

DREF Plan of Action

Panama: Floods

DREF Operation n°	MDRPA014	Glide n°:	FL-2021-000096-PAN
Date of issue:	29 July 2021	Expected timeframe:	3 months
		Expected end date:	31 October 2021
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: 224,391 Swiss francs (CHF)			
Total number of people affected:	27,189 (5,437 families)	Number of people to be assisted:	4,000 (800 families)
Provinces affected:	Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí, Coclé, Veraguas, Herrera	Province targeted:	Bocas del Toro
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): The Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) has 1,345 volunteers and 90 staff and is organized in 23 branches ¹ . The National Society headquarters is in the province of Panama.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Canadian Red Cross Society, American Red Cross, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC), National Border Service (Senafrent), National Council for Sustainable Development (CONADES), Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Social Development, IDAAN, Ministry of Health (MINSAs), Ministry of Public Works, Panamanian Institute Autonomous Cooperative (IPACOP), Ministry of Housing and Land Use Planning (MIVIOT), Fire Department of Panama, Maritime Authority of Panama, Mi Ambiente, MEDUCA, Social Security Fund, National Customs Authority, Naturgy, and Civil Protection National System among others.			

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Since 23 July 2021, heavy rains have been reported in several provinces of Panama, causing severe flooding, especially in the Province of Bocas del Toro (Changuinola; Almirante and Chiriquí Grande), Chiriquí, and Nabe-Buglé. According to preliminary data from the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC)², 35 communities have been affected. Approximately 5,435 homes have been directly affected, 27,189 people affected, one person dead, and 858 people in collective centers.

¹ [Federation Databank and Reporting System](#)- FDRS, data from 2018

² [SINAPROC Panama](#).

All rivers and streams in the province of Bocas del Toro reported their maximum level, causing major flooding and landslides that have caused road blockages and collapse of roads, falling trees, affected and destroyed houses, especially in the areas surrounding the Sixaola River. According to official hydro meteorological data, rainfall accumulations of approximately 300 mm were recorded in the affected areas in the province of Bocas del Toro, as opposed to the rest of the country, where lower rates of accumulation of rainfall volume were recorded.

Due to the severity of the floods, on 23 June SINAPROC declared a red alert for the Province of Bocas del Toro and a yellow alert for the Provinces of Chiriqui, Veraguas, Herrera, Los Santos, Colón, Coclé and the Ngäbe-Buglé region.

The floods are also isolated communities due to blockages and the collapse of roads due to landslides. The Ministry of Agricultural Development is conducting assessments of the damage in agricultural areas in Puerto Armuelles and Changuinola to assess the means of transport and agricultural damage. 62% of the population is located in the border area; the rest of the population is located in the Admiral area.

The rains continue in the area. The situation is expected to worsen as the hurricane season is in its initial phase. It is not ruled out that the number of affected families will increase in the coming days and that more communities will be affected.

To date, the main affected communities are:



Panamanian Red Cross volunteers distributing household items to the affected population of Changuinola, Bocas del Toro. Source: RCSP, 27 July 2021.

Townships					
	Almirante centro	Barrio Frances	Barrio Guaimy	Villas de Aguas	Guabito
Communities	La Rivierra	Barrio Chino	Brisas de la Montaña	Rio este de Abajo	Barriada Bolsa
	Cohibita	Punta Domingo	Barriada Guaymie	Rio este de Arriba	Área Precarista
	Barriada San Agustin	Calle de la Iglesia Bautista	Nuevo Paraiso	Quebrada Juan	Barriada 14 De Abril
	Las Golondrinas		Barriada Aeropuerto	Quebrada Cacao	Barriada Nueva Generación
	Media Milla		Miraflores		Finca 51
	Las Vegas uno		Quebrada Limon		Barriada Paredes
	Las Vegas dos		Alto Refujio		Puente Blanco, Medio Y Negro
	Una Milla				California
	C. S.S				Las Brisas
	Cementerio				La Mula
				Barriada San Antonio	



Panama: Floods

Situation report, Shelter information and response actions in Bocas del Toro province

Data as of 25-July-2021

Key Figures



★ Bocas del Toro Shelter situation

Changuinola

- 2 Shelters
- Galera
- Junta Comunal 1 Milla

Almirante

- 8 Shelters
- Finca 11
- Finca 31
- Escuela 4 de Abril
- La Mesa
- Gimnasio de Guabito
- INADEH
- Junta Comunal de California
- Tehobroma



Response Actions

Government

- Allocated 4 thousand food kits.
- Carrying assessments in the agricultural sector.
- Distribution of water, food and covering basic needs.

Red Cross Society of Panama

- Activated 23 branches across the country.
- Activated 50 Rapid Response members (volunteers and staff).
- Activated specialized staff and volunteers in WASH, PSS, Livelihoods, Migration and Epidemic Control.
- NFIs for 250 families for distribution.



Data sources: Red Cross Society of Panama, IFRC GO, SINAPROC Panama

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Produced by Information Management Team, IFRC Americas region.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society Response Action

The Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) placed the 23 local committees in the country's 10 provinces on alert. Specialised volunteers were activated for this response.

The PRC activated 7 volunteers who are members of the Regional Intervention Team (RIT) and 50 members of its National Response Team. Teams have also been mobilized to identify and record information using the Open Data Kit (ODK) in the affected communities. The PRC has activated 100 volunteers with specialisations in health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); psychosocial support (PSS); livelihoods; and migration, as well as 10 epidemic control volunteers who the Ministry of Health previously trained. The PRC has deployed 1 assessment specialist, 2 PSS specialists, 10 emergency first response volunteers, and 2 Restoring Family Links (RFL) specialists.

