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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) El Salvador: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRSV011	Glide n° EQ-2018-000053-SLV
Date of issue: 18 May 2018	Expected timeframe: 2 months Expected end date: 18 July 2018
DREF allocated: 22,072 Swiss francs	
Total number of people affected: 2,499 people	Number of people to be assisted: 807 people (215 families)
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): The Salvadorian Red Cross Society has one Headquarters, 63 branches across the country, and 2,300 volunteers and 250 staff.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Ministry of the Environment, National Observatory, the Salvadorian Civil Protection System and its commissions at departmental, municipal and community levels, Rescue Command and Green Cross.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources reported a seismic swarm in the area located between the municipalities of Chirilagua in San Miguel Department, and in Intipucá and El Carmen department in La Union Department since 5 May 2018.

Some **733 seismic events** occurred between 5 and 9 May, as reported by the National Seismic Network. The epicentre area was located between the municipalities mentioned above. Ninety-five of these earthquakes, whose magnitude range between 2.4 and 5.6, were felt by the population. The strongest of these earthquakes (magnitude 5.6 and intensity VII) was recorded on 6 May at 1:02 p.m. in Chirilagua and Intipucá. It caused severe damage to homes made of mud, adobe, or wattle and daub.



Photo 1: A woman from the affected locality of Intipucá receives relief items (hygiene kit, blankets and tarpaulin) from the Salvadorian Red Cross Society. Source: SRCS.

The situation report no. 4 from the National Civil Protection System indicates the following situation:

Infrastructure:



289 damaged homes



11 destroyed homes



9 damaged schools



Minor damage to municipal buildings in Conchagua and Intipucá



2 damaged roads¹

Population affected:



2,499 people temporarily housed
653 families



1 injured



26 collective centres

13 in Chirilagua

6 in Intipucá

7 in El Carmen

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Salvadorian Red Cross Society (SRCS) activated its headquarters' monitoring system on the same day the seismic swarm alert was issued, 6 May 2018. Its Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) constantly monitored the event together with its branches near the affected areas, and oversaw all verification tasks conducted in the field by its Usulután, San Miguel and Intipucá branches. The SRCS contacted the presidents of SRCS departmental branches in San Miguel and La Unión, establishing channels for communications and advice on the actions to be implemented, emphasizing secure access. In the field, SRCS branches assisted local authorities in evacuating the affected population to safer locations. In addition, contact points were established in municipal and departmental commissions.

The SRCS carried out preliminary damage and needs assessments (DANA) jointly with local teams within the first six hours to obtain data on the people affected and in collective centres. A second DANA was conducted 24 hours later to establish the guidelines to process the request for DREF funds. **The assessment confirms 289 damaged and 11 destroyed homes, affecting almost 90 per cent of the population assessed.**

SRCS's installed capacity includes: 92 National Intervention Team (NIT) members specialized in general disaster management; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH); logistics; Zika and vector control; and psychosocial support (PSS); as well as 60 individuals trained in the DANA tool's use. Eight individuals were deployed to the field to complete assessment and relief distribution of hygiene kits, blankets and tarpaulins.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The Salvadorian Red Cross Society establishes its inter-institutional coordination through cooperation agreements, as well as through the execution and implementation of actions with relevant operational directorates. All humanitarian actions by the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in El Salvador are carried out under one single plan of action to achieve greater impact on communities. **The SRCS is responsible for preparing, coordinating and leading the Plan of Action. Actions contained in the Plan of Action are aligned with the National Response Plan;** therefore, close communication is maintained with all Movement representatives with direct and indirect presence in the country.

Since the onset of the emergency, contact has been established with Partners National Societies installed in the country. The Spanish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross delegations are present in the country, which have been supporting previous projects in community health, disaster preparedness, organizational development, social inclusion, and youth violence prevention. All delegations have made their resources available if required. Swiss Red Cross has provided support through a DANA team deployed to Intipucá, La Unión department.

¹ Blockage near the detour to La Estrechura and El Capulín and two rockslides along El Litoral highway (CA-2 E)

The SRCS's head of disaster risk management has sent two situational reports via the IFRC's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS), and notified the IFRC regional disaster manager coordinator for Central America based in Panama.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

At the national level, the emergency is coordinated by the National Civil Protection System, of which the SRCS is part at national, departmental and municipal levels. Active communication is maintained with the country's humanitarian network and civil society members thereof.

Municipal and departmental commissions have been activated in affected municipalities. The central government, in coordination with local governments, set up tents in collective centres that lack other types of protection or roofs.

No non-governmental organizations are working on recovery as initial efforts have focused on conducting assessments. Municipal governments conducted a census of the population in collective centres and/or congregated in locations authorized for that purpose.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

The National Society's DANA team collected data in the cantons of Tierra Blanca and Estrechura (San Miguel department) and determined and saw first-hand the damage to homes. The team interviewed the affected families, visited affected sites, spoke with community leaders and municipal authorities, and visited the sites where the affected population has congregated.

