
DREF operation n° MDRPY009 GLIDE n° EP-2011-000035-PRY 05 December 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.

Summary: 99,593 Swiss francs were allocated from the IFRC's DREF on 12 April 2011 to support the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) in delivering assistance to 6,000 families.

The DREF-supported operation was completed through the work of 133 volunteers (60 women and 73 men) from five sub-branches of the Central branch, and the Concepción and Alto Paraná branches. The PRC successfully reached 60 neighbourhoods from 9 districts, a population of approximately 19,455 persons through a preventive health campaign that included house-to-house visits, talks in educational institutions and distribution of informative materials in public spaces. Furthermore, a media campaign was completed, reaching an estimated 1,047,452 persons with radio and television spots.



Volunteers of the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) visited homes and empty lots to support the government's cleaning and fumigation campaigns. Source: PRC

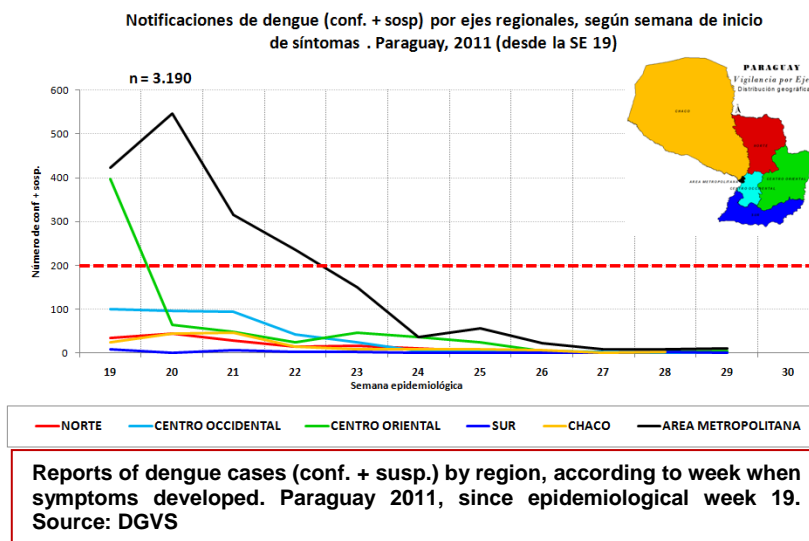
The Canadian Red Cross contributed 9,113 Swiss francs to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. Details of all contributions to the DREF for 2010 can be found on: http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2010.pdf and for 2011 on: http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf

The situation

Although dengue is an endemic disease in Paraguay, the last couple of years have seen an increase of reported cases. The increase is largely due to social and demographic changes, including unplanned urban development with overcrowded conditions, and inappropriate water supply and sanitation systems which created the ideal conditions for the increase of mosquito-transmitted diseases.

On 8 April 2011, the Paraguayan government reported 7,071 confirmed cases of dengue and 14,292 suspected ones across the country and launched a contingency plan to fight the outbreak. By early May, the national incidence rate was 447.9 for every 100,000 inhabitants, with the department of Alto Paraná having the highest rate at 1,044.4 for every 100,000 inhabitants. During the height of the outbreak, the health services in the country had collapsed and were unable to provide to all the affected communities. New health points were established to confront the situation; however, they often lacked appropriate equipment and supplies.

By the end of this operation, on the 30 epidemiological-week, the General Directorate of Health Surveillance (Dirección General de Vigilancia de la Salud, DGVS) had already reported that the outbreak was controlled and that the number of cases was within the endemic level (see graph below). Some 51,700 cases had been reported across the country since the beginning of the year, of which more than 37,000 were confirmed.



Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The main goal of the National Society was the reduction of dengue-related morbidity and mortality. The operation was carried out based on the principle that in order to protect families in the long term it required the communities to change their mentality towards maintaining a healthy environment.

Therefore, the PRC launched an operation with a strong community-base component, promoting the

involvement of community leaders, raising awareness within neighbours and equipping *Mingas* (community-based task groups) with cleaning tools. Although the National Society was successful in accomplishing the creation and involvement of *Mingas*, they now confront the challenge of sustaining the necessary participation and interest for a long-term change.

The Paraguayan Red Cross, as member of the National Emergency Secretariat (Secretaría de Emergencia Nacional, SEN) worked alongside the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (Ministerio de Salud Pública y Bienestar Social), the National Service for the Eradication of Malaria (Servicio Nacional de Erradicación de Paludismo - SENEPA), the National Arm Forces and municipal authorities.

