

Panel: Natural disasters and HIV care: impact and lessons from Hurricane Maria

Perspective from the air

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Disclosures

Presenter(s) has no financial interest to disclose.

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Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to:

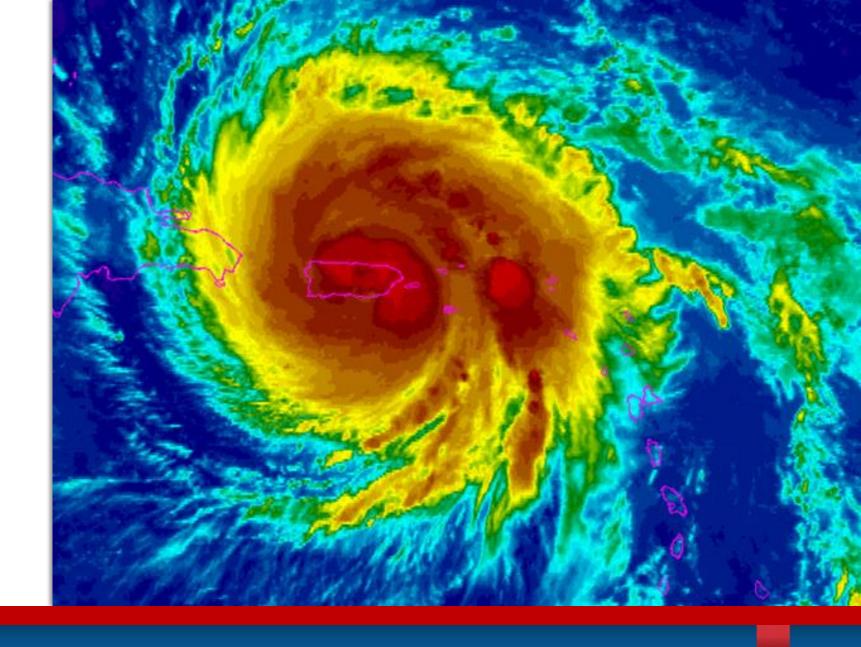
- 1. Describe the events as documented in multiple videos posted on social media during rescue missions and the aftermath.
- 2. Appraise the contribution of the aerial perspective in assessing response.



Hurricane Maria 9.20.17

Hurricane Maria is regarded as the worst and most deadly natural disaster on record in America since 1900.

Maria was the strongest storm to make landfall in Puerto Rico in 85 years.





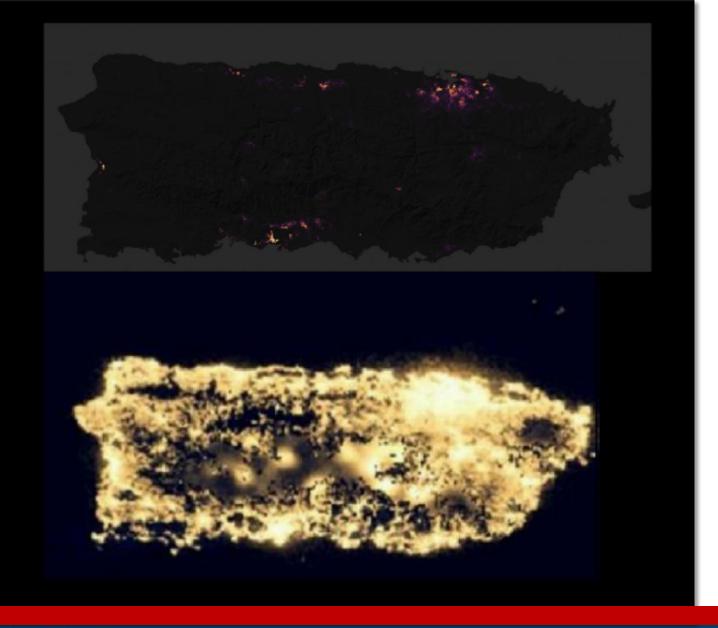
Hurricane Maria's Path Across Puerto Rico



After sweeping across the Virgin Islands as a Category 5 storm, Hurricane Maria plowed into Puerto Rico on the southeast shore as a barely diminished Category 4 storm, with winds of 155 miles per hour.

The storm's hurricane-force winds spanned the island, and all residents lost electricity.





Blackout

The largest blackout in US history. It's the second-largest power outage in the world on record.



Hurricane Maria - Puerto Rico: 9.21.2017

The storm caused significant or complete destruction of the buildings and structures. (FURA Base, San Juan)





Hurricane Maria - Toa Baja: Levittown and Ingenio Floods

Five spillways of La Plata dam were opened in advance of the storm in an attempt to avoid overflow and flooding. Still, La Plata river swelled to more than 11 feet above flood stage and caused an **unprecedented flooding**.



















Rescue Mission







Total Devastation 100 x 35





L LUERZAS UNIDAS DE RAPIDA ACCIÓN CENTRAL AREAS MOST AFFECTED **AEREA PONCE** LAS MARIAS 2. MARICAO 3. SAN SEBASTIAN 4. LARES 5. ADJUNTAS 6. JAYUYA 7. UTUADO 8. CIALES 9. OROCOVIS 10. BARRANQUITAS 11. AIBONITO 12. VILLABA 13. COAMO 14. COMERIO 15. CIDRA 16. AGUAS BUENAS 17. SAN LORENZO 18. YABUCOA 19. MAUNABO

The Central Area Was The Most Affected

Population: 502,063







HELP

"We need water, food and medical assistance"



Access to the most affected areas was limited because of the situation of collapsed bridges, flooded roads and landslides.

Collapse of bridges

Landslides









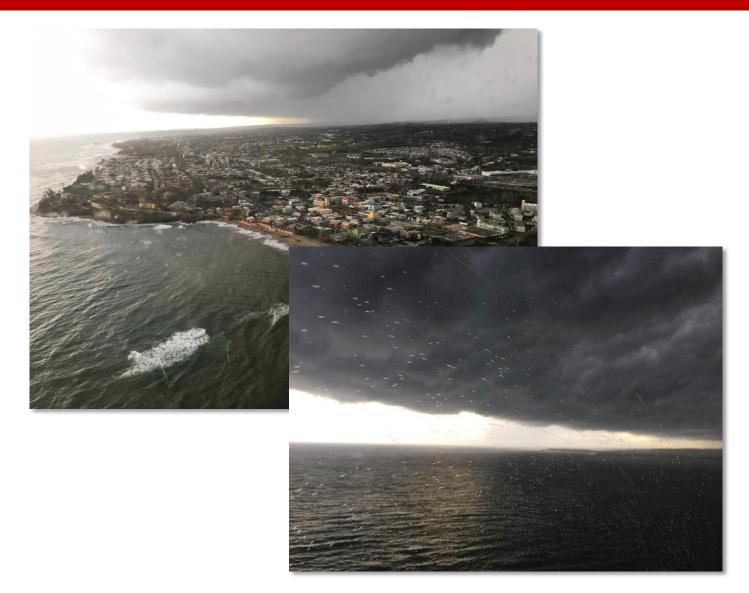




Our lives at risk

The challenge of providing the necessary help as soon as possible.







The Weather

After the hurricane, the weather conditions often stopped rescue missions. Maria, destroyed the weather radars that are a critical tool for forecasting.



People with serious health conditions... the aftermath of Maria

Every time we landed, the community leaders came to us with lists of people who needed immediate medical attention.







Death toll **2,975**

The estimated total of deaths, according to a study of the George Washington University.



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