

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## CARIBBEAN: HURRICANES DENNIS & EMILY

25 July 2005

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.*

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 05EA014; Operations Update no. 02; Period covered: 19 to 22 July, 2005; Appeal coverage: 77 %; (the contributions list is being updated and will be attached to the next operations update).**

#### Appeal history:

- Launched on 15 July 2005 for CHF 758,000 (USD 587,505 or EUR 486,390) for 3 months to assist 29,000 beneficiaries (5,800 beneficiary families).
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 250,000

**THE PLANS OF ACTION AND BUDGET UNDER THIS APPEAL HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED IN RESPONSE TO DETAILED NEEDS ASSESSMENTS IN THE WAKE OF HURRICANES DENNIS AND EMILY IN THE CARIBBEAN.**

***THE ADJUSTED BUDGET FOR THE HURRICANES OPERATION IS BEING FINALIZED.***

**In accordance with the Federation's flexible strategy and approach to this operation, donors are encouraged to provide support, with minimum earmarking.**

**Outstanding needs : CHF 174,340**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Caribbean Annual Appeal 05AA041; Guyana: Floods Emergency Appeal 05EA001**

**Operational Summary:** The plans of action to provide an effective response to those affected by Hurricanes Dennis and Emily have been reviewed in order to ensure that maximum assistance to beneficiaries is provided. In Haiti, the plan of action now includes distribution of relief to beneficiary families in Tiburon and Les Anglais on the south coast, severely hit by Hurricane Emily. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has coordinated the mobilization of relief items which have been air-lifted to Haiti, Grenada and Jamaica: distributions are progressing well in Grenada and Jamaica and will begin today, 25 July, in Haiti. In particular, the provision of plastic sheeting is helping people return home from shelters and to protect their belongings. Psychosocial support activities have begun in Jamaica and discussions have taken place in Grenada with the Ministry of Social Services to define the provision of assistance in this area. The appeal now has a coverage of 77%, however, the balance of funding is essential to ensure that the operation may be implemented in its entirety to assist vulnerable beneficiaries, many of whom were struggling to recover from Hurricane Ivan when Hurricanes Dennis and Emily hit.

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## Background

Although it is still early in the Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from 1 June to 30 November, the Caribbean region has already been affected by two major hurricanes. The first hurricane of the season was Dennis, which caused at least 30 deaths in the Caribbean before weakening to a tropical storm over the southern United States.

The storm's rain battered the southern coast of **Haiti**, causing rivers to overflow and roads to be flooded. Coastal villages were evacuated and approximately 654 people sought refuge in temporary shelters, particularly in the regions of Les Cayes, Port-Salut, and Grand Anse. According to data from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/UNDP, 56 people died, 24 people disappeared, 36 people were injured and 2,370 people were affected. A total of 929 houses were totally destroyed and 3,058 houses were damaged. The hospital in Les Cayes was flooded but continued to treat patients throughout and after the passage of the storm. One of the main bridges in Grand Goâves, in the southern part of the country, collapsed, completely blocking access. An assessment undertaken by the Civil Protection with the participation of the Red Cross branches in the affected areas has indicated that 1,500 families became homeless as a result of the flooding in Grand Anse, of whom 675 are in urgent need of assistance. The Haitian government allocated five million gourdes (USD 123,653) towards the relief effort.

Hurricane Dennis struck **Jamaica** on Thursday, 7 July, as it strengthened to a category three hurricane. Although wind damage was not intense, the system brought substantial flooding causing severe mudslides. Residents of low lying areas as well as coastal towns – where a large part of the population lives – were advised to seek higher ground. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) confirmed that approximately 8,000 persons were affected in Jamaica. Persons were moved to shelters, mostly in the north eastern area of the country. The parishes of St. Thomas, St. Mary and Portland appear to be the areas that sustained the greatest impact, though effects of Dennis were felt in other parishes across the island.

