



COLOMBIA: FLOODS

DREF Bulletin
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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.

In Brief

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 160,000 (USD 132,642 or EUR 103,320) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation. This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will be completed in late August 2006; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation in November 2006. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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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 \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and current situation

The 2006 rainy season in Colombia has seen an unusual increase in rainfall levels, which has affected a large number of people. According to the National Disaster Preparedness and Response System (SNPAD) and the Colombian Civil Defence, the heaviest rains were between 6 March and 14 May. The government's Institute of Water, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) predicts three or four more weeks of heavy rains and has qualified the situation as critical. Although rains have decreased recently, the IDEAM is advising the population to continue to take preventive measures.

The Colombian Red Cross Society (CRC) has been monitoring the situation in coordination with the SNPAD; according to the records, between 1 January and 19 May some 34,663 families (166,715 people) were affected, of which 126 died, 220 were injured and 21 remain missing. In addition, 1,272 houses were completely destroyed and 13,478 were seriously damaged. The numbers of people and houses affected to date are illustrated in the table below:

Departments	Deaths	Injured	Missing	People Affected	Families Affected	Houses Destroyed	Houses Damaged
ANTIOQUIA	19	14	0	11,548	2,430	104	568
ARAUCA	1	0	0	570	163	22	29
ATLANTICO	4	0	0	343	69	0	68
BOLIVAR	1	1	0	29,044	5,855	60	1,761
BOYACA	5	13	7	9,918	2,152	107	395
CALDAS	14	6	1	3,026	605	63	489
CAQUETA	0	0	0	255	51	8	43
CASANARE	0	0	2	1,670	334	0	0
CAUCA	0	0	0	6,717	1,341	3	1,077
CESAR	0	0	0	4,095	819	0	636
CORDOBA	0	0	0	5,625	1,125	0	195
CUNDINAMARCA	19	99	1	20,917	4,699	149	1,419
CHOCO	0	0	0	19,890	3,980	20	1,946
GUAJIRA	2	0	0	305	61	3	6
HUILA	0	1	0	1,062	221	19	121
MAGDALENA	0	0	0	840	168	0	166
META	0	0	0	275	55	4	11
NARIÑO	10	32	0	23,093	4,780	48	1,196
NORTE DE SANTANDER	1	4	0	559	121	18	65
QUINDIO	4	0	1	1,966	345	0	251
RISARALDA	3	10	4	1,385	287	23	172
SANTANDER	0	0	0	14,732	3,144	426	1,650
SUCRE	0	0	0	611	152	0	60
TOLIMA	3	2	0	2,364	484	19	159
VALLE	40	38	5	5,830	1,208	176	981
VICHADA	0	0	0	75	14	0	14
TOTALS	126	220	21	166,715	34,663	1,272	13,478

In addition to the above figures, a recent electrical storm in Talantico has left two people dead and has affected 78 families in the municipality of Tarazo.

The Colombian government, through its National Disaster Preparedness and Response System, has declared a disaster situation in 21 municipalities of the Boyaca and Cundinamarca departments. The capital city of Bogotá declared an emergency in 13 of its 20 municipalities, while Suba, Engativá, Fontibón and Bosa remain on red alert because of high water levels in the Bogotá River. Rafael Uribe, Tunjuelito, Ciudad Bolívar and Usme are on orange alert due to high water levels in the Tunjuelo River.

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The state of alert in the affected areas is as follows:

Type of alert	Areas affected
Red	Along the Magdalena River between Barrancabermeja (Santander) and Calamar (Bolívar). Also on the Cauca River between Caucasia (Antioquia) and the junction with the Magdalena river, including La Mojana. In the municipalities of La Dorada (Caldas), Wilches port, Parra port and Barrancabermeja (Santander); Berrío port (Antioquia), in Marsella and Desquebradas (Risaralda) and in Ubaté (Cundinamarca). In the Capital district, the Bogota river.
Orange	Along the Magdalena river, between Salgar port (Cundinamarca) and Barrancabermeja (Santander); the municipality of Cimitarra (Santander), in La Pintada and Chigorodó (Antioquia), Argelia and Buenaventura (Valle), Normato (Caldas) and La Virginia (Risaralda). In addition, all of Boyacá department
Yellow	In Bucaramanga (Santander), the metropolitan area of Medellín (Antioquia), on the Meta river from the municipality of Puerto López, Villavicencio, Cubarral, Castillo and Guamal (Meta); in La Unión, El Águila, Tulúa, Palmira, El Cerrito, Buga and Ginebra (Valle); Santa Rosa, Pereira and Mistrato (Risaralda); Ocaña, Tibú, El Zulia, Puerto Santander, Herran, Villa del Rosario, Táchira and Cúcuta (Norte de Santander), Campo de la Cruz, Suan, Santa Lucía and Malambo (Atlántico) and La Mesa and Tocaima in the Cundinamarca department and in Río Tunjuelito.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Colombian Red Cross Society, in coordination with the SNPAD, plans to provide assistance to 5,000 families (14 percent of the total number of affected families) during the first part of the rainy season, which is expected to end within three to four weeks. As part of the overall plans of the SNPAD, to date some 1,546 families (approximately 7,700 people) have received food and non-food relief with logistical support from volunteers from the CRC. This assistance was made possible thanks to agreements with local governments and the SNPAD, donations from entrepreneurs and citizens, and alliances with Conexión Colombia and the RCN television channel.

