**Highlights**

Two Category 5 hurricanes - Irma and Maria - caused extensive damage and humanitarian consequences across the Caribbean, putting the lives of thousands of children in danger. While countries affected by Irma are gradually entering the early recovery phase, those affected by Maria remain focused on humanitarian support. 100% of children in Dominica require humanitarian assistance. UNICEF scaled its response in line with its L2 emergency response declaration for 21 Sept - 31 Dec 2017.

- A Flash Appeal for $31.1M was launched for **Dominica**. UNICEF requested $6.2M to address the needs of children and their families.
- Approximately **30,000** people, including **8,000 children**, have benefitted from UNICEF emergency response in WASH, and 10,000 children have been reached with education in Anguilla, BVI, TCI, Barbuda and Dominica.
- 800 children have received psycho-social support and 66 Return to Happiness facilitators were trained to provide further support.
- Needs assessments for Education and Health are underway in Dominica with partners.
- The **Barbuda Mandatory Evacuation has been lifted**, paving the way for Barbuda citizens to start returning.
- More than **81,000 people** have been reached with C4D behavior messages on keeping children in school and psycho-social support.
- In **TCI**, 48 School in a Box kits and 96 Recreation kits to reach more than **8,600 children**, 2,000 mosquito nets and tarpaulins are being distributed.
- **Hygiene kit** distributions ongoing in **Dominica** for people in shelters.

### Funding Requirements by CO (as defined in Regional HAC for a period of 3 months)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Office</th>
<th>Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>Funds received (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap US$</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>8,130,000</td>
<td>2,363,000</td>
<td>5,767,000</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECA*</td>
<td>8,570,000</td>
<td>900,000</td>
<td>7,670,000</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (</strong>)**</td>
<td><strong>19,700,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,263,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,237,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>90%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* ECA CO includes the following countries: Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, British Virgin Islands (BVI), Dominica and Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI).
** Dominican Republic has received $100,000 to support its humanitarian response to the floods associated with Maria.
Two Category 5 hurricanes have caused devastating impact across the Caribbean, affecting Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Turks and Caicos Islands, among others. Logistics remain a challenge, both due to the number of countries affected and because much of the logistics infrastructure has been damaged. While insecurity is no longer a major threat in Dominica, a night-time curfew remains in place. A surge of Dominicans to neighboring countries is anticipated, and a large number of unregistered migrants from Haiti and Dominican Republic are residing in countries such as Turks and Caicos. Three municipalities in Dominican Republic faced flooding due to Maria. Across the region, children face multiple needs, including water, sanitation and hygiene, education, child protection, psychosocial support and health, including adequate nutrition.

### Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

*Estimates calculated based on initial figures from UNICEF Country Offices, 27 September 2017*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Office</th>
<th>People in need of immediate assistance</th>
<th>Children in need of immediate assistance</th>
<th>People to be reached</th>
<th>Children to be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuba 1</td>
<td>930,000</td>
<td>176,700</td>
<td>560,315</td>
<td>142,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECA 2</td>
<td>143,006</td>
<td>38,987</td>
<td>143,006</td>
<td>38,987</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic 3</td>
<td>49,500</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>7,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti 4</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>126,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>126,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,422,506</strong></td>
<td><strong>357,037</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,026,321</strong></td>
<td><strong>314,694</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- UNICEF LACRO is taking part in regional coordination meetings led by OCHA, where sector specific actions and operation mechanisms are reported.
- UNICEF LACRO has been coordinating closely with PAHO and other relevant partners on Health and WASH in Eastern Caribbean islands; it is anticipated that PAHO representation will be reduced in some areas this month.
- UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Office is coordinating closely with all national and local authorities, including those of the affected British Overseas Territories, which are considered under the Eastern Caribbean Multi-Country Program (British Virgin Islands, Turks & Caicos Islands and Anguilla). The territories, which are part of the Kingdom of The Netherlands and of France, are receiving direct support from their respective governments. Where requested, UNICEF LACRO is providing advice and updates to UNICEF National Committees.
- UNICEF ECA rapid response actions are being undertaken in full coordination with CDEMA and the UN System, and linked with OCHA and the two Resident Coordinators in Barbados and Jamaica.

