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DREF Plan of Action

Nicaragua: Preparatory action

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation N°	MDRNI011		
Date of issue	3 September 2021	Expected timeframe:	5 months
		Expected end date:	28 February 2022
IFRC Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: 149,650 Swiss francs (CHF)			
Total number of people affected:	3,332,631	Number of people to be assisted:	2,610 directly 500,000 indirectly
Departments potentially affected:	Chinandega, León, Managua, Rivas, Carazo, Granada, Masaya, Jinotega, Matagalpa, Estelí, Nueva Segovia, Somoto, Juigalpa, Boaco, San Carlos, and Caribe Norte y Caribe Sur regions.	Provinces / Region targeted:	Chinandega, León, Jinotega, Matagalpa, Estelí, Rivas, Carazo, Granada, Masaya, Caribe Sur region and Managua.
Host National Societies presence: Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) has a nationwide coverage through its network of branches (32), with 2,000 active volunteers across different programmes.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Spanish Red Cross (SRC), Italian Red Cross (IRC) and German Red Cross			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response System (SINAPRED), Civil Defence, Comupred, Ministry of Health, Fire Brigade.			

A. Situation Analysis

Description of the Disaster: Context

In the last 20 years, Nicaragua has been hit by major, extreme weather events such as Hurricanes Mitch in 1998, Beta in 2005, Felix in 2007, and most recently by hurricanes Eta and Iota in November 2020, which hit the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) 15 days apart with maximum intensity. The economic, social, housing, and infrastructure losses have been devastating for the region, as the two latter hurricanes combined affected 56 municipalities nationwide and put three million people at risk. The 2021 hurricane season in the Atlantic runs from 1 June to 30 November. A total of 13 to 20 named storms as well as 6-10 hurricanes and 3-5 major hurricanes (category 3 or higher) have been forecast by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

According to the Global Climate Risk Index (Germanwatch, 2019), from 1998 to 2017 Nicaragua was ranked sixth among the top ten countries most exposed and vulnerable to extreme weather events. In addition to the territory's high vulnerability, this is a sign that other events will occur with each cyclonic season.

Additionally, in the last 50 years Nicaragua has had to deal with a series of internal armed conflicts, riots and civil tensions that have affected lives, the economy and put the peace and stability of the country at risk. The most recent violence stems from the tensions and unrest that occurred in April 2018 because of citizens' disgruntlement with social security reforms. This year (2021) is an election year in Nicaragua, which could lead to further unrest that might disrupt social and economic order in the country. The electoral campaign begins on 21 August and closes on 3 November, followed by the elections on 7 November. The electoral process concludes with the inauguration of the president and vice president on 9 January 2022. Considering the fragility of the country's political and social context, it is highly likely that there will be protests by those who do not agree with the electoral process and the election's results, which in turn could trigger civil unrest that will endanger the lives, safety and stability of the Nicaraguan people.

A surge in COVID-19 cases has been detected in the last three months. Current statistics point to an upward trend in the number of cases and, given the new symptoms seen, to the likely presence of new variants. Official sources at the Ministry of Health report 8,867 positive cases, 495 active cases and 198 deaths, although secondary, unofficial sources put the number of cases at 21,290 and the number of deaths at 3,905.

In 2020, Nicaragua reports 6,518,478 inhabitants - 3,302,000 female and 3,216,478 male - of whom 74 per cent are under 40 years of age. The risk index is high because of its geographical location and makeup, and it is part of the so-called "Pacific Belt" or "Ring of Fire".

While Nicaragua is strategically located for the development of various socioeconomic sectors, geographically speaking it is highly vulnerable to a wide range of hazards (seismic, volcanic, climatic, hydro-meteorological). The Nicaraguan Pacific region, the most densely populated area in the country that includes Managua, León and other major cities, is highly seismic and highly volcanic.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Operating National Society Response Action. Strengthening of institutional capacity

Below are some of the actions by Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC), in line with its forecast- and scenario-based planning and considering the multiple hazards in the country:

- Updated its Strategic Plan and hazard-based Contingency Plans.
- Prepared the Safer Access Strategy and Handbook to reduce operational risks in all National Society activities, which have been disseminated to branches to ensure a coordinated and effective response in the event of an emergency.

