

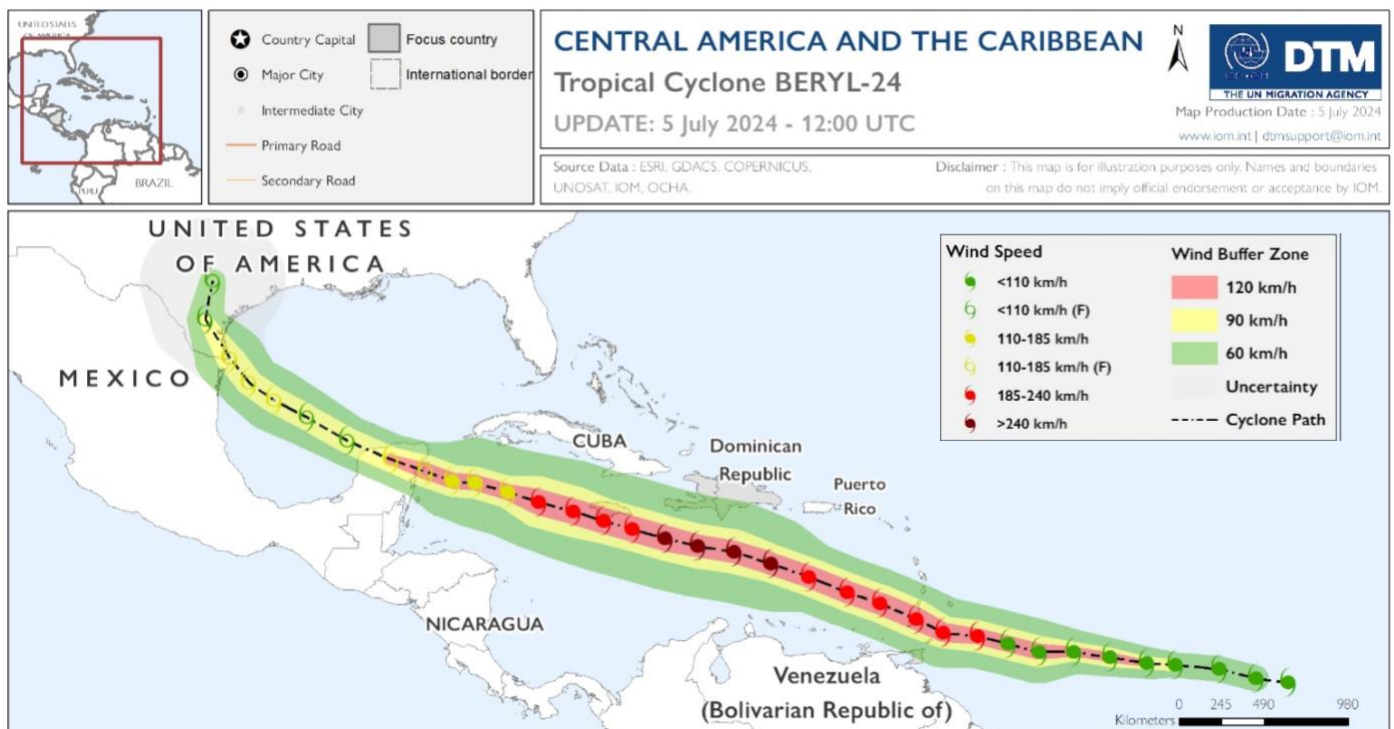
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Context situation

Onset and progression

According to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), on July 5, 2024, Hurricane Beryl weakened to a tropical storm and was no longer a threat to Caribbean states. The storm's intensity decreased significantly, prompting governments in affected areas like Jamaica and Belize to lift their respective Hurricane and Tropical Storm Warnings. At the time of writing, Tropical Storm Beryl has reached the United States.

