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Operation Update no. 1

Ecuador: Civil Unrest

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Operation DREF No. MDREC020	GLIDE n°: N/A
Operation Update No. 1 Date of issue: 4 October 2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 2 July to 27 September 2022
Operation start date: 2 July 2022	Implementation Timeframe: 5 months (2-month extension) New end date: 30 November 2022
Funding requirements (CHF): 173,415	DREF amount initially allocated (CHF): 173,415
No. of people to be assisted: 1,895 people directly and 210,000 people indirectly. No. of people assisted: 1,731 people directly and 200,000 people indirectly.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners involved in the operation: The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	
Other partner organizations involved in the operation: The main actors at the local levels with whom the institutional work is coordinating are Organization of American States, embassies of the countries of the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom, Japan, the United States and Canada in Quito, and Amnesty International.	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

Through this Operations Update, the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) aims to request an extension of the implementation timeframe for this DREF for two additional months, for a total of 5 months (new end date: 30 November) without increasing the budget nor targets. This extension will allow the completion of the activities proposed in the original plan of action.

Given the country's current context, in terms of social mobilizations and public security, the state and the indigenous movement's social organizations are currently in negotiations. Negotiations are expected to end on 12 October, with no certainty of a positive outcome. The risk of social unrest persists in the country.

In addition, due to several factors, it has not been possible to purchase the required equipment in the timeframe established for the implementation of the DREF. Among the factors are:

- Due to the protests, the country risk index increased by 90 points, reaching a record high of 1,600 points on 15 June¹. This caused, among other things, a decrease in imports and an increase in the price of products.
- Limited number of suppliers offering products included in the DREF.
- Suppliers withdrew from the tender due to product shortages.
- High prices of the products offered.
- To comply with the procurement processes established by both the Ecuadorian Red Cross and the IFRC, it was necessary to make an additional effort to search for suppliers, which delayed the procurement process.

¹ INFOBAE 24 August 2022. Ecuador's country risk surpassed 1,500 points

Finally, the target for mental health and psychosocial support and restoring family links services has not been met for several reasons:

- The validation of the MHPSS Referral Guide with the Provincial Boards took longer than expected.
- Due to the insecurity situation in the country and in order not to put members of the Ecuadorian Red Cross (volunteers and staff) at risk, it was necessary to suspend some MHPSS programmed activities.
- Failure to provide RFL care to the extent required in the DREF due to lack of equipment.

During the outreach, mental health and psychosocial support services will be provided to people from institutions that were involved in the civil unrest in one way or another. Care may also be provided if social unrest continues during this period.

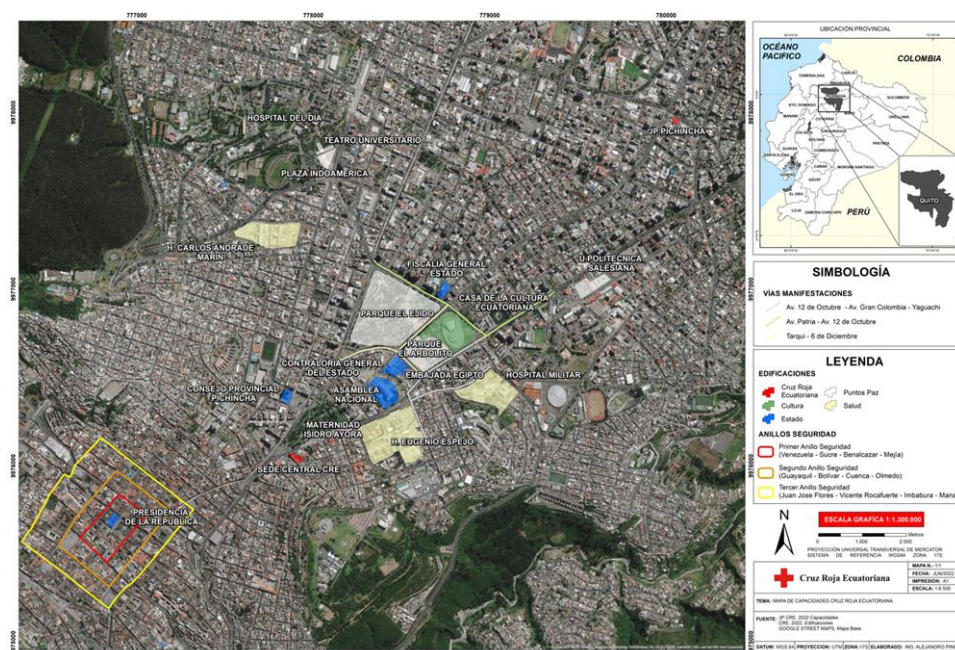
A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

