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DREF operation update Ecuador: floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDREC005 GLIDE n° [FL-2012-000013-ECU](#) Update n°1 – 13 April 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: 21
March to 9 April 2012.

Summary: CHF 62,760 were allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 21 March 2012 to support the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) in delivering assistance to 2,250 beneficiaries. With the continuation of rains and 3,594 cases of dengue in the first 12 weeks of the year, the Ecuadorian Red Cross has requested an additional CHF 223,848 from the DREF to increase the number of beneficiaries to be reached. Thus, the total amount of this DREF allocation is CHF 286,608.

After more detailed assessments and coordination meetings with partners, the National Society identified gaps in the relief efforts and will now deliver assistance in the form of relief items to

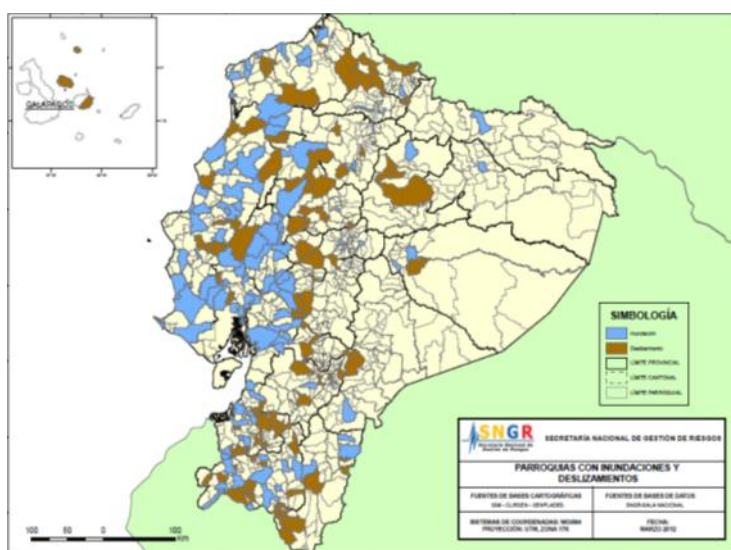
some 1,314 families and health, water, sanitation and hygiene interventions to some 6,685 families – a total of 33,425 beneficiaries. The operational timeframe is being maintained as the National Society has indicated the intention of completing the operation within the initial June 2012 date to focus on reducing the risk of a dengue epidemic.

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, 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. The Belgian Red Cross and Belgian government, and ECHO have replenished the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. The IFRC, on behalf of the Ecuadorian Red Cross, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions. More details on contributions can be found at <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>



Since severe precipitations started in Ecuador early in the year, the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) has reached some 2,000 families affected by floods and landslides. Source: ERC

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



Areas affected by the current emergency. Blue areas indicate zones affected by floods while the brown ones indicate zones affected by landslides. Source: SNGR

The situation

The rains that started in January of 2012 continued to fall in Ecuador under the effects of La Niña weather phenomenon. The persistent rains have caused floods and landslides across the country, particularly in the foothills of the western mountain range and the coastal provinces. On 8 March, a state of emergency was declared for the Manabí, Guayas, Los Ríos, El Oro and Loja provinces as they accounted for 80 per cent of the affected population. By 29 March the province of Azuay was also included in the category.

On 14 March, the National Risk Management Secretariat (Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgo, SNGR) reported 71,790 persons as affected by the

exceptional weather conditions, of which 5,032 have evacuated their homes, 65 were injured and 20 lost their lives. At the moment, there are 91 collective centres sheltering 2,753 persons. These families are currently assisted by governmental authorities with food, safe water, hygiene items and health care.

Health Situation: the Ministry of Public Health estimates that 70 per cent of the national territory has environmental conditions favourable for the propagation of the mosquito *Aedes aegypti*, vector of the dengue disease. During the first 12 weeks of 2012 Ecuador had 3,594 cases, most of them in the Manabí, Los Ríos, Guayas and El Oro provinces. Therefore, the severe precipitations currently occurring in these same areas significantly increase the risk of dengue outbreaks, particularly with the circulation of the four serotypes within the country. The Provincial Health Offices (Direcciones Provinciales de Salud) have the resources and supplies to provide medical assistance and are ready to deploy mobile health units to areas where the system becomes overwhelmed.