Through the support of the DREF, as well as through assistance from the American Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross-AECID¹ and the Swiss Red Cross, the Paraguayan Red Cross worked in 11 municipalities from the departments of Central and Alto Paraná, as well as the capital city of Asunción. A total of 20,599 city blocks were reached and 170,998 premises were visited.

Achievements against outcomes

The following DREF-supported outcomes and outputs were reached through the work of 133 volunteers (60 women and 73 men) from five sub-branches of the Central branch, and the Concepción and Alto Paraná branches. Through the joint actions of the DREF-supported operation, the PRC reached 60 neighbourhoods from 9 districts, a population of approximately 19,455 persons. Furthermore, a media campaign was completed, reaching some 1,047,452 persons through radio and television spots.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Community-based groups detect and eliminate breeding grounds following a collaborative strategy between the National Society, the municipality, the region's health authority

¹ Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional y Desarrollo

<p>and SENEPA.</p> <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine municipalities in 4 departments (Central, Alto Paraná, Concepción and Guaira) coordinate with the branches of the National Society. • At least 38 communities in 9 municipalities are aware and working on the prevention of dengue • Three branches and six sub-branches have the equipment and tools needed to carry out cleaning campaigns. <p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with the municipal office, SENEPA and health authorities to elaborate a regional plan of action. • Complete community mappings to determine areas of risk for dengue infection. • Complete meetings with community members to explain the working methodology. • Procure cleaning materials and personal protective equipment to use during cleaning campaigns. • Complete cleaning campaigns targeting mosquito-breeding grounds with the participation of the community-based groups (<i>mingas</i>). • Distribute informative brochures in the communities.

Impact

As mentioned before, the National Society was successful in involving community leaders and members in the cleaning campaigns to eliminate mosquito-breeding grounds. As stated in the table below, 852 community members from 37 communities participated in the *Mingas*.

Branch/Sub-branch	No. of communities reached	No. of participants	Gender	
			Men	Women
San Lorenzo	11	296	157	139
Mariano Roque Alonso	2	33	12	21
Ñemby	12	155	196	335
Capiata	8	256	97	159
Nueva Italia	4	112	53	59
TOTAL	37	852	515	713

The areas of intervention and the activities to be completed in each area were carefully mapped according to the levels of larvae infestation. However, for an efficient and effective intervention, the PRC coordinated with the municipal authorities, signing four working agreements with the Mayor's Offices and regional health centres of Nueva Italia, Capiata, Ñemby and Concepción. These agreements were valid for three months, and endorsed partnerships for awareness campaigns, house-to-house visits and procurement and use of cleaning and fumigation equipment to be used by *Mingas*. In addition, the National Society also started negotiations with these municipalities to sign a four-year cooperation agreement to work on risk reduction activities. The National Society also maintained coordination with government and health authorities in other municipalities and departments (for example, Alto Paraná and Itapúa) even though official agreements were not

In terms of equipment, the DREF supported the procurement of 9 sets of fumigation equipment and 9 cleaning kits, each containing 5 racks, 5 hoes, 5 shovels, 5 machetes and 3 wheelbarrows. The equipment was distributed to the branches and sub-branches that supported the work of the *Mingas* (Alto Paraná, Capiatá, Concepción, Itá, Mariano Roque Alonso, Nueva Italia, Ñemby, San Lorenzo and Asunción).

The National Society currently faces the challenge of ensuring the sustainability and commitment of the community groups in the future, which can only be achieved through follow-up activities. In an effort to accomplish this long-term goal, the PRC is currently working alongside the SEN on a new contingency plan to combat dengue which will be implemented as the emergency ends.

Emergency health

Outcome: Dengue-related morbidity and mortality is reduced through a comprehensive approach to preventive health and increased awareness

Outputs:

- At least 6,000 families (30,000 people) are reached with a preventive health campaign.
- Thirty per cent of the population in 9 municipalities receive information through popular radio stations and television on the prevention of dengue.

Activities planned:

- Train volunteers on epidemic control.
- Printing of informative material.
- Complete educational campaigns in public spaces.
- Launch a communication campaign with radio and television spots.
- Carry out educational talks in schools and foment the formation of cleaning brigades in school grounds.

Impact:

As mention previously, the outbreak has been controlled and the number of reported cases is within the endemic level of Paraguay. By the end of the operation, the health authorities had reported 20 new cases across the country, a decrease of 26 per cent between the 29 and 30 epidemiological week.

The National Society worked in all the areas initially planned, including the areas targeted through the Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion sector. As part of their contribution to combat the dengue outbreak, the National Society reached some 19,455 persons through a preventive and control disease campaign that included house-to-house visits, talks in educational institutions and distribution of informative materials in public spaces (25,000 brochures).

