

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## El Salvador: Floods

Emergency Appeal n° MDRSV002  
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000238-SLV  
Operations update n° 3  
11 June 2010

Period covered by this Ops Update: up to 31 May 2010.

Appeal target (current): 1,680,178 Swiss francs (1,567,840 US dollars/1,145,120 euro);

Appeal coverage: currently approximately 92%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, here to view the interim financial statement or here to link to contact details>](#)



Red Cross volunteers carry out recreational activities with children in the affected municipality of San Pedro Masahuat, La Paz department. Source: Salvadoran Red Cross Society.

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 17 November 2009 for 1,701,194 Swiss francs (1,681,039 US dollars/ 1,127,553 euro) including 173,262 Swiss francs for Shelter Cluster coordination, for 9 months to assist 10,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** 182,501 Swiss francs (180,614 US dollars/120,783 euro) were initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the Salvadoran Red Cross Society (SRCS) to respond to the floods. The Canadian government through the Canadian Red Cross and the Italian government have generously replenished the DREF funds allocated to this emergency.
- This **operations update n° 3** reflects an extension of the appeal timeframe to 16 November 2010, to complete activities related to shelter and water and sanitation.

**Summary:** On 7 November 2009, the passing of Tropical Storm Ida and the low pressure system caused heavy rain, floods and landslides throughout the country affecting approximately 15,000 families (75,000

people). Based on the situation, an Emergency Appeal was launched to respond to a request from the Salvadoran Red Cross Society, and aims to provide support and ensure appropriate and timely response in delivering assistance and relief in the following sectors: relief distributions, shelter, emergency health and care, water and sanitation and hygiene promotion and rehabilitation of livelihoods.

The distribution of essential relief items that include blankets, kitchen kits and hygiene kits for 3,000 families has been completed by the Salvadoran Red Cross Society. To date, 206,858 gallons of water have been distributed, reaching 89,966 people in the departments of San Salvador, San Vicente, La Paz, La Libertad and Cuscatlán. Additionally, a psychosocial support workshop was carried out, training 25 Salvadoran Red Cross facilitators in the area. An operations manager and a RIT member specialized in logistics have been deployed to El Salvador to carry out and coordinate the remaining activities of this operation. Early recovery activities have begun in the municipality of San Pedro Nonualco (La Paz department) and 5 water systems have been restored providing water to 997 families. Water and sanitation activities are still ongoing with the procurement of additional materials for the construction of grey water latrines in four selected communities and for artisan wells.

To date, the American Red Cross, the Andorra Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the Canadian government, the Canadian Red Cross, the Czech government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (DG ECHO), the Finnish Red Cross, the Irish government, the Italian government, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Monaco Red Cross, the Netherlands government via the Netherlands Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross, the Swedish government via the Swedish Red Cross and the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent have generously contributed to this appeal with cash and in-kind relief items. Moreover, the employees of the World Health Organization in Geneva made a donation to this emergency appeal. In addition, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society has received bilateral contributions from the German Red Cross, the Luxemburg Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross.

On behalf of the Salvadoran Red Cross Society, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) would like to thank all partners and donors for their immediate and generous response to this appeal.

This operation will be completed by 16 November 2010. A Final Report will be made available by 16 February 2011 (three months after the end of the operation).

## The situation

During 7 and 8 November, the passage of Tropical Storm Ida through Central America, coincided with a low pressure system over the Pacific coast of El Salvador and Guatemala, causing heavy rainfall in El Salvador. According to meteorological data, up to 350mm of rainfall was registered. The storm caused the overflowing of several main rivers, as well as flooding and mudslides which severely affected seven departments in the central zone of the country: San Salvador, San Vicente, Usulután, La Paz, La Libertad, Cabañas and Cuscatlán. The overflowing rivers swept through different areas, destroying water, electrical and telecommunications systems, and damaging roads, health and educational centres and houses. The government and municipalities assisted in the distribution of humanitarian aid, updating census lists and identifying appropriate land to build temporary shelter and permanent housing. To date, 13 collective centres remain open with an estimated total of 700 people taking refuge in them. The majority of these centres are overcrowded and have precarious water and sanitation facilities including limited drinking water.



**A Salvadoran Red Cross Society volunteer works on census lists in the department of San Vicente. Source: Salvadoran Red Cross Society.**

In response to the need for shelter solutions, the Salvadoran Vice Ministry of Housing announced in May that it will begin the construction plan for permanent houses "A Roof for Everyone" (*Un Techo Para Todos*, in Spanish). This plan aims to provide permanent housing solutions to 40,000 families in a four-year period, and

within its target groups includes families affected by Tropical Storm Ida. However, the main challenge encountered by all actors working on the construction of temporary and permanent housing solutions has been to find land.

