

DREF operation update

Costa Rica: Tropical depression 12-E

DREF operation n° MDRCR008 GLIDE n° TC-2011-000157-CRI Update n° 1 – 10 February 2012

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.

Period covered by this update: 28 October 2011 to 28 January 2012.

Summary: 94,374 Swiss francs were allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 28 October 2011 to support the Costa Rican Red Cross (CRRC) in delivering assistance to some 2,500 families (approximately 12,500 persons).

The intense rainfall brought by Tropical Depression 12-E affected Costa Rica, particularly the western and southern regions that had saturated soils due to precipitations since early October. In the most affected province of Guanacaste,

some 1,200 families were evacuated and 12,280 inhabitants were left with contaminated drinking sources. In its auxiliary role to the government, the Costa Rican Red Cross designed a plan of action to reach 250 families with essential household items and to assist 2,500 families with the cleaning of wells in an effort to reduce the risk of water-related diseases. During the period covered by this report, the National Society successfully completed these activities; however, the CRRC requested a one-month extension of the operation's timeframe to continue with educational activities on the safe use of water and hygiene promotion. The new activities will be funded by a surplus remaining after a successful well-cleaning campaign. This operation is now expected to be implemented in 4 months, and completed by 28 February 2012. The Final Report (narrative and financial) will still be due on 28 April 2012.



The Costa Rican Red Cross (CRRC) has cleaned 638 wells to reduce the risk of waterborne and water related diseases in affected areas.
Source: CRRC

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, the Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other

corporate and private donors. <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

The Canadian Red Cross and government and ECHO have replenished the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. The IFRC, on behalf of the Costa Rican Red Cross, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

[<Click here to view contact details and the revised budget>](#)

The situation

Similarly to other countries in Central America, Costa Rica was affected by intense rainfall brought by Tropical Depression 12-E (TD 12-E). This weather front, combined with the effects of previous precipitations and the saturation of soils since early October, caused severe damages in the western and southern regions of Costa Rica (Valle Central, Pacífico Sur, Pacífico Central, Huetar Norte and Huetar Atlántica). The most affected province was Guanacaste where 1,250 persons were evacuated to 22 collective shelters. Moreover, many of the rivers and streams in the region flooded and 2,456 wells were contaminated, increasing the health risks of the population. The situation is particularly worrisome in the Guanacaste peninsula where some 12,280 inhabitants were left with contaminated drinking water.

Coordination and partnerships

The CRRC, as part of the National Risk Management System of the country, worked in closed coordination with all the actors under the National Emergency Commission (Comisión Nacional de Emergencia--CNE) umbrella. However, the closest partnership was established with the Ministry of Health whose technical personnel accompanied Red Cross volunteers in the well cleaning activities. In addition, the CRRC is working alongside regional and local committees who have supported the operation with vehicles and volunteers.

The IFRC maintains constant communication with the Costa Rican Red Cross through the regional representation for Central America and Mexico in Costa Rica, and the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) of the Americas zone office in Panama.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)
Outcome: The immediate needs of 250 families affected by Tropical Depression 12-E are met through the distribution of essential household items.
Outputs: 250 families (1,250 people) receive kitchen sets.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop beneficiary selection and registration system to deliver intended assistance.• Coordinate distribution activities with local and national authorities.• Distribute kitchen sets.• Monitor and report on the relief activities in a timely manner.

Progress: The CRRC has successfully completed the distribution of essential household items to 250 families in the province of Guanacaste. In total, 22 communities in the cantons of Hojacha, Cañas, Nandayure, Nicoya, Santa Cruz, Bacaces, Liberia and Carillo were reached with kitchen sets.

