


DREF operation

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ecuador: Floods

DREF operation n° MDREC004
GLIDE n° [FL-2010-00023-ECU](#)
20 April 2010

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

59,583 Swiss francs (55,913 US dollars or 41,553 euro) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 250 families. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Severe rainfall in the Ecuadorian Amazon province of Napo caused the flooding of the Napo River and its tributaries. The Emergency Operation Committee has reported 1,288 affected families.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross is responding to the needs of the most vulnerable flood-affected families with relief distribution and water and sanitation activities. This DREF allocation will support 250 families with essential relief items including food parcels, hygiene kits and cleaning kits.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 19 July 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 19 October 2010).

[<Click here for the DREF budget and map, here for contact details>](#)



Ecuadorian Red Cross volunteers carried out assessments and beneficiary selection in the affected province of Napo. Source: Ecuadorian Red Cross.

The situation

On 6 April 2010 torrential rainfall in the Ecuadorian Amazon province of Napo caused the flooding of the Napo River and its tributaries the Pano, Tena and Misahualli rivers. The flooding has severely affecting three of the five districts of the country. Water levels are three metres above flooding levels in the city of Tena and have destroyed bridges, houses, automobiles and crops. Evaluations and technical verification of the zones state that 107 houses, 16 tourist centres, 3 bridges have been obliterated and a road has been obstructed. It has also been reported that schools have suspended classes as many schools have been destroyed.

In addition 13 neighbourhoods have been affected, 11 in Tena and 2 in Archidona. According to the Napo provincial Emergency Operation Committee (Comité de Operaciones de Emergencia - COE) 1,288 families have been affected and 2 casualties have been reported. The main districts that have been affected are Tena, Archidona and the Ahuano community.

Coordination and partnerships

Since the onset of the emergency, the Ecuadorian Red Cross has been actively participating in the Emergency Operations Centre. The National Society is permanently exchanging information and unifying



formats with the National Secretariat for Risk Management (Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos – SNGR) and the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social - MIES) to avoid duplication of efforts and reach a higher number of beneficiaries. The SNGR coordinated two aircrafts to facilitate the first shipment of humanitarian aid, which carried six tonnes of humanitarian aid from the Ecuadorian Red Cross.

Quito Airport. First shipment of relief supplies from the Ecuadorian Red Cross in coordination with SNGR. Source: Ecuadorian Red Cross.

Also, on a temporary basis, the Provincial Council is supporting with fuel for the National Society's vehicles. The political authorities in Ahuano, jointly with the population are collaborating with data collection. The Ministry of Transport and Public Works is carrying out cleaning activities on the affected roads, mainly in the road connecting Tena and Baeza. Additionally, this Ministry is providing to the National Society a report on road conditions in the country in order to mobilize aid, human resources and equipment.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Early on 6 April, the Ecuadorian Red Cross carried out evacuation, search and rescue activities supported by the military brigade from Selva Pastaza. Additionally, in the community of Colonio Bolívar, two people received pre-hospital care. The next day preliminary assessments and census of affected families were conducted in the following communities: Santa Margarita, Pacaichicta, Pivichicta, Chimbadero, Playas, Palandacocha, Punta Ahuano, Nuevo Paraíso, Barrio Rodríguez and Ahuano.

As a result of the disruption of the water supply in the Napo province, the Ecuadorian Red Cross has mobilized from the provincial branch in Tungurahua, 4,000 litres of bottled water (5 litres per bottle) to



Ecuadorian Red Cross volunteers and specialists are providing safe drinking water to 110 families from the Ongota Bajo community. Source: Ecuadorian Red Cross

provide safe drinking water to the population, until the reestablishment of the water supply. Thus, the bottled water has been distributed in 12 communities supported by the ERC.

Furthermore, the National Society deployed two specialized vehicles with a water treatment plant and two specialists in water and sanitation. The water purification station has been set up in Ongota Bajo community (with 110 families) located at 8km from the Tena River. This plant can produce 1,000 litres per hour and storage 5,000 litres. The flood-affected families in this community have received jerry cans (20 litres capacity) as well as training on water and sanitation.

