

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Honduras: Dengue outbreak

DREF operation n° MDRHN004
GLIDE n° [EP-2010-000058-HND](#)
2 July 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.

34,505 Swiss francs (32,298 US dollars or 26,126 euro) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Honduran Red Cross (HRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 7,000 families. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Since the beginning of 2010, Honduras is experiencing a dengue outbreak affecting the cities of Tegucigalpa (Francisco Morazán department) and San Pedro Sula (Cortes department). To date, nine people have died due to hemorrhagic dengue fever and 10,780 cases of classic dengue have been confirmed. The Honduran government has issued a nation-wide state of National Emergency as a response to this situation. The DREF funds will provide essential relief and health assistance among the affected population in Tegucigalpa.



The mother of a patient suffering from dengue fever sleeps by his bedside at Hospital Escuela in Tegucigalpa, 24 June 24 2010. The Honduran government has declared a state of emergency from 23 June with a surge in dengue cases across the country. REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 2 October 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 2 January 2010).

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

The situation

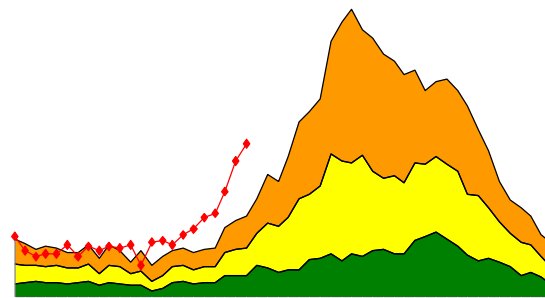
In Honduras, dengue fever is an endemic disease in the country and outbreaks are experienced every year during the rainy season. However, during 2010 the number of cases of dengue has risen in the epidemiological week n° 53 to 10,780 (from 13 to 19 June). This figure exceeds three-fold the number of cases registered in 2009 (3,169 cases). Of the total number of cases registered, 4.2 per cent (461 cases) correspond to dengue hemorrhagic fever. Nine people have died this year due to the outbreak.

As a result of the high incidence rate of the outbreak, the number of people in need of medical attention has exceeded the national health services' capacity. The two state hospitals used for referral cases, which are located in the capital city of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, the second largest city in the country, have set

up tents to provide treatment for the dengue-affected population. Moreover, the Permanent Contingency Commission (Comisión Permanente de Contingencias – COPECO) is deploying mobile health centres to respond to the outbreak. Tegucigalpa has registered the majority of cases –70 per cent of the overall cases nation-wide– with the Central District being significantly affected.

On 23 June, the Honduran government declared a state of National Emergency due to the dengue outbreak in order to strengthen and combine efforts in all sectors in responding to the outbreak.

Source: Honduran Health Secretariat. Endemic channel of dengue fever (2005-2009), epidemic curve in 2010, up to epidemiological week n° 23



Coordination and partnerships

The Honduran Red Cross (HRC) is coordinating activities at the national and departmental levels to address the dengue outbreak. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico, is also monitoring the emergency and is in constant communication with the National Society.

After decreeing a national state of emergency, the Honduran government also created the Inter-institutional Emergency Commission for Dengue Prevention and Control with the mandate to carry out the necessary actions to tackle the emergency. This commission is integrated by the Health Secretariat, the Ministries of Finance, Government and Justice, Education, Public Works, Transport and Housing, Defence and Security, COPECO, one representative from the municipalities and one from civil society.

The HRC is in permanent contact with the government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to coordinate interventions in the affected areas where the Health Secretariat requires additional support.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Honduran Red Cross in its auxiliary role to the government drew up a plan of action that will allow the National Society to support the national efforts to respond the dengue outbreak. In addition, the HRC held a meeting with Partner National Societies (PNS) to provide information about the emergency and establish coordination mechanisms to respond to the outbreak. At the same time, the National Society's headquarters is maintaining constant communication with its local branches on the situation.

The Honduran Red Cross has a network of 25 branches (at the department and municipal levels) with volunteers trained in emergency health response, particularly A (H1N1) influenza. These volunteers will support the activities planned under this DREF operation. Moreover in 2009, 24 new National Intervention Team (NIT) members were trained while 18 NITs received a refresher training through the H2P project funded by USAID. Thus, the National Society has a team of 42 NITs that can support branches in the implementation of a dengue awareness raising campaign.