Hurricane Dennis, at that time a category four hurricane, pounded **Cuba** for ten hours on Friday, 8 July, before heading back into the Gulf of Mexico and moving towards the United States. Hurricane Dennis left ten people dead across the country and destroyed thousands of houses in the provinces of Habana, Camaguey, Ciego de Ávila, Las Tunas, Santiago de Cuba, Matanzas, Sancti Espíritus and Guatanamo. In total, more than 1,400,000 people were evacuated, including tourists, 196,000 of which were moved to emergency shelters. Once the hurricane had passed over Cuba, national authorities, together with the Civil Defence and the Cuban Red Cross began conducting damage and needs assessments. While evaluation teams are still collecting data from throughout the country, the Cuban Civil Defence Agency is currently estimating that some eight million people were affected by the hurricane and some 40,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. The Cuban Red Cross has officially

confirmed that the National Society does not require international assistance from the Federation to meet the needs of those affected by Hurricane Dennis.

Hurricane Emily, the second major hurricane of the season, first began to form on 12 July in the eastern Caribbean Sea and moved towards the Windward Islands. Of the Windward Islands, **Grenada** was the most seriously affected by Hurricane Emily, which passed over the island early Thursday morning, 14 July, causing significant damage to buildings and crops. One death was reported in Grenada, as a result of the storm. The parishes of St. Patrick and St. Andrew were most affected, as well as the dependencies of Carriacou and Petit Martinique. Electricity has now been restored to the majority of the island, however, Carriacou and Petit Martinique are still without power; water distribution is now improving in Saint Patrick. Three shelters remain open and the Grenada Red Cross Society (GRCS) is providing drinking water to the occupants. Some of the shelter occupants have been destitute since Hurricane Ivan in 2004. The National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA) also reports that 2,641 roofs have been damaged, of which the majority are in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Patrick, and 167 families are homeless. There is a need for plastic sheeting, not only for the roofs damaged by Emily, but also for the many families affected by Ivan. Some families that suffered roof damage or loss by Ivan were still using plastic sheeting when Emily hit, and therefore have lost this protection. Thirty Red Cross volunteers and staff members were dispatched to assess the most vulnerable parishes. The Grenada Red Cross Society's focus will be on distributing materials and on providing psychosocial support, for which experts are already available as a result of training received in response to Hurricane Ivan. A Federation disaster management delegate arrived in Grenada on Saturday, 16 July, to support assessment and response activities and has now been deployed to Haiti.

In the other Windward Island countries affected by Hurricane Emily, there appear to be at this time only minimal needs and these are being addressed by their respective governments and Red Cross Societies. In **St. Vincent and the Grenadines**, initial damage and needs assessment indicated that 11 houses lost their roofs: seven on the main island of St. Vincent, one in Cannau and three in Union. In total, 530 people were evacuated to 31 shelters in the country. A Federation disaster management delegate was pre-deployed to Saint Vincent on Wednesday, 13 July, to support assessment and response activities. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, a rapid nationwide assessment was conducted on 14 July. There were no casualties as a result of Hurricane Emily. In Tobago, two houses were destroyed and thirty suffered roof loss. In Trinidad, six houses suffered partial roof loss, and some 200 to 300 houses suffered flood damage. Several roads were affected by localized flooding, but the water has now subsided. Several landslides were reported in Trinidad and North Tobago.

No needs are reported by the Netherlands Antilles of Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire.

Although Hurricane Emily had strengthened to category four status as it approached **Jamaica**, the storm passed far enough from the island to only cause tropical storm conditions. It has been reported that this hurricane had a lesser impact on the country than its predecessor, Dennis. It has been confirmed that the passage of Hurricane Emily caused flooding in 65 communities in 8 parishes across the island, with the main areas of impact being Manchester and St. Elizabeth. The aerial reconnaissance conducted by the Rapid Damage Assessment Team confirmed that these are the areas with the most damage. Approximately 3,594 persons occupied 108 shelters at the height of the storm, however, the majority of these shelters are now closed.

Throughout the storm and in its aftermath, the Jamaica Red Cross (JRC) remained in communication with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), while the Red Cross branches maintained the parish-level communication with the Parish Disaster Committees.

