



DREF Operations Update No. 1	Operation n° MDRPA012
Date of issue: 16 February 2017	GLIDE: TC-2016-000119-PAN
Date of disaster: 21 November 2016	Reporting Period: 02 December 2016 to 2 January 2017
Operation start date: 02 December 2016	Expected timeframe: 4 months (the operation has been extended by one month; the new end operation end date is 2 April 2017)
Host National Societies: Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP): the RCSP has 1 national headquarters and 21 branches; at the national level, there are 500 active volunteers.	Overall Operation Budget: 254,173 Swiss francs (CHF)
Number of people affected: 3,000 families	Number of people to be assisted: 650 families (3,250 people)
Number of National Societies participating in the Operation: This operation is being executed solely by the Red Cross Society of Panama	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: To date, there are no other organizations providing support to this operation.	

Summary of changes to the Emergency Plan of Action

The National Society is requesting a one-month extension as activities related to the cash transfer programme are still in the feasibility study stage in each of the communities that is to be benefitted; since the communities are in remote areas requiring long travel times for Red Cross staff, an extension is needed to ensure the quality of the implementation. The operation will now end on **2 April 2017**.

[<Click here for the contact information>](#)

A. Situation Analysis

Description of the Disaster

For the time being, weather conditions in the country have improved and no further damage from the rains has been detected, which has allowed communities to begin the post-emergency recovery phase; the Red Cross Society of Panama is continuously monitoring the affected areas through its provincial branches.

The National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC for its acronym in Spanish) is also still monitoring all of the areas that were affected by Hurricane Otto through its national emergency operations centre (EOC).

The Ministry of Health (MINSAs) continues with its daily health promotion and vector control programming throughout the country. In the event of another emergency, it will activate its contingency plan to respond to the communities that may be affected, as well as to the population through disease prevention, vaccination and fumigation of flooded areas. At the moment it is just conducting its usual efforts throughout the country.

Summary of action taken

The Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) deployed a three-volunteer group from headquarters to the province of Chiriquí, specifically to the district of Barú, to perform assessments, monitoring and the first distributions in the affected areas; this was done jointly with volunteers from Barú, Santiago and David, who distributed 120 hygiene kits to families in Villa del Carmen in Barú.

An EOC was set up at RCSP's facilities to coordinate the response actions in the affected areas. The RCSP's headquarters has also been set up as a collection centre, and it is receiving support from around 80 volunteers.

Branches and number of first response personnel

Red Cross Society of Panama Branch	Red Cross Society of Panama Personnel
Santiago	6
Barú	9
David	10
Headquarters	3

RCSP is currently providing humanitarian assistance to communities affected by the floods caused by Hurricane Otto, consisting in the distribution of hygiene kits, kitchens kits, blankets and tarpaulins. During this first stage, assistance has been provided to 125 families from the communities of Corotú Civil and San Vicente in Barú, one of the most flood-affected districts.

Overview of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement in the Country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) financed this plan of action in order to provide assistance to the affected population through the Red Cross Society of Panama. The National Society maintains permanent coordination and support for the development of the operation and with other Movement actors through its General and National Risk Management Directorates. The National Society also has the support of a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member from the Colombian Red Cross Society.

Overview of non-Red Cross/Red Crescent actors in the country

The National Civil Protection System and the Ministry of Health are constantly monitoring affected areas, and the National Aqueducts and Sewerage Institute (IDAAN for its acronym in Spanish) is in charge of distributing water via tanker trucks in Barú, where water service has not yet been restored due to ongoing maintenance work.

B. Strategy and Plan of Action

Overall objective: Provide humanitarian assistance to 650 families (3,250 people) affected by heavy rainfall and landslides in the provinces of Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí, Colón, Los Santos, Panamá Oeste and Panamá.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Health

Needs analysis: The Red Cross Society of Panama has mainly focused its response on psychosocial support (PSS) sessions, health promotion and disease prevention for the affected population, as primary health care needs are being covered by the Ministry of Health/Social Security

Population to be assisted: 650 families affected by flooding in the provinces of Chiriquí, Bocas del Toro, Los Santos, Panamá Oeste, Panamá and Colon.

