise that at 20:00, there will be a controlled shutdown of some high-risk regions in the New Providence grid, today July 31.

NS actions:

- All group leaders on the family islands have contacted and EOC has been partially activated
- Leaders are in contact with their local Hurricane Advisory Committee
- Leaders are making a round to ensure that the elderly and the disable are assisted with final preparations
- Virtual EOC is fully activated between all islands and the DM in New Providence
- Offices in Abaco, Grand Bahama and New Providence will close at 12 today with DMU remaining onsite in New Providence

IFRC actions:

- IFRC Dorian Operation team in contact with CCST and ARO DM.
- 3 x IFRC staff in place in Abaco and 2 x IFRC staff in place in Grand Bahama
- Field Coordinators in both locations are monitoring the situation with BRCS counterparts and updating local conditions on a regular basis

Canadian Red Cross:

- Canadian RC is coordinating with BRCS to purchase NFIs and PPEs if required.

American Red Cross

- 5 satellite phones have been activated by American RC
- 5 go kits have purchased prepared
- Communication delegate is supporting BRCS to update information through social media and national media outlets
- EOC training is put on hold, with EOC trainer available to support any response as required

Prepositioned Stock:

New Providence	Abaco Island	BRCS – Grand Bahama
100 hygiene kits	100 hygiene kits available	148 hygiene kits
2000 tarpaulins	2000 tarps available	581 tarpaulins

300 Food parcels	500 water filters	
	Some food items prepared for COVID distribution are in warehouse	



Dominican Red Cross

- The Dominican National Red Cross has continued to coordinate with the other institutions of the National Response System actions both at the national level and at the provincial and municipal levels of response.
- Throughout yesterday, the branches joined in the activities in their respective communities through the Prevention, Mitigation, and Response (PMR) committees.
- The NS maintains permanent coordination with the Emergency Operations Centre and rescue, and first aid teams were pre-positioned in vulnerable areas.
- [Field report published.](#)



Haitian Red Cross Society

- Activation of all Civil Protection structures at departmental level (CLPC, CCPC, DGPC Brigadiers, Red Cross Volunteers, Scouts etc.).



American Red Cross

- AmCross continues with Safety and care of the Operation function workforce. Using the RC COVID-19 safety procedure, with more than 175 staff and volunteers assigned to the hurricane operations.
- Completed the identification of available human resources and submit staff requests to workforce to officially put them into operation.
- Damage assessments conducted in St. Thomas and St. Croix, with no major damage found. Assessments in Puerto Rico ongoing.
- Continue operation meeting with functional leads in each of the impacted geographies (USVI, Puerto Rico, Florida, and potentially the eastern Coast of the US).
- Completed verification plans for Operation Activities: Response, Recovery, IDC, Mass Care, and other activities under operation to coordinate future response if necessary.
- Continue with the readiness conversation with operation staff and other function within the DR to identify resources such as communication equipment, computer, and other items necessary to provide virtual community services.

IFRC ACTIONS

- Coordination between the Disaster and Crisis Department and Country Clusters.
- Continuous monitoring by the Regional Disaster Management (DM) Coordinators and the Country Clusters.
- Contact with National Societies currently located in the path of the hurricane.
- Sending of informational messages by the DM focal point for the Caribbean.
- Issue of a press release.
- Development of information bulletins.
- Development of a dashboard for monitoring and impact assessment purpose.

- Activation of the IFRC Regional virtual EOC will be notified according to the next climate forecast.

Prepositioned Stock:

Standard Items	Stock Quattty							Stock in Transit
	RLU Panama	Guatemala	Nicaragua	Honduras	Dominican Republic	Trinidad & Tobago	PNS	
Blanket light thermal	12,090	1,260	4,400	2,500			14,980	
Blanket medium thermal	17			2,500		600		
Bucket plastic						200	3,010	200
Family tent				50			732	
Hygiene kit	3,542				1,500			
Cleaning kit	120							1,500
Jerrycan	22,680		1,100		3,800	200	1,064	
Kitchen set		280	650		850	200	2,353	3,120
Mosquito net	44,913				3,850			
Shelter toolkit	2,796				1,500			2,307
Tarpaulin	25,355		1,150		3,850	200	10,720	

Other Items	Stock Quattty							Stock in Transit
	RLU Panama	Guatemala	Nicaragua	Honduras	Dominican Republic	Trinidad & Tobago	PNS	
Volunteer kits (SP, EN, FR)								
Warehouse tent								2
Multipurpose tent								6
WASH Items (Kit 2 & 5)								
Water filters	2,000							

Prepositioned PPE:

Item	Stock Quattty
Coverall	30,020
Face Shield	3,169
Gloves	401,300
Googles	46,990
Surgical Gown	1,995
Thermometers	280
Masks KN95	339
Masks FFP2	173,745
Masks, Surgical	153,014

Resources

- [GO Platform](#) is constantly updated. Check future [Field Reports](#) from National Societies for updates.
- Regional [Preparedness dashboard](#)

- [Hurricane monitoring Dashboard.](#)
- [2020 Regional Contingency Plan](#)

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

Bahamas Red Cross Society:

- Sean Brennen, Director General, sbrennen@bahamasredcross.org
- Alicia Pinder, Disaster Manager; phone: +1 242 535 0073 ; email: lpinder@bahamasredcross.com

Dominican Red Cross:

- Dr. Ligia Leroux, President; email: ligia.leroux@cuzroja.org.do

Haitian Red Cross Society

- Président, Dr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre; email: president@croixrouge.ht and mm.cauvin@croixrouge.ht
- Deputy Executive Director, Guetson Lamour; email: g.lamour@croixrouge.ht

American Red Cross

- Regional Director, Dr. Roberto Brito; email: Roberto.BritodelaCuesta@redcross.org
- Surge Delegate, Drew Strobe: drew.strobel@redcross.org

In the IFRC Americas Regional Office:

- Head of the Disaster and Crisis Department, Jono Anzalone; email: jono.anzalone@ifrc.org, phone: +507 6679.3238
- Felipe del Cid, Continental Operations Coordinator; phone: +507 317 3050; email: felipe.delcid@ifrc.org

In CCST Dominican Republic and Port of Spain:

- Ariel Kestens; head of country cluster office POS CCST; email: ariel.kestens@ifrc.org
- Elias Ghanem; head of country cluster office elias.ghanem@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva:

- Antoine Belair, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination; Disaster and Crisis (Prevention, Response and Recovery); email: antoine.belair@ifrc.org

How we work



All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.