

In the wake of Hurricane Melissa, which made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October as a Category 5 storm, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is allocating US\$4 million to help scale up humanitarian operations. Melissa affected many of the same parishes still recovering from Hurricane Beryl in 2024, slowing recovery efforts following catastrophic winds, flooding and storm surge. The Government of Jamaica, supported by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), UN agencies and partners, is leading the national response to restore essential services, conduct assessments and deliver life-saving assistance.

\$4m

CERF allocation for scaling up life-saving aid

19

organizations registered with OCHA's contact list

26

contacts registered with OCHA's contact list



PRIORITY AREAS

St. Elizabeth, especially Black River, is the epicentre of the impact, with severe damage reported across St. James, Westmoreland, Manchester and Hanover.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Restoring mobile networks are critical for affected populations to receive information and authorities and partners to coordinate response.



ACCESS

Flooded roads hampering assessments, land delivery of essential goods, access from Kingston, and the full restoration of basic services.



Map source: CDEMA



Please scan QR code or visit t.ly/WovwQ to access Jamaica Useful Links with contact list, 3W, meetings calendar and more.

COORDINATION

- OCHA is in Jamaica supporting coordination and information management with authorities, the UN and partners.
- A CDEMA Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT) began field assessments on 1 November, covering agriculture, health, housing and infrastructure, and WASH.
- A UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team is arriving to support field assessments and operations.
- MapAction is assisting CDEMA and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) with mapping and data support.
- Several working groups are meeting on an ad hoc basis.
- OCHA is encouraging partners to share schedules on the public calendar and register on the contact list.



Santa Cruz, Jamaica. Local residents and WFP assemble a mobile storage unit to support relief operations for St. Elizabeth communities. Many of those helping were also affected by Hurricane Beryl in 2024 and are now facing renewed hardship after Melissa. Credit: UNOCHA/Marc Belanger