As of 26 July 2021, the RCSP maintained a rotation of 50 activated staff at HQ level, activating the Collection Centre and another 25 volunteers at branch level to contribute to the local response. The National Society has provided response through its local committee in Bocas del Toro area (Changuinola and Isla Bocas, with 15 direct volunteers supporting the local committee's response actions) and from the national headquarters. They have been responding to humanitarian aid actions to protect the lives of those affected by the heavy rains and landslides.

The National Society has dispatched the following items for distribution:

- Blankets for 250 families

- Hygiene kits for 250 families
- 101 boxes of water purifiers.

Additionally, as part of the initial response to the emergency, the RCSP has carried out the following actions:

- Delivering First Aid assistance to people collective centres.
- Support to carry out the census in the collective centres.
- Activation of the National Stockpile Centre.
- Collection and delivery of food assistance.
- Support for damage assessment with the joint task force.
- Participation in the Inter-institutional EOC in the province of Bocas del Toro.
- Deployment of 1 Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA) specialist.
- Deployment of 2 Psychosocial Support specialists.
- Deployment of two specialists in Restoring Family Links (RFL).
- Deployment of 1 volunteer safety specialist.
- Dispatch of 2 vehicles on the ground to support actions.
- Mobilisation of humanitarian aid (blankets, personal hygiene kits) for people in collective centres.
- Mobilisation of ODK teams for the census in affected communities.
- Reports published on the [GO platform](#).

The National Society is working closely with the State emergency teams, the EOC, and the Presidency's joint task force for this emergency and maintaining a presence in the Bocas del Toro Provincial EOC.

The National Society is currently implementing two additional emergency operations:

- IFRC Emergency Appeal for the Americas: COVID-19 (M2009036), aligned with the global Emergency Appeal.
- Response to the migration crisis in the province of Darien with the financial support of the IFRC.

These two operations have strengthened the National Society's response capacity, worked in border areas, and coordinated with local actors. The lessons learned experience of the previous Flood response made it possible to organise this operation's activities and include strengthening activities for the response.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

The IFRC Americas Regional Office and the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) are in Panama. The PRC has been coordinating its actions with the IFRC Regional Office's Disaster and Crisis Prevention, Response and Recovery Unit (DCPRR), which provides technical support and coordination for this emergency response. The IFRC RLU offers logistical support to the PRC collection centre with logistical equipment and human resources trained in warehouse management.

The American Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross are present in Panama through their regional delegations. Both National Societies are in contact with the PRC.

Overview of non-RCRC actors' actions in country

Since 24 July, SINAPROC activated the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the regional level to coordinate between all entities to implement the necessary responses and assistance. Bocas del Toro is a mountainous area due to rain in the last three days, 11 landslides have been reported, and one person is dead.

The National Border Service (SENAFRONT) has supported the delivery of 4,000 bags of food from the Panama Solidarity Plan to families affected by the flooding of the Sixaola River (Bocas del Toro) and supported the distribution of water to those affected by the floods in Guabito.

The Institute of National Aqueducts and Sewage Systems (IDAAN) has reported that the technical staff is carrying out water distribution operations using water tankers. At the same time, conditions are monitored to allow the resumption of activities. The Technical Water Board in Bocas del Toro is delivering water, food, and essential necessities. Similarly, sheltered persons have received medical assistance.

Ministry of Public Works is monitoring any damage to the road network due to the weather conditions in the country. Given the landslides on the road to Las Delicias, work has been carried out with machinery to clear the road. Ministry of Housing is carrying out censuses and handing out bags of food to affected families. In addition, they are carrying out social and technical reports to families affected by the floods. Panama Fire Brigade is carrying out evacuations, search, and rescue activities for those affected. The Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) is assessing the agricultural sector losses in Almirante and Changuinola. Ministry of Education (MEDUCA) has set up one school as a collective centre.

National Naval Air Service (SENAN) is providing operational support with maritime and air logistics to reach areas of difficult access, providing support in the transfer of food for families affected by the floods. Ministry of Health and Social Security are carrying out swab tests on the people in collective centres. The Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) is responsible for ensuring the feeding of the people in the shelters.

The Office of the First Lady, together with MIDES, have delivered the following items to the collective centres:

- 135 mattresses
- 217 cans of powdered milk for infants
- 52 disposable diapers for babies
- 100 underwear (50 adults and 50 children)
- 3 bags of food per collective centre per day

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

The National Joint Task Force reported 27,189 people affected by the rains that left 27 sectors of the province of Bocas del Toro flooded.

Bocas del Toro affectation figures:

- 27,175 people affected by flooding
- 5,435 houses affected
- 11 landslides
- 37 rescues were carried out in various sectors

Shelter

Initial assessments show a total of 5,435 homes affected. The houses have been damaged by flooding, landslides, and strong winds. According to reports from the National Civil Protection System, 27,175 people have been affected by flooding, with a total of 515 people registered in the 11 collective centres set up for the affected population.

As of 26 July 2021, in Bocas del Toro, there are 515 people in collective centres in Almirante and Changuinola. At the moment, 31 communities have been reported affected. Families have been forced to move to relatives' homes or educational



Homes affected by flooding in the border area with Costa Rica.

