

# DREF operation



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Nicaragua: Floods

Operation DREF n° MDRNI002  
GLIDE n° [FL-2010-000106-NIC](#)  
3 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.

**36,248 Swiss francs (USD 31,341 US dollars /25,642 euro) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 150 families, approximately 750 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to replenish the DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** Nicaragua has been affected by heavy rains from the tropical storm Agatha. Five departments have been affected with León, Chinandega and Managua reporting major damages.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has carried out evacuations in the affected municipalities of the departments of León, Chinandega and Managua to collective centres established by the Ministry of Education in coordination with the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Response to Disasters.

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 (30 November).

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



The Quezalguaque bridge has been affected by the floods.  
Source: Nicaraguan Red Cross.

## The Situation

Since 26 May 2010, the Western Pacific Region of Nicaragua has been affected by intermittent rain with occasional moderate intensity as a result of the tropical depression Agatha. The national authorities took

precautionary measures evacuating populations in the coastal areas where waves could reach 2-3 metres high. On 31 May, moderate rains with thunderstorms continued particularly in the Western Pacific and Northern regions.

The historical averages of precipitation were surpassed in Corinth (by more than 12 per cent), León (31 per cent), San Isidro (135 per cent) and Juigalpa (51 per cent). A total of 972 families are affected in departments of Leon, Chinandega, Managua, Corinto and Chichigalpa.

In the **Chinandega department**, the local NRC branch reported that rivers and streams have exceeded their normal height. For example, the Estero Real River overflowed isolating several communities. The preliminary damage assessments from this department report that the affected population was evacuated and relocated to collective centres, crops –corn and bean in particular– have been affected. In addition, some roads are damaged, while water wells have been contaminated. Therefore, the risk of diseases' outbreaks is being assessed. There are three collective centres open in this department. Per municipality, the following communities have been affected:

- Villanueva municipality: Las Cepas, Las Huertas, Matapalo and Bonete.
- Somotillo municipality: Las 40, El Laredo, Santa Paula and Las Mezas.
- El Realejo municipality: Barricada, El porvenir, Terencio Munguia and Ameya.
- Corinto municipality: El Playón and the Buena Esperanza.

In the **Managua department**, the National Society reports most damages in the San Francisco Libre municipality, including damages to at least two bridges. In addition, several communities are isolated.

A meeting took place with the local authorities of this municipality and evacuation activities have been distributed among the institutions present in the area to safeguard the population. The following institutions participated in this coordination meeting: the Nicaraguan Red Cross, the National Port Company (Empresa Nacional de Puertos - ENAP), General Firefighter's Office, the Ministry of Health and the National Police.

In the **department of León**, SINAPRED reports isolated populations in the municipality of Jicaral due to the overflowed Sinepa and El Viejo de Matagalpa rivers as well as the El Orégano and Las Mojaras streams. Currently there are six collective centres open in the department.

Moreover, SINAPRED reports small damages in the departments of Estelí, Matagalpa, Chiontales, Granada, Nueva Segovia and Madriz,

## Coordination and Partnerships

The Nicaraguan Red Cross carried out evacuations in the affected municipalities of the Departments of León, Chinandega and Managua to shelter centres established by the Ministry of Education in coordination with the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Response to Disasters (Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación and Atención de Desastres - SINAPRED). The NRC has been tracking and monitoring departmental branches of the affected areas, activating operational staff and volunteers, maintaining updated information and issuing regular reports during the floods.

In addition, the NRC has been participating in coordination meetings held through SINAPRED, which issued the following measures to be taken:

- Tracking and monitoring of the state through the Emergency Communications System from the National Disaster Operations Centre, Regional Section of the Civil Defence, Military Region Command, and Departmental Committee for Prevention of Disasters, and Committee Municipal Disaster Prevention.
- Coordination with the Nicaraguan Army to support response activities in the entire country.
- Maintain Operations Centre activation and the National Disaster and Sector Working Committees.
- Deployment of troops of the Humanitarian Unit Parts in the departments of Chinandega, Leon and Managua.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Nicaraguan Red Cross is working closely with the Secretariat of the National System of Prevention, Mitigation and Response to Disasters to coordinate assistance to affected families. Since the beginning of

the emergency, the NRC members have been evacuating community members and conducting assessments in the affected communities.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies through its Pan America Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico, is in constant communication with the Nicaraguan Red Cross.

## The needs

According to the report of the Executive Secretariat of the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Attention to Disasters, approximately 393 affected families are being housed in schools and family homes.

## The proposed operation

The DREF allocation will provide direct assistance to 150 families (approximately 750 beneficiaries) and assist with damage and needs assessments.

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

**Outcome: Affected families have access to food and non-food items to support their efforts to resume essential household activities.**

**Output 1: Up to 150 households (750 people) of the most affected families receive essential relief such as blankets, mosquito nets, hygiene kits and food parcels.**

- Conduct rapid assessment on needs and capacity
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from one point to another.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: To promote health and hygiene standards to prevent outbreaks of endemic diseases present in areas affected by the rains as dengue, malaria, leptospirosis and diarrhoea for 150 families in two months.**

**Output 1: Appropriate water and sanitation promotion materials will be provided to 150 families (750 people).**

**Output 2: The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.**

- Promotion of proper hygiene standards through educational booklets to 150 families in the three departments.
- Conduct training programmes for the Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries in hygiene promotion on the safe use of water treatment products.