Provinces	Dengue without warning symptoms		Dengue with warning symptoms		Deaths	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Guayas	297	1033	7	26	1	2
Manabí	303	738	3	9	0	0
Los Ríos	244	667	1	2	0	0
El Oro	145	514	1	0	0	0
Esmeraldas	74	110	0	2	0	0
Galápagos	1	4	0	0	0	0
Santa Elena	6	37	1	1	0	0
Azuay	0	4	0	0	0	0
Bolívar	0	6	0	0	0	0
Cañar	6	53	0	0	0	0
Chimborazo	0	87	0	0	0	0
Cotopaxi	8	9	0	0	0	0
Loja	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pichincha	8	23	0	0	0	0
Santo Domingo	6	96	0	11	0	0

Morona Santiago	4	4	0	0	0	0
Orellana	0	54	0	0	0	0
Pastaza	64	23	0	0	0	0
Sucumbíos	0	58	0	0	0	0
Zamora Chinchipe	54	22	0	0	0	0
Total	1,220	3,543	13	51	1	2

Source: Ministry of Public Health of Ecuador

Coordination and partnerships

The ERC continues to work alongside governmental authorities at both the local and national level, supporting with information-gathering and planning of future actions. The National Society maintains close partnerships with the SNGR, the ministries of Public Health, of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries (Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Acuacultura y Pesca, MAGAP) and of Economic and Social Inclusion (Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social, MIES) with who have distributed relief items to 2,017 families.

Other agencies in-country, such as the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), are also responding to the emergency. At the moment, each organization is intervening in different relief sectors under the coordination of the SNGR. If there are similar proposed interventions, then the Ecuadorian Red Cross holds coordination meetings with the other agencies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

With the current operation update, the National Society is increasing the reach of its activities to 6,685 families (33,425 beneficiaries). The ERC will not only reach the Manabí province as previously proposed, but also the provinces of Los Ríos and Guayas. The DREF-supported operation will assist with food parcels, hygiene kits, distribution of safe drinking water, dengue prevention and hygiene promotion activities, a communication campaign and protective gear for the volunteers involved in the response.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: 1,314 affected families from the Guayas, Los Ríos and Manabí provinces will benefit from the provision of essential food and non-food items to alleviate the effects of the emergency.
Output 1: 1,204 families (6,020 persons) will receive food parcels for two months. Output 2: 1,314 families (6,570 persons) will receive hygiene kits for two months.
Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and select families in affected areas. • Procure locally food parcels and hygiene kits. • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Provide protective gear and visibility items to the National Society's volunteers • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Progress: The National Society already started the distribution of relief items to the 240 families from Manabí province that were originally selected as beneficiaries at the launch of this DREF-supported operation on 21 March. All 240 families (100 per cent of original target) have received food parcels while 75 families (21 per cent of original target) have also received hygiene kits. This distributions are being completed in close partnership with the SNGR and MIES, and with the support of this alliance, the National Society has been able to reach 1,777 families in addition to those covered through the DREF.

However, with the continuation of rains, and therefore the situation of emergency, the need of assistance has increased significantly and the ERC seeks to reach an additional 964 families as stated in the table below.

Province	Canton	Sector	No. target families
LOS RIOS	BABAHOYO	Porvenir	315
		El Tropezon	40
		La Carmela de abajo	44
		San Isidro	45
	MOCACHE	Pajarito de Abajo	38
		La Yuca	27
		La Palmira	22
		Hiyerones	37
		Independencia	47
GUAYAS	SALITRE	Candilejo Arriba	67
		Tierra o Muerte	49
		Paula León	55
		Santa Lucía	38
		Porvenir	30
		La Chontilla	42
		El Jovito	68
		TOTAL	

The ERC will continue with its plan to procure an additional 220 hygiene kits to be able to immediately reach 110 families more if the rains and flood continue as forecasted. Therefore the National Society will now benefit at total of 1,314 families with hygiene kits, while 1,204 will receive food parcels.

As mentioned on the DREF Bulletin, the content of the food parcels to be distributed is as follows:

Item	Units	Quantity
Rice	kg	7
Oats	kg	4
Beans	kg	2
Lentils	kg	2
Oil	Lt	2
Tuna (12 cans 170gr)	kg	2
Sugar cane cake	kg	1
Sugar	kg	4
Ionized salt	kg	1
Packing bag	kg	1

The contents of the second hygiene kits to be distributed will have some differences, as the second kit will only replenish those items that would be exhausted after a month of use. The content of the first hygiene kits is as follow:

Item	Quantity
Soft toothbrush (for adults)	3
Soft toothbrush (for children)	2
Tube of toothpaste (75 cc)	5
Soap with insect repellent (100 g)	5
Antibacterial soap (125 g)	5

Laundry soap bar (250 g)	4
Washing-up liquid (250 g)	2
Combs	5
Double sheet toilet paper	12
Disposable razors	3
Pack of feminine pads	1
Towels 40cm * 45cm	5
Face towels 30cm * 35cm	5
Plastic bucket	1

The content of the second hygiene kits is:

Item	Quantity
Tube of toothpaste (75 cc)	5
Soap with insect repellent (100 g)	5
Antibacterial soap (125 g)	5
Laundry soap bar (250 g)	4
Washing-up liquid (250 g)	2
Double sheet toilet paper	12
Disposable razors	3
Pack of feminine pads	1
Plastic bucket	1

Finally, it should also be mentioned that 75 volunteers involved in this operation will be supported with insurance and protective gear such as raincoats and rubber boots.

Emergency health

Outcome: The risk of dengue and other water related diseases of 6,685 families in the provinces of Guayas, Los Ríos and Manabí is reduced through a comprehensive response.