Health		
Outcome 1: Provide psychosocial support to relieve stress by decreasing potential long-term stress.	Outputs	% achieved
		Output 1.1 Psychosocial support for volunteers responsible for the implementation of the operation's activities

	Output 1.2 Psychosocial support provided to the affected communities		13%
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Training workshop on PSS for volunteers	x		100%
Workshops for psychosocial support interventions in communities identified during the assessments	x		19%
Recreational activities in the affected communities	x		19%
PSS interventions for volunteers in affected branches	x		0%
Progress against results			

Training workshop on psychosocial support (PSS) for volunteers

RCSP volunteers in the district of Penonomé were provided with psychosocial support training through an eight-hour interactive teaching methodology (ITM). Trained volunteers are responsible for delivering this support to the flood-affected families

The following branches participated in the psychosocial support workshop:

Branch	# OF PARTICIPANTS
SAN MIGULEITO	2
24 DE DICIEMBRE	2
PENONOME	1
BOCAS DEL TORO	1
COLON	3
LA CHORRERA	2
CHITRE	2
BARÚ	2
LAS TABLAS	1
SANTIAGO	1
LAS CUMBRES	2
CHEPO	1
HEADQUARTERS	2
TOTAL	22

Workshops for psychosocial support interventions in communities identified during the assessments

To date, 125 families in Barú district have received psychosocial support; the National Society expected to reach 650 affected families by the end of the operation.

The activity consisted of community-based group workshops aimed at making families more resilient and better able to deal with future emergencies since they reside in vulnerable areas; this activity was attended by heads of households, and it was carried out prior to the delivery of the humanitarian aid.

Recreational activities in the affected communities

A total of 125 families in the Barú district participated in RCSP volunteer-led recreational activities, which consisted of games, children's songs, face-painting, balloon modelling and so forth; these activities created a pleasant space for the children accompanying their parents to the humanitarian assistance events.

Recreational activities will be included in each humanitarian aid distribution event and in the coming PSS and hygiene promotion campaign.

Beneficiaries in the Chiriquí Province

Province	District	Community	Benefitted Families
Chiriquí	Barú	Corotú Civil	70
		San Valentín	55
TOTAL			125

PSS interventions for volunteers in affected branches

A monitoring and support visit is scheduled for the RCSP branches that intervened in the affected areas in order to provide them with psychosocial support.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: Water tests were performed in Barú district to check the water quality, as the local water treatment system was affected by the floods.

The tests consisted of an analysis of the distribution continuity, physical/chemical quality, pH and chlorine level. The results were good, making it unnecessary to bring a mobile water treatment plant to the area. The next analyses are planned for the Colon province to assess the need of a treatment unit there.

Population to be assisted: A total of 650 families affected by flooding in the provinces Chiriquí, Bocas del Toro, Los Santos, Panamá Oeste, Panamá and Colon.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome 2: Contribute to water and sanitation actions in the affected populations, guaranteeing the supply of safe water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.	Outputs		% achieved
	Output 2.1 Daily access to safe water, which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality, is provided to target population		0%
	Output 2.2 Recommendations for vector control and breeding reduction are disseminated		19%
	Output 2.3 Hygiene promotion activities that meet Sphere standards		19%
	Output 2.3 Non-food items (NFIs), which meet Sphere standards, are provided to the target population		19%
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Initial assessment and census of the affected population, beneficiary selection, conducted over a 7-day period with 3 volunteers	X		85%
Distribution of water collecting drums to be filled by IDAAN.		X	0%
Distribution of safe water through the RCSP's mobile water treatment plant for 30 days.		X	0%
Hygiene promotion campaigns	X		19%
Distribution of 650 cleaning kits		X	0%
Distribution of 650 hygiene kits	X		19%

Community cleaning campaigns	X		19%
Sensitization campaigns on the elimination of breeding places for mosquitoes	X		19%
Vehicle rental for 3 months	X		50%

Progress against results

Initial assessment and census of the affected population, beneficiary selection, conducted over a 7-day period with 3 volunteers

To date, assessments have identified 50 out of 650 families. The National Society is waiting for RCSP branches to send the information needed to reach the 650 families to be benefitted through this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

TOTAL NUMBER OF AFFECTED FAMILIES

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	RED CROSS BRANCH RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT	# OF VOLUNTEERS	COMMUNITIES	# OF FAMILIES
CHIRIQUÍ	BARÚ	BARÚ	17	Corotú Civil	70
				San Valentín	55
PANAMA CENTRO	LAS CUMBRES	LAS CUMBRES	12	Camelias del Norte	50
PANAMA OESTE	CHORRERA	CHORREA	15	Barrio Colon	60
COLON	COSTA ABAJO	COLON	21	Pina	21
				Salud	1
				Chagres	6
				Miguel de la Borda	6
				Achiote	6
				Pamas Bellas	22
				Pueblo Viejo	3
LOS SANTOS	TONOSI	LAS TABLAS	19	Pueblo Nuevo	125
BOCAS DEL TORO	CHANGUINOLA	CHANGINOLA	8	Las Brisas	80
TOTAL		6	92	13	505

Distribution of water collecting drums to be filled by IDAAN

This activity became unnecessary because local water supply was restored. The RCSP is considering delivering home water filters to residents in the community of Corotú Civil because they are consuming untreated water from artesian wells.

