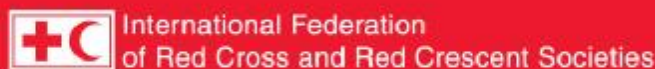


# DREF operation



## Nicaragua: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRNI001  
GLIDE n° TC-2009-000232-NIC  
11 November 2009

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 response to emergencies. 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.

**CHF 107,399 (USD 106,288 or EUR 71,079) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) in replenishing relief items from its stocks used to deliver immediate assistance to some 950 families (approximately 4,750 people). Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** Hurricane Ida hit Nicaraguan territory on 5 November 2009 as a category one hurricane. The northern Atlantic region sustained heavy winds and rain causing infrastructural damage and

flooding which affected 13,300 people in several communities located along the Northern Atlantic coastline of the country. This DREF operation is focused on providing the most affected people with essential relief items including plastic sheeting, blankets, mosquito nets, and kitchen and hygiene kits.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 11 February 2010; a final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 11 May 2010).

[<Click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)



Nicaraguan Red Cross trucks ready to dispatch relief stock to the affected communities. Source: Nicaraguan Red Cross.

## The situation

On 5 November 2009, Hurricane Ida (category one) reached the Northern Atlantic region of Nicaragua. Heavy rain and winds caused damages to rooftops; in addition, the severe rainfall caused overflowing of rivers and flooding. Consequently, water wells have been contaminated and the electric systems and roads have been affected in some communities.

The main damages sustained have been in the housing sector. Ida left 875 affected homes, 300 contaminated wells, 300 flooded latrines and 81,854 hectares of damaged crops. Approximately 13,300 people have been affected and 5,300 are now staying in collective centres.

According to the Civil Defense, the hurricane affected six municipalities in the South Atlantic region: Corn Island, Bluefields, Tasba Pauni, Kukra Hill, Río Grande and Laguna de Perlas, as well as four municipalities in the Northern Atlantic region: Prinzapolka, Waspam, Bonanza and Rosita.

In Corn Island, Laguna de Perlas, Kukra Hill, Karawala and Sandy Bay Sirp assessment teams from the Civil Defense and from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) were deployed to complete evaluations.

Assessments have not been completed since some of the communities in the Northern Atlantic region are inaccessible. Therefore, the number of affected people and needs might increase after the completion of damage and needs assessments.

The National Disaster Prevention and Mitigation System (Sistema Nacional de Prevención y Mitigación a Desastres - SINAPRED) along with the Civil Defense have carried out evacuation and search and rescue activities. In addition, assessment teams were deployed to try to reach the affected isolated areas. The Nicaraguan government will provide 11,000 zinc sheets to the people whose homes sustained damages due to the heavy winds.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has been in constant communication with the International Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and agencies in-country providing initial information about the emergency. The NRC has been coordinating with local authorities, primarily with SINAPRED, the Civil Defense and the Municipal Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (Comité Municipal para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres Naturales - COMUPRED).



Nicaraguan Red Cross volunteers loading a truck with relief items to dispatch to the affected communities. Source: Nicaraguan Red Cross

Partner National Societies such as the Spanish Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and the German Red Cross have been in constant communication with the NRC relief office to obtain information and provide support. In addition, international agencies including the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), CARE and the World Bank are providing technical support and resources for the emergency response.

The United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) is coordinating the activities in the South Atlantic Autonomous Region (Region Autonoma del Atlantico Sur -RAAS) and the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (Region Autonoma del Atlantico Norte -RAAN) in collaboration with the Civil Defence. The United Nations agencies and other international actors have reported the deployment of technicians to support the relief activities. Most of the activities are concentrated on food distribution, as well as the health and water and sanitation sectors.

Additionally, a disaster management delegate from PADRU has been deployed to Nicaragua to provide support to the National Society.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the beginning of the emergency the Nicaraguan Red Cross has focused on meeting the needs of the most affected people. The NRC dispatched humanitarian aid from its stocks for 450 families in communities in the municipality of Laguna de Perlas in the Southern Autonomous Atlantic Region. The content of the 450 family kits consisted of: a plastic bucket, blankets, kitchen utensils and hygiene items.

Community	Families	People	Kits distributed
Karawala	82	410	82
Kara	69	345	69
Walpa	43	215	43
La Barra	16	80	16
Sandy Bay	59	295	59
Tasbapauni	181	905	181
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>450</b>

A second dispatch is planned for this week in order to respond to the needs of an additional 500 families once assessments have been completed. The National Society will prioritize the affected communities that have not received assistance.

### The needs

#### Selection of people to be reached:

The Nicaraguan Red Cross identified as immediate needs: food items, safe drinking water, blankets, zinc sheets, hygiene kits and kitchen kits. Once further assessments are completed, additional needs will be identified in the next DREF update.

### The proposed operation

The NRC plan of action aims to provide 950 families (approximately 4,750 people) in communities in the Laguna de Perlas municipality with essential relief items including 2,500 blankets, 950 kitchen kits, 950 hygiene kits, 1,000 mosquito nets and 1,000 plastic sheets. The 450 family kits distributed by the Nicaraguan Red Cross stocks will be replenished by the relief items included in this DREF operation.

In addition, operational costs including the procurement of visibility material and photographic equipment are included in this DREF operation. Once assessments are completed, a detailed plan of action, including other sectors will be included and further information will be provided in the next update.

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

**Objective: Replenishment of relief items to cover the needs of 950 families in the communities most affected, including 2,500 blankets, 950 kitchen kits, 950 hygiene kits, 1,000 mosquito nets and 1,000 plastic sheets.**

#### Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop a 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.
- Develop an exit strategy.

