

JAMAICA: Hurricane Melissa

Situation Report No. 1

As of 31 October 2025

This report is produced by OCHA in support of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 27 to 31 October 2025. The next report will be issued on or around 2 November 2025.

KEY POINTS

- Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica on 28
 October as a Category 5 storm, bringing catastrophic
 winds, flooding and storm surge that caused islandwide power outages and severe infrastructure
 damage.
- Melissa caused extensive flooding, wind damage and landslides across western and southern Jamaica, destroying homes, disrupting essential services and isolating communities, particularly in St Elizabeth, St James, Trelawny, Manchester, Hanover and Westmoreland.
- The Government of Jamaica, supported by CDEMA, UN agencies and partners, is leading national coordination to restore critical services, conduct assessments and deliver life-saving assistance across affected areas.
- Flooded roads, damaged communications and power disruptions are challenging humanitarian operations and data collection, slowing access to isolated communities and delaying restoration of essential services.



Source: UNOSAT Building Damage Assessment in Black River Village, Saint Elizabeth Parish as of 29 October 2025 - https://unosat.org/products/4212

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

• Sustained coordination and financing will be vital to restore services, rebuild infrastructure and support communities still recovering from Hurricane Beryl in 2024.

30K

People displaced Source: IOM **7K**

People in shelters

Source: CDEMA

400

Active shelters

Source: CDEMA

6

Parishes severely affected

Source: CDEMA

66%

of customers without power

Source: JPS

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October as a Category 5 storm, bringing sustained winds of 185 mph, storm surge of 4–13 feet and rainfall up to 500 mm in several areas. About 66 per cent of customers lost power and internet, according to the Government of Jamaica. Access remains difficult because of blocked roads, landslides and flooding. Early modelling from the Pacific Disaster Center shows extensive wind and surge exposure across southwestern parishes, with flood-depth and building-damage mapping confirming severe impacts in Black River (St Elizabeth) and along the southern coast.

Severe flooding and wind damage are reported across St Elizabeth, St James, Trelawny, Manchester, Hanover and Westmoreland. In Black River, critical infrastructure was heavily damaged and roads remain obstructed, while standing water raises concern for waterborne disease. In Montego Bay, the main hospital endured but adjoining service units were rendered inoperable, reducing health capacity. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) reports over 400 shelters active across all parishes, housing about 7,000 people. According to IOM, around 30,000 people are displaced, some in makeshift shelters. UN Women estimates more than 445,000 women and girls are directly affected.

The Government has declared a national disaster, activated coordination through ODPEM and launched the "Support Jamaica" platform. The National Emergency Operations Centre remains at Level 3 to coordinate life-saving response, prioritising restoration of power, water and access. All three international airports are open for relief operations, although both Norman Manley and Sangster sustained damage.

Melissa is the second major hurricane to strike Jamaica in 16 months, following Beryl in June 2024, leaving many communities still recovering and underscoring the need for sustained support.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The Government of Jamaica, through ODPEM and its NEOC, continues to lead the national response, supported by CDEMA through the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM). The UN and partners are aligning international assistance under national leadership. A Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT) deployed on 31 October, following the Government of Jamaica's request

Joint assessments led by ODPEM with CDEMA, UN agencies and partners are collecting data on damage, needs and access constraints across all parishes to inform prioritisation and recovery. UNICEF field visits on 29 October observed severe flooding and isolation, while WFP is enabling digital assessments through the Jamaica Household Damage, Impact and Needs Assessment (JHDINA) platform, using mobile tools and a live dashboard for real-time analysis. FAO is conducting satellite remote sensing analysis to complement agriculture and fisheries field assessment efforts in addition to its participation in the RNAT.

UNICEF, PAHO/WHO and WFP are restoring essential services, including water, health, nutrition and logistics. UNICEF has deployed pre-positioned supplies and will distribute six tonnes of WASH items while supporting MoHW to resume maternal and child health services. PAHO/WHO and CARPHA are providing emergency medical teams and equipment for damaged hospitals, and IOM and the Red Cross are coordinating shelter operations for displaced families. UNESCO is supporting accurate public information and counter-disinformation efforts during the crisis, including through the creation of a rapid information-verification mechanism to curb harmful misinformation circulating after Hurricane Melissa.