The *Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE)*, representing the 18 indigenous peoples and 15 indigenous nationalities, called on 24 May 2022, in addition to civil and social organisations and the population in general, to join the mobilisation with a national strike that officially began in the early hours of 13 June 2022, to demonstrate against the measures of the national government. Among the main demands made by the social organisations were the following: access to intercultural education, health services and the supply of medicines, the creation of opportunities and job stability.

Social mobilisations were concentrated in 22 provinces and more than 70 cantons nationwide. The main provinces affected were the following: Imbabura, Pichincha, Cotopaxi, Tungurahua, Chimborazo, Bolívar, Pastaza, Azuay, Guayas, and Sucumbíos. The main measure taken by the demonstrators was the closure of roads, which had repercussions in the communities in terms of lack of access to food, medicine, gas, among others.

Although the demonstrations were nationwide, the largest concentration of demonstrators was in the city of Quito, in the province of Pichincha, as this is the political capital of the country.



Satellite Image – map of demonstrations: Location of Government and Emblematic buildings (Embassy)/ Health Establishments / Peace Zones / Agglomeration of demonstrators / Ecuadorian Red Cross (Central Headquarters and Provincial Board of Pichincha).

With mediation of the Ecuadorian Episcopal Conference, a peace agreement was signed on 30 June 2022 between the social organisations that called for the mobilisations and the Ecuadorian National Government. This held the mobilisations in standby for 90 days while the points proposed by the demonstrators were resolved through the installation of dialogue tables.

During these 90 days there have been demonstrations by different social organisations, with the most demonstrations taking place in September:

- Social Indigenous Movement: mobilised on 5 September 2022, due to the lack of solutions to the needs of the farmers on the part of the National Government; first to initiate a political trial with the Minister of Government, Francisco Jiménez and the Minister of Production, Julio Prado, and second to prepare for a national farmer strike, to be debated and organised in each province of the country.
- Workers Unit Front: mobilised on 21 September because they do not agree with the labour and social security policies, the payment of employers' contributions by the state, and against privatisation. These mobilisations took place in the cities of: Lago Agrio, Quito, Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas, etc. CONAIE expressed its support for these demonstrations, but did not take part in them because it was at negotiation tables.
- National Union of Educators: called for social mobilisations for 28 September, which will gather at the Carondelet Palace, with the aim of requesting greater investment in the education sector.

These demonstrations are frequent as the deadline for the negotiations between the government authorities and the social organisations of the indigenous movement is approaching.

Up to date, 54 agreements have been reached during 70 days of work between the state authorities and representatives of the social organisations. Four negotiating tables have been closed with agreements and disagreements, tables corresponding to security, justice, human rights, and collective rights; however, the table corresponding to fuel targeting has not finished its negotiation and continues to review 13 points. These negotiating tables are scheduled to end on 12 October.

One of the requests from social organisations is related to security. However, Ecuador currently has the State of Emergency Decree No. 561 in force, signed on 12 September 2022, which continues with the measures established in State of Emergency Decree 527, issued due to the bomb attack in the sector of Cristo del Consuelo, southwest of Guayaquil, which caused 5 deaths and 18 injured people, and due to crime levels.

Decree 561 has been extended for a further 30 days and applies to the sectors of Guayaquil, Samborondón and Daule. The rights limited by this decree are those of association and assembly, suspension of the right to inviolability of home and correspondence. It should be noted that the Guayas Provincial Board of the Ecuadorian Red Cross is one of those prioritised within the DREF.

The killing of a woman within the school of police premises prompted women's social organisations and human rights defenders to hold demonstrations or sit-ins outside police stations, requesting protection from the State in the face of femicides and gender-based violence.

In view of all these events, the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) continues to monitor the situation in the country and the evolution negotiations between actors.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society Response Action

The Ecuadorian Red Cross, in compliance with its humanitarian mandate and its principles of Neutrality, Impartiality, and Independence, implemented its Contingency Plan to assist with services to the population that required it during the days of demonstration in the different cities of the country, as well as in the subsequent strengthening of capacities to the Provincial Boards for future events related to social mobilizations.