**The Cayman Islands** experienced tropical storm conditions as a result of Hurricane Emily, which passed to the south of the islands throughout the night of 16-17 July. Telephone and electricity services were not affected. The Cayman Islands Red Cross (CIRC) briefed its volunteers and distributed emergency supply kits prior to Emily's arrival. Approximately 700 people stayed in temporary shelters on Saturday night, 60 of whom were in Red Cross shelters. Red Cross First Aid volunteers were assigned to each shelter. Shelters began closing on Sunday, 17 July, as people returned to their homes. Following Emily's passage, the CRIC has begun to deploy damage assessment teams; there has been no major damage reported.

**Haiti** experienced heavy rains with the passage of Emily, resulting in extensive flooding in the coastal city of Saint Marc in Bas Artibonite and surrounding areas. A representative of the Haitian National Red Cross Society

(HNRCS) and the Federation, together with the French Red Cross, conducted a damage and needs assessment of the affected area on Sunday, 17 July. The assessments indicated that five people are dead (four of whom are infants), one person is missing, and thirty children are injured. Further information provided by the United Nations indicates that in Les Cayes, in the south of the country, Emily resulted in one death and a total of 37 houses were destroyed, 48 were severely damaged and 65 slightly damaged.

On Monday, 18 July, Emily, then a category four storm, battered the Yucatan peninsula of *Mexico* with winds of 135km/h (84mph). In anticipation of the storm, approximately 60,000 tourists were evacuated from the tourist areas on the peninsula, such as Tulum, Playa del Carmen and Cozumel; this included 30,000 people who entered temporary shelters in Cancun. The Mexican Red Cross (MRC) had begun to preposition materials, volunteers and support equipment in the state of Quintana Roo on Saturday, 16 July; including 38 tons of material, 6 transportation units, a communications unit, and 20 members of the National Rapid Intervention Unit. Furthermore, the MRC deployed its National Disaster Operations Coordinator to coordinate preparedness and response activities. After crossing the Gulf of Mexico, Emily re-entered Mexico on Wednesday morning, 20 July, in the state of Tamaulipas, 50km (30m) south of the Texas border. The storm, then with winds of 200km/h (125mph), brought down trees and power lines. No casualties have been reported. Prior to Emily's arrival, the authorities had carried out preventative evacuations, and the country's Disaster Fund and Plan was activated. MRC national headquarters supported the branches' actions, including the distribution of materials that had been pre-positioned in both affected areas. The MRC Merida branch was given the responsibility of coordinating damage assessment for the state. The Mexican Red Cross has confirmed that the National Society does not require international assistance from the Federation to meet the needs of those affected by Hurricane Emily.

## Operational developments

Hurricanes Dennis and Emily, arriving early in the Hurricane season, have tested the preparedness of the National Societies. In particular, in the cases of Grenada and Jamaica, lessons learned from Hurricane Ivan have been integrated into preparedness and response measures, resulting in efficient assistance to those in need.

The Pan American Disaster Response Unit has organized two airlifts of relief materials to Grenada, the first of which arrived on Saturday, 16 July, and the second on Monday, 18 July. The first contained 950 hygiene kits, 1,705 pieces of plastic sheeting, 950 jerry cans (10 litres) 50 first aid kits, 100 raincoats (for volunteers) and 100 pairs of rubber boots (for volunteers). The second airlift contained 1,000 hygiene kits, 2,590 pieces of plastic sheeting and 1,000 jerry cans (10 litres). In anticipation of the passage of Hurricane Emily, PADRU pre-deployed relief materials by airlift to Jamaica, which arrived on 10 July. The airlift contained 750 hygiene kits, 664 kitchen sets, 750 plastic buckets, 1,500 plastic sheets, and 25 family tents. Following this, an ocean freight shipment of relief supplies was sent to Jamaica and arrived on Monday, 18 July. This shipment contained 750 blankets, 86 kitchen sets and 6,077 sleeping mats.

A relief airlift reached Haiti on 21 July. The airlift contained 2,000 blankets, 1,000 hygiene kits, 1,000 kitchen sets, 4,995 pieces of laundry soap and 5,000 pieces of bathing soap. A disaster management delegate has been deployed to Haiti to support the Haitian National Red Cross Society and the Federation Delegation, and reached Port-au-Prince on 22 July.