The start of the 2010 Hurricane Season is already affecting the progress of objectives. On 29 May, tropical depression 1-E became the first tropical storm – Agatha – of the 2010 Pacific hurricane season. As a result, severe rainfall has been experienced in the El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Even though the tropical storm was downgraded to a tropical depression on the night of 29 May, the rains have affected several departments in El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras. The Salvadoran Red Cross Society is responding to this emergency conducting search, rescue and evacuation activities, providing first aid and relief assistance, and performing damage and needs assessments. For more information, please see the [DREF Bulletin \(MDRSV003\)](#) issued for this emergency operation.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) cluster system was activated to coordinate the activities of organizations, donors and government agencies ensuring an efficient and accountable response to the emergency and avoiding duplication of efforts.

Currently the following clusters are still active:

Cluster	Lead Agency
Emergency Shelter	UNDP
Camp coordination and camp management	International Organization for Migration

The Water and Sanitation and Hygiene Cluster –which was led by the Pan American Health Organization with UNICEF– was deactivated last week. Nonetheless, as a result of the work carried out by this cluster group, a proposal was drafted to establish a permanent commission for water, sanitation and hygiene to be included as a component within the Civil Protection’s national plan for disaster prevention and mitigation.

The Cluster lead group regularly met to share information and make strategic decisions on cross-cluster issues. The Inter-Cluster Information Management Group was working to obtain consolidated cluster information and updated information regarding activities of all cluster partners. The SRCS participated with the IFRC in cluster meetings.

The registration process of the affected families, who will receive a temporary shelter and subsequently a permanent home, was initiated by the Vice Minister of Housing working in coordination with the Emergency Shelter Cluster. The formats for surveys (both technical and socio-economic) have been finalized. A group of university students in their last year of social work and engineering studies have been trained in the use of these tools and will be mobilized to the affected areas.

Other agencies present in the country providing assistance are OXFAM, Medicos del Mundo, UNICEF, CARE and World Vision. UNDP announced the completion of 290 houses in five locations: Tepetitán, San Vicente (in different localities than the ones targeted by the Red Cross), Verapaz and San Martín. The UN has provided funds to respond through its different agencies and is now coordinating with the IFRC regarding the construction of 300 temporary houses in the municipality of San Pedro Masahuat (department of La Paz).

### Movement Coordination

The Salvadoran Red Cross Society has received support from Partner National Societies (PNS) in country including the Finnish Red Cross, the German Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross. The Swiss Red Cross provided water, cleaning kits and food parcels to affected people in the department of San Vicente. The Spanish Red Cross provided support in the process of distributing these items to the people that have not returned home and has provided vehicles and personnel already in-country through funds from the Spanish International Development Agency (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo - AECID). Moreover, the German Red Cross has distributed roof repair kits (zinc sheets, nails, saws and hammers) for 1,000 families.

In addition, the IFRC’s Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico in Panama have been providing guidance and support to the Salvadoran Red Cross Society to ensure contact with PNSs that are not in-country, but are equally interested in supporting the SRCS. PADRU has deployed a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member and an Appeal coordinator to El Salvador to

provide support to the SRCS in carrying out this operation. Moreover, meetings between the SRCS and the PNSs in the field have been held to coordinate the relief activities in the different sectors of intervention.

#### **National Society Capacity Building:**

Since the beginning of the emergency the SRCS disaster management capacity building activities have contributed to reducing disaster risks for this emergency operation and for future ones. During this emergency the SRCS used for the first time the Emergency Operations Centre where all information was obtained, processed and shared among all the organizations responding to this emergency.

In the departments of la Paz, La Libertad, Cuscatlán and San Vicente, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society has previously implemented disaster preparedness projects (Municipal Disaster Mitigation) in 30 municipalities and 90 education centres, training approximately 45,000 people who are members of municipal commissions, firemen, teachers, mayors and SRCS volunteers in sectors including water and sanitation, collective centres and psychosocial support. Contingency plans have been designed in each municipality and risk mapping was carried out along with geological and hydrological studies. In addition, Emergency Operations Centres have been installed in each mayor's office with telecommunications equipment to link them with the Civil Protection. In the department of La Paz a disaster preparedness project was implemented by the National Society and financed by DG ECHO (DIPECHO V) mainly to provide community support. Meteorological stations, radio communication systems, early warning systems and rain gauges were set up and communities are in communication with the scientific technical follow-up body (Seguimiento Técnico Científico - SNET). In the departments of San Vicente and La Libertad, community brigades were formed, trained and equipped with radios and first aid items and contingency plans were drawn up.

Furthermore, the SRCS has 58 local branches and has a long history in managing disaster response. There are 70 trained National Intervention Team (NIT) members and 10 RIT members as well as trained personnel for distribution, logistical and psychosocial support activities.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

The SRCS has been constantly monitoring and responding to the emergency. Since the onset of the emergency on 7 November 2009, the SRCS activated its Emergency Operations Centre and volunteers. In addition, SRCS specialized personnel were activated including Flood Rescue Teams (Técnica de Rescate para Inundaciones - TREPI), vertical rescue teams, diving and boating teams, specialized transport teams, first aid units, damage and needs assessment teams and National Intervention Team members.



**Salvadoran children play and receive psychosocial support through the recreational activities carried out by Salvadoran Red Cross Society volunteers. Source: Salvadoran Red Cross Society.**

volunteers remain providing psychosocial support and another activities.

