

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nicaragua: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRNI003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000106-NIC
17 May 2011

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 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.



The Nicaraguan Red Cross distributed food parcels and non-food relief items to 1,040 families after the severe rainy season affected some 71,000 people. Source: NRC.

Summary: 242,122 Swiss francs were allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 17 September 2010 to support the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) in delivering assistance to some 1,000 families (5,000 beneficiaries).

2010 had an unusually strong rainy season, with devastating effects throughout the country. Starting with Tropical Storm Agatha in early June, the country suffered several months of severe floods and landslides, particularly around Lake Managua. By November, official numbers of affectation had reached 71,000 people, with 10,343 people staying in collective centres and 66 deaths, including the five members of the Nicaraguan Red Cross who lost their lives during a field mission.

As a result, the National Society distributed food parcels, kitchen kits, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, jerry cans and blankets reaching 1,040 families (4,714 people). In addition, the NRC reached 429 families (2,954 people) in collective centres with health related activities, including informative talks and psychosocial support.

The operation is now closed, with a final balance of 9,726 Swiss francs unspent and returned to DREF.

The Canadian Red Cross contributed 28,619 Swiss francs; the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) contributed 19,079 Swiss francs; the Netherlands Red Cross contributed 26,850 Swiss francs and ECHO contributed

171,036 Swiss francs to the DREF, replenishing 100 per cent of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on: <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

The IFRC, on behalf of the Nicaraguan Red Cross, would like to thank all donors and partners for their generous support to DREF.

[<Click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

Tropical Storm Agatha struck several countries in Central America on the first days of June, marking the arrival of the hurricane season. In Nicaragua, after the passage of Agatha, severe rains continued to fall for several months. Since 17 August 2010, the Pacific, the northern and central regions were particularly affected and had several communities isolated with collapsed roads and bridges. According to early damage and needs assessments carried out by the Ministry of Health, there was a shortage of food, clean water and basic health services. On 16 September 2010, 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.

In addition, on 16 October the government of Nicaragua issued a health related state of emergency with 395 confirmed cases of leptospirosis and 16 deaths in 15 departments. By November 2010, official numbers of affection had raised, with 71,000 people affected throughout the country, 10,343 people staying in collective centres and 66 deaths, including the five members of the Nicaraguan Red Cross who died during a field mission.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

During this emergency operation, the NRC reached 1,040 families (4,714 people) with relief items and food parcels, in an effort to temporarily reduce food insecurity and assist in the return to normalcy. The National Society also reached 429 families (2,954 people) with health related activities, including informative talks and psychosocial support.

The National Society and the IFRC country delegation hosted five coordination meetings with members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country. Several Partner National Societies supported the NRC in the operation, and the IFRC mobilized a Regional Intervention Team member specialized in disaster management and to support the National Society.



988 children participated in games and recreational activities to express their emotions and fears, as well as hopes, in regards to their communities.
Source: NRC

Although the DREF-supported operation initially did not have an outcome on water and sanitation, the continuous damage and needs assessment showed an increased need for water services in the Chinandega department (located in the Pacific coast of Nicaragua). Thus, the National Society decided to deploy a National Intervention Team member specialized in health to assess the situation. The NRC also had the support of a Spanish Red Cross delegate from the water and sanitation Emergency Response Unit (ERU) who assessed the 10 one-thousand-litres water treatment plants of the National Society (donated to the NRC by the Spanish Red Cross during previous emergencies). The delegate also trained NRC volunteers to improve their recently formed water and sanitation unit. The volunteers worked in coordination with the local office of the water plant supplier to develop a budget to ensure the water treatment plants are able to operate, as some require different levels of repair and maintenance.

Achievements against outcomes

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

1,000 families in the departments of Managua, Boaco, Granada and Matagalpa have their basic

nutritional needs covered for a period of one month though 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.

Impact: The NRC was able to complete its planned outputs of reaching 1,000 vulnerable families with food parcels and relief items (mosquito nets, jerry cans, blankets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and hygiene kits). In addition, during this operation, the National Society reached 40 additional families with items that could not be distributed during the previous operation, launched after the impact of Tropical Storm Agatha (for more information, please refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/rpts10/MDRNI002dfr.pdf>). Due to the size of shipping parcels, the National Society received 200 additional jerry cans and 10 additional blankets which are now prepositioned for future emergencies.

Date of distribution	No. of distributions	Department	Municipality	Communities	Families reached	People reached
1 October 30 October	2	Managua	Tipitapa	6	225	1091
2 October 20 October	2	Boaco	San Lorenzo	6	129	550
14 October	1	León	La Paz Centro	1	70	276
15 October	1	Matagalpa	Matagalpa	6	109	509
16 October	1	Jinotega	Yalí	3	31	152
18 October 29 November	2	Chinandega	Villa Nueva	8	328	1431
27 October	1	Granada	Malacatoya	4	70	308
28 - 29 October	1	Chontales	Acoyapa	8	88	397
TOTAL	11	8	8	42	1,040	4,714

It must also be mentioned that some food parcels were lost during the accident that occurred on 2 October 2010, when a flash flood took the life of five volunteers and a journalist that was accompanying the mission. Therefore an additional 106 food parcels were bought to replace the food parcels that were lost.