In the two areas most affected by dengue, where 90 per cent of the cases are being registered, the National Society has 25 emergency health technicians (técnicos en urgencias medicas – TUM) that can provide support in referring and transporting dengue cases.

In order to further support the Honduran Red Cross, an alert for a RIT member specialized in public health in emergencies has been sent out. The RIT member has been identified will be therefore deployed shortly to Honduras for a two month period.

Since the beginning of the emergency, the IFRC Country Programme Coordinator has been supporting the National Society with information management and facilitating information to the PNS in-country: Canadian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross.

The needs

The Honduran Red Cross has identified the need to conduct cleaning campaigns combined with the use of “abate” in the areas affected by the outbreak. Abate is a granular form of a chemical that is used to kill the larvae of the mosquito in its breeding sites. In addition, the need for an awareness raising campaign among the affected areas has been identified for this emergency.

The proposed operation

The plan of action was prepared by the HRC, with support from the IFRC, with the aim to reduce the impact of dengue among the population by vector control measures. The National Society is targeting 7,000 families (approximately 35,000 people) over a three-month period through the provision of abate and the implementation of a cleaning campaign. In addition, the HRC plans to complement the aforementioned activities by conducting an awareness raising campaign with key messages on how to prevent dengue amongst the affected families in the high incidence areas. The National Society will also train NITs and volunteers on dengue prevention and control measures in order to support the activities outlined in the following two objectives.

Emergency health

Outcome: The risk of dengue fever and hemorrhagic dengue fever has been reduced through the killing of larvae and elimination of breeding grounds in Tegucigalpa.

Output 1: Vector control measures are implemented at community level for 7,000 families for a period of three months in the city of Tegucigalpa.

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Develop cleaning strategy for households in the city of Tegucigalpa.
- Identify and organize National Intervention Team members to conduct the cleaning campaign.
- Coordinate with the HRC branches of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula.
- Distribution of abate to identified families.
- Conduct cleaning campaign of mosquito-breeding grounds.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

Hygiene promotion

Outcome: Increased awareness and prevention of dengue is achieved through the description of the symptoms to the most vulnerable through an awareness raising campaign in Tegucigalpa.

Output 1: A dengue awareness information campaign is implemented in targeted communities.

Output 2: IEC material for health promotion is disseminated in targeted communities.

Output 3: At least 42 NITs and 80 HRC volunteers have been trained in dengue control to promote community awareness and social mobilization.

Activities planned:

- Deploy a RIT member specialized in public health in emergencies.
- Conduct a refresher training on dengue control and prevention measures for NITs and volunteers.
- Identify and train 25 emergency health technicians (técnicos en urgencias medicas – TUM) in the treatment of patients with dengue fever and hemorrhagic dengue fever.
- The HRC will coordinate with local authorities the design and implementation of the awareness raising campaign.
- Distribute communications and educational materials.
- Conduct the awareness raising campaign at the community level.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