- Prepared and is currently disseminating the operational communication guidance, so that all branch volunteers and authorities know how to act in the event of an adverse event.
- Initiated a campaign to promote humanitarian principles and the institutional image, to position the institution in its humanitarian role and auxiliary to public authorities.
- Initiated the strengthening of specialized techniques within various national intervention teams (NITs), prioritizing psychosocial care and pre-hospital care and transport the main humanitarian services provided by the NRC.
- Made an inventory of readiness and preparedness needs in order to identify strengthening needs, considering existing stock and the resources that are required.
- Ongoing monitoring of developments over the next few months by the Monitoring and Reporting Commission, as well as daily reporting on the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Maintained and strengthened all administrative and biosafety measures to prevent an increase in COVID-19 cases.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has extensive experience in responding to different crises and disasters that affect vulnerable populations. Furthermore, it has National Intervention Teams (NIT) with different specialties and, as part of its auxiliary role, maintains ongoing coordination and working relationships with various institutions such as the Foreign Ministry, SINAPRED, National Police, the army and local governments, which allows the NRC to fulfil its humanitarian mandate. As we are heading to the highest peak during the Hurricane season and based on the contingency plans of Nicaragua Red Cross, September and October, operational preparedness has been prioritized.

The IFRC has worked jointly with the National Society in providing its support to the anticipatory actions and launched this DREF Operation. Up to date in 2021, the DREF has allocated 25.3 million Swiss francs (CHF) through 89 allocations including grants and loans.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

Through the project coordinator, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) in the country provides guidance and support to emergency response actions carried out by the National Society and requests the activation of DREF, Emergency Appeal and other types of funds and support that the National Society requires to respond to contingencies. This coordination is also responsible for projects aimed at addressing the COVID-19 pandemic at the regional level and the Hurricane Eta & Iota (2020) Plan of Action. In addition, the IFRC's Americas Regional Office (ARO) in Panama provides support through a specialized team that assists the different components linked to the emergency with preparedness, readiness and response actions.

Support is also provided by Movement partners such as the Spanish Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the German Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which activate their emergency funds in times of crisis and/or disasters as well as technically support National Society response. ICRC contributes to improve the NRC security management system enhancing their risk analysis capacity. The proposed anticipatory action reaches for complementary actions within Movement following the best in place approach

Overview of actions by other actors in country.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross initiates coordination with SINAPRED as soon as an alert for any event is issued, to ensure a needs-based, well-coordinated response. It also coordinates with other actors, such as private sector companies, international donors, embassies and United Nations organizations, which strengthens the NRC's response to communities.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment.

Nicaragua, because of the multiple hazards (seismic, volcanic, climatic, hydro-meteorological and social crises) and its communities' high level of vulnerability, has been affected by catastrophic events that have left severe damage in its wake for the Nicaraguan population. In November 2020, Hurricanes Eta & Iota combined affected 56 municipalities nationwide and put three million people at risk. According to SINAPRED, damages amount to a total of US\$ 617,433,000 and losses to the economy to US\$ 121,000,000 (a total of US\$ 738,433,000), but the costliest were the 23 human lives lost. The social crisis experienced in Nicaragua in 2018 also affected people's quality of life. The violence generated and the economic consequences that increased unemployment, migration abroad and social sensitivity are fragile conditions that need to be considered in risk analyses.

Based on previous experience on disasters and crises that Nicaragua has experienced during the last years, it is highly likely that primary health and water and sanitation might come out as the most pressing needs among the shelter/distribution of household and livelihoods, depending on the magnitude of the impact of the disaster. Protection of gender and inclusion concerns shouldn't be underestimated.

In crises and disasters, the Nicaraguan Red Cross deploys actions to save lives and protect the population, especially during catastrophic events, such as hurricanes, earthquakes and social conflicts, that require evacuation mechanisms, pre-hospital care and humanitarian aid. To this end, the NRC has a National Crisis and Disaster Response Plan and hazard-based Contingency Plans. The main goal is to contribute to protecting and improving people's quality of life, health and human dignity, as well as to reducing their vulnerability regardless of race, religion, nationality, sex, social status, politics or any other aspect.

Implementing its contingency plans in the event of an adverse situation requires prior preparation by the Nicaraguan Red Cross, which means preparing its operational and front-line personnel and pre-positioning the equipment, tools, supplies and units necessary to provide a hazard-based response. Pre-hospital care is one of the main services provided to the population both during normal times and in emergencies or disasters. The transport and evacuation to safe areas or collective centres as well as the response provided in the first 72 hours requires mobilizing resources to deliver food, hygiene kits, blankets and ensure safe water to communities, one of the biggest needs of the population.