Although the government has begun distributing humanitarian aid, the affected population will need further support to meet their basic needs, such as non-food items (blankets, personal hygiene items, among others). Support for the clean-up and rapid repair of affected houses has also been identified as a priority to facilitate the early return of most of the people currently in collective centres. The indigenous population in the provinces of Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí, and Veraguas (Comarca Ngöbe-Buglé), which have a high percentage of the rural population, has been affected. According to the first rapid assessments, 300 families require support with household items.

Health

The Social Security Fund (Caja de Seguro Social-CSS) carried out swabs to detect COVID-19 and provided medical attention to the affected population in two of the collective centres in the communities of Almirante and those affected in the 4 de Abril neighbourhood. The CSS health personnel remain on alert for any further incidents in Bocas del Toro.

While first aid has been provided to the people in the collective centres, it will be necessary to provide essential health support in the collective centres, including when they return to their homes. The affected people require psychosocial support due to the adverse effects of this emergency on their mental health.

The incidence of vector-borne diseases due to stagnant water will increase. The floods have also caused latrines to overflow, contaminating water sources, leading to diarrhoea and other diseases.

Screening, information, and protection measures are required in the temporary collective centres to reduce the risks of COVID-19 infection. Physical distancing, distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE), hygiene promotion and dissemination of key messages to complement the vaccination campaign are particularly recommended.

In Bocas del Toro, the vaccination campaign was scheduled to begin on 28 July 2021 but has been suspended due to flooding. The Ministry of Health carried out swabs in each of the established collective centres to ensure the isolation/care of possible COVID-19 cases. To date, no positive cases have been found in the collective centres. It is required to conduct an awareness campaign in the communities regarding personal protective equipment, masks, and alcohol gel. In most communities, it is not using masks, so it is necessary to strengthen the protection of communities. For more up-to-date information related to COVID-19 in Panama, please visit the [MINSA COVID-19 page](#).

In previous years, the province of Bocas del Toro maintained high rates of dengue infection. So far, in 2021, the Ministry of Health reported a decrease in dengue cases. However, with increased rainfall and the accumulation of

water, an increase in dengue cases is expected in the affected areas. According to a rapid field evaluation, mosquitoes' proliferation is due to the stagnation of water and humidity in the area. An increase in cases of dengue is expected in the area due to the rainy season.

Water, Hygiene and Sanitation

As of 25 July, all the water treatment plants of Quebrada Nigua, Nuevo Paraíso, and Guabito are reported at maximum capacity, all of which have ceased operations due to the flooding. The Changuinola plant is working at 50% of its capacity due to its high turbidity levels in the Teribe River. Technical personnel are carrying out a distribution operation and are monitoring the situation as the rains continue in the area, according to the latest IDAAN press release published on 23 July. As of 25 July, the Changuinola 1 hydroelectric plant and the Bonyi dam remain at maximum capacity. In addition, the drinking water distribution line of Finca 31 was affected.

Supply of drinking water and hygiene in the targeted areas is required to mitigate waterborne diseases and meet the population's basic needs in the area.

The IDAAN and the Technical Water Board of the province of Bocas del Toro requested the Panamanian Red Cross to assist with installing two water tanks to supply drinking water to more than 150 families in a community in the District of Changuinola. His request was also made to the Panamanian Red Cross used this system during the ETA and IOTA emergency, which provided a prompt solution to the community.

Livelihoods

Panama is currently suffering from the economic effects of COVID-19. The main sources of livelihood in the provinces of Bocas del Toro are agriculture and livestock. Mainly due to the banana plantations located in the area. Livelihoods have been affected (loss of crops, animals); river basins have flooded banana plantations and cattle ranches, among others.

The heavy rains and floods have affected much of the soil, affecting agriculture in the area. The full extent of damage to local small businesses, agriculture, tourism, and service activities are expected to be significant, considering the current economic crisis in the region. Additionally, damage to small business infrastructure, agricultural production activities, and the collapse of different roads will delay recovery.

Rapid assessments have shown that the 500 families located in the border areas have lost their crops and sources of income and need to cover their food needs.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

The last census carried out in Panama mentions that the Ngöbe-Buglé, also known as the Guaymi, are the largest group, accounting for 65.5% of the entire indigenous population in Panama. In Bocas del Toro, these groups represent the Ngäbes (57.3 %), the Buglés (2.1 %), and the Naso Tjerdi (2.9 %)³. They live primarily in the eastern provinces of Bocas del Toro and Chiriquí, in mountainous areas, with significant limitations for agricultural production.

Women and vulnerable groups have differentiated impacts in Panama. Women are the first responders as paid domestic workers (domestic workers) or unpaid domestic workers (housewives), health professionals, civil society volunteers, community volunteers, and paid or unpaid caregivers. The gender inequality index in the country is 0.58, and 0.87 in indigenous areas, giving an average of 0.73 and qualifying Panama as a country with high gender inequality. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately one in five people in Panama was in a situation of multidimensional poverty. But for the indigenous population, the incidence of multidimensional poverty is extremely high: 93.7% of Guna women, 89.8% of Ngäbe Buglé women and 70.9% of Emberá women were in multidimensional poverty. Similarly, this poverty affects one third of children and adolescents. In the indigenous

³ [INEC. Población Indígena.](#)

regions, 5.6 per cent (24,998), 24.9 per cent (112,857) and 1.4 per cent (6,313) of children and adolescents are in multidimensional poverty.

