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| **PROJECT PROPOSAL / OPERATIONAL PLAN TEMPLATE**  **For projects run by IFRC secretariat offices worldwide** | IFRC-English logo |

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| **DOCUMENT INFORMATION** |
| **Project title: POST IRMA-RECOVERY AND PREPAREDNESS RESPONSE**  *Version 3: 2018-08-29* |

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| **INTERVENTION INFORMATION** | | |
| **Implementing Secretariat body and host National Society/ies:** | **Geographical coverage:** | **Type of intervention** (sector/area): |
| Americas Regional Office | Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and English-Speaking Caribbean countries | Post Irma - Recovery and Preparedness for Response |
| **Expected start date:** | **Expected duration:** | **Number of people to be reached:** |
| 1st October 2018 | 12 months | 14,000 direct beneficiaries |
| **Project Manager:** | **Project Codes:** | **Budget:** |
| TBC | TBC | 1,000,000 EUR (CHF 1,149,700 OANDA) |
| **Contributing to:** | | |
| This project will contribute to IFRC’s Hurricane Irma Cuba Emergency Appeal, the IFRC’s operational plans for the Country Cluster for Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti and the Country Cluster for the English-speaking Caribbean and Suriname as well as to cover technical support costs from the Americas Regional Office (Disaster and Crisis Dept. and Regional Logistic Unit) in support of this intervention. | | |
| **Other partner organisations** | | |
| World Food Programme (WFP), Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), Regional Caribbean Intervention Platform (PIRAC) coordinated by the Regional Delegation for America and the Caribbean (RD-PIRAC) of the French Red Cross, National Disaster Offices. | | |

### Overview

*Needs overview*

Hurricane Irma, a powerful Category 5 hurricane packing winds of more than 185 miles per hour, impacted several eastern Caribbean countries on 6 September 2017. Irma's wide band swept over Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Hispaniola and Cuba, with Barbuda, Anguilla and Cuba being the most heavily affected. Impact in Barbuda was severe as the eye of the hurricane passed five miles north of the 35-square mile island. 90 percent of all buildings were destroyed or severely damaged.

The hurricane continued its trajectory impacting Dominican Republic on 6 September, Haiti on 7 September and Cuba on 8 September, causing severe damage to homes, infrastructure and communities, from high winds, flooding and storm surges. A total of 317,066 families were affected on the islands of Cuba and Hispaniola, home to Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Strong winds, rains and coastal flooding affected central and northern Cuba, with thirteen of the country's 15 provinces directly affected. The damage was especially severe in the housing, electro-energetic, water distribution, agriculture and tourism sectors. 158,554 homes were affected: 14,657 were destroyed, 16,646 were partially destroyed, 23,560 homes lost roofing and 103,691 suffered partial roof damage. The Cuban Red Cross, in coordination with Municipal Defence Councils, is working to repair the homes of affected people, with special emphasis on people with low-income, disabilities, the elderly, single mothers with children, and other vulnerable populations. Cuba demands a differentiated approach for the recovery phase and the DRR and preparedness actions in terms of importation of humanitarian assistance goods, as well as logistical challenges. Overall, Irma left a trail of damaged or destroyed housing, loss of livelihoods, threats to the health and well-being of the affected populations, and depletion of prepositioned relief stock.

At the time of Irma’s passage, both the Haitian and Dominican Republic Red Cross Societies were finalising implementation of active Emergency Appeals – the Hurricane Matthew One International Appeal in Haiti and the Floods Emergency Appeal in the Dominican Republic. There were limited pre-positioned stocks in Haiti amongst all partners, as stocks were used for the Hurricane Matthew response and had not been replenished. The Haitian Red Cross was in the

process of pre-positioning stocks for 500 families. In the Dominican Republic, the National Society had some remaining pre-positioned stock from the active Emergency Appeal, but not enough to meet the needs of the affected population.

The Cuban Red Cross currently does not have pre-positioned stocks and are focusing on the arrival and distribution of Non-Food Items (NFI’s) under the current operational plan. In the case of the Caribbean islands, five national societies sent all their pre-positioned relief stock to support their sister national societies which has left them unprepared for the 2018 hurricane season.

Given the logistical challenges faced within the post-Irma response and the upcoming preparedness for the 2018 hurricane season, the IFRC Regional Office in Panama and the two Country Cluster Support Teams (CCST) propose to establish sub-regional hubs, aiming to reinforce readiness capacities at regional level and in national societies.

