

# Emergency appeal



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Caribbean: Tropical Storm Noel

Emergency Appeal no. MDR49002;  
GLIDE no. TC-000198-  
BHS/CUB/DOM/HTI;  
7 November 2007

This Revised Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 1,462,103 (USD 1.2m or EUR 873,941) in cash, kind, or services to assist 40,700 beneficiaries for 6 months. With this Revised Appeal the operation has been expanded to the Bahamas and Cuba, and adjustments made to the existing operations in the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

The affected countries' Red Cross Societies, with support from the International Federation, continue to carry out needs assessments and distribute vital relief items to the affected people. The main focus of this revised appeal is on the immediate provision of relief items and identifying the early recovery and rehabilitation activities. There is also a need for support to these Red Cross Societies in psychosocial support and other health activities including prevention of the spread of dengue.



Flooded areas in the Bahamas.  
Source: International Federation

### Appeal history:

- A total of 380,000 (USD 327,600 or EUR 227,209) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support this operation (CHF 230,000 for the Dominican Republic, and CHF 150,000 for Haiti).
- Preliminary Emergency Appeal launched on 1 November 2007 for CHF 785,000 (USD 677,308 or EUR 469,217) for 6 months to assist 15,000 beneficiaries in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- With this revision of 7 November 2007, the Appeal budget has been adjusted to CHF 1,462,103 (USD 1,261,521 or EUR 873,941) for 6 months to assist 41,125 beneficiaries (8,225 families).
- This operation is expected to be implemented over 6 months, and will therefore be completed by April 2008; a Final Report will be made available by August 2008 (three months after the end of the operation). [<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget; here to link to a map of the affected area; or here to view contact details>](#)

## The situation

The passage of the 14th named storm of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season, Tropical Storm Noel, caused floods and mudslides due to heavy rains in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Bahamas and the northern coast of Cuba.

Noel started as a Tropical depression then quickly transformed into a Tropical Storm on 28 October, making landfall on the island of Hispaniola on 29 October. Intense rains have continued falling since 27 October. The **Dominican Republic** is prone to both man-made and natural disasters due to its location and social and economic characteristics, and was hit particularly hard by the heavy rainfall and flooding that affected the entire country. Damage was inflicted nationwide, but was particularly extensive in the southern littoral region, the area south of the central mountain chain, and the Cibao valley. The northern region was also affected.

The National Meteorology Centre (Oficina Nacional de Meteorología - ONAMET) alerted the residents living in high risk provinces located in low zones along rivers and creeks. It issued flood and landslide warnings for the provinces of Azua, San Cristobal, Peravia, Independencia, Barahona, Pedernales, Espaillat, Salcedo, Duarte, Maria Trinidad Sanchez.

Several communities in the country reported flooding and emergency calls were received from various regions. Latest reports from the National Emergency Commission (Comision Nacional de Emergencias –CNE) indicate that 43,585 people have been affected. In addition, approximately 85 deaths are reported, and 48 people are reported missing. The majority of the casualties were reported in the province of San Cristobal, 30 km west from Santo Domingo. Serious damage was inflicted on houses and infrastructure: 16,024 houses have been damaged or destroyed and people are staying either in one of the shelters or with family and friends; At the time of writing, it is not clear how many shelters



**The International Federation and UNICEF performing relief distributions in Dominican Republic.**  
Source: International Federation

have been opened, but according to numbers of the DRC, there are over 221 shelters nationwide, located in churches, schools or community centres. 21 bridges and roads are either destroyed or impassable, which greatly affects the accessibility to various areas. The South-western part of the country remains cut off due to collapse of a key bridge on the main road west of the town of Bani.

Reports indicate that 95 percent of plantain, banana and tomato plantations have been damaged in the provinces of Azua and Peravia (Southern region). Roads are blocked in the province of San Jose de Ocoa and Monseñor Novel (municipality of Maimon) which makes it difficult for national authorities, Red Cross and other agencies present in the country to provide relief aid to the families affected by the floods. These figures are preliminary as many communities are still cut off, and will almost certainly increase significantly.