The focus in the Eastern Caribbean and Jamaica has now shifted to assessing and addressing the impact on the most affected areas, particularly in Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Jamaica. According to PAHO, 5 fatalities have been reported in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In Grenada, there have been 6 confirmed deaths, 27 injuries and 2 individuals are currently missing. In addition, significant damage to infrastructure has been reported, particularly in Carriacou and Petite Martinique, the northern dependencies of Grenada and the southern islands of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Union Island, Canouan and Mayreau). Consequently, people are responding to their circumstances in different ways, including reports of those who remain in their damaged dwellings and repair with makeshift techniques, evacuating to mainland (mostly medical and voluntary evacuations), seeking refuge in emergency shelters, and moving to other private homes in the vicinity where individuals are responsible for hosting persons, even when their dwellings are damaged.



Damages and Persons in Need

Grenada

Situation

- Grenada's mainland has been mildly affected, but the sister islands of Carriacou (6,081 persons affected) and Petite Martinique (900 persons affected) have been severely hit, with 98% of the infrastructure destroyed. Of the 8 official shelters originally activated to respond to Beryl, only 3 are operable. Two out of the open shelters sustained damage too, which has significantly reduced the capacity leading to cramped conditions and sanitation challenges in the remaining shelters.
- Reports indicate that some families have been separated, with members sometimes living in different shelters or homes. The primary reasons for leaving shelters are to find alternative accommodation with family in Carriacou or mainland Grenada. Additionally, people from the mainland are coming to Carriacou to help their parents clear and repair their homes.