From Headquarters, a team of 12 people is monitoring and providing technical support to the ERC Provincial Boards for the implementation of the activities established in the operation, recommendations are issued and regular meetings are held with the national team to monitor compliance with the established goals; however, these have been delayed by the various activities that have had to be carried out from the territorial level, as well as the proper implementation of procurement processes.

The intervention carried out during the social mobilisations involved the participation of approximately 234 people including volunteers, paramedics and hired personnel in 10 provinces of the country, who in rotating shifts according to their context provided services in the areas of Pre-hospital Care, Basic First Aid, Psychosocial Support and actions to support the population with different criteria of vulnerability, based on compliance with the Safer Access and operational safety standards by all staff.

The HQ team conducted the Humanitarian Diplomacy and Legislative Advocacy workshop 8-9 September 2022. This activity was facilitated by ICRC and IFRC delegates. It was attended by the presidents of the ten prioritised provincial boards plus four from other provincial boards that are active in the human mobility crisis. This workshop was financed with resources from another project currently being implemented by the National Society, but from a strategic point of view, this activity was considered to provide tools to the territorial authorities that faced humanitarian intermediation situations during the social mobilisations.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions

The IFRC team in Ecuador supports the development of this Emergency Plan of Action, mainly in the areas of PMER and Finance. The IFRC Country Office in Ecuador held regular meetings with the authorities of the ERC. First, they monitored the progress of the situation and, subsequently, provided technical advice on the drafting of an emergency action plan. Likewise, the Andean Countries Cluster in Peru and the IFRC Americas Regional Office will provide support through technical guidance on the comprehensive management of this Plan of Action.

The ERC is coordinating its actions with ICRC, which will provide support and funding in the activities of:

- Operational security
- Communications
- Partial support to operational activities
- Lessons learned workshop

Overview of non-RCRC actors' actions in the country

Various international organisations, such as the Organisation of American States, expressed their concern over the social situation in June in Ecuador. The embassies of the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom, Japan, the United States and Canada in Quito also issued a communiqué on 21 June expressing their concern and calling for dialogue. Human rights organisations such as Amnesty International also observed the dire situation in the country.

Needs analysis and Scenario planning

Needs analysis

Based on the context of social mobilizations that took place in June of this year and in accordance with the effects that occurred, the CRE considers that the main needs are as follows:

Pre-hospital care

The ERC response teams were deployed around the country from 13 to 30 June. They were responsible for the safe approach to the affected people in order to perform an initial assessment and stabilisation that allowed: Saving lives, preventing injuries from worsening, and promoting the recovery process, using manoeuvres and techniques of Basic First Aid and Pre-Hospital Care, within the framework of the conditions of Operational Safety and Safer Access.

Besides pre-hospital health care provided during protests, there are provisions for the Provincial Boards to activate their teams in case of new demonstrations. The prioritised Provincial Boards were informed of the guidelines for care in this line of response.

The initial assessment of the patient, during the days of social unrest, included verifying and controlling major haemorrhages; adequate management of the airways; ventilation; circulation; neurological deficit; among others. The main injuries correspond to patients with trauma to a single body system or multisystem trauma, i.e., injuries involving more than one body system, including the pulmonary, circulatory, neurological, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, and integumentary systems.

Care was provided to:

- Demonstrators from different social organisations
- Law enforcement personnel (National Police and Armed Forces)
- Business owners, street vendors, shop employees, the civilian population in general.
- Officials of governmental and non-governmental organisations

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

People experienced high stress levels resulting from the loss of their freedom of movement, the uncertainty of the situation, the desire to maintain their usual activities, the exposure to news, the distress of waiting for family members to come by the demonstrations, and/or the concern of how to continue their lives when they return to their places and do not have sufficient resources to cover their basic needs. In addition, according to the Ministry of Education, children and adolescents also experienced high stress levels as they were on the eve of the end of the school year and could not attend classes in person or did not have the means to attend virtual classes.

The socio-economic issues that motivated the social unrest remain, as well as the psychosocial needs. The Provincial Boards remain alert on the possible scenario of new demonstrations, the Provincial Boards are aware of the mental health and psychosocial services guidelines to do an effective response in case it is needed.

