

# DREF operation update



## Honduras: Earthquake

**DREF operation n° MDRHN001  
GLIDE EQ-2009-000108-HND  
Update n° 1  
16 June 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.

**Period covered by this update:** 2 June to 12 June 2009.

**Summary:** CHF 30,000 (USD 28,132 or EUR 19,879) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 2 June 2009 to support the Honduran Red Cross (HRC) to carry out initial damage and needs assessments following the earthquake.

This operation update n° 1 reflects an additional DREF allocation of CHF 186,562 to support additional relief assistance proposed by the HRC for 800 families. The affected families will receive food items and shelter kits.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 2 September 2009. In line with Federation reporting standards a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 2 December 2009).



Honduran Red Cross volunteers carrying out assessments. Source: Honduran Red Cross

[<Click here to view the DREF budget or here to view contact details>](#)

## The situation

Honduras is located between the tectonic plates in Islas del Cisne in the Atlantic Ocean and Isla de Cocos in the Pacific Ocean. On 28 May 2009 the plates activated causing an earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale. The epicenter was located 63 kilometres from the Bay Islands on the Caribbean coast of Honduras.

The table below indicates the areas and types of damages sustained:

Municipality	Destroyed homes	Damaged homes	Educational sector
El Progreso	215	1740	11

Puerto Cortes	100	500	32
Omoa	-	320	-
Colinas	88	47 partial damages 292 minor damages	3
Santa Bárbara	2	11	2
Trinidad	3	28	-
Chinda	-	44	-
Gualala	-	5	-
Ilama	4	-	-
Petoa		8	-
Ceguaca	2	-	-
Las Vegas	-	7	-
Olanchito	-	216	-
Jesus de Otoro	36	53	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>3,271</b>	<b>48</b>

The departments where most damages have been reported are Yoro, Cortes and Santa Bárbara in the northwestern region of the country. Many water systems sustained damages as a result of the earthquake. In some coastal towns like Puerto Cortes, the sea level has increased causing minor floods. Infrastructure, including bridges and electric systems, also sustained damages in the city of El Progreso and Puerto Cortes respectively.

The Permanent Commission of Contingencies (Comisión Permanente de Contingencias - COPECO) initially issued a green alert since replicas were felt throughout the country. To date, replicas are still affecting the region and COPECO has been constantly monitoring the situation in case this worsens.

## Coordination and partnerships

Since the beginning of the emergency, the Honduran Red Cross has been coordinating the disaster response with local authorities including COPECO and the municipalities of the affected regions in order to avoid the duplication of efforts. The National Society is part of the national response system (COPECO). The HRC has also been participating in monitoring and coordination meetings with the United Nations system, promoted by the Honduran government.

Partner National Societies present in the country which include the American Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross have contacted the Honduran Red Cross and the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) to coordinate relief response activities.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Honduran Red Cross has 52 local branches in 18 departments with a volunteer network of 3,500. The HRC has a team of 13 trained Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members and 53 National Intervention Team (NIT) members coordinated by the Central Disaster Response Office (Oficina Central de Respuesta a Desastres - OPADE).

Since the beginning of the emergency, the Honduran Red Cross and its local branches have been performing damage and needs assessments in the affected areas. The NIT team was activated to provide disaster response support to the affected local branches, to coordinate with the regional COPECO offices and the municipal or local emergency committees.

The National Society, through its local branches, has visited the affected areas to perform damage and needs assessments. During these assessments the local branches identified that the following infrastructures sustained damages: homes, educational centres and water wells.

After further assessments, the HRC drew up a plan of action that includes assisting 800 families in the most affected departments: Cortes, Yoro, Santa Barbara and Intibucá. The assistance will focus on the provision of food items and shelter kits.

## Progress towards objectives

The Honduran Red Cross has completed further damage and needs assessments and designed a plan of action. The beneficiary criteria established by the HRC take into account the level of vulnerability of each beneficiary, targeting those most affected by the earthquake.

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

**Objective: 800 families in the most affected departments will benefit with food kits and shelter kits.**

#### Activities planned:

- Coordination with public and non-governmental organizations.
- Completion of a socio-economic study and census of the beneficiary families.
- Drawing up of a budget per family.
- Description of the materials to be procured, bids, and purchases.
- Identification of affected areas.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Carry out workshop on shelter for 25 HRC volunteers.
- 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.

#### Progress:

The following municipalities and families will benefit from the distribution of 800 food kits and shelter kits:

Department	Municipality	Number of families targeted
Cortes	Puerto Cortes	210
	Omoa	50
Yoro	El Progreso	200
	Olanchito	70
Santa Bárbara	Colinas	135
	Santa Bárbara	15
	Las Vegas	10
	Quimistan	9
	Trinidad (Chinda)	75
Intibuca	Jesus de Otoro	26
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>800</b>

The food items will be procured locally and the shelter kits will be dispatched by the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in PADRU.

In addition, a RIT specialized in shelter will be deployed to Honduras to support the National Society through a shelter workshop for 25 HRC volunteers and the distribution of shelter kits.

## 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 Honduras:** Maria Elisa Alvarado, Honduran Red Cross, General Director; phone: (504) 237 4558; email: [direcciongeneral@honduras.cruzroja.org](mailto:direcciongeneral@honduras.cruzroja.org).
- **In Honduras:** Nelson Aly, country project manager, Honduras; phone: (504) 220 4009; email: [nelson.alyrodriguez@ifrc.org](mailto:nelson.alyrodriguez@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Fabricio López, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: [fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org](mailto:fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Ariel Kestens, Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [ariel.kestens@ifrc.org](mailto:ariel.kestens@ifrc.org).
- **In Panama:** Natalia García, disaster management delegate of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone: (507) 316 001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: [padru.rit08@ifrc.org](mailto:padru.rit08@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).

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**DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY**  
**HONDURAS EARTHQUAKE**

Annex 1  
MDRHN001

	<b>BUDGET CHF</b>
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>	
Shelter	71,411
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	
Food	53,558
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>124,970</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	5,021
Transport & Vehicles Costs	11,158
Service fee & Recovery	5,000
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>	
International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,905
National Staff	
National Society Staff	29,011
Consultants	
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>	
Workshops & Training	6,695
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>	
Travel	3,347
Information & Public Relations	5,579
Office running costs	669
Communication Costs	3,347
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	3,783
Other General Expenses	
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>	
Programme Support - PSR	14,077
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>91,593</b>
<b>DREF ALLOCATION</b>	<b>216,562</b>