The assessments carried out in Barú district indicate that water supply to the population has been restored, which means that there is no need to mobilize a mobile water treatment plant to that area. Assessments will be performed in the Colon area to determine the feasibility of deploying a mobile water purifier to that community.

Distribution of safe water through the RCSP's mobile water treatment plant for 30 days.

This activity was unnecessary because local water supply was restored.

Hygiene promotion campaigns

A total of 125 families in Barú district actively participated in hygiene promotion lectures, which emphasized proper water use and hand washing.

Through the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) methodology, RCSP volunteers seek to generate good hygiene practices in affected families, using visual tools such as flipcharts, leaflets and so forth (please see below for examples).



Leaflets

Flipcharts

Schedule of Activities

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	# OF BENEFICIARIES
27-28 DECEMBER 2016	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	PUERTO ARMUELLES	125
4 & 8 JANUARY 2017	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	LAS CUMBRES	50
7 JANUARY 2017	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	COLON	65
10 JANUARY 2017	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	CHORRERA	60
12 JANUARY 2017	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	LAS TABLAS	125
27 & 29 JANUARY 2017	DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; COMMUNITY	CHANGUINOLA AND ISLA COLON	80

	CLEANING SESSIONS; HYGIENE PROMOTION CAMPAIGN		
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Distribution of 650 cleaning kits

A total of 125 cleaning kits of the 650 scheduled for delivery have been distributed.

Distribution of hygiene and cleaning kits

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	COMMUNITIES	# OF FAMILIES	NFIs	
				Hygiene kits	Cleaning kits
CHIRIQUÍ	BARÚ	Corotú Civil	70	70	70
		San Valentin	55	55	55
PANAMA CENTRO	LAS CUMBRES	Camelias del Norte	50	0	0
PANAMA OESTE	CHORRERA	Barrio Colon	60	0	0
COLON	COSTA ABAJO	Pina	21	0	0
		Salud	1	0	0
		Chagres	6	0	0
		Miguel de la Borda	6	0	0
		Achiote	6	0	0
		Pamas Bellas	22	0	0
		Pueblo Viejo	3	0	0
LOS SANTOS	TONOSI	Pueblo Nuevo	125	0	0
BOCAS DEL TORO	CHANGUINOLA	Las Brisas	80	0	0
TOTAL			505	125	125

Community cleaning campaigns

A total of 125 families from Barú district actively participate in the cleaning campaign and lectures on healthy environments, supported by the delivery of cleaning kits.

Sensitization campaigns on the elimination of breeding places for mosquitoes

In total, 125 families in Barú district actively participated in mosquito breeding site elimination campaigns and in Zika prevention lectures, distributing to families 125 units of repellent provided by the Red Cross Society of Panama's branch in Barú

Beneficiaries in Chiriquí Province

Province	District	Community	Benefitted families	Men	Women
Chiriquí	Barú	Corotú Civil	70	27	43
		San Valentin	55	17	38
TOTAL			125	44	81

Shelter

Temporary and emergency shelter, and human settlements

	Outputs	% achieved
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Outcome 3: Assistance is provided on the actions carried out by the government through the distribution of non-food items to improve the quality of life of the affected families and allow them to return to their homes.	Output 3.1 650 families in the collective centres receive non-food items			43%
	Output 3.2 650 families in the collective centres receive emergency shelter assistance (tarps, tools and fixing materials) to return to their damaged homes.			13%
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress	
	Yes	No		
Beneficiary selection	X		78 %	
Volunteer workshop on housing repair (concurrently with cash transfer programme [CTP] workshop under unconditional cash component)		X	0%	
Distribution of 650 plastic tarpaulins and the materials for affixing them	X		19%	
Informational session on safe rebuilding techniques		X	0%	
Distribution of 1,300 blankets and 650 kitchen kits in the collective centres	X		19%	
Progress against results				
Beneficiary selection				
To date, assessments have identified 505 families out of the 650, according to the following selection criteria:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low socioeconomic status - Female heads of household with young children. - The elderly, pregnant women and persons with disabilities. - People exposed to risks to their well-being - Interruption in the provision of basic services. 				
The National Society is waiting for the RCSP branches to send in the information needed to reach the 650 families to be benefitted under this DREF.				
Volunteer workshop on housing repair (concurrently with CTP workshop under unconditional cash component)				
This workshop is in the preparation phase and will be aimed at the RCSP volunteers and personnel who will be in charge of supporting the implementation of the cash transfer programme in the targeted communities.				
Informational session on safe rebuilding techniques				
The affected families are no longer living in the temporary collective centres, as water levels have fallen and they now have their own means to repair their homes' this will be reinforced through the implementation of a cash transfer programme, as well as with support from a construction technician who will be advising families on making home improvements.				
Distribution of 1,300 blankets and 650 kitchen kits in the collective centres				
A total of 125 tarpaulins and 250 blankets have been distributed to 125 families in Barú district of the 650 expected for to receive humanitarian assistance.				
The communities of Corotú Civil and San Vicente in Barú district are no longer living in collective centres, as the easing of the rains allowed them to return to their homes and to begin to repair them according to their capacity, which the RCSP will supplement through the delivery of tools and support from the cash transfer programme.				