### Summary Analysis by CO

### Eastern Caribbean Islands (ECA)

*Five countries: Antigua & Barbuda, British Virgin Islands (BVI), Anguilla, Dominica and Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI)*

Life is slowly returning to normal in some of the countries affected by Irma, but that escaped the wrath of Maria. In Dominica, the most affected country by Maria, much of the capital has electricity, water and communication restored, though the situation is not the same outside of the capital. UNICEF’s Humanitarian Action for Children document (HAC) for Eastern Caribbean has been updated to reflect the increased needs due to Hurricane Maria. The situation varies country to country as reported below.

#### Anguilla

The only secondary school in the country, Albena Lake Hodge Comprehensive School, received major damage. All primary schools in the country suffered some damage, but significant repairs and extensive cleaning mean that primary schools and preschools that serve the 3-5 age group will be open for regular programming beginning 9 October. Generators are being installed at each site to support access to electricity and running water. The status of ECD centres (0-2+ age group) under the responsibility of the Social Development Sector is now being assessed.

**UNICEF Response**

- Five Recreation Kits have been delivered to Anguilla for use in schools to reach 450 children
- 600 children aged 5 to 12 had access to psychosocial support under the Return to Happiness (RTH) programme, which has been rolled out in collaboration with the Pure Anguilla Foundation. A total of 40 facilitators attended RTH sessions, with an additional 40 to be trained next week.

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2. ECA. Estimates including Dominica, which was severely affected by Hurricane Maria. Assessment is ongoing.
3. DR. Recent estimates provided by the CO. Due to Hurricane Maria, the country suffered flooding in Montecristi and Duarte.
4. Haiti. Estimates provided by Haiti CO.
In addition to Return to Happiness sessions with children, a Sports Programme will be implemented with children for the 11-15 age group, expecting to reach 1,000 children.

UNICEF, in collaboration with Flow Telecommunications, continues to ensure that children and their families have access to critical information through a text messages campaign, estimated to have already reached more than 10,200 persons.

The need for bottled drinking water for schools is expected to be a long-term requirement.

Antigua & Barbuda

To date, 1,070 children from Dominica and Barbuda are estimated to be integrated into Antigua schools. While the shelters have basic food and clothing supplies, and children are attending school, trauma has been highlighted as a key problem. With the mandatory evacuation order lifted, some people have begun returning to Barbuda.

UNICEF Response

- UNICEF, along with the Ministry of Social Transformation, distributed family hygiene kits to two of the most deprived church-run shelters. UNICEF also distributed recreational equipment for children at the Seventh Day Adventist church shelter and began psycho-social support in the shelters.
- The Return to Happiness programme is ongoing, with more than 200 children reached. Training of Teachers sessions are ongoing for 26 teachers. Every school with Barbudan children has RTH activities planned. School bags have been given to 60 children (100% of target).
- UNICEF will support MoE request to establish new classrooms by the provision of around 1,000 chairs and desks.

British Virgin Islands (BVI)

7,367 children have been affected in BVI. UNICEF is targeting 3,300 with Return to Happiness Programmes and 1,200 with its education activity. Initial small group child protection activities have begun in improvised settings. Education needs assessment and agreements are underway.