The National Society has distributed water and relief items in five of the most affected departments. The distributions were coordinated with the Civil Protection and other organizations. These items were funded through this Emergency Appeal and bilateral contributions. The transportation costs of the relief items to El Salvador were covered by the tripartite agreement between the IFRC and the governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States. In addition, the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama sent 5,000 blankets thanks to AECID.

Approximately 500 volunteers were initially actively involved in the emergency and several have participated in coordination meetings with actors responding to the emergency in the areas of water and sanitation and health in collective centres. The volunteers of the SRCS have also distributed clothing to 500 families. Ten 15 volunteers to support hygiene promotion

The SRCS has delivered 206,858 gallons of water with support from the National Administration of Aqueducts and Sewer systems (Administración Nacional de Acueductos y Alcantarillados - ANDA). In addition, the National Society received a contribution from MAPFRE (a private insurance company) to provide 500 families with relief

items including food parcels, cleaning kits and kitchen kits. Of these relief items, 300 will be distributed to the families that will settle in San Pedro Masahuat in the 300 temporary houses to be built.

The National Society has in place a diverse and integrated team to support this emergency operation composed of an operations coordinator, an assistant, a water and sanitation technician, a construction technician, two health promoters, one psychosocial support specialist, a procurement officer, an accounting assistant, a plumber, two construction workers and four mechanics. This newly composed team is in charge of completing the activities within this appeal.

Moreover, there have been several actions for the signing of the different agreements among different institutions, including the following activities:

- A cooperation memorandum has been signed between the SRCS and the Vice Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.
- An agreement has been made among the members of the municipal council of the city of San Pedro Masahuat to sign an agreement between the SRCS and the municipality.
- An agreement between UNDP and the SRCS is still pending signature.
- A permit was obtained by a private cooperative to elaborate the kits to construct the temporary houses.
- The procured construction materials have been stored thanks to the cooperation of the municipality of San Pedro Masahuat
- Ten cooperation agreements have been signed to repair water systems between communities, the SRCS and municipalities.

## Progress towards objectives

The SRCS has delivered relief items for 3,000 families (12,095 people) in the departments of San Salvador, San Vicente, Usulután, La Paz, Cuscatlán, Cabañas and La Libertad include blankets, hygiene kits and kitchen kits. In addition, 206,858 gallons of water have been distributed, reaching 89,966 people in the departments of San Salvador, San Vicente, La Paz and La Libertad. Additionally, initial psychosocial support has been provided to women and children in collective centres. Activities are still ongoing.

The following beneficiary selection criteria have been used:

- Single headed households.
- Elderly people.
- Families with members with disabilities.
- Families with five or more members who are 16 years of age or less.

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Outcome: 2,000 of the most affected families will benefit from essential relief items including blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen kits and food parcels.**

Outputs	Activities planned
2,000 families (approximately 10,000 people) will be assisted with essential relief items such as blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen kits and food parcels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement of non-food items.</li> <li>• Transportation of relief items to El Salvador</li> <li>• Development of beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Distribution of relief supplies and control of supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the relief activities and reporting on relief distributions.</li> <li>• Development of an exit strategy.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The benefited people through this objective informed the importance of receiving food and non-food items and potable water and acknowledged that the SRCS was the first institution in providing assistance. The National Society distributed food parcels via the support of the Swedish Red Cross and logistics support from the Spanish Red Cross (AECID funds); hence in order to avoid duplication of efforts the IFRC appeal focused on distribution of relief items and removed the activity linked to local procurement of food items.

To date 3,000 families have received essential relief items as follows:

Department	Municipality	Collective Centre	People	Families	Hygiene Kits	Kitchen Kits	Blankets
San Vicente	Verapaz	Collective Centre 1 San Isidro	590	118	118	118	236

		Collective Centre 2 San Isidro	240	48	48	48	96
		C.E Concepcion Cañas	365	73	73	73	146
		C.E. Antonio Galindo	230	46	46	46	92
	San Vicente	Colonia San Benito and Trinidad	330	66	66	66	132
		Colonia Villa España Santa Anita	320	64	64	64	128
	Tepetitan	Tepetitan	830	166	166	166	332
	San Vicente	Colonia Vaquerano	75	15	15	15	30
	San Cayetano Istepeque	Colonia la Entrevista	30	6	6	6	12
	Guadalupe	Barrio El Centro	290	58	58	58	116
La Paz	San Marcelino	San Marcelino	295	59	59	59	118
	San Pedro Masahuat	Colonia Triunfos de la Paz	1,800	360	360	360	720
		Communities El Buen Samaritano 1 and 2	810	162	162	162	324
	Santiago Nonualgo	Iglesia evangelica el Sauce	585	117	117	117	234
	Zacatecoluca	San Marcos Jiboa	1,505	301	301	301	602
	San Marcelino	Victoria 200	620	124	124	124	248
	San Pedro Masahuat	El Porvenir	1,150	230	230	230	460
	Santiago Nonualgo	Hoja de Sal	915	183	183	183	366
	San Luis La Herradura	La Zarcera	560	112	112	112	224
		San Sebastián el Chingo	455	91	91	91	182
		Caserío Salamar	435	87	87	87	174
		El Escobal	350	70	70	70	140
San Salvador	Santiago Texaguancos	Santa María La esperanza	485	97	97	97	194
	Santo Tomas	C.E General Manuel Arce	165	33	33	33	66
	San Martin	Com. La Flor	175	35	35	35	70
	Santo Tomas	C.E Manuel Delgado collective centre	115	23	23	23	46
Cuscatlán	San Bartolome Perulapia	C.E El Triunfo	115	23	23	23	46
	Santa Cruz Michapa	Collective centre Municipal court Ferrocarril 1 and 2	125	25	25	25	50
	San Bartolome Perulapia	El Progreso community	145	29	29	29	58
	Cojutepeque	Cujucuapa	895	179	179	179	358
		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12,095</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>