Critical cargo from the Regional Logistics Hub in Barbados will ship once ports reopen, including emergency food, hygiene kits, shelter materials and communications equipment from UNICEF, IOM and WFP. Community-led debris clearance and road reopening are under way, but power loss, damaged logistics infrastructure and weak communications continue to constrain operations. The UN is also exploring forward field operations near the hardest-hit areas to strengthen engagement with local authorities and speed assistance.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Restore safe water and sanitation for households, shelters and critical facilities.
- Re-establish water supply in multiple parishes where systems are interrupted and public-health risks are rising.
- Provide water treatment, storage and distribution capacity (water trucking, large-volume storage, purification), hygiene items and hand-washing facilities, according.
- Repair and power community water points (pumps, generators and pipework) and support vector control.
- Prioritise rapid chlorination, hygiene promotion, and risk-communication interventions to prevent further outbreaks.

Response:

- UNICEF is preparing to distribute six tonnes of WASH supplies (dignity kits, 12-litre water containers, cleaning kits), organising water trucking and hand-washing stations, and supporting rehabilitation of community water points with pumps, generators and pipe repairs. It is also assisting MoHW with water-purification resources and vector control, and leading WASH coordination nationally and locally.
- Daily coordination continues between UNICEF, the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) and partners. UNICEF WASH staff are mobilising, a national coordination meeting has been held, and a real-time tracking system is active under the WASH country focal point.
- Five WASH specialists from Trinidad are assigned to the RNAT assessment deployment.
- At the Jamaica Defence Force's request, the Governments of the Netherlands and PAHO are providing mass waterstorage units, including a solar-powered reverse-osmosis plant (60 m³/day). OceanX and the Netherlands will supply an operator and generator, coordinated with MoH for water-quality treatment.
- Water Mission is sending five portable water-treatment systems, three already en route to Jamaica.
- ODPEM is mobilising relief items from PAHO and UNICEF, including water-treatment kits, hygiene kits and sanitising tablets.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Widespread service interruption of water systems across several parishes persists
- Some 700 systems affected require assessment, repair and power supply; access constraints and isolation slow deliveries
- Power and connectivity outages complicate operations and monitoring for WASH partners

\$ Health

Needs:

- Maintain life-saving care in damaged hospitals through field facilities, emergency repairs, medical supplies, generators, EMT deployment, disease surveillance and essential WASH and medicines.
- Deploy a mobile laboratory for clinical and public-health support, as requested by MoHW and relayed via CARPHA.
- Provide MHPSS for patients, staff and communities.
- Restore primary and maternal-child health services and meet urgent nutrition needs for about 18,000 children under five and pregnant or lactating women, according to UNICEF and MoHW.

Response:

- PAHO/WHO is supporting MoHW with mobilisation of Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs), technical guidance on facility readiness, WASH, psychosocial support, disease surveillance, sector assessments and information management, and support to the Health Emergency Operations Centre.
- PAHO/WHO visited severely affected hospitals in the Western Region and is coordinating infrastructure assessments and deployments for WASH, MHPSS and facility rehabilitation.
- CARPHA has coordinated health supplies for Jamaica and is deploying a rapid-response team with additional staff in coordination with CARICOM Health Ministers.
- Patient transfers are ongoing from damaged hospitals: Black River (catastrophic damage, no electricity), Falmouth (storm-surge flooding), Noel Holmes (severe damage; 18 patients transferred) and Cornwall Regional (flood and wind damage to older section).

