



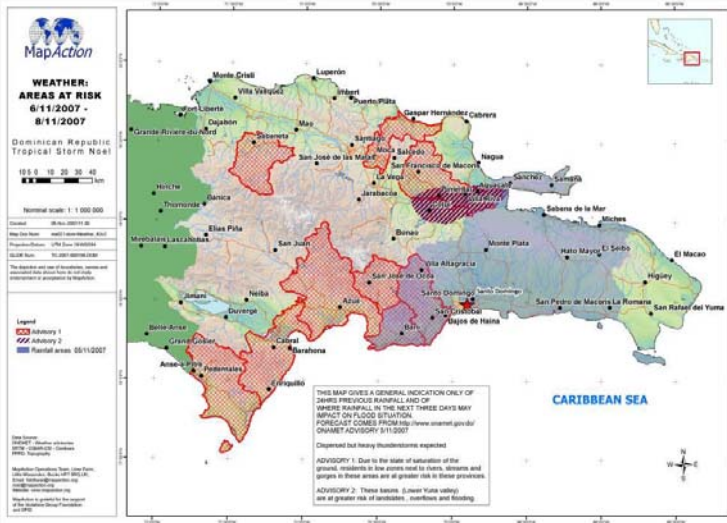
Situation Report 6-Tropical Storm Noel – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 8 NOVEMBER 2007

This situation report is based on information received from United Nations Resident Coordinators in country and OCHA Regional Office in Panama.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The red alert continues to be maintained in 11 provinces and yellow alert in 14 provinces. Tropical Storm “Noel” claimed the lives of 85 people.
- Priority needs are water, sanitation, health, food security and nutrition. Projects under the Flash Appeal are designed to cover those needs.

SITUATION



1. Hour/Date: 17:00 hr. / 7 November 2007.

2. Weather conditions: The National Office of Meteorology (ONAMET in Spanish) reports that a low pressure system continues over eastern Puerto Rico with scattered showers in the Dominican Republic.

3. Forecast for the next two days: ONAMET forecasts that over the next 24 to 48 hours rain will return in the country. Precipitation will mostly be concentrated in the Bajo Yuna and northeastern zones, which could lead to new flooding.

4. Affected area: The Committee for Special Operations (COE in Spanish) maintains a red alert in 11 provinces and maintains yellow alert for another 14. In

the rest of the Dominican Republic the alert has been discontinued.

5. Impact:

National Emergency Commission (CNE) Bulletin 21 (11:00 AM 7 November 2007)	
Dead	85
Disappeared	48
Rescued	4,206
Displaced persons	In shelters26,426
	In homes of families and friends53,302
	TOTAL.....79,728
Affected houses	Slight damage.....18,053
	Destroyed1,879
TOTAL..... 19,932	
Shelters activated	152
Cut-off communities	153
Affected bridges and roads	50

Health, water and sanitation

6. INAPA reports that 155 water systems continue to be damaged, affecting 3.3 million people.

7. The National Hydraulic Resources Institute (INDRHI) increased its damage estimates to 963 million pesos (approximately USD 28.6 million) for the irrigation and training systems in the country.

8. There have been six cases of meningococcal meningitis group B registered in: Santo Domingo Este (3), Santo Domingo Norte (1), San Cristóbal (1) and Guandule (1). Of confirmed cases, three are babies. On 6 November, a three-month old girl died of the disease in San Cristóbal.



Food security and nutrition

9. Thousands of rice, plantain, tomato, onion and other small fruit and vegetable lots were destroyed, particularly in south, Cibao Central and northeastern regions, which remain flooded.

10. Basic agricultural foodstuffs experienced a 30% increase in price yesterday in markets.

11. The General Cattle Ranching Association (DIGEGA) reports that between 8,000 and 9,000 head of cattle disappeared or perished.

Shelters

12. The Dominican Red Cross is assisting more than 36,200 refugees in 226 shelters throughout the country.

PRIORITY NEEDS

13. Most recently identified needs:

Health, water and sanitation

- Potable water and mass and family water storage receptacles; chlorine water purification kits
- Disposable diapers for children and adults
- Portable latrines
- Different sized trash bags
- Mattresses and sheets for beds; mosquito nets
- Medicine and vaccines
- Cleaning equipment for shelters and affected housing
- Psychosocial support
- Water treatment plants

Food Security and Nutrition

- Food for children under 3 and adults located in shelters.

