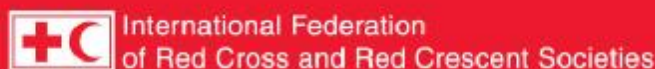


DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Panama: floods

DREF operation n° MDRPA006
GLIDE n° [FL-2010-000119-PAN](#)
5 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.

38,171 Swiss francs (USD 35,729 or 28,902 euro) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,100 beneficiaries (220 families). Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy rains continue to hit Panama causing floods, landslides and the destruction of at least 214 houses. As these events affect vulnerable populations living in rural areas, the operation seeks to provide relief items to 220 families to assist them to recover their livelihoods.

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 or click here to view map of the affected areas; here for contact details>](#)



Assessments were carried out by RCSP in the Los Santos province. Source: RCSP

The situation

From mid-June on, heavy rains have affected Panama producing floods, water surges and landslides. The National Civil Protection System (Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil - SINAPROC) has declared a state of emergency in the following flooded areas: Tarare river basin and the Barriada Altos Tatara (Panama Province) and in the communities of El Cacao and El Balo (Los Santos Province).

According to official reports, during 2010 there are more than 1,000 damaged houses and more than 214 destroyed homes due to floods. The figures for target areas are 111 affected families in the Province of Panama and at least 150 in Los Santos Province. Currently, there are no definitive figures on agricultural and livelihood damage, but this is considered severe and total losses are expected in some areas. Rapid assessments carried out by the Red Cross Society of Panama have provided the following data:

Province	Area	Communities	Affected Families	Affected People
Panama	Panama Este	Tatare	120	600
Los Santos	La Villa de Los Santos	El Balo	20	100
	Pedasí	EL Cacao	80	400
Total			220	1,100

While most of these families have not lost their houses, they have experienced severe or total damage of all their furniture, and their present living conditions leave them prone to further impact by the disaster.

Tatare is located 2 hours from the Capital City of Panama, while the communities in Los Santos are located at a distance of 7 hours. Crops in this Province have been severely affected.

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Cross Society of Panama is coordinating with SINAPROC, the National Police and the Ministry of Housing to respond to the emergency. Coordination has allowed the RCSP to carry out rescue and evacuation operations, operations security, damage assessments and a census of the affected population.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 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.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The RCSP has carried out search and rescue activities. Thirty four people have been rescued by volunteers of the RCSP, who provided first aid and conducted rapid damage assessments in three target communities. Twenty four National Intervention Team (NIT) members and another 30 volunteers took part in these activities. The RCSP has also supplied emergency shelter to the affected population.

In coordination with the Ministry of Health, the RCSP has been coordinating emergency health services and safe water and sanitation promotion. In the Los Santos Province, 33 volunteers from the RCSP branch of Las Tablas are proceeding with rescue activities as the rains continue. Twelve of these volunteers are NIT members.

The needs

Selection of people to be reached: the selection of people to be reached will be coordinated with local authorities and families under IFRC and Sphere standards, taking into account the following criteria:

- People directly affected by the disaster that find difficulty in recovering rapidly due to conditions of poverty.
- Single parents with children.
- People with disabilities.
- Children and senior citizens.
- People that have lost their livelihoods.
- Communities in rural areas or with limited access to humanitarian support channels.

The RCSP's plan of action aims to provide affected families with relief items and access to safe water. It also aims to promote vector control activities and personal hygiene. This will be complemented by an assessment to plan activities to improve the target population's food security. All Red Cross activities include a National Society strengthening component in order to increase the local response and resilience capacities.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: Affected families have access to food and non-food items to support their efforts to resume essential household activities.
Output (expected result): 220 affected families receive food and non-food items in the communities of Tataré, El Balo and El Cacao.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.• Develop 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.• Provide 100 families with materials to reinforce their emergency shelters.

The RCSP has identified the need to distribute the following relief items:

Item	Quantity
Hygiene Kits	220
Blankets (3 per family)	1,100
Food Parcels	100
Baby Kits	100

In the Los Santos Province, the RCSP will deliver tarpaulins to 100 families (2 per family) in order to help them to reinforce or build emergency shelters.

Emergency health, water and hygiene promotion
Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 100 families in the province of Los Santos and to 120 families in the province of Panama for three months.
Output (expected result): 220 affected families receive safe water and hygiene promotion in the communities of Tataré, El Balo and El Cacao.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the existing coverage with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply.• Carry out a baseline study in order to carry out supplementary WASH community training.• Provide safe water to 220 families as damaged systems are restored in cooperation with local authorities.• Provide 100 families in the province of Los Santos with the means to purify water.• Supply 220 families with mosquito nets.• Provide basic information on water, sanitation and personal hygiene to members of the target communities.

The RCSP has finished a baseline study in Tataré (Panama) and rapid assessments in Los Santos. With the preliminary results, the RCSP aims to assist 220 families with their water needs. In addition to water distribution carried out in coordination with the Ministry of Health, 440 jerry cans will be supplied to the target families (2 per family). This will be supplemented by safe water and hygiene promotion talks. Further, 20 families in El Balo and 80 families in El Cacao will receive 1,000 tablets to purify water.

In order to reduce the incidence of dengue and other vector transmitted diseases the same 220 families will receive three mosquito nets each. After the early assessments are conducted, the RCSP will provide details on specific health promotion activities to be carried out.

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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- In Costa Rica: Fabricio Lopez; Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico; email: fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org
- In Panama: Ghotai Ghazialam; PADRU Disaster Management delegate; phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082. email: ghotai.ghazialam@ifrc.org
- In Panama: Zuleyka Maynard; Resource Mobilization officer; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317-1304; email: zuleyka.maynard@ifrc.org
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas, email pablo.medina@ifrc.org; phone: (41) 22 730 4381; fax: (41) 22 733 0395.