- Cold-chain monitoring continues; imaging services operate under contingency; and surveillance in shelters remains active.
- UNICEF, with MoHW, is restoring primary and neonatal care, providing emergency nutrition—including micronutrient powders and iron and folic-acid supplements—and promoting breastfeeding and IYCF counselling in hospitals, shelters and child-friendly spaces.
- UNICEF has allocated US\$ 1 million to Government-led health and MHPSS activities for children.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Several hospitals and health centres report flooding, structural damage and power loss. Black River Hospital is inoperable and fully evacuated; 71 patients from one facility were awaiting emergency transfer, according to PAHO/WHO.
- Pre-existing power vulnerabilities limit service continuity: 18 per cent of facilities in the Western Region report generator failures; 15 per cent in the Southeast require larger diesel tanks; and some imaging services lack generator connectivity, according to PAHO/WHO.
- Damage to Baby-Friendly Hospitals—including Black River, Noel Holmes and Mandeville Regional—is disrupting neonatal and nutrition services, according to UNICEF.
- Access and communications constraints, including blocked roads, landslides and connectivity outages, are delaying information flow and operations, according to PAHO/WHO and CARPHA.

Food Security

Needs:

- Provide immediate food assistance for households whose livelihoods and access to markets have been disrupted by flooding and infrastructure damage.
- Support national authorities in restoring food distribution systems and logistics to isolated areas.
- Strengthen data collection and targeting mechanisms to ensure food assistance reaches the most affected populations.
- Planting materials and tools to restore food production capacity and farming livelihoods
- Livestock feed, housing repair materials and livestock medications to treat and prevent the spread of disease.
- Restoring fishing capacity and livelihoods

Response:

- WFP is preparing to airlift 2,000 food kits from Barbados to support 6,000 people. Each kit is designed to sustain a household of three for seven days and will be distributed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS).
- WFP is supporting the Government through the Jamaica Household Damage, Impact and Needs Assessment (JHDINA)
 platform, enabling digital access for post-disaster relief targeting. A dashboard has been developed to track and
 visualise assessment data for timely decision-making.
- Preparations are under way to deploy Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in St Elizabeth for positioning of food and relief items.
- Food for the Poor (FFP) is packaging 1,500 food and care packages for relief distribution, according to PAHO/WHO.
- Regional partners coordinated through CDEMA have mobilised shipments of food and essential items from the Barbados hub to Jamaica to reinforce national operations led by ODPEM.
- World Central Kitchen (WCK) arrived in Kingston on 30 October and are deploying food preparation and distribution teams to affected areas.
- FAO is supporting the Government through field-based damage and needs assessments and satellite remote sensing analysis to inform response and recovery planning.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access constraints and damaged roads continue to limit food delivery to the most isolated parishes.
- Market disruptions and power outages have affected food storage and distribution capacity.
- Final household targeting depends on completion of assessments through the JHDINA platform.

Nutrition

- Ensure access to adequate and safe nutrition for children under five, particularly infants and young children under two, whose risk of malnutrition has increased due to disrupted feeding practices and limited food access.
- Identify and support breastfeeding mothers through dedicated mother-and-baby areas and skilled counselling to maintain and re-establish breastfeeding.
- Provide targeted support for non-breastfed infants, including safe supplies of breast-milk substitutes (BMS) and training on hygienic preparation, only when medically indicated and under coordinated supervision.
- Restore nutrition services for pregnant and lactating women, including access to diverse, healthy foods, micronutrient supplements and antenatal care.
- Prevent distribution of untargeted or unsafe BMS, milk products or feeding equipment, which can endanger infants when water and sanitation are compromised.

Response:

- UNICEF, working with MoHW and partners, is mobilising emergency nutrition supplies including micronutrient powders and iron and folic acid supplements to prevent malnutrition among more than 18,000 children under five and pregnant and lactating women in affected parishes.
- Rapid nutrition assessments are being planned to determine specific needs, while mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) tapes, anthropometric tools and therapeutic foods are being distributed for the identification and treatment of severe acute malnutrition.
- UNICEF is supporting the scale-up of breastfeeding promotion and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling in hospitals, shelters and child-friendly spaces, including at damaged Baby-Friendly Hospitals such as Black River, Noel Holmes and Mandeville Regional.
- In line with joint guidance from the Global Nutrition Cluster, FAO, PAHO, UNICEF and WFP, responders are being advised to avoid untargeted BMS donations, to promote exclusive breastfeeding, and to ensure complementary foods provided through assistance are healthy, culturally appropriate and safe.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Several health facilities with neonatal and feeding services are damaged or operating on limited power, reducing the quality of nutrition and maternal care.
- Access constraints continue to delay nutrition assessments and supply delivery to isolated parishes.
- Uncoordinated donations and misinformation about BMS risk undermining breastfeeding promotion and safe infant feeding practices.
- Limited availability of nutritious, fresh foods in local markets threatens dietary diversity and maternal nutrition.



