

EMERGENCY APPEAL



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

BAHAMAS: HURRICANE JEANNE

Appeal no. 23/2004
4 October 2004

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

**THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 958,000
(USD 759,046 OR EUR 617,165) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES
TO ASSIST 15,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 3 MONTHS.**

**CHF 70,000 WAS ALLOCATED FROM THE FEDERATION'S DISASTER
RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF**

(click here to go directly to the attached Appeal budget)

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

The situation

Hurricane Jeanne made landfall in the Bahamas on Saturday, 25 September, damaging several hundred homes. Jeanne, a category 3 hurricane, struck the Bahamas just three weeks after another category 3 storm, Hurricane Frances, which caused two deaths and affected more than 8,000 people in Grand Bahamas Island. There are no reports of deaths or serious injuries in the wake of Hurricane Jeanne, but flood waters rose to more than six feet in some areas and roofs were blown off of houses. Hurricane Jeanne impacted the north-western Bahamas, including Abaco, Andros, Berry, Bimini, Eleuthera, Exuma, Grand Bahama and New Providence islands.

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Hurricane Jeanne has caused the most significant damage on the Grand Bahama and Abaco islands. Representatives of the Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS) and a disaster management delegate from the Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) travelled to Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands and conducted a preliminary assessment. Based on this survey, it became clear that damage from Hurricane Jeanne is much greater than that caused by Hurricane Frances. Almost all of the areas affected by Hurricane Jeanne are the same that were struck by Hurricane Frances, and many homes that were weakened by Frances have now been more seriously damaged by Jeanne. All along the coast of Grand Bahama Island, homes have been flooded by the storm surge. Electricity services have been cut and water supplies are limited in many areas. The vulnerability assessments are still in progress.

In 8 Mile Rock, the largest community on Grand Bahama Island, over 75 percent of the homes have suffered serious structural damage, with roofs partially or completely torn off. All shelters in 8 Mile Rock sustained structural damages and/or flooding. The eastern half of the island has been cut off by storm surges and reports indicate significant flooding of homes, particularly along the coastline. In the city of Freeport on Grand Bahama Island, the airport was flooded but was reopened the following day.

Communications were cut off with Abaco Island after Jeanne's eye passed directly over the island on Sunday 26 September, bringing 115 mile per hour winds and heavy rains. Preliminary reports indicate that the most populated town of Marsh Harbour has been significantly flooded. Officials report that on this island 758 people had taken refuge at an emergency shelter that was set up in a local school. The primarily Haitian settlements of Pigeon Pea and the Mud were completely submerged in four to five feet of water. Families in these areas are staying in shelters or with relatives. Cooper's Town and Dundas Town have also been greatly damaged.

The needs

The BRCS had been active with distributions of relief supplies for Hurricane Frances when Jeanne struck. The actions were then interrupted by the hurricane and efforts focused on preparations for shelter management. The BRCS is providing direct management of shelters and first aid services on Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands. Damage evaluations are still underway.

Shelter: Ongoing assessments have so far confirmed that many homes have been completely destroyed while hundreds more have suffered significant structural damage; primarily to the roofs. In the Haitian communities of the Mud and Pigeon Pea, homes had been submerged under up to 5 feet of water. There is an urgent need for tarpaulin or plastic sheeting to cover holes in the roofs.

Water and Sanitation: Water services have been interrupted on Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands due to the damage to electricity distribution systems, which also serve the water pumping stations. Limited service is expected to resume within the week. Residents of Grand Bahama Island are being advised to boil all tap water, while on the east end of the island residents are using wells to obtain drinking water.

Telecommunications: Cellular phone service is functioning on Grand Bahama Island. On Abaco Island there is no phone service. Power is out in many pockets on both Freeport and Abaco Island. Electricity is expected to be restored in most urban areas within the next few days. Power in many outlying areas on Grand Bahama Island has been out since Frances hit three weeks ago.

Immediate needs:

Assessments indicate that immediate needs are for food, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, and plastic tarpaulin.

Longer-term needs:

Given the scale of the devastation in the Bahamas, it is anticipated that there will be a need for rehabilitation and repair of housing, especially in low-lying areas which are vulnerable to storm surges and flooding. In order to strengthen the capacity of the BRCS, work will be undertaken to recruit and train new volunteers in Red Cross shelter management procedures, taking into consideration the lessons learned during Hurricane Frances and Hurricane Jeanne. In addition, stocks of key relief supplies will be replenished to ensure that the BRCS warehouse

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has pre-positioned goods available for quick deployment. The BRCS capacity in telecommunications will also be enhanced through the provision of HF radios and technical training in the use of equipment. The national society will also be provided with equipment and visibility items to facilitate the promotion of its work. Details and specifications on stock replenishment and telecom equipment are being discussed and finalized, and will be communicated shortly in the next Operations Update.

Coordination

All relief activities are being coordinated with local and national government officials. The BBRCS and the Federation are working closely with the National Emergency Management Agency and the Social Development Agency in order to identify needs and ensure that assistance is provided in a coordinated and efficient manner. Coordination efforts are also being ensured through ongoing inter-agency meetings, both at the Headquarters and chapter levels.

The proposed operation

Objectives and activities planned

Emergency relief (food and non-food)

Objective 1: Immediate basic needs of at least 3,000 families are met through the distribution of appropriate food and non-food items.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Identification of affected communities to receive Red Cross assistance and beneficiary selection and registration: beneficiaries will be selected through on-site evaluations by Red Cross volunteers. In order to avoid duplication of efforts and to reach the greatest percentage of affected families, all relief efforts will be coordinated with the National Emergency Management Agency and the Social Development Agency. Beneficiaries will be selected among the families who sustained significant or total damage to their homes of personal belongings, with specific attention to affected elderly people, women head of households, low-income families and handicapped persons.
- Purchasing, supplying and receiving goods.
- Distribution of relief items to affected families.

