

### DREF operation n° MDRDO004 GLIDE n° FL-2012-000068-DOM 21 February 2013

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:** 148,808 Swiss francs have been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Dominican Red Cross (DRC) in delivering immediate assistance to 2,500 families.

On 16 April 2012, the Dominican health authorities reported 231 cases of patients with diarrhoeal disease and vomiting in the provinces of Santiago and Espaillat. As the laboratory test resulted positive for cholera for a number of cases, the Dominican Red Cross activated its contingency plan for epidemic control including water supply to the vulnerable population. The operation reached more than 9,089 people with awareness-raising campaigns in Spanish and Creole on hygiene and cholera prevention and treatment, as well as 2,905 affected families with stigma reduction messages. In addition, 1,000 families received ORS sachets at home or in health centres.



A Dominican Red Cross volunteer verifying the chlorination of water distributed among the vulnerable population in the northern Departments of the Dominican Republic. Source: DRC.

The DRC has supported a total of 2,786 families (13,930 people) with access to safe water. The National Society distributed 329,990 gallons of water (1,250,662.1 lt.) to 14 water tanks, reaching 1,088 families (5,440 people) and also provided them with chlorine droppers to ensure the chlorination of the water supply in the Municipalities of Tamboril, Canca and San Víctor. These families were also monitoring the quality of water in the tanks with the assistance of the National Society. Furthermore, the National Society supported an additional 1,689 families in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health through distribution and monitoring of water supplied through 47 water tanks installed by the national authorities.

The IFRC, on behalf of the Dominican Red Cross, gives thanks to the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) and the Canadian Red Cross for their generous contributions to replenish the DREF allocation for this operation. 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 Canadian Red Cross

contributed with 13,907 Swiss francs and DG-ECHO with 74,404 Swiss francs for a total replenishment of 59 per cent of the DREF funding allocated. Details of all donors can be found on <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

*<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>*

## The situation

On 12 April 2012, heavy rains affected the Dominican provinces of Santiago, Puerto Plata, La Vega, Valverde, Montecristi, Espaillat and Duarte with floods and landslides. This disrupted people's access to safe water. On 16 April, health authorities reported 231 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease and suspected cholera in the Municipality of Tamboril (Santiago province); there were also a number of cases in San Víctor and Moca (Province of Espaillat).

By epidemiologic week 16, the health authorities had reported 627 cases of cholera. Of them, forty were analyzed in laboratory and 14 per cent of them tested positive. In total, 93 per cent of the cases and 4 deaths were reported in the municipality of Tamboril. On 15 April, the DRC activated its contingency plan and mobilized a National Intervention Team (NIT) to carry out assessments and develop a plan of action for this outbreak. Since the cholera outbreaks of 2010 and 2011, the DRC developed preparedness and response programmes that as of October 2011 had directly reached some 54,500 people with training and more than 1.9 million people with epidemic control and hygiene promotion messages. Following initial assessments, the operation targeted up to 2,500 families in the provinces of Santiago and Espaillat.

By the end of the programme, during epidemiological week 31, the Ministry of Health reported a decrease in the number of cholera cases per week. No deaths were reported and 27 suspected cases of cholera were registered in Santiago de los Caballeros. The cumulative total since the beginning of the outbreak was of 26,090 reported cases, 412 reported deaths and 167 deaths confirmed to be due to cholera.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The operation aimed to reduce cholera-related morbidity and mortality rates in the Dominican Republic through health and hygiene promotion, and ensuring water supply for 2,786 families.

The strengthening process of the DRC enabled its branches to position themselves among the water, sanitation and hygiene groups at local level or carry out activities in close coordination with authorities in the affected areas. The National Society, in agreement with local water authorities, positioned 14 water tanks for ensuring water supply to communities which were also trained in maintenance and monitoring of water quality.

Along with cholera awareness-raising campaigns, the DRC supported the Ministry of Health in epidemiological surveillance using the volunteer network. Further support to the authorities and also to families affected by diarrhoeal disease was provided in the form of cholera treatment kits for patients which were distributed in affected homes and in treatment facilities.