### *Response by the IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) – Haiti, Dominican Republic and Cuba*

The 2017 hurricane season’s impact on the Caribbean islands stretched capacities at the national level, but also at regional level with a succession of impacts in several countries. The high level of vulnerability in Haiti requires that the IFRC must be better prepared for a response in the country with reduced transit times for humanitarian relief. The IFRC is designing a new intervention strategy for the Hispaniola Island, learning from past and recent operations in terms of increasing the efficiency of humanitarian assistance. The context of Haiti in terms of security, importation of humanitarian assistance goods as well as logistical challenges demands a differentiated approach for response. The IFRC will strengthen its capacities of warehousing, prepositioning of goods and logistic capacities in the Dominican Republic to better respond in Haiti and Cuba, where access and logistics still present challenges.

The IFRC has signed a global partnership with the World Food Program (WFP) and is supporting the operationalization of the partnership in the Dominican Republic. The Dominican Red Cross has signed an agreement with WFP to strengthen their logistical capacities and partner with WFP during emergencies. The IFRC is in discussion with the Government of the Dominican Republic and WFP to strengthen the humanitarian hub of Hispaniola to provide better humanitarian assistance to Haiti, Cuba and neighbouring Caribbean countries. During the 2016 hurricane season, the assistance provided through the Dominican Republic reached Haiti in less than 48 hours after Hurricane Matthew struck the country. The activities proposed are aligned and in synergy with the current WFP project with the Dominican Red Cross.

### *Response by the IFRC Country Cluster Support Team – English Speaking Caribbean and Suriname*

Following the devastating impacts of the 2017 hurricane season on the English-speaking Caribbean, the IFRC has been implementing emergency operations in Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis (Hurricane Irma) and Dominica (Hurricane Maria). The IFRC’s Country Cluster Support Team has engaged in various discussions with its national societies, Red Cross overseas branches in the Caribbean, and key national, regional and international stakeholders to assess the existing post disaster situation and recommend approaches to “building back better”, as well as preparation for responding effectively to the 2018 hurricane season.

A Hurricane Review meeting was held in February 2018. This meeting was attended by 79 representatives from fourteen National Red Cross Societies and five Red Cross Overseas Branches, along with five National Disaster Offices and twelve partner non-governmental and humanitarian organizations. With the learnings arising from this meeting, discussions with relevant stakeholders, post event action reviews conducted by several partner organisations, and the recommendations from the Feasibility Study for prepositioning of relief items in the Caribbean Region conducted in January 2017 by the IFRC with funding from ECHO, the IFRC has identified interventions that would enable Red Cross in the Caribbean to contribute to increased national-level readiness and response to the increased intensity of these events.

Although the Atlantic Hurricane Season officially runs from June 1 to November 30 every year, the formation of Tropical Storm Arlene in April 2017 demonstrated that these systems could fall outside of the traditional season. They can also affect countries not typically impacted - as was the case with Trinidad and Tobago during Tropical Storm Bret in mid-June 2017. Their intensity can cripple economies as did Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

*Response by the IFRC Regional Office*

The Regional Office is focused on increasing the quality of its disaster management system in the Americas, strengthening new mechanisms, defining quality check lists for operations, systematizing lessons learned, updating regional contingency plans and standard operating procedures, increasing the support to enhance the linkages between the regional system and National Societies’ readiness capacities. Additionally, as part of the disaster management review and modernization process, IFRC is developing a clearly defined monitoring and reporting framework, with the aim of assessing the progress of the Americas Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) meeting’s action points. It is also creating a clear, practical and regionally specific information management platform, allowing for improved decision-making for all the IFRC’s disaster management systems in the Americas.

### Project Description

The project activities here below combine post-Irma reconstruction and rehabilitation with preparedness for the 2018 hurricane season.

*Haiti, Dominican Republic and Cuba*

The IFRC has a status agreement with the Government of the Dominican Republic and is strengthening its offices in the country. The Governments of Haiti and Dominican Republic have a bi-national plan for cooperation which includes emergency response. Under this plan, the Dominican Red Cross holds certain privileges, that allows the National Society to provide support and response in a timely and efficient manner. The reverse is not the case for the Haitian Red Cross, which is subject to normal procedures and processes for entry and response on Dominican soil. The Dominican Republic is fast becoming a logistics hub within the Caribbean, providing services and products at competitive prices. The Cuban Red Cross maintains a close relationship with their Government, however logistics continue to be complicated. In this context, the IFRC proposes to develop a regional response plan to provide effective and efficient emergency response to the countries of Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti. This includes the pre-positioning of NFIs for 1,500 families within the newly formed sub-regional hub and strengthening of the logistics and relief distribution capacities of the three national societies. The Cuba Emergency Operation has been extended and this project will support permanent and sustainable shelter and settlement solutions for an additional 500 families affected by Hurricane Irma and provide Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) training for Cuban Red Cross staff and volunteers.

