



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Topic Areas:

- A. General Questions on HRP
- B. Application Process: Who can Apply and How?
- C. Changes to Project Design: What will I receive?

### A. GENERAL QUESTIONS ON HRP

#### A1. What is HRP?

The Housing Recovery Project (HRP) is the latest, island wide owner-driven reconstruction project designed to replace completely destroyed small houses. Importantly, it is designed to build resilience in the housing sector throughout Dominica.

#### A2. Is HRP the same as other housing projects I already know about?

No, the HRP is a new project to reconstruct completely destroyed, small houses (approximately 500 sq. ft.) owned by the most vulnerable. This island wide initiative will ensure that houses will be constructed in accordance with internationally recognised resilient best practices, the revised building codes and vital safeguards to address environmental, social, health and safety risks.

#### A3. What is owner-driven reconstruction?

Owner-driven reconstruction requires the beneficiary homeowner to be involved in all aspects of the reconstruction of their house.

#### A4. Who can I contact for help?

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of the Housing Recovery Project (HRP) is available to assist potential beneficiaries and interested parties.

Phone: 1-767-616-9766; 1-767-245-1250

Email: [adminassistanthrp@dominica.gov.dm](mailto:adminassistanthrp@dominica.gov.dm)

Website: [www.hrp.gov.dm](http://www.hrp.gov.dm)

Ministry of Housing & Urban Development

40 Old Street, Roseau



Commonwealth of Dominica

#### **A5. How do I submit a complaint?**

If you wish to submit a complaint related to the HRP in Dominica, you can fill out a grievance form on the website [www.hrp.gov.dm](http://www.hrp.gov.dm) or contact the HRP team directly, see question A4 above for details.

### **B. APPLICATION PROCESS: WHO CAN APPLY AND HOW?**

#### **B1. Am I eligible?**

Details of the eligibility criteria are listed in question B2. If you are able to tick all of these criteria, you are likely to be eligible and should apply. Applications will be screened against the eligibility criteria as they are received, followed by a categorical prioritization, site assessment, and verification and validation process.

#### **B2. What are the eligibility criteria?**

Here is a list of some of the eligibility criteria and vulnerability considerations;

##### *Myself*

- I am a homeowner in Dominica
- I am a citizen or permanent resident of Dominica and I have proof of this.

##### *My House*

- My house was completely destroyed by Hurricane Maria
- My house size is approximately 500 sq. ft.
- My house is the main home that I live in before the hurricane
- I have proof of ownership or documented permission to use the property or I can obtain such
- My house is not in a landslide or flood risk area. If my home is in such an area, I can re-locate the house to a safe area on the same property.
- My house is not located in a protected area or within 200 meters of a protected area.



*My Support*

- I have not received direct reconstruction/structural restoration of my home through Government or another donor housing programme in excess of EC\$10,000.00. Note: acceptance of this prior support falls under the revised project design.
- I did not have insurance coverage for my house prior to Hurricane Maria

*Priority will be given to the most vulnerable groups, such as:*

- single headed households
- the elderly
- the disabled
- persons still living in a shelter or still living with others
- persons unemployed due to Hurricane Maria
- recipients of Public Assistance, Education Trust Fund and Over 70 Allowance
- persons for whom part of the house was used as a source of livelihood/income

**B3. What documents do I need to apply?**

During application, required documents include:

1. Official photo ID (one of the following)
  - Passport
  - Social security card
  - Driver's license
2. Citizenship documentation OR permanent residency certificate
3. Land ownership documents
  - Certificate of title
  - Land survey
  - Permission to build (from land owner). This must be properly notarized.

**B4. What if I do not have my land permit documents?**

Applicants can start to complete the application form without the land permit documents. However, evidence of certificate of title, along with formal permission (where applicable) to build, will be required



before acceptance onto the project. HRP will guide applicants on how to request replacement documents, if required.

**B5. Can I apply if I live in the Kalinago Territory?**

Yes; the HRP is an island wide initiative open to all citizens and permanent residents of Dominica who meet the eligibility criteria. Authorization letter from the Kalinago Council is required.

**B6. How do I apply?**

If you wish to apply to the HRP in Dominica, you can fill out an application form on the website at [www.hrp.gov.dm](http://www.hrp.gov.dm) or contact the HRP team directly to assist you (see question A4 for contact details).

**B7. Can I apply on someone else's behalf?**

Yes, you can apply as a 'supporter' on someone else's behalf; for example, an elderly parent or neighbour. You will need to have the permission of the applicant and access to their required documents, see B3 for details.

**B8. How will my application be assessed to become a beneficiary?**

There are three major assessment stages to screen each application. First, applications will be screened against the eligibility criteria and categorical prioritization as they are received in the management information system (MIS). Second, a site survey will follow, where applicable, which will be screened. Third, a verification and validation process will follow. The combined evaluation of the three stages will determine the eligibility of the applicants.

**B9. Will someone visit my property during the application process?**

Yes, potential beneficiaries will be required to provide access to the property for the HRP team to conduct a site assessment. Please note that this is only part of the assessment process. See question B8 for details.

**B10. When will I find out the result of my application?**



Applicants will receive an official letter by the HRP-PIU to indicate the outcome of their application. This will be done after all stages of assessment are completed in batches (see question B9 for details on the assessment stages). All beneficiaries' names will be publicly disclosed. The first set of names is expected to be published during the month of JUNE 2020. Please note the following: (i) this will be the first group of beneficiaries and others groups will be released at later dates as the PIU continues to process the applications and (ii) release of beneficiary names may not correspond with 'first come - first serve' based on screening elements during the different assessment stages (see question B9).

**B11. What is the closing date for applications?**

**The closing date for applications is Friday, June 12, 2020.**

**C. CHANGES TO PROJECT DESIGN: WHAT WILL I RECEIVE?**

**C1. What are the changes to the project design for the beneficiaries?**

- The grant value was increased for each beneficiary of this project to reconstruct a complete house.
  - The initial value of the grant was USD18, 500 (~XCD\$50,000).
  - The new value of the grant is now USD46, 000 (~XCD125, 000).
- 676 beneficiaries will be assisted based on the newly revised grant quota.

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/915481589385545440/Disclosable-Restructuring-Paper-Housing-Recovery-Project-P166537>

**C2. Will the increase in grant amount mean that I will receive a larger house under this project?**

Yes, the increase in grant amount will allow the construction of a house larger than 300 sq. ft.

**C3. Will I be allowed to use an alternate site**

Based on the revised project design, if the previous options are not feasible, I can relocate to an alternative site, which is owned by the applicant. The alternative site must be vacant, free of dispute and would be required to be located in the same community in which the homeowner resided, and the home was located at the time of Hurricane Maria when the building was destroyed.