## Achievements against outcomes

The operation has successfully achieved its objectives of strengthening the capacity of the DRC with regard to cholera and diarrhoeal disease prevention and control, reducing the effects of the cholera outbreak in Tamboril, Santiago Province, at community level through prevention and control activities, improving access to safe water for 2,786 families, and improving the hygiene practices and raising awareness amongst 2,500 families in the affected areas.

The National Society carried out an active search in order to assist with cholera cases through 1,596 house visits during which information material was distributed. In addition, 9,089 persons benefited from awareness-raising campaigns in Spanish and Creole on hygiene and cholera prevention and treatment. The operation reached a further 2,905 affected families with stigma reduction messages and 400 cholera patient kits (including ORS) were distributed in coordination with the health authorities. Furthermore, 1,000 ORS

sachets were distributed in health centres. The National Society has 2 cholera kits for up to 1,200 people available for use in case of new emergencies.

The DRC distributed 329,990 gallons of water (1,250,662.1 lt.) to 14 water tanks. The operation also distributed chlorine droppers for ensuring chlorination of the water supply to 1,088 families (5,440 people) in the Municipalities of Tamboril, Canca and San Víctor. These families were also monitoring the quality of water in the tanks with assistance of the National Society. More than 2,500 families have received hygiene promotion messages and national disinfection brigades carried out spraying of 1,020 rooms in communities and health centres.

### Emergency health

**Outcome: Reduce effects of the cholera outbreak in Tamboril, Santiago Province, at community level through prevention and control activities.**

**Output 1: DRC volunteers have participated in the early identification of cases of diarrhea and have referred them to health centres.**

**Output 2: Cholera-related morbidity and mortality is reduced through a comprehensive health approach including disease prevention, ORS kits distribution to patients and ORS sachets to health centres in coordination with the MSP.**

**Output 3: Two volunteer cholera kits (2,400 pers. / 200 patients) are pre-positioned at National Society level for Hispaniola Island.**

**Activities planned:**

- Sensitize and train volunteers on community surveillance of diarrhoeal diseases including cholera.
- Detect suspected cases of cholera, and refer them to the nearest health centres.
- Monitor the sensitization talks for cholera prevention and control in collaboration with the water and sanitation department.
- Conduct door-to-door sensitization campaigns and organize group discussions on preventing the spread of the cholera and psychosocial support (reducing stigma and fear against cholera).
- Distribute 500 Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) kits to patients suffering diarrheic diseases.
- Distribute 1,000 ORS sachets to health centres of the affected regions.
- Pre-position 2 IFRC volunteer module cholera kits in the DRC warehouse.

**Impact:** The operation trained 60 volunteers from the Tamboril, Santiago and San Víctor branches in the use of epidemic control tools and methodologies with a focus on cholera. These volunteers supported the authorities with community surveillance and a referral system (orientation and support) at health centres. In addition, with active research of cases through 1,596 house visits in Santiago, Espaillat and La Vega during which printed information material was distributed. In addition to this, an awareness-raising campaign in Spanish and Creole reached 9,089 people and their families (45,445 people) directly.

Province	Municipality	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
Santiago	Tamboril	1,623	2,012	430	595	4,660
	Santiago	194	402	13	26	635
Espaillat	San Víctor	983	1,491	348	532	3,354
La Vega	La Vega	185	231	8	16	440
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,985</b>	<b>4,136</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>9,089</b>

The Dominican Red Cross focused on children living in at-risk communities in Santiago (Tamboril, Boca de Licey, Guazumal y Rafey) and Espaillat (San Víctor) with puppets, street theatre and songs.

As for treatment, the DRC supported 2,905 families with awareness raising messages for reducing stigma. With this, 400 cholera patient treatment kits were distributed (4 ORS sachets, a jar, a cup, basic information brochure and chlorine).

Province	Municipality	Men	Women	Boy	Girl	Total
Santiago	Tamboril	101	105	21	23	250
Espaillat	San Víctor	32	53	7	8	100
La Vega	La Vega	19	20	6	5	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>152</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>400</b>

One hundred of these kits are pre-positioned for the use of communities, while 1,000 ORS were distributed to patients in coordination with health centres.

The National Society has pre-positioned in the warehouse two IFRC cholera kits with capacity for supporting 1,200 people. The kits are available for use during potential emergencies on Hispaniola.