In Jamaica, though the areas mostly affected by Emily are in the south of the island, some families in areas of Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew and Saint Catherine were still trying to recover from Hurricane Dennis when Hurricane Emily hit. This is the case in communities such as Riverhead in Saint Thomas and Somerset in Saint Andrew where there were incidences of landslides and homes which were totally destroyed. According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the fact that the two hurricanes hit within a period of nine days has complicated the assessment process.

## Red Cross action - objectives, progress, impact

### Grenada

#### Emergency relief (food and non-food):

**Objective 1:** 3,000 vulnerable families will have benefited from the provision of non-food items to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane. Of these families, 300 of the most vulnerable will be assisted through the provision of food items.

#### Progress/Achievements:

The distribution of relief materials in Grenada is progressing well. To date, the GRCS has distributed 2,202 hygiene kits, and 114 blankets. As well, 14 garbage bags have been distributed to families at the shelter in St. Andrew, to help facilitate their clean up after the storm.

Distributions have taken place, as follows:

DATE	PARISH	VILLAGES	HYGIENE KITS	BLANKETS	GARGAGE BAGS
17 July	ST. ANDREW	MUNICH/MAMMA CANNES/GRAND BACOLET	100		
		MARQUIS/SOUBISE/GRAND BRAS/GRENVILLE	100		
		TELESCOPE/PARADISE/PEARLS/SIMON	100		
		CONFERENCE/LA POTERIE/CARRIERE/TIVOLI	100		
		UNION/POST ROYAL/DE BLANDEAU/LA DIGUE	100		
		*DISASTER SHELTER	16	114	14
	ST. PATRICK	HERMITAGE/BELMONT/SNELL HALL/MT. RICH	181		
		ROSE HILL/PLAINS/MT. FENDUE/MADEYS/MARLI/MT. CRAVEN/MT. RODNEY	100		
		MT. ROSE/LA TA STE/POINTZ FIELD/RIVER SALLE	100		
19 July	ST. ANDREW	MUNICH/MAMMA CANNES/MT. CARMEL/MT. FANN/GRAND BACOLET	100		
		VILLA SOUBISE/GRENVILLE	100		
		DUNFERMLINE/PEARLS/MOYAH	100		
		BELAIR/TIVOLI/LA POTERIE	75		
		BELLE VUE/PLEASANCE/DE BLANDEAU	100		
	ST. PATRICK	MT. RICH/CHANTIMELE/LEVERA/JON-JON/SAUTEURS	100		
	CARRIACOU		80		
20 July	ST. ANDREW		100		
	ST.DAVID		50		
	ST. GEORGE		100		
	ST. JOHN		50		
	ST. MARK		50		
22 July	ST. ANDREW		100		
	ST. GEORGE		100		
	ST. JOHN		10		
	ST. MARK		50		
	CARRIACOU & PETIT MARTINIQUE		40		
Total			2,202	114	14

#### Impact:

The distribution of hygiene kits and blankets has helped those families whose personal belongings were lost in the Hurricane. The relief material has been particularly important for those families who are still seeking refuge in the shelter in St. Andrew.

**Objective 2:** 3,000 families in Grenada will be able to return home as a result of the provision of temporary shelter materials.

**Progress/Achievements:**

The National Society completed a further assessment of Saint David, Saint John and Saint Mark; beneficiaries are using the plastic sheeting provided and are in the process of rebuilding their homes. Approximately 4,155 pieces of plastic sheeting have been distributed by the National Society to date.

Distributions have taken place, as follows:

DATE	PARISH	VILLAGES	PLASTIC SHEETING
17 July	ST. ANDREW	MUNICH/MAMMA CANNES/GRAND BACOLET	100
		MARQUIS/SOUBISE/GRAND BRAS/GRENVILLE	180
		TELESCOPE / PARADISE / PEARLS / SIMON	200
		CONFERENCE / LA POTERIE / CARRIERE / TIVOLI	200
		UNION / POST ROYAL / DE BLANDEAU / LA DIGUE	200
	ST. PATRICK	HERMITAGE / BELMONT / SNELL HALL / MT. RICH	225
		ROSE HILL / PLAINS / MT. FENDUE / MADEYS / MARLI / MT. CRAVEN / MT. RODNEY	230
		MT. ROSE / LA TA STE / POINTZ FIELD / RIVER SALLE	200
19 July	ST. ANDREW	MUNICH/MAMMA CANNES /MT. CARMEL / MT. FANN / GRAND BACOLET	100
		VILLA SOUBISE / GRENVILLE	100
		DUNFERMLINE / PEARLS / MOYAH	160
		BELAIR / TIVOLI / LA POTERIE	200
		BELLE VUE / PLEASANCE / DE BLANDEAU	100
	ST. PATRICK	MT. RICH / CHANTIMELLE / LEVERA / JON-JON / SAUTEURS	180
	CARRIACOU		500
20 July	ST. ANDREW		270
	ST. DAVID		100
	ST. GEORGE		200
	ST. JOHN		100
	ST. MARK		100
22 July	ST. ANDREW		150
	ST. GEORGE		115
	ST. JOHN		75
	ST. MARK		70
	CARRIACOU & PETIT MARTINIQUE		100
<b>Total</b>			<b>4,155</b>

**Impact:**

The provision of plastic sheeting is helping to ensure that families are able to leave shelters and return to their homes. As the rainy season continues in Grenada, the distribution of plastic sheeting is protecting people and their belongings from further damage. Many of the people affected were those whose houses were damaged by Hurricane Ivan and who have not yet recovered.

**Objective 3:** The water and sanitation needs of 3,000 families in Grenada have been assessed and a plan has been developed to deliver assistance in this sector. The assistance will include the distribution of 3,000 collapsible jerry cans.

**Progress/Achievements:**

1,500 litres of water have been distributed in shelters by GRCS volunteers. In addition, 968 jerry cans have been distributed, nearly half of which have been provided to families who have been forced to remain in a temporary shelter in St. Andrew. Further water and sanitation needs will be addressed as soon as emergency relief distributions have been completed.

DATE	PARISH	VILLAGES	JERRY CANS
17 July	ST. ANDREW	* DISASTER SHELTER	459
19 July	ST. ANDREW	MUNICH/MAMMA CANNES /MT. CARMEL / MT. FANN / GRAND BACOLET	50
		VILLA SOUBISE / GRENVILLE	50
		BELAIR / TIVOLI / LA POTERIE	59

	ST. PATRICK	MT. RICH/CHANTIMELLE/LEVERA/JON-JON/SAUTEURS	100
20 July	ST. ANDREW		50
	ST.DAVID		25
	ST. GEORGE		50
	ST. JOHN		50
	ST. MARK		50
22 July	ST. MARK		25
<b>Total</b>			<b>968</b>

**Objective 4:** The first aid needs of the most vulnerable internally displaced people will have been addressed.

#### **Progress/Achievements:**

First aid volunteers continue to visit shelters to monitor the health and sanitation situation in cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Grenada.

#### **Psychosocial Support**

**Objective 5:** Persons in shelters and those who have been adversely affected by the hurricanes will have benefited from the provision of psychosocial support.

#### **Activities planned to reach this objective:**

The GRCS is providing psychosocial support to those affected by the storm. The focus for this assistance will be those in temporary shelters. The GRCS held a meeting on Friday, 22 July with representatives of the Ministry of Social Services with a view to determining support to beneficiaries in psychosocial support.

#### **Constraints:**

There are no significant constraints to report. The emergency phase of the operation is progressing well, particularly as lessons learned from the Hurricane Ivan operation have been integrated into National Society contingency and response planning.

#### **Haiti**

##### **Emergency relief (non-food)**

**Objective 1:** 800 vulnerable families (4,000 people) that were affected by Hurricane Dennis will have benefited from the distribution of relief items.

#### **Progress/Achievements**

Following assessments by the Civil Protection with the participation of the Red Cross, it is planned that 800 hygiene family kits, 800 blankets, 1,600 pieces of bath soap and 1,600 pieces of laundry soap will be distributed to those affected by Hurricane Dennis, as follows:

- Grand Anse Department: 300 families in "Bonne gent" area.
- Ouest Department: 300 families in Petit Goâves and Grand Goâves.
- Sud Ouest Department: 200 families in Bainet and Côtes de Fer.