Needs:

- Provide emergency shelter and essential household items (tarpaulins, repair kits, blankets, hygiene and cleaning kits, kitchen sets, solar lamps, mosquito nets, jerrycans, shelter kits) for displaced households, according to CDEMA and IOM.
- Maintain and manage collective centres and strengthen site coordination under Government leadership, according to IOM.
- Expand short-term accommodation for highly vulnerable groups and responders; Airbnb.org funding is available for temporary housing programmes, according to IOM.
- Supply generators and non-food items to facilities providing protection and support services, according to the Government of Jamaica as relayed by CDEMA.

Response:

- IOM co-leads the Shelter Technical Working Group under the Humanitarian Assistance Committee (including collective centres/CCCM) at the authorities' request; an IOM Shelter Coordination Lead is en route, with four IOM staff arriving on 31 October to support coordination and assessments.
- A French Armed Forces vessel departed 29 October carrying IOM stocks from the regional hub in Barbados for Jamaica: 700 tarpaulins, 400 ropes, 360 shelter repair kits (DG ECHO-supported replenishment), 16 generators, 65 air mattresses, 1,536 hygiene kits, 648 Luci solar lamps, bedding sets, 20 LED lamps, 15 small indoor tents and 708 LuminAID Survivor Solar Dual Lamps and Chargers, to be distributed with ODPEM.
- The Jamaica Red Cross (JRC) has mobilised 400 volunteers and released pre-positioned stocks (blankets, cleaning and hygiene kits, shelter toolkits, tarpaulins); IFRC prepared additional supplies for 2,300 people and a 28-ton charter with kitchen sets, blankets, jerrycans and hygiene supplies for 1,800 families.
- Partners mobilising for shelter relief include Global Empowerment Mission (GEM), CARE International, ShelterBox, Global Emergency Relief, Recovery & Reconstruction (GER3) and Is There Not A Cause? (ITNAK).
- The Government indicates shelters will remain open as long as needed, per IOM.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Makeshift shelters have emerged; deliveries there are limited.
- Access constraints (blocked roads, landslides) and communications/power outages slow distributions and site management.
- Ongoing generator and NFI needs persist for facilities supporting protection services, according to the Government of Jamaica as relayed by CDEMA.

Protection

Needs:

- Protect women, girls and vulnerable groups in shelters and communities through GBV risk mitigation, case management, psychosocial first aid and referral pathways.
- Maintain child protection services and monitoring in residential care, foster families and juvenile centres, providing NFIs and generators to sustain operations.
- Expand community outreach and GBV awareness across the hardest-hit parishes.

Response:

- UNICEF, with the Child Protection and Family Services Agency, is monitoring children in residential care and foster families nationwide; all are accounted for and safe. Juvenile centres remain secure on backup power, with assessments ongoing.
- UN Women is coordinating community outreach, psychosocial support and GBV awareness, and supporting genderresponsive services. With UNFPA, it is strengthening local GBV referral pathways and ensuring essential services for survivors.
- UN Women and UNICEF are providing targeted financial support through the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) for low-income women with children under five.
- UN Women is working on the administrative arrangements to facilitate support by way of Cash-based Transfers to support vulnerable women and their families.
- UNFPA has commissioned 1,000 dignity kits via its Panama hub and is promoting integration of GBV protection across all sectors; PSEA training is available for incoming staff.
- The Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation (WCJF) reports structural damage and connectivity losses at several centres; continuity support is being arranged.
- A contingency programme with Children First Agency is delivering outreach, psychosocial support and GBViE awareness in affected areas.
- CARE International and the Caribbean Gender Alliance published a "Gender in Brief" for Jamaica which can be found here.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Urgent NFIs and generators are needed to keep protection and communication services running in affected facilities.
- Damaged facilities (including WCJF sites) and power/telecom outages constrain service delivery and case follow-up.
- Isolation of communities and access constraints slow outreach and referral services.

