

Hurricane Beryl

SITUATION REPORT #2

Latin America & the Caribbean Response Plan
7 July 2024, 4:00PM ET



airlinkflight.org

Our Response

Airlink has activated its Latin America & the Caribbean Regional Response Plan following the impact of Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean. Airlink is coordinating with humanitarian, logistics, and airline partners in the region to assess main needs and response capabilities and will continue to monitor the situation to best support partners' responses. Please reach out to ops@airlinkflight.org if your organization is planning to respond and/or has a request for transportation assistance.

The Situation

Hurricane Beryl inflicted severe damage across the Caribbean as the earliest Category 5 hurricane on record, impacting 13 states across the region. The storm heralded a vigorous start of what is expected to be an above-normal season, characterized by stronger and more frequent storms. As we respond to this ongoing storm, we recognize the heightened vulnerability of Caribbean communities to future severe weather events due to Beryl's lasting impacts.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada

On July 1, Hurricane Beryl passed through Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada, making landfall on Grenada's Carriacou and Petite Martinique islands as a Category 4. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) has initiated a Level 2 Response in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada, designating these nations as priority areas for assistance. According to UN OCHA, 200,000 people in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada have been affected by Beryl.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Airlink is assisting nonprofit partners collaborating with local organizations and coordination mechanisms in the affected countries through cargo and personnel support.

Cargo Support

Airlink is supporting cargo movement from major airports in the United States, Europe, and Central/South America. Additional origins will be considered, dependent on demand. All major international airports will be considered, including BGI, SVD, and GND. Airlift solutions to regional airports will additionally be considered on demand.

Personnel Flights

Airlink is supporting round-trip passenger flights or responders, including emergency responders, health professionals, logisticians, and additional programmatic staff. All major international airports will be considered, primarily GND, SVD, KIN, and BGI. Airlift solutions to regional airports will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada

Initial assessments indicate extensive infrastructure damage, lack of electricity, communications disruption, and minimal access to basic services across Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 90 percent of infrastructure has been damaged, particularly on the southern islands of Union, Bequia, Canouan, and Mayreau. Houses, roads, and the airport terminal on Union Island are among the damaged structures. Evacuations are ongoing on Union Island and are expected in Mayreau and Canouan. In Grenada, the northern part of the main island and the northern islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique experienced the most impact, with almost all homes heavily damaged or destroyed and severe damage to the Carriacou airport. Initial reports from partners indicate a lack of sanitation facilities, raising concerns about water-borne illnesses.

The governments of both St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada have issued guidance for donations. Please note the instructions in the Guidance for In-Kind Donations section of the situation report.

Jamaica

On July 3rd, Beryl passed south of Kingston, Jamaica, as a Category 4 hurricane, bringing high winds, flooding, and storm surge that resulted in extensive damage across the island. In the storm's aftermath, 65 percent of residents lost power and 70 percent were without water. The Prime Minister declared Jamaica a disaster area, a status in effect until July 10th. Rural areas, especially the parishes of Clarendon, Manchester, and St. Elizabeth, the country's key agricultural region, have been severely impacted. Authorities highlight the urgent need for clean drinking water, communication access, and livelihood support.

Cayman Islands and Mexico

On July 4th, Beryl swept past the Cayman Islands with high winds. Power and water have been restored, and all essential infrastructure, such as ports, airports, and hospitals, are fully operational. From there, Beryl hit Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula near Tulum as a Category 2 storm. No major damage was reported, but the high winds caused power outages across the region.

United States

Beryl downgraded to a tropical storm but is expected to regain strength in the Gulf of Mexico before making landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas on Sunday into Monday. There is a risk of damaging hurricane-force winds and life-threatening storm surge along portions of the lower and middle Texas coast. Airlink is monitoring the storm's development closely and is ready to support requests for the repositioning or immediate deployment of humanitarian supplies and personnel across the impacted countries.



Humanitarian Logistics Coordination

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) is coordinating the response and has designated the World Food Programme (WFP) to co-lead the CDEMA Logistics Cell, to ensure the continuity of the supply chain, maximize capacity, and ensure the timely delivery of multi-sector humanitarian supplies. The Logistics Cluster Hurricane Beryl webpage is updated with logistics details and service offerings.

To encourage aid visibility among stakeholders, the Logistics Cell has requested information be shared weekly on planned responses. If planning to send relief items, please fill the table below nominating one focal point (and alternate), who will be sharing information, and please send the table to send the following table to dan.cemachovic@wfp.org and kevon.campbell@cdema.org by Monday, July 8th. Each Monday, the updated Upstream Visibility spreadsheet (attached along with the situation report) should be emailed to the Logistics Cell.

