

HIGHLIGHTS

Situation Overview and Context (3 November 2022 at 12:00 pm CST)

- National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) through the Prime Minister of Belize issued ALL CLEAR (Phase 4), signaling that the hurricane is no longer a threat to the country.
- At approximately 4:20 PM Hurricane Lisa made landfall at 17.4°N latitude, 88.3°W longitude or about 10 miles southwest of Belize City at the South of the Sibun River. The Category 1 Hurricane affected the country for 12 hours, maintaining winds of 85 mph with gusts of 95 mph and minimum pressure of 990 mb for 8 hours before being downgraded to Tropical Storm.
- Hurricane force winds extended 15 miles from the center of the storm, while tropical-storm-force winds extended 70 miles, causing extensive structural and infrastructural damage across the country with Belize City being severely impacted. Rainfall was measured at 7 inches; the country lacks capacity to measure storm surges but it was estimated at 5 feet.
- Residents in affected areas were strongly advised to remain in homes in order to avoid secondary casualties from projectiles, dangerous debris, leaning lampposts and downed electrical lines and in order to allow unimpeded access to utility crews that are still working to restore electricity, water and internet.
- Even though the hurricane was downgraded to a Tropical Storm as of 8 PM 2 Nov. 2022, Belize watersheds are expected to continue to rise and produce flooding across the country.
- Efforts to restore electricity and water supply are ongoing, especially to Belize City and surrounding areas. Several power lines and a few telecommunications antennae are down.
- The three health facilities assessed today with the Ministry of Health and Wellness are all fully operational, providing critical services to its catchment population (Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, Cleopatra White "Smart" Polyclinic, and Matron Roberts Polyclinic)

IN NUMBERS

441,471

Exposed

0 Deaths

0 Injured

TBD Missing

Est. 3,500+

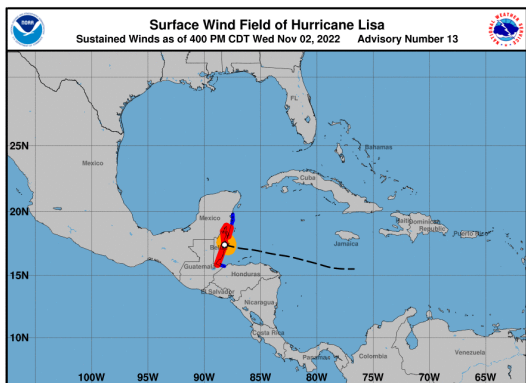
Evacuated

0 Damaged

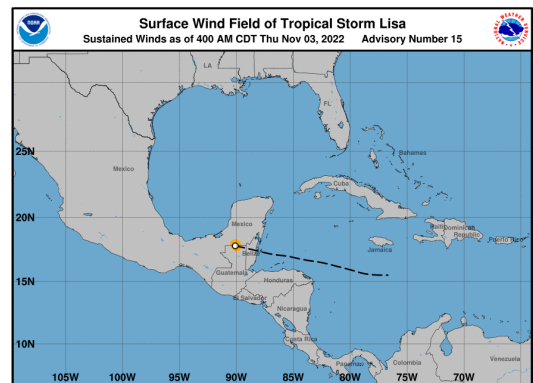
Health facilities

MAP

Include a map of the country and the specific location of the event if applicable



2 Nov. 2022 at 1:00 pm CST



3 Nov. 2022 at 1:00 am CST

Cat. 1 Hurricane Lisa made landfall in Belize on Nov 2, affecting Belize City and communities along the Central region of the country, with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph and torrential rainfall for 8 hours before being downgraded to a Tropical Storm and continuing to affect the country for 5 additional hours.

- The Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) conducted assessments of health facilities and shelters across the country to estimate how many persons stayed last night, how many were still in shelters and if persons have medical needs. Assessment continues tomorrow.
- Health regions have also sent teams to conduct rapid assessments of hurricane shelters with special emphasis on infection prevention and control.
- The MoHW continues to maintain its EOC in Belmopan while convening district health EOCs this morning. Emergency contacts have been published.
- Central MoHW is planning to provide resources to health facilities depending on critical needs while continuing public health education, advising on safe drinking water.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- The Government of Belize (GoB) is conducting preliminary assessments so as to determine specific needs. An initial situation assessment report has been developed and will be presented to Cabinet tomorrow.
- A curfew (7:00 PM to 6 AM) has been declared for the entire Belize District. Except for Caye Caulker to ensure safety of life and property.
- NEMO convened a press conference with participation of Chief Meteorology Officer, CEO of Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Management; and NEMO Coordinator.