The National Society is also discussing the deployment of a second water treatment plant (from the Guayas branch) to the district of Archidona, where the local plant from the municipality has been affected. Currently the water produced is not safe for human consumption. This plant will benefit up to 10,000 people per day, which represents half of the population in this area for 15 days, while the municipality's plant is repaired.

In total the ERC has delivered 16 tonnes of aid including:

- 4 tonnes of water
- 6 tonnes of relief items from its contingency stock: clothing items, tents, blanket and sheets, repellent soaps and cooking utensils.
- 6 tonnes of food items (250 family kits of 25 kilos each).

The National Society has also mobilized IT/Telecom equipment to support the relief efforts in the affected areas (two repeaters teams). Other resources that have also been deployed to the affected areas as follows: a five-member assessment team (mobilized from Pichincha), 40 volunteers trained in damage and needs assessments, 2 zone coordinators, one ambulance, 2 water and sanitation specialists (from the Los Ríos and Guayas branches) and two IT/Telecom technicians.

Thirty Ecuadorian Red Cross volunteers have carried out damage and needs assessments in the Napo province, in coordination with the COE. The following affected families which have not received assistance have been identified from these assessments:

N°	Community	N° of Families	N° of People
1	Santa Margarita	23	105
2	Pacaichicta	36	195
3	Pivichicta	41	211
4	Chimbadero	15	69
5	Playas	18	91
6	Palandacocha	14	73
7	Punta Ahuano	18	101
8	Nuevo Paraiso	8	39
9	Barrio Rodriguez	12	55
10	Ahuano	3	13
11	Nuevo Horizonte	25	140
12	San Venacio	15	79
TOTAL		228 families	1,171 people



ERC volunteers carried out damage and needs assessments in the 12 communities from the Napo province. Source: Ecuadorian Red Cross

All the 228 families identified by the Red Cross live in rural areas, where in most of the cases can only be reached through rivers. The inhabitants of these 12 communities are mainly from the *quichua* ethnic group, a population group already vulnerable before the disaster.

The International Federations of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is communicating with and providing support to the National Society through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for the Andean Region in Lima. Technical support is provided by a disaster management delegate from PADRU.

The needs

The affected population in consensus with the Red Cross expressed the need of integrated support for three months for the affected families. The priority needs are the following: food, hygiene, cleaning, health and school (for students and education centres) kits. In addition, visibility items are need (stickers, flags, etc) for proper identification, protection devises (helmets, boots, rain coats, etc.), and vehicles to attend the communities mentioned.

The proposed operation

The ERC drew up a plan of action to assist 250 families in 12 communities (Napo province), with distribution of food and non-food items such as cleaning kits and hygiene kits. This DREF operation will also cover the mobilization, visibility materials, and per diem for volunteers.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 250 families of the most vulnerable families in the province of Napo are provided with essential food and non-food items such as cleaning and hygiene kits.

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Train Red Cross volunteers on relief distributions.
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.
- Develop an exit strategy.

Each family will receive a food parcel of 60 kilos per month. Because the transportation of the relief items depends on the capacity of boats, it is foreseen that several trips will be required to complete the delivery of items, resulting in a higher mobilization costs. The relief items will be procured locally.

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 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 Ecuador:** Tathiana Moreno, Relief Director of the Ecuadorian Red Cross, phone: (593) 914 54677; email: jarteaga@cruzroja.org.ec
- **In Lima:** Fernando Casanova, Regional Representative for the Andean Region, email: fernando.casanova@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** Francisco Maldonado, Acting Operation Coordinator, Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU); phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator, Americas; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304.
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[<DREF budget and map; click here to return to the title page>](#)

DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex I

Ecuador Floods - MDREC004

	BUDGET CHF
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>	
Shelter	-
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	
Food	19,737
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	7,895
Medical & First Aid	-
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	7,895
Total Relief Needs	35,526
 <u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	-
Computers & Telecom Equipment	-
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>	
Storage - Warehouse	-
Distribution & Monitoring	4,211
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,105
Service fee & Recovery	-
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	-
National Staff	2,105
National Society Staff	2,368
Consultants	
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>	
Workshops & Training	2,105
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
Travel	1,579
Information & Public Relations	1,053
Office running costs	1,579
Communication Costs	1,579
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	1,500
Other General Expenses	
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme Support - PSR	3,873
Total Operational Needs	24,057
DREF ALLOCATION	59,583