Organization	Full Name	Email	Role
			Focal Point
			Alternate

Guidance for In-Kind Donations

The humanitarian response to the affected islands faces significant logistical hurdles due to geographical dispersion and limited infrastructure. Access constraints can delay the arrival of essential supplies and aid personnel. In addition, unrequested donations can overwhelm response mechanisms. Ensuring a clear and coordinated humanitarian response is essential for an effective response. The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines announced that cash donations are preferred and published the following needs list: generators, cots, tarpaulins, bedding kits, mattresses, hygiene kits, water jobs, adult/children’s diapers, flashlights with batteries, battery operated/solar powered lanterns, power banks, ropes, shovels, wheelbarrows, rakes, chain saws, and accessories. All donations must be coordinated with and consigned to the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO).

The Government of Grenada indicated that cash donations are preferred and all donations need to be coordinated with the Grenada NEOC by emailing relief@gov.gd before finalizing shipping arrangements. Only items on the needs list will be accepted. Until 31 July 2024, all relief items coming to Grenada should be addressed to the National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA). Relief items coming in and addressed to individuals or other organizations will be treated as normal goods except if these are turned over to NaDMA.



Guidance for In-Kind Donations

The Grenadian needs list is as follows: water, tarpaulin (100ft, 40x30ft), non-perishable food items, cots, sleeping blankets, pillows, batteries and battery packs, hygiene kits, toiletries, first aid kits, hand sanitizer, sanitary napkins, baby diapers and wipes, baby formula, adult diapers, 5-gallon jerry cans, reflective vests, 3,000 gallon+ collapsible water bladders, emergency solar/battery operated radios, solar flashlights, 5,000 watt solar light generators, chain saws, 18-32 inch blade spare bars and chains, fuel cans, books/coloring books for children. A medical needs list is being compiled and will be shared.

No instructions issued yet for humanitarian importation into Jamaica.

Airport Status

Major airports with the capacity to handle large-scale relief operations:

- St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVD): Only with no interruptions
- Grenada (GND): Open with no interruptions
- Barbados (BGI): Open with no interruptions
- Jamaica (KIN): Open with no interruptions
- Jamaica (MBJ): Open with no interruptions

Local airports with limited operations:

- Bequia (BQU): Closed as of 7/5. Runway length is 1100m.
- Mustique (MQS): Open, restricted for aid cargo only. Runway length is 992m.
- Canouan (CIW): Open, restricted for aid cargo only. Runway length is 1791m.
- Union Island (UNI): Partially open, can receive aircraft but major damage reported to airport terminal and communications tower. Restricted for aid cargo only. Runway length is 752m.
- Carriacou (CRU): Partially open, can receive aircraft but major damage reported to airport terminal and communications tower. Runway length is 800m.

Note: In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the main commercial port in Kingstown is open and connections to Union Island and Petite Martinique are serviceable by local liners, schooner services, and ferry service. In Grenada, the Port of St. George is operational, with schooners and international container services calling from Trinidad and Barbados. Local schooner and ferry services connect to Carriacou, Petite Martinique, Union Island, and Canouan. Certain ferries can accommodate vehicles and oversized cargo.





RESPONDING PARTNER AGENCIES

If you don't see your organization listed and you are responding, please email ops@airlinkflight.org.

ACTIVE NGO PARTNERS

- All Hands and Hearts
- Community Organized Relief Efforts (CORE)
- DART
- Food for the Poor
- Global Empowerment Mission (GEM)
- Global Support and Development (GSD)
- Good360
- Heart to Heart International
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Mercy Chefs
- Mobile Medics International
- REACT Disaster Response
- Sol Relief
- ShelterBox
- Water Mission
- World Central Kitchen

ACTIVE AIRLINE & LOGISTICS PARTNERS

- Air Canada
- American Airlines
- American Logistics Aid Network (ALAN)
- British Airways
- JetBlue
- Southwest Airlines
- United Airlines
- Virgin Atlantic



Optimizing Private Sector Humanitarian Logistics Support for Communities Affected by Seasonal Emergencies:

Through a public-private partnership led by Airlink and including USAID/BHA, commercial airlines and logistics actors, and credible, community-based nonprofit organizations, aviation helps get the right aid to the right people at the right time. USAID is from the American People.

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.



For questions related to Airlink's programmatic response, please contact ops@airlinkflight.org.

Stay updated at: airlinkflight.org/responses/hurricane-beryl