PAHO/WHO RESPONSE:

- Special Emergency Procedures (SEP) continue in effect to facilitate response and recovery actions of the Belize country office.
- A fourth meeting with the UN Country preparedness and response Team was conducted with PWR as Chair of the UNETT. The plan is to provide technical cooperation in the areas of Health, Wash, Food and Nutrition.
- PAHO Belize Technical Advisors joined the Ministry of Health and Wellness to inspect health facilities and hurricane shelters in Belize City and to apply rapid assessment tool for health facilities.
- Several safety check-ins were conducted during the passage of the storm with four staff members reporting extensive structural damages to homes. Updates about staff, family members and their homes continue to be maintained.
- The Incident and Crisis Management Team continues activities. Follow-up meeting was held with the Belize Country Office's PAHO Disaster Response Team.
- Assessment of the structure of the PAHO/WHO Belize country office was conducted.
- Coordination continues with Health Emergencies (Caribbean) to provide technical cooperation to the country during its recovery.

Evaluation of Belize City Health Facilities:

While other health facilities were closed, two health facilities (Cleopatra White and Matron Roberts Polyclinics) were asked to remain open yesterday as the hurricane approached. Both were visited today by MOHW-PAHO team, along with Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital:

- **Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KMH):** the only national referral hospital catering to 441,471 persons is fully functional; had experienced some interruptions with electrical supply and disruptions in telecommunications. There was no need to evacuate patients but some of the beds for Adult Medicine and Surgery were moved to ground floor. KMH activated its EOC. Outpatient services were suspended. No structural damage except for leakage near some windows. Vital lines and computer equipment were not affected. No surge in patients as yet but the hospital has started to prepare for that need.
- **Cleopatra White Polyclinic** serving population of 30,000 persons: is fully functional with water and electricity available through the UK funded Smart Hospitals retrofitting project. Two solar panels were completely

destroyed but the generator is intact and fully functional with one medical doctor and support staff providing services.

- **Matron Roberts Health Polyclinic** serving population of 12,000 persons: a medical doctor and support staff were available on-site to provide health services.

OTHER AGENCIES RESPONSE:

- The Belize Electricity Limited announced that it has started operations to restore electrical supply. Teams have been deployed to several parts of the country to determine the extent of damages and coordinate safe restoration of power to affected areas.
- The Belize Water Services has notified the public that normal water supplies are expected to be affected by the hurricane, causing possible contamination. These may include BWS as well as rural water distribution systems, well water and water storage tanks or vats. It is strongly recommended to treat water before use.

Annex 1 Photos of Health Facilities Rapid Assessment



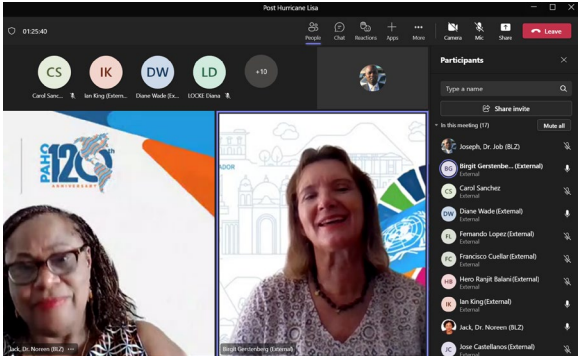
3 Nov. 2022: Evaluation of Cleopatra White Health Center, Belize City



3 Nov. 2022: Evaluation of Matron Roberts Health Center, Belize City



3 Nov. 2022: Rapid Assessment of Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, Belize's only public tertiary level hospital, Belize City



3 Nov. 2021: United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) meeting discussing the UN coordination to support the Government of Belize in the response to Hurricane Lisa



3 Nov. 2021: PAHO/WHO Belize Incident and Crisis Management Team meets to complete Rapid Assessment Form of Health Facilities Post Disasters