30 November 2017

**Highlights**

- As of 27 November, the majority of schools in Anguilla, Antigua, British Virgin Islands (BVI), and Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) have reopened their doors, bringing an increasing number of children back to school. Improvements were also noted in Dominica where 65 of the 90 Early Childhood Development (ECD), primary and secondary schools reopened, providing an attendance rate of 65 per cent, based on pre-Maria enrollment numbers.

- Resettlement of Barbuda is underway with the lone secondary school expected to be reopened in January 2018. A shift system will see primary school students attending classes in the morning and secondary school students in the afternoon. An assessment of learning facilities, including early childhood centres, reveal that ten of these facilities will have to be rebuilt while an additional nine need minor and major repairs.

- Support to national child protection and education systems to respond to the needs of teachers, caregivers and children experiencing trauma and distress, children at risk, children with disabilities and other vulnerable groups remains a key priority in all the affected countries.

### Situation in numbers

- **39,000**
  - # affected children in need of assistance in Hurricane Irma- and Maria-affected countries

- **19,800**
  - # affected children in Dominica

- **171**
  - # children in temporary shelters in Antigua, British Virgin Islands, Dominica

### UNICEF Funding Needs

**US$ 9,819,562**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Total Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH: # people with access to safe water</td>
<td>37,318</td>
<td>37,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection: # of children enrolled in psychosocial activities</td>
<td>17,102</td>
<td>11,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: # of children attending schools equipped with critical pedagogical and/or recreational materials</td>
<td>25,069</td>
<td>19,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-sectoral: # of affected children with access to information on good hygiene, and on safety and protection</td>
<td>38,987</td>
<td>25,385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Target for Child Protection has been adjusted, taking in consideration the new planned programme coverage in Dominica.*
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Almost three months since the impact of Hurricane Irma, followed by Hurricane Maria, there are visible signs of a slow but steady return to normalcy in impacted Eastern Caribbean islands. Increasing numbers of families are accessing vital services, with above 70 per cent of the population in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Dominica having access to restored water services, however the coverage of those with power services ranges from 10 per cent in Dominica to 70 per cent in Turks and Caicos Islands. Displaced Barbuda residents, who were largely being housed in shelters in Antigua, are also beginning to return to Barbuda as work continues to restore water and electricity services there.

A notable return to normalcy is being witnessed in the education sector, with the complete school population in Anguilla and Turks and Caicos, and most school children (above 90 per cent) in British Virgin Islands being back in the classroom. In Dominica, over two-thirds of the 90 ECD, primary and secondary schools have reopened, some of them with temporary learning spaces and shift strategy, with 65 per cent of the school population back in classes. However, a timeline for many of the remaining educational institutions to be reopened remains doubtful as 11 schools continue to be used as shelters.

Increased focus will now be placed on Barbuda as government prepares for the large-scale return of the 1,600 residents who were evacuated as a result of the widespread devastation caused by Irma. Based on the resettlement plan, UNICEF will organize the transportation and distribution of stockpiled educational and recreational material to Barbuda.

### Estimated Population in need

*Estimates based on latest Population and Housing Census*

**Start of humanitarian response:**

- 06 September 2017 – Anguilla, Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos islands
- 20 September – Commonwealth of Dominica

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Population</strong></td>
<td>143,006</td>
<td>71,859</td>
<td>71,147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>13,555</td>
<td>6,698</td>
<td>6,857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbuda</td>
<td>1,595</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>758</td>
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<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>28,054</td>
<td>13,820</td>
<td>14,234</td>
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<td>Dominica</td>
<td>69,246</td>
<td>35,377</td>
<td>33,869</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turks &amp; Caicos Islands</td>
<td>30,556</td>
<td>15,127</td>
<td>15,429</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Children Under 18</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,987</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,690</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,297</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>3,778</td>
<td>1,908</td>
<td>1,870</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbuda</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>261</td>
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<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>7,367</td>
<td>3,767</td>
<td>3,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>19,774</td>
<td>10,013</td>
<td>9,761</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turks &amp; Caicos Islands</td>
<td>7,527</td>
<td>3,722</td>
<td>3,805</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Children Under Five</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,737</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,478</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,259</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>1,058</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>512</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbuda</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>86</td>
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<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>2,134</td>
<td>1,126</td>
<td>1,008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>4,927</td>
<td>2,479</td>
<td>2,448</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turks &amp; Caicos Islands</td>
<td>2,444</td>
<td>1,239</td>
<td>1,205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Humanitarian Strategy and Coordination

In line with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, UNICEF is responding to the Hurricane emergency in the Eastern Caribbean in all affected countries and territories (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, and Turks and Caicos Islands) through a combination of service delivery, technical assistance, communication and advocacy. UNICEF humanitarian strategy focuses on Education, Child Protection and Water,
Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), with a two-track approach - immediate humanitarian relief to affected populations and longer term recovery and resilience support. To complement service delivery and recovery support to the government of Dominica, UNICEF signed a new partnership with WFP aiming to reach 6,000 vulnerable children through a non-conditional cash transfer programme. In Antigua and Barbuda, UNICEF continues to support the development of a social protection policy with a focus on disaster risk reduction. In BVI, UNICEF’s partnership with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) will complement the Red Cross/Caritas cash transfer programme for vulnerable families.