A United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination team (UNDAC) has been deployed, consisting of six members. Their priority task will be to help the Government and UNCT determine immediate needs and scale of support that will be required. They are assisted by two Telecom sans Frontiers (TSF) delegates. The Risk Emergency and Disaster for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC) group and the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) have held coordination meetings in order to prepare relief and recovery assistance. The Civil

Defence has started initial needs and damage assessments in coordination with the United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETE). US government representatives also announced arrival of an US Office of Foreign Affairs (OFDA) team and have agreed to coordinate assessments with UNDAC and UNCT.

In **Haiti**, at 8 a.m. on 29 October, the centre of Tropical Storm Noel hit west of Port-Au-Prince, the capitol. As it moved over the island, a red alert was activated in the Sud-Est, Sud, Grand Anse, Nippes, Ouest, Centre and Artibonite Departments. An orange alert was declared for Nord-Est, Nord and Nord-Ouest departments. The most affected provinces are Ouest, Sud, Sud Est, Artibonite and Nippes. According to the latest information, 42 deaths occurred in the Ouest and Sud provinces alone, with 16 people missing and 55 injured. Some 2,527 houses were destroyed and another 10,303 were damaged. Many of the most affected provinces had already been affected by the floods caused by heavy rainfall earlier in October. A total of 14,109 people sought shelter. The table below provides an overview of the situation (data provided by the Direction of Civil Protection):

Departments	Deaths	Missing	Injured	Affected families	People in shelter	Houses destroyed	Houses damaged
Ouest	29	11	74	3,836	3,422	922	2,914
Sud Est	8		6	1,253		460	793
Sud	13	3	6	4,424	8,159	573	3,841
Grande Anse	7	1	7	467	341	109	751
Nippes	2	1	1	1,390	10	347	1,043
Artibonite	5		9	250	2,177	12	240
Centre				3		2	5
Nord Est				10		10	
Nord	2		10	619		57	562
Nord Ouest			1	144		35	154
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>12,396</b>	<b>14,109</b>	<b>2,527</b>	<b>10,303</b>

Reports have made mention of floods due to rivers overflowing their banks cutting roads, damaging both revenue generating crops and subsistence crops. Cattle and other farm animals have drowned and drinking water has become contaminated; access to potable water is difficult. Rains are still falling and the stagnant waters are not receding yet. The constant rains over the past few months have saturated the soil, making it now very weak and with hardly any strong root system to hold the soil. There have been some small landslides. Access to certain areas in the Nippes and Artibonite Provinces has been hindered by roads being washed away or blocked by running debris from the waters.

Shelters are being opened, but there is a lack of shelter management and capacity in this region. The metropolitan area of Cite Soleil opened at least seven shelters. The Civil Protection, the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS), with support from the Federation (in the form of 2 Regional Intervention Teams, or RIT, persons), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations and other non-governmental agencies are providing support to these shelters. The United Nations offices in Haiti (Mission des Nations Unies



**Flooded house due to Noel in the Granma Province, Cuba. Source: ACN**

pour la Stabilisation den Haiti – MINUSTAH), the Civil Protection and the HNRCS have evacuated people from the affected areas.

Since 27 September precipitation levels have been elevated in several eastern provinces in **Cuba**. On 29 October, Tropical Storm Noel caused the accumulated rain to surpass historic records of precipitation received in the country. The provinces of Guantanamo, Granma, Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, Las Tunas and Camaguey were deeply affected by the intense rain and floods.

According to preliminary reports, 34,219 people are evacuated of which 8,849 people are in shelters and 24,910 people with friends and family. A total of 190 temporary shelters were opened. Some 3,962 houses were affected, 319 of which were totally destroyed by mudslides while 737 suffered partial damage due to the intense rain and overflowing rivers. Many people lost items such as mattresses, clothes and electric devices due to landslides and floods. In all the provinces affected by Noel, rescue teams from local authorities have assisted more than 17,000 people. Unlike Haiti and Dominican Republic, no deaths were reported.

Tropical storm Noel left thousands of hectares of sugar cane under water in eastern and central Cuba and seriously damaged infrastructure. Extensive cane areas were also flooded in eastern Santiago de Cuba and Granma provinces, as well as the central provinces of Camaguey and Ciego de Avila. Thousands of miles of secondary roads and rails used by industry were washed out, while damage to major roads and rails left much of the area without adequate supplies of fuel and food. Bridges as well as the main roads in the province of Guantanamo were blocked. The overflowed rivers of Contramaestre and Mogotesa impede access to the main city and other areas in Sierra Maestra in the province of Santiago de Cuba.

