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Emergency Plan of Action (DREF)

Honduras: Civil Unrest

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRHN012	
Date of issue: 4 December 2017	Expected timeframe: 3 months
Start date of the crisis: 29 November 2017	Expected end date: 4 March 2018
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Civil unrest in Honduras.	
DREF Requested: 82,501 Swiss francs	
Total number of people affected: No official numbers are available	Number of people to be assisted: At least 1,200 people to be assisted; the Honduran Red Cross (HRC) will provide support through at least 10 of its branches.
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): The HRC has 52 branches in 15 of the country's 18 departments and 5,421 volunteers throughout the country.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The HRC is developing its actions in coordination with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the crisis

On 26 November 2017, general elections were held in the country to elect the president, members of congress and mayors; these elections are considered historic because the current president of the republic has run for re-election, and it is the first time in the electoral and democratic history of the country that an electoral alliance has formed between opposing political parties. So far, a winner has not been officially declared. The Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) has been tallying the votes; however, the two leading candidates each proclaimed themselves the election's winner prior to the issuance of the first official report. This has generated uncertainty among the population regarding the electoral process due to the time that it has taken to tally the votes and the varying results.

Because of this situation, the Honduran Red Cross has reported high levels of political-social tension throughout the country, which has manifested itself in public demonstrations and social confrontations with the police in the departments of Francisco Morazán, Cortes, Atlántida, Choluteca, Olancho, Yoro, El Paraíso, Intibucá, Comayagua y San Bárbara; these clashes have been intensifying and there are concerns that tensions may worsen.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society actions

Through its network of branches, the Honduran Red Cross in coordination with the ICRC and with its financial support, has been developing coordinated actions since the beginning of the electoral process.

Activities prior to the electoral process included:

- Drafting of the contingency plan for the election days

- Safer Access Workshop (for Youth, Health, National Blood Programme, Relief, Risk Management, Pre-Hospital Care, Essential Services department staff)
- Simulations to replicate Security Measures to reduce the staff's vulnerability during service deliveries on election days
- Sending of memo containing the guidelines for election days to all participating HRC staff and volunteers
- Dissemination of messages through WhatsApp groups and social networks containing the Fundamental Principles
- Dissemination of messages through WhatsApp containing the security and operational guidelines for election days
- Sharing of the guidelines for election days during operational preparedness meetings with each branch
- Sending of key messages to be used with National Society-authorized spokespersons (branch presidents)
- Placement of "No Weapons" stickers on 90 institutional vehicles
- Distribution of 200 vests to several HRC branches.

Activities during the electoral process included:

- Activation of the Contingency Plan for electoral events
- Activation of the National Monitoring Centre with risk management and security personnel
- Implementation of the automated Information Management Platform from the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)
- Assignment of personnel to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)
- Assignment of personnel to the 911 EOC
- Provision of guidance to councils on event-related issues
- Coordination with the National Emergency System for potential ambulance mobilization
- Information validation and emergency response
- Information meeting on the socio-political situation with participating staff
- Provision of guidelines regarding community activities, such as training and / or conducting surveys
- Sharing with the media and general public a joint statement written by HRC, ICRC and IFRC on the importance of the respect of the medical mission.

Overview of Host National Society capacity

The Honduran Red Cross is part of the country's National Risk Management System; its network consists of 52 branches across four regions in the country, which maintain disaster preparedness and response actions at the level of their departments and municipalities. Moreover, they coordinate with local authorities through the National Monitoring Centre and the Strategic Monitoring Centres, which manage information in Honduras' central, southern, northern and Atlantic regions.

The HRC also has an up-to-date National Response Plan, which serves as a frame of reference for its disaster risk management efforts and identifies scenarios involving socio-organizational events. Its personnel, such as the National Intervention Teams (NITs) and its damage assessment, logistics, pre-hospital care, psychosocial support, and livelihoods teams, among others, are trained in disaster response.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC has a presence in the country through its coordinator for the Country Cluster Support Team for Central America in Tegucigalpa, and the HRC maintains continuous communication with the disaster management coordinator for Central America and Mexico. Since the beginning of the electoral process, the IFRC has been in continuous communication with the National Society to determine courses of action according to the actions that may occur.

Prior to the election crisis, the ICRC contributed to the drafting and financing of the HRC contingency elections plan. The ICRC provides support on a regular base to safer access-related training of the HRC. Additionally, the ICRC has financed the provision of 90 assistance kits in the HRC-run Omoa centre for deported migrants that could not return home because of the road blockages. The ICRC has maintained contact with the public

forces to remind them on the importance of following the rules and internationally recognized standards on the use of force as per any operation displayed to restore public order.

The Movement partners in-country (ICRC, Partner National Societies and IFRC) are supporting the Honduran Red Cross. Coordination and sharing of information takes place on a regular basis on the evolution of the situation.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Due to clashes between demonstrators and security forces, the Honduran Red Cross has organized response teams to transport and provide pre-hospital care to people who need first aid treatment and/or to be taken to a hospital.

