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Regional Situation Report

Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean

Region:	Latin America & the Caribbean
Emergency type:	Climate disaster
Start Date of Crisis:	Jul 1, 2024
Date Issued:	Jul 6, 2024
Covering Period:	Jul 1, 2024 to Jul 6, 2024
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Highlights

- Hurricane Beryl, the earliest Category 4 storm on record, has affected several Caribbean countries and territories.
- The storm made landfall on 1 July as a category 4 major hurricane, with the populations of Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) have been significantly affected. Several smaller islands, including Carriacou and Petite Martinique in Grenada, and a few of the Grenadines islands - Union Island, Canouan, and Mayreau - were severely impacted.
- Hurricane Beryl subsequently made landfall in Jamaica on 3 July, drenching the country with a month's worth of rain.

Situation Overview

Authorities and humanitarian agencies continue to quantify the damage but access and communications challenges mean that information about the needs of the affected population remains limited.

- **Grenada** - Grenada's mainland has only been mildly affected, but its sister islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique have been critically damaged, with 98 per cent of the infrastructure destroyed, including destruction of health facilities, along with power outages and disruption to water supplies and telecommunications. Initial reports suggest that 6,980 persons have been affected. The Government of Grenada has been evacuating people from Carriacou and Petite Martinique.
- **St. Vincent** - Severe damage has been recorded in the Grenadines, including Union, Canouan and Mayreau Islands. Around 98 per cent of infrastructure has been destroyed in Bequia and Union Islands, including schools and hospitals have been destroyed in the Union Islands. Efforts have been made to evacuate persons from Canouan, Mayreau and Union Islands to St. Vincent mainland. Information remains limited, however, initial reports suggest that 3,000 people have been affected on Union Island, 1,500 on Canouan, and 300 people on Mayreau. The Government of St. Vincent has been evacuating people from the Grenadines to the mainland.
- **Jamaica** - The parishes of Clarendon, Manchester and St. Elizabeth have been most severely affected by Beryl. Impacts across the island also included fallen trees, wind damage to infrastructure and roofing, flooding and storm surges. More than 400,000 people have been affected by power outages.

Needs assessments are underway in the above countries.

UNFPA Response

UNFPA is coordinating closely with the UN Resident Coordinators for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Belize and Jamaica, the United Nations Emergency Technical Teams (UNETTs) that have been activated for the affected areas, OCHA, the Caribbean Disaster Management Agency (CDEMA) and other regional partners to augment Government led relief efforts.

- UNFPA is supporting GBV rapid needs assessments missions in Grenada and SVG.
- In Grenada, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs Unit, the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Unit and other partners, UNFPA is facilitating safety audits in shelters, providing information on sexual and reproductive health (SRH), GBV and available services, and distributing dignity kits which include basic hygiene items, including sanitary pads, to women and girls in need.
- UNFPA is supporting a mapping exercise of GBV services and updating referral pathways to ensure GBV survivors can access appropriate multisectoral services. UNFPA is also working with partners to ensure that measures to mitigate the risks of GBV are mainstreamed across the response, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and shelter.

- UNFPA is collaborating with UNWOMEN, UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/WHO to ensure integration of SRH and GBV is prioritized in the broader health and protection response.
- UNFPA's humanitarian response ensures synergies and alignment with current development projects such as Build Back Equal (BBE) jointly implemented with UNWOMEN.

Challenges

- Damage to small air strips is hindering the response. In addition, some islands can only be accessed via smaller boats.
- Downed power lines and power outages are affecting coordination and communication.

Funding Requirements and Resource Mobilization

The UNFPA's Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean has allocated core resources to conduct rapid needs assessments missions and deliver initial support. UNFPA Humanitarian Thematic Funds were used to support the deployment of experts in humanitarian coordination, gender-based violence in emergencies (GBVIE) and crisis communications. Rapid needs assessments will inform the finalization of UNFPA's humanitarian response plan and estimation of total funding requirements.

External Media and Communication

Social media posts about the emergency situation can be found on all UNFPA Caribbean Social Media Platforms using the handle @unfpacaribbean in [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#).

