

DREF final report

Paraguay: Drought

DREF operation n° MDRPY011
GLIDE n° [DR-2012-000011-PRY](#)
9 November 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 Red Crescent response to emergencies. 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.

Summary: 332,099 Swiss francs have been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 2,500 families (an estimated 12,500 persons). The operation closed with a total expenditure of 327,863 Swiss francs, with a final balance of 4,236 Swiss francs unspent and returned to the DREF fund.

With severe droughts affecting several departments in Paraguay and causing the loss of crops, particularly for small producers, the National Society worked alongside governmental authorities to assist families. With the support of the DREF, the National Society was able to reach 3,400 families, 900 more than the original target, with one food parcel and one seed kit. These distributions were accompanied by community trainings and technical support provided by an agronomist hired as a consultant. An additional 4,758 families were assisted by the PRC with support from other partners.



Between February and March 2012, the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) reached more than 8,100 families affected by droughts with the support of the IFRC and other Partner National Societies.
Source: PRC

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. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions. Details of all donors can be found on

<http://www.ifrc.org/en/what-we-do/disaster-management/responding/disaster-response-system/financial-instruments/disaster-relief-emergency-fund-dref/>

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

The environmental effects associated with the La Niña weather phenomena present at the end of 2011 such as low water temperatures on the equatorial Pacific Ocean, brought a disruption of rain patterns in South America. Whilst certain areas experienced heavy rainfall, some areas of Paraguay experienced drought, with accumulated precipitation far below historical averages. Some areas, such as the San Juan Bautista district in the department of Misiones had 0mm of rain in December, while the historical average (based on the last 10 years) is of 168mm. Similarly, the district of María Auxiliadora, in the department of Caaguazú, received 4.1mm compared to the historical average of 154mm.

The area affected by the drought is one of the most important agricultural regions in Paraguay. The Risk Management Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería - MAG) indicated that some 263,800 families suffered losses in their crops, of which almost 200,000 families were small producers (with less than 10 hectares of land). The most affected food crops were those of corn (58 per cent loss), beans (47 per cent), and manioc (39 per cent). However, the Paraguayan agribusiness also suffered significant losses, particularly of the soy and sesame crops with 56 per cent and 34 per cent loss of crops respectively. The most affected departments, in terms of food crops, were Itapúa, Paraguari, Alto Paraná, and Canindeyú.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Paraguayan Red Cross is an active member of the National Emergency Secretariat (Secretaría de Emergencia Nacional, SEN), and as such was called on to support the humanitarian response to the droughts suffered in many regions of Paraguay. To fulfill its auxiliary role, the National Society worked in close partnership with the MAG and departmental and local authorities, supporting the activation of the Emergency Operation Centres (EOC), the distribution of relief items and the sharing of vital information, including a copy of the new Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) Manual to guide the integrated response to the emergency.

With the collaboration of the IFRC's DREF, Partner National Societies, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo, AECID) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Paraguayan Red Cross was able to reach 8,158 families from the departments of Canindeyú, Concepción, San Pedro, and Ñeembucú.

Department	No. of Municipalities	No. of communities	No. of families reached	Partner
Canindeyú	4	74	3,400	IFRC-DREF
Concepción	3	24	1,026	Swiss Red Cross
San Pedro	1	6	520	American Red Cross
Ñeembucú	9	76	3,212	IDB/Spanish Red Cross - AECID
Total	17	180	8,158	

Achievements against outcomes

Food security and livelihoods
Outcome: Assist 2,500 of the most vulnerable farmer families in the department of Canindeyú with humanitarian aid consisting of supplementary food items and seed kits.
Output 1: 2,500 families receive one food parcel of 34kg to complement their diet for one month Output 2: 2,500 families receive one seed kit and training to support the planting of one hectare of land.
Activities planned: - Complete more detailed damage and needs assessments on selected districts, with support of an agronomist. - Coordinate with governmental authorities, at the national and municipal level.

- Coordinate with community leaders.
- Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Select suppliers.
- Distribute food parcels and seed kit to small farmers.
- Provide technical assistance to affected families (to be conducted by the agronomist).
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Impact: Originally, the PRC selected 2,500 families to reach with food items and seed kits to support their recovery of lost crops based on the preliminary information gathered by MAG as the emergency was declared. However, to ensure that the most vulnerable families would be reached by their assistance, the National Society deployed four damage and needs assessment teams to Ñeembucú, Concepción, San Pedro, and Canindeyú in coordination with the MAG and SEN to analyse the situation of affected families. After these new assessments, the PRC selected 3,400 families to reach with DREF support, 900 families more than originally estimated. In addition, 4,758 families were reached with support from other partners such as the American Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, AECID, and the IDB.