Emergency Telecommunications

Noods.

- Restore power and communications across affected parishes to enable emergency coordination and information sharing.
- Deploy backup connectivity and radio systems for government and humanitarian partners in areas where networks remain down.
- Provide technical support to assess telecommunications damage and prioritise restoration of services for critical operations.
- As of 29 October, Jamaica experienced up to 45 per cent national connectivity loss, with St Elizabeth at 80 per cent and Kingston at around 40 per cent.

Response

- ETC and WFP have pre-positioned connectivity equipment in Kingston, including satellite internet devices, VHF radios, solar panels and generators.
- CDEMA has pre-positioned satellite internet devices across Jamaica, while ODPEM has installed backup systems in three community centres.
- A WFP FITTEST technician and senior IT specialist are en route to assess network functionality and identify priority sites for Wi-Fi hotspot installation and restoration.
- Vodafone Foundation has deployed eight IT volunteers and Wi-Fi/Starlink kits for 15 sites (150-metre coverage radius), expected by 31 October; kits can be split for multi-floor buildings.
- Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) has deployed a four-person team arriving in Kingston on 30 October with Starlink terminals, satellite phones and networking gear, supporting the Jamaica Red Cross.
- Global Support and Development (GSD) has pre-positioned maritime and aviation assets with ETC capabilities in Puerto Rico.
- Global ETC partners—including the Governments of Luxembourg, Cisco Crisis Response and Ericsson Response—stand ready to deploy additional personnel and equipment.
- The CARICOM Emergency Telecommunications Team (CETT) remains on standby.
- The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has activated its Disaster Connectivity Mapping (DCM) tool and is shipping satellite phones to the Spectrum Management Authority, with transport facilitated by WFP.
- UNESCO, in partnership with national media bodies and the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, is ready to launch immediately a Rapid Disaster Assessment of Media Institutions.

Constraints:

- Power outages and physical damage to infrastructure continue to affect telecommunications networks across multiple parishes.
- Blocked roads and debris are delaying the delivery and installation of connectivity equipment.

da Logistics

Needs

- Maintain reliable logistics routes to move relief goods amid blocked roads and damaged infrastructure.
- Strengthen coordination between national authorities and regional partners to avoid duplication and ensure efficient delivery of aid.
- Establish emergency staging areas and temporary storage capacity for incoming relief supplies at ports and airports.

Response

- DEMA, in collaboration with WFP and international partners, has mobilised and dispatched relief supplies from the Regional Caribbean Logistics Hub in Barbados to Jamaica.
- A coordinated regional operation took place at the Bridgetown Port, where the French military vessel *Le Dumont D'Urville* was loaded with humanitarian cargo for Jamaica. The shipment included essential supplies to reinforce national operations led by ODPEM, with contributions from the EU, Government of Canada, UK Armed Forces, and IOM.
- Emergency staging areas are being established at Jamaica's main ports, and a logistics network is expanding to manage incoming support.
- The first Seabridge movement from Barbados has been initiated, while the EU has provided 14 twenty-foot containers to support Dutch partners operating from the Bridgetown Port.
- Coordination continues with Airlink, ECHO and the private sector to align air and sea logistics and prioritise medical supplies and generators.
- WFP is preparing to deploy Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in St Elizabeth for pre-positioning of food and relief items and remains on standby to scale up assistance based on evolving needs.
- Critical cargo pre-positioned at the Barbados hub—including emergency food, hygiene kits, shelter materials and communications equipment—is being shipped as ports reopen.

