

Hurricane Ian - Sep 26, 2022, Coverage



Radio Show Script: Hurricane Ian Coverage

Station: Hitz 97

Show Title/ Hitz Headlines: Hurricane Ian Special

Date: September 2022

Length: 15 minutes

Topic: For this show, the host is providing education on Hurricane Ian and what it means for Jamaica, along with general tips on safety.

Introduction (00:00 – 01:00)

[Background music fades in; an instrumental, urgent but mellow tune.]

Host:

Good evening, Jamaica! You're tuned into Hitz 97, and I'm your host, with this special Hitz Headline on Hurricane Ian-the powerful storm now passing through the region. We take a look at the latest updates, important safety tips in light of this natural occurrence, and listen from officials and residents on the situation at hand as it continuously develops. Stay tuned to hear what's happening here on Hitz 97.

[Queue the Hitz 97 jingle and sound effects related to the weather, including light rain and wind.]

Segment 1: Weather Update (01:00 – 04:00)

Host:

"First up, let's get the latest on Hurricane Ian. At 6 PM today, Hurricane Ian was classified as a Category 3 storm, carrying sustained winds of 125 mph. Though the eye of this storm is forecasted to pass south of Jamaica, heavy rains and gusty winds are already affecting parts of the island.

Here's what we know:

Some coastal communities, especially in southern parishes like Clarendon, St. Elizabeth, and Manchester, experience high tides, with extreme flooding.

The central eastern areas, including the capital city of Kingston and St. Andrew, have also reported some incidents of local flooding due to relentless rainfalls.

Residents in low-lying and flood-prone areas are urged to go to higher and safer areas.

Let's hear from Evan Martin at the Meteorological Service of Jamaica for more information.

[Pre-recorded clip or live call-in from meteorologist.]

Meteorologist:

'Good evening, Jamaica. Hurricane Ian continues to move west-northwest, while moving at approximately 13 miles per hour. The heaviest rains are forecasted to continue well into the night, with the highest rainfall totals reaching as much as 6 inches in some areas. Please take all necessary precautions, and remember, safety is the key.'

Host:

"Thanks, Mr. Martin (Meteorologist Name). We'll continue to keep you informed as changes arise. If you happened to miss that update, keep in mind that you can always visit the Met Service website or social media for up-to-date information."

Segment 2: Government & Community Response (04:00 – 08:00)

Host:

"Now, let's delve a little into how Jamaica is bracing for the eventual arrival of Hurricane Ian. Across the island, shelters have been activated by ODPEM, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management for needy individuals. Basic supplies and trained personnel are to be found at these shelters to cater to the evacuees.

From ODPEM, here comes Representative Michelle Edwards with a quick update."

[Pre-recorded clip or live call-in from ODPEM representative.]

ODPEM Rep:

We currently have 50 shelters open across the island, most concentrated in those flood-prone areas. Residents are advised to bring essential items if they need to evacuate food, water, medication, etcetera. Our Emergency Response Teams currently are on standby to assist in rescue operations.

Host:

"Thank you, Representative Michelle, we would also like to acknowledge the hard work of our first responders and community leaders. Remember, listeners, should you or someone you know need help, call the ODPEM hotline at (876) 906-9674.

We have also received reports of power outages in parts of St. Thomas and Portland. So far, JPS has assured us that repair teams are on the ground and are working toward the restoration of electricity as weather conditions permit them to do so.

Segment 3: Resident Stories (08:00 – 12:00)**Host:**

"Next, let's hear directly from the people. Earlier today, we spoke to residents from Clarendon and Kingston about their experiences as Hurricane Ian approaches.

Let's go to Declan Morgan from May Pen."

[Pre-recorded voice clip.]**Resident:**

'It's been non-stop rain since this morning. The river is rising quickly, and we've already moved some of our belongings to higher ground. We're praying the worst passes us by.'

Host:

Now we have a live caller. We have Mrs. Hardy from Kingston. Mrs. Hardy, you're on the air. Tell us, what's the situation like around your area?

Caller:

'Hi, thanks for taking my call. The road conditions in Kingston are flooded and jammed. However, people are helping each other in any way they can. We have been clearing drains, checking on our senior citizens.'

Host:

"Thank you, Mrs. Hardy. Stay safe, and we appreciate your resilience during this time."

Segment 4: Safety Tips (12:00 – 14:00)

Host:

"Before we wrap up, here are some crucial safety tips to help you weather Hurricane Ian:

Avoid crossing flooded roads and rivers-just 6 inches of moving water can knock you over. Secure outdoor furniture and items that can become projectiles in strong winds. Stock up on supplies: water, food that won't spoil, lights, extra batteries, and a first-aid kit. Make sure valuable papers are in a waterproof case. Stay tuned to Hitz 97 for continuous updates from authorities.

After all, it is said, "Better safe than sorry." Prepare now and look out for your neighbors, especially those who are elderly and weaker.

That's all for tonight's special edition of Hitz Headlines. We continue to monitor Hurricane Ian and bring you updates through the course of the evening. Remember, Jamaica, stay safe, stay informed, and let's ride out this storm together.

You're tuned into Hitz 97, where we got you covered, come rain or shine. Good night and take care.

[Outro music fades in-upbeat yet calming instrumental.]