On 30 October, Tropical Storm Noel dropped approximately ten inches of rain on several of the islands in the **Bahamas**, causing massive flooding. On 2 November, Tropical Storm Noel transformed into a category 1 hurricane while over northwestern Bahamas. More than 15 inches of rain flooded several islands in the Bahamas. Long Island is the most affected and reported having flood water up to 5 feet deep, affecting approximately 3,500 people. In Cat Island, residents in low-lying areas were evacuated and at least 2,000 people were directly affected as well as 1,500 in Exuma Island. Abaco is also believed to be greatly affected, but information continues to be limited. Ten shelters were opened in New Providence due to floods reported in several areas of the island in the first days after the passage of Noel. The international airport in New Providence was closed on 1 November, but reopened mid-day on 2 November. Airports on most of the island are still not open due to the water levels, with the exception of one airport on Long Island. Access to the communities continues to be a major challenge as the water levels have not receded in some areas and on some islands docks are still not open. It is expected that most docks will be accessible by 7 November. The National Emergency Management Agency has reported that damage assessment teams were deployed over the weekend of 2 November and reports are being compiled. There has been significant damage to the road network on some of the islands due to the flooding but this cannot be fully assessed until the water has receded. Electricity has still not been restored to many areas. Homes that were completely submerged will be assessed after they have been dried out. Telecommunications, although sporadic, is available to all islands at this time, but not to all communities. There is one confirmed death reportedly by drowning on the Island of Exuma.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

A total of CHF 480,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF); 230,000 for the Dominican Republic, CHF 150,000 for Haiti and CHF 100,000 for the Bahamas.

Since the onset of the emergency, the **Dominican Red Cross (DRC)** has activated their search and rescue teams and their National Intervention Teams (NIT) to perform rescue activities and assess the needs and damages. More than 5,000 volunteers have been mobilized nationwide providing search and rescue activities, evacuating people to temporary shelters and distributing relief items. The DRC is focusing on the distribution of relief items to the affected population, specifically those in shelters, while initial evaluations and beneficiary lists are completed.

To date, 794 families have benefited from the distribution of non-food items such as hygiene kits, kitchen kits and jerry cans (supplies sent by the Pan American Disaster Response Unit – PADRU). Additionally, the World Food Programme (WFP) has donated food parcels and UNICEF has donated food parcels for children under five years of age, drinking water and other basic relief items. A total of 160,000 litres of water have been distributed in the province of Monseñor Nouel and in several shelters in the municipality of Bonao by using water tanker trucks that disposed the water. Other international agencies are supporting relief activities.

For water and sanitation activities, water tanks are being distributed as well as purification tablets. DRC personnel from the Dominican Teams for Water and Sanitation (Equipos Dominicanos de Agua y Saneamiento – EDAS) along with personnel from the Spanish Red Cross have prepared five mobile water treatment plants and have identified two areas where to install them (San Jose de Ocoa and Bohechio).

The Spanish Red Cross has sent two additional water treatment plants along with two specialists in water and sanitation and an information officer. The three delegates in the Spanish Red Cross delegation office are assisting with the emergency.



A flooded house due to Noel in the Dominican Republic.  
Source: Spanish Red Cross

PADRU has activated a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) alert in order to support relief activities solicited by the DRC. Two PADRU Disaster Management delegates have been deployed to help coordinate response and relief activities. In addition, an IT & Telecom delegate present in Haiti contributed to relief activities. As a result, the DRC developed a Preliminary Plan of Action to assist 2,000 families based on the preliminary assessments. However, as new data has become available through the ongoing assessments, the DRC plan of action is being revised and expanded, both to include more affected families and additional sectors of intervention. Also, the Federation's focal point for Shelter in the Americas was deployed to support the national society (if required) in its role of informal shelter coordination on the island.

A German Red Cross representative is also identifying possible needs and support due to the emergency and the German Red Cross will support the emergency operation through the distribution of non food relief (such as blankets and buckets) and food items for 1,000 families (5,000 people).

In addition, the Spanish Red Cross has applied for ECHO-funding to contribute to the DRC Plan of Action, particularly in the area of water and sanitation to support the distribution of relief supplies.

