HURRICANE LISA

PAI - Pan American
Health
Organization
Organization
World Healt
Organization
World Healt

Situation Report # 5
Belize
04 November 2022 (1700 CT)

HIGHLIGHTS

Situation Overview and Context (5 November 2022 at 12:00 pm CST)

- The 24-Hour Report or Initial Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA) summarized preliminary findings:
 - Hurricane Lisa made landfall in Belize District then moved in a westerly direction across the middle of the country bringing extensive damage to the Belize district and significant damage to the Cayo District.
 - The Belize District is home to 94,271 residents were severely affected.
 - Approximately 500 houses have been destroyed
 - In the Belize District, approximately 5,000 houses have been partially destroyed (blown roofs, flooded structures)
 - Damages to the housing sector are estimated at US\$10 million with 5,000 families in the Belize District, 1,000 families in the Stann Creek District and an estimate of 500 families in the Cayo, Orange Walk and Corozal districts affected.
 - The most pressing relief needs are roofing and construction materials, food supplies, household supplies (bedding and clothing) and hygiene and supplies at an estimated US\$11,000,000.
 - Estimated infrastructural and other damages (public roads, buildings, utilities, agriculture, fisheries) total Us\$100 million.
 - The Government of Belize has requested US\$11 million support from the international community to cover basic food and supplies (household and construction).
 - A State of Emergency has been declared between 7.00 pm and 5.00 am in Belize City and District (the most affected area) until Sunday Nov 6.

MAP

Map of Belize showing Belize District that has been most impacted by Hurricane Lisa



IN NUMBERS

441,471 Exposed

O Deaths

Injured

TBD Missing

5,001 Evacuated

O Damaged Health facilities







- The MoHW has been conducting inspection of local stores to monitor poultry and dairy. They have confiscated some spoiled dairy and poultry products from stores that had no generator. Testing of water quality has also been performed.
- The Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) continued to conduct assessments of health facilities and shelters across the country.
- The MoHW continues to maintain its EOC in Belmopan while convening district health EOCs this morning. Emergency contacts have been published.
- Central MoHW is planning to provide resources to health facilities depending on critical needs while continuing public health education, advising on safe drinking water.



HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

• The Hattieville Community Health Center was visited on 11.4.2022 to assess health risk assessment therefore, it was noted that in this community there were not health risk experiences during hurricane Lisa.



INFRASTRUCTURE

• The various Health facilities that have been visited identified no damages recorded but they were water linkages in the different medical facilities, and this also included retrofitted facilities.



WASH

• After analyses of drinking water regarding (WASH) initiatives to identify chlorine levels to prevent the proliferation of water born bacteria, it was noted that the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOWH) will need to notify the Belize Water Service Limited (BWSL) to apply the right concentration of chlorine to prevent the proliferation of water borne diseases.



NUTRITION

Needs:

- Increased access to safe food for families whose homes were severely impacted by the hurricane and in need of shelters.
- Increased access to purified water for human consumption.
- Proper assessment of food quality and safety at the different food stores and suppliers.

Response:

- PAHO has collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) through joint visits to the various shelters to collect data on food availability for the population accessing the shelters in Belize City.
- PAHO has supported the MoHW in the assessment of food safety in local stores at the Hattieville Community, for which spoiled dairy, and poultry has been confiscated by the Ministry, as these did not meet food quality and safety protocols.

Gaps and Constraints:

 The major constraints during the assessments were the negative response by the community members and store owners as they refused to cooperate with the assessment done to ensure safe food is being offered at these local stores.







NEMO activated 132 shelters before the storm and housed 5,0001 persons during Hurricane Lisa.

- 44 shelters in the Cayo District
- 36 in the Belize District
- 14 shelters in the Stann Creek district
- 16 shelters in the Toledo district
- 12 in Orange Walk
- 10 in Corozal

No damage to shelters was reported during the passage of Hurricane Lisa.

378 persons remain in shelters, mostly in Belize City.



HEALTH NEEDS

Emerging needs include bed nets, insecticide, first aid kits, PPES, water tablets, medication, water tablets.



RESPONSE

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- The Government of Belize (GoB) has conducted preliminary assessment which has been presented to
- A curfew (7:00 PM to 6 AM) remains in effect until November 11 for the entire Belize District, except for Caye Caulker.
- NEMO convened a press conference with participation of Chief Meteorology Officer, CEO of Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Management, and NEMO Coordinator.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration convened a meeting of the Foreign Assistance Committee at which the Initial Situation Assessment (ISA) Report was presented to the Diplomatic Corps and International Organizations. The estimated initial needs include basic food supplies, household supplies, construction supplies and mobilization and operations totally \$22,000,000 BZD (11,000,000 USD).
- NEMO' Relief Supplies Subcommittee is collaborating with Belize Red Cross, Rotary and Belize Council of Churches to support to distribute supplies based on needs.