A significant element during this emergency operation was that the press department of the NRC was active promoting the National Society's activities and the general population is quite aware of the impact of their activities. The National Society was featured in 20 different media coverage, including newspapers, radio and television. The National Congress has acknowledged the service and efforts of the NRC to the country, the President of the Republic granted the title of humanitarian heroes to the volunteers who died whilst delivering assistance, and their families have been assigned a monthly stipend as support.

Finally, this emergency operation also contributed to strengthen the coordination platform with the government, which has improved significantly in 2010, and allowed for a more effective distribution of relief items and the inclusion of new areas (departments of Chontales, Jinotega, Leon and Chinandega).

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.

Impact: The National Society worked with families staying in four collective centres in the municipalities of Tipitapa, Estelí and Condega¹, reaching 2,954 people with health promotion activities and psychosocial support. It was possible to reach one additional collective centre than in the planned output of this sector. During the visits, volunteers completed 214 talks with eight groups of parents. During the activities, the NRC also distributed informative material on HIV and AIDS, breastfeeding, reproductive health and hand-washing. In addition, the National Society distributed during the interventions a toothbrush to children in the collective centres in an effort to reinforce oral hygiene.

Collective Centre	Date of support	No. of interventions	No. of families	Adults	Children	Total
Yolanda Mayorga*	17-09-10	1	16	82	36	118
Los Chavalitos	25-09-10	2	13	53	28	81
Yolanda Mayorga*	30-09-10	1	23	186	94	280
Adventist church	30-09-10	1	20	55	35	90
Municipal shelter	02-10-10	1	357	1,590	795	2,385
TOTAL		6	429	1,966	988	2,954

*Note that two interventions took place in different dates in the Yolanda Mayorga collective centre. In Los Chavalitos collective centre two interventions took place on 25 September.

Nineteen volunteers worked to reach 4 collective centres with 6 psychosocial support interventions, successfully contributing to reduce the effects of stress in the affected families, and supporting their emotional recovery after the losses experienced during the emergency.

Moreover, the volunteers used games, paintings and group sessions to assist the children in the identification of risks and to express their emotions and fears, as well as hopes, in regards to their communities.

Response to the rescuers' accident

On 2 October, volunteers of the NRC and accompanying journalists distributed relief items to affected communities in the Boaco department. On their way back from distribution, an unexpected flash flood caught two of their vehicles with 11 people inside. Unfortunately, only some of them could be rescued. The loss of five of their companions and a journalist, together with significant material losses, had a deep impact on the National Society. For many days, efforts focused on comforting the families of the deceased volunteers.

In response to the accident, the National Society created a psychosocial support programme within their organization for the affected members of the Relief and Rescue team, Red Cross Youth, and their families. The



Volunteers, staff and families of the volunteers that died during mission received psychosocial support during their mourning process. Source: NRC

NRC conducted individual and group sessions during the days following the incident. Through the provision of psychosocial support relatives and colleagues of the victims were able to start a mourning process and discuss the fears and hopes of their humanitarian work during disasters. These psychosocial support

¹ Estelí and Condega are both located in the department of Estelí, while Tipitapa is a municipality within Managua.

sessions, which were unforeseen at the initial budgeting stage of the operation, are now reflected in the Workshops and Training line in the final financial report.

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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[<Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/9-2011/4
Budget Timeframe	2010/9-2011/2
Appeal	MDRNI003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	242,122					242,122
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
Other Income						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	232,396					232,396
C4. Other Income	232,396					232,396
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	232,396					232,396
D. Total Funding = B + C	232,396					232,396
Appeal Coverage	96%					96%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	232,396					232,396
E. Expenditure	-232,396					-232,396
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRNI003 - Nicaragua-Floods

Appeal Launch Date: 17 sep 10

Appeal Timeframe: 17 sep 10 to 17 dec 10

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/9-2011/4
Budget Timeframe	2010/9-2011/2
Appeal	MDRNI003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		242,122					242,122	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	15,040	13,295				13,295	1,745	
Clothing & textiles	22,060	19,331				19,331	2,729	
Food	70,180	76,053				76,053	-5,873	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	24,060	20,588				20,588	3,472	
Medical & First Aid	1,504						1,504	
Teaching Materials	1,504						1,504	
Utensils & Tools	32,090	29,093				29,093	2,997	
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	166,438	158,359				158,359	8,079	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage		47				47	-47	
Distribution & Monitoring	7,018	2,893				2,893	4,125	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	15,039	14,682				14,682	357	
Logistics Services	6,000	5,734				5,734	266	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	28,057	23,356				23,356	4,701	
Personnel								
International Staff	6,308	6,245				6,245	63	
National Society Staff	9,818						9,818	
Volunteers		9,680				9,680	-9,680	
Total Personnel	16,126	15,925				15,925	202	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training		7,559				7,559	-7,559	
Total Workshops & Training		7,559				7,559	-7,559	
General Expenditure								
Travel	4,908	4,820				4,820	88	
Information & Public Relation	7,116	7,024				7,024	92	
Office Costs	812	791				791	21	
Communications	902	755				755	147	
Financial Charges	2,985	-377				-377	3,362	
Total General Expenditure	16,723	13,013				13,013	3,710	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Service Support	14,777	14,184				14,184	594	
Total Indirect Costs	14,777	14,184				14,184	594	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	242,122	232,396				232,396	9,726	
VARIANCE (C - D)		9,726				9,726		