The Coordination Centre is in permanent alert and a crisis room has been set up with personnel working 24 hour shifts. Meetings have been held with the National Emergency Centre and the Crisis Management Room for the processing of information from the field. The DRC is managing all the information provided by their radio communication department, the Emergency Operation Centre and the National Centre of Meteorology. All local branches are monitoring the events and reporting need and damage assessments to the crisis room.

During the floods caused by heavy rains in October, the **Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)** participated in pre-alert activities together with the Civil Protection Agency carrying out evacuation activities and distributing food items to temporary shelters. Damage and needs assessments were carried out and identified the immediate needs for relief operations.

To date, the HNRCS has distributed 211 kitchen kits, 196 hygiene kits, 300 mattresses, 397 jerry cans (10 litre collapsible), 890 units of water, 65 units of milk in the Ouest province and in the metropolitan areas surrounding Port-au-Prince (Cite Soleil Tabarre, Croix des Bouquets, Carrefour, Ganthier). A total of 780 families in shelters have received assistance in the form of 492 blankets, 200 sheets, 400 units of soap and laundry soap as well as with cleaning kits. Through donations from local and private donors, items such as clothes and warm meals have also been distributed. More distributions are expected in the coming days with blankets, mattresses, kitchen kits, jerry cans, buckets and purification tablets in Cite Soleil in the Ouest, Sud-Est, Bas-Artibonite provinces.

The HNRCS has activated over 150 volunteers who are working in shelter coordination, evacuation and distribution activities. Partner National Societies (PNS), the International Federation and the ICRC are working together to support these activities with technical expertise such as water and sanitation and logistics personnel, vehicles and fuel. Contacts have been made with other NGO's who provide support in water and sanitation, food and health to coordinate activities. On 27 October, HNRCS local branches in the Southern peninsula mobilized their volunteers and activated their high frequency radio network. Assessment reports are being communicated to the HNRCS headquarters through this system.

The HNRCS has developed a Plan of Action that aims to provide 1,000 families with basic non-food items in the most affected areas of Ouest (70 families), Cite du Soleil (640 families), Damien (85 families) and Tabarre (35 families). The HNRCS is currently responding to the Hurricane Dean operation with support from the Federation.

Ever since it became clear that Noel was headed **for Cuba**, the National Coordinating Committee for disasters and their province and municipal branches were activated, especially in the eastern regions which were Noel first hit. Volunteers were dispatched to various Civil Defense branches and fire stations mobilizing a total of 1,688 volunteers participating in evacuation of people from high risk areas to safer areas prioritizing families who live in low level lands. The **Cuban Red Cross (CRC)** was in charge of all the temporary shelters opened in the different areas distributing food items, providing first aid care, psychological support and special care for pregnant women, children, elderly and disabled people. The CRC has developed a plan of action that will benefit 2,000 families affected by Noel.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS)** has been actively responding to the crisis caused by the hurricane. Volunteers have been supporting relief activities in shelters, evacuating people in the affected regions and performing initial assessments. Ground officers and assessment teams were deployed to conduct preliminary assessments in New Providence as well. Volunteers and members of the Disaster Preparedness Committee assisted in the ten shelters in New Providence with first aid stations and other requested support. Radio contact was established with Long Island, Eleuthera and San Salvador. The BRCS has dispatched relief items from their warehouse to Long Island including 100 blankets, 192 hygiene kits and supplementary one-week food kits for approximately 50 families.

## The proposed operation

This Revised Emergency Appeal seeks to support response activities in the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti.

### Objectives and activities planned

#### **Emergency relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)**

**Objective 1: 8,225 families (some 40,700 beneficiaries<sup>1</sup>) will benefit from the provision of relief items to recover from the effects of recent floods and effects from Tropical Storm Noel (425 families in the Bahamas, 4,800 families in Cuba, 2,000 families in Dominican Republic and 1,000 in Haiti).**

<sup>1</sup> Figure based on a calculation of a 4-person family in the Bahamas, and a 5-person family elsewhere.

In the Bahamas, 425 families (2,120 beneficiaries) on Abaco, Cat Island, Exuma, Long Island and Andros Island will benefit from the provision of non-food and food relief items to recover from the effects of the floods.