The Honduran Red Cross is an institution recognized in the country for its humanitarian work and neutrality, in this situational context its actions are impracticable to provide attention to the affected population and at-risk due to social unrest.

Target population

At least 1,200 people from the most affected provinces: Francisco Morazán, Cortes, Atlántida, Choluteca, Olancho, Yoro, El Paraíso, Intibucá, Comayagua and San Bárbara

Probable scenarios

Scenario	Description	Indicators	Humanitarian Impact
Best Case Scenario	The electoral process unfolds without any unforeseen occurrences and the results are accepted by both contending parties	-Peaceful elections	Population not affected
Most Probable Scenario	The process develops with some unforeseen occurrences and the election results are accepted with some resistance	-- Arguments or disagreements in voting centres - Demonstrations - Political leaders arguing openly in the media	-Low number of People detained -Low number of People attacked Population partially affected by lack of mobility
Worst Case Scenario	The process develops with several unforeseen occurrences and results are not accepted by one or several contending parties	- Violent demonstrations and confrontations - Blockage of main provision roads in to the cities - Permanent strikes -Evacuation of expatriates and their families -Interruption of the electoral system -- Statements by political leaders regarding attempted fraud or in favour of the invalidation of results prior to their announcement - Detention of opposition political leaders.	-High number of People detained -High number of People attacked -Population affected by lack of mobility and provision on stores, pharmacies

Operation Risk Assessment

The demonstrations along the country's streets and highways, which have generated violence and insecurity, are an issue to consider when planning the actions to be implemented; therefore, all participating HRC

personnel must adhere to security norms established by the HRC to reduce the possibility of security incidents between National Society staff and sympathizers from both parties.

In such polarised context the National Society could be wrongly perceived in support of state actors. A constant communication and explanation the HRC role and principles is paramount.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective: Provide first aid care and psychosocial support to least 1,200 people affected by social unrest, considering institutional security rules and in accordance with the National Society's provision of care protocols.

The following support is required to do so:

Health

- Purchase of 30 first aid kits (3 per branch, 10 branches in total), plus additional supplies to be included or purchased to restock the kits
- Provision of first aid care for one month
- Acquisition of 10 tents to set up aid stations in strategic locations
- Pre-positioning of ambulances based on ongoing needs assessments for the evacuation of injured people
- Development of psychosocial support (PSS) activities for people affected by violence.

Communications, dissemination and visibility

- Visibility materials consisting of 40 flags and stickers for use in 20 vehicles that will be activated to respond to ambulance service requests and transport personnel
- Development of a communications campaign through various social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and WhatsApp if available) and media, including radio spots and printed material, to reinforce key messages on respect for the emblem and the medical mission, as well as access to areas where affected people are located to be able to provide the necessary care; additionally, the National Society's will disseminate its contact information to ensure the necessary assistance is provided.
- Internal Campaign for HRC volunteers on the proper use of social media platforms.

Operational support

- Personal protective equipment: Masks, gloves, goggles and hard hats for 100 volunteers in 10 Departments (Francisco Morazán, Cortés, Atlántida, Choluteca, Olancho, Yoro, El Paraíso, Intibucá, Comayagua and San Bárbara)
- Meals for 200 National Society response brigade members in 10 HRC branches. In addition, 200 vests will be provided for the volunteers supporting the operation and for the branches working on the operation.
- Lodging for 10 volunteers deployed from nearby branches to join in the efforts at the HRC's headquarters' National Monitoring Centre.
- Fuel to support the deployment of emergency units and ambulances to meet pre-hospital care requests.

The following support services will provide operational support to the actions planned:

Logistics and supply chain

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including mobilization, procurement, customs clearance, fleet, storage and transport to distribution sites in accordance with the operation's requirements and aligned with the IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures. The National Society has a fully equipped warehouse in Las Uvas, and the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) for the Americas has stock

in Honduras for 1,200 families, which can be used according to the operation's needs. The HRC execute the customs clearance process as per emergency procedures, to avoid bottlenecks in the entry of the goods.

Human resources

The National Society will hire the following personnel to implement this plan of action:

- 4 paramedics
- 2 drivers

The National Society will mobilize:

- 100 volunteers

Information technology (IT)

The National Society has an IT office, a computerized system and stable basic Internet service to ensure communications in the field and the response teams' security; an alternative communications system using very high frequency (VHF) radios will be set up in the vehicles used in the field and institutional cell phones.

Communications

The National Society has a Communications and Image Department, which will provide coverage of the HRC's activities and provide information so that the media can disseminate key messages promoting respect for the emblem, the Fundamental Principles and access to affected people.