Quality programming - Aspects common to all sectors

Outcome 4 A proper management, communication and support system is used for the implementation of the operation.	Outputs		% achieved
	Output 4.1 The management of the operation is informed by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system		34%
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Hiring of operational staff (1 operational coordinator)	X		100%
4 monitoring visits by the IFRC	X		0%
Monitoring visits by technical staff	X		25%
Lesson learned workshop	X		0%
Rapid emergency assessment	X		100%
Develop press releases	X		20%
Develop social media campaign	X		20%
Develop web stories	X		20%
Photo reportage	X		20%
Progress against results			

Hiring of operational staff (1 operational coordinator)

The RCSP has the staff required to support the implementation of this DREF, which is currently working on executing operational and administrative activities:

1. DREF Coordinator
2. Financial Assistant
3. Temporary housing technician (Construction)

This DREF is being supported by one General RIT delegate deployed from Colombian Red Cross Society.

Develop social media campaign, develop web stories, photo reportage

The RCSP maintains a flow of information through its website and social networks, keeping the general public informed about the institution's actions to respond to the families affected by the flooding.

Publications through social networks, Facebook and Twitter

Cruz Roja Panameña

90 AÑOS
Cruz Roja Panameña

INICIO CONOCENOS NUESTRA LABOR VOLUNTARIADO NOTICIAS REDES SOCIALES DONAR RIFA 2016 CONTACTANOS

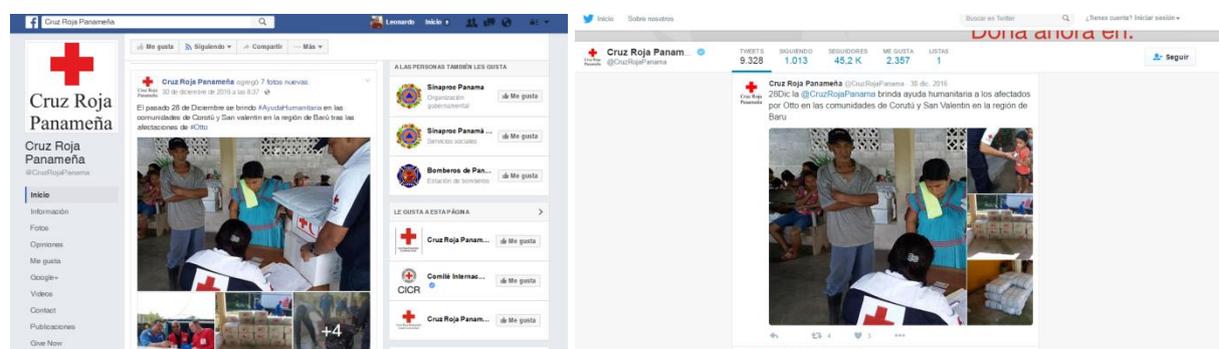
Ayuda Humanitaria para los Afectados por Otto en Corotú y San Valentín
December 30, 2016



Entradas Recientes

- Ayuda Humanitaria para los Afectados por Otto en Corotú y San Valentín
December 30, 2016
- Comunicado Oficial #2 Operativo Otto
November 24, 2016
- Comunicado Oficial Operativo Otto
November 23, 2016
- Programa De Donación (Tormenta Tropical Otto)

<http://www.cruzroja.org.pa/single-post/2016/12/30/Ayuda-Humanitaria-para-los-Afectados-por-Otto-en-Corot%C3%BA-y-San-Valentin>



CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMMES

Outcome 5: Affected families receive technical assistance to repair their homes.	Outputs		% achieved
		Output 1.1 100 families receive support from the Cash Transfer Programme to meet priority and home repair needs	
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Conduct a feasibility study to implement the Cash Transfer Programme	X		30%
Beneficiary selection as per established criteria	X		20%

Progress against results

Conduct a feasibility study to implement the Cash Transfer Programme

The RCSP is in the process of preparing the feasibility study to implement the cash transfer programme for those families whose homes were damaged by the flooding.

The purpose of this study is for the shelter technician, together with selected families, to assess priority home repair needs and to evaluate the local market for the procurement of the materials that will be acquired later on.

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

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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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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.