The BRCS will distribute 425 food parcel and 425 hygiene kits to the most vulnerable populations on the islands. The Bahamas Red Cross Society is currently identifying vendors according to the International Federation's procurement standards. Food parcels will be procured locally, therefore they will contain culturally appropriate basic staple foods including sardines, tuna, flour, rice, grits, sugar, cereal, salt, canned milk, canned meals and corned beef. Vendors are currently being identified, and logistics support is being coordinated with partner agencies.

In Cuba, 2,000 families will receive zinc roofing to rebuild their roof tops for their houses. Some 2,800 families who lost their basic items will benefit from the following relief items (PADRU-supplied stocks):

- Sheets.
- Towels.
- Mosquito nets.
- Hygiene kits.
- Jerry cans.
- Bladder tanks (20 gallon).
- Kitchen sets.
- Mattresses.

The following Cuban provinces represent those where beneficiaries will receive relief support:

Provinces
Ciego de Avila
Camaguey
Las Tunas
Holguin
Granma
Santiago de Cuba
Guantanamo

In the Dominican Republic, the DRC's plan of action will provide 2,000 affected families with the following relief items:

Items	Quantities
Food parcels	2,000 (1 per family)
Hygiene kits	2,000 (1 per a family of five)
Kitchen kits	2,000 (1 per family)
Jerry cans	4,000 (2 per family)
Mosquito nets	4,000 (2 per family)
Tarpaulins	4,000 (2 per family)

To date, 794 families have received hygiene kits, kitchen kits, mosquito nets, milk, jerry cans, clothes and cookies. Future distributions for 1,100 families have been programmed for 6 to 11 November in the temporary shelters of San Juan, San Cristobal and Azua.

In Haiti, HNRCS stocks will be replenished with relief items to benefit 1,000 families (5,000 beneficiaries):

Relief Item	Quantity per family	Provinces
Blankets	2,000 (2 per family)	Ouest: 70 families Cite du soleil: 640 families
Hygiene kits	1,000 ( 1 per family)	

Kitchen kits	1,000 ( 1 per family)	Damien: 85 families Tabarre: 35 families Sud Est: 100 families Artibonite: 70 families
Buckets	2,000 ( 2 per family)	
Jerry cans	2,000( 2 per family)	
Mosquito nets	2,000 ( 2 per family)	

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama released and is facilitating the delivery (by boat) of the relief items. The HNRCS will proceed with distribution as soon as they arrive in the upcoming week. To date, 211 kitchen kits, 196 hygiene kits, 300 mattresses, 397 jerry cans (10 litre collapsible), 890 units of water, 65 units of milk have been delivered in the Ouest province and in the metropolitan areas surrounding Port-au-Prince (Cite Soleil Tabarre, Croix des Bouquets, Carrefour, Ganthier).

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Identification and registration of the most vulnerable families with special emphasis on gender inequities and disability conditions.
- Coordination with national, regional, provincial and local authorities.
- Warehousing, dispatch and transportation of relief items from local headquarters to the final destinations.
- Regular detailed reporting on the distribution.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

Constraints: The constraints that have been encountered so far in the implementation of the relief activities in the four countries are related to accessibility difficulties. On the one hand, needs assessments are difficult to carry out, as water levels have not receded yet. On the other hand, transport to and from the affected countries and areas is difficult. In the Bahamas, the airports are still closed; in the other countries, infrastructure has been badly hit and this makes it hard to respond to the needs of the affected families.

## Health

In order to facilitate medical health care to the affected communities, the DRC has included a health objective in its Plan of Action. The other National Societies included in this appeal will be encouraged to develop and implement similar health care activities to the affected population.

### **Objective 1: The affected communities will benefit from basic medical care provided by Dominican Red Cross medical brigades.**

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Coordination of activities with the National Secretary of Public Health (Secretaria de Estado de Salud Publica y Asistencia Social, SESPAS).
- Identification of shelters where medical assistance will be provided.
- Prioritization and identification of beneficiaries (children, women, elderly).
- Organization and support to SESPAS medical brigades.

Further assessments need to be completed by the BRCS, HNRCS and other external actors in order to describe a health objective. The CRC indicated no major health facilities were damaged.