Given the impact of the earthquakes to the houses, people has been reallocated to collective centres, as the seismic activity continues and rain is also forecasted to continue. The following table shows the non-food items distributed by the National Society from its stock:

Dept.	Community	Hygiene Kits	Mattresses	Blankets	Tarpaulin	Families	People
San Miguel	Chirilagua	62		266	62	62	240
La Union	Cerique Shelter	50		182	50	50	182
La Union	El Caulotillo Shelter	70		271	70	70	271
La Union	Nuevo Amanecer	28		91	28	28	91
La Union	Volunteers affectes	5	20	23	5	5	23
	TOTAL	215	20	833	215	215	807

Targeting

The selection criteria bellow for targeted assistance is based on the damage and needs assessments conducted by both the Civil Protection System and SRCS teams deployed to the field:

- ✓ Housing damaged or seriously affected by seismic event.
- ✓ Low-income family groups in highly vulnerable areas
- ✓ People in shelters or collective centres with more than 4 members in the family.
- ✓ Elderly persons.

Scenario planning

The seismic activity is expected to subside in the next few days, but more homes might collapse if the seismic swarm continues. A stronger earthquake that might cause greater damage cannot be ruled out.

Probable scenario: if the seismic swarm continues, the population who has chosen to remain in their damaged homes or in improvised shelters that lack basic conditions or meet minimum standards will be at risk.

Afraid that their homes may collapse, some people in affected areas have sought shelter near soccer fields, which is the case of 1,520 people. Being outdoors so close to the onset of the rainy season in El Salvador might cause respiratory infections and other infectious diseases in children less than ten years of age and in adults over 60. The rainy season will also cause increased rates of vector-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya and zika.

The best-case scenario is that the seismic swarm ends, which would allow performing more detailed assessments of the damage caused.

Operation Risk Assessment

The operation will take place in a fragile context, with **social violence** due to the presence of the two major gangs and the presence of paramilitary groups in the area.

Municipalities can be accessed over paved roads that allow good internal mobilization. Access to affected areas is over poorly maintained unpaved roads, which might make **access difficult for large vehicles**. Some roads are extremely vulnerable to **landslides and rockslides** caused by seismic events, which will worsen during the rainy season.

Any operation carried out in the field must consider Safer Access mechanisms, and **all SRCS personnel must follow the National Society's Security Policy**.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

Replenishment of NFIs to the Salvadoran Red Cross Society used to reach 215 families (807 people) affected by the seismic event in eastern regions, specifically the municipalities of Chirilagua in San Miguel Department and Intipucá and El Carmen in La Unión Department.

Proposed strategy

The Salvadoran Red Cross Society worked directly with affected communities in coordination with branches in affected departments and with the various national civil protection system institutions. The Strategy involves comprehensive efforts in **shelter, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion** sectors. The distributions were based on updated registrations and the number of affected families requiring assistance. SRC volunteers provided updates of the situation and there was continuous contact with the EOC at National Level.

Logistics

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 to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures.

The SRCS counts with a stock of 400 hygiene kits for operations in the region which must be replenished, if used.

The National Society have storage capacity through their warehouses and count with a procurement department.

All procurement related to this operation, will follow the IFRC's standards procurement procedures and sphere standards for NFIs purchases. The procurement of items and services will meet the required conditions based on the needs of the affected population (external client) and/or the operational areas (internal client) to guarantee the appropriate level of supplies and optimal performance. All purchases will be made at regional level with the support of a procurement officer from RLU Panama.

The procurement plan is to replenish the NFIs, hygiene kits, blankets and tarpaulins as per the needs in the identified affected areas. The coverage of these items will be from the National Society's pre-positioned stocks, and the replenishment will be at the regional level procured. The NFIs that were used during the disaster response, which will be replenished through Panama.



Photo 2: A women carries her hygiene kit, after the distribution carried out by the SRCS, in La Union department. Source: SRCS.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Shelter

People targeted: 807

Male: 47%²

Female: 53%

Requirements (CHF) 14,725

Needs analysis: The earthquakes have caused structural damage to homes, and the people have been reallocated to 26 collective centres and informal camps. This situation results in families having to conduct all their activities outdoors with limited infrastructure, including preparing their food, taking care of their hygiene and physiological needs, as well as resting. This issue has been addressed partially by the central and local governments by providing tents to house the population.

Thus, families sheltered under these conditions are in need to of basic essential and emergency shelter items.

Population to be assisted: 215 families affected by the earthquake swarm in the municipalities of **Chirilagua** in San Miguel Department, and **Intipucá and El Carmen** in Unión Department.