The psychological consequences that disasters and crises cause to those directly affected are devastating at an emotional level; however, according to statistics, just the expectation that something may happen leads to feelings of insecurity, fear and anxiety, which in turn may lead to depression among other types of emotional impact. All these mental health issues put pressure on individuals, on communities and on health systems. For Nicaraguan Red Cross, the mental health of both responders and affected people is paramount, which is why it continues to be one of the key components in initial response. The NRC has a Psychosocial Support and Mental Health Centre (CAPS) as well as a network of volunteers trained in psychosocial support (PSS) who are deployed to provide care in affected areas. Therefore, during the preparedness phase, preparing the Psychosocial Support network, pre-positioning supplies and linking with the mental health specialists who provide treatment either in person or virtually from the CAPS are prioritized equally.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and other processes aimed at building credibility and trust need to include communication actions that allow positioning the institutional image and the auxiliary role, through our humanitarian principles to foster openness and people's trust in the actions carried out by the National Society and fulfilling our humanitarian mandate.

Considering that the risk of people's rights being violated and of being threatened and abused may increase in disaster or crisis situations, it is necessary to create protective conditions by incorporating minimum standards on gender and diversity into emergency plans within the framework of the Plan of Action. Spaces will be created to delve deeper into people's most urgent needs so that humanitarian aid responds to such needs.

Targeted areas:

Target areas were selected based on actions and lessons learned during response to crises and disasters that have affected the country in the last five years. Selection considered vulnerability analyses and the multiple threats to the country, characterizing the areas of greatest exposure; taking into account that an active hurricane season has been projected, forecasting 13 to 20 storms and 3 to 6 category-3 hurricanes or higher according to the Saffir Simpson scale; the electoral context leading up to the presidential elections that could generate unrest among the population; and the COVID -19 pandemic, which has saturated hospitals because of the surge in cases in recent weeks and affected the physical and mental health of the population. While all 32 branches nationwide will be affected given that all these scenarios take place in vulnerable and very exposed geographic areas, the ten branches located in the Pacific and North Central areas of the country will be especially affected.

The branches prioritized based on their municipalities' risk scenarios are Matagalpa, Jinotega, Estelí, León, Chinandega, Rivas, Granada, Carazo, Masaya, Caribe Sur Region and Managua. It should be noted that the North Caribbean coast is currently being assisted through the Eta and Iota Emergency Appeal.

Estimated disaggregated data for population targeted.

Area of Intervention	# of people targeted	Comments
Pre-hospital care and transport	1,500	- Transport of affected people to hospitals.
Psychosocial Support	960	- Self-care and psychosocial support sessions to 200 volunteers and staff. - Psychosocial support services to 760 people.
Institutional Strengthening	150	- Relief staff and volunteers and members will receive a helmet, uniforms, overcoat, boots, an anti-gas mask kit and protective goggles, and biosafety material.
Communication and Visibility	500,000	- Scope of communication campaign in intervention zones.

Category	Estimated % of target group
Adults (18-49 yrs.)	67%
Elderly (>50 yrs.)	30%
People with disabilities	3%

Scenario planning

Considering the multiple threats to the country and that the political and social conditions leading up to the 2021 elections increase the likelihood of social crises and emergencies, NRC has proposed scenarios to enable it to assist vulnerable affected populations in need of protection.

Scenario A:**Trigger:**

Marches and sit-ins increase across the country, blocking main thoroughfares. There are no injuries or destruction of property, although there is police presence. NRC services and care continue to be provided as always.

Action to be taken:

- Activate the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Communication and Monitoring Commission for round-the-clock monitoring and prepare status reports.
- Map capacities and resources (lines of intervention) at the national level.
- Develop a campaign aimed at promoting the auxiliary role, the Movement's mandate and Red Cross principles and values.
- Provide training to volunteers and staff in the intervention lines of priority actions based on the origin of the event: Pre-hospital care.
- Acquire and distribute security and biosafety equipment for the personnel involved: masks, alcohol, repellent, boots, bibs, vests.
- Acquire or distribute first aid kits and replenishment material, stretchers, splints.
- Disseminate Safer Access and Communication protocols
- Provide training to the psychosocial support network to provide care to staff and purchase a support kit for sessions.
- Establish coordination and agreements with Movement partners.

Scenario B and Scenario C:

Scenarios B and C are unified, and they are subject to the same triggers and actions to be taken. However, the humanitarian consequences and potential response is different as described in the table below.