### **Objective 2: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.**

The DRC has mobilized their psychosocial support team to the most affected areas in order to provide assistance to the people, especially children and women, who have been affected by the floods. The team will evaluate the needs of the affected population in order to identify the exact requirements of the operation.

Currently, a team of four psychologists is providing assistance in the shelters, through information and psychosocial activities.

### **Objective 3: The affected communities and people in shelters will have access to potable water for consumption and will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.**

Activities planned in the Dominican Republic to reach this objective are:

- Need and damage assessments including basic sanitation activities.
- Mobilization of six water and sanitation teams.
- Identification of communities most affected and shelters available.
- Identification of beneficiaries in coordination with SESPAS and the National Institute of Potable Water (Instituto Nacional de Agua Potable, INAPA).
- Agreements with local authorities for water supply.
- Water and sanitation activities.
- Training workshops in water sanitation for all DRC volunteers.
- Storing and distribution of drinking water to shelters and affected communities.
- Health awareness campaigns.

Further assessments need to be completed by the HNRCS and other external actors in order to illustrate the need for a water and sanitation campaign. No needs have been identified in Bahamas and Cuba.

Progress: Members of the Distribution Team for Water and Sanitation (Equipos de Distribucion de Agua y Saneamiento, EDAS) and two delegates from the Spanish Red Cross have installed one water treatment plant benefiting 4,000 people in the province of San Juan de la Maguana. Up to date, some 160,000 litres of drinking water has been supplied to various communities. Further plans for water and sanitation support to assist 25,000 beneficiaries are planned by the DRC and the Federation (funded by ECHO).

### Shelter

**Objective 1: The Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) will provide support for the displaced people housed in shelters.**

The HNRCS in coordination with the Direction of the Civil Protection is providing the population in shelters with non food items. The DRC is also providing health support to those in need, and assistance in shelters while taking on an informal shelter coordination role. The Bahamas and Cuban Red Cross will not be implementing shelter activities,

### Strengthening of Capacities

**Objective 1: The capacity of the Cuban Red Cross and their local branches will be strengthened.**

Activities to reach this objective:

- Volunteers will receive visibility equipment according to established standards (shirts, caps, flags, Id's).
- Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office.
- Support the development of a disaster preparedness program in all local branches in the affected provinces.

The Bahamas, Dominican and Haitian National Societies will look into appropriate capacity building activities, and will consider how to strengthen volunteer capacity and preparedness for future response based on the experience of this operation.

### Early recovery

**Objective 1: Early recovery activities are assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.**

Relief assessments will seek to determine early recovery needs. A key element of early response will be to seek feedback from affected communities on the appropriateness of relief items being provided, and to seek their input on participatory needs assessments.

### Federation Coordination

The Federation's PADRU is in close contact with the Federation's Caribbean Regional Representation in Trinidad and Tobago, Partner National Societies (PNS) from France, Germany, Norway, Spain and the United States. Several of the PNS have expressed interest in supporting the relief and recovery activities.

PADRU is also in close contact with the National Societies in the affected countries of the Bahamas, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The Red Cross National Societies are in close contact with their respective national disaster response agencies.

Coordination meetings have been taking place between the Federation, OCHA, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and several PNS present in Dominican Republic and Haiti.

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in coordination with PADRU will be dispatching an airplane with relief items for 2,000 families to Dominican Republic. PADRU has established High Frequency (HF) radio contact with the involved National Societies in order to ensure frequent and accurate communications, information sharing, and to monitor the situation. PADRU has deployed two Disaster Management (DM) delegates to the Dominican Republic, one delegate to the Bahamas, as well as one person to provide support on shelter coordination as required. Two RIT members are already positioned in Haiti providing immediate support. Additional PADRU personnel and RIT members will be deployed as the situation requires.

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

In the planned operation, the activities to be carried out in relief provision, psychosocial support and National Society capacity building are based upon the principle of humanity.

The selection of people who will be supported by the Appeal is based on the level of vulnerability of those affected, respecting cultural diversity and ensuring gender sensitivity. Activities planned for this appeal are based on SPHERE standards, the humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response. 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.

The International Federation strongly supports the rights-based approach for people affected by disasters, and participatory needs assessment will be planned to define the contents of early recovery support measures. This will be included in the next appeal revision.

