

2012 Dominican Republic

1) Total budget allocated in 2012:

DREF	EPIDEMICS	Small Scale	EDF	DIPECHO	Total
€337 000	€430 000	€397 000		(See DIPECHO fiche)	€1 164 000

2) Context and type(s) of crisis:

Three main humanitarian situations:

Cholera: since the beginning of the epidemic, more than 420 suspected deaths have been officially reported out of 28 360 cases. During 2012, several outbreaks were identified, most linked to limited access and poor quality of water and sanitation.

Tropical Storm Isaac (August 2012): heavy rains and strong winds affected the country, especially the southern regions (Barahona, Bahoruco and Independencia) damaging livelihoods and infrastructure. The area surrounding Lake Enriquillo was also severely affected due to further flooding of agricultural land and houses.

Hurricane Sandy (October 2012): Although outside the direct track of the hurricane, heavy rainfall caused significant flooding and damage. Six people were killed and around 150 000 people affected, with extensive destruction to homes and livelihoods.

3) Sectors of activity/intervention:

Cholera: in response to the cholera outbreaks, ECHO provided support through PAHO and IFRC. Assistance focused on improved WASH facilities, hygiene promotion and epidemiological surveillance.

Tropical Storm Isaac (August 2012): people affected by the storm received food assistance, water and sanitation facilities, NFIs, health promotion and livelihood support. Special attention was given to people affected both by the storm and by the flooding of Lake Enriquillo.

Hurricane Sandy (October 2012): people affected by the hurricane received shelter assistance, water and sanitation facilities, NFIs, protection and DRR.

All assistance provided included a strong focus on mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction.

4) Key Highlights/major initiatives and operations:

While responding to these crisis, ECHO also advocated the provision of:

- continued epidemiological surveillance;
- improved access to, and better quality of, water and sanitation facilities;
- integration of the “building back better” principle in emergency response.

The situation around Lake Enriquillo remains a concern. Support is needed for medium to long-term solutions involving other actors (LRRD opportunity).

5) Estimated Beneficiaries:

40 230 individuals.