In addition, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society received a bilateral contribution from the German Red Cross for the following relief items and repairs:

Distribution Centre In El Achiotal							
Dept.	Municipality	Community	People	Families	Cleaning Kits	Roof Repairs	Water Filters
La Paz	San Pedro Mashuat	El Porvenir	125	25	25	25	25
		Las Hojas	300	60	60	60	60
		Achiotal	1,620	324	324	324	324
		Santa Maria El Coyol	200	40	40	40	40
		Las Moras	460	92	92	92	92
		Asturias	200	40	40	40	40
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,905</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>581</b>
Distribution Centre In El Fraile							
Dept.	Municipality	Community	People	Families	Cleaning Kits	Roof Repairs	Water Filters
La Paz	San Pedro Mashuat	El Fraile	105	21	21	21	21
		San Carlos	460	92	92	92	92
		15 De Sept.	295	59	59	59	59
		Victorias 200	665	133	133	133	133

	El Samaritano	350	70	70	70	70
	Puente Viejo	155	31	31	31	31
	Colonia La Coquera	65	13	13	13	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,095</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>419</b>

This objective has been 100 per cent achieved, even surpassing the number of targeted families to 3,000. It was possible to assist more families than initially planned as the National Society mobilized its pre-positioned stocks to assist affected people. In addition, thanks to the bilateral contribution by the German Red Cross an additional 1,000 families were reached with cleaning kits, repaired water systems and distribution of water filters in the departments of La Paz. Overall the National Society was able to provide assistance to 4,000 families with essential relief items.

**Challenges:** The National Society had to take security measures during the distributions since several areas have gang groups present and there was the risk of them threatening to take the relief items from the beneficiaries. Fortunately, the precautionary measures taken by the SRCS were effective and no major problems were encountered.

In addition, many of the affected areas were inaccessible by land; therefore, distributions were done using boats which delayed delivery and incurred certain risks. Nevertheless, the distributions were completed and the objective was successfully achieved.

## Shelter

<b>Outcome: 300 households affected by the floods have safe, healthy and adequate shelter and settlement solutions through the provision of locally appropriate housing in the departments of San Vicente, La Paz, Cuscatlán and/or San Salvador once the operation has been completed.</b>	
<b>Ouputs</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
300 families have an adequate shelter solution according to local materials and technical construction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the scope of the shelter needs and identify preferred shelter solutions to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable families affected by the floods.</li> <li>Enable the provision of safe, healthy and appropriate local shelter solutions by programming methodologies with a comprehensive scope, adapted to the situation of the most vulnerable families.</li> <li>Promote safe, healthy and durable shelter where possible through the provision of technical assistance and guidance to all involved in the shelter activities.</li> <li>Promote increased awareness and understanding of safe and appropriate shelter response programming.</li> <li>Work in coordination with other actors.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** A temporary housing prototype was designed for all the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by the Vice Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. The implementation of an adequate shelter solution along with the water and sanitation activities was reached by an agreement between the SRCS and the Vice Ministry.

The benefit of building 300 temporary houses will assure that the benefited families have a safe and adequate place to live under the minimum sphere standard conditions allowing them to return to their daily lives and eventually transgressing to permanent housing in the future.

An agreement with the Salvadoran government - the Vice Ministry of Housing and Urban Development - was established by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the implementation of the shelter and water and sanitation project for the SRCS. The MOU consisted of:

- The construction of 300 temporary shelters on designated land together with 300 hydro-sanitary modules (water system for gray water, shower- washing place and artisan water wells) in the municipality of San Pedro Masahuat. The hydro-sanitary models (with the exception of the artisan water wells) and the latrines will be permanent structures. (See also to the water and sanitation objective).
- Capacity building including community organization, promotion of hygiene habits (the correct use of water and latrines as well as disposal of solid waste) and a component of psychosocial support.
- Supply potable water to affected families by onion tanks during seven months. (see water and sanitation objective)

The temporary shelter proposal also included space in each family lot for future housing. Support for the building of permanent housing structures would be provided by the Vice Ministry of Housing and would reutilize materials from the temporary shelter structure. The MOU outlined that the land designated to construct the temporary

shelters was going to be provided by the Vice Ministry and had been identified in a non-risk area. In addition, National Society jointly with the government had identified 300 families to benefit from this collaboration. However, the Vice Ministry of Housing has stated that it will not be able to provide the land.

