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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Imminent Tropical Depression 16: Nicaragua

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation MDRNI007	Glide n°: TC-2017-000148-NIC
Date of issue: 5 October 2017	Date of disaster: expected 5 October 2017
Operation start date: 5 October 2017	Expected timeframe: 2 months (end date 5 December 2017)
Overall operation budget: 55,079 Swiss francs (CHF)	
Total number of people affected: 465,080 people (Estimated data)	No. of people to be assisted: 1,000 people (200 families).
Host National Society: At the national level, the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) has one headquarter office, 150 staff members, 34 branches and 2,000 active volunteers.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) regional disaster management coordinator is monitoring and supporting the National Society with this operation. Additional support has been provided by the IFRC head of country cluster for Central America.	
The Partner National Societies present in the country include the Spanish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and American Red Cross. They are all part of the active Emergency Operations Centre. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has an office at country level.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The National Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Relief System (SINAPRED) The Municipal Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Relief Committee (COMUPRED)	

<Click [here](#) to view the DREF budget. Click [here](#) to view the contact information. Click [here](#) for the map of affected areas.>

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

On 4 October 2017, the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response (SINAPRED) warned of the formation of the Tropical Depression 16 in the Nicaraguan Caribbean coast. The impact is anticipated on Thursday, 5 October 2017.

The Regional Forecast Centers (NOAA, National Hurricane Center) confirm a possible trajectory towards Nicaragua, one that may be on the coast line between Bluefields and Cabo Gracias, and another between Puerto Cabezas and Laguna de Perlas towards the central mountain ranges and then head for Honduras.



Tropical depression 16 route at 8PM EDT 4 October 2017 Source: NOAA NHC

It is expected that the depression will cause rains and intense winds, mainly in the two Caribbean Autonomous Regions, the Mining Triangle and the Center of the country. This phenomenon occurs after almost two weeks of rains in most of the country, with saturated soils that could facilitate flooding in the low lands, landslides on unstable slopes. The

Nicaraguan Institute for Territorial Studies (INETER) points out that the Tropical Depression 16 will be accompanied by tidal waves which can endanger communities on the coast and islands of the Caribbean, as well as the Miskito keys and hampering fishing activities.

The Nicaraguan government has declared a yellow state of alert throughout the country and has permanently activated the Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) in regions, departments and municipalities to monitor and evaluate the situation.

Table 1: Total population of the region at risk

No.	Municipality	Total homes	Total families	Total people	Total elderly	Total disabled	Total under 5 years
1	Bilwi	20,213	24,377	132,538	24,857	657	29,308
2	Waspam	13,343	17,312	92,053	16,309	669	17,491
3	Prinzapolka	2,408	7,200	36,634	9,348	250	13,508
4	Siuna	20,503	28,925	107,093	25,172	396	17,821
5	Rosita	9,994	11,995	53,862	1,683	623	9,965
6	Bonanza	6,781	6,528	42,900	2,145	1,287	5,148
	TOTAL	73,242	96,337	465,080	79,514	3,882	93,241

Source: North Atlantic Autonomous Region, RAAN

The Nicaraguan Red Cross actions:

- Participation of a member of the Nicaraguan Red Cross in the National Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) of SINAPRED.
- The communications office sent recommendations to the population in the face of floods, through social networks.
- The communication and press office has activated the Network of Communicators so that they keep the national EOC of the NRC informed.
- The emergency operations centers of the local branches have been activated for the monitoring and evaluation of the emergency.
- EOC is holding meetings for the monitoring and evaluation of the situation.
- The first progress report has been prepared.
- A DMIS (IFRC information platform) has been published.
- The President of the Nicaraguan Red Cross issued a statement to all local branches to be on alert.



The Nicaraguan Red Cross Emergency Operations centre. Photo: Nicaraguan Red Cross

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

A structure has been defined and adopted by the Nicaraguan Red Cross National Council for the operation of the EOCs and the overall intervention. The National Society has a National Response Plan, contingency plans, and Standard Operating Procedures. The National Society has been trained in different specialties based on the role they play in EOCs. In terms of equipment, the National Society has minimum equipment and logistical capacity to provide first response to any situation. There are currently 34 active branches with approximately 2,000 volunteers nationwide, including aid volunteers, youth volunteers, women volunteers and social volunteerism.