The above implies the need for adequate plans for the care of indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups in the context of the health crisis, emergencies, and subsequent socio-economic recovery. The above is a significant challenge for women and children living in poverty.

Additionally, women and children living in collective centres are at increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence and systematic violations of their rights. At the community level, other vulnerabilities arise related to access to support, decision-making, and SGBV. Children and adolescents will also be key to being included as a population to be assisted, particularly their placement in collective centres that pose different protection risks. Safe spaces for children are needed in collective centres.

The target population will be defined based on surveys in the existing collective centres and assessments done by volunteers in the field. The National Society will also monitor and adapt content for the indigenous population and migrants who may need access to tools in their language.

Targeting

Based on the level of impact observed, PRC will prioritise assistance to 800 families (4,000 people) in the villages of Barrio Frances, Barrio Guaimy, Guabito in Bocas del Toro province.

The PRC established the following criteria to select and prioritise the affected population⁴:

- Families most affected by the floods, including people who have suffered the most damage to their homes and are currently in collective shelters in the province of Bocas del Toro.
- The most vulnerable groups, including single-parent families, older adults, pregnant women, children under five, people with chronic diseases, and persons with disabilities and indigenous people in the community.
- Households that have not been reached by humanitarian assistance from the state and other actors.

Estimated population to receive assistance in Bocas del Toro Province in Panama:

Villages	Communities	Families	People
Barrio Frances	Barrio Chino	198	990
Barrio Guaimy	Barriada Guaymie Nuevo Paraiso Quebrada Limon	302	1510
Guabito	Barriada Bolsa Área Precarista Barriada 14 De Abril Barriada Nueva Generación Finca 51 Barriada Paredes Puente Blanco, Medio Y Negro California Las Brisas La Mula Barriada San Antonio	300	1,500
Total		800	4,000

Estimated disaggregated data for population targeted.

According to the information currently available, the target population of 4,000 people (800 families) is composed of 48% women and 52% men.

Category	Number of targeted people	% Estimated from Target
Adults	2,920	73%
Minors	800	20%
Infants	200	5%
Pregnant women	80	2%
Total	4,000	100%

Scenario planning

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Best case scenario: Adverse weather conditions dissipate rapidly within a few hours. Water levels in flooded areas decrease, allowing a gradual return to normal.	Humanitarian aid can be sent and distributed more easily and quickly. Temporary shelters are closed, and families return to rebuild their homes and livelihoods. Basic services such as population assistance and clean water are quickly re-established.	Maintain close coordination with the authorities for the provision of humanitarian assistance based on the analysis of the few needs that have not yet been addressed, particularly in the areas of safe water and livelihoods. Psychosocial support continues to be provided to affected families.
Most likely scenario: Weather conditions remain unstable, and water levels in flooded areas do not recede rapidly. Daily life, local commerce, and essential services to the population remain partially affected or inaccessible for several days.	The number of displaced and sheltered persons remains unchanged, with some increases. Delivery of humanitarian assistance is delayed due to reduced access to communication/transit routes. People are highly affected by the surrounding conditions. Small outbreaks of various diseases occur in collective centres and populated sites due to little or no access to safe water and essential services.	Preventive measures on respiratory disease infection and COVID-19 are reinforced by distributing hygiene kits and PPE to volunteers and the target population. Assist in managing mental health, stress, and anxiety situations, implementing PGI strategies, ensuring the functioning of WASH systems, and supporting food security. Increased relief and assistance resources are deployed to the field. Sanitation and prevention campaigns in high-risk areas for water-borne and vector-borne diseases to minimise the potential for outbreaks.
Worst case scenario: Rains continue to affect already flooded areas for additional weeks severely. Shelters remain open and with a high density of affected people. Due to stagnant water and lack of safe water services, there are outbreaks	Health conditions are worsening in the affected areas, including collective centres. The capacity of the health care infrastructure is reduced given the consequences of the ongoing emergency, and there is an inadequate supply of supplies	Review the proposed Action Plan and make appropriate adjustments. Support MINSA authorities in prevention and mitigation measures for vector-borne diseases and COVID-19. Scale-up actions to respond to the situation.

of vector-borne diseases and increased cases of COVID-19 in the area.	from MINSA, so that contagion, including by sars-cov2, could increase dramatically.	
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Operation Risk Assessment

PRC personnel deployed in emergency response are exposed to various risks given the context of the affected areas.

Given the recurrent meteorological situation in the province due to the rainy season, access roads and land communication could be structurally affected, making it challenging to move personnel safely. The occurrence of new meteorological phenomena that could further affect the fragile infrastructure of the province is not ruled out.

In the event of further weather events in the area, actions will be reconsidered to minimise risks to personnel while providing coverage to the affected people.

The outbreak of disease due to limited access to safe water could also affect volunteer staff involved in the response operation, and necessary supplies will need to be procured. Due to the area's stagnant flood water and tropical environment, vector-borne diseases (e.g. mosquitoes) are of particular concern.

Risk mitigation in field operations resulting from the movement of volunteer staff through affected areas will be done by implementing a security plan and reinforcing protocols with staff daily before going on missions.

Safety protocols should also be applied to the vehicle fleet in use within the operation to mitigate risks associated with unsafe driving and preventable incidents based on vehicle inspections.