Nevertheless, the government has recently expressed that it will not be able to provide the identified land. As a result of this change, the National Society has now prepared an alternative plan in order to complete the planned activities. This consists of completing the shelter intervention in different smaller terrains in non-risk areas. Activities to secure the land and identify the families are being carried out. The construction of the temporary shelters and complementary work will be carried out with support of the community; therefore, helping to ensure a more participative process.

The National Society has carried out a census of 305 families in the San Pedro Masahuat municipality in line with its alternative plan. The information provided from the census showed that 200 families out of the 305 have land parcels where they can relocate, however only 100 families can prove the legal status of these lots. Forty one families will be located in one land lot and 38 in another lot, while 21 families will be located in individual land lots. The Salvadoran Red Cross Society continues with the census of families, identification of land plots and data processing.

The Salvadoran Red Cross Society continues to work in coordination with other actors in the field, using the temporary shelter module designed by the Vice Ministry of Housing. To construct these, a new agreement reflecting the modification in the plan has also been made with UNDP to complement funds that will add up to a final investment of 450,000 US dollars, including the contributions from this Appeal and UNDP. This value corresponds only to the shelter, and it does not include the hydro-sanitary and latrine components, that will be covered through the water and sanitation objective under this Appeal.

#### Challenges:

- Y Limiting bureaucratic processes of governmental institutions.
- Y There is very small amount of land available to relocate the affected families.
- Y There has not been an adequate assessment of all of communities that have been impacted by the disaster.
- Y The main difficulty has been that the government has manifested that it does not have the capacity to comply with its part of the agreement (turn in land in legal and physical conditions for the intervention), due to technical and political reasons. Therefore, a new plan has been made to use safe land in a different area; however, some of the beneficiaries will be different from the original plan. Due to this change the Appeal has been extended up to 11 November in order to complete the activities. A new detailed chronogram with activities will be designed along with adjustments made to logistics and timeframes in the budget.
- Y The National Society envisages that some challenges could arise due to start of the rainy season and the hurricane season (1 June), which could hinder the timely implementation of activities.

Emergency health	
Outcome: Psychosocial support will be provided for 1,000 families (5,000 beneficiaries) in the five most affected departments.	
Ouputs	Activities planned
1,000 families (approximately 5,000 persons) benefit from psychosocial support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of psychosocial support to SRCS volunteers and personnel involved in the emergency response.</li> <li>• Identification of affected people to receive psychosocial support in the affected communities.</li> <li>• Carrying out of group and individual psychosocial support activities.</li> <li>• Carrying out of recreational activities for the affected children.</li> <li>• Mobilization of National Intervention Teams to identify additional health needs in the affected communities</li> </ul>

**Progress:** During the distributions of the non-food items in the municipality of Verapaz in the department of San Vicente, the SRCS provided initial psychosocial support to the most affected families especially those who lost family members. The National Society's psychosocial brigades worked in coordination with the Universidad of El Salvador by implementing a strategy to provide mental health services to the most affected. The strategy included community talks and recreational activities with children to assist them overcome the trauma and fear caused by the effects of the floods. Throughout the implementation of the initial psychosocial support, the SRCS determined that people were suffering from distress, anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress. Approximately 1,100 people received initial psychosocial support in the communities of Las Hojas (municipality of San Pedro Masahuat, department of La Paz) and in the collective centres of La Libertad (located in the municipality of the same name) and in the municipality of Verapaz, department of San Vicente.

In view of the positive outcomes seen in the people assisted, the Community Health Office of the SRCS held meetings with the Ministry of Health to obtain logistical assistance to coordinate the psychosocial support intervention in a systematic manner in the affected areas. The SRCS will include recreational activities for children and give personalized attention through psychologists and psychiatrists. Collaboration with the Ministry of Health will avoid duplication of efforts, better define responsibilities and ensure coordination of inter-institutional support to provide a comprehensive approach in the area of mental health.

The objective of the psychosocial support workshop is to develop abilities to mitigate the consequences of critical incidents through different coping strategies. Therefore, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society has conducted psychosocial support workshops to train 25 volunteer facilitators from diverse groups within the National Society to develop abilities to mitigate the consequences of critical incidents through different coping strategies. Participants trained to be part of the PSP brigade included:

- 5 voluntary ladies of the SRCS
- 5 Relief workers
- 5 Life guards
- 5 youth volunteers
- 2 students from the University of El Salvador
- 3 Psychologists

Moreover, the identification of affected people to receive psychosocial support in the affected communities has been completed. The National Society has identified 13 communities from the municipality of San Pedro Masahuat, La Paz department (see table below). These communities were identified after the Salvadoran Red Cross Society and the German Red Cross (on a bilateral basis) delivered roof repair kits to 1,000 families in the San Pedro Masahuat and the need for psychosocial support was identified. In addition, coordination was established with community leaders from the identified communities to organize the psychosocial support workshops. Groups are being formed which will also assist in the building of the temporary houses.