Furthermore, to date, some 2,000 families have received assistance directly from the Colombian Red Cross Society. Another 1,000 families will be supported with funds allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). The CRC is also seeking additional support and funding in order to reach a further 2,000 families who are currently in need of assistance. The operations are being implemented in coordination with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The CRC has been participating with each of the 24 Regional Committees for Prevention and Response to Disasters (CREPAD). The National Society has participated in preliminary surveys, evacuation to safe areas, needs assessment and humanitarian relief activities carried out by local governments in more than 40 of the affected municipalities. More than 1,200 people were evacuated to safer areas due to danger of floods or landslides and the CRC is also supporting the temporary shelter in Suratena, in the municipality of Marsella (Risaralda), which is benefiting 29 indigenous families. In addition, 68 injured people or people affected by disease were assisted and evacuated to health centres.

The CRCS has also put together a plan of action together with OCHA and the Italian government to assist an additional 840 families.

The Caldas branch of the CRCS has mobilized 68 food packages as part of an agreement with the Caldas departmental government to assist 68 of the 218 families affected in the municipality of La Dorada. To complement this operation, over 150 food packages were provided by the local government.

The CRCS has received a total of 28 tons of relief in donations thanks to the campaign run by the RCN television channel; more than 10 tons of aid have been distributed so far in the municipalities of Zipacón, Simijaca, Guachetá, Guaduas and Chipaque in Cundinamarca. Another 8 tons in donations to assist 727 families are in the process of

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being distributed in the municipalities of Girardot (Cundinamarca), Muzo, Quipame, San Miguel de Sema and Puerto Boyacá (Boyacá), Argelia and Trujillo (Valle), and the municipality of Yondó in Antioquia.

All activities to date have been carried out with the active participation of 700 volunteers and 80 staff from the Red Cross branches, the logistics and telecommunications network and with managerial and technical support from the CRC national headquarters. The CRC, together with the Bilbao de Vizcaya BBVA bank, will launch a campaign on 22 May to boost fundraising.



Colombian Red Cross Society volunteers in action

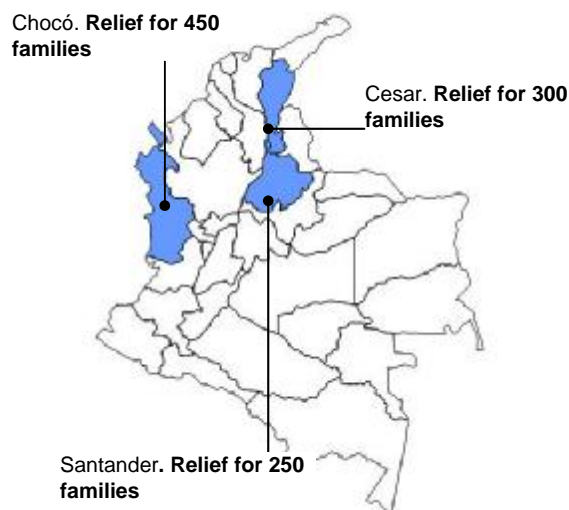
Surveys and damage and needs assessments are now being finalized in coordination with the government. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) continues to monitor the situation together with the CRC and will mobilize a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member to support the relief operation.

Objectives and activities planned for the DREF funds

Objective: 1,000 families affected by floods will have benefited from the provision of food and non-food relief items in the emergency phase as part of the CRC's overall activities targeting 5,000 families.

The following municipalities have been identified as the those which are in most need of relief, although this proposal will be reviewed together with the Regional Committee for Disaster Prevention and Response and the Local Committee for Disaster Prevention and Response (CLOPAD), based on the development of the emergency and in consultation with the Federation.

Nº	Department	Municipalities	Nº of beneficiaries
1	Santander	Puerto Wilches	150
		Barrancabermeja	100
2	Cesar	Gamarra	150
		Tamalameque	100
		La Gloria	50
3	Chocó	Itsmina	150
		Condoto	100
		Medio San Juan	100
		Tado	100
TOTAL			1.000 families



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Beneficiaries are being selected according to the following criteria: the extent to which they are affected by the floods, the community and social context, with a focus on communities that have not received relief so far; these priorities are coordinated with the SNPAD.

Expected results

1,000 families will have received 1 food package, 1 family hygiene kit, 1 kitchen kit, 3 sheets for hot weather and 3 mosquito nets; the operation will be carried out in a coordinated way with the communities and the SNPAD.