Security

In the past, some events such as aggressions to institutional vehicles, especially ambulances, facilities and staff happened in the Provincial Boards of Chimborazo and Pastaza as a result of a low acceptance of humanitarian work. To mitigate these operational risks, it is necessary to implement actions related to the positioning in traditional media and social networks about the humanitarian role of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as well as adequate equipment, identification, visibility, activation of life insurance and training for humanitarian staff and volunteers on safer access and operational security.

During the days of mobilisations, confrontations between the public forces and the citizens who participated in this context were evident, and tear gas is frequently used to repel demonstrators. As such, personnel participating in operations in the territory, providing first aid assistance, pre-hospital care, psychosocial support and restoring family contact are required to wear gas masks to increase their protection.

Telecommunications

To maintain communication with humanitarian, volunteer and staff personnel in the territory is crucial to operations. Thus, ensuring that the radio system provides good coverage, mainly in the provinces most affected by the demonstrations. All the provinces have telecommunications equipment that is more than 10 years old, which has been acquired through self-management or as part of specific projects, so it is important to update it, an activity that is currently under way.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

In this context, mothers, children, teenagers, and senior people have travelled with their families to Quito to demonstrate, although these groups did not participate directly in the demonstrations, but due to the conditions in which they found themselves, they were exposed to the risk of not receiving specialized attention or their physical integrity being affected by the areas in which they were sheltered. For this reason, it is essential that Ecuadorian Red Cross volunteers know at least the minimum standards of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) to be able to provide attention to these groups in the different lines of response in a prioritized manner.

Restoring Family Links

The active RFL teams in the Provincial Boards, in response to the demands of the population, deployed the following actions:

Requests to search for missing persons, whose common factor was their participation in social demonstrations and lack of knowledge of their whereabouts for hours or days.

The service of care and registration of people in vulnerable situations was activated, for which coordination with state entities and support organisations was deployed for safe referral and care.

Another service that demanded attention was connectivity, which was provided to people who were cut off due to lack of access to telephone service, poor signal coverage from their service operator or people who could not be visited by their loved ones, as in the case of geriatric centres, for which the ERC Junta Provincial de Pichincha activated a mobile device.

The following actions are the reinforcement of the application of preventive measures through dissemination of:

- Preventive measures.
- National RFL care number.
- Telephone service.

It should be noted that following the care reported during the social demonstrations and the existence of provisions for the Provincial Boards on the possible activation in cases of social demonstrations, the Provincial Boards prioritized were informed of the guidelines for care in this line of response

Communications

Considering the activities of pre-hospital care, psychosocial support and restoring contact between family members, which were carried out directly in the scenarios of protests and conglomeration of people, it is necessary to enhance the humanitarian role of the Ecuadorian Red Cross in these situations and provide information about its presence and the reason for the assistance provided.

To this end, a communication strategy was developed focused on the dissemination of key messages on emergency response, prioritizing messages on the humanitarian role of the ERC in social events (dissemination through social networks and mass messaging). A monitoring of traditional and digital media (social networks) was implemented to assess the contents, messages and main and secondary actors that are part of the collective public opinion.

The objective of this strategy is to raise community awareness of the actions carried out by the ERC in this emergency and in any context of urban conflict, acting under its fundamental principles.

Risk Assessment

The IFRC response teams identified the need to strengthen the pillar of acceptance of the actions of the ERC

- Attacks on ERC ambulances, vehicles and facilities when providing care.

- Attacks on ERC operative personnel who provide pre-hospital care, psychosocial support, and referrals for the re-establishment of family contact.
- The ERC continues to be perceived as a government institution.
- Damage to reputation due to false or ill-intentioned information circulating on social networks.
- Risk of contagion of COVID-19 and other virally transmitted diseases.
- Impact on response operations due to events not linked to social demonstrations.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Overall Operational objective.

Provide humanitarian assistance to **1,895 people** affected by the social unrest that occurred in Ecuador in the areas of: pre-hospital care, mental health, psychosocial support and restoration of family contact, in the provinces prioritised according to the risk analysis and the evolution of the situation, as well as providing technical assistance to the territorial network, considering in all aspects the approach of minimum standards relating to protection, gender and inclusion for emergency situations.