Following the dissolution of the emergency coordination mechanism under the leadership of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) in the hurricane-affected territories, UNICEF has been directly coordinating its response with governments and other UN agencies including OCHA, PAHO, UNDP, IOM, WFP and UN Women.

UNICEF is actively engaged in regular government and UN coordination mechanisms in the area of Education, Child Protection, Shelter and WASH, mainly in Dominica, but also in Turks and Caicos Islands and British Virgin Islands.

**UNICEF Response**

**CHILD PROTECTION**

UNICEF reached an additional 6,807 children with psychosocial support as the Return to Happiness programme continued to be rolled out in all hurricane-impacted countries. This process has been accelerated through the enhancement of the training programme which reached additional 400 trainees. Since its roll-out, the Return to Happiness programme has benefitted 11,600 children, covering above 80 per cent of the targeted populations in Anguilla, Barbuda and Dominica. Efforts to ensure sustainability and continuity of these activities for affected children continued with more being shifted from temporary education facilities and protective spaces to public schools. However, in Dominica where a sizeable number of children remain outside the school system, almost 100 community volunteers have been trained to provide psychosocial support in safe spaces.

Aiming at prevention of potential protection risks in temporary shelters in Antigua, UNICEF contributed to two gender-based violence (GBV) training sessions for shelter administrators and, through the Ministry of Social Transformation, is advocating for improved management conditions in shelter facilities. UNICEF is also working on the improvement of child protection services in Barbuda, where displaced children are expected to return from neighboring Antigua by January 2018. This support includes the development of age-appropriate psychosocial and resilience-building activities, which will ensure continuity of support already provided in Antigua.

In order to ensure that children in Dominica are protected, UNICEF and a non-governmental partner signed a cooperation agreement that will provide vulnerable youth and adolescents with a safe space for learning and socializing. This programme is expected to fill a critical void as it will directly cater to adolescents who are not accounted for in the education sector and children who have not yet been able to return to school.

**EDUCATION**

Almost three months after the devastating hurricanes, UNICEF continues to support governments to address remaining challenges in bringing children back to school. As of 27 November, some 18,430 school-age children and adolescents, and 1,090 young children under the age of five were reached by schools and ECD facilities. While the coverage in most locations is similar to the pre-emergency situation, in Dominica 65 schools reopened, giving access to education to 7,833 students. The percentage of schools reopened in Dominica now is 72 with a student attendance of 65 per cent. In Antigua and Barbuda, the coverage is higher than the child population of the islands as many migrant children (from Dominica, St Martin, British Virgin Islands and Anguilla) are attending school there.
In close cooperation with other partners, particularly in Dominica, UNICEF continues providing WASH support in affected locations. An additional 5,700 people in Dominica are receiving sustained access to safe drinking water on a daily basis. However, with 14 non-operational water systems, UNICEF and partners continue to provide trucking water to 1,600 people daily. The agency is also making additional efforts to reestablish access to safe handwashing and sanitary facilities in reopening schools. So far water solutions have been provided to 27 of the reopened primary and secondary schools and another 20 schools are targeted for water and sanitation services through collaborations with other partners.

**SOCIAL PROTECTION**

The database with recipients for the Emergency Cash Transfer Programme has been submitted to Government for approval and it is anticipated that the first disbursements will begin on 30 November. A total of 6,000 vulnerable children and their families are expected to benefit from this programme which is a collaboration involving World Food Programme, UNICEF and the Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs.

**COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Since the beginning of UNICEF response, some 25,385 children have been reached with lifesaving information on hygiene, safety and protection through SMS, radio, social media and printed materials.

**Supply and Logistics**

Since the beginning of the humanitarian response, UNICEF has supported schools and temporary learning spaces with a total of 276 school-in-the-box, 101 ECD and 231 recreational kits, along with other essential supplies. Under the WASH component, UNICEF has delivered at household-level some 20,400 water purification tablets across the islands and over 24,740 collapsible water tanks in Dominica and Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Media and External Communication**

With the initial hype in local, regional and international media having abated, the communication strategy revolved around documenting progress and the UNICEF response and recovery support with the 8 December three-month anniversary of the impact of Irma as a critical landmark.

**Funding Update**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Funding Requirements 2017</th>
<th>Funded</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>US$ 2,990,000</td>
<td>US$ 538,051</td>
<td>US$ 2,451,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>US$ 1,729,562</td>
<td>US$ 1,330,923</td>
<td>US$ 398,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>US$ 3,800,000</td>
<td>US$ 2,695,715</td>
<td>US$ 1,104,285</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Cash Transfer</td>
<td>US$ 1,200,000</td>
<td>US$ 120,000</td>
<td>US$ 1,080,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-cutting/Coordination</td>
<td>US$ 100,000</td>
<td>US$ 115,900</td>
<td>US$ (15,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 9,819,562</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 4,800,589</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 5,018,973</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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