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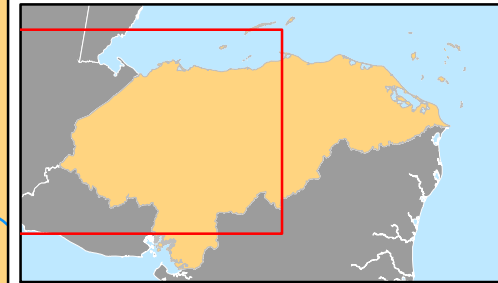
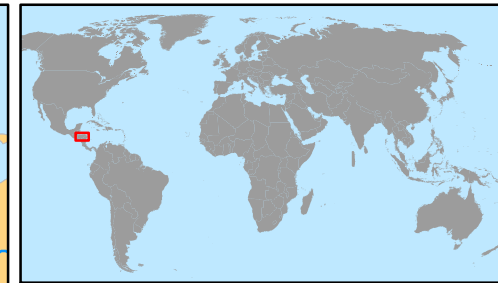
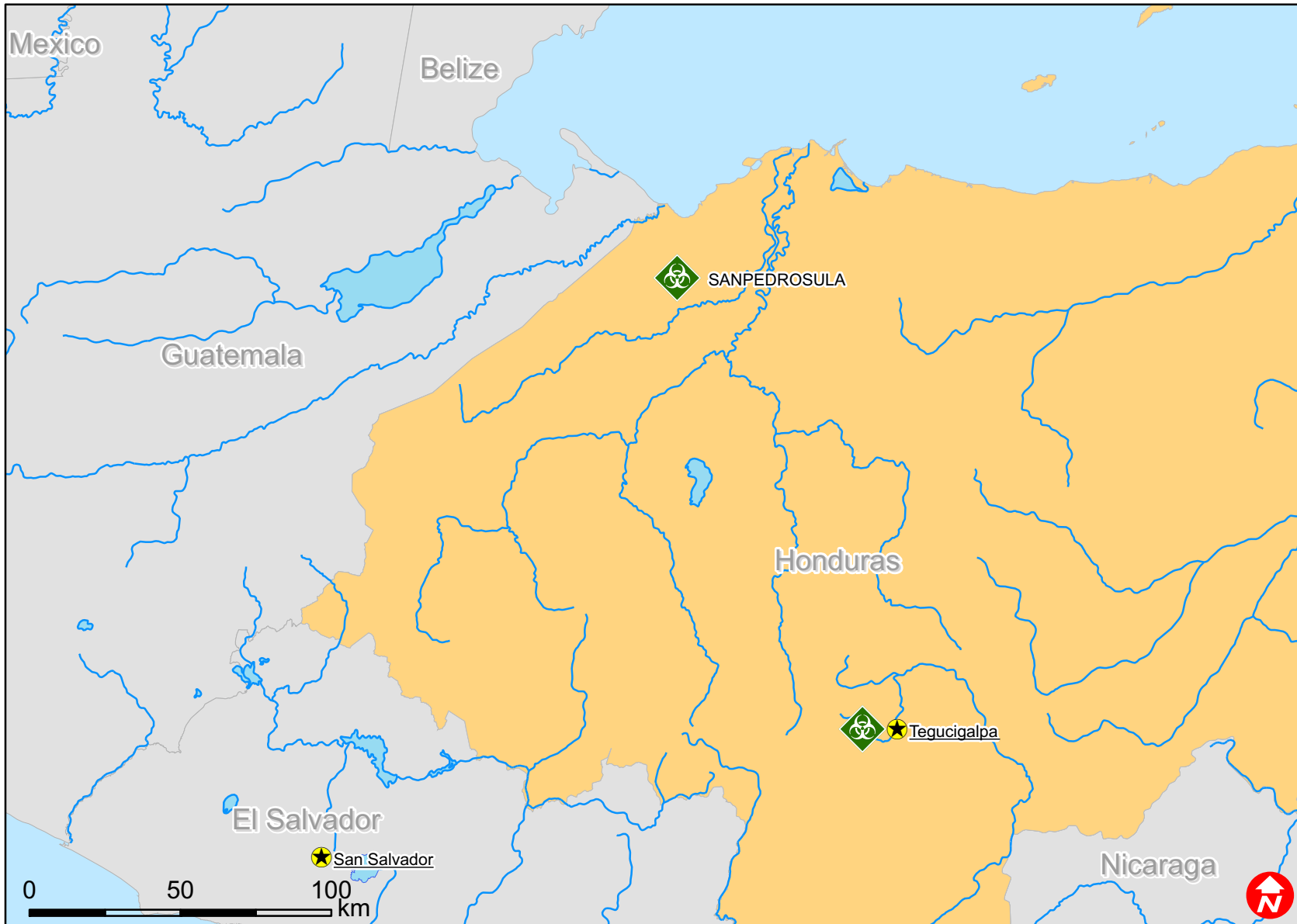
[<DREF budget and map; click here to return to the title page>](#)

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		0
Food		0
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid		0
Teaching Materials	3,798	3,798
Ustensils & Tools		0
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	8,682	8,682
Total Supplies	12,480	12,480
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom	1,324	1,324
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	1,324	1,324
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring	477	477
Transport & Vehicle Costs	868	868
Total Transport & Storage	1,345	1,345
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,255	3,255
National Staff		0
National Society Staff		0
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants	5,422	5,422
Total Personnel	8,677	8,677
Workshops & Training	2,604	2,604
Total Workshops & Training	2,604	2,604
Travel	3,906	3,906
Information & Public Relation	1,085	1,085
Office Costs	544	544
Communications	434	434
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges		0
Other General Expenses		0
Total General Expenditure	5,969	5,969
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	2,106	2,106
Total Programme Support	2,106	2,106
Services & Recoveries		0
Shared Services		0
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	34,505	34,505



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 Affected cities