NATIONAL RESPONSE

Organization

14. According to Bulletin #21 of the CNE, on 7 November, the number of cut-off communities again increased (155) along with the number of displaced people (79,728).

15. The President of the Dominican Republic visited on 6 November Arenosa and Villa Riva in Duarte province, where he announced the construction of homes affected by flooding. The Government also plans to rent homes to shelter affected populations until their homes are rebuilt. He also announced that on 8 November he would announce measures to rebuild the areas affected by Tropical Storm “Noel”.

16. The National Council for Urban Matters (Conau) presents a proposal for housing to relocate people living along the Ozama and Isabela rivers. This proposal includes an extension of 12 million square meters in Las Américas, San Isidro, La Caleta, Mella highway and Duarte highway.

17. The Senate requested executive powers to create a specialized body to avoid people to build again and occupy those vulnerable zones.

18. A Public Health has assured that the shelters and affected communities are under sanitary control, despite some cases of diarrhea, colds, respiratory problems and conjunctivitis cases.

19. Some 840 prisoners transferred out of La Victoria prison have now returned.

20. The Secretary of the Budget warned that economic activity fell by 726 million pesos (approximately USD 21.6 million) in the first week of November due to “Noel”.

21. With the “Short Cycle Planting” project, the government seeks to recover 25 essential crops in order to guarantee food production and supply.

22. Agriculture requests that the Army and Police protect crops and properties following a wave of robberies in the south.

Actions

23. Aerial, maritime and land operations for aid and assistance to affected populations continues.



24. Food, medicine, blankets, mattresses, mosquito nets and water distribution and assistance to the population continues.

25. Cafeterias have distributed more than 900,000 cooked meal rations and the Social Plan of the Presidency and the Armed Forces have distributed around 80,450 food rations to affected populations.

26. SESPAS maintains medical personnel, nurses and support personnel in shelters throughout the country, along with epidemiological surveillance through preventive vaccine campaigns, fumigations, and water cleaning and purification efforts. They have also deployed mental health professionals in shelters and distributed fortified food rations for babies.

27. Nationally mobilized funding:

Institution	Amount (USD)	Sector	Type of contributions in kind	No. of Beneficiaries
Gobierno de RD	\$7,666,667	Food Aid	Food Aid	246,000

28. Nationally mobilized materials:

Institution	Sector	Type of contributions in kind	No. of Beneficiaries
Gobierno de RD	Shelter	Reconstruction of housing	
Gobierno de RD	Logistics	Fuel	
Gobierno de RD	Agriculture	Re-planting	1,521,000 hectares
Gobierno de RD	Food Aid	Food Aid	106,040 rations

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

29. The United Nations System and its partners, in consultation with the authorities, issued a Flash Appeal to support the national response. The call for US\$13.9 million is focused on humanitarian aid over the next six months in the health, water and sanitation, shelter, food security and nutrition, protection and education sectors. There were also key aspects included such as the restoration of living conditions and early recovery. The appeal can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

(<http://ochaonline.un.org/humanitarianappeal/webpage.asp?Page=1623>)

30. International assistance (cash contributions):

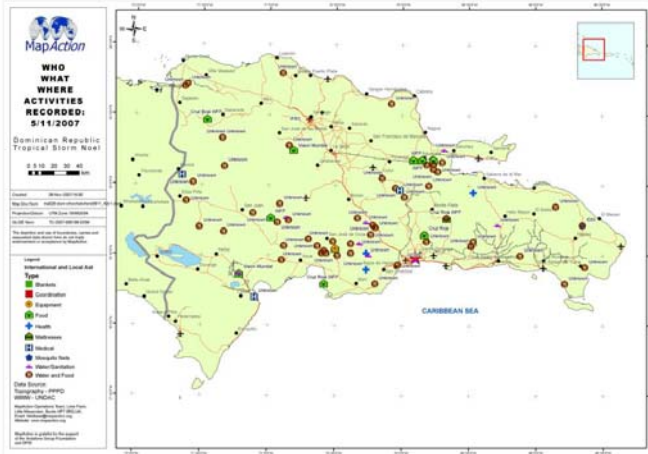
Institution	Amount (USD)	Sector	Type of contributions in kind	No. of Beneficiaries
Nestle	\$166,667			
USAID	\$600,000			
Japan	\$112,300		Shelter	In Kind
AECI	\$290,120	Food Aid	Food Aid/Shelter	
Taiwan	\$100,000			
Canada	\$535,217			
Germany	\$29,737	Food Aid	Food Aid/Shelter	
ECHO	EUR 1,500,000	Water / Sanitation / Food		
FAO	\$10,000			
UNAIDS	\$15,000			
UNICEF	\$60,000	Food/Health	Nutrition and hygiene for children	
UNFPA	\$50,000	Shelter		
OCHA	\$50,000			
OPS	\$50,000			
UNDP	\$100,000			
WFP	\$500,000			
DREF / IFRC	\$199,280			
BID	\$200,000			