The National Society's emergency response considers the current risk context of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring the use of biosecurity and personal protective equipment for both our staff and the target population. The National Society will continue to monitor the situation closely and modify the plan as necessary, considering the evolving COVID-19 situation and any operational risks that may arise, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population.

COVID-19 Pandemic

This DREF operation and its operational strategy considers the risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and is aligned with the IFRC global emergency appeal that supports National Societies to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Panama currently has 429,083 COVID-19 cases, 6,750 deaths, 409,2016 recoveries, and 3,295,447 tests performed in the province of Bocas del Toro. A cumulative total of 8,765 cases have been reported to date. The Ministry of Health has initiated phase 1 of vaccination since January 2021, which corresponds to frontline staff, and phase 2 began on 4 March 2021 for people over 60 years of age, pregnant women, educators, people over 16 years of age with chronic diseases, this process has been carried out according to infection rates by circuits. Panama reports that 50% of the population has been vaccinated, which represents 1,506,054 people. For the second dose, there is a cumulative total of 684,106.

National Society responses to COVID-19 are supported through the [IFRC global appeal](#), which is facilitating and supporting them to maintain critical service provision, while adapting to COVID-19. This DREF operation is aligned with and will contribute to the current global strategy and regional Emergency Plan of Action for COVID-19 developed by the IFRC Americas Regional Office, in coordination with global and regional partners. This means that the NS will ensure, even as it responds to the current dengue outbreak, COVID-19 prevention measures are adhered to, in line with regional plan of action and its national COVID-19 country plan.

IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crisis should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The NS will keep monitoring the situation closely and revise the plan accordingly if needed, taking into consideration the evolving COVID19 situation and the operational risks that might develop, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of items, procurement issues, and movement of NS volunteers and staff. For more information, please consult the COVID-19 operation page on the [IFRC Go platform](#).

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

PRC will contribute to the national response to the floods and landslides affecting the province of Bocas del Toro, providing emergency needs support to 800 affected families (4,000 people) in the areas of health, livelihoods and basic needs, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter and protection, gender and inclusion.

The proposed strategy is based on permanent coordination with the national EOC established by SINAPROC. Communities and needs will be jointly identified in coordination with the provincial emergency operations centre and municipal authorities to ensure no duplication of efforts.

Proposed Strategy

Shelter

PRC will support the recovery of the affected population by providing humanitarian aid to 300 families in Bocas del Toro.

The PRC will complement the actions of state and government institutions with the distribution of:

- 600 blankets in the collective centres
- 300 kitchen sets
- 300 shelter kits (2 tarpaulins and a tool kit)

The National Society will monitor the use of the distributed items and provide appropriate guidance and counselling.

Livelihoods and basic needs

PRC has been collecting food and preparing food packages for distribution to the affected people. The National Society will procure additional items to complete the food packages for families to ensure that the daily requirement of 2,100 kilocalories per package is met for one month. The packages will be distributed to 500 families in the affected area.

IFRC Regional Logistic Units will support the NS proving guidelines to meet the quality standards and IFRC protocols for food procurement.

Health

PRC contributes to mitigating health problems in the affected provinces through the following activities:

- First aid
- Health promotion (specifically prevention of vector-borne and water-borne diseases, in addition to COVID-19).
- Community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) sessions in the communities.

- Distribution of COVID-19 PPE to the population and awareness messages
- Assessment of mental health and psychosocial support needs of the affected population in shelters and at community level and availability of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)
- PHC interventions in target communities and collective centres with PHC kits. At the community level, 15 sessions are planned in the intervention area.
- Psychosocial support interventions for volunteers and staff.
- Disseminate PHC awareness messages and culturally and linguistically adapted materials to the affected population to reduce stress and promote resilience with a focus on PHC, community participation and accountability (CPRP) and PGI
- Distribution of PHC kits for children in shelters (crayons, drawing blocks, stories, jigsaw puzzles)
- Monitoring of the health situation in the intervention area.

A total of 4,000 people will be reached through health assistance.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Following an initial assessment, PRC will deploy two tanks of 5,000 litres to supply drinking water to 150 families. The water supply will remain operational until the local water treatment capacity is fully restored.

PRC will also contribute to improving hygiene conditions in the area with the following activities:

- Daily distribution of water to the affected population.
- Distribution of jerry cans (2 per family) for 300 families
- Awareness campaigns on waste management, recycling, prevention of mosquito breeding sites, community cleanliness campaigns, use of the WASH items and hygiene promotion.
- Distribution of family hygiene kits for 800 families
- Distribution of cleaning kits for 500 families.
- Distribution of mosquito nets and repellents to 800 families.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Following the emergency, many of the families were affected, separated, and lost communication. Panamanian Red Cross staff are providing access to equipment to make calls and contact family members.

The target population is the people in the collective centres.

Operation Support Services

Human Resources

The National Society will recruit three people to increase its implementation capacity:

- 1 DREF operations coordinator
- 1 finance officer
- 1 field officer

The activities will be implemented through the mobilisation of volunteers trained by the PRC:

- 100 volunteers
- Team of psychosocial support specialists
- National Intervention Team specialists
- Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) and livelihoods specialists
- Communications staff
- WASH specialists from the National Intervention Team (NIT).

All staff and volunteers will have insurance coverage, which is already funded through another operation. They will be provided with the necessary visibility and protective equipment, including COVID-19 specific equipment, to carry out their actions.