Trigger:

Social unrest in key cities across the country; the number of pre-hospital services increases, public disruption and riots, blocked roads and injured people; markets and supermarkets have closed for security reasons.

Action to be taken:

- All EOC commissions at NRC HQ are activated. Monitoring Centres and Operational Posts in departmental branches and Situation Rooms are activated.
- Situation Room and Operating Posts in municipal branches.
- NITs, according to specialty, are activated to assist relief personnel.
- Prepare status reports.
- Pre-hospital care and transport is provided to affected people.
- Ensure fuel for ambulances and mobilize personnel. Continue with Communication campaign.
- Psychosocial care is provided to front-line personnel by the PSS team.
- Activate DREF funds and coordinate with other donors.

Scenario	Humanitarian Consequence	Potential Response
Scenario A Best case scenario	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Normal services are provided as usual, the emblem, human rights and the auxiliary role are respected. However, events are continuously monitored considering the forecasts for the year. - Political campaigns begin and no violence is reported. - Roads and shops remain open. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The NS conducts preparedness and readiness processes regarding materials, equipment and training to volunteers. - Minimum delays purchasing and importing food and household items, which are distributed, without incident, in accordance with the Purchasing and Distribution Plan. - Communication campaign on the auxiliary role, fundamental principles, and use of and respect for the emblem.

<p>Scenario B Most likely scenario</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tensions begin among the population in the face of a possible crisis and/or disaster, limiting access to and availability of food and water in specific points, increasing pre-hospital care and transport of affected people. - There are clashes between opposing groups; there is police presence as well as injured people, damage to public and private property (burned vehicles and tires, broken glass) and difficulty accessing main and secondary areas. - The number of people seeking to leave the country increases through border posts towards Costa Rica and Honduras. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activation of the 2021 Contingency Plan - Activation and monitoring from the national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), situation rooms and/or posts in departmental and municipal branches. - Brigades are made ready for possible interventions on the ground. - Communication campaign on the auxiliary role, fundamental principles, and use of and respect for the emblem. - Increase in usual delivery of emergency services, with priority in the event of crisis and/or disaster. - Implementation of a Food and household Item Distribution plan to strengthen response by the network of National Society branches. - Some delays purchasing and importing food and non-food items.
<p>Scenario C Worst case scenario</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is an increase in disruption of the public order and the social system, an increase in people injured because of the disasters and/or crises that have affected different parts of the country. This affects daily economic and social activities, increasing tensions in affected populations. - The National Society's institutional image is negatively affected by unfavourable opinions on social networks. This leads to attacks on volunteers and staff, limiting the pre-hospital care service or humanitarian service during the disaster. - Increased Migration in the Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreements and protocols established at the highest level with the government and affected sectors are implemented, for the exercise of Red Cross' humanitarian mandate from its auxiliary role to the country's public authorities. - Coordinate a resource mobilization plan with Movement partners and national and international cooperation. - Dissemination of and compliance with International Humanitarian Law. - The Seville Agreement will be applied, based on Article 5 on the organization of international relief operations described in Part II of the Agreement. - Conduct coordinated actions with the ICRC and IFRC, to support the operation given the context.

Operation Risk Assessment

Potential RISKS AND IMPACT to the project	LIKELIHOOD of occurrence		MITIGATION MEASURES
	R	I	
Contextual			
<p>Natural phenomena: natural phenomena may occur during the life of the project given the high level of vulnerability because of the multiple climatic and hydro-meteorological hazards to which the country is exposed. Therefore, NRC and other partner actors' priorities may change and in turn prevent or delay the execution of project activities. The 2021 hurricane season in the Atlantic runs from 1 June to 30 November. A total of 13 to 20 named storms as well as 6-10 hurricanes and 3-5 major hurricanes (category 3 or higher) have been forecast by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).</p>	H	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contingency and evacuation plans. - Implement safety standards throughout the actions' development. - Information and communication with local actors. - Refrain from circulating in unrecommended and unauthorized areas. - Monitor developing hazards (hurricanes, volcanic activity) - Have a risk analysis for the target territories. - Risk awareness
<p>COVID-19 pandemic: In Nicaragua, as of 1 September 2021, there have been 9,283 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 200 deaths, reported to WHO. Currently, the country has no restrictions in place except for travellers who are required to present a negative RT-PCR test taken no more than 72 hours prior to their arrival time in Nicaragua.</p> <p>However, as COVID-19 cases increase, with new waves and variants in different parts of the country, there is a higher chance of new restrictions that could impact implementation of the project.</p>	H	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Constant monitoring of COVID-19 case indicators and, if necessary, look for alternatives or rescheduling that mitigate the effects of the identified risks. - Provide streamlined mechanisms to purchase supplies and distribute them to the different branches, and coordination with the government to ensure access to intervention areas. - Apply biosafety protocols, ensure availability of supplies, protocols for sorties to the field, etc.
<p>Social unrest: Because of the elections, and given the existing polarization and disagreement in society, riots or protests are expected, which will increase after the election results in November.</p>	M	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the institutional contingency plan. - Constant communication, monitoring and implementation of the operational communication guide developed given the context of unrest - All RC units and personnel will carry with them proper ID to be allowed free access.
<p>Risk to reputation: Communities refuse to participate in activities because of the population's misconception regarding RC's role in social crises.</p>	M	H	<p>Widely inform the population about the principles of humanity, impartiality and neutrality that govern the NRC when providing its humanitarian services</p>