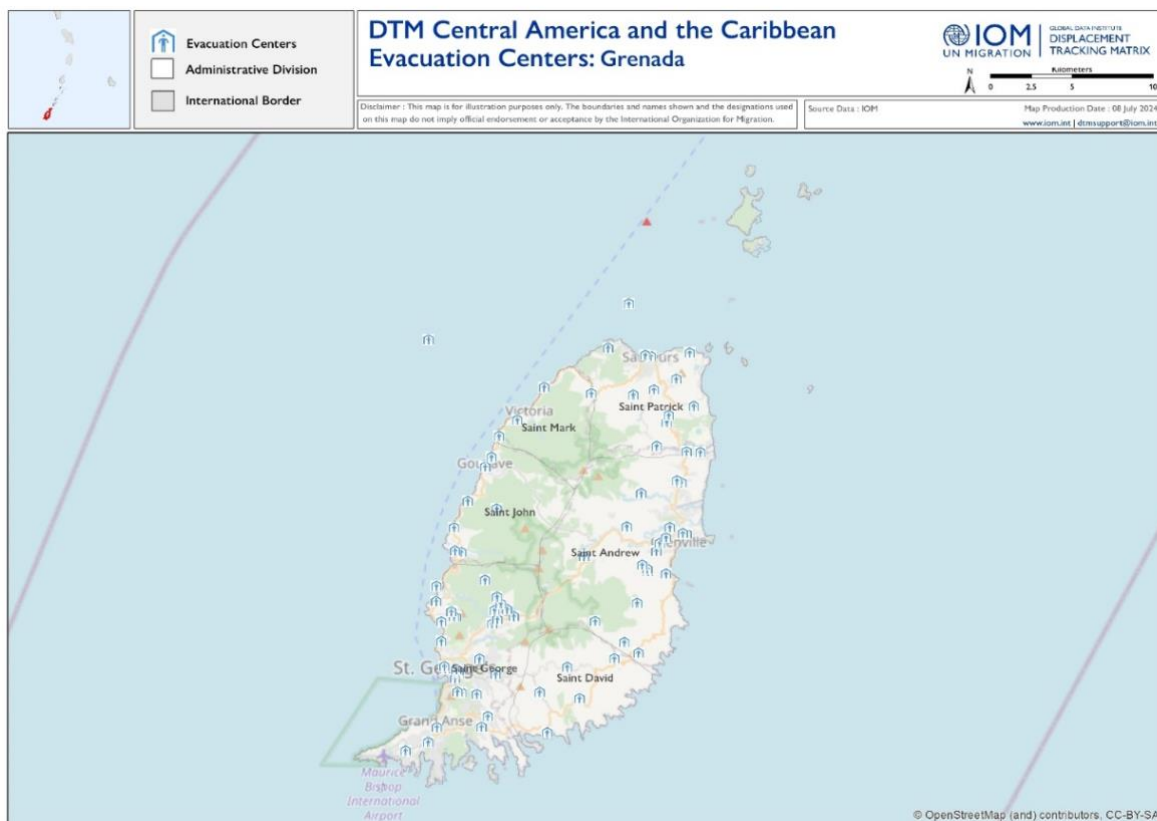


Challenges

- According to initial assessments in the affected areas, including in some emergency shelters, there are several challenges related to water, sanitation, and hygiene. There is an urgent need for drinking and sanitation water, including jerrycans and water tanks, as the existing water storage / tanks are scattered and difficult to recover. Additionally, items such as insect repellent, child and adult diapers, cleaning supplies are needed. Moreover, shelters require a variety of essentially items to enhance their operations, these include tarps, solar lamps, generators and clothing for the affected people.
- About food security, shelters primarily have dry food available and shelterees are requesting additional food options.
- In some emergency shelters concerns have been reported regarding security and facility access, some persons fear to use shelter washrooms and seek facilities outside the shelters. There is a risk of violence, including gender-based violence, due to a lack of secure storage and locks. Additionally, shelter management is understaffed, and would benefit from training and rules and regulations.



The following map shows all established shelters by the government in mainland. For hurricane Beryl only the two shelters of St. Patrick's and Belair were activated.



St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Situation

- Initial assessments indicate that 98% of houses and infrastructure on Union Island (3,000 persons affected) are heavily damaged or destroyed, with similar damage levels of 90% in Canouan (1,500 persons affected) and Mayreau (300 persons affected). In the affected islands the emergency shelters are also destroyed and the case of Union Island makeshift shelters have been established in a preschool and church building. The Government of St. Vincent is supporting the voluntary evacuation of people from the Grenadines to the mainland.
- According to the Ministry of Education, 1,009 people are residing in 47 emergency shelters in St. Vincent and the Grenadines of which 37 are on the main island. Most shelters are schools and closed for the summer break.
- Evacuations from affected islands continue, but the total number of evacuees and displaced persons outside emergency shelters remains unknown.