## 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 Nicaragua: Ervin Chevez, Responsible for NRC Disaster Response Office, phone: (505) 2265-2082; email: [crn\\_socorros@humanidad.org.ni](mailto:crn_socorros@humanidad.org.ni)
- In Nicaragua: Jesús Ayala, IFRC Country Representative, phone: (505) 2265-1419; email: [jesus.ayala@ifrc.org](mailto:jesus.ayala@ifrc.org)
- In Panama: Francisco Maldonado; Acting Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org](mailto:francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org)
- In Panama: Zuleyka Maynard; Resource Mobilization Officer; phone: (507) 380 0250; email: [zonerm.americas@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.americas@ifrc.org)
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator; phone: (41) 79 2173376; fax: (41) 22 730 0395, email: [pablo.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:pablo.medina@ifrc.org)

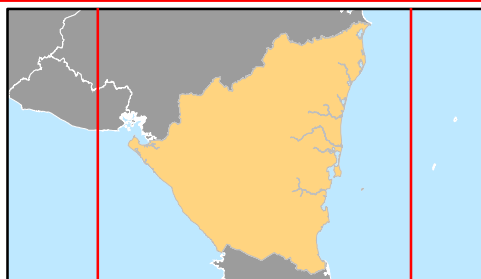
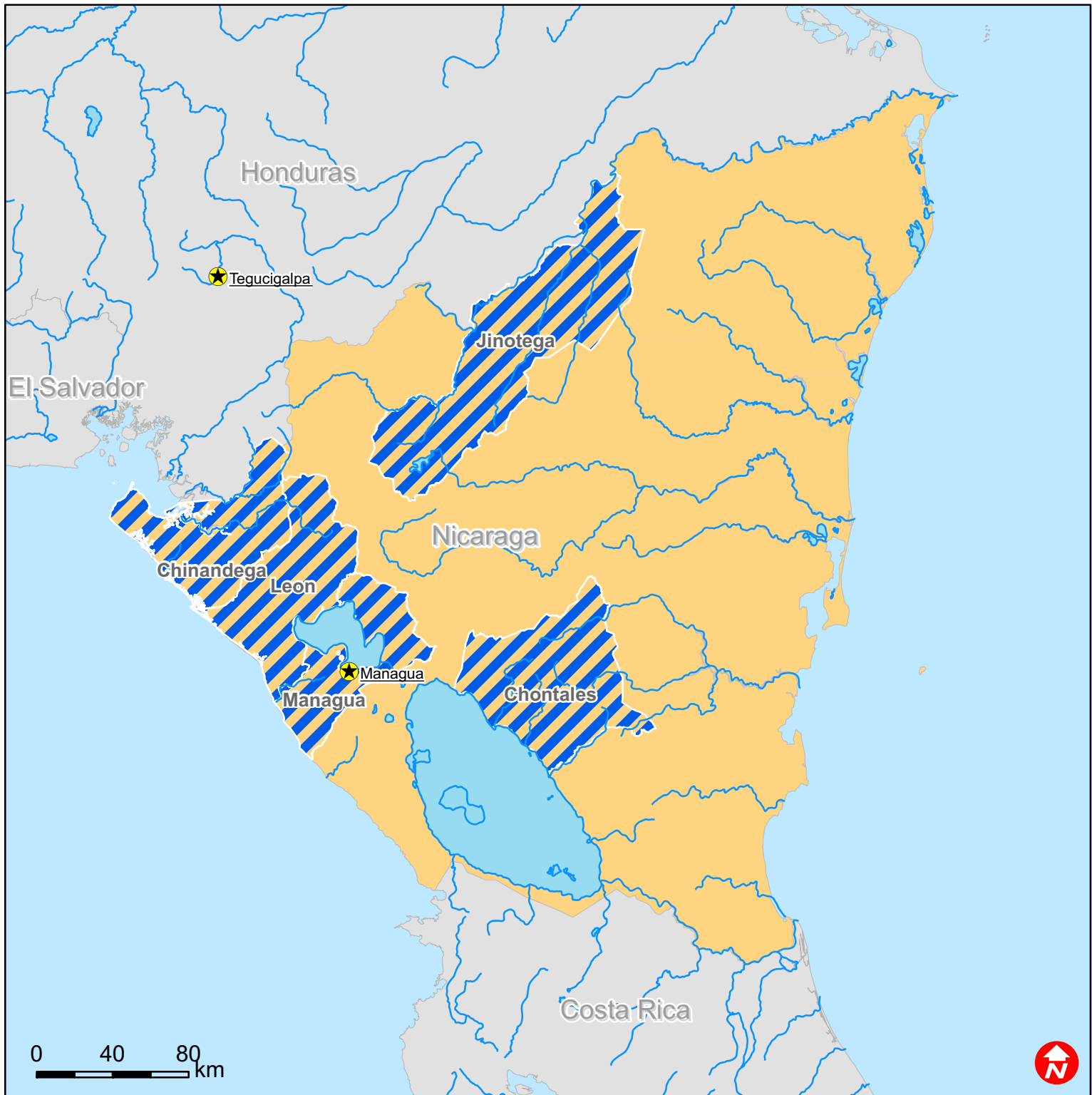
**[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)**

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief		0
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles	6,262	6,262
Food	8,118	8,118
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid		0
Teaching Materials	1,160	1,160
Ustensils & Tools		0
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	4,349	4,349
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>19,889</b>	<b>19,889</b>
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring	2,899	2,899
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,160	1,160
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>4,059</b>	<b>4,059</b>
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff		0
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	2,319	2,319
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants		0
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>2,319</b>	<b>2,319</b>
Workshops & Training		0
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Travel	2,319	2,319
Information & Public Relation	580	580
Office Costs	348	348
Communications	522	522
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges	2,000	2,000
Other General Expenses		0
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>5,769</b>	<b>5,769</b>
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
<b>Total Contributions &amp; Transfers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Program Support	2,212	2,212
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>2,212</b>	<b>2,212</b>
Services & Recoveries	2,000	2,000
Shared Services		0
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>36,248</b>	<b>36,248</b>



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 Affected departments