Human Resources

The Provincial Boards remain alert for any activation that may arise within the context of social unrest. During the emergency, the response teams deployed 200 volunteers in the 10 first response provinces and a total of 604 in the entire territorial network, according to the following summary table:

#	Place	Ambulances	Paramedics	Volunteers	SMAPS	RFL focal points and staff	Operational Security
1	Pichincha	4	22	50	4	18	1
2	Imbabura	1	2	10	2	2	1
3	Cotopaxi	1	2	10	3	2	1
4	Tungurahua	1	2	25	4	16	1
5	Bolívar	1	2	20	1	2	1
6	Guayas	2	9	50	10	8	1
7	Pastaza	1	1	10		1	1
8	Chimborazo	1	2	25	1	2	1
9	Azuay	1	3	50	8	9	1
10	Sucumbíos	1	1	6	1	2	1
11	Napo	2	3	15			1
12	Morona Santiago	1	1	10		5	1
13	Santo Domingo	3	8	15	2	15	1
14	Santa Elena	1	3	10	4	4	1
15	Los Ríos	1	3	10	1	4	
16	Loja	1	4	20	7	7	1
17	Esmeraldas	1	3	10	4	1	1
18	Manabí	1	1	15	1	14	1
19	Cañar	1	2	4	1	3	1
20	Zamora Chinchipe	1	1	4		4	
21	El Oro	1	1	4	6	5	1
22	Carchi	1	1	4	8	1	1
23	Orellana			4	1	1	1
	Total	29	77	381	69	126	21

The Information Management and Analysis of Adverse Events team monitored the demonstrations at national level, reported on new developments, compiled, and systematised the information issued by Provincial Boards.

Logistics and Supply Chain

The Ecuadorian Red Cross has a Logistics and Procurement Coordination dedicated to procurement and purchasing processes that is responsible for the timely provision of goods and services that meet the technical requirements requested. This area follows IFRC goods and services acquisition standards

Communications

The National Society prepares specific material related to the context focused on the proper use of the emblem and the monitoring of both traditional and digital media (social networks) to evaluate content, messages and main and secondary actors that are part of the collective imaginary of opinions and opinion leaders. With this information, the ERC proceeded to work on communication materials that served for the development of key messages, preparation of scenarios and communication assets for dissemination both internally and externally on fundamental principles, the proper use of the emblem and response protocols.

The communication plan focused on the dissemination of messages, presentations, and communication material to raise awareness of the fundamental principles, the proper use of the emblem and especially our neutral role in the intervention, assisting without considering interests other than the precautionary and safeguarding of life. Monthly reports of the actions and the communication impact will be issued based on the communication plan developed for this purpose.

Information Technology (IT)

Technological and technical support to the staff involved. Provision of means of communication, internet access, videoconferencing.

Security

Provide advice and technical accompaniment to volunteers and humanitarian staff on Operational Security (OS) to ensure safer access, through the socialisation of guidelines for this context and the management of the Operational Security Primer for a rigorous application of the OS and Safer Access Standards, which will be implemented by all humanitarian staff activated in a binding way in the response operation.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

PMER processes for this operation will follow the ERC procedures in which supervision is carried out jointly by the value and principles team, as leader of the operation, and the Planning and Quality Management Department, both located at headquarters. A lesson learned workshop is planned to identify lessons learned in these contexts, thus improving the National Society's future actions in this type of emergency.

Administration and Finance

The ERC Headquarters has a financial team in charge of monitoring, supervision of financial reports, quality control of intermediate products and the elaboration of a final report. It also has an administrative-financial software that allows the institution to monitor its own resources and/or those generated by different projects, including emerging ones. ERC's finance team maintains permanent coordination with the different donors for financial review, budget validation, bank transfers and technical advice on cost justification procedures, as well as invoice review and validation.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Health

People reached: 1,692*

Male: 106 with MHPSS

Female: 101 with MHPSS

*Sex-disaggregated data only available for 207 people

Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to medical treatment

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with pre-hospital care and first aid services	1,050	1,376

Output 1.1: Improved access to prehospital care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people receiving pre-hospital care and first aid	1,050	1,376
# of provincial branches equipped with first aid kits, supplies, and materials to provide health services.	10	0

Provide pre-hospital care and first aid to affected people.

1,376 attentions were carried out in the period from 13 to 30 June 2022. Out of the total number of cares provided, 633 people did not provide personal information, so it was not possible to register them in the reporting system of the Ecuadorian Red Cross. Therefore, there is no data on names, sex, age, and presumptive diagnosis of the patients. The reasons for this are as follows:

- People are reluctant to give their details for fear that the information will be passed on to the security forces.
- Attention is rapid due to the context of tear gas saturation.
- Attention to several patients at the same time.