The Partner National Societies present in the country include the Spanish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross and American Red Cross with whom the National Executive Committee and EOC team have established coordination. In addition, the American Red Cross, through the Nicaraguan Red Cross, is implementing a community preparedness program in the country. At the moment, they don't have a delegate in the country.

There is a delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Nicaragua with whom the NRC coordinates actions related to conflict, riots or other violence-related events in Nicaragua.

Movement Coordination

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has a Regional Representative Office in Honduras covering Central America. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the International Federation of the Red Cross are in close communication with the Nicaraguan Red Cross.

The IFRC ARO declared an Alert II for the event on 4 October 2017, and coordination among the Nicaraguan Red Cross, the country cluster and the ARO has been established. Lastly, ARO developed a [dashboard](#) to monitor the Tropical Depression 16 progress.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The National System of Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Assistance, made at about 10:00 am on October 4, 2017, a press conference where he released a statement where they decree Yellow Alert. Additionally, the National EOC and local SINAPRED were activated. On 4 October 2017, the Ministry of Education in Bilwi, suspended school.

The Regional Committee for Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Relief (CORPRED) in the city of Bilwi, Puerto Cabezas, has evacuated 350 people living in the Miskito keys since this morning and has opened up three shelters, which are the nursing school, with capacity for 150 people; the Verbo school, in the Loma Verde neighborhood, with capacity for 400 people; and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, with capacity for 409 people.

The Naval Force through the Caribbean District suspended sailings throughout the Nicaraguan Caribbean coast.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning.

Based on the National Society's prior storm knowledge to identify critical areas, damage assessments for the distribution of non-food items will be considered. Also based on the area, difficulty of access, soil saturation and the amount of population potentially affected, it is necessary to have a DREF of preparation to be able to mobilize the necessary resources before the impact of the Tropical Storm. In that sense, volunteers and staff from Headquarters have been mobilized to support the subsidiaries in evaluations.

Beneficiary selection:

The beneficiary selection has been established according to the needs and the capacity of the people and their community environment. In the first order are identified families that have an affectation in their dwelling by the flood or the winds of the storm or those families that evidence destruction or damage in their means of life product of the emergency. In the second order, families whose home is not destroyed but household items, personal belongings and other household supplies in the home have been damaged.

These beneficiaries, as participants in this emergency program, will be identified and registered in their homes, in temporary shelters or in self-managed shelters identified by community leaders who provide reliable information on the conditions of families.

In addition, the vulnerability criteria of the selected families are as follows:

- Families with low socioeconomic status.
- Persons or families considered to be vulnerable, including the elderly, children, persons with disabilities, single mothers, people with chronic illnesses, among others.

Interventions will be aligned with the IFRC's minimum commitments on gender and diversity in emergency programming, including addressing households headed by women, pregnant or lactating women, men and children vulnerable to disaster, households that have not received sufficient or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to socially vulnerable households and those who lack the resources to meet basic humanitarian needs on their own. These groups will be considered according to the level of impact.

Risk Assessment

Flood threats

No.	Community	Risk level			Population Exposed			Vulnerable groups			
		H	M	L	Home	Families	People	Seniors	Disabled	Pregnant	U. 5 years
1	Bilwi	X			2,279	2,820	17,131	905	124	356	2,364
2	Waspam	X			3,873	4,188	21,555	3,203	110	998	5,854
3	Prinzapolka	X			3,700	4,989	25,589	5,320	86	1,018	7,890
4	Siuna	X			9	385	1,568	67	25	63	465
5	Rosita		X		393	419	2,232	124	32	83	442
6	Bonanza		X		84	274	1,681	84	51	117	202
Total					10,668	13,075	69,756	9,703	428	2,635	17,217

