

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

El Salvador: Tropical Storm Agatha

DREF operation n° MDRSV003
GLIDE n° TC-2010-000105-SLV
1 June 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.

89,185 Swiss francs (USD 77,146 US dollars/ 62,713 euro) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Salvadoran Red Cross Society (SRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 250 families, approximately 1,250 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy rains have been experienced in most of the country, specifically in the coastal areas, volcanic range and eastern and central areas of the country. The Directorate General of Civil Protection reports 9 deaths, 2 people missing, 3 injured, 8,717 evacuees and 8,119 people in 150 collective centres. The Salvadoran Red Cross Society volunteers and staff are focusing on search and rescue, pre-hospital care and damage and needs assessments.



A family is evacuated from flooded areas with the support of an SRCS volunteer. Source: SRCS

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 31 August 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 November 2010).

[<Click here for the DREF budget; here for a map of the affected areas; and here for contact details>](#)

The situation

The first named tropical storm of the 2010 Pacific Hurricane season –Agatha– caused severe rainfall. Overflowing of rivers is causing floods over wide areas, there are several damaged bridges and roads and many communities are cut off.

Heavy rains have been experienced in most of the country, specifically in the volcanic range and the departments of Ahuachapán and Sonsonate in the southwest. The highest levels of rain measured were 454 and 416 mm in Los Naranjos and Ataco, located in the departments of Sonsonate and Ahuachapán. A state of red alert was issued by the Civil Protection on Saturday 29 May and then on Sunday 30 May the President issued a state of National Emergency. The Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Urban Development has reported that numerous landslides have blocked roads. There is concern that the water supply in the capital could be affected if drainage systems are blocked. In addition, some 80 health establishments are at risk of being damaged and 15 have already sustained damages.

Coastal area flooding and overflowing of rivers have been reported. The rivers that drain into the Bálamo mountain range toward the La Libertad coast and which have a high probability of overflowing are the Melara, El Jute, Chilama, Aquiquisquillo, Bocana San Diego, Bocana Toluca and El Muerto. In addition, the Lempa River, Grande San Miguel River, Goascorán River, Jiboa and Paz Rivers are being monitored.



A woman uses a rope to cross the overflowing Huiza River in La Libertad, south of San Salvador, May 30 2010. The remnants of Tropical Storm Agatha dumped more rain on El Salvador. Source: REUTERS/Luis Galdamez

The Civil Protection has also informed that there have been 16 floods, 36 landslides and 5 collapsed infrastructures. In addition, the Secretariat for Social Inclusion has mobilized five thousand food rations; distribution is taking place in the affected departments. Local authorities have identified the initial needs for the population in collective centres as drinking water, food, blankets, mattresses and hygiene items. Medical staff have been giving 24 hour attention to the people in the collective centres. The Director General of Civil Protection stated that there are 10,335 people in 150 collective centres, 8,717 evacuees, 3 injured, 9 dead and are 2 missing. It is also reported that 11 houses have been destroyed, 97 households have been affected and 11 communities are flooded.

The complexity of the impact caused by Tropical Storm Agatha has increased because they are the same communities affected by the storm Ida in November 2009 which has made them even more vulnerable. Currently 56 collective centres have been activated in the departments of San Salvador, La Libertad, San Vicente, Cuscatlán and La Paz. There is evidence of increased incidence of diarrhoea, dengue and respiratory diseases over the last week.

The table below shows the current statistics relating to the effects of flooding.

People	Quantity
Injured	3
Missing	2
Dead	9
Evacuated	8,717
In Collective Centres	10,335
Collective Centres activated	198

Ministry of Governance-Directorate General of Civil Protection-31 May 2010

Infrastructure	Affected
Houses damaged	97
Houses destroyed	11
Bridges destroyed	2

Schools affected	1
Health establishments affected	15

Ministry of Governance-Directorate General of Civil Protection-31 May 2010

Affected people and infrastructural damages have been reported¹ in the following departments: Ahuachapán, Cabañas, Chalatenango, Cuscatlán, La Libertad, La Paz, La Unión, Morazán, San Miguel, San Salvador, San Vicente, Santa Ana, Sonsonate and Usulután.

Coordination and partnerships

The IFRC, through the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit and the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico, is in constant communication with the SRCS regarding the emergency.

The SRCS has also been in liaison with the Swiss Red Cross focal point who has been reporting information from Region One in Bajo Lempa in Jiquilisco and Usulután. Furthermore, the SRCS was present in a European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (DG-ECHO) meeting where information was provided on a preliminary decision for emergency response for Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. The following actors were present: IFRC, Spanish Red Cross, CARE, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), PLAN, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and OIKOS. These actors will coordinate in different sectors and areas of the emergency to avoid duplication of efforts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Salvadoran Red Cross Society is currently responding to the emergency with 548 volunteers, and is carrying out damage and needs assessments. However, the situation is particularly complicated as the areas affected are those previously hit by tropical storm Ida. The SRCS is closely monitoring 45 flooded areas in coastal and urban areas as well as 139 areas where landslides have affected roads in the lowlands of the Bálsamo mountain range and the regions of the El Salvador volcano and Chinchontepec volcano in San Vicente. The SRCS has representatives coordinating with collective centres, emergency services, logistics and health together with the National Civil Protection System.