The PRC assisted small farmers (with less than 10 hectares of land), with priority given to vulnerable groups such as indigenous families. The decision of which families to reach was made on the basis of previous experiences working in the area, level of vulnerability to different types of emergencies, the level of contact of the National Society's branches with their communities, and other socio-economic parameters such as materials of homes and services present in the communities. However, in the case of the Canindeyú department, where the PRC does not have a branch, the region was selected as a result of the presence of indigenous communities with great need of assistance. The table below illustrates the families reached with the support of the DREF in the districts of Curuguaty, Villa Ygatimí, Corpus Christi, and Yasy Kañy, all in Canindeyú department. All these families were reached with one food parcel (as the Paraguayan government provided parcels for an additional two months) and one seed kit (see annex for details on families' location).

Districts (Canindeyú department)	No. of families targeted after 2 nd assessment ¹	No. of families reached	% reached
Curuguaty	1,463	1,511	103.3
Villa Ygatimí	887	862	97.2
Corpus Christi	954	933	97.8
Yasy Kañy	96	94	97.9
Total	3,400	3,400	100

Because the families selected are small farmers dependent on subsistence crops that were lost during the drought (with losses of about 47 per cent of manioc, 51 per cent of corn, and 28 per cent of beans), the National Society supported the government strategy of reaching affected families first with food parcels to support their immediate food security needs, and then with seed kits of fast growing plants.

As all actions were coordinated by the government, the National Society shared the contents of its standard food parcel. After analyzing the contents and cost of the parcel suggested by the PRC, the government decided to modify it and reduce it to a packet of approximately 34kg (730 kilocalories) as most families had access to other food sources, particularly those of animal origins. During an EOC meeting, all organizations agreed to distribute this standard parcel across the country to avoid conflicts between communities or departments. For contents of the food parcel distributed please refer to the [DREF Bulletin](#). Similarly, the contents of the seed kit were chosen by technical experts from MAG to support the cultivation of one hectare of land with beans, corn and other vegetables.

It should be noted that the National Society was able to reach 3,400 families, 136 per cent more than originally intended, after obtaining better quotations in the local market. The majority of distributions (72 communities) were conducted between 23 to 28 February 2012, while the remaining families (4 communities) were reached between 10 and 11 March 2012.

¹ As stated in the plan of action, the National Society planned to reach 2,500 families originally, but after identifying an increase of needs with the second assessment, the target was raised to 3,400 families.

As intended, the PRC complemented the distributions of seed with technical assistance, provided by an agronomist hired to give trainings to the community. The agronomist worked in close partnership with the members of MAG to ensure that long term monitoring could be carried out after the closure of the DREF-supported operation. The following topics were covered:

1. Nutrition:
 - Improvement of family's nutrition
2. Vegetable gardens
 - What is a vegetable garden?
 - How will it be done?
 - Steps to follow while creating a vegetable garden
 - What will be planted?
 - Where will it be located?
 - Significance of setting up a vegetable garden on a farm
3. Subsistence vegetables
 - Training about vegetables
 - Preparing seedbeds
 - Transplant techniques
 - Vegetable pests
 - Preparing home made poisons
 - Techniques for growing vegetables
 - Composting

Volunteers of the National Society met with community members before implementing activities to gather their input and gain support with the coordination. Additional visits were completed after distributions to monitor the planting of the seeds and ensure that technical assistance could be provided if needed.

In addition to the above mentioned activities, the PRC was able to hire temporary National Society staff through this DREF supported operation, in order to have additional assistance available that assured the success of the operation.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Paraguayan Red Cross:** Luis Díaz de Bedoya, president of the Paraguayan Red Cross, phone: 59521.222.797; email: crppcia@uninet.com.py
- **IFRC regional representation:** Gustavo Ramirez, regional representative for the Southern Cone and Brazil; phone: +541.1495.17420; email: gustavo.ramirez@ifrc.org
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**For Performance and Accountability
(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

- **In the Americas zone office:** Jane Grimshaw, PMER manager; phone: +507.317.3050; email: jane.grimshaw@ifrc.org

DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 27 January 2012 for CHF 332,099 for three months to assist 2,500 families.