Hurricane threat

No.	Community	Risk level			Population Exposed			Vulnerable groups			
		H	M	L	Home	Families	People	Seniors	Disabled	Pregnant	U. 5 years
1	Bilwi	X			20,213	24,377	132,538	34,818	621	5,185	28,925
2	Waspam	X			13,343	17,312	92,063	16,309	669	6,386	17,491
3	Prinzapolka	X			2,408	7,200	36,634	9,348	250	4,569	13,508
4	Siuna	X			20,503	28,925	107,09	25,172	396	293	17,821
5	Rosita		X		9,904	11,995	53,861	1,683	623	1,063	9,965
6	Bonanza		X		3,773	4,408	22,188	1,109	666	1,553	2,663
Total					70,276	94,247	444,367	88,439	3,225	19,049	90,373

Landslide threats

No.	Community	Risk level			Population Exposed			Vulnerable groups			
		H	M	L	Home	Families	People	Seniors	Disabled	Pregnant	U. 5 years
1	Bilwi										
2	Waspam										
3	Prinzapolka										
4	Siuna	X			255	281	982	37	14	31	313
5	Rosita		X		47	47	247	14	3	8	46
6	Bonanza	X			21	93	604	30	18	42	30
Total					323	421	1,833	81	35	81	489

The trajectory of the depression is still uncertain at this time; however, a small deviation in the path of the storm could have a greater or lesser impact on the country.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The operation will support the preparedness activities of the Nicaraguan Red Cross for a potential impact of Tropical Depression 15 and address the immediate needs of 200 families to receive appropriate assistance in a timely and efficient manner and to provide them the support needed to recover with greater disaster resilience activities. This operation will ensure that all women, men, children, people with disabilities and minority groups affected are reached through this operation.

Proposed strategy

The Tropical Depression 16 has yet to impact the country; therefore, this DREF is being developed to cover the National Society's preparedness and facilitate immediate response activities. This EPoA will be revised once the rapid emergency assessments have been completed, and the National Society has a clearer picture of the storm's impact on Nicaragua.

This DREF will support the following preparedness activities:

- The pre-positioning of non-food items (NFI) in Managua for 200 families. (200 kitchen kits, 400 tarpaulins, 400 jerry cans, 600 mosquito nets and 600 blankets).
- The mobilization costs of a team of volunteers, to carry out damage assessments from the headquarters and branches.

Operational support services

Human Resources

The Tropical Depression 16 is expected to cause significant damage, affect more than 80,000 people and require the mobilization of volunteers to participate in the evaluation and distribution of relief items.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has teams and human resources trained for the activities set-out in the first actions outlined in this plan of action.

Currently, this DREF operation does not intend to hire National Society staff, but it is contemplated to cover the expenses of mobilizing volunteers to the affected areas. All the volunteers of the National Society are covered by the IFRC insurance for volunteers.

The IFRC Regional Disaster Management Coordinator and the Head of Country Cluster for Central America will provide technical support and guidance. Other units in the IFRC ARO will support the operation as needed. Additionally, a General Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member will be deployed to support the National Society with this operation.

Logistics and supply chain

The Nicaraguan Red Cross, through its Operations Center, has a logistics commission in charge of goods and services, with the procedures established by the National Society. The local market allows alternatives in terms of suppliers. Nicaragua also has emergency stock from the Regional Logistics Unit of the IFRC to respond to regional emergency needs.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has the following stock items:

Description	Quantity	IFRC	NRC
Kitchen Set	1,541	850	691
Tarpaulins	3,845	1,550	2,295
Jerrycans	2,075	1,700	375
Blankets	8,752	5,000	3,752
Mosquito nets	3,710	2,000	1,710

The Nicaraguan Red Cross also has 2 strategic warehouses in Managua and Bluffing and trucks, 4x4 vehicles, water trucks and ambulances nationwide.

Information technologies (IT)

Nicaraguan Red Cross has mobile devices for the use of Mega V and ODK, during the development of processes of evaluation, identification, selection of beneficiaries and the beginning of the distribution of humanitarian aid.

The National Society has computer equipment, telephone equipment and internet service in its headquarters and in the participating local branches.

