

Hurricane Dorian - Bahamas

WFP Support to the Government-led Humanitarian Response

Situation Report #07 – 16 October 2019

In Numbers

61 deaths reported from Hurricane Dorian

Nearly **900** people are sheltered in **6** government shelters in Nassau

4,600 evacuees registered with the Department of Social Services

3,200 people receiving food assistance in Abaco

Highlights

- WFP continues to offer vital **sea transport** to the Bahamian government and humanitarian partners to move humanitarian and early recovery cargo between Nassau, Abaco and Grand Bahama. Seven voyages have been completed to date.
- WFP supports the government of the Bahamas in the coordination of food security activities assessing needs and providing **technical assistance** and **expertise** on last-mile food distribution planning and implementation across Abaco Island.

Situation Update

- The Government continues to operate 6 shelters in Nassau providing humanitarian assistance to 895 evacuees. Shelters in Grand Bahama and Abaco were closed due to lack of use.
- Growing numbers of evacuees are returning to Abaco and Grand Bahama, leading to increasing needs for assistance on the two hurricane-impacted islands.
- Electricity, fuel and water remain major needs in Abaco. The Government and humanitarian actors are supplying the population through the operation of generators and the provision of water tanker trucks and bottled water.
- A WFP market analysis on Abaco confirms that shops are resuming activities, but the lack of electricity is limiting their inventory, in particular fresh products. The unavailability of banking services is also impacting the population's access to markets.

WFP Response Updates

- WFP's Logistics Hub at the Marsh Harbour port on Abaco facilitated the storage, dispatch and transport of 345 MT of food and relief items for more than 20 organizations including NEMA, other government entities and humanitarian partners. WFP is also supporting NEMA to manage logistics in Nassau.
- WFP is working with the Government in identifying measures to support sustainable market recovery, including through possible cash-based interventions to supplement the local economy.
- WFP has deployed a total of 40 staff, with 15 WFP currently in Nassau and Abaco to provide support to the Government-led humanitarian response.
- WFP's emergency response operation in the Bahamas has received resources from USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA), USAID/Food For Peace and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Switzerland, Norway and Brazil.

WFP Support to Government on Transport and Logistics



535 MT of relief cargo from NEMA and **20 UN**, local government, and humanitarian partners shipped on **7** chartered vessels from Nassau to Abaco and Grand Bahama



7 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) set up in Abaco (5) and Nassau (2) providing **1,700 m²** storage capacity



4 generators for use in Abaco



Ground transport capacity with **6** trucks in Abaco (4) and Nassau (2)



Logistics Common Services



- As co-lead agency for NEMA's Emergency Support Function (ESF) for Transport and Logistics - Relief Supplies and Distribution, WFP provides logistics coordination and common services to government entities and relief organizations.
- At the onset of the emergency response, WFP set up a logistics hub at Marsh Harbour port, in Abaco, one of the two affected islands. With three mobile storage units (MSUs) and prefab offices, WFP's Logistics Hub facilitates the arrival, handling and dispatch of relief items and provides NEMA and humanitarian partners with 720 m² of storage space.
- Four additional MSUs are supporting relief operations in the Bahamas: Marsh Harbour Airport (Abaco), Central Abaco Primary School distribution center (Abaco), and two at NEMA's Emergency Operations Center (Nassau). WFP's total warehousing capacity stands at 1,700 m² capacity across Abaco and New Providence (Nassau) islands.
- As of 13 October, WFP has completed 7 rotations of chartered vessels from Nassau to Marsh Harbour, Abaco and onwards to Freeport, Grand Bahama, transporting over 535 MT of relief supplies and equipment (food, medical supplies, non-food items, water, vehicles and shelter material). Cargo has been shipped on behalf of NEMA and six other government entities, as well from a combination of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor organizations, including Samaritan's Purse, IFRC, IOM, UNICEF, and WHO/PAHO. These supplies have ensured a consistent pipeline to replenish the Government-identified distribution centers and support the needs of assessed communities across Abaco and Grand Bahama. WFP anticipates continuing to charter vessels to move relief commodities based on demand.
- WFP is also providing transport capacity throughout Abaco with a dedicated fleet of 4 trucks to support NEMA and other partners delivery and last-mile distributions. Based on similar constraints in New Providence (Nassau), WFP has also dedicated 2 trucks to increase operational support for the main NEMA warehouse. WFP is also providing support in developing commodity management and tracking system tailor-made for the context of the Bahamas.



Food and Nutrition Assistance



- As a co-lead agency of the ESF for Food Security, WFP has assisted the Government in designing and implementing a food security strategy to meet the immediate food needs of communities remaining and returning to Abaco.
- WFP has further supported NEMA in identifying 18 main distribution points (8 primary and 10 secondary) and the onwards last-mile distribution scheme to 3,200 people across North, Central and South Abaco. WFP continues to assist NEMA, local administrators and distribution center coordinators in monitoring the supply requirement, preparing a distribution plan and coordinating replenishment of the relief distribution points.
- As the number of returnees to Abaco is estimated to increase in the coming weeks, WFP stands ready to assist NEMA in addressing the needs and scale up distribution.
- WFP is also supporting the Government in identifying measures to support sustainable market recovery, including through possible cash-based interventions to supplement the local economy.
- During the initial response, WFP delivered 14,000 Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) to an estimated 3,600 people across Abaco Island.

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