Constraints

- Damaged roads, debris and flooding continue to restrict overland transport and delay distribution to rural parishes.
- Limited warehousing and staging capacity in-country are constraining operations until MSUs are fully deployed.
- Power and connectivity issues persist, slowing coordination and information exchange among logistics partners.

Education

Needs:

- UNICEF assessments identify urgent requirements to restore access to learning through temporary classrooms, school repairs and replacement of damaged materials.
- CDEMA highlight the need to reopen schools safely and ensure readiness in the most-affected western parishes.
- During the recovery phase, UNESCO advocates a comprehensive post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA). This
 requires advocacy with the Ministry of Education concerning the necessity of a detailed assessment of school
 infrastructure and facilities as part of disaster preparedness.
- Emergency education supplies are required to maintain continuity of learning.
- Teachers and students need psychosocial support to aid recovery and enable a safe return to classrooms

Response:

- Schools in Kingston and St Andrew are scheduled to reopen on 3 November, with an emergency plan for students in the worst-hit western parishes.
- UNICEF, in coordination with the Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information, is supporting continuity of learning across affected parishes.
- Emergency supplies are being distributed, including 210 school-in-a-box kits and 210 early-childhood development kits for the most-affected schools.
- UNICEF has allocated up to US\$500 per school for emergency materials to 100 schools and is supporting repairs in at least 10 schools, benefiting nearly 10,000 students, parents and teachers.
- Psychosocial support activities are ongoing: UNICEF will reprint its Be Prepared psychosocial first-aid guide to reach 20,000 children and develop a second volume as part of wider mental-health interventions.
- Six hundred teachers from the most-affected schools will be trained in the Return to Happiness (RTH) methodology to aid their own recovery and support around 18,000 students.
- UNESCO, co-lead with UNICEF in Education in Jamaica, stands ready to provide emergency funding upon request to replace education materials and resources that may have been damaged, similar to UNESCO action in Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines after Beryl.
- UNESCO offers through the deployment a dedicated staff and together with the Jamaican Teaching Council to provide mental health support to teachers in schools located in the most affected regions.
- UNESCO, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, is prepared to support coordination on education in emergencies, including school safety assessments, planning for continuity of learning, teacher support and

- psychosocial resources. UNESCO will also help integrate lessons from Melissa into Jamaica's Safe Schools Programme and disaster-preparedness curricula.
- UNESCO has one international staff member and one national staff member currently available to support the emergency education response. An additional international staff member is on standby and can deploy to Jamaica as early as 1-2 November to reinforce coordination, learning-continuity planning and school safety support.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Several schools remain closed due to structural damage and delayed repairs.
- Power and connectivity outages continue to disrupt reopening timelines.
- Blocked roads and flood damage are slowing delivery of education materials and limiting access to the most-affected schools.
- Strengthened inter-agency coordination for Education in Emergencies and structured support for teachers on crisisresponsive pedagogy and psychosocial care will be needed.

Early Recovery

Needs:

- Support rapid restoration of essential services, including debris clearance, electricity, water and communications, to enable community recovery and service delivery.
- Assess damage to critical infrastructure and key economic sectors such as tourism, housing and trade, and provide targeted technical assistance for early recovery planning.
- Deploy specialised personnel to help coordinate national recovery efforts and integrate disaster risk reduction and resilience into reconstruction.

Response:

- UNDP serves as co-chair with CDEMA of the Early Recovery Working group under the Caribbean Development Partners Group for Disaster Management, with UNDP Jamaica engaged via the WG for generation of local early recovery needs and actions in concert with other UN agencies and partner agencies
- UNDP Jamaica is engaged with the UNDP Crisis Bureau for the mobilization of early recovery experts to be deployed to Jamaica in the coming days under surge modality.
- A UNDP surge early recovery advisor is soon to be deployed to Jamaica, and additional surge personnel are being
 considered in key areas of UNDP early recovery support, such as restoration of local governance core functions, SME
 and livelihoods, solar for recovery, debris management, buildings restoration and other areas.
- UNDP assistance is also being explored in area such as debris removal and early recovery planning, while support to community recovery under UNDP ongoing programmes in Jamaica also being explores in areas such as SME capacity development, community livelihoods, coastal environmental protection and other areas
- UNESCO is in communication with the Ministry of Culture regarding potential post-impact assessments on cultural
 institutions and heritage sites, similar to the joint assessment conducted after Hurricane Beryl in 2024. Confirmation
 from national authorities is expected shortly.
- UNESCO recommends working with the MoEYI to assess impacts on cultural-education institutions (libraries, museums, community cultural centres) and to ensure learning continuity for students in remote and marginalized communities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access constraints due to the level of destruction in some roads pose challenges to debris removal operations.
- Limited availability of recovery funding and specialized technical capacity might be a challenge to be addressed before the rapid response phase is over.
- The extent of damage to housing and economic infrastructure remains under assessment, constraining recovery planning and prioritization

FINANCING

The IFRC has launched an Emergency Appeal for CHF 19 million (US\$23 million) to assist 180,000 people affected over the next 24 months. The appeal will fund emergency shelter, health, water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, as well as cash and livelihood recovery to help families rebuild.

The Government of the United Kingdom announced a contribution of £7.5 million (US\$9.6 million) in humanitarian assistance. The package includes 3,000 emergency shelter kits and 1,500 solar lanterns, the majority of which are arriving in Jamaica on 31 October. The UK is also providing financial support to the ongoing IFRC and WFP humanitarian appeals. including a £1 million (US\$1.3 million) UK Aid Match to the IFRC public appeal.

The Government of Canada announced CA\$ 7 million (US\$ 5.1 million) in humanitarian assistance for the Caribbean, including CA\$ 2 million (US\$1.45 million) for WFP's Regional Logistics Hub, which is dispatching food and relief items to Jamaica. Canada has also offered to deploy relief supplies from its emergency stockpiles through the Red Cross Movement if requested.

The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF SPC) has confirmed a US\$ 70.8 million payout to the Government of Jamaica, the largest in its history. The funds are expected within 14 days and will provide rapid financial support for the Government's immediate response and early recovery efforts.

A team of four UK humanitarian specialists arrived in Jamaica aboard the CDEMA-chartered flight to assist with coordination and operational support to national and regional response mechanisms.

GENERAL COORDINATION

The Government of Jamaica, through ODPEM, continues to lead national response and coordination efforts. The NEOC remains at Level 3 activation, with all ministries, departments and agencies engaged in field assessments and relief operations. CDEMA is coordinating regional support through its RRM, with an RNAT on standby at the Government's request and additional assistance in logistics, telecommunications and partner coordination.

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office leads inter-agency coordination with Government counterparts, supported by OCHA. who deployed a three-person team on 30 October to support coordination, information management and public information. Twice-daily HEOC meetings are convened by the MoHW with PAHO/WHO participation, while the CDPG aligns partner activities and priorities. At the country level, the UN Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) meets regularly to set operational priorities and ensure alignment with national coordination. Regionally, the Caribbean Development Partners Group for Disaster Management (CDPG-DM) supports joint decision-making, mobilisation of expertise and coordinated engagement with CDEMA.

Sector coordination is active under national leadership with UN and NGO co-leads. Partners are also working through ODPEM's Humanitarian Assistance Committee to support Government-led operations. Joint inter-agency assessments are informing assistance prioritisation and transition to early recovery.

The private sector, coordinated through the Caribbean Private Sector Organisation (CPSO) and national chambers, has mobilised warehousing, logistics and donations. Chambers in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago are shipping supplies through CDEMA mechanisms, while regional associations coordinate with National Disaster Offices to avoid duplication.

Please visit USEFUL LINKS (https://tinyurl.com/mzusxsu3) for relevant information on needs lists, contact lists, 3W, meetings calendar, satellite imagery from UNOSAT, assessment registry and additional resources and maps - or scan the QR Code.



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