

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bolivia: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRBO005
Glide No. FL-2010-000008-BOL
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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 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: 146,723 Swiss francs (137,604 US dollars or 99,995 euro) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC) in delivering assistance to some 1,500 families (7,500 people) in the communities in the departments of Cochabamba and La Paz.

The Bolivian Red Cross with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) addressed the needs of 1,560 families in the departments of Cochabamba and La Paz. Families were provided with basic food and non-food relief items including food packets, hygiene kits and kitchen kits.

The Canadian Red Cross contributed 29,991 Swiss francs and the European Commission's Office for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) contributed 116,732 Swiss francs to the replenish of the DREF allocation made for this operation. The main donors of the Emergency Fund for Disaster Relief are the governments of Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway and the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO). Details of all donors can be found at:

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

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

The situation

The normal rainy season in Bolivia, which began in September 2009, was exacerbated by the El Niño phenomenon. Increased precipitation led to floods and mudslides which caused 26 deaths and affected 45,572 families. These heavy rains, flooding and mudslides, according to the Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence, additionally affected 7,000 hectares of crops and 14,000 animals.

The Bolivian government declared a national emergency in January 2010. The National Council for Disaster Reduction and Response (CONRADE) activated the municipal and departmental Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) and the Ministry of Health and Sports (MSD), together with the Departmental Health Services (SEDES), coordinated field missions and response operations.

Heavy rains caused major flooding in the departments of Beni, Chuquisaca, Cochabamba, La Paz and Santa Cruz. Red alerts due to increased river levels and flooding were issued in the areas surrounding the Chapare, Chimore, Ichilo and Sajta rivers in Cochabamba department, the Grande river in the Santa Cruz department, the Ibare and Mamore rivers in Beni department and the Bolivar, Chapare, Chimore, Eterazama, La Paz and Sajta rivers in La Paz department. Lower levels of affectation were registered in the departments of Oruro, Potosí and Tarija.

The following table details the level of affection by department:

Population Affected by the Floods

Department	Families Affected
Beni	6,642
Chuquisaca	10,904
Cochabamba	12,949
La Paz	3,345
Oruro	3,526
Potosi	3,247
Santa Cruz	4,948
Tarija	11
TOTAL	45,572 families

Coordination and partnerships

During the emergency, the Bolivian Red Cross maintained strategic institutional coordination with the national and departmental Emergency Operations Centre, organized by the vice-ministry for civil defence and the National Council for Risk Reduction and Disaster Attention (CONARADE). Under this coordination, government bodies, international institutions and non governmental organizations worked together to respond efficiently to the disaster. National institutions including the Ministry of Rural and Land Development, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Basic Services and Roads and international agencies including the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), UNICEF, UNETE, World Food Programme, World Vision, Oxfam, CARE, Save the Children, Doctors Without Borders, and Caritas shared risk and damage assessments and organized the humanitarian response. Additional sector meetings were held to discuss specific issues including water and sanitation, shelters, health and food assistance.

This coordination also was maintained at the departmental level. In La Paz department, the National Society participated and shared information in the coordination meetings led by the National Emergency Operation Centre. In Cochabamba department, communication was maintained with the mayor of the Puerto Villaroel municipality, a representative of the region's agricultural producers' federation, the municipal council president and community members to inform and coordinate the Red Cross response efforts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The national disaster and relief unit of the National Society, as stated above, participated in inter-institutional meetings in the National Emergency Operations Centre. The Beni, Cochabamba, La Paz and Santa Cruz branches of the BRC provided first aid assistance, transported people to medical centres and evacuated families in cooperation with the local emergency operation centres. Volunteers from the local BRC branches additionally conducted needs assessments in the affected communities.

The International Federation, through its Pan-American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) in Panama and the Regional Representation for the Andean Countries in Peru, maintained fluid communication with the National Society. Furthermore, a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member from the Honduran Red Cross was deployed to provide assistance to the BRC in conducting the preliminary assessments, implementing and completing the plan of action, and requesting a DREF to provide humanitarian assistance to 1,500 families (7,500 people) in affected communities in the Cochabamba and La Paz departments.

Achievements against objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 7,500 people in the departments of Cochabamba and La Paz will receive essential food and non-food items to recover from the effects of the emergency.

Activities planned

- Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- 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.
- Develop an exit strategy.

Impact

The operation had the objective of providing humanitarian assistance of food and non-food items (NFIs) to 1,500 families (7,500 people) affected by the heavy rainfall which caused flash floods and mudslides. Due to the lower purchasing cost for budgeted relief items and International Federation support, the Bolivian Red Cross surpassed this goal and provided food parcels, hygiene kits and kitchen sets to 1,560 families in the two targeted departments of Cochabamba and La Paz.

BRC volunteers and personnel conducted emergency needs and capacity assessments in the most affected areas of these two departments. As the majority of the affected households were economically impoverished families living in the country's less developed regions, vulnerability levels were high. The floods exacerbated their pre-disaster vulnerability by seriously affecting their livelihoods which are based on subsistence agriculture and domestic livestock activities

After completing damage and needs assessments in Cochabamba and La Paz in early March, BRC volunteers and staff identified beneficiaries in both departments. The beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system was coordinated with local authorities and community leaders in the affected regions. Priority was given to the most vulnerable households based the criteria of families whose homes, crops, and/or livelihoods were affected or destroyed, as well as families with multiple children, elderly family members and female-headed households.