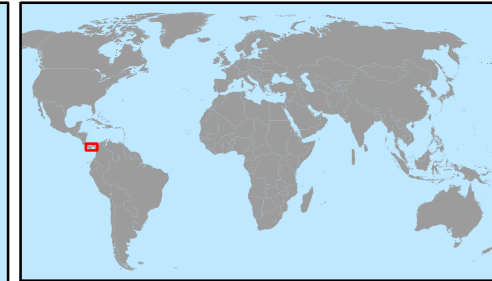
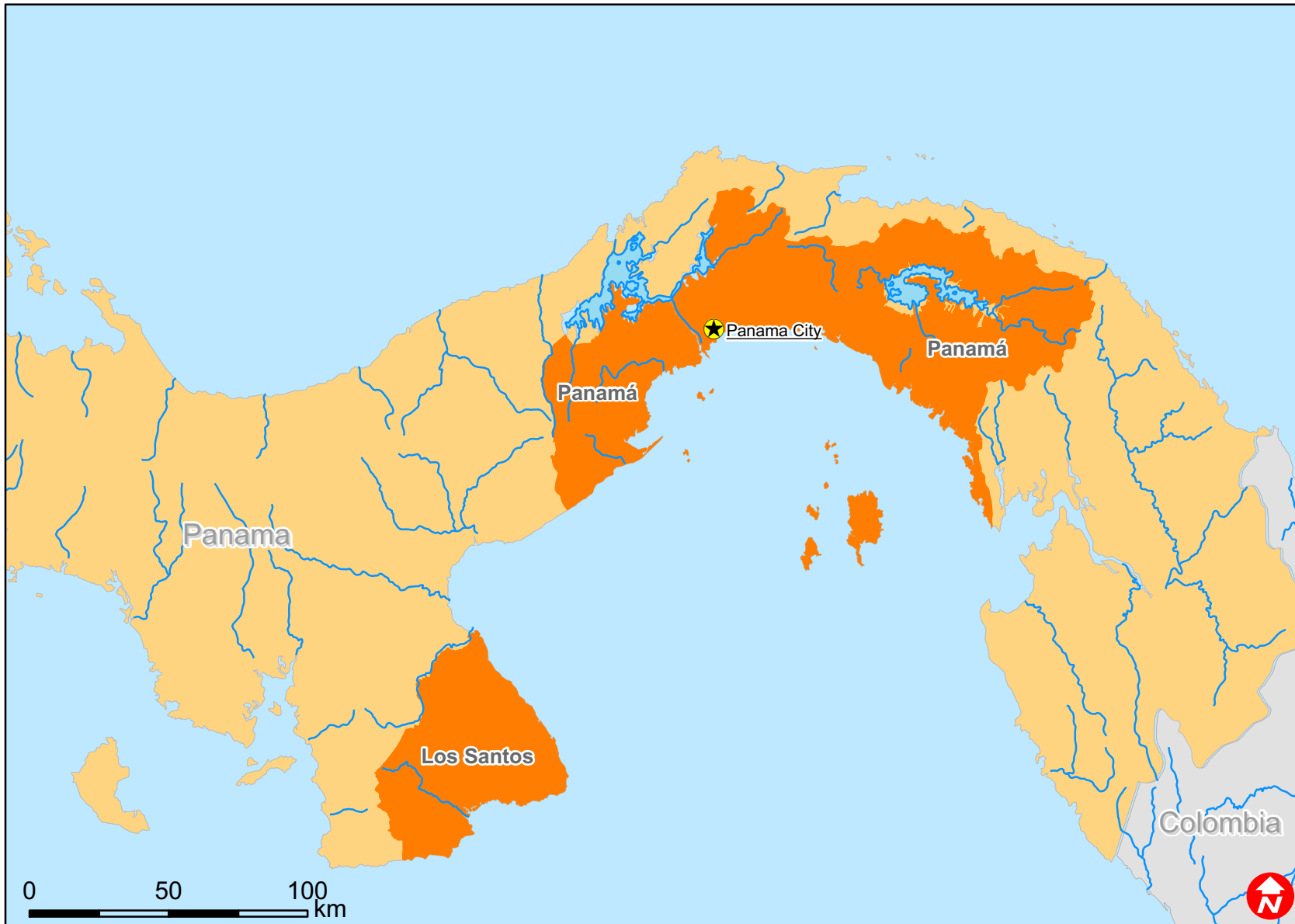
[<DREF budget or map; click here to return to the title page>](#)

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	3,039	3,039
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles	6,088	6,088
Food	3,798	3,798
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation	0	0
Medical & First Aid		0
Teaching Materials		0
Ustensils & Tools	1,910	1,910
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	8,096	8,096
Total Supplies	22,930	22,930
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring		0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,476	3,476
Total Transport & Storage	3,476	3,476
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff		0
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	2,170	2,170
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants	326	326
Total Personnel	2,496	2,496
Workshops & Training	2,170	2,170
Total Workshops & Training	2,170	2,170
Travel		0
Information & Public Relation	1,118	1,118
Office Costs	543	543
Communications	109	109
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges	1,000	1,000
Other General Expenses		0
Total General Expenditure	2,769	2,769
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	2,330	2,330
Total Programme Support	2,330	2,330
Services & Recoveries	2,000	2,000
Shared Services		0
Total Services	2,000	2,000
TOTAL BUDGET	38,171	38,171



Panama: Floods



 Affected provinces