**Objective 2:** 1,000 families (5,000 people) will have benefited from the distribution of non food items to assist them in recovering from the effects of Hurricane Emily.

As many as 835 families in the area of Saint Marc and surroundings have suffered damage to their personal belongings, and some to their homes. In addition, latrines have filled and been blocked with water and refuse. The area has also experienced loss to agriculture and livestock. The needs identified as a result of this flooding include: hygiene kits, kitchen sets, blankets, school supplies and mattresses and there may also be needs related to water and sanitation.

Following an assessment mission carried out by the MINUSTAH, the regional office of the Catholic Relief Services in Les Cayes, the UNDP and the Civil Protection, and coordination between the national authorities, the

UN and NGOs working in Haiti, the Haitian National Red Cross Society will provide assistance to 800 families in Saint Marc, 150 families in Les Anglais and 50 families in Tiburon in the South of the country. In Saint Marc 800 kitchen sets, 800 blankets and 2,400 pieces of bath and laundry soap will be distributed, whilst in Tiburon and Les Anglais, beneficiaries will receive kitchen sets, hygiene kits, blankets, bath and laundry soap – in Les Anglais and Tiburon 4 pieces of bath and laundry soap will be provided per family.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society, with the support of the Federation, has defined a distribution plan in Saint Marc and identified beneficiaries who were issued with beneficiary cards on 22 July. Distributions will take place at the headquarters of the regional branch and at the General Hospital. An airlift reached Port-au-Prince on Thursday, 21 July and goods have been cleared and transferred to the HNRCS warehouse. Distributions are planned to begin in Saint Marc today, Monday, 25 July. A second team is leaving today, 25 July to the affected area of Les Anglais and Tiburon in order to reach these hard-hit communities. A Disaster Management Delegate from PADRU reached Port-au-Prince on Friday, 22 July and is coordinating the relief operation with the country delegation and the National Society.

#### **Impact:**

The immediate relief needs of 1,800 families will have been met through these distributions. The telecommunications network established in 2004 with the cooperation of the ICRC and with ECHO funding is helping to ensure communications between the Headquarters and the branches, although this needs to be reinforced.

#### **Constraints:**

Conditions continue to be difficult in Haiti given the security situation and the lack of human resources in the field. The Federation's Logistics Delegate has been nominated as focal point for disaster management given that it has not yet been possible to identify a Disaster Management Delegate. The National Society is currently recruiting a Disaster Management Director in order to strengthen its capacity in disaster preparedness and response.

#### **Jamaica**

##### **Emergency relief (food and non-food)**

**Objective 1:** 1,000 vulnerable families (5,000 people) will have benefited from the provision of food and non-food relief items to assist them in recovering from the hurricane.

##### **Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

The centre of Hurricane Dennis passed over the north east of Jamaica causing heavy rains and triggering mudslides and substantial flooding and, as a result, thousands of people sought refuge in shelters. The parishes which were most affected are Saint Thomas, Saint Catherine, Portland, Saint Mary and Kingston and Saint Andrew. The passage of Hurricane Emily caused flooding in 65 communities in 8 parishes across the island, with the main areas of impact being Manchester, Saint Elizabeth and Trelawny. Five deaths have been attributed to Hurricane Emily in Warmiston, Saint Elizabeth as a result of rising waters. Initial damage and needs assessments carried out by Red Cross branches indicate that some 556 families have been affected in these three parishes.

The Jamaica Red Cross seeks to assist 1,000 families through the provision of food and non-food items. Relief goods include hygiene kits, kitchen sets, plastic sheeting and blankets.

