

Hazard Scenarios

Phase 1: National Response

Persistent heavy rains over the weekend have resulted in coastal areas in Guyana receiving upwards of 60 inches of rainfall – the most rainfall for a similar period in over 100 years. The coastal regions, including two-thirds of Region 4 and Georgetown are flooded, affecting over 400,000 people. The latest reports indicate 54 deaths and 120 persons unaccounted for.

Initial emergency assessments:

- Approximately 90,000 households have been impacted with an estimated 3,000 persons being displaced and needing emergency shelter.
- Critical infrastructure such as the Guyana Power and Light distribution systems and power lines have been damaged and 50% of the Demerara-Mahaica region are without power.
- Georgetown Public Hospital has also suffered damage with several wards needing to be evacuated.
- Guyana Water Incorporated has advised that the groundwater could be contaminated due to the floods and broken water mains, and many persons are concerned that their septic tanks have also been impacted.
- Major roads along the coastline including along the East Coast, East Bank, West Coast, West Bank of Demerara and Georgetown were severely damaged with several villages being cut off.

Government emergency response:

- Search and rescue operations are underway to help persons who might be marooned in their homes and to take them to emergency shelters.
- The Civil Defence Commission (CDC) is coordinating with its Voluntary Emergency Response Team (VERT) and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), the Guyana Red Cross Society and various NGOs to provide immediate disaster relief to affected communities including drinking water, food, shelter and hygiene kits.
- The CDC is also coordinating with the Ministry of Public Works and Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development to clear roads and remove debris where flood waters have subsided.
- The President in consultation with the Prime Minister and the CDC has determined that a Declaration of Disaster is necessary to manage the response.