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

When performing response actions, the Nicaraguan Red Cross will work based on the fundamental principles of the Red Cross Movement: Humanity, Impartiality and Neutrality. It will also be in constant communication and coordination with the National Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response System (SINAPRED) and the ICRC.

Within this action framework, the NRC will work under the Safer Access, Health Protection, and Health Care in Danger (HCID) approaches promoted by the Red Cross Movement for working in fragile settings, seeking to reinforce institutional capacities to fulfil the humanitarian mandate.

As part of the intervention strategy, communication campaigns will be conducted simultaneously to inform the population of the NRC's auxiliary role, its principles and to position the institutional image. All actions and responders will be under the Operational Safety Framework, which ensures both the safety of the personnel involved and doing no harm during the intervention.

Intervention Objective:

To strengthen the NRC's readiness capacity and resources to prepare to Anticipate, prepare and respond to crisis and disaster situations through humanitarian actions that save/protect lives and meet the needs of affected people, based on the humanitarian principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, SINAPRED guidelines and international standards.

Main lines of intervention:

This proposal responds to the needs set out in the National Response Plan and hazard-based contingency plans, for which the following components are proposed:

Primary Health Care: This consists in providing Primary Health Care (PHC) training to staff, pre-positioning first aid stock such as first aid kits, replenishment material, security and biosafety equipment for relief personnel, uniforms and visibility material, stretchers and splints among other things necessary for quality and timely care. Likewise, the vehicle fleet (ambulances) will be improved to support SINAPRED evacuation actions.

Psychosocial Support: Will be provided along two lines: Psychosocial support to personnel involved in the intervention, which will be prescribed to NRC staff for psychological first aid care to population exposed to complex emotional situations because of crises; and support to affected people in temporary shelters, to affected communities on site and to personnel providing response during the emergency.

Operational Communication: A communication campaign will be implemented with key messages, provision of visibility material and advertising spots promoting the institution's principles, values, auxiliary role, mandates and laws, to counteract the misconception held by the general population and different public, political, private and civil groups and thus reduce the risk to the operation and to the lives of the institution's members and volunteers. Spaces will also be used to disseminate the NRC's actions through press releases and informational bulletins, as part of accountability mechanisms.

Safer Access: The Safer Access network will be activated to reinforce the safety of Red Cross volunteers and members and to implement security measures, operational risk analyses as well as action protocols, which will ensure everyone's identification and protection.

Human Resources

Nicaraguan Red Cross has 32 branches available for this proposal; however, it will prioritize ten of these - Matagalpa, Sebaco, Jinotega, Estelí, León, Chinandega, Masaya, Granada, Rivas, Jinotepe and Managua - because

of their location and the likelihood of suffering greater impact from adverse events. It will also count on the support of its network of volunteers (more than 1,500) and relief personnel and members.

The NRC will activate the EOC at its national headquarters, the Monitoring Centres and Operational Posts at departmental branches, the Situation Room and Operational Posts at municipal branches. It will also activate the members of brigades involved in the intervention (Emergency Medical Technicians, Pre-hospital Care and psychosocial support focal point persons, and NITs according to specialty (Responders, Youth, Women Volunteers)

It will also have a work team responsible for this proposal's start-up, including national relief management, training, health, planning and overall leadership to support implementation. Financial management will fall to the National Society's accounting department.

Logistics and Supply Chain

The processes for procurement of goods and services, transport and warehousing will be centralized at NRC HQ, which has procurement, warehousing and transport units. It will also be supported by IFRC's Logistics Unit when required. All this work will be carried based on existing procedures and guidelines in line with IFRC minimum requirements. A distribution plan will be defined based on the branches' needs and the magnitude of the impact of the events, and all support and sources of verification to support the operation will be ensured.