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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](#) 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.
Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

ANNEX – Location of families reached

District	Nº	Communities	No. of families	
			Targeted	Reached
Curuguaty	1	1º de marzo	26	26
	2	Paso Real	42	42
	3	4 bocas	22	22
	4	Santa Librada	90	90
	5	San Blas	52	130
	6	Arroyo Piro'y	26	19
	7	Fortuna	419	395
	8	Isla Yovay	9	12
	9	Ñu Apua	17	25
	10	Tacuaraty	31	31
	11	Paso Real	130	163
	12	Siete Montes	130	155
	13	Ytaymi	12	12
	14	Yakaju	12	12
	15	Tavajopoy	180	135
	16	Carro Kue	78	78
	17	Pynandi	48	48
	18	Montania	29	29
	19	Naranjaty	110	56
	20	Tekojoja	0	31
Villa Ygatimí	21	Chupa Pou	139	139
	22	Kaaguy Pora Poty	31	31
	23	1º de mayo	53	53
	24	Mboi'í Jhagua	148	148
	25	Ita Poty	33	33
	26	Tendal - 2º linea	20	20
	27	Itanarami I	91	91
	28	Itanarami II	16	16
	29	San Antonio	29	29
	30	Arroyo Bandera	35	35
	31	Tendal – María Auxiliadora	34	34
	32	Tendal - San Antonio	30	30
	33	Ybapoty	40	35
	34	Tacuaty	32	32
	35	Tendal	40	40
	36	Yatayty	13	13
	37	Kavaju Paso	63	54
	38	Ybapo	20	15
	39	Kaaguy Poty	20	14
Corpus Christi	40	Yryapu	31	31
	41	12 de junio	16	14
	42	La Merced	51	51
	43	4 de octubre	56	56
	44	San Miguel Ygarypoty	16	16

	45	Koe Pyahu Pora	73	46
	46	Ñu Vera Katu	10	9
	47	Kuruzu Koe Pyahu Poty	12	12
	48	San Juan	54	54
	49	Tatu Kue	21	21
	50	Pira Kai	14	14
	51	Koetuvy	57	57
	52	Kuetuwyve	13	13
	53	Takua Poty 2	8	8
	54	Karuperami Ybyyu	15	15
	55	San José	67	56
	56	Guyra Keha 4º linea	12	23
	57	Guyra Keha 3º linea	21	22
	58	Guyra Keha 1º linea	30	30
	59	Guyra Keha 2º linea	21	21
	60	Caaguazu	88	88
	61	Modulo 4	28	28
	62	Pastoreo 1º linea	29	28
	63	Pastoreo 2º linea	23	21
	64	Pastoreo 3º linea	33	33
	65	ONAC 1º linea	25	25
	66	ONAC 2º Linea	37	37
	67	ONAC 3º Linea	7	7
	68	Guyra keha 5º linea	46	44
	69	Guyra Keha 6º linea	15	15
	70	Aguae Yvy Katu Km. 30	25	38
Yay Kañy	71	Tacuarimi	19	19
	72	You-vy	15	15
	73	Yguaviyu	17	17
	74	Tayi Poty	9	9
	75	Santa Librada	15	15
	76	Caninde	21	19



MDRPY011 - Paraguay - Drought

Appeal Launch Date: 27 jan 12

Appeal Timeframe: 27 jan 12 to 27 apr 12

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/1-9
Budget Timeframe	2012/1-9
Appeal	MDRPY011
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget	332,099					332,099	
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
DREF Allocations	332,099					332,099	
C4. Other Income	332,099					332,099	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	332,099					332,099	
D. Total Funding = B + C	332,099					332,099	
Coverage = D/A	100%					100%	

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
C. Income	332,099					332,099	
E. Expenditure	-327,863					-327,863	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	4,236					4,236	

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Budget Timeframe	2012/1-9
Appeal	MDRPY011
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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
A		B						A - B
BUDGET (C)		332,099					332,099	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Food	156,250	201,272					201,272	-45,022
Seeds & Plants	114,375	74,198					74,198	40,177
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	270,625	275,470					275,470	-4,845
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	6,975							6,975
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,000	13,768					13,768	-10,768
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	9,975	13,768					13,768	-3,793
Personnel								
National Society Staff	4,200	4,328					4,328	-128
Volunteers	8,400	6,596					6,596	1,804
Total Personnel	12,600	10,924					10,924	1,676
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	4,750	2,242					2,242	2,508
Professional Fees	2,500							2,500
Total Consultants & Professional Fees	7,250	2,242					2,242	5,008
General Expenditure								
Travel	4,100							4,100
Information & Public Relations	1,850	930					930	920
Office Costs	1,250	2,471					2,471	-1,221
Communications	1,000	1,697					1,697	-697
Financial Charges	3,180	351					351	2,829
Total General Expenditure	11,380	5,449					5,449	5,931
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	20,269	20,010					20,010	259
Total Indirect Costs	20,269	20,010					20,010	259
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	332,099	327,863					327,863	4,236
VARIANCE (C - D)		4,236					4,236	