The activities are based on the SPHERE project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for disaster relief; the relief items will be as follows:

Food package	Family hygiene kit	Kitchen kit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 pounds of lentils - 1 pound of corn flour - 3 pounds of rice - 2 pounds of sugar - 2 pounds of peas - 1 pound of salt - 2 pounds of panela - 1 pound of coffee - 1 pound of chocolate - 1000 cc of oil - 400 grs. of powdered milk - 500 grs. of bocadillo - 370 grs. of tuna <p>Weight: 13,27 kilograms Kcal.:46.889,7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 toothbrushes (adult) - 2 toothbrushes (children) - Toothpaste 150 cm³ - 2 bars of soap 140 grs. - 1 sanitary towels package x 10 units - 2 razors - 1 plastic comb - 300 grs soap for washing clothes - 2 cotton towels of 90 cm. X 50 cm. - 2 rolls of toilet paper - 1 deodorant for men 65 grs. - 1 deodorant for women 65 grs. - 1 diaper package x 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 pot # 24 - 1 frying pan # 22 - 1 chocolate pot # 3 - 1 wooden spoon 26 cm. - 1 grinder - 1 box of matches
Blankets for cold weather	Mosquito nets	
For single beds, 2,20 mts long x 1,50 mts wide, in 80% acrylic and 20% polyester	For single beds in polyester, 1,80 mts long x 0,73 mts wide x 1,50 mts high. Without impregnation.	



Distributions take place in Buenaventura, Valle, with the collaboration of Conexi^on Colombia

Chronogram of the operation

Activity	May		June				July			
	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Federation Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocation										
Verification of the development of the disaster and needs – Coordination with communities and CLOPAD – Report to CREPAD										
Report on distributions in the field; further planning with the CRC branch personnel.										
Distribution of humanitarian relief to each one of the families in coordination with the communities and local authorities.										
Interim report on the activities carried out. Rapid evaluation of the operations with the communities and the local authorities.										
Final report sent (Narrative – Photographic – Financial)										
Sending of the final report to the Federation - Closing meeting										

The needs**Contributions:**

In addition to the DREF allocation, the Colombian Red Cross has received the following contributions to assist those affected by the flooding.

- 56.246.804 Colombian pesos - COP (CHF 29,400) were raised through the current account N° 078-116522 at the Bogotá Bank in the name of Emergencias – Cruz Roja Colombiana.
- Additional COP 20.000.000 (CHF 10,470) were donated by Transgraneles S.A., an enterprise from Medellín city specifically to help affected families in Buenaventura.
- The Italian government through its Humanitarian Affairs Office and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has approved COP 227 million (CHF 118,500) to assist 840 families.
- Of the COP 75 million (CHF 39,000) donated by Kellogs company in cereal, more than 50% has already been distributed to the affected families in Chocó, Cundinamarca and Boyacá.
- 105 tons of clothes were donated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints through Acción Social

The outstanding needs to reach the target of 5,000 families are:

Relief: Food relief and hygiene kits *for 2,000 people* are immediately needed in rural communities. The municipalities of Cundinamarca and Boyaca are considered priorities according to the information provided by the SNPAD and the CRC.

Health: Needs in health are being identified together with the Departmental and Municipal Health Secretariats, especially in areas such as Cundinamarca, Boyaca, Santander and Antioquia. Water levels have not decreased and direct effects on the health status are foreseen.

Forecasts indicate that the rains could worsen in the next weeks. Should the situation further deteriorate, the CRC will consider launching an international appeal.

Coordination

CRC operations are being carried out under an organized structure and with coordination with other entities. One of the main tasks of the Regional Intervention Team member will be to support the CRCS in coordination activities.

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The overall coordination system is in line with the structure set out by the National Relief System of the CRC. The branches carry out activities in their territory with orientation and guidance of the headquarters through the branches relief directorates. Activities are also well coordinated with the SNPAD and the Colombian Public Health System at national, departmental and municipal levels.

Budget outline

Projected use of DREF funds:

Code	Concept	Quant.	Unit (COP)	Total (COP)	Total (USD)	Total (CHF)
01	<i>Emergency response</i>			229.000.000	98.311	119.939
0101	Food package	1.000	40.000	40.000.000	17.172	20.950
0102	Family hygiene kits	1.000	41.000	41.000.000	17.601	21.474
0103	Family kitchen kits	1.000	25.000	25.000.000	10.733	13.094
0105	Blankets for hot weather	3.000	32.000	96.000.000	41.213	50.280
0106	Mosquito nets	3.000	9.000	27.000.000	11.591	14.141
02	<i>Operational costs</i>			38.500.000	16.528	20.164
0201	Administrative costs, communications, monitoring visits of the CRC National headquarters, stationery, support to volunteers, mobilization and support from the CRC.	1	20.350.000	20.350.000	8.736	10.658
0202	Logistic expenses, technical and operational costs, fuel, toll fees, vehicle maintenance, logistics etc.	1	18.150.000	18.150.000	7.792	9.506
TOTAL				267.500.000	114.839	140.103
					PSR	9.897
TOTAL						150.000

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