Department	Municipality	Community
La Paz	San Pedro Masahuat	1. El Porvenir
		2. Las Hojas
		3. Achitaol
		4. Santa Maria El Coyol
		5. Las Moras
		6. Asturias
	San Pedro Masahuat	7. El Fraile
		8. San Carlos
		9. 15 De Sept.
		10. Victorias 200
		11. El Samaritano
		12. Puente Viejo
		13. Colonia La Coquera

The aim under this objective is to improve the system of first responders and care in support to psychosocial assistance in emergencies and disasters at the community level, to allow them to return to their normal activities and family life in the communities as well as in the new settlement.

**Challenges:** There was limited support from the municipal authorities to develop this activity, since the capacity in the organization is not a priority

#### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: The water and sanitation needs of the target population identified in the assessments are met with an appropriate planned programme. This plan may include an initial provision of clean drinking water to address emergency needs (e.g. ensure safe water supply by cleaning wells)**

Outputs	Activities planned
Safe water is provided to 1,000 families as damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct rapid assessments on water and sanitation and hygiene promotion.</li> <li>• Distribution of water using truck cisterns, bladders and jerry cans.</li> <li>• Distribution of water purification tablets.</li> <li>• Monitoring of the quality of water in communities to be benefited.</li> <li>• Procurement of water pumps equipment.</li> </ul>

Appropriate sanitation, including excreta disposal, solid waste disposal, vector control and water drainage disposal is provided to 500 families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of communal latrines in accordance with the type of terrain.</li> <li>• Building of 100 new and repairing of damaged latrines.</li> <li>• Coordination with municipalities in the intervention areas for the movement and disposal of solid waste.</li> <li>• Cleaning campaigns.</li> <li>• Entomology surveys.</li> <li>• Trainings in water and sanitation</li> <li>• Purchasing of materials and equipment.</li> </ul>
The hygiene behaviour of 1,000 families is improved through hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training days on basic sanitation and hygiene promotion in collective centres, schools and communities.</li> <li>• Printing of educational material</li> <li>• Coordination with the inter-sector committees to support the sanitation related activities.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** After the completion of assessments in the areas where the water systems remained affected, the SRCS distributed water through water tanker trucks. During this activity the SRCS carried out additional assessments of the affected areas to determine where water well cleaning activities will be carried out.

The following table shows the number of families reached in five departments by the distribution of water through tanker trucks from 10 November 2009 to 21 January 2010:

Date	Departments	Municipalities	Families	People	Gallons
November and December 2009	San Salvador, La Libertad, La Paz, San Vicente y Cuscatlán	Affected municipalities	8,157	86,439	169,500
January 2010	San Vicente	San Ildefonso	<b>495</b>	<b>3,527</b>	<b>37,358</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>8,652</b>	<b>89,966</b>	<b>206,858</b>

This objective initially included the distribution of water purification tablets. However, the National Society is piloting a different water purification mechanism using the *solar water disinfection* method (SODIS). It consists of cleaning transparent PET bottles with soap. Then, the bottles are filled with water and placed in full sunlight for at least 6 hours. The water is then disinfected of microbes while exposed to UV rays and can be consumed. Water purification using this method started in some communities as part of the health and hygiene promotion activities.

In relation to the second expected result of this objective, the National Society identified approximately 100 latrines to repair in several communities of the municipality of San Pedro Masahuat. Moreover, other 300 family latrines will be built integrated to the temporary shelter activities. A proposal has been drawn up as well for the construction of 300 gray waste water systems (shower, drainage, absorption well) in the new settlements.

Eighty six artisan water wells have been identified with a goal of cleaning 50 wells in the departments of La Libertad and La Paz.

Activities for hygiene promotion were carried out since the beginning of the water and sanitation intervention. For example, during the distribution of drinking water through water tanker, SRCS volunteers and staff provided information and training on hygiene practices. In addition, a community education manual for volunteers was elaborated regarding the component of basic hygiene promotion. Information on the construction works within this Appeal is being shared among the branches of San Vicente, La Paz, Cuscatlán and San Salvador, to support the educational process in basic sanitation for field volunteers to implement in the field.

Coordination meetings have been held with some communities (Associations for community development) to start the process of training, especially in the places where repairs of water systems have begun.

#### Challenges:

- There has been lack of support from the municipal authorities to develop this activity, due to limited financial capabilities they were not allowed to develop these kinds of repairs.
- Not having proper census lists of the communities since the onset have affected the speed of the execution of the objective.