Security

The HRC has a security model and a Safe Access Handbook, which detail the security measures that the staff must follow during field operations furthermore, the National Society has been continuously assessing potential risks, and it will make security decisions based on its operational safety plan. Lastly, the HRC provides all its volunteers with insurance.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

The HRC has a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, which is responsible for conducting PMER actions; in addition, the HRC develops a monitoring and evaluation plan during the planning phase for each of its intervention.

Transparency and accountability actions will be carried out throughout the operation. Given that this is a topic of interest across the region, the National Society will consider holding a lessons learned workshop, which will focus on the actions taken and possible improvements.

Administration and finance

The HRC has a Financial and Accounting System and an Internal Audit Department that guarantee the proper use of financial resources in accordance with the conditions established in the memorandum of understanding between the National Society and its donors. Finally, the HRC's management of financial resources will be in accordance with its regulations and IFRC procedures, and it will use its own procedures and the IFRC's formats for the justification of expenditures process.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Health

People targeted: 1,200

Male: 600

Female: 600

Requirements (CHF) = 34,265

Needs analysis: The population directly affected by the civil unrest will need first aid and psychosocial support. Psychosocial support might also be a need for the population at risk.

Population to be assisted: First aid and psychosocial support coverage will be provided to at least 1,000 affected people.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The actions will be developed according to the protocols established by the National Society.

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced	# of people reached through health intervention actions. Target = At least 1,200 people															
	Health Output 1.1: Injured target population is provided timely with first aid care	# of people reached by First Aid services Target = At least 1,200 people															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP022	Provision of first aid and pre-hospital care	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
AP022	Acquisition of supplies for 30 first aid kits	X	X	X	X												
AP022	Evacuation of injured people through the ambulance service	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
AP022	Installation of first aid post	X	X	X	X												
P&B Output Code	Health Output 1.2: Psychosocial support provided to the target population	# of people reached by psychosocial support Target = At least 1,200 people															
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP023	Psychosocial support services to affected people.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
AP023	Psychosocial support to volunteers and staff	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF) = 43,201

P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured	# of branches that activate their response system Target: At least 10 branches															
	Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and National Society surge capacity mechanism is maintained	# of volunteers involved in the response and care of the affected population Target = At least 100 volunteers															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP046	Register and enlist volunteers in volunteer insurance scheme to ensure all volunteers are insured	X	X	X	X												
AP046	Provide full briefings on the roles of volunteers and the risks they face and measures to take to reduce risks	X	X	X	X												
AP046	Ensure the safety and well-being of volunteers through operational management	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
AP046	Ensure that volunteers are properly trained	X	X	X	X												
AP046	Provision of personal protection equipment	X	X	X	X												
AP046	Orientation sessions on the application of security measures to the personnel involved	X	X	X	X												
AP046	Operational support by IFRC (guidance and monitoring)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
AP046	Ensure the revision and improvement of national and sectional security regulations and contingency plans	X	X	X	X												
P&B Output Code	Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable	# of people reached with information															
	Output S3.1.1: IFRC and National Societies are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues	# of communications and messages disseminated Target = 15															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP053	Communication strategy of the Red Cross for the respect of the emblem and access to the affected population	X	X	X	X												
AP053	Provision of visibility material to personnel and emergency vehicles	X	X	X	X												
AP053	Provision of Security Communications Materials	X	X	X	X												

Budget

See [Annex attached.](#)

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

In Honduras:

- José Juan Castro Hernández, President of the Honduran Red Cross; phone: +504 2237 1800; email: josejuan.castro@cruzroja.org.hn
- Nelson Aly Rodriguez, country cluster support team (CCST) coordinator for Central America;
- email: nelson.alyrodriguez@ifrc.org

In the IFRC Americas regional office, Panama (+507 317-3050):

- Inigo Barrera, disaster response and crisis and early recovery coordinator; email: ci.barrera@ifrc.org
- Diana Medina, communications coordinator; email: diana.medina@ifrc.org
- Mauricio Bustamante, Regional Logistics coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries):

- Priscila Gonzalez, planning and monitoring coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- Marion Andrivet, emergency appeals and marketing officer, phone: +507 317 3050; email: marion.andrivet@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva:

- Susil Perera, senior officer response and recovery; +41 (0)22 7304947; email: susil.perera@ifrc.org

DREF OPERATION

Honduras Social Unrest

MDRHN012 - PHN034

Budget Group	DREF Budget CHF
Medical & First Aid	16,935
Teaching Materials	1,477
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	18,412
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	17,477
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	17,477
National Society Staff	2,265
Volunteers	20,752
Total PERSONNEL	23,016
Workshops & Training	7,385
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	7,385
Travel	3,938
Information & Public Relations	2,265
Office Costs	295
Communications	4,480
Financial Charges	197
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	11,175
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	5,035
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,035
TOTAL BUDGET	82,501