Logistics and Supply Chain

Logistics activities aim to manage the supply chain effectively, including mobilisation, procurement, customs clearance, fleet, storage, and transport to distribution sites, following the operation requirements and in line with IFRC logistics standards, processes, and procedures.

The IFRC Regional Logistics Unit will procure the following list of items: 300 shelter kits, 800 hygiene kits, 500 cleaning kits, 300 kitchen kits, 600 blankets, 2,400 mosquito nets, 1,600 repellents, 600 10-litre jerry cans, and 800 PPE Kits.

PRC will oversee the procurement of goods and services, transport and storage. These processes will be executed by the PRC procurement department, following the guidelines of the National Society's procurement manual. Distributions are coordinated with the relevant institutions as required.

Contents of the kits:

Hygiene Kit

Description	Quantity
Bar of soap 250gr. / 8.8 oz.	4
Bath soap 125 gr.	12
Shampoo 400ml. / 13.5 oz.	4
Toothpaste 100ml. / 125 gr.	4
Toothbrush	4
Shaver	4
Hand towels	4
Toilet paper	12
Comb	2
Sanitary towels	4

Kitchen Set

Description	Quantity
Bowl for food, 1l, stainless steel	5
Fork, table fork, stainless steel	5
Frying pan, 2.5l, used as a lid for the 7l pot.	1
Knife, kitchen, 15 cm stainless steel blade, plastic handle.	1
Knife, table knife, stainless steel	5
Spoon, wooden, stirring, 30 cm.	1
Spoon, soup, stainless steel, 10 ml	5
Cooking pot, 5l, steel, diam. 20 cm, with handles and lid	1
Cooking pot, 7l, steel, diam. 25 cm, with handles	1
Cup, stainless steel, with handle, 300ml	5
Plate, deep, stainless steel, diam. 22 cm, lid. 0.75l	5
Scouring pad	1
Spoon, 100ml, stainless steel	1
Serving spoon, stainless steel 35ml	1

Shelter kit

Description	Quantity
Rope, polypropylene, black, diam. 12mm, twisted	30
Hand saw, for wood, 400mm blade	1
Nails, roofing, 75mm (3"), hot galv. + rubber washer, 0.5kg	1
Shovel, round tip with Y-handle, total length approx. 1 m.	1
Hoe, with long handle, large type	1
Machete, length approx. 500 mm, wooden handle	1
Scissors, straight, for sheet metal, semi-hard, max. 1 mm, 255 mm.	1
Nails, hot-dip galvanised iron, for wood, 40mm, (1.1/2")	1
Binding wire, galvanised, diam. 1.5 mm, 25m, roll	1
Claw hammer, carpenter's hammer, 750g, wooden handle	1
Bag, tarpaulin type, coated polyethylene 180g/m ² , 1300x400mm	1
Rope, polypropylene, diam. 3mm, twisted, green	30
Hoe, hoe, hoe head only, 250x70mm, 0.7kg	1
Tape measure, tailor's type, pvc coated polyester, 20mm x 3m	1
Needle, stitching, curved, 127mm x 1.8mm, hole 1x7mm	2
Nails, hot-dipped galvanised iron, for wood, 7.5 cm.	1
Tarpaulins, 4x6 metres	2

Cleaning Kit

Description	Quantity
Multi-purpose bleach 1 Litre	30
Hard surface cleaner degreaser 1 Litre	1
Sponge	1
Work protection gloves	1
Chemical protective gloves	1
Mask	1
Brush, scrubbing brush, hand brush	1
Large, heavy-duty black rubbish bags	3
Broom handle 54" 4 sections	2
Broom, upright sweep, without handle	1
Broom, push broom without handle	1
20 oz. cotton, mop head, head only, no stick	1
Floor blade, squeegee, 45 cm, without handle.	1

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

PRC will include the following CEA activities:

- Orientation of staff and volunteers
- Implementation of a feedback and grievance mechanism
- Coordination with local leaders, municipalities and Government
- Systematic community involvement

PRC will use the CEA approach in programming and operations. The CEA approach is cross-cutting and is used in the activities carried out as part of the different intervention strategies. It seeks to integrate communication and

participation of affected and target communities by firstly training volunteers on the issue and then developing CEA actions in the affected communities.

Activities proposed as part of the CEA approach include: Sharing timely information with communities to support community preparedness and primary response actions, promoting physical and mental health during and after the flood emergency through social media, small group sessions, newsletters and other risk reduction actions as rains continue in the areas.

Security

PRC will ensure that volunteers receive appropriate training for their assignments. All staff and volunteers will be briefed before the mission and will receive proper visibility and protective equipment. The National Society will also consistently apply COVID-19 protocols regarding the duty of care for staff and volunteers. The COVID-19 protocol also aims to prevent harm to the target population.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

Together with the Directorate General and the Finance Coordinator, the Head of Operations will be responsible for the monitoring, oversight, and delivery of reports for this emergency Plan of Action. Progress and accountability reports will be prepared in a timely manner. Visits and interviews will be conducted with the target population, volunteers, and other actors involved in implementing the Plan of Action.

A satisfaction survey will be conducted to monitor the progress and achievement of objectives. The National Society will maintain a line of communication and coordination with the IFRC PMER focal point. Reporting on the operation will be done following IFRC minimum reporting standards. A final report will be issued within three months of the end of the operation and lessons learned exercise.