To date, the following items have been distributed, as below:

<b>Items Distributed</b>	<b>Clarendon</b>	<b>Manchester</b>	<b>Saint Elizabeth</b>	<b>Trelawny</b>	<b>Saint Thomas</b>	<b>Portland</b>	<b>Kingston &amp; St. Andrew</b>	<b>Total</b>
Blankets		50	30	30	210	150		<b>470</b>
Hygiene kits	55	260	205	5	16			<b>541</b>
Kitchen kits	75	235	275	10		25		<b>620</b>
Plastic sheeting	120	140	105	20	220	100	30	<b>735</b>
Jerry cans	20	10	170	25	200	100		<b>525</b>
Buckets	50	200	200	10	2			<b>462</b>

Water-bottled			300		252	120	12	<b>684</b>
Beds	45	35	29		35	25	30	<b>199</b>
Bleach					90	45		<b>135</b>

In addition, a total of 1,443 food packages have been distributed.



*Food package being distributed in Wynters Pen, Saint Catherine containing: rice, sugar, flour, canned meat and fish, vegetables and juice.*

**Impact:**

The needs of 1,000 families are being met as a result of this assistance. Major needs are for food, bedding, water containers, kitchen kits and hygiene items. In several communities, residents are obliged to remove mud from the landslides which poured into their homes.

**Constraints:**

Transportation of relief items remains a challenge and is costly.



*A beneficiary’s kitchen filled with mud; the community is assisting with the clean-up, following which Red Cross assistance will be provided.*

## Psychosocial Support

**Objective 2: Persons in shelters and those who have been adversely affected by the hurricanes have benefited from the provision of psychosocial support.**

### Activities planned to reach this objective:

The Jamaica Red Cross mobilized its Disaster Mental Health Unit in order that clinical psychologists may provide counselling support to persons who were accommodated in shelters or were affected by the passage of Hurricanes Dennis and Emily. Members of the Disaster Mental Health Unit will make visits to Seaforth and Yallahs, Saint Thomas, within the next few days; the first psychological support session took place on 22 July. The Unit has also participated in several interviews aimed increasing awareness of the importance of psychosocial support.

### Constraints:

Although the effects of Hurricane Emily were not as severe as anticipated, the combined damage and suffering as a result of Hurricanes Dennis and Emily is a major challenge for response

## Federation Coordination

The Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit has coordination responsibility for the Federation for this operation; however, both the Port of Spain Sub Regional Office and the Panama Regional Delegation are monitoring the situation and providing support, as required.

In *Haiti* coordination is taking place on a regular basis between the Federation which has the lead role regarding natural disasters, the ICRC which is the lead agency in the country, Partner National Societies: the French, Netherlands, and Spanish Red Cross, OCHA and UN agencies as well as NGOs regarding response activities for Hurricanes Dennis and Emily. The HNRCS and the Federation form part of an emergency coordinating committee. An agreement as to assistance to be provided by the Red Cross has been reached through liaison with the national authorities, UN and NGO representatives working in Haiti. USAID has pledged assistance to affected fishermen in the South of the country through the provision of fishing equipment. In addition, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with ECHO funding, will provide seed and agricultural tools to assist farmers in recovering from the effects of the hurricanes.

In *Grenada*, the GRCS is working with the National Disaster Management Agency. In addition, the GRCS is working with Grenada's Coast Guard, to undertake damage and needs assessments and to distribute relief materials. The GRCS is working with the Ministry of Social Services in the area of psychosocial support and with the Ministry of Health regarding first aid needs.

In Jamaica, the Jamaica Red Cross continues to benefit from coordination with both local and international bodies. In a recent meeting of the Welfare Sub Committee at the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), the JRC was praised for the exemplary coordination of its branches. UNICEF has committed to support 250 families by funding a percentage of food costs, and the UNFPA has committed to providing 250 hygiene kits to affected families.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Relief activities being carried out are based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the vulnerability of those affected.
- Relief operations are being conducted with respect for the culture of the beneficiaries, ensuring gender sensitivity and prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is being ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal are in line with Strategy 2010, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.

### **National Society Capacity Building**

The capacity of the three National Societies involved in this operation will be strengthened as a result of the implementation of the operation. In particular, they will gain experience in logistics and distribution of relief goods.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

Through continued public and media relations it is hoped that the public will develop a better understanding of the mission of the Red Cross and the mandate of the Federation. As members of the International Federation, the National Societies seek to promote the Fundamental Principles in all activities and subsequently facilitate additional visibility of the Movement as a whole.

[\*Click here to return to the title page.\*](#)