31. International assistance (in-kind contributions):

Institution	Sector	Type of contributions in kind	No. Of Beneficiaries
Gobierno de RD	Shelter	Reconstruction of housing	
Gobierno de RD	Logistics	Fuel	
Gobierno de RD	Agriculture	Re-planting	1,521,000 hectares
Gobierno de RD	Food Aid	Food Aid	106,040 rations
ABA			
UNFPA	Health	Reproductive Health	10,000 kits
MAAG		Logistics	12 helicopters & TA
Francia	Food Aid		7000 bags of food
Carrefour	Food Aid		5000 bags of food
SESPA	Food/Water		50000 baby food, 800000 water purifier
ICRC	Food Aid		2000 children's food kits
Clorox / Colgate	Water	Chlorine and cleaning products	



Japan	Water		10000 bottles
Panama	Water		96000 bottles
Venezuela	Food / Water / Fuel / Houses		
U.Kingdom		Logistics	Helicopters



BILATERAL

32. On 6 November a planeload of humanitarian aid from the **Spanish Agency for Cooperation and the Spanish Red Cross** with items valued at 100 million euros, including two water purification plants and obstetrics, trauma, IVs and antidiarrhea medicines.

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Health, water and sanitation

33. PAHO-WHO will utilize 10 trucks from the “Water culture” program of INDRHI to implement environmental and water education in shelters and affected communities.

34. UNFPA, within the framework of their Government projects, has authorized the reprogramming of regular funds. For this case, the Secretary of Women has prioritized the use of \$10,000 to attend basic needs in shelters in Barahona province. In the case of HIV and AIDS populations, technical support will be provided to SESPAS in assistance and monitoring to ensure treatments are not interrupted in shelters, with a focus on women and teens.

Food security and nutrition

35. FAO has carried out field missions to assess damage in agriculture and impact on food security. At the same time, it considers urgent to begin parcel rehabilitation, work on irrigation systems and access to lots. FAO has issued an urgent request for US\$50,000 to purchase tools to support the Secretary of Agriculture during this initial rehabilitation stage. WFP may participate via “Food for Work”.

36. WFP is in the process of preparing an Emergency Food Security Assessment with the objective of evaluating needs and building a foundation to deploy a more prolonged emergency operation. Meanwhile it maintains, together with the Red Cross, operations to distribute high protein biscuits in San Cristóbal and Bajo Yuna communities via air, and by land to communities in Azua, San Juan and Villa Altigracia. The WFP team is being expanded with logistics and emergency operations specialists from the Regional Office and other country offices.

Coordination

37. UNDAC and UNETE held on 6 November a technical and operational meeting with several donors and NGOs with the participation of COE, in which it discussed its projects in order to exchange information on interventions and strengthen humanitarian coordination.

38. Also on 6 November, the UN Resident Coordinator and the Head of the UNDAC team met in the Administrative Secretariat of the Presidency to discuss the support of the UNS with national authorities, and look at strengthening humanitarian response information management. Several government sectors and actors present agreed to strengthen information management via sector working groups established in COE. It was also agreed with Defensa Civil to strengthen COE regional offices in the most affected areas of the country in order to optimize information collection and response coordination.

39. On 7 November, there was the first CNE meeting with all member institutions. The Administrative Subsecretariat of the Presidency insisted on the



importance that all government institutions actively participate in COE coordination efforts. The UN Resident Coordinator underlined the importance of information and coordination, at the same time he reiterated his total support of the UNS to national response activities. UNDAC agreed to place a map preparation team in COE to support regional COE offices.



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