Administration and Finance

The financial management strategy will focus on the following:

- Staff available to work on specific aspects of the operation.
- Compliance with reporting and constant monitoring of the allocated budget and implementation level.
- Reporting to the different coordinators of the lines of intervention on the correct use of the resources allocated to the action plan.

AP005	Selection of the population to be reached based on the vulnerability criteria set												
AP005	Coordination with local authorities and responding institutions												
AP005	Procurement and distributions of 300 kitchen sets												
AP005	Procurement and distributions of 300 shelter kits with instruction materials												
AP005	Procurement and distribution of 600 blankets (2 per family)												
AP005	Monitoring on the use of distributed items												
AP005	Design and implementation of a CEA plan and feedback mechanism related to shelter												



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 2,500

Male: 1,300

Female: 1,200

Requirements (CHF): 38,340

Needs analysis: The effects of the flooding are likely to disrupt income-generating activities, production, and people's well-being due to damage to essential services, agricultural land, infrastructure (including roads), housing, and local markets. RCSP will seek to meet the food needs of affected families for a month.

Risk analysis: The current situation could further worsen the livelihoods situation already affected by COVID-19.

Population to be assisted: 500 families will receive assistance in affected areas.

Programme standards: The intervention will follow the Standards set out in the Sphere Manual; the Fundamental Principles and Values of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's Strategic Framework on Disability Inclusion; IFRC's Minimum Standard for protection, gender, and inclusion; the Code of Conduct; RCSP Social Inclusion, Culture of Peace and Non-Violence Policy; and other documents related to the Movement and other organizations that allow providing quality humanitarian assistance with dignity.

P&B Output	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	<i># of targeted households that have enough food, to meet their survival threshold</i> <i>Target: 500</i>
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Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for food security is provided to the most affected communities	# of families receive a food parcel for one month Target: 500 # of families receive livelihoods guidance Target: 500												
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP008	Targeting and registration													
AP008	Procurement and distribution of food parcels to the affected population which are ensuring needs are met for 1 month													
AP008	Detailed assessment to determinate the needs and mechanisms to cover the food needs													



Health

People targeted: 4,000

Male: 2,080

Female: 1,920

Requirements (CHF): 24,176

Needs analysis: People temporarily housed in collective centres require on-site health care and first aid, especially in the context of COVID-19. Measures to prevent and control COVID-19 transmission need to be strengthened, especially with the possibility of deteriorating access to adequate hygiene, lack of proper water and sanitation (diarrhoeal or skin diseases), exposure to humidity and cold (acute respiratory diseases). The proliferation of respiratory diseases could contribute to the overburdening of the health system, as it would need to be differentiated from the COVID-19 diagnosis. Attention needs to be paid to reduce the proliferation of vectors of communicable diseases (dengue, chikungunya, Zika, malaria).

It is crucial to ensure the continuation of adequate care for at-risk populations, such as children under five, pregnant and lactating women, people with disabilities, and the older adults' population with chronic diseases.

In addition to the stress, loss, and grief that people have faced around COVID-19, this disaster increases stress levels. People in affected communities and people in shelters require Psychological First Aid (PFA) and other Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions to reduce their wellbeing and mental health. People with pre-existing mental disorders who are in treatment need to be identified to facilitate their medication by implementing a referral pathway to specialised

mental health services. Psychosocial Support (PSS) systems need to be put in place for volunteers and staff to protect their wellbeing as they may be exposed to complex situations during evacuations or other interventions.

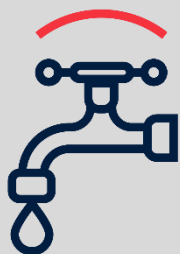
Risk analysis: The risks of disease spread, especially of COVID-19, are increased for the population housed in collective centres. Due to the context of COVID-19, many people experience stress and loss, and grief processes that add to the risks of psychological and mental health problems if affected people cannot access PSS support systems.

Population to be assisted: 4,000 people (800 families with health promotion and 400 people with PSS) will receive assistance in the targeted areas.

Programme standards: All activities will meet the standards of the Ministry of Health, PAHO/WHO, Sphere MHPSS, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC).

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to medical treatment	<i># of people reached by RCSP with services to reduce relevant health risk factors</i> Target: 4,000											
	Health Output 2.1: Improved access to health care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.	<i># of health promotion campaigns/CBHFA sessions conducted</i> Target: 5											
		<i># of families that receive COVID-19 PPE kits</i> Target: 800 <i># of people receiving first aid services</i> Target: 50											
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP022	Coordination with the Ministry of Health regarding the health situation in the affected area												
AP022	Provision of first aid services in the affected areas and in the temporary collective centres (with RCSP funds)												
AP022	Health Promotion campaigns in the affected areas, including CBHFA												
AP022	Procurement and distribution of COVID-19 family PPEs kits to affected households												
AP022	Constant monitoring of the health situation in the affected area												
P&B	Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened	<i># of people reached with psychosocial support</i> Target: 400											

Output Code	Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff	# of people provided with PSS support Target: 400											
		# of PSS kits are procured and distributed to the targeted population Target: 400											
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP023	Assessment and Identification of psychosocial support needs in the affected area												
AP023	Provide PSS interventions to people affected by the disaster												
AP023	Establish referral mechanism with the Ministry of Health for complex cases and people with pre-existing mental health problems to have access to treatment and medicines												
AP023	Procurement and distribution of 400 PSS kits for adults and children in emergency shelters												
AP023	Printing and distribution of PSS information material in the communities												



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People targeted: 4,000

Male: 2,080

Female: 1,920

Requirements (CHF): 65,152

Needs analysis: The shortage of drinking water production and the malfunctioning of the sewage system increases the risk of incidence of waterborne diseases in the affected area. Hygiene in the flooded area is also a concern, and the current state of the houses prevents the population from returning to their homes. The affected population lacks safe drinking water due to the non-functioning of water treatment plants. This shortage could be addressed by the Panamanian Red Cross with the installation of two tanks for water distribution in one community.