Output 1: Community-based disease prevention and health promotion is provided to 6,685 families (33,425 persons) in nine cantons.

Output 2: Epidemic prevention and control measures carried out with at least 330 families

Activities planned:

- Coordinate with local authorities and community members
- Conduct refresher training with the Epidemic Control for Volunteers toolkit.
- Educational campaigns on epidemic prevention and control at community level
- Distribution mosquito nets to 330 families under coordination of local authorities
- Carry out media campaigns on dengue prevention and hygiene promotion.
- Monitor, evaluate and report on the health activities.

Progress: The health and community development programme of the National Society has organized and dispatched materials to the branches in affected areas to support the community campaigns in health promotion. Some of these materials include:

- Training modules on Epidemic Control for Volunteers and flipcharts with key messages developed in Ecuador following the guidelines proposed by the IFRC tools.
- Educational materials such as posters and brochures with information on the prevention of influenza, malaria, dengue, among others.
- Educational materials for children on epidemic control.

With the current extension, the National Society is increasing the number of people to be targeted by the DREF-supported operation. Additionally, under the request of the government, the Ecuadorian Red Cross will support the government's dengue control policy and distribute three mosquito nets to 330 families in Los Ríos. The ERC will also procure some additional units that could be handed over to larger families if needed. This distribution will be complemented with the fumigation and cleaning campaigns mentioned in the next sector.

The following table provides information on the areas and numbers of persons that will be reached now:

Province	Cantons	Total population 2010	Target population (10%)
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Guayas	Urbina Jado (Salitre)	57,402	5,740.2
	Santa Lucia	38,923	3,892.3
Manabí	Tosagua	38,341	3,834.1
	Rocafuerte	33,469	3,346.9
Los Ríos	Urdaneta	29,263	2,926.3
Loja	Sozoranga	7,465	746.5
	Chaguarpamba	7,161	716.1
	Espíndola	14,799	1,479.9
	Loja	214,855	10,742.75 ¹
Total		441,678	33,425.05

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of water-related diseases of 6,685 families is reduced through vector control activities and access to safe drinking water.

Output 1: 6,685 families have access to safe drinking water.

Output 2: 6,685 families are reached with fumigation and cleaning campaigns.

Activities planned:

- Procure chemicals needed for the analysis and treatment of water
- Analyse the quality of water used in selected communities.
- Conduct refresher training on the use of water treatment plants
- Mobilize water treatment plants.
- Clean contaminated wells.
- Carry out fumigations in public spaces and at household level.
- Work alongside community members in the cleaning of mosquito breeding grounds.

Progress: Volunteers of the Chone branch are working alongside the SNGR in the management of two water treatment plants located in Badeal and Simbocal. These plants have produced over 100,000 litres of drinking water, assisting some 1,090 persons. The ERC is now analyzing the deployment of more plants from Quito to the affected areas.

As mentioned on the emergency health sector, the National Society will increase the number of families to be reached with its vector control activities. the ERC will benefit 6,685 families with fumigation and cleaning of mosquito breeding grounds. Complementing the health activities, the ERC will distribute educational pamphlets and carry out talks with community members emphasizing the importance and methods of cleaning mosquito breeding grounds. Furthermore, the Provincial Boards have also requested support with their fumigation campaigns and the National Society will use its equipment to respond to this request.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Outcome: A steady flow of timely and accurate information is provided to affected communities and other major stakeholders.

Output: Local and national media have products to broadcast disease preventive measures and to promote the role of the National Society.

Activities planned:

- Mobilize personnel from the communication unit to the affected areas.
- Produce radio and television spots.
- Develop, print and distribute educational materials in support of the health promotion campaign.
- Provide visual support during meetings with partners and other stakeholders.

The National Society developed a communications plan to support the health promotion campaign and provide more visibility to all activities being carried out in response to the emergency situation. First, through this operation, the ERC will deploy two members of their communication department into the affected areas who will gather audiovisual material on the affectation and the response actions carried out by the volunteers. Second, the ERC communications department will support the public awareness campaign on

¹ Capital city of the canton, 5%

health promotion and risk reduction activities, developing materials such as radio and television spots to be broadcasted in local and national media.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 20 March 2012 for CHF 62,760 for three months to assist 2,250 beneficiaries.
 - The current update includes a budget revision to increase the number of beneficiaries to 33,425
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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.



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.

DREF OPERATION

13-Apr-12

MDREC005 Ecuador floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	5,500
Food	99,932
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	89,950
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	23,500
Ustensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	218,882
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,000
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	6,000
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	2,400
Volunteers	11,850
Total PERSONNEL	14,250
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	14,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	14,000
Travel	1,500
Information & Public Relations	3,300
Office Costs	7,800
Communications	1,300
Financial Charges	2,084
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	15,984
Programme and Services Support Recovery	17,493
Total INDIRECT COSTS	17,493
TOTAL BUDGET	286,608