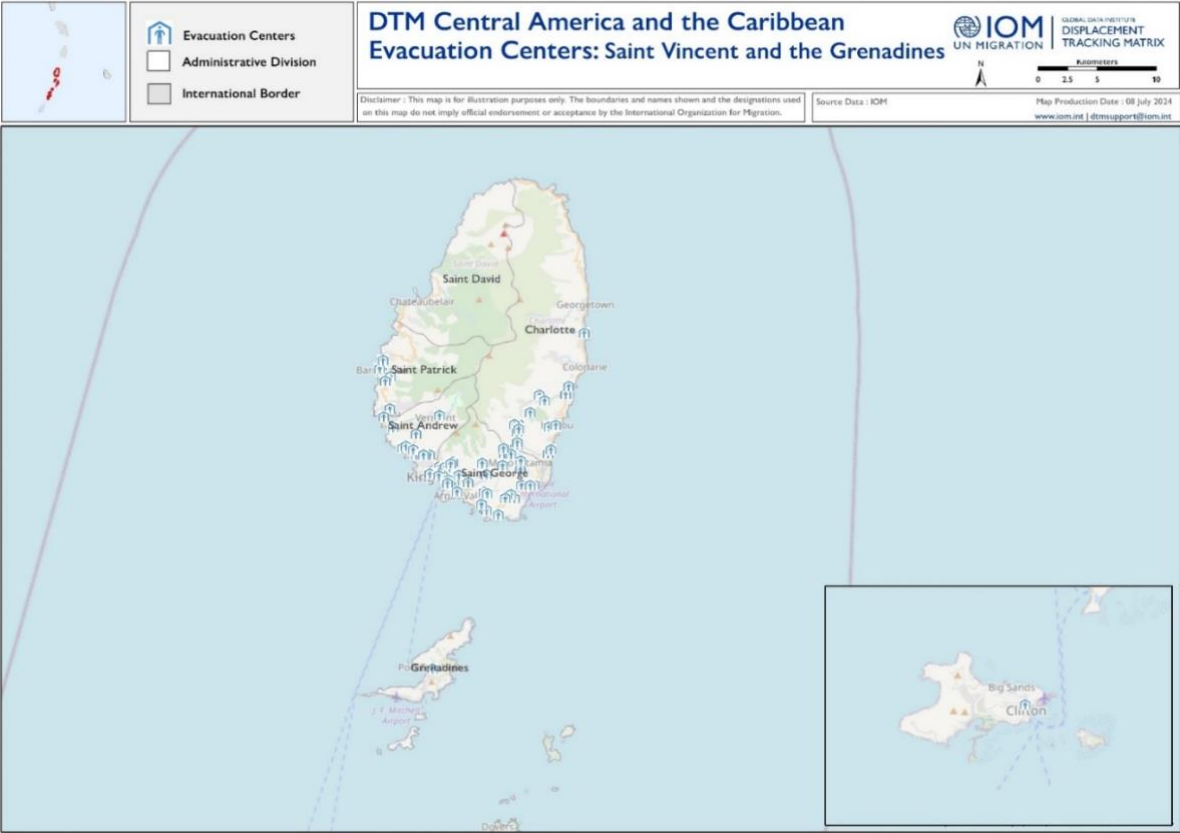
Challenges

- Initial findings from the Site Profiles Rapid Assessment (DTM RNA) which visited 5 emergency shelters and St Vincent indicate that the primary needs of the population in the emergency shelters on the main island are

security / protection, WASH, Non Food items and food . It is recommended to quickly maintain / upgrade the washrooms and bathrooms and create gender separated washing facilities, with sufficient locks. The shelters also requested more cleaning supplies more regular provision of food. Some shelterees requested more information, cash, solar lamps, bedding, kots and hygiene kits. It is recommended to provide additional partitioning in the sleeping quarters through the provision of indoor tents or plywood partitions

- On the Southern islands, all collective emergency shelters have been affected or are improvised facilities: Recommendations for these pre-schools / churches are to make them more wind and rainproof with tarpaulins and fixing materials, while ensuring that these materials come with clear usage instructions. Partitioning materials such as plywood, cardboard, or indoor tents should be provided, especially for multi-family situation. To improve living conditions, distribute non-food items like mattresses, kitchen sets, and bedding. Each household should receive solar light for security and dignity. Temporary, ideally gender-separated, washrooms/bathrooms should be created. Additionally, provide water storage and carrying equipment (buckets and jerrycans) and distribute mosquito nets (two per household) with clear instructions on their use.
- To improve the durability and living conditions of heavily damaged dwellings, make structures more wind and rainproof by providing two tarpaulins per household, along with clear usage instructions to prevent tearing. Supply partitioning materials such as plywood, cardboard, or indoor tents, especially for multi-family dwellings. Distribute household non-food items like mattresses, kitchen sets, and bedding, and provide two solar lights per household for security and dignity. Equip households with water storage and carrying tools, such as buckets and jerrycans, and distribute two mosquito nets per household with proper usage instructions. Additionally, provide community toolkits containing hammers, saws, screwdrivers, nails, screws for emergency repairs, and shovels, wheelbarrows, and cutters for debris removal.

Following map displays the currently emergency shelters in St. Vincent and the Grenadines:



Jamaica

Situation

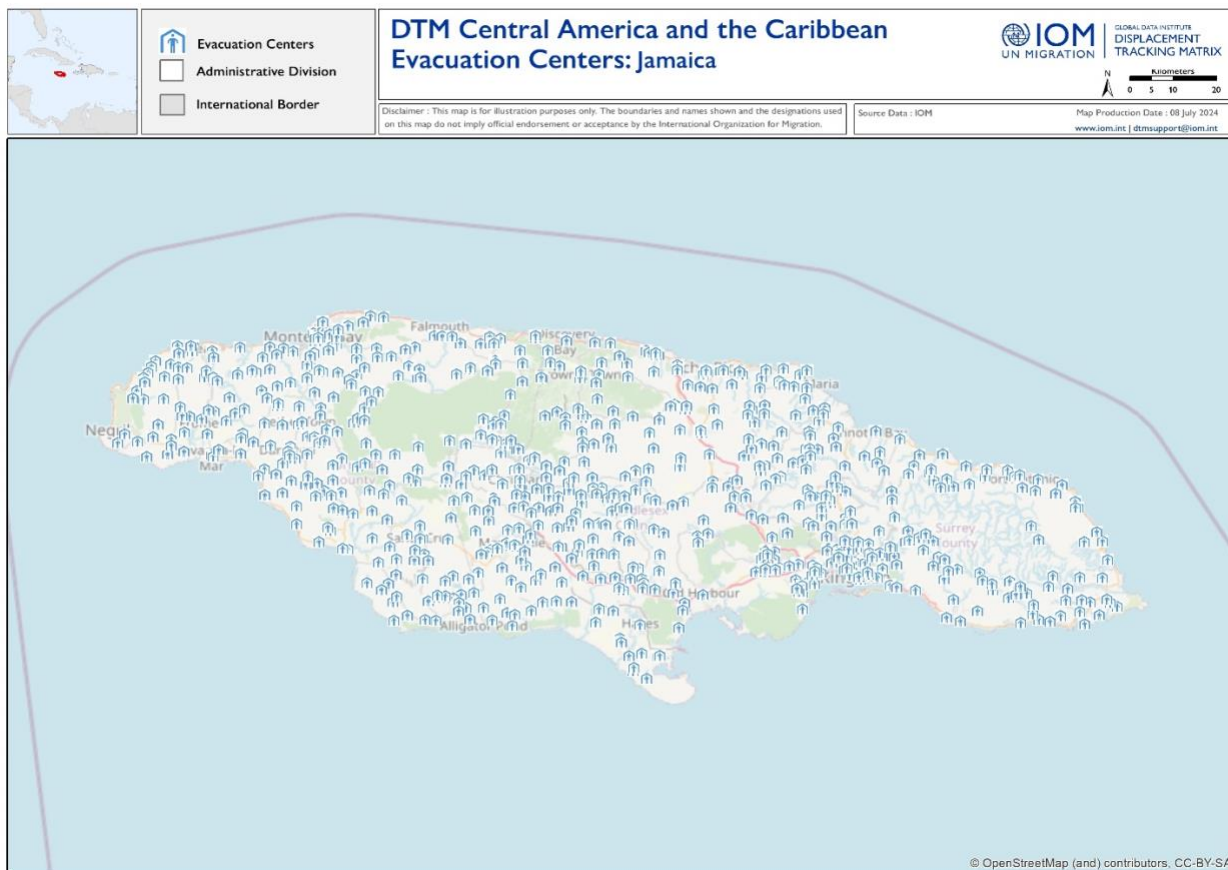
- Hurricane Beryl has caused relevant damage across multiple parishes in Jamaica, with varying levels of impact, particularly affecting Clarendon, St. Elizabeth, and Manchester. Additionally, the death of 3 and 60 people injured has been reported, according to the latest PAHO report.
- The aftermath has led to widespread flooding in coastal areas, extensive damage to roofs and infrastructure, and disruptions to water and sanitation services, exacerbating shortages of food and clean drinking water among affected communities.
- Schools and community centers have been set up as emergency shelter centers. However, they are facing challenges such as overcrowding and inadequate facilities.
- The government declared the entire island a disaster area and imposed a curfew to ensure public safety. It also announced funding for emergency response efforts. Many areas experienced power outages and loss of internet connectivity, with some parishes completely without electricity.



Challenges

- The aftermath of Hurricane Beryl presents numerous challenges that must be urgently addressed. According to the first assessment by OCHA, immediate needs focus on providing adequate shelter and essential non-food items (NFI), water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities, and addressing food shortages across affected communities.
- Protection concerns are paramount, particularly for vulnerable populations, while the restoration of disrupted livelihoods in fishing and agricultural sectors is crucial for long-term recovery.
- Exact figures on the total number of affected individuals are still being compiled, but initial estimates suggest the impact spans thousands of people.