### Water Supply

<p><b>Outcome: Improved access to safe water for 2,500 families.</b></p> <p><b>Output 1: 2,500 families receive clean water based on Sphere standards.</b></p> <p><b>Output 2: 1,000 families receive items to ensure their access to safe water and community-based water training.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the activities conducted with community leaders at the community level.</li> <li>• Support the water distribution system led by local authorities with the distribution of water tanks and water distributions.</li> <li>• Distribute buckets with faucets to 1,000 families for safe water storage (1 per family).</li> <li>• Distribute chlorine droppers to 1,000 families.</li> <li>• Conduct community trainings on the correct use of pool testers.</li> <li>• Monitor the water distribution and water quality in the communities.</li> <li>• Monitor and provide reporting on the activities.</li> </ul>
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**Impact:** As requested by local authorities in target areas, the DRC supported water supply needs through 14 water tanks that were regularly refilled and tested to ensure adequate water chlorination. The operation distributed 329,990 gallons (1,250,662.1 litres) of water.



Members of families received buckets and awareness-raising on water storage Source: DRC

In the Municipalities of Tamboril, Canca and San Víctor, some 1,088 families (5,440 people) benefited from water chlorination monitoring carried out by members of the communities previously trained by the DRC in the use of pool testers. During the operation, the DRC **trained 15 people in the community of Tamboril and 2 in Moca** in the use of pool testers for the control of water chlorination. Additionally, 17 volunteers from the Tamboril branch received the training. The DRC has distributed water buckets and chlorine droppers to 1,088 families along with information on water use (962 families in Santiago and 126 in Espailat).

### Sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: Improve hygiene practices and awareness for 2,500 families in the affected areas.**

**Output 1: 2,500 families in the affected areas benefit from hygiene promotion messages and interventions.**

**Output 2: 1,000 families receive hygiene kits to ensure safe family hygiene practices.**

**Activities planned:**

- Monitor the activities conducted with community leaders at the community level.
- Conduct basic sanitation and hygiene promotion activities to prevent and control the outbreak.
- Print and distribute information, education and communications (IEC) materials.
- Conduct 100 sanitation disinfection interventions in cholera affected environments.
- Conduct training for volunteers on sanitation awareness-raising.
- Conduct awareness-raising actions in communities, health centres and prisons.
- Distribute 1,000 hygiene kits (with soap, towels and toilet paper), 1 hygiene kit per family.
- Monitor and provide reporting on the activities.

**Impact:** A total of 1,088 families mentioned under the previous heading received hygiene promotion messages. Furthermore, in Santiago, the Tamboril branch of the DRC distributed 3,170 gl of domestic use chlorine for disinfection to 890 families in the communities of Canca Arriba, Canca Abajo, Canca La Piedra, Jaime Cabrera, El Arenazo, Villa Progreso (Los Refugiados), Barrio Libertad, Los Gutiérrez, Barrio ICO, Cuesta Honda, Barrio Damnificados de Canca, La Hermita, El Coquito, Los Friitos, Los Martínez, Villa Olga, Guazumal, and others. Meanwhile, the San Victor Branch distributed 1,995 gl. of domestic use chlorine to 808 families.



PHAST training carried out in Santiago. Source:DRC

In addition to this, national disinfection brigades, including 21 new members of the target communities trained during the operation, carried out disinfection spraying in a total of 1,020 rooms in communities and health centres.

After awareness-raising in the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) methodology for 102 members (with a prevalence of female participants from target communities), other members of target communities have contributed to the operation. Eight community cleaning days were carried out in bateyes (impoverished villages set up around plantations of sugar cane) in Tamboril, Santiago and San Victor between June and July 2012.

By the end of the operation 3,000 banners on how to keep water clean and basic hygiene were placed in the communities, health centres and schools. Also, 13,500 brochures with information in Spanish and Creole on

how to handle cholera in communities and the home were distributed to the affected population. Furthermore, 1,000 hygiene kits were distributed among the vulnerable population.

