



Situation Report 7- Tropical Storm Noel – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 9 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 in 11 provinces and a yellow alert in 14 provinces and more rains are expected.**
- **Priority needs are water, sanitation, health, food security and nutrition.**

SITUATION

1. Weather conditions: The National Office of Meteorology (ONAMET in Spanish) reports that scattered showers and thunderstorms will continue on mountainous areas and in the North Eastern Part of Dominican Republic.

2. Forecast for the next two days: ONAMET forecasts that weak to moderate precipitation will continue over the next 36 to 48 hours, especially affecting the North Eastern, South Eastern and Central parts of the country.

3. 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.

4. Impact:

National Emergency Commission (CNE)	
Bulletin 21	
(11:00 AM 8 November 2007)	
Dead	85
Disappeared	48
Rescued	4,206
Displaced persons	In shelters26,426
	In homes of families and friends53,302
	TOTAL.....65,908
Affected houses	Slight damage.....18,053
	Destroyed 1,879
	TOTAL..... 16,447
Shelters activated	94
Cut-off communities	153
Affected bridges and roads	50

Health, water and sanitation

5. The National Institute for Water and Sanitation (INAPA) reports that 102 of the 155 damaged water systems have been repaired. In addition, temporary solutions will be sought in the coming 15 days for the 53 remaining damaged water systems.

Food security and nutrition

6. In San Jose de Ocoa, damages to infrastructure and agricultural production are estimated for 400 million pesos (USD 12 million).

Shelters

7. 54 schools are still used as temporary shelters.
8. In Bajo Yuna, temporary shelters are reportedly over-crowded and displaced people are willing to be sheltered elsewhere.
9. Organizations working in the northern part of Santo Domingo are requesting that families be relocated in safer areas.

Infrastructures

10. The Dominican Federation of Municipalities (FEDOMU) reports that local relief organizations lack financial and material resources, their work being solely supported by volunteers.
11. The power network has been entirely restored by the power company Edesur.



PRIORITY NEEDS

12. Most recently identified needs:

Health, water and sanitation

- Potable water and mass and family water storage containers; 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

13. Local authorities from San Cristobal, Duarte, San Jose de Ocoa and Barahona requested that the Government speed up the delivery of assistance to the displaced families.

14. In Villa Altigracia, municipal authorities started relocating displaced families and dozens of families all over the country are now returning to their original homes.

15. Department of Public Health started a vaccination campaign (including diphtheria and tetanus) in cut-off areas.

16. The National Emergency Coordination Centre (COE National) held general coordination meetings with four specific working groups focusing on water and sanitation, shelter, infrastructures and humanitarian assistance.

Actions

17. Aerial, maritime and land operations for aid and assistance to affected populations continue.

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

19. The Secretary of State for Public Health and Social Support (SESPAS) is providing medical assistance (especially for women and children) in Arenoso, Villa Riva, San Juan de la Maguana and Santo Domingo.

20. 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

21. 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

22. 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>)



23. International assistance (cash contributions):

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

24. International assistance (in-kind contributions):

Institution	Sector	Type of contributions in kind	No. Of Beneficiaries
United Nations			
UNFPA	Health	Reproductive health	10,000 kits
Multilateral			
MAAG		Logistics	12 helicopters & TA
Bilateral			
France	Food Aid		7000 bags of food
Japan	Water		10000 bottles
Panama	Water		96000 bottles
U.Kingdom		Logistics	Helicopters
Venezuela	Food / Water / Fuel / Houses		
Others			
ICRC	Food Aid		2000 children's food kits
Carrefour	Food Aid		5000 bags of food
Clorox / Colgate	Water	Chlorine and cleaning products	

BILATERAL

25. Puerto Rico donated USD 25,000 of Emergency Fund for assistance to affected population.

26. A brigade from the US Army South Command, including 15 medical doctors and aerial support, is scheduled to arrive in Dominican Republic and support on-going relief operations in remote and non-accessible areas.

27. Cuba sent 5.3 tons of medicine.

MULTILATERAL

28. World Bank offered up to USD 56 millions in emergency loan to the Dominican Government in order to provide emergency assistance to the population.

29. European Union increased the available level of assistance to USD 44 millions.

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Health, water and sanitation

30. PAHO-WHO reports that epidemiological surveillance in shelters is difficult. By November 7, information had been received from 19 of the 112 existing shelters. 8 outbreaks of acute diarrhea, fever and cough were reported, as well as one case of tetanus and one death due to meningitis. The later case was not related to the on-going emergency, however it was decided that shelters in Santo Domingo and its region would be inspected.

31. Starting November 9, a joint PAHO-WHO/SESPAS team (including two epidemiologists and a nutritionist) will assess the situation in all shelters.

32. Basic items provided by UNFPA will be distributed by the SESPAS in the shelters of the Barahona province. In addition, UNFPA is providing technical and financial assistance for needs assessment mission in the field.

33. UNICEF requested USD 254,000 through its Emergency Fund for the immediate delivery of assistance (material, means and technical support) in relation to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Health and Nutrition, Education, Child protection, Psychological



support, as well as coordination, monitoring and assessment activities.

Food security and nutrition

34. On November 8, FAO supported the Secretary of State for Agriculture in organizing the first agriculture and fishing sectorial coordination meeting with NGOs, International partners and Donors.

35. WFP distributed 14 tons of high protein biscuits in Barahona, Azua, Santo Domingo Norte, San Cristobal, Monsenor Nouel and Duarte provinces. 44 additional tons of high protein biscuits will be received next week, while 20 tons of rice, 48 tons of beans, 90 tons of corn and 15 tons of vegetal oil are being purchased for distribution in affected areas.

Coordination

36. UNETE held on 7 November a technical and operational meeting in order to exchange information on interventions and strengthen humanitarian coordination. Focal points were identified in order to support the sectorial working groups established by the COE.

37. UNDP, through its program of Prevention and Emergency Preparedness is supporting the COE at the central level in order to produce a consolidated report of damages and continue the coordination of technical and sectorial working groups on shelters, infrastructure and humanitarian assistance. At the regional level, UNDP is providing technical assistance for the setting up of a COE in the North-Eastern region, in order to collect information and assess needs.

For detailed information please contact:

Contact Details		
Desk Officer (New York)	Mr. Ignacio León	Office Tel: +1 917 367-9960 Office Fax: +1 212 963-36 30 E-mail: leoni@un.org
GCMS (Geneva)	Ms. Aoibheann O’Keeffe	Office Tel: +41 22 917 4329 E-mail: okeeffe@un.org
OCHA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Panama	Mr. Douglas Reimer Regional Disaster Response Adviser	Office Tel. + (507) 317-1748 Office Fax + (507) 317-1744 Mobile: + (507) 6676-1689 E-mail: reimer@un.org
Press Contact: (NY)	Ms. Stephanie Bunker	Office Tel : + 1 917-367-5126 Office Fax: + 1 212-963-1312 Email: bunker@un.org
(GVA)	Ms. Elizabeth Byrs	Office Tel + 41 22 917 26 53 Office Fax + 41 22 917 00 20 E-mail: byrs@un.org