Communications

This will be a component within the intervention given the importance of positioning the institutional image and the Movement's fundamental principles. TV, radio, social media and print material will be produced to this end, to enable the campaign to generate informative messages as well as messages that help with mental health in crisis situations. This component will be handled by the NRC's communication and press department, which has extensive experience in this regard.

Information Technology (IT)

The operation requires contracting telephony services to enable efficient communication between the technical implementation team, the different national EOC commissions and the situations, which will need to remain in constant communication to monitor the event. The national COVID-19 context has led to increased use of virtual conference platforms such as Zoom, Skype, etc., as well as hosting data for remote work. These tools are vital for working and communicating with target groups given the movement restrictions and biosafety measures that have been established.

Security

NRC has analysed and identified the following security risks to members of the institution in situations of crisis: risk to reputation because of the public's misconception of RC's role in social crisis; and the risk that timely and prompt pre-hospital care will not be provided because of roadblocks impeding the ambulance's movements.

To address these potential scenarios, the NRC proposes a high-level political dialogue with the government, with support from ICRC and IFRC, to enable the performance of humanitarian actions by the RC. Furthermore, the NRC has an institutional Security Unit that permanently monitors the security situation in the areas where it works and intervenes. General institutional security guidelines include guidelines for safe intervention through the implementation of its Security Plan and the activation of its Safer Access network of volunteers.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

As part of PMER strategies, planning and project areas will be advising on and facilitating these processes. Previously identified actions include the development of an indicator and target monitoring matrix to monitor progress toward target achievement. Rapid studies will also be conducted to identify some target groups' perceptions regarding the implementation of the CEA approach, and monthly and quarterly narrative and financial reports will be prepared and submitted.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Health

People targeted: 2,610

Male: 1,305

Female: 1,305

Requirements (CHF): 68,618

Needs analysis: Nicaragua is a country exposed to multiple hazards - seismic, volcanic, climatic, hydro-meteorological and social crises - that put at risk the lives, stability and quality of life of the populations exposed to these adverse events. Physical and mental health is affected by the impact of disasters. Statistics show that hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020 destroyed hospitals and health centres, limiting access to basic health services for more than 500,000 people due to damages to infrastructure and loss of equipment and medicines.

Risk analysis: Under scenarios involving medium to high impact from adverse events, there is a high probability that people will be injured and require transport to assistance centres and pre-hospital care, or that the health of people in collective centres will become more complex due to chronic underlying illnesses. The feelings of fear, insecurity, depression and grief that come after being exposed to catastrophic events affect the mental health of people exposed such crises or disasters.

Population to be assisted: Year after year, Nicaraguan Red Cross provides care to the population affected by different emergencies, crises or disasters in the country; provides pre-hospital care services to the population daily; and currently transports suspected cases of COVID-19. Therefore, part of the proposed strengthening is aimed at improving humanitarian PHC services through provision of equipment and staff training, which will benefit 200 volunteers and staff members and provide pre-hospital care services to more than 1,500 people during the intervention period. It is also proposed to provide psychosocial support to more than 100 people, helping them to regain their emotional stability after a disaster.

Programme standards/benchmarks:

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to pre-hospital care										<i># of people whose immediate risks to their health are reduced through access to timely and efficient PHC. Target: 2,610</i>														
	Health Output 2.1: Improved access to pre-hospital care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.										<i># of branches with pre-positioned basic first aid equipment and biosafety equipment. Target: 12 branches</i>														
											<i># of volunteers with skills to provide timely and effective pre-hospital care. Target: 120</i>														
Activities planned Weeks										1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Required funding

See annex.

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

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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

MDRNI011 - NICARAGUA - PREPARATORY ACTIONS

3/9/2021

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Food	10,003
Medical & First Aid	45,010
Teaching Materials	45,920
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	100,933
Transport & Vehicles Costs	12,000
Logistics, Transport & Storage	12,000
Volunteers	20,567
Personnel	20,567
Travel	2,084
Information & Public Relations	800
Office Costs	3,333
Communications	300
Financial Charges	500
General Expenditure	7,017
DIRECT COSTS	140,516
INDIRECT COSTS	9,134
TOTAL BUDGET	149,650

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	
AOF4	Health	68,618
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	77,108
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	3,923
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	
TOTAL		149,650