Standard Federation non-food items:

Item	Quantity per family	Total
Hygiene Kits	1	3,000
Plastic Tarpaulins	2	6,000
Kitchen Sets	1	3,000

Food parcels (supplementary) for 1 family for one month:

Description	Quantity per family	Total
Rice	20 lbs	60,000 lbs
Cooking Oil	1 gallon	3,000 gallons
Pigeon Peas	5 lbs	15,000 lbs
Spaghetti	1 x 400 gr package	3,000 packages
Salt	1 lb	3,000 packages
Sugar	2 lbs	6,000 lbs
Corn Beef	2 x 12oz tins	6,000 tins
Tuna	4 x 8oz tins	12,000 tins

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Disaster Preparedness

Objective 2: the disaster preparedness capacity of the Bahamas Red Cross Society to respond to future disasters is strengthened.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Training in logistics management.
- Replenishment and stocking of key relief supplies.
- Identification, purchase and installation of HF radio communications equipment for Red Cross branches on Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands.
- Review and implementation of shelter management training courses based on lessons learned during Hurricane Frances and Hurricane Jeanne.
- Establishment of National Intervention (NIT) teams, together with training.
- Recruitment and retention of Red Cross volunteers.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The provision of accurate information to the public of the impact of Red Cross operations is a key activity. From this point of view, relations with the media are particularly important in order to convey the message of the Red Cross Movement. The Federation's information officer based in the Sub-regional office in Port of Spain will work to ensure that news articles and reports are regularly produced while the Federation will strongly advocate in favour of the respect of human dignity and the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Capacity of the National Society

The Bahamas Red Cross Society was founded in 1939. It has stable and positive relations with the government, working closely with national social service and disaster response agencies. The Society manages its programmes and services well and is fully supported by the community. However, disaster preparedness and response could be improved by additional training. Hurricanes Andrew in 1992, Erin in 1995, Lili in 1996 and Michelle in 2001 showed that the national society has the capacity to respond in times of disasters but this needs to be reinforced.

Hurricane Jeanne has caused significant damage on the Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands and the relief operations will target these two areas. The Grand Bahama Chapter of the BRCS has 140 active volunteers. A total of 90 are trained in shelter management, while 60 are trained in first-aid and CPR. Primary activities of the Grand Bahama chapter are related to shelter management, first-aid and workplace safety training, together with a meals on wheels feeding programme assisting approximately 50 families per day. During hurricane Jeanne the chapter managed 5 shelters housing approximately 1,000 people. Each shelter was managed by teams of 5 BRCS-trained volunteers. All shelters have since been closed and families have returned to their homes or are living with relatives. The chapter was active distributing water and food parcels in the weeks between hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. These activities were put on hold during the hurricane and have since been resumed. The chapter's building sustained serious damages. Hurricane Frances tore off parts of the roof and during Hurricane Jeanne significant flooding and damage to the interior walls and ceilings occurred. Red Cross materials were also damaged.

The Abaco Island Red Cross chapter continues to manage two Red Cross shelters. The shelters housed 758 people at the height of the Hurricane. According to the latest field assessment reports, they are now still housing 144 people. The chapter has distributed food parcels to families in the most affected Haitian settlements of Pigeon Pea and Mud. More rations, as well as plastic sheeting, are being shipped from Nassau to Abaco while temporary warehousing is being arranged. However, emergency relief activities are being hampered by a lack of volunteers in the field and the widespread geographical nature of the area affected.

Capacity of the Federation

The Federation has a Sub-regional office in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and a Regional Delegation in Panama. The Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and its regional logistics unit are also based in Panama. PADRU. Close coordination is ensured between them, and with the BRCS headquarters and chapters in the islands affected by Hurricane Jeanne. A PADRU disaster management delegate will be assigned to support the relief operation. All in country activities will be agreed upon and jointly undertaken with representatives

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of the Bahamas Red Cross Society. To facilitate this coordination and strengthen the National Society capacity, the Federation representative will be assigned a Bahamas Red Cross counterpart. Support in the areas of finance and donor reporting are provided by the Regional Finance Unit and the Regional Reporting Unit in Panama.

Monitoring and evaluation

The BRCS, supported by the Federation disaster management delegate, will monitor the implementation of all activities. Upon completion of the operation, a detailed report of all activities undertaken will be issued with particular focus on the internal coordination of activities and the impact of the distributions. Data for this analysis will be gathered mostly through interviews and standard surveys with beneficiaries. Once the operation is completed, an internal audit by the BRCS will also be conducted.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

Susan Johnson
Director
National Society and Field Support Division

Markku Niskala
Secretary General

[Budget below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

PRELIMINARY BUDGET SUMMARY

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Bahamas - hurricane Jeanne

TYPE	VALUE
RELIEF NEEDS	IN CHF
Shelter & constructions	125,000
Clothing & textiles	75,000
Food & seeds	175,000
Water & sanitation	75,000
Utensils & tools	50,000
Other relief supplies incl. stock replenishment	100,000
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS	600,000
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<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
Computers, telecom. & other equipment	20,000
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme support (6.5% of total)	62,000
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>	
Transport and storage (incl. airlifts)	180,000
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
Expatriate staff	36,000
National staff	20,000
Workshops & training	10,000
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>	
Travel & related expenses	10,000
Information expenses	5,000
Administrative & general expenses	15,000
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS	358,000
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TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES	958,000
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LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)	0
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NET REQUEST	958,000
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