The PRC worked alongside several state institutions in a campaign that visited 4,332 homes² in 60 communities, successfully reaching 3,056 families (14,849 persons) as stated in the table below. During the visits, volunteer informed about dengue prevention measures and inspected for mosquito-breeding grounds.

Branch/sub-branch	No. of communities	Houses visited	Families reached	Persons reached		
				Women	Men	Total
San Lorenzo	11	424	260	726	582	1,308
Mariano Roque Alonso	8	626	339	900	859	1,759
Alto Paraná	5	304	203	533	504	1,037
Ñemby	7	258	156	392	383	775
Capiata	7	352	248	576	551	1,127
Nva. Italia	6	267	214	n/a	n/a	838
Itá	12	1,741	1,380	3,350	3,445	6,795
Concepción	4	360	256	642	568	1,210
Total	60	4,332	3,056	7,119	6,892	14,849

Volunteers of the Red Cross also visited 22 schools, providing information on dengue to 2,130 students (1,133 girls and 997 boys), of which 1,248 were in pre-school and elementary education level and 831 were in secondary education level.

Branch/Sub-branch	No. of schools	Women	Men	Total of students
San Lorenzo	4	122	122	248
Mariano Roque Alonso	2	127	76	205
Alto Parana	4	265	236	505
Ñemby	6	420	339	765
Nueva Italia	2	137	167	306
Concepcion	4	62	57	123

² Of the total premises visited with the support of the DREF, 224 were abandoned, and 1,027 closed.

TOTAL	22	1,133	997	2,152
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Another element of the dengue-awareness campaign was the diffusion of information through mass media. The National Society arranged with 42 radio stations and 10 television stations to broadcast a 30-second radial spot and a 35 television spot. Based on the rating information provided by the stations, the campaign had reached approximately 37 per cent of the population in Itá, Asunción, Ñemby, Capiatá, Nueva Italia, San Lorenzo and Alto Paraná, some 1,047,452 persons.

Finally, the capacity of the National Society was strengthened through the training of 62 volunteers with the support of the Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) manual of the IFRC. Three workshops were carried out as detailed below:

Place	Date	Branch/sub-branch	No. of volunteers
Itapúa	29 -30 April	Ñeembucu	3
		Paraguari	6
		Misiones	4
		Itapua	7
		Alto Parana	4
Asunción	7-8 May	San Pedro	3
		Cordillera	3
		Itá	2
		Juventud	4
		Nueva Italia	2
		Mariano R. Alonso	3
		Capiata	3
		Ñemby	4
Concepción	20- 21 May	Concepción	9
		Boquerón	5
TOTAL		15	62

Contact information

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

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**For Performance and Accountability
(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 11 April 2011 for 99,593 Swiss francs for three months to assist 6,000 families.
 - One DREF operation update was issued on 7 June 2011.
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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 (NGOs) 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.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



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.
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MDRPY009 - Paraguay - Dengue

Appeal Launch Date: 11 apr 11

Appeal Timeframe: 11 apr 11 to 11 jul 11

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/4-2011/9
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MDRPY009
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	99,593					99,593
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	99,593					99,593
C4. Other Income	99,593					99,593
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	99,593					99,593
D. Total Funding = B + C	99,593					99,593
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

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	99,593					99,593
E. Expenditure	-82,176					-82,176
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	17,417					17,417

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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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)		99,593					99,593	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene		7,543				7,543	-7,543	
Medical & First Aid	2,266	2,256				2,256	10	
Teaching Materials	4,605	3,446				3,446	1,159	
Other Supplies & Services	21,222	19,424				19,424	1,798	
Total Relief items, Construction, Su	28,093	32,669				32,669	-4,576	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,526	4,887				4,887	639	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,526	4,887				4,887	639	
Personnel								
National Society Staff	17,823	7,137				7,137	10,686	
Volunteers		9,029				9,029	-9,029	
Total Personnel	17,823	16,166				16,166	1,657	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	4,145	4,997				4,997	-852	
Total Workshops & Training	4,145	4,997				4,997	-852	
General Expenditure								
Travel	5,526						5,526	
Information & Public Relations	23,027	11,326				11,326	11,701	
Office Costs	2,763	3,875				3,875	-1,112	
Communications	2,763	2,286				2,286	477	
Financial Charges	3,847	954				954	2,893	
Total General Expenditure	37,927	18,441				18,441	19,486	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	6,078	5,015				5,015	1,063	
Total Indirect Costs	6,078	5,015				5,015	1,063	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	99,593	82,176				82,176	17,417	
VARIANCE (C - D)		17,417				17,417		