UNICEF Response

- 40 teachers were trained on 28 September in a day-long RTH training which will be implemented beginning 5 October. Another 40 teachers will be trained next week. These 80 teachers will bring psycho-social support to 3,300 children (100% of the target) during a three-week period.
- A psychosocial support debriefing was organized for 22 teachers, two shelter leaders and the leaders of the Crisis Intervention Team of the MoH on 27 September. The same approach was used to debrief 200 teachers to reach nine schools.
- UNICEF has inspected three shelters for child protection standards. The installation of tents and learning spaces initiated 3 October is complete.
- UNICEF emergency curricula has been ratified by MoE.
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has contributed US$200,000 to support WASH and logistics of 10-12 TPLS. Management, communication and monitoring of the TPLSs is required, and the recommendation is for an SSF along with ADRA to cover these needs. 10 TPLS sites assessed by UNICEF and ADRA could reach up to 1,000 children.
- Interviews conducted with MoH community outreach asked inhabitants to identify vulnerable areas/groups in BVI.
- The need to convey messages for parenting in extremely stressful situations is identified as a priority. Key messages were formulated for distribution through churches and radio, to reach 100% of the population.
- Discussions about cash transfers continue. A draft paper is being prepared to brief the MoH, social development and civil society on cash transfer programmes to cover priority households, including registration, an approach to identify vulnerability criteria, monitoring mechanisms and long-term plans for social registry development.

Gaps and needs

- Virgin Gorda Island will have three facilitators in one school and will start RTH next week with the support of kits provided. Restarting school activities in Anegada and Jost van Dyke is a challenge due to lack of communication. In Jost van Dyke, a space for RTH has been identified.

Dominica

Hurricane Maria had a devastating effect on Dominica. 18,500 school-aged children are out of school and 3,044 people, including an uncounted number of children, are seeking refuge in official shelters. The entire population is at risk of disease, including leptospirosis, dengue, tetanus and gastroenteritis. 100% of water networks were damaged and 57 government primary and secondary schools were damaged or destroyed. Thirteen schools with only minor damage are currently being used as shelters. The security situation is stable but curfew remains.

UNICEF Response

- Official and unofficial shelters have been visited to assess locations for psycho-social and learning spaces.
- The distribution of hygiene kits started in Roseau on 28 September, supporting 45 families in 4 shelters; 48 hygiene kits were released to MOSS.
- Six additional communities - 800 people - received water at the reduced level of 7.5L water per person/day) via water trucking, bringing the total number of people provided with safe drinking water to 5,500. In addition, 425 families living in shelters have received hygiene and dignity kits.
- A field visit was made to Point Michel and Soufriére communities to distribute 48 family hygiene kits, determine safe learning space locations and assess the Operation Youth Quake facility.
- UNICEF conducted a technical visit to the sewage treatment plant to do a quick assessment and identify the main challenges in repairing the ongoing leaks in several streets of Roseau.
• UNICEF received a full consignment of School in a Box kits (40), ECD kits (17) and Recreational kits (11) on 5 October from Barbados, benefitting more than 2,000 children.
• Since the start of the response, the messages aimed at preventing violence, exploitation and abuse have been shared in shelters and to 32,000 mobile phone subscribers.

Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)
A few schools will open for upper grade students only on 2 October in Provo, while the MoE waits for full health clearance. Affected schools and schools used as shelters have been cleaned, many through cash-for-work programmes. All official shelters are now closed and the remaining displaced population is staying with family and friends. 1,000 of the most vulnerable families have been identified by local NGOs, and 58 of those families, including 28 children, are receiving mosquito nets, jerry cans, water purification tablets and tarpaulins, with distribution being coordinated with the MoE, MoH and Social Service Department. The Government is aggressively working to reduce the mosquito population to avoid mosquito-transmitted diseases. The Government and humanitarian/development partners are discussing the recovery plan. UNICEF is a part of the discussions to leverage resources and to ensure that public services reach the most vulnerable.