P&B Output Code	Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety through shelter and settlement solutions																
	Shelter Output 1.1: Short assistance is provided to affected households																
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP005	Distribution of 833 blankets to affected areas																
AP005	Distribution of 215 tarpaulins to affected areas																
AP005	Distribution of 20 mattresses																
AP005	Replenishment of shelter NFIs to the National Society																

215 households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance

215 tarpaulins delivered to the families in the affected communities

833 blankets delivered to the families the affected communities

20 mattresses delivered to the families in the affected communities

² El Salvador Population. (2018-02-13). Retrieved 2018-05-16, from <http://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/el-salvador-population/>

DREF OPERATION

MDRSV011 - El Salvador: Earthquake

18.05.2018

Budget Group	DREF Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	3,007
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	4,461
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Ustensils & Tools	0
Other Supplies & Services	3,867
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	11,336
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	420
Dsitribution & Monitoring	4,838
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,598
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	7,856
International Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	585
Volunteers	0
Other Staff Benefits	0
Total PERSONNEL	585
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	0
Information & Public Relations	699
Office Costs	0
Communications	50
Financial Charges	200
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	949
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	1,347
Total INDIRECT COSTS	1,347
TOTAL BUDGET	22,072

Contact information

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

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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 Humanitarian 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:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



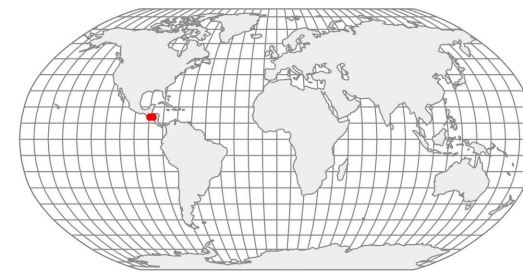
Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**

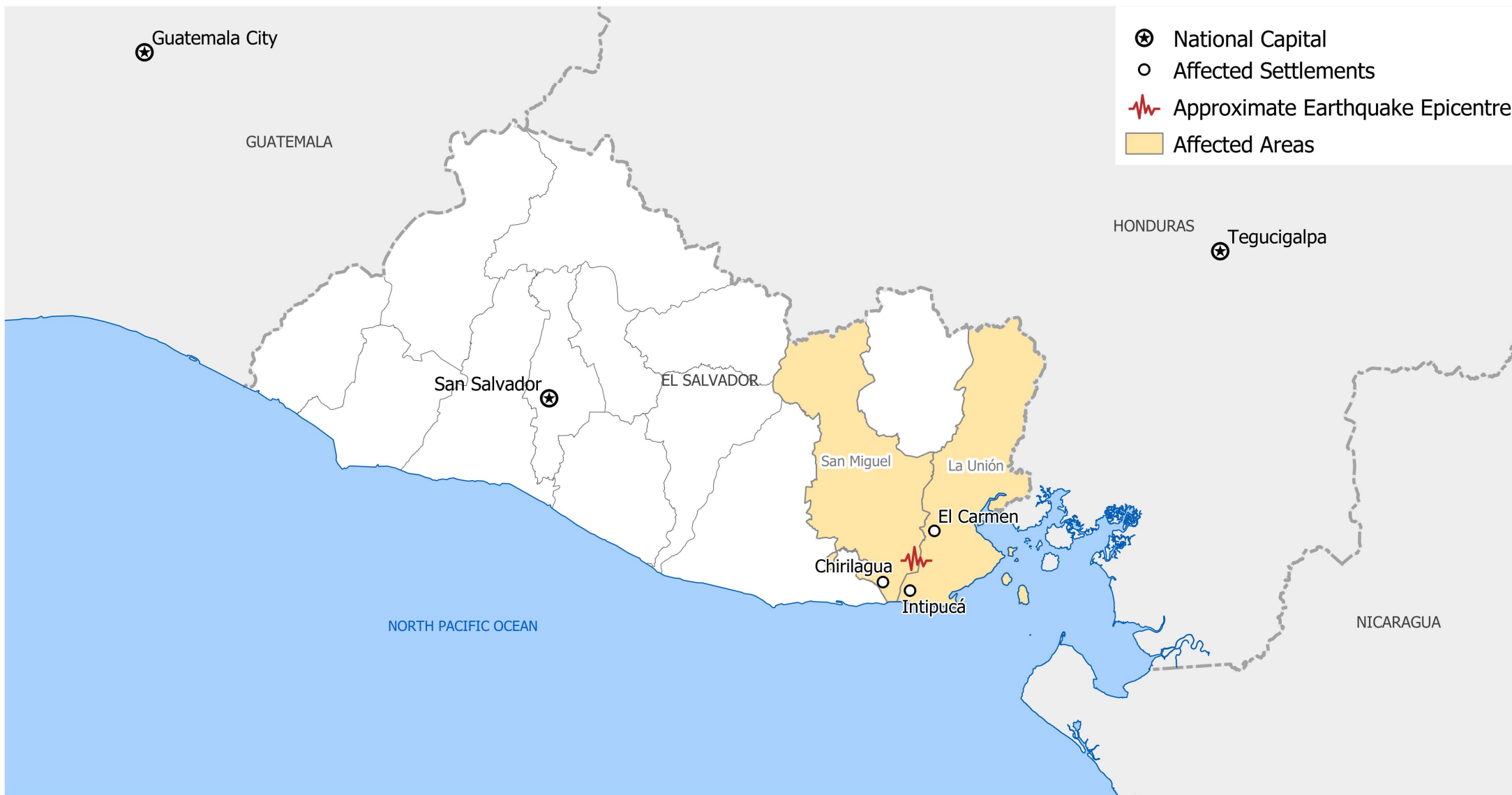


International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



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0 20 40 60 80 km