*Caribbean (English speaking and Suriname)*

In the case of the English-speaking Caribbean, the five national societies that sent their stocks of pre-positioned relief items to support their affected sister national societies during the 2017 hurricane season will be provided with replacement relief items for 900 families. These include Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. With a view to strengthening logistics capacities in the region including timely delivery of relief, at least 1 regional sub-warehouse will be established, based on the results of the feasibility study conducted in January 2017. To improve communications capacities in emergencies, telecom resources will be procured and installed (e.g. Ham/CB radio & linked internet) with solar power option and training provided to Red Cross volunteers. The project will also support preparedness activities linked to the lessons learned activity and pre-2018 hurricane season preparedness, with National Societies, National Disaster Offices and CDEMA. The Cluster Office in Trinidad and Tobago will be better prepared through equipping an Emergency Operation room, visibility materials and some emergency supplies - sleeping bags, solar lights etc.

In addition, as Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) has increasingly become an effective way to providing aid to affected communities (for example, in Antigua & Barbuda which was hit by hurricane Irma), there is an increased need to support the National Societies building preparedness for CTP. While trainings have been implemented as part of the emergency operations in 2018, IFRC will continue to develop the capacity of CTP of National Societies by building on existing capacities in the sub-region.

The interventions are based on finding and recommendations from:

* The Caribbean Hurricane Response Planning Meeting 2018.
* IFRC hurricane IRMA Appeal and Reports,
* Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) - Hurricane Irma Situation Reports,
* United Nations Development Program (UNDP),
* United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) ACAPS Regional Overview: Impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria

The IFRC’s regional office will ensure that the proposed activities are well supported with training and technical support in Shelter, Logistics, Information Management and IT/Telecom systems.

### Activities and budget summary

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| **Outcomes** | **Activities** | **Budget** |
| **Outcome 1: IFRC emergency response meets the** **permanent and sustainable shelter and settlement solutions for 500 families affected by Hurricane Irma in Cuba.** | * Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness training (PASSA) * Shelter materials for permanent and sustainable shelter for 500 families (iron sheets, hurricane straps)[[1]](#footnote-1) * Training and support for families undertaking roofing repairs * Roofing tool kits for 500 families | € 369,440 |
| **Outcome 2: IFRC emergency response can meet the needs of 1,500 families with NFI’s in Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti in a timely fashion during the 2018 hurricane season.** | * Pre-position Relief items for 1,500 families from Cuba and Hispaniola in Dominican Republic * Hispaniola and Cuba Response Plan developed * Logistics Information management system * Train Red Cross teams in Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti Red Cross in humanitarian logistics and relief distribution * Support establishment of sub-regional warehouse in Dominican Republic | € 230,900 |
| **Outcome 3: Improved national and community disaster preparedness for emergency response in the Caribbean (English-speaking and Suriname)** | * Replacement of pre-positioned Relief items for 800 families, among Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago. * Establishment of at least 1 sub-regional warehouse based on the results of the feasibility study conducted in January 2017. * Telecoms resources procured & installed (e.g. Ham/CB radio & linked internet) with solar power option and training provided to Red Cross volunteers. * Cash Transfer Programming preparedness activities in the sub-region. * Cluster Office preparedness, including equipment for an operation room, satellite phone, visibility materials and some emergency supplies – invertors, sleeping bags, solar lights etc. * Preparedness activities linked to the lessons learned activity within CCST (training/ simulation), with National Societies, National Disaster Offices and CDEMA. * Program Management costs: IFRC coordinator, DRM officer, Finance and Admin staff, etc. | € 230,900 |
| **Outcome 4: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured.** | * Provide training and technical support in Logistics, Shelter and Information Management for the proposed activities in the Caribbean. * Movement communication and information management support to the National Societies from the IFRC’s Americas Regional Office. * Disasters and Crisis Dept. coordination with Clusters and IFRC technical units to support planning, monitoring and technical assistance. | € 92,360 |

**Indirect costs PSSR 6.5% PSSR plus 1% pledge earmarking fee € 75,000**

**Reporting fees Mid-term and end-of-term (narrative and financial) € 1,400**

**TOTAL BUDGET € 1,000,000**

1. 50 CGI zinc sheets x 14USD, 2 hurricane straps x 34USD, 1 roofing kit x 116USD per family [↑](#footnote-ref-1)