UNICEF Response
• A shipment of 48 School in a Box kits and 96 Recreation kits arrived and will reach more than 8,600 children; 2,000 mosquito nets and tarpaulins are also being distributed.
• 18 School in a Box kits and 46 Recreation kits were air-lifted by the British Army to Grand Turk and South Caicos for 1,920 children.
• As a result of UNICEF and other partner’s advocacy, the Government is making an effort to include undocumented children in school, and UNICEF is supporting the MoE to identify alternative places for temporary learning spaces.
• UNICEF continues to support the Social Service Department, in coordination with DFID and the Red Cross, to enable immediate implementation of relief and recovery cash transfers and to help establish a long-term social protection network.
• UNICEF highlighted the need for attention to 1,000 Haitian immigrant families in Provo and is working closely with the ministry.
• UNICEF, in collaboration with the Social Services Department, is developing a comprehensive post-emergency C4D plan to reach affected populations. 19,620 people have access to life-saving information through a text messages campaign in coordination with Flow Telecommunications to ensure that children and their families have access vital information. UNICEF disseminated lifesaving information and Child Protection messages through radio.

Gaps and needs
• More than 20,000 undocumented Haitians are in TCI. Children of illegal Haitians do not receive TCI nationality and are not going to public schools mainly because of lack of physical space. UNICEF reiterated the importance of protecting all children’s rights in TCI, regardless of nationality.
• Neighborhoods of irregular settlements predominantly made up of Haitian families in Five Cays and Blue Hills are still without water and electricity, and relief efforts there face significant challenges and have yet to be fully realized.

Cuba
The most affected municipalities in Villa Clara province are undergoing recuperation efforts. There is still infrastructure damage in many of the educational centres in the Central and Western Regions, impacting the education of thousands of children. The impact on the tourism and agriculture sectors is still to be determined.

UNICEF CO Response
• CERF funding for immediate needs has been allocated and committed with a view to providing $1.55M for WASH and $209.573 for Education to support 270,539 people (78,582 children) in support of 6 municipalities in Villa Clara. Education supplies will also be delivered to the Yaguajay municipality in the Sancti Spiritus province.
• 109,000 Aquatabs will arrive on 5 October for all the families in the municipalities of Esmeralda, Minas and Sierra de Cubitas in Camaguey to make their water safe to drink.
• Needs assessment is being conducted by the government and informed through official channels. The government is responsible for distribution reporting to UNICEF once supplies have been delivered to the target population.

Haiti
Hurricanes Irma and Maria caused limited impact in Haiti, but three Haitian departments were affected. More than 2,000 houses were flooded, mostly in the North department, where the water has now receded. There has been no significant increase in the suspected cases of cholera in the affected areas, but an outbreak is still ongoing in Artibonite and Centre departments, requiring a special focus to prevent its spread. The epidemiological situation of cholera remains a major public issue in Haiti, with around 250 suspected cases per week. An active surveillance system was reinforced in addition to the existing one in the five departments of the north partly impacted by Irma, and the responses were strengthened with UNICEF partners (OXFAM, ACF, CRF, ACTED, S.I) in order the limit the risk of disease upsurge.

UNICEF CO Response
• In Artibonite, where there is an ongoing outbreak of cholera, special attention continues by UNICEF cholera response partners to ensure that the population has access to quality water, with the installation of a chlorination point and repairs underway.
• Activities to keep families together continue, with a focus on 125 families (about 1,000 people) at risk of family separation due to the hurricane.
• Back-to-School activities in the North and North-East are on-going in areas affected by both hurricanes, with cleaning of schools and the distribution of school materials and students’ kits for 6,000 children in 18 schools.
• The prepositioned stock of plumpy-nut continues to be used by health structures managed by the MoH with support from FONDEFH, ACF and MDM-Canada.

Gaps and needs
• UNICEF Haiti needs US$ 2.5M to finance activities in response to the impact of Hurricane Irma and to replenish its contingency stocks in anticipation of further disasters until the end of the hurricane season.
• A request was made to recruit a stand-by partner in support of the protection coordination response.