This operation will cover mobile phone costs in the evaluation phase to ensure that staff and volunteers involved in the operation maintain ongoing communication.

Communications

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has a communication and press department which is in charge of operational technical information, public information, information for donors and institutional information. It will support to keep the population informed periodically using its own means of communication, social networks, Nicaraguan Red Cross website and the media that facilitate the disclosure of each of the actions.

The communication team of the International Federation in the Regional Office of America is in permanent contact with the communication team of the Nicaraguan Red Cross that will be providing information on the impact of the emergency on the affected populations and the humanitarian support received from the Cross Red. These stories will be posted on the IFRC website.

Security

All Nicaraguan Red Cross staff involved in the operation will wear uniforms and promote and follow the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values.

All operational actions will take place during daytime hours and provided that security conditions previously analyzed with authorities and community leaders allow it. All personnel and equipment will be properly identified, highly visible and insured.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

Reporting on the operation will be conducted in accordance with the IFRC's minimum reporting standards. A final report will be issued within three months of the end of the operation.

Administration and Finance

The IFRC provides the operational support necessary for the review, budget validation, bank transfers and technical assistance to National Societies on procedures to justify expenditures, including review and validation of invoices.

According to the DREF procedures the operation will not cover permanent structural costs, only expenses incurred during the two-month operation.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 1: Response operation is well planned, coordinated and monitored					
Output 1.1: Continuous monitoring and assessment of Tropical Depression 16 informs the planning and implementation of the response operation.					
Activities planned	Week / Month	1	2	3	4
Assessment of the present humanitarian situation while considering assessments conducted by other stakeholders					
Pre-positioning of trained volunteers to strategic areas in advance of the Tropical Storm					
Appoint a focal person in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to prepare daily situation reports, which will be posted on the Dashboard and shared with all stakeholders.					
IFRC monitoring visits					
RIT deployment					
Final report					

Early Warning and Emergency Response Preparedness

Outcome 2: To support the National Society's capacity to respond to the Tropical Depression 16					
Output 2.1 The National Society is ready to provide non-food items to 200 families					
Activities planned	Week / Month	1	2	3	4
Mobilization of volunteers and stock of Nicaraguan Red Cross warehouse.					
Activate National Intervention team members					
Activate the National Emergency Operation Center					
Coordination meeting with local and national authorities in Nicaragua					
Prepositioning of NFIs to 200 families (200 kitchen kits, 600 blankets, 400, tarpaulins, 400 jerrycans and 600 mosquito nets)					
Evaluation and monitoring of distributions.					

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Nicaraguan Red Cross:** Oscar Gutierrez, National President, telephone: +505 2265 1428, Email presidencia@humanidad.org.ni
- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Nelson Aly, Country Coordinator for Honduras and Nicaragua, telephone: +504 9986 0160, and Email nelson.alyrodriguez@ifrc.org
- **IFRC ARO:**
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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 (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.

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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.
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DREF OPERATION

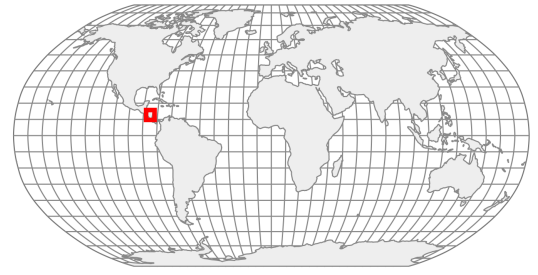
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MDRNI007 Nicaragua Tropical Storm

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Clothing & Textiles	4,563
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	5,664
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	14,554
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,513
Logistics Services	1,307
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	7,821
International Staff	7,777
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	6,076
Volunteers	10,129
Other Staff Benefits	0
Total PERSONNEL	23,982
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	1,944
Information & Public Relations	1,376
Office Costs	97
Communications	1,264
Financial Charges	583
Other General Expenses	97
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,361
Partner National Societies	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	3,362
Total INDIRECT COSTS	3,362
TOTAL BUDGET	55,079



