Box 1. Recommended Data Needs for Preparedness for Extreme Weather Events

- Existing data collection systems to monitor death in the community should be strengthened (with the help of the primary health clinics, the Ministry of the Interior and the burial services).
- Data on causes of death collected from all sources should include information on possible associations with extreme weather conditions. This may require a change in the way death notifications are completed.
- In addition, data should be reported in real time, using computerized systems and internet communications.
- Data on hospitalizations should be transmitted electronically to the Ministry of Health.
- The reasons for hospitalization should be clearly detailed, particularly if there is a suspicion that the cause of hospitalization is related to weather conditions.
- The lag time in the availability of data should be reduced to 48 hours, and reports should be monitored periodically (including weekends and holidays).