### **National Society Capacity Building**

During the pre-hurricane meeting that took place in Panama from 14 to 17 May 2007, National Societies from countries prone to hurricanes in the Americas, including the four countries of this Appeal, participated actively in the development of a contingency plan for the region. The development of the regional contingency plan helped explore disaster preparedness tools, available capacities within the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, which provided participants with hands-on practice.

The Bahaman, Cuban, Dominican and Haitian Red Cross Societies and their volunteers' capacities have been strengthened through their participation in providing humanitarian assistance during these relief operations

In general, the National Societies affected by tropical storm Noel have broad experience in disaster response, particularly as a result of the lessons learnt from past operations. They were well prepared with pre-positioned stocks, radio networks, trained personnel and pre and post emergency coordination meetings. All the involved National Societies sit in the National Emergency Operations Centre and have specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

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

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promoting greater quality, accountability, and transparency. There has been close coordination and support to the NS to increase the visibility of their actions in regards to the communication through PADRU, the Caribbean Regional Representation Office in Trinidad and the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

Regular situation reports have been issued by Red Cross National Societies through the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) on the global International Federation website, and media pieces are also available on the Federation's public website. Several short articles have been issued in order to develop a better understanding of the mission of

International Federation of the Red Cross and the activities the organization undertakes in serving affected communities. In the same line, local and international media were provided with interviews directly from the involved National Societies.

Thomas Gurtner  
Director  
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Markku Niskala  
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## How we work

*All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

## Contact information

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

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- In Geneva: Christine South, Operations Coordinator, e-mail [Christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:Christine.south@ifrc.org); phone (41 22) 730 4529; or Carmen Corminboeuf, Officer Management Support Team; e-mail [Carmen.Corminboeuf@ifrc.org](mailto:Carmen.Corminboeuf@ifrc.org); phone (41 22) 730 42 78; Fax (41 22) 733 03 95.

**[<Revised Emergency Appeal budget, contributions list and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)**

**APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY**  
**TROPICAL STORM NOEL**

Annex

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
Shelter	56,536	55,957	-579
Construction Materials		33,032	33,032
Clothing & Textiles	40,985	233,817	192,832
Food	93,680	145,310	51,630
Seeds & Plants			0
Water & Sanitation	46,840	46,360	-480
Medical & First Aid	70,260	69,540	-720
Teaching Materials			0
Utensils & Tools	95,132	170,776	75,644
Other Supplies & Services	88,996	179,072	90,076
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>492,429</b>	<b>933,862</b>	<b>441,433</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>			
Land & Buildings			0
Vehicles Purchase			0
Computers & Telecom Equipment			0
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.			0
Medical Equipment			0
Other Machinery & Equipment			0
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Storage - Warehouse	68,494	107,082	38,588
Distribution & Monitoring	46,840	96,777	49,937
Transport & Vehicles Costs			0
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
International Staff	10,350	47,640	37,290
International Staff (Benefits and MSA)			0
Regionally Deployed Staff		8,171	8,171
National Staff	36,652	31,988	-4,664
National Society Staff	26,933	36,509	9,576
Consultants			0
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training		11,590	11,590
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
Travel	18,139	27,652	9,513
Information & Public Relations	18,701	20,827	2,126
Office running costs	15,437	44,969	29,532
Communication Costs			0
Professional Fees			0
Financial Charges			0
Other General Expenses			0
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR	51,025	95,036	44,011
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>292,571</b>	<b>528,241</b>	<b>235,670</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>785,000</b>	<b>1,462,103</b>	<b>677,103</b>

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Donor response to MDR49002 - CARRIBEAN - TROPICAL STORM NOEL