The SRCS volunteers involved are specialized in technical search and rescue, pre-hospital care, first aid as well as damage and needs assessment in three different areas of the country. Damage and needs assessment teams are continuing to be deployed in areas that are difficult to access in La Libertad where it is reported that more than 100 families are in collective centres in the communities of Chilamas, La Aguja, Conchali, San Diego Bocana and San Diego Hacienda. There are also teams in La Paz, Usulután, Ahuachapán, Sonsonate and San Salvador. Furthermore, SRCS lifeguards are currently concentrated in the departments of San Salvador, on the banks of Ilopango Lake, La Libertad Port in La Paz and Usulután. The SRCS has also been active in evacuations; 10 families have been evacuated in San Vicente, Bajo Lempa with the assistance of 30 relief workers and lifeguards from the branches of San Vicente and Usulután.

Humanitarian aid has begun to be distributed by the SRCS to 9 collective centres in San Pedro Masahuat municipality – department of La Paz - for more than 180 families. The following has been distributed:



A woman received help from a SRCS volunteer to carry relief items received. She was affected by the flooding and rains caused by Tropical Depression Agatha. Source: SRCS

Humanitarian Aid Distributed		
No	Item	Quantity
1	Mattress	368

¹ Ministry of Governance-Directorate General of Civil Protection-31 May 2010

2	Blankets	368
3	Potable water barrels	184
4	Bottled water	368
5	Personal hygiene kits	184

The needs

Selection of people to be reached:

Direct assessments are being carried out by the SRCS through the local branches from the affected areas. As soon as the assessment results are available, the National Society will proceed to conduct distribution of essential relief items according to the identified needs.

The preliminary assessments have identified the need for personal hygiene items, cooking utensils, mattresses and water.

The proposed operation

The DREF allocation will provide direct assistance to 250 families (approximately 1,250 beneficiaries) and assist with damage and needs assessments.



The Salvadoran Red Cross Society volunteers and staff are focusing on search and rescue, pre-hospital care and damage and needs assessments
Source: Salvadoran Red Cross Society

Damage and Need Assessments

Outcome: Salvadoran Red Cross Society staff and volunteers, RIT and NIT members, will perform damage and needs assessments in the affected departments.

Outputs and activities planned: A plan of action will be developed to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable population affected by the tropical Storm Agatha.

- Conduct emergency damage and need assessments
- Develop a plan of action

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: Assist 250 of the most affected families with essential relief items such as blankets, mosquito nets, hygiene and kitchen kits and food parcels.

Outputs and activities planned: 250 families will benefit from the provision of essential food and non-food items to help them recover from the effects of the emergency

- Identification of affected areas.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- 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.

250 families in the most affected municipalities will receive relief assistance consisting of food and non-food items:

Hygiene Kit - 1 family made up of 5 persons			
No.	Item	Quantity	Measurement
1	Washing powder	1	kg
2	Toilet paper roll	12	Rolls
3	Bar of body soap	5	Bars 100g
4	Toothpaste	5	Tubes, 75ml
5	Toothbrush	5	
6	Shampoo	2	250ml
7	Disposable razor	5	
8	Hygienic pads	8	Packages

Kitchen Kit- 1 family made up of 5 persons			
No.	Item	Quan	Measurement
1	Bowl for food	5	
2	Table fork (stainless steel)	5	
3	Frying pan	1	2.5l
4	Kitchen knife (stainless steel blade)	1	
5	Table knife (stainless steel blade)	5	
6	Wooden spoon	1	30cm
7	Spoon	5	
8	Cooking pot (aluminum)	1	5l diameter 20cm
9	Cooking pot with handles (aluminum)	1	7l diameter 24cm
10	Cup	1	
11	Plate (aluminum)	5	diam. 22cm

Food Parcels- 1 family made up of 5 persons			
No.	Item	Quantity	Measurement
1	White rice flour	30	lbs
2	Rice	20	lbs
3	Red beans	30	lbs
4	Iodized Salt	2	lbs
5	Fortified sugar with vitamin A	10	lbs
6	Vegetable oil	1	gal
7	Incaparina	10	kg

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:

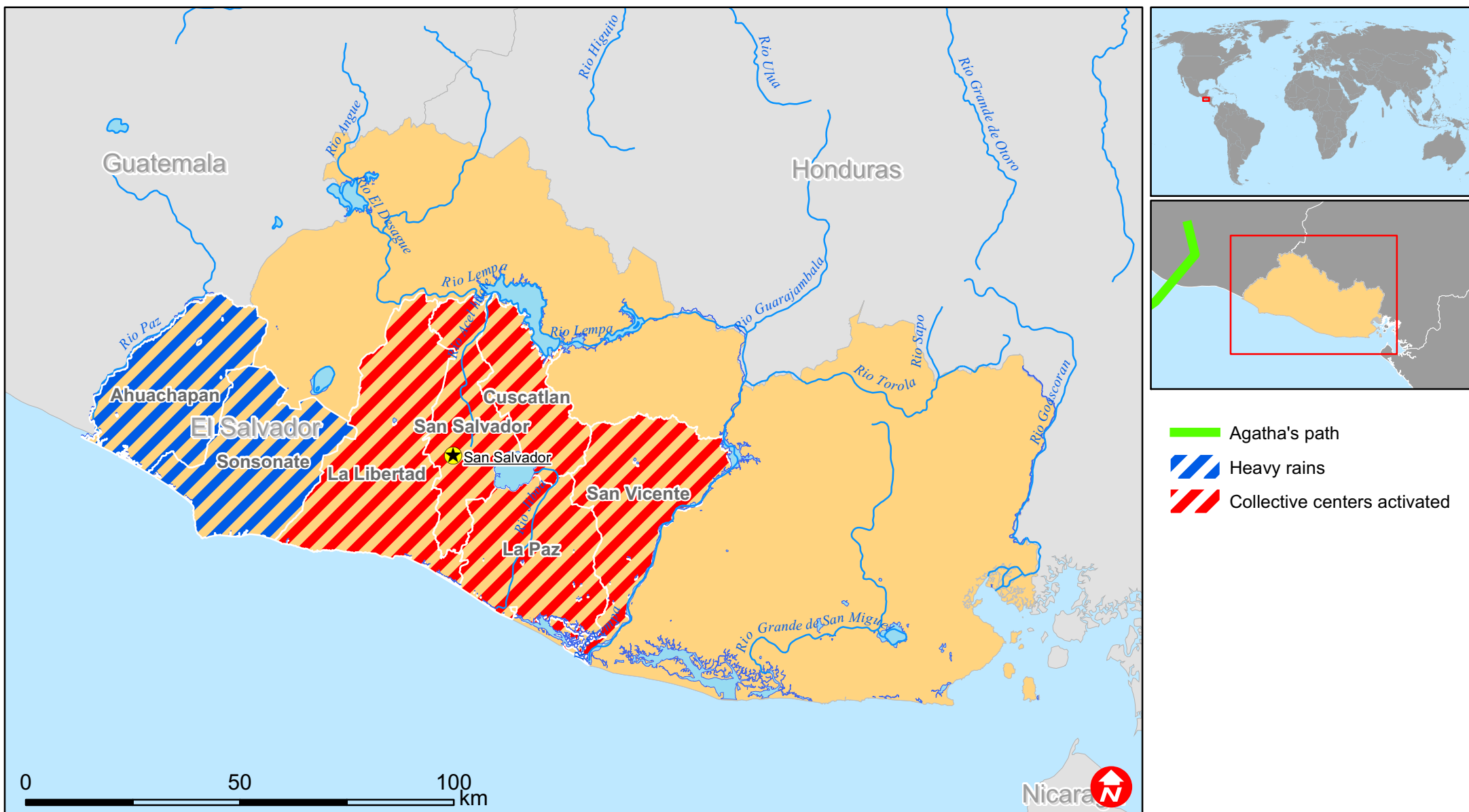
- In El Salvador: Rafael Cienfuegos, Relief Director, phone: (503) 788 32198; email: rafael.cienfuegos@cruzrojasal.org.sv
- In Costa Rica: In Costa Rica: Fabricio Lopez, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico, phone: (506) 526-4092; email: fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org
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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



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MDRSV003 El Salvador - Tropical Storm Agatha

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief		0
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles	12,727	12,727
Food	20,276	20,276
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid		0
Teaching Materials		0
Ustensils & Tools	12,166	12,166
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	12,333	12,333
Total Supplies	57,502	57,502
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	5,793	5,793
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,214	5,214
Total Transport & Storage	11,007	11,007
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff		0
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	6,952	6,952
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants		0
Total Personnel	6,952	6,952
Workshops & Training		0
Total Workshops & Training	0	0
Travel		0
Information & Public Relation	1,043	1,043
Office Costs	1,738	1,738
Communications		0
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges	3,000	3,000
Other General Expenses		0
Total General Expenditure	5,781	5,781
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	5,443	5,443
Total Programme Support	5,443	5,443
Services & Recoveries	2,500	2,500
Shared Services		0
Total Services	2,500	2,500
TOTAL BUDGET	89,185	89,185