Dominican Republic (DR)
The Dominican Republic suffered heavy rains due to Hurricanes Maria, Irma and Jose, which saturated the soil and caused flooding in Montecristi, El Seibo and Duarte provinces. Although the waters are gradually receding, a total of 19 water systems are still out of service, affecting more than 145,000 people, including an estimated 10,000 children. The risk of cholera and leptospirosis outbreaks is considered high. Additionally, a total of about 9,900 houses were affected and some 3,500 people remain evacuated.

UNICEF CO Response
Currently, an interagency humanitarian response is not considered necessary due to the small scale of the emergency and the well-integrated interventions by the government. However, each UN agency will respond to its respective partners through its conventional coordination and communication mechanisms.
• To ensure UNICEF emergency response reaches the most vulnerable children, in agreement with the MoH, assistance is focusing on WASH interventions on El Seibo and Education intervention in Montecristi provinces, reaching 4,000 children. The Government has focused its response on Duarte Province.
• Coordinating with local partners, UNICEF will distribute hygiene kits for 1,500 children (1,500 plastic drums with water; 50 water tanks for distribution at community level water points). Health promotion material will be distributed to prevent diarrhea/cholera, ZIKV, dengue and chikungunya, along with ORS and chlorine for water purification.
• UNICEF will provide school kits and supplies to 2,152 children in 9 schools in Montecristi if requested by the MoE.

Regional Actions:
• Technical assistance continues to be provided across all relevant programme areas for CO.
• Input into key documents is being provided, including fundraising documents for CERF and Flash for Dominica.
• LACRO has provided support for Flash Appeal and CERF submission processes.
• The Cuba CERF has been approved, allowing supply orders to be placed.
• Coordination meetings have been undertaken with PAHO at the sub-regional level to ensure coordination of WASH and Health, especially as PAHO likely to leave Dominica within two weeks.
• LACRO is producing generic C4D materials for the promotion of adequate infant and young child feeding practices in emergencies in English and Spanish to be used in shelters.
• Currently, 39 surge deployments - of which 21 are LAC deployments - are on the ground, with 15 of these in ECA. A LACRO Health Specialist has been deployed to support MoH and PAHO health needs assessment; a second WASH specialist and an EIE specialist have been deployed to Dominica and are working in assessment and advising the CO response plan.
• Supply: UNICEF LACRO continues to work to secure air freight for delivering goods to affected areas. Further supplies will arrive in the region from the Supply Division in Copenhagen on 6 October.
• Communication and Media: Press releases, blogs, multi-media pieces and photo stories have been published, including the launch of the Flash Appeal for Dominica and a story on children and adolescents trained by UNICEF in a photography workshop prior to the hurricane and are now covering the emergency. LACRO work with UNICEF Cuba continues on-site to prepare an emergency communication plan and deliver social media and storytelling workshops.
• Communication to Engage Communities (C4D) and U-Report:  
  o A framework of C4D in emergency messages has been developed and shared with COs, including messaging around hygiene, child protection, breastfeeding, nutrition and psychosocial support 
  o 8,000 U-Reporters affected by Maria sent ‘stay safe’ health messaging focusing on basic hygiene, breastfeeding and preventing mosquito-borne disease
• Fundraising contributions from private and public donors are in the pipeline.

Funding Needs by Sector
• More than US$1.97 million has been raised by UNICEF from private fundraising.
Outside of the HAC, Dominican Republic is requesting $150,000 of funds to support its WASH and Education intervention in affected areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Cuba (US$)</th>
<th>ECA (US$)</th>
<th>Haiti (US$)</th>
<th>Regional Office (US$)</th>
<th>Total (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>6,130,000</td>
<td>2,990,000</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,470,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education (*)</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<td>6,400,000</td>
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<td>Child Protection</td>
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<td>2,180,000</td>
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<td>Others (**)</td>
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<td>50,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>650,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>8,130,000</td>
<td>8,570,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>19,700,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including Early Childhood assistance.
** Including Coordination, Logistics, C4D and other cross-cutting issues.

Next Sit-Rep: 12/10/2017

For more information:

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