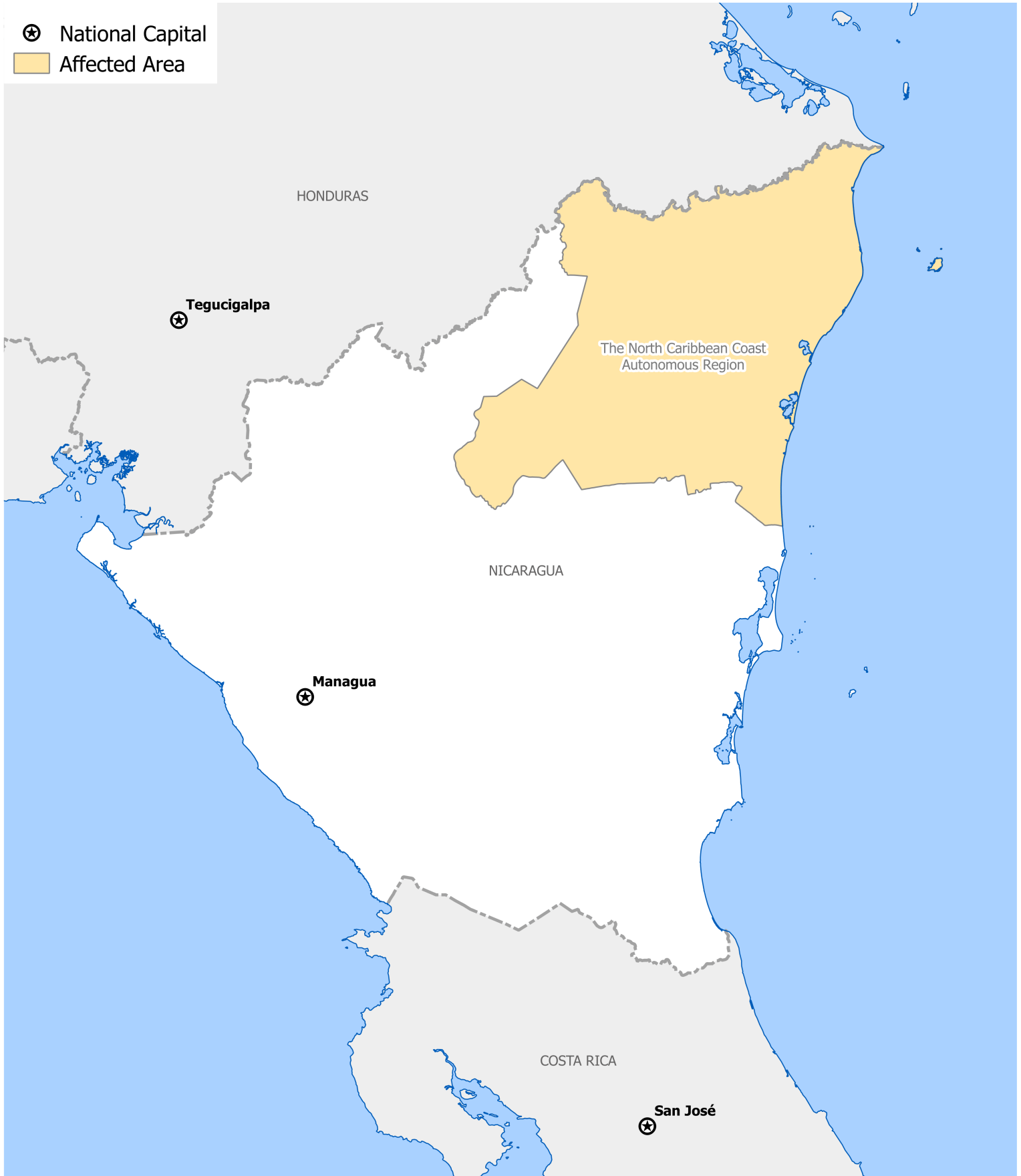
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



Nicaragua, Tropical Cyclone: DREF

5 October 2017 • MDRNI007 • TC-2017-000148-NIC

- ⊗ National Capital
- Affected Area



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Map data sources: OCHA, ICRC, IFRC

0 40 80 120 160 km

