

# Hurricanes Irma and Maria



Their island was battered and their home damaged, but Curvelle, Bevenski and granddaughter Adira were smiling as they picked up much-needed tarpaulins from the Red Cross. Thanks to your generosity, thousands of families received emergency shelter kits and kitchen sets to cope in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

**Six months ago, the Caribbean was pummelled by the worst hurricane season in recent history. With devastating force, the category-5 storms ravaged island nations in their path, impacting more than 1.2 million people.**

Just as help was reaching the islands hit by Hurricane Irma, a second storm, Maria, barrelled down on the region. Its catastrophic impact compounded the damage and the task at hand for Red Cross teams on the ground.

In the aftermath, the sheer magnitude of destruction became clear. Thousands of homes and buildings were flattened, and many more completely submerged in floodwaters. Entire plantations were destroyed, roads wiped out, and power grids damaged. Hundreds of thousands of families were stripped of life's basic essentials. The needs were enormous and urgent.

Thanks to the generosity of Canadians like you, help arrived in some of the most devastated and difficult-to-reach places. In the critical days after the storms, your support made a vital contribution to Red Cross efforts to provide emergency shelter, food, and clean water to families struggling to make it through the aftermath.

Today, families and communities are slowly rebuilding and getting back on their feet. The road ahead will be long and challenging, but your donation is making a difference by helping people repair their homes and restoring health care in affected communities.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Conrad Sauvé".

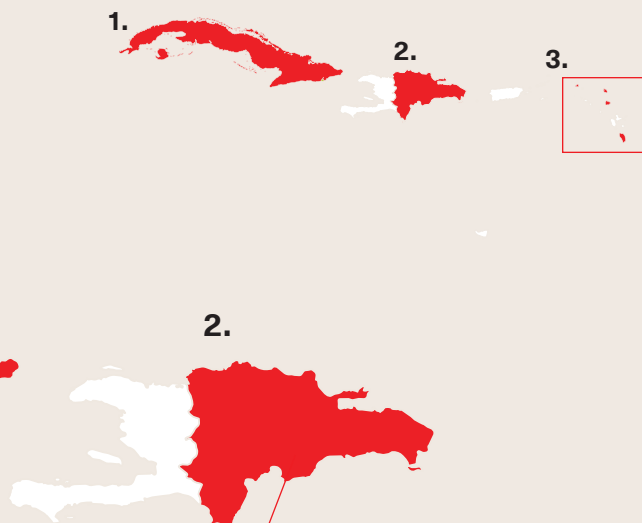
**Conrad Sauvé**  
President & CEO

# After the storms: Your lifesaving impact



## CUBA

- Major damage to homes, water and electricity systems, schools and agriculture in the Central and Western Regions.
- **1** operational expert sent to assist emergency and recovery efforts.
- Distribution of relief items to help **25,000** people meet their basic needs (food, water, shelter).
- **1,500** shelter toolkits, **2,500** tarps, **2,500** blankets, **3,314** kitchen sets, **3,049** comfort kits, **3,000** jerry cans, and **16,000** aquatabs for water purification.



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- Severe impact along the north-east coastline, with homes and crops wiped out and water systems heavily damaged.
- Emergency supplies sent as part of relief distributions (shelter toolkits, tarps, kitchen sets, comfort kits, jerry cans) for more than **15,000** impacted people.

3.



## ST. MAARTEN

- **3** experts sent to support emergency and recovery operations on the island, where 70% of homes were destroyed and water and electricity cut off.
- Local Red Cross volunteers assisted with emergency shelter efforts and distributed emergency relief items to **26,000** people across the island.



## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

- **2** Canadian Red Cross hospital rehabilitation units sent to Antigua and Barbuda to support damaged health facilities, including a kit to set up a new emergency room.
- Distribution of relief items (bottled water, comfort kits, kitchen sets) and vital cash assistance for more than **1,000** people.



## DOMINICIA

- On the island hit hardest by the hurricanes, hospitals, schools, road and communication networks, electricity and water systems were severely damaged or destroyed.
- Emergency response activated to bring help to more than **15,000** impacted people.
- Distribution of **8,493** tarps, **928** shelter toolkits, **5,933** blankets, **2,039** kitchen sets, **1,558** comfort kits, and **5,543** jerry cans.

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# A helping hand: Your support gets fishermen back in their boats



“After Irma, my boats were damaged and I could not go fishing for two months. Fishermen really need to get our livelihood back, we need to feed our families.”

**Collane**, local fisherman

Like many people on Barbuda, Collane depends on fishing to help support his family. In the wake of Irma, the island’s fishing industry was decimated, its shoreline littered with overturned and smashed boats. With your support, the Red Cross launched the Fishing Livelihood Recovery Program to help 70 fishermen like Collane repair their boats, replace fishing equipment, and get back on the water.



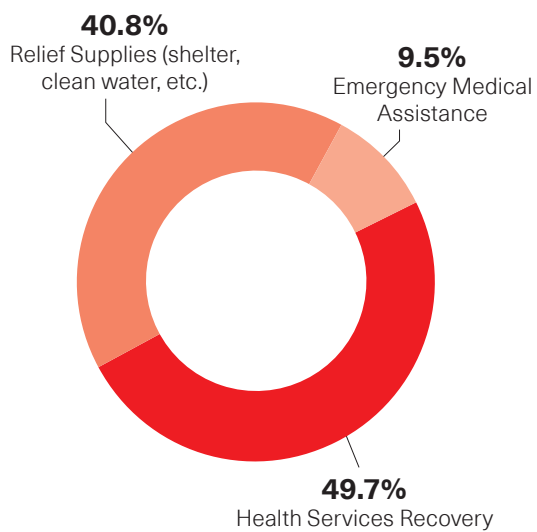
Thank You!

In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, many families on the island of Dominica were cut off from electricity and clean water. Thanks to you, a water treatment system was installed in a devastated community near the capital Roseau. Every day, the taps are in frequent use as men, women and children come to fill up their bottles and buckets.

### YOUR DONATION IN ACTION

The Canadian Red Cross would like to thank generous individuals, businesses and governments for donating \$5.4 million towards our response to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Your donation has provided not only immediate relief but also a helping hand to families and communities on their road to recovery.

#### Here is how your support is helping:



#### Relief Supplies

- Emergency shelter, household and clean water supplies in impacted communities in Dominica, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Antigua and Barbuda.
- Supplies include jerry cans, water tanks, tarpaulins, blankets, shelter tools, roofing materials, kitchen sets and emergency cash for basic needs and livelihood recovery.
- Deployment of operational experts to the ground to support relief and recovery efforts in impacted communities across the Caribbean.

#### Emergency Medical Equipment

- Two hospital rehabilitation units sent to Antigua and Barbuda to support damaged health facilities.
- Includes equipment for a new emergency room in the local hospital in Barbuda that was badly damaged.

#### Health Services Recovery

- Rehabilitation of essential health services on impacted islands.
- Activities to strengthen the health of communities, including the prevention of water-borne disease.

The cost of fundraising on this appeal was less than 5%. This includes fees associated with donation processing and receipting, reporting and communications.