Province	Canton	Community	No. families	No. of persons
Guanacaste	Hojancha	Puerto Carrillo	27	102
Guanacaste	Cañas	Bebedero	27	128
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Carmona	11	43
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Zapotal	2	6

Guanacaste	Nandayure	Río Osa	3	12
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Cacao	1	4
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Puerto Thiel	2	7
Guanacaste	Nandayure	San Pablo	3	11
Guanacaste	Nandayure	La Uvita de San Pablo	1	4
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Pavones	1	5
Guanacaste	Nandayure	Santa Rita	3	12
Guanacaste	Nicoya	Nosara	27	115
Guanacaste	La Cruz	Cuajiniquil / Sta. Cecilia	27	107
Guanacaste	Santa Cruz	La Blokera	7	18
Guanacaste	Santa Cruz	Tucurrique	9	36
Guanacaste	Santa Cruz	Santa Cecilia	16	72
Guanacaste	Santa Cruz	Manchón	2	9
Guanacaste	Santa Cruz	La Garuba	1	1
Guanacaste	Bacaces	Bebedero	27	81
	Liberia	Barrio La Cruz	9	24
	Liberia	El Roble	19	51
	Carrillo	Filadelfia/La Guinea/Corralillo	25	98
TOTAL			250	946

Emergency health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Immediate reduction of the risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities.

Output 1: Hygiene promotion activities, which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items, are provided to 250 families.

Activities planned:

- Develop beneficiary selection and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribution of hygiene kits and mosquito nets.
- Coordinate and complete health and hygiene promotion activities in coordination with local and national authorities.
- Monitor activities and report in a timely manner.

Output 2: Up to 2,500 families are reached with the cleaning of 500 wells from the most affected communities.

Output 3: Members from 50 communities are trained on methods to clean and maintain wells.

Activities planned:

- Provide safe water through well cleaning while damaged water systems are restored.
- Conduct appropriate community trainings in well cleaning.
- Print and distribute educational materials for well cleaning.
- Support the cleaning of living spaces.
- Monitor and provide reporting in a timely manner.

Progress: During the reporting period, the National Society, in partnership with regional and local health authorities and community committees, completed the cleaning of 638 wells therefore surpassing the original output of 500 wells. Detailed information of the families and communities reached through this activity will be provided on the next report.

The successful partnership with local and regional actors allowed for a significant decrease in costs of cleaning of wells. As a result, the National Society plans to use the gained surplus and increase the scope of

the sanitation and hygiene promotion activities with the support of a Water and Sanitation Kit-2. To complete the new output, the National Society requested a one-month extension of the operation.

In addition, the CRRC with the support of the IFRC's regional representation will solicit the assistance of a consultant to complete an evaluation of the operation. The evaluation proposed includes a two-day workshop in the National Society's headquarters, followed up by field visits to consult active volunteers and staff at the branch level as well as families benefitted. The evaluation will be completed on the last week of February.

Challenges: The road conditions on the affected areas have been a major challenge for the completion of the operation. The National Society recalled most of their 4x4 vehicles and formed alliances to ensure the prompt transportation of equipment and supplies.

Contact information

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

- **In the Costa Rican Red Cross:** Jim Batres Rodriguez, national deputy director of operations and relief, Costa Rican Red Cross; phone: + 506. 254.25.011; email: jim.batres@cruzroja.or.cr
 - **IFRC regional representation for Central America and Mexico in Costa Rica:** Fabricio Lopez, regional representative for Central America and Mexico; email: fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org
 - **IFRC Americas zone office in Panama:** phone: + 507.317.3050
 - Jorge Zequeira, PADRU coordinator; email: jorge.zequeira@ifrc.org
 - Douglas Baquero, regional logistics coordinator; email: douglas.baquero@ifrc.org
 - Jane Grimshaw, PMER manager; email: jane.grimshaw@ifrc.org
 - **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, operations quality assurance senior officer; phone: + 41.22.730.4381; fax: + 41.22.733.0395; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org
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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 28 October 2011 for 94,374 Swiss francs for three months to assist 2,500 families.
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Click here

1. Revised DREF budget **[below](#)**
 2. Click **[here](#)** to return to the title page
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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 \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) 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."

www.ifrc.org

Saving lives, changing minds.



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

10/02/2012

MDRCR008 Costa Rica Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	2,200
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	44,670
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	6,160
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	53,030
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machiney & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Dsitribution & Monitoring	2,638
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,238
Logistics Services	1,584
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	9,460
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	4,576
Volunteers	8,910
Total PERSONNEL	13,486
Consultants	4,400
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	4,400
Workshops & Training	
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	2,640
Information & Public Relations	1,320
Office Costs	2,079
Communications	440
Financial Charges	1,760
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	8,239
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	5,760
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,760
TOTAL BUDGET	94,374