In March, a team composed of the BRC National Relief Director, BRC branch directorates from Cochabamba and La Paz, the RIT member, and representatives of the affected communities together identified and selected adequate distribution sites in both departments. They also verified the accuracy of the beneficiary lists employing the various assessments conducted by the BRC, local authorities and NGOs in these same regions. All relief items were procured locally following Bolivian Red Cross' and International Federation standard procedures, and the analysis and specification of the National Society's procurement department.

Distributions were based on the essential needs for family of five. The 50 kg food packet consisted of 15 kg of rice, 15 kg of sugar, 10 kg of noodles, 5 kg of flour, 2 kg of salt and 3 litres of cooking oil. The hygiene kit consisted of 3 tubes of toothpaste, 5 toothbrush, 2 bath towels, 3 bars of soap, 3 packages of sanitary pads, 6 bags of detergent and 10 rolls of toilet paper. Pots, pans, a kettle, serving spoon and ladle, plates, cutlery, kitchen knife, jugs and a gas stove were in the kitchen sets given to each beneficiary family.

Prior to the distribution, the BRC also held meetings with the local stakeholders, including community members to inform them about the Red Cross efforts, the type of assistance planned, the funding source and the distribution methodology. Beneficiaries were informed of the quality and quantity of the items and the distribution plan before distributions took place.

The damage and needs assessments in **Cochabamba department** identified **1,200 beneficiary families** in the municipality of Puerto Villaroel. Distribution points in Siglo XX, Apopaya and Belen were selected and 1,200 of the most vulnerable families in 37 communities received beneficiary identification cards. Distributions were conducted on 13 March 2010. The BRC distributed food and basic NFIs to 649 families from 20 communities at the Ayopaya distribution centre, 368 families from 11 communities at the Siglo XX community centre, and 183 families from 6 communities in the Belén community centre.

In **La Paz department**, two relief distributions reached a total **360 beneficiary families**. Sixty households in the neighbourhood of Huanu Huanuni (Bella Vista area) received kitchen sets on 19 March 2010. These families had been affected by a landslide caused by the intense precipitation. This distribution was coordinated with the municipal Emergency Operations Centre, the neighbourhood council and members of the affected households. The distribution in this neighbourhood was possible due to budget adjustments and reducing projected food costs. The population in this vulnerable area were still living in tents at the end of May 2010. The second distribution to 300 families from 3 communities in the Huayhuasi area took place on 20 March. These beneficiary families received food packets and hygiene kits.

Bolivian Red Cross supported 1,560 families (104 per cent of the initial objective) from 41 communities in the Cochabamba and La Paz departments to recover from the emergency and restart their daily activities. BRC volunteers were essential to the success of the effectiveness and efficiency of the response efforts starting for the initial damage and needs assessments to the relief distributions.

All the planned activities were completed within the three month implementation period of this DREF operation. Additionally, this DREF operation covered costs related to the effectiveness of this operation. Funds were used for 3,200 bags for food parcels and hygiene kits, a laptop, distribution and transport of food items and kits, volunteers' accommodation and incentives, salaries for three local coordinators from the

National Society, maintenance and fuel for vehicles, accommodation and per diem of the RIT member deployed in this emergency, and 16 banners for Bolivian Red Cross visibility during the emergency response.

The inter-institutional coordination mechanisms and Red Cross visibility contributed to guaranteeing a successful and timely emergency response. The Bolivian Red Cross productively cooperated with Emergency Operations Centres at the national and local levels, Civil Defence, CONARADE and other local authorities, as well as international institutions and NGOs. Attention was paid to Red Cross visibility during each stage of the operation; the BRC ensured emblems were placed on food parcels and kits, volunteer uniforms and vehicles and banners used during assessments and distributions.

Challenges:

Beyond the difficult weather conditions which caused this disaster, the operation did not encounter substantial setbacks to its projected humanitarian emergency response.

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 nonviolence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBO005 - Bolivia - Floods

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/2-2010/8
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/5
Appeal	MDRBO005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	146,723					146,723
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	146,016					146,016
C6. Other Income	146,016					146,016
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	146,016					146,016
D. Total Funding = B + C	146,016					146,016
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	146,016					146,016
E. Expenditure	-146,016					-146,016
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/2-2010/8
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/5
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Budget	APPEAL

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

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)		146,723					146,723	
Supplies								
Food	68,955	69,045					69,045	-90
Utensils & Tools	8,723	6,857					6,857	1,866
Other Supplies & Services	32,070	34,028					34,028	-1,958
Total Supplies	109,748	109,930					109,930	-182
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom		1,608					1,608	-1,608
Total Land, vehicles & equipment		1,608					1,608	-1,608
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring		4,777					4,777	-4,777
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,949	3,226					3,226	3,723
Total Transport & Storage	6,949	8,002					8,002	-1,054
Personnel								
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,421	1,900					1,900	1,521
National Society Staff	8,659	7,002					7,002	1,657
Total Personnel	12,080	8,902					8,902	3,178
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,672	3,212					3,212	-540
Information & Public Relation	1,069	1,058					1,058	11
Office Costs	1,601	2,208					2,208	-607
Communications	1,069	782					782	287
Financial Charges	2,000	1,402					1,402	598
Total General Expenditure	8,410	8,662					8,662	-252
Programme Support								
Program Support	9,537	8,912					8,912	625
Total Programme Support	9,537	8,912					8,912	625
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	146,723	146,016					146,016	707
VARIANCE (C - D)		707					707	