#### Early recovery/Recovery

**Outcome: Needs will be assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders. The affected families will have access to food and destroyed infrastructures will be restored at the community level.**

Outputs	Activities planned
Infrastructures will be rehabilitated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restoration of water distribution systems (water tanks, sewer systems, water sources, etc.) and cleaning and rehabilitation of water wells.</li> </ul>
500 families will have food security by rehabilitating their crops through the distribution of seeds, fertilizers and agricultural tools to plant 170 hectares of white maize.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil conservation work, agricultural supplies and tools / silos for grain storage / trainings</li> </ul>
The capacity of the affected communities will be ensured to guarantee the viability of the implemented actions in disaster prevention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and create community brigades</li> <li>Train brigades on community-based health and first aid, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) and in hygiene and sanitation promotion.</li> <li>Increase the involvement of women in the decision making in the community brigades.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The National Society has identified five water distribution systems for restoration

	System	Type of system	Population
1	Repairs of the water distribution systems in the communities in the canton of San Ramon, in the municipality of San Pedro Nonualco, department of La Paz.	Gravity	236 families (1,416 people)
2	Repairs of the water distribution systems in the communities in the canton of Hacienda Vieja, municipality of San Pedro Nonualco, department of La Paz Canton.	By pump	250 families (1,500 people)
3	Repairs of the water distribution systems in the communities in the canton Nahuistepeque, municipality of San Pedro Nonualco, department and the department of La Paz.	By pump	325 families (1,950 people)
4	Repairs of the water distribution systems in the communities in the municipality of San Pedro Nonualco, department of La Paz.	Gravity	50 families (300 people)
5	Repairs of the water distribution systems in the community of Las Hojas, municipality of San Pedro Masahuat, department of La Paz.	By pumping	136 families (816 people)
<b>Total</b>			<b>997 families (5,982 people)</b>

Four cooperation agreements have been signed between the SRCS, the municipality of San Pedro Nonualco and community leaders where the responsibilities and counterpart contributions are stated. The agreement of water system project in Las Hojas (San Pedro Masahuat municipality) is in process of being signed.

The procurement and dispatch process of materials is being carried out to start the activities works on all those systems in the municipality of San Pedro Nonualco. The community members have as well being organized to commence rehabilitating water infrastructures.

As mentioned under the Shelter objective, the aim is to empower the community and provide them with the skills to make housing repairs. Therefore, community members will contribute to the construction of temporary shelter modules and also will have the right to receive "food for work", which will be provided by World Food Programme (WFP) with the collaboration of UNDP. The necessary arrangements are currently being established between the SRCS-UNDP-WFP to assure this integrated support.

**Challenges:**

- There has been little coordination among the affected municipalities with the Water Board to share information about the affected water systems.

### National Society Capacity-Building

**Outcome: The capacity of the Salvadoran Red Cross Society will have been strengthened to be better prepared for future emergencies.**

Outputs	Activities planned
The National Society and its local branches will be better prepared for future disaster response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Intervention Team workshop on water and sanitation and hygiene promotion.</li> <li>• Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office</li> <li>• Infrastructure repairing of affected local branches.</li> <li>• Procurement of one vehicle.</li> <li>• Vehicle maintenance.</li> <li>• Maintenance of water and sanitation equipment used in the operation.</li> <li>• Organizational development activities in selected branches.</li> <li>• Procurement of telecommunications equipment.</li> <li>• Provision of visibility and relief equipment to volunteers according to established standards</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The workshops for National Intervention Teams including a component on the vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) will be held in early in June.

Equipment has been received for immediate response to access safe water and sanitation as well as to conduct hygiene promotion activities. In addition, materials have been procured to repair the San Salvador branch.

In order to support the activities carried out in this operation, a 4x4 fully equipped vehicle was purchased and a radio communication system will be installed in the vehicle.

The provision of visibility and relief equipment to volunteers according to established standards has been completed as described in the operations update n° 2. The National Society response and volunteer system has been strengthened in disaster response since they now have the basic tools, including relief equipment for volunteers.

**Challenges:** There have been delays due to the bureaucratic processes of government institutions to start the implementation of the branch projects.

### Logistics

The IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama supported the Salvadoran Red Cross Society in arranging the dispatch, the appropriate transportation and storage of the relief items. In addition, the RLU has provided logistical support and reinforced the existing logistics capacity of the National Society. The RLU has been coordinating the procurement and mobilization of non-food items included in this emergency appeal. A mobilization table is available on DMIS. [https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/03\\_response/0307\\_logistics.aspx](https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/03_response/0307_logistics.aspx)

### Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for advocacy, maintaining the profile of the emergency operation and for fund-raising. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promoting greater quality, accountability and transparency. The communications activities covered by this appeal are aimed at supporting the Salvadoran Red Cross Society to improve its communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support an effective operation. These activities include training, capacity-building, as well as material support and are closely coordinated with the Communications Department of the IFRC's Secretariat in Geneva.

There have already been over four story publications, one press release and two media announcements (<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/09/09111002/>, <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/09/09110902/>). The Salvadoran Red Cross Society will work to maintain a media focus on this emergency response.

## How we work

***All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.***

The International Federation's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The International Federation's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- **In El Salvador:** Mirna Zelaya, Salvadoran Red Cross Society, Executive Director; phone: (503) 7578 9879, email: [mirna.zelaya@cruzrojasal.org.sv](mailto:mirna.zelaya@cruzrojasal.org.sv).
- **In Costa Rica:** Fabricio López, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: [fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org](mailto:fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Francisco Maldonado, Acting Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU); phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org](mailto:francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Ilir Caushaj, Regional Logistics Coordinator, Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org](mailto:ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Ghotai Ghazialam, Disaster Management delegate, PADRU; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [ghotai.ghazialam@ifrc.org](mailto:ghotai.ghazialam@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Zuleyka Maynard, Resource Mobilization officer; phone: (507) 380 0250; email: [zuleyka.maynard@ifrc.org](mailto:zuleyka.maynard@ifrc.org).
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41) 22 730 4300; email: [pablo.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:pablo.medina@ifrc.org).