The total number of registered visits by persons who provided their personal information is 743.

The information recorded is broken down as follows:

Type of service	Total
Car accidents	139
Volunteer training	19
Trauma / Injuries / falls	161
Medical Emergencies	234
Obstetrician	26
Secondary Transport	145
Support to displaced people	19
Total	743

Province Branches	Services
Azuay	118
Bolívar	3
Cañar	31
Chimborazo	37
Cotopaxi	21
El Oro	134

Esmeraldas	7
Guayas	55
Imbabura	23
Loja	82
Los Ríos	8
Manabí	6
Morona	3
Napo	17
Orellana	2
Pastaza	16
Pichincha	100
Santa Elena	3
Santo Domingo	56
Tungurahua	21
Total	743

Services by Gender

Male	Female	Not disclosed	Total
409	306	28	743

The teams deployed always used personal protective equipment, considering the COVID-19 context and social mobilization.



The response teams are on standby to deploy to provide health care in the event of social mobilizations in coordination with the Provincial Branches.

Procurement and distribution of pre-hospital care and first aid kits, supplies, materials, and devices

The procurement process is ongoing with an expected delivery date of the week of 21 October. Due to the high prices of the products only 8 of the 10 Provincial Boards of Imbabura, Pichincha, Cotopaxi, Tungurahua, Chimborazo, Bolivar, Pastaza, Sucumbíos, Guayas and Azuay will be able to purchase and deliver kits and materials.

The procurement process for the two defibrillators was completed on 15 September. The delivery date for the biomedical equipment is scheduled for 30 September.

The backpack with supplies is in the phase of analysis of offers from potential suppliers; the purchase order has not yet been signed. The expected contents are detailed below:

- Backpack
- Self-adjusting cervical collars for adults
- Self-adjusting cervical collars for children
- Pulse Oximeter
- Blood pressure monitor
- Stethoscope
- Glucometer
- Intraosseous devices (according to availability and cost)

The procurement and delivery process are expected to be completed by the end of October.

Outcome 2: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of people reached with mental health care and psychosocial support	800	123
Output 2.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff		
Indicadores:	Target	Actual
# of number people receiving mental health care and psychosocial support	800	123
# of number of volunteers and staff receiving mental health care and psychosocial support	250	193
# of number MHPSS kits delivered for provincial branches involved	12	0

Rapid MHPSS assessment of the affected population

An instrument was designed together with the IFRC MHPSS officer assigned to the Andean countries to collect information on the MHPSS needs of the affected population. This Guide was sent to each of the Provincial Boards to collect and process data on the affected population. This information made it possible to adjust care according to the mental health and psychosocial support needs of the population.

It should be considered that there are illiterate people in the communities; to be inclusive, the instruments were also adapted and used orally due to the particularities of each locality.

Provide mental health care and psychosocial support to the affected population:

To provide MHPSS care and ensure adequate data management, Excel, toolbox, and kobo were used. As of 22 June 2022, the Ecuadorian Red Cross provided mental health and psychosocial support services to 123 people in the community. The type of services includes face-to-face group and individual care as well as telecare services.

In addition, assistance was provided to 193 members of the Ecuadorian Red Cross, including volunteers and staff, who participated in the emergency response.

Considering the current context and the fact that the territories are in the electoral period, which does not limit the services provided in the territory, the ERC is coordinating care plans with external institutions to strengthen psychological first aid and mental health.

Acquisition and distribution of MHPSS kits and telephone chips to provide mental health teleassistance and psychosocial support to the affected population.

The procurement of MHPSS kits is in process of being awarded; once the approval is granted, the purchase order will be issued, and the materials will be delivered for distribution to the prioritized provincial boards. It is estimated that the delivery of the materials will take place during the second week of October.

Regarding the backpacks and storybooks, which are part of the MHPSS kits, it is estimated that the supplier will deliver them the second week of October.

All the materials in this backpack have been reviewed and were unified by the MHPSS team both at Headquarters and the Territorial Network. Once this validation was completed, the purchasing process began.

Establish the referral pathway for complex psychosocial care cases.

The final proposal of the derivation route is still under development, as observations and comments are being collected from the provincial boards' representatives, so that it can be implemented effectively and adjusted to the reality of each territory.