### Capacity of the National Society

**Outcome: Strengthen the capacity of the Dominican Red Cross for cholera and diarrheic disease prevention and control.**

**Output 1: The Dominican Red Cross has increased capacity for cholera prevention, control and public information.**

**Output 2: DRC volunteers receive training to support the operation.**

**Activities planned:**

- Draft and implement a public information and communications strategy.
- Provide visibility materials to Dominican Red Cross volunteers for the interventions
- Train 25 volunteers in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) and epidemic control for volunteers (EVC).
- Train 25 volunteers in psychosocial support linked with reducing stigma and fear of cholera.
- Establish teams for prevention and control of diarrheic diseases and cholera, and provide equipment.
- Monitor and provide reporting on the activities

**Impact:** A communication and public information strategy was implemented for both distributing key messages on cholera and increasing National Society visibility country-wide. The strategy has enabled the DRC to consolidate its advocacy position at local and country level, as its branches are part of Provincial Groups for water, sanitation and hygiene meetings. National Society actions are now integrated into official communications on response.

The National Society has appeared in a series of interviews and reports in radio and television. In addition, the magazine "El Sanvictense" No. 77 ([www.elsanvictense.blogspot.com](http://www.elsanvictense.blogspot.com)) made a report on the activities carried out in Espaillat. The newspaper Diario Libre remarked on the role of the DRC as auxiliary to the government, and the actions taken to fight cholera ([www.diariolibre.com/noticias/2012/05/18/i336667\\_aumenta-internamiento-pacientes-con-sintomas-colera.html](http://www.diariolibre.com/noticias/2012/05/18/i336667_aumenta-internamiento-pacientes-con-sintomas-colera.html)).

The National Society's capacity has increased as 40 volunteers received PHAST training, and another 27 on the Epidemic Control for Volunteers methodology. In addition, 33 volunteers were trained in psychosocial support. This training strategy enables the availability of a number of personnel who are always on standby to respond to emergencies.

## Contact information

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

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## DREF history:

This DREF was initially allocated for CHF 148,808 for 3 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 (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.

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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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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/5-11
Budget Timeframe	2012/5-11
Appeal	MDRDO004
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
<b>A. Budget</b>	148,808					148,808	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	148,808					148,808	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>	148,808					148,808	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>	148,808					148,808	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>	148,808					148,808	
<b>Coverage = D/A</b>	100%					100%	

## II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>C. Income</b>	148,808					148,808	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-141,475					-141,475	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	7,333					7,333	

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/5-11
Budget Timeframe	2012/5-11
Appeal	MDRDO004
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>148,808</b>					<b>148,808</b>	
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	37,954	42,024				42,024	-4,069	
Medical & First Aid	22,564	18,180				18,180	4,384	
Teaching Materials	19,068	10,499				10,499	8,569	
Utensils & Tools	9,080	7,936				7,936	1,144	
Other Supplies & Services		25				25	-25	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Su</b>	<b>88,666</b>	<b>78,663</b>				<b>78,663</b>	<b>10,003</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage		453				453	-453	
Distribution & Monitoring	9,806	4,277				4,277	5,530	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,448	7,711				7,711	-2,263	
Logistics Services	908	770				770	138	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>16,162</b>	<b>13,210</b>				<b>13,210</b>	<b>2,952</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Society Staff	5,993	8,332				8,332	-2,339	
Volunteers	11,471	17,624				17,624	-6,153	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>17,464</b>	<b>25,956</b>				<b>25,956</b>	<b>-8,492</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	5,448	6,647				6,647	-1,199	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>5,448</b>	<b>6,647</b>				<b>6,647</b>	<b>-1,199</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	2,724						2,724	
Information & Public Relations	4,540	5,908				5,908	-1,368	
Office Costs	1,816	2,159				2,159	-343	
Communications	1,816	1,454				1,454	362	
Financial Charges	1,090	-1,190				-1,190	2,280	
Other General Expenses		33				33	-33	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>11,986</b>	<b>8,364</b>				<b>8,364</b>	<b>3,621</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recov	9,082	8,635				8,635	448	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>9,082</b>	<b>8,635</b>				<b>8,635</b>	<b>448</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>148,808</b>	<b>141,475</b>				<b>141,475</b>	<b>7,333</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>7,333</b>				<b>7,333</b>		