

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nicaragua: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRNI003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000106-NIC
17 September 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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.

242,122 Swiss francs (240,105 US dollars or 183,867 euro) have been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,000 families (5,000 people). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The continuation of heavy rains in Nicaragua has further impacted the lives of vulnerable families on the Pacific coast and in central departments of the country. So far, during the year 48 people have died, and there are also more than 48,000 people who have been affected, including 2,500 people living in emergency community shelters.



Heavy rains continue to affect Nicaragua, especially in the central departments of the country and in the Pacific coast. Xinhuan /Reuters

The proposed DREF operation aims to provide relief and emergency health care, including psychosocial support, to 1,000 families in the departments of Managua, Boaco, Granada and Matagalpa. The provision of relief items will help the families to overcome the scarcity of food and other goods which are daily necessities.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 16 December 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 16 March 2011).

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details;](#)
[<the map of the affected area will be provided in the forthcoming DREF Update>](#)

The situation

From 17 August 2010, moderate and heavy rains have affected the Pacific, the northern and central regions of Nicaragua. These rains exacerbated the effects of the precipitation which fell in May. Several communities are isolated, roads and bridges have collapsed and there is a shortage of food, clean water and basic health services, according to the early assessments carried out by the Ministry of Health. On 16 September, the President of the country declared that rains had resulted in the death of 48 people and that there are more than 48,000 people affected and 6,492 houses damaged. The National Disaster Operations Centre (Centro

de Operaciones de Desastre - CODE) has announced that its plan of action for responding to the disaster in the department Managua will be extended to the entire country, as required.

Coordination and partnerships

The Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) takes part in the coordination meetings of the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Response to Disasters (Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación and Atención de Desastres - SINAPRED) and has agreed to support the following activities:

- Monitoring of the disaster with assistance from NRC branches in the affected areas, activating operational staff and volunteers and issuing regular reports.
- Sharing information through the Emergency Communications System of the National Disaster Operations Centre, with the Regional Section of the Civil Defense, the Military Regional Command, the Departmental Committee for the Prevention of Disasters, and the Committee for Municipal Disaster Prevention.
- Provision of recommendations to the affected population through the media.

At local level the NRC coordinates its activities with municipalities and local leaders in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As of 17 August, the Nicaraguan Red Cross has carried out search and rescue missions, evacuation of families to shelters, as well as damage and needs assessments. The NRC has an active Control Room coordinating information from all the branches and volunteers. The 94 members of the psychosocial support network have also been activated and 10 volunteers from the Tipitapa branch were trained to provide additional support to families living in emergency shelters.

A Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member will be deployed to Nicaragua for a one month period to provide support for the implementation of the operation.

The needs

The rapid emergency needs assessment carried out by the NRC determined that there is an outstanding need for food support and other relief items such as hygiene kits, kitchen kits, mosquito nets, blankets, tarpaulins and jerry cans. As families need to be evacuated to emergency community shelters, there is also a need for psychosocial support, especially for children. The current situation increases the risk of waterborne diseases, and it has therefore been determined that preventive training will be provided to target families.

Selection of people to be reached: Assessments have resulted in the NRC identifying the following families:

- 250 families living in the municipalities of Ciudad Sandino and Tipitapa (department of Managua), whose houses were severely affected by the overflow of lake Managua and nearby rivers.
- 485 families living in the communities of Tepalon and Malacatoya (department of Granada) affected by floods.
- 180 families living in the communities of San Lorenzo (Boaco) and adjacent areas flooded by rivers.
- 85 families living in areas flooded by the Río Grande in Matagalpa.

The proposed operation

The proposed operation is in line with the Nicaraguan Red Cross plan of action. It includes two main components: (1) the distribution of food and non-food relief items and (2) emergency health, including psychosocial support and hygiene promotion.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The impact of rains and floods on the livelihoods and food security of 1,000 vulnerable families in the Managua, Boaco, Granada and Matagalpa departments is reduced.
Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,000 families in the departments of Managua, Boaco, Granada and Matagalpa have their basic nutritional needs covered for a period of one month through the provision of food

parcels.

- **1,000 families in the departments of Managua, Boaco, Granada and Matagalpa are assisted to return to normalcy through the provision of non-food relief items**

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribute food and non-food relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to target families.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

The emergency assessments identified 1,000 target, vulnerable families from the following Departments:

Department	Number of Families
Managua	250
Boaco	180
Granada	485
Matagalpa	85
	1,000

The NRC will distribute 1,000 food parcels containing rice (30 lb), beans (30 lb), corn (30 lb), sugar (30 lb), salt (5 lb), oatmeal (20 lb), pasta (10 lb) and a gallon of oil. These parcels cover the basic needs of a five-member family for a month.

The operation also aims to deliver 1,000 hygiene kits, 2,000 five-litre jerry cans (two per family), 1,000 kitchen sets, 2,000 blankets (two per family), and 1,000 tarpaulins. All kits follow IFRC and SPHERE standards and meet the needs of the target population.

Emergency health and psychosocial support

Outcome 1: Prevention and control of transmissible diseases amongst target families in community shelters have improved.

Outcome 2 The effects of stress in members of families living in emergency community shelters are reduced.

Outputs:

Members of target families living in three emergency community shelters receive talks on how to prevent waterborne epidemics and psychosocial support.

Activities planned:

- Improve sanitation and ensure hygiene promotion with the epidemics control tool for families living in three emergency community shelters in Tipitapa.
- Provide psychosocial support to children living in three emergency community shelters in Tipitapa.

Members of the National Intervention Team will support the operation by providing talks on hygiene, basic information on epidemics, the need to wash food and for garbage disposal.

The psychosocial support activities will target children differentiated by age according to their needs. While there will be group sessions, individual attention will be ensured in accordance with special needs.

How we work

All IFRC 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 IFRC'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 IFRC'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:

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- In Costa Rica: Fabricio Lopez, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico, phone: (506) 526-4092; email: fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org
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- In Panama: Nelson Castaño, Disaster Risk Management Coordinator, phone: (507) 380-0250, email: nelson.castano@ifrc.org
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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	15,039	15,039
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles	22,057	22,057
Food	70,183	70,183
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid	1,504	1,504
Teaching Materials	1,504	1,504
Utensils & Tools	32,084	32,084
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	24,063	24,063
Total Supplies	166,433	166,433
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring	12,031	12,031
Transport & Vehicle Costs	10,026	10,026
Total Transport & Storage	22,057	22,057
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,309	3,309
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	7,018	7,018
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants		0
Total Personnel	10,327	10,327
Workshops & Training		0
Total Workshops & Training	0	0
Travel	3,008	3,008
Information & Public Relation	6,016	6,016
Office Costs	602	602
Communications	902	902
Professional Fees	0	0
Financial Charges	6,000	6,000
Other General Expenses	6,000	6,000
Total General Expenditure	22,527	22,527
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	14,777	14,777
Total Programme Support	14,777	14,777
Services & Recoveries	6,000	6,000
Shared Services		0
Total Services	6,000	6,000
TOTAL BUDGET	242,122	242,122