This referral procedure includes a form that summarizes the complex case and includes the details of the person involved and the person assisted, as well as a request for a certificate to verify that the referring institution is guaranteeing the right to continuity of service.

Challenges faced, and what is being done to address them:

- Having an instrument for rapid assessment of MHPSS needs in the affected population.
- Having a single registration tool updated to the Movement's policy on mental health and psychosocial support needs, as the one used by the Ecuadorian Red Cross did not allow for disaggregating data by age and sex.
- To have virtual training courses to prepare volunteers and staff on MHPSS issues.

However, these limitations were overcome in the framework of this DREF.



Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

People targeted: 10,000 (indirectly)

Male: 5,000 (indirectly)

Female: 5,000 (indirectly)

Outcome 1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meeting the needs and rights of the most vulnerable.

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on PGI Minimum Standards	200	67

Output 1.1: Programmes and operations ensure safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of virtual workshops on PGI Minimum Standards carried out	1	4

Output 1.2: Programmes and operations prevent and respond to sexual- and gender-based violence and other forms of violence especially against children.

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of mappings of actors and referral routes developed	1	1
# of people that receive information and guidance on referral routes	10,000	0

Output 1.3: NS educational and advocacy programmes raise awareness on humanitarian challenges, cultivate humanitarian values and develop relevant interpersonal skills

Indicators	Target	Actual
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Conduct a virtual workshop with response personnel on the minimum PGI standards in emergency situations.

Three virtual and one face-to-face workshops were conducted to strengthen knowledge on the Minimum Standards of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) in emergency situations in the National Society. This workshop was planned so that volunteers from the Hospital pre-care assistance, MHPSS, RCF and Operational Security response lines could receive it. The workshop lasted approximately one hour, and the topics covered included the Movement's approach to PGI, what is PGI, what are the minimum standards for PGI in emergencies as established by IFRC, ending with a practical exercise. The workshops were developed as follows.

- Workshop with RCF team: 3 August
- Workshop with AMH team: 18 August
- Workshop with SMAPS team: 3 September
- Workshop with Operational Safety team: 20 September.

Total humanitarian personnel reached:

People reached		
Male	Female	TOTAL
31	36	67



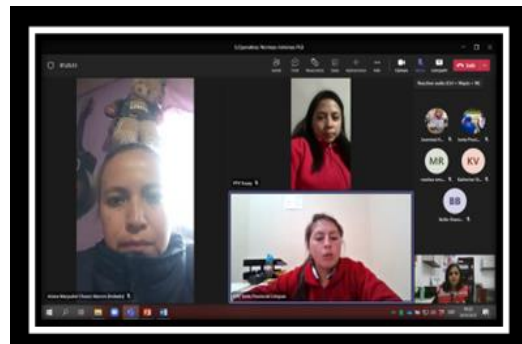
Workshop RCF team. Source: ERC



Prehospital care workshop. Source: ERC



MHPSS Workshop. Source: ERC



Operation Security Workshop. Source: ERC

Within the institutional agenda, there are multiple simultaneous activities, which has complicated the attendance of all the people to the virtual events; in addition to the fact that virtuality as such, has been exhausted in Ecuador as a means of training or sensitization, so it is considered necessary more time in order to continue with the trainings and reach the goal of 200 people.

Development of mapping of actors and referral routes for victims of gender-based violence, children and adolescents.

From the perspective of the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) approach, the Provincial Boards carried out a mapping of access to services and rights, not only thinking of situations such as social mobilizations, but also as a tool for other contexts, including situations during emergencies or in times of peace. Thus, information was obtained from 10 Provincial Boards, completing the mapping action in its entirety.

Although the document is complete, due to the internal saturation of communication production, the final design for printing is not yet available. The digital design is expected to be ready by 30 September, and the printing by the end of October 2022. The link to the mapping is available [here](#).

Elaboration and dissemination of communication pieces to inform and orient people about referral routes through radio stations

The products produced, distributed, or socialized during the project implementation period are:

- Infographic on care routes in GBV situations.
- Infographic on response routes to risk situations with children and adolescents.
- Guide with action mapping in GBV situations.
- Workbook on GBV - 4 hours.
- Workbook on GBV - 8 hours.
- Safety handles for use with children at risk.