Risk analysis: The schedule for restoring water and sewerage systems remains unknown. Vector-borne diseases are estimated to occur six to eight weeks after the storm. The risk of vector-borne diseases will remain high. Initially, this type of disaster often washes away mosquito breeding sites, but as the water recedes and

environmental conditions worsen breeding sites and mosquito populations increase. In addition, the presence of debris and solid waste disposal in this post-disaster environment creates ideal conditions for vectors such as rats, which also carry diseases.

Population to be assisted: 800 families will receive assistance in the targeted areas. The distribution will be differenced according to the needs. In this sense, 800 families will receive hygiene kits, and 500 will receive cleaning kits. Some families will receive two items or more, but the 800 families will receive mosquito nets and repellents due to the potential increase of dengue disease in the flooded areas.

Programme standards: The intervention will follow the Standards set out in the Sphere Manual; the Fundamental Principles and Values of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's Strategic Framework on Disability Inclusion; IFRC's Minimum Standard for protection, gender, and inclusion; the Code of Conduct; RCSP 's Social Inclusion, Culture of Peace and Non-Violence Policy; and other documents related to the Movement and other organizations that allow providing quality humanitarian assistance with dignity.

P&B Output Code	WASH Outcome1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities												
	WASH Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population												
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP026	Conduct WASH assessment in the affected area, including in the emergency collective centres												
AP026	Water distribution with the installation of two tanks in one community and monitoring of the quality												
AP026	Distribution of drinking water to the population of the affected area (two communities)												
AP026	Purchase and distribution of 600 jerry cans (2 per family)												
P&B Output Code	WASH Output 1.5: Hygiene-related goods (household items) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population												
		<i># of people improve their access to safe water and hygiene</i> Target: 4,000 <i># of people provided with safe water (according to Sphere and WHO standards)</i> Target: 4,000 <i># of households reached with jerry cans</i> Target: 300											
		<i># of households who receive a hygiene kit</i> Target: 800 <i># of households who receive a cleaning kit</i> Target: 500 <i># of households who receive mosquito nets (3 per family) and repellents (2 per family)</i>											

		<i>Target: 800 households (2,400 units)</i> <i># of volunteers trained in vector management and control</i> <i>Target: 50</i> <i># of vectors promotion campaigns</i> <i>Target: 15</i>											
Activities planned Week		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP030	Procurement and distribution of hygiene kits (1 per family)												
AP030	Procurement and distribution of cleaning kits (1 per family)												
AP030	Awareness campaigns on waste management, recycling and mosquito breeding prevention, Community cleaning campaigns and hygiene promotion												
AP030	Procurement and distribution of 2,400 mosquito nets (3 per family)												
AP030	Procurement and distribution of 1,600 repellents (2 per family)												
AP030	Training for volunteers in vector management and control												
AP030	Brief family's member on the objectives, use and maintenance of the WASH items												



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People targeted: 4,000

Male: 2,080

Female: 1,920

Requirements (CHF): 8,520

Needs analysis: A differentiated needs analysis will be carried out according to field assessments of the communities to be reached.

Population to be assisted: 800 families will receive assistance in the targeted areas.

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 54,369

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform	# of volunteers supporting the operation Target: 100											
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	# of volunteers that receive PPE and visibility for activities. Target: 100 # of volunteers receiving advocacy briefings Target: 30 volunteers											
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP040	Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face												
AP040	Provision of PPE and visibility for volunteers												
AP040	Provision of PSS for volunteers												
AP040	Recognition to volunteers												
AP042	Advocacy briefing for volunteers to work with local authorities and communities												
P&B Output Code	Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place	# of staff hired for the operation Target: 3 One lesson learned workshop held											
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	AP042	Recruitment of operations staff (1 coordinator, 1 financial officer, 1 field officer)											
AP042	Lessons learned workshop												
P&B	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured												

Budget

Sea Annex.

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. 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

DREF OPERATION

MDRPA014 - Panama: Floods

29/07/2021

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	15,600
Clothing & Textiles	2,520
Food	32,500
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	53,076
Medical & First Aid	9,500
Teaching Materials	21,600
Utensils & Tools	7,050
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	141,846
Transport & Vehicles Costs	18,400
Logistics Services	4,200
Logistics, Transport & Storage	22,600
National Society Staff	10,200
Volunteers	26,000
Personnel	36,200
Workshops & Training	2,200
Workshops & Training	2,200
Travel	3,000
Information & Public Relations	1,000
Office Costs	1,900
Communications	900
Financial Charges	1,050
General Expenditure	7,850
DIRECT COSTS	210,696
INDIRECT COSTS	13,695
TOTAL BUDGET	224,391

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	33,835
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	38,340
AOF4	Health	24,176
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	65,152
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	8,520
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	44,198
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	10,171
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	
TOTAL		224,391

