TROPICAL STORM BRET
Barbados, Dominica, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines
Situation Report #1
23 June 2023 / 0800 AST

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tropical Storm warning discontinued for Barbados and Dominica and all clear given.
- Tropical storm warnings remain in effect for Saint Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Martinique hasn’t reported major impacts from Tropical Storm Bret. Alert level has been downgraded but remain on watch for rains, thunderstorm and winds.
- Barbados: health facilities reopened after receiving all clear.
- Dominica: health facilities haven’t reported any impact.
- Saint Lucia: two main hospitals are operating on generator power. One health facility suffered minor damage in the urgent care ward.
- St Vincent and the Grenadines: hospitals, polyclinics and all A&E remain open.
- PAHO maintains its ongoing coordination efforts with the Ministries of Health (MOHs) from the affected countries. PAHO’s regional response team has been activated and are on stand-by for deployment if required. Critical health emergency supplies are available to promptly support affected nations.

IN NUMBERS

~1M Potentially exposed
0 Deaths
0 Injured
0 Missing
0 Evacuated
0 Damaged Health facilities

1: According to PAHO’s analysis on potentially exposed population in Barbados, Dominica, Martinique, Saint Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines (as of 22 June 2023)
2,3,4,5,6: Assessments are still ongoing and preliminary information is not available yet.
6: One health facility in Saint Lucia suffered minor damages

MAP

Source: PAHO’s near-real-time natural hazards in the Americas: Population and emergency hospitals exposure (arcgis.com)
Barbados:
- Following all-clear announcement, the Ministry of Health will reopen health facilities from 10:00 am today.

Dominica:
- The Health Authorities have indicated some of their needs at the institutional health level including bandages, sutures, tarpaulin, and plaster of Paris, among others.

Martinique:
- No impact on health facilities has been reported.
- The Martinique firefighters’ intervention center reported 28 interventions between 00:30 a.m. and 5:30 am on 23 June 2023. None were considered major.
- A catamaran sank 100 km southeast of Martinique. The rescue mission is coordinated by the Regional Operational Center for Surveillance and Rescue (CROSS) Antilles-Guyane.

Saint Lucia:
- Two main hospitals are operating on generator power. One health facility has water entered through a window in the urgent care section but no major damage. Further assessment of health facilities is being conducted.
- MOH held a Disaster Risk Management Committee Meeting with representation from the various departments and health facilities.
- Each health facility assessed its medical supplies and pharmaceuticals. Facilities with generators ensured fuel to last more than three to four days and adequate water, food, and water supply to the facilities.
- A contingency plan was put in place to ensure persons living closer to health facilities work during the storm and will be relieved by another team once the all-clear is given.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
- No casualties have been reported so far.
- Facilities are staffed, and elective surgeries and outpatient clinics canceled.
- Hospitals, polyclinics, and all A&Es remain open, according to MOH Health Security Director.

HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

No information available as yet.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Barbados:
- Loss of power in some areas. Emergency teams are out doing assessments.
- Airport reopened at 7:00 am, bus services resumed at 7:30 am and schools remained closed.

Dominica:
- All Government offices and air and seaports reopened but schools remained closed with the exception of national exams.
Martinique:
- Sea and airports were closed as of 12:00 pm, 22 June 2023. No timeline for reopening is available yet.
- Power outages were reported during the night of 22 to 23 June 2023. 25,000 households in 15 municipalities were still without electricity on 23 June, 5:45 am. The utility company did not indicate, at this time, when normal operations will resume.

Saint Lucia:
- Power outages in various areas of the country
- Schools and airports closed on June 22 until further notice. A national shutdown was implemented from 1:00 pm, 22 June 2023.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines:
- 4 houses damaged, 1 completely destroyed/washed away due to storm surge.
- Electricity company lost 9 feeders so 50% of customers were reported without power.
- Airport, schools, and businesses are closed.

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**Dominica:**
- The Dominica Water and Sewage Company announced scheduled water outages for communities commencing at 11:00 am, with all services scheduled suspended by 2:00 pm on Thursday 22 June 2023.

**Saint Lucia:**
- Water lock-off in the north section of the country reported.

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No information available.

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**Barbados:** As of 7:00 pm, 22 June 2023
- 27 shelters open housing 16 persons in total.

**Dominica:**
- Shelter managers have been placed on alert.

**Martinique:**
- Shelters were activated in all 34 municipalities but no report on the number of people in the shelters.

**Saint Lucia:**
- 2 shelters open with a total of 14 persons (8 in one shelter and 6 in the other).

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines:**
- 10 shelters open, housing 131 persons in total.

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No reports received.
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

Barbados:
- Schools were closed at 1:00 pm, 22 June 2023 and residents are encouraged to remain home. Schools remained closed except for those taking national exams.
- Grantley Adams International Airport was closed from 6:00 pm 21 June 2023 to 7:00 am today 23 June 2023.

Dominica:
- All Government offices and air and seaports were closed at 12pm on 22 June 2023.
- All schools were closed on 22 June 2023.

PAHO RESPONSE:
- Ongoing coordination with the MOHs (PSs, CMOs, MOH Disaster coordinators or focal points) in countries.
- PAHOS’ regional response team put on standby for deployment (if needed); particularly for health coordination, health facility damage assessment, epidemiology, WASH, and information management.
- Health emergency supplies such as NCD kits, PPEs, water testing kits, water purification tablets, and mosquito nets are available to support the affected countries.
- The PAHO crisis management team convened, and country program specialists/personnel based outside Barbados were briefed also as first responders. The Residential Zone Warden’s system was activated, and all staff are accounted for.
- Contact remained with CDEMA, UNRC, and other relevant organizations, including the UNETT.
- The PAHO office building in Barbados was assessed, and no major issues were identified.