PAHO/WHO RESPONSE:

- Special Emergency Procedures (SEP) continue in effect to facilitate response and recovery actions of the Belize country office.
- A fifth meeting with the UN Country preparedness and response Team was conducted with PWR as Chair of the UNETT. The plan is to provide technical cooperation in the areas of Health, Wash, Food and Nutrition.
- PAHO Belize Technical Advisors joined the Ministry of Health and Wellness to continue assessment of health facilities and hurricane shelters in rural Belize District and to apply rapid assessment tool for health
- The PAHO/WHO Belize Country office welcomed back members of staff onsite, especially those needing access to electricity to charge devices; others are teleworking
- The Incident and Crisis Management Team continued activities assessment of health facilities, development of situation reports, press releases and initiation of procurement procedures based on





essential list.

• Coordination continues with Health Emergencies (Caribbean) to provide technical cooperation to the country during its recovery.

Evaluation of Belize Rural Health Facilities and Hurricane Shelters:

The PAHO/WHO-MoHW Team assessed rural Belize health facilities and hurricane shelters:

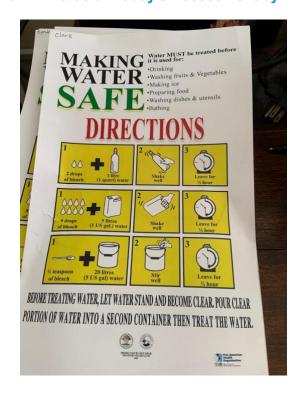
- Hattieville Community Center Hurricane Shelter
 During Hurricane Lisa, 27 families sought shelter at the Community Center. 70 homes were severely damaged and 30-40 lost their roofs. The main needs at the community center are medical supplies such as masks and hand sanitizer, food, potable water.
- Hattieville Community Health Center serving a population of 1,200 people: The health center experienced no damages, is fully functional and is providing services. There was no loss or damage of equipment or medication reported. The clinic has running water; however, electricity and telecommunication services have yet to be restored. The vaccines were taken to Belize city for storage as no generator is available on site. No hurricane or secondary casualties have been reported at the clinic. Current needs include blood pressure measuring devices for adults and pediatrics and a laryngoscope.

OTHER AGENCIES RESPONSE:

- The Digicel telecommunication company offered 3 days of free Internet to its subscribers and opened its offices in Belize City for free charging of a maximum of 2 devices.
- The Belize Water Services announced that water service has been restored countrywide; however, low pressure may be experienced in some areas.
- The Belize Electricity Limited has restored power to 70% of its Belize City customers including the Philip Goldson International Airport, 80% of customers in Ladyville and rural areas of the Belize District and 95% of customers in the Cayo District.
- The Government of Taiwan has pledged US200,000 in hurricane relief support to Belize.
- The USA pledged \$200,000 USD in support to be distributed through the Red Cross.
- IDB also pledged \$200,000 USD to be distributed through the Red Cross.
- The EU pledged humanitarian financial intervention to be distributed through the Red Cross.
- The UK and Mexico pledged support based on emerging needs.

e.

Annex 1 Photos of Today's Assessment by PAHO-MoHW team:











4 Nov. 2022: Meeting with Village Chairman and NEMO Staff at the Hattieville Community Center /hurricane shelter in Hattieville, Rural Belize District



4 Nov. 2022: Assessment of the Hattieville Health Center in Hattieville, Rural Belize
District





4 Nov. 2022: Review of Hurricane First Aid Kit at Hattieville Health Center, in Hattieville, Rural Belize District



4 Nov. 2022: As part of WASH initiatives, Chlorine tests, reported levels of (0.2) concentration (Reference: (0.5-2.5). Recommendations made to MoHW.



Annex 2: Ports of Entry

Ports of Entry

- Airport (PGIA) Open
- Western and Northern Borders Open
- San Pedro and Punta Gorda Ports Ready for opening pending Belize Port Authority approval
- Belize City Port (cruise) cancellation of ship for Friday, Nov 4 (FSTV reporting major structural damage and mud/debris possible 1 to 2 weeks downtime)
- Harvest Cay Port (cruise) no damage can receive passengers as scheduled