**[<Interim financial statement attached below; or click here to return to the title page>](#)**

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRSV002 - El Salvador - Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/11-2010/4
Budget Timeframe	2009/11-2010/8
Appeal	MDRSV002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	<b>1,506,916</b>				<b>173,262</b>	<b>1,680,178</b>
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Cash contributions</b>						
American Red Cross	204,393					204,393
British Red Cross	25,428				21,529	46,957
Canadian Red Cross	826					826
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	38,521					38,521
Czech Government	104,668					104,668
European Commission - DG ECHO	196,399				41,660	238,060
Irish Government	151,080					151,080
Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund	143,971					143,971
Japanese Red Cross	56,100					56,100
Monaco Red Cross	14,710					14,710
Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)	151,080					151,080
Norwegian Red Cross	89,222					89,222
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	149,575					149,575
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent	5,304					5,304
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	700					700
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>1,331,978</b>				<b>63,190</b>	<b>1,395,167</b>
<b>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>						
European Commission - DG ECHO	47,298				10,033	57,331
Finnish Red Cross	57,331					57,331
<b>C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>	<b>104,630</b>				<b>10,033</b>	<b>114,662</b>
<b>Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>						
American Red Cross	27,432					27,432
Canadian Red Cross	13,338					13,338
<b>C4. Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>	<b>40,770</b>					<b>40,770</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)</b>	<b>1,477,377</b>				<b>73,223</b>	<b>1,550,599</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>1,477,377</b>				<b>73,223</b>	<b>1,550,599</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>98%</b>				<b>42%</b>	<b>92%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>C. Income</b>	<b>1,477,377</b>				<b>73,223</b>	<b>1,550,599</b>
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	<b>-800,363</b>				<b>-66,871</b>	<b>-867,234</b>
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	<b>677,014</b>				<b>6,352</b>	<b>683,366</b>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRSV002 - El Salvador - Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/11-2010/4
Budget Timeframe	2009/11-2010/8
Appeal	MDRSV002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>1,506,916</b>				<b>173,262</b>	<b>1,680,178</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	288,400							288,400
Construction Materials	10,300	432					432	9,868
Clothing & textiles	52,015	48,268					48,268	3,747
Seeds,Plants	123,600							123,600
Water & Sanitation	377,701	80,163					80,163	297,538
Medical & First Aid	2,472							2,472
Utensils & Tools	59,020	56,850					56,850	2,170
Other Supplies & Services	50,060	50,925					50,925	-865
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>963,568</b>	<b>236,637</b>					<b>236,637</b>	<b>726,931</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Vehicles	30,900	24,869					24,869	6,031
Computers & Telecom	11,330	7,015					7,015	4,315
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>42,230</b>	<b>31,884</b>					<b>31,884</b>	<b>10,346</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage		280					280	-280
Distribution & Monitoring	5,000	4,091					4,091	909
Transport & Vehicle Costs	23,540	18,693			2,217		20,910	2,630
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>28,540</b>	<b>23,064</b>			<b>2,217</b>		<b>25,281</b>	<b>3,259</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	167,650	6,295					6,295	161,355
Regionally Deployed Staff	6,600	8,778					8,778	-2,178
National Staff	40,875	41,775					41,775	-900
National Society Staff	138,793	35,141			1,464		36,605	102,187
Consultants	36,124				56,083		56,083	-19,959
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>390,042</b>	<b>91,989</b>			<b>57,547</b>		<b>149,536</b>	<b>240,506</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	52,015	2,156			231		2,386	49,629
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>52,015</b>	<b>2,156</b>			<b>231</b>		<b>2,386</b>	<b>49,629</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	20,300	16,843			1,469		18,312	1,988
Information & Public Relation	27,510	3,760			43		3,804	23,706
Office Costs	4,635	16,944			769		17,713	-13,078
Communications	3,708	7,664			205		7,869	-4,161
Financial Charges	30,900	-16,596			88		-16,508	47,408
Other General Expenses		39					39	-39
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>87,053</b>	<b>28,654</b>			<b>2,574</b>		<b>31,228</b>	<b>55,825</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	109,212	50,808			4,303		55,111	54,101
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>109,212</b>	<b>50,808</b>			<b>4,303</b>		<b>55,111</b>	<b>54,101</b>
<b>Services</b>								
Services & Recoveries	7,519	7,833					7,833	-314
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>7,519</b>	<b>7,833</b>					<b>7,833</b>	<b>-314</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		327,337					327,337	-327,337
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>327,337</b>					<b>327,337</b>	<b>-327,337</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>1,680,178</b>	<b>800,363</b>			<b>66,871</b>		<b>867,234</b>	<b>812,945</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>706,553</b>			<b>106,391</b>		<b>812,945</b>	