TIMEFRAME: 29 Oct 07 to 30 Apr 08

LOCATION: Carribean

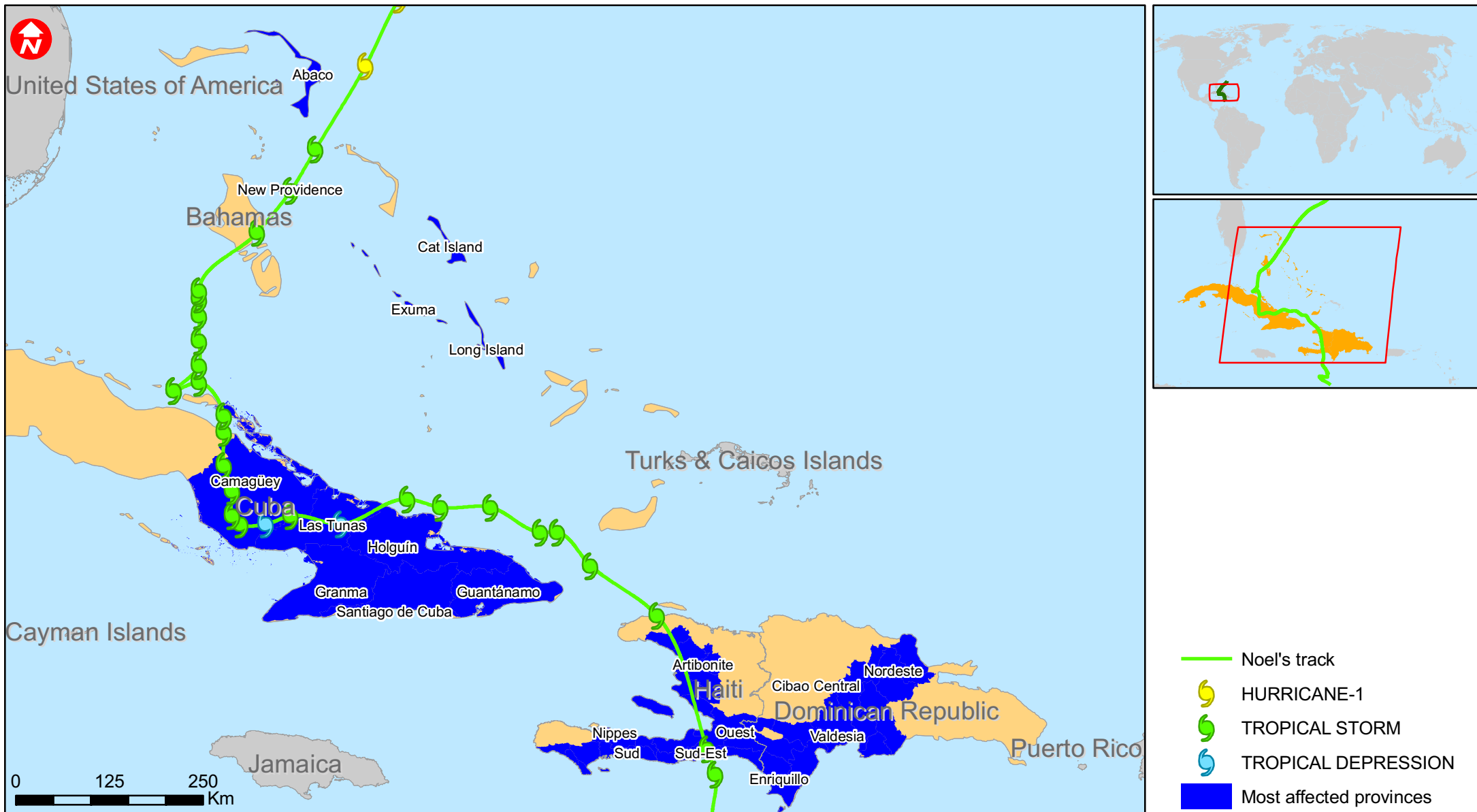
TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT:	1,462,103
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE:	753,570
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	52%

Updated on: 12 Nov 2007

	Currency	Amount	Coordination & Implementation	Disaster Management	Health & Care	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Total
			CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
<b>BUDGET</b>				1,462,103				1,462,103
<b>FUNDING</b>								
<u>Opening Balance</u>								
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Cash contributions (received and pledged)</b>								
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	CAD	100,000		121,500				121,500
Finnish Red Cross	EUR	50,000		83,650				83,650
Netherlands Red Cross	EUR	40,000		66,920				66,920
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	CHF	1,500		1,500				1,500
<b>Total Cash contributions</b>				273,570				273,570
<b>Other Income</b>								
DREF Allocations	CHF	480,000		480,000				480,000
<b>Total Other Income</b>				480,000				480,000
<b>Total Income</b>				753,570				753,570
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>			0	753,570	0	0	0	753,570
<b>COVERAGE</b>				52%				52%



# Caribbean: Tropical storm Noel



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, Federation, UNISYS