The map below shows the current evacuation centers in Jamaica:



Operations – Eastern Caribbean

DTM

- IOM DTM teams are gathering information from key informants to assess the situation in affected areas, with a particular focus on shelters in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Additionally, the DTM team has prepared preliminary drafts of the site profiles of 5 shelters in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- DTM is developing a GIS portal for georeferenced information and data analysis related to the situation in the emergency shelter.
- Ongoing mapping efforts utilize Copernicus satellite imagery for static map production, including hurricane paths and shelter locations across the affected countries.
- The IOM continues to collect information from secondary sources to monitor the situation.

Emergency Shelter and NFI*

**In the Caribbean, Emergency Shelter refers to traditional Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and includes also the Shelter response in affected areas and host communities. The whole is named Shelter Management.*

Coordination

- On July 8, CDEMA authorities, international organizations, and NGOs participated in the second Emergency Shelter / NFI thematic working group. CCCM/shelter meeting, led by IOM Emergency Coordinator in Barbados with 28 participants. CDEMA has requested IOM to draft a phased shelter / housing strategy.

Operations

- The pre-positioned IOM stocks (1,000 tarpaulins / ropes, 1,000 solar lamps, 6 multipurpose tents, and 200 indoor tents) have been released from Barbados and are underway to the affected islands where they will be distributed by partner ITNAC from Trinidad and Tobago, Taraji Foundation in St Vincent and The Grenadines and the Church of the Nazarene in Grenada . Transportation from Barbados to SVG and GRD facilitated by WFP.
- Participation as Emergency Shelter expert agency on inter-sectoral assessments coordinated by CDEMA/OCHA.



Shipment and arrival of pre-positioned Non Food Items in St Vincent & The Grenadines

Capacity / IOM Staff

As a preventive measure, IOM has been working on capacity building in some of the affected countries from 2022.

- All IOM Caribbean staff: 2022 and 2023 dedicated IOM Emergency Response Induction Training, as well as on Camp Management and Camp Coordination. Emergency Preparedness webinar in 2024.
- IOM Caribbean Emergency Focal points: 2024, IOM has appointed emergency response focal points in each mission

In addition, the current capacity has been activated for emergency:

Eastern Caribbean:

- Emergency coordinator (Barbados)
- Emergency coordinator support (Barbados)
- Shelter specialist (Barbados)
- Information Management coordinator (Barbados)
- Information Management officer (St Vincent & The Grenadines)
- Information Management officer (Grenada)
- Project Support (Remote)
- Communications (Dominica)
- Partner organizations in St Vincent & The Grenadines and Grenada

Jamaica

- Emergency Coordinator
- Emergency Coordination support officer
- Information Management officer
- Resource Management assistant

Regional Support is also activated from Panama and Costa Rica: Regional Emergency Preparedness and Response Support (Panama), Regional Data Hub (Costa Rica), Resource Management Unit (Panama) and a GIS Information Manager (Panama).

Further IOM or standby capacity will be deployed based on further assessments.

Proposal development / Resource mobilization

Proposal development / Mission budget

IOM Caribbean has drafted a Response Strategy Plan based on the IOM Contingency Plan, covering the following sectors: CCCM, Emergency Shelter and NFI, WASH, DTM, Movement Assistance / Planned Relocation, and Protection.

IOM has mobilized internal resources through the Emergency Surge Funding Mechanism (ESFM) and the Migration Crisis Funding Mechanism (MEFM) for the initial emergency response. Additionally, IOM has secured funding from Airbnb for the entire hurricane season to support short-term accommodation programs to provide accommodation for IOM's first responders.

IOM is participating in the Flash Appeal coordinated by OCHA, will contribute to the CERF proposals in the Eastern Caribbean and Jamaica, and will continue seeking additional donors.

Identified Gaps and Challenges

IOM continues to monitor the situation in countries affected by Hurricane Beryl, especially in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, and Jamaica.

IOM is thankful to its donors for all their support:



Through the Western Hemisphere Programme, preparedness actions were implemented

IOM unearmarked funding:
The Migration Crisis Funding Mechanism
The Emergency Surge Fund Mechanism
MIRAC (Preparedness Actions)