As mentioned above, the Nicaraguan Red Cross has already distributed 450 family kits; the remaining 500 kits will be distributed this week. This DREF allocation will replenish such items and cover operational and transportation costs.

All of the aforementioned relief items will be dispatched by the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama by land.

## 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 activities are aligned with its 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.

## Contact information

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

- **In Nicaragua:** Clemente de Jesus Balmaceda Vivas, President of Nicaraguan Red Cross; phone: (505) 265 1582 or (505) 265 1428; email: [presidencia@humanidad.org.ni](mailto:presidencia@humanidad.org.ni).
- **In Panama:** Fabricio López, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico; phone: (507) 380 0254; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: [fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org](mailto:fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Mauricio Bustamante, Acting Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org](mailto:mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Natalia Garcia, disaster management delegate of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [natalia.garcia@ifrc.org](mailto:natalia.garcia@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (507) 380 0254; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: [maria.alcazar@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.alcazar@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).

[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

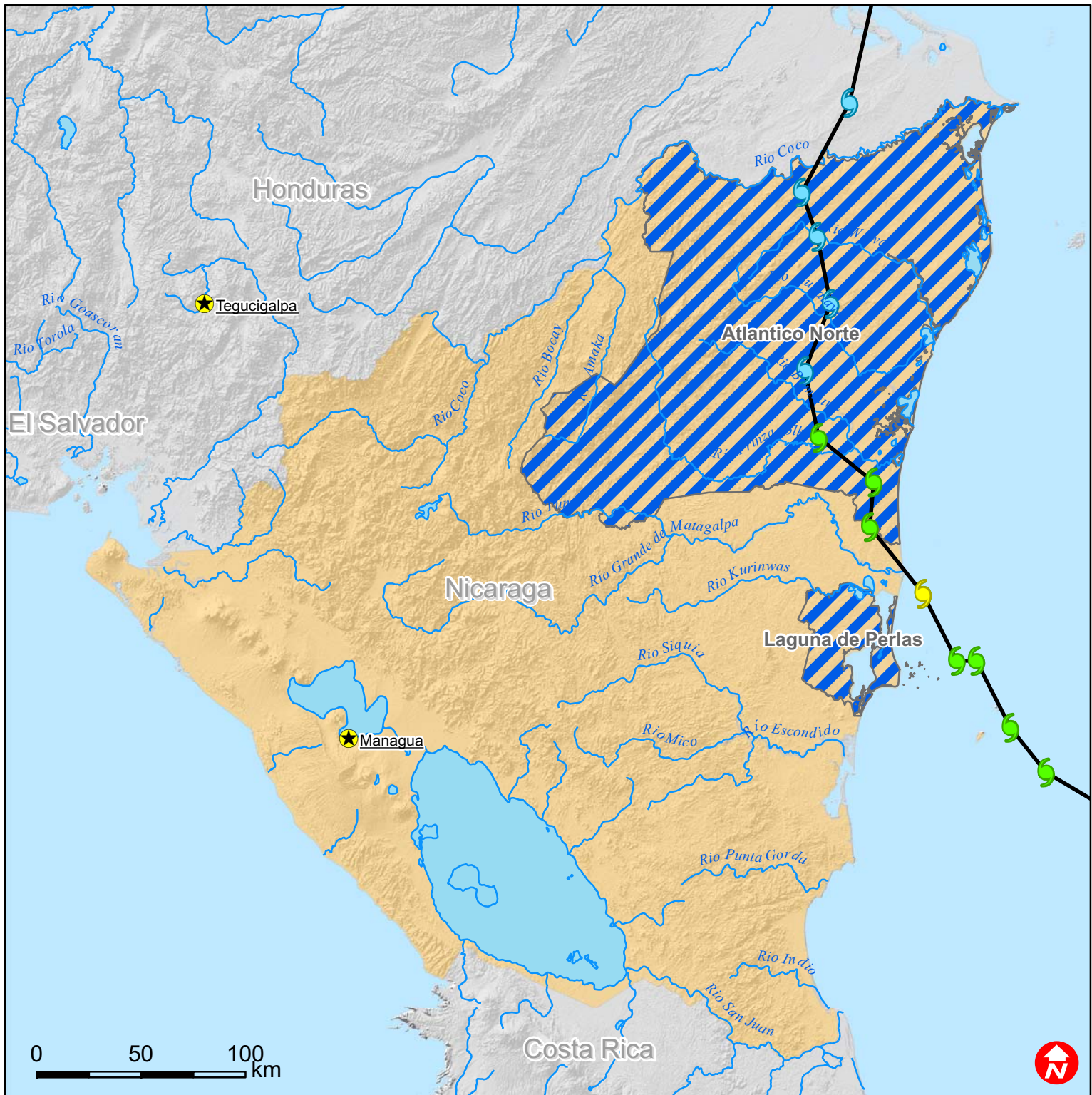
**DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY**  
Nicaragua Floods 2009

Annex 1  
MDRNI001

	BUDGET CHF
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>	
Shelter	14,149
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	17,813
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	25,924
Other Supplies & Services	20,163
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>78,049</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>	
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computers & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>	
Storage - Warehouse	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,122
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,032
Service fee & Recovery	4,649
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>	
International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	4,245
Consultants	
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>	
Workshops & Training	
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>	
Travel	2,648
Information & Public Relations	3,032
Office running costs	253
Communication Costs	1,011
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	1,377
Other General Expenses	
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>	
Programme Support - PSR	6,981
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>29,350</b>
<b>DREF ALLOCATION</b>	<b>107,399</b>



# Nicaragua: Floods



## IDA

- Category 2
- Category 1
- Tropical storm
- Tropical depression

Affected areas