The digital materials are being disseminated through institutional social networks, scheduled until 28 September. The report of the scope of this dissemination is expected for the first week of October. The products mentioned can be accessed in the following link: [Annexes 1.3.1](#)

Communication campaign to protect the humanitarian mission.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross implemented a communication campaign with special emphasis on messages about the humanitarian role that the National Society plays, especially in social events, which have been widely disseminated on the institution's official social networks.

The messages are mainly based on humanitarian action and respect for humanitarian workers, as well as the fact that we are not a target, and we are not part of the State.

On the other hand, a widely disseminated message was designed, which is currently being disseminated and is intended to reach 200,000 people. The objective was to socialize with the community that the Ecuadorian Red Cross is not part of the State, and the Emblem is present in 192 countries. The messages were sent to the population on 20-22 September in the provinces of Imbabura; Guayas; Pichincha; Cotopaxi; Bolivar; Tungurahua; Chimborazo; Sucumbios; Pastaza; Azuay.



Migration

People reached: 39 people directly and 200,000 people indirectly

Male: 16 directly; 0 indirectly

Female: 23 directly; 0 indirectly

Outcome 1: Communities support the needs of migrants and their families and those assisting migrants at all stages of migration (origin, transit, and destination)

Indicators	Target	Actual
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# of people reached with RFL services	45	39
# of (indirect) people reached with preventive RFL communication messages	200,000	200,000
# of (indirect) people reached with humanitarian role messages	200,000	200,000
Output 1.1: Family links are restored for people separated from, or without news of, their loved ones as a result of the disaster		
Indicators	Target	Actual
# of provincial branches provided with RFL emergency cases	10	0

Needs assessment according to the RFL scenario in the prioritized Provincial Boards

Due to the current situation, the Ecuadorian Red Cross carried out activities to enable the provision of Restoring Family Links services, including:

- RFL needs assessments in the 10 Provincial Boards, with strategic partners and allies in each province.
- The provision of preventive messages regarding recommendations to avoid the rupture of family ties. This activity was carried out since 9 September and finished the on 25 September. The supplier's report is due by the first week of October.

Attention to the population affected by the loss of family contact such as: search requests, connectivity services, registration of people in vulnerable situations

Although the provision of services to direct beneficiaries was characterized by connectivity services, search requests for missing persons and registration of vulnerable persons, 87% of the target established for this indicator was reached. If the scenario varies with the presence of social demonstrations, these could be activated.

The detail of the actions and services is described below:

- **Search requests**, with a total of 3 cases in the province of Pichincha, which are currently closed due to the positive development of the reestablishment of family ties.
- **Registration of vulnerable persons**, 1 case attended by the ERC Junta Provincial de Pichincha and was referred to the respective state institutions.
- **Connectivity service**, a total of 35 services were given such as telephone calls and mobile device charges. Provinces like Guayas, Sucumbíos and Pichincha have a big demand of such services as people's communication services were cut off for hours or even days; in the case of the Pichincha provincial board, the service was also activated in a Geriatric Center.

Acquisition of RFL emergency kits in 10 Provincial Boards

With respect to procurement processes, the acquisition of RFL emergency kits was initiated. This process is under review for the award and receipt of the materials that make up this case.

The backpacks have been awarded and are currently in the colour testing and design printing phase, after which the National Society must approve their conformity for their subsequent reception. The supplier has a period of 8 days from the approval of the sample.

Regarding the roll up, posters, headphones and power bank, the process has been awarded to the supplier in compliance with the corresponding procurement provisions and the supplier must deliver these items from the first week of October.

The procurement process for megaphones is in the process of being awarded for subsequent generation of the purchase order and receipt of the same. It should be noted that this product is scarce in the market, which makes the price uncompetitive and there are not many suppliers that sell them.

Finally, the acquisition of cellular telephones is in the process of reviewing the offers from the suppliers, and the RFL cases are expected to be delivered to the provincial boards at the end of October of this year.

Sending of mass messaging

In relation to mass messaging, the Communications Department designed a message that was sent to 200,000 people of low-middle socioeconomic level in the provinces of Imbabura; Guayas; Pichincha; Cotopaxi; Bolivar; Tungurahua; Chimborazo; Sucumbíos; Pastaza; Azuay, in which the humanitarian role of the Institution was socialized.

These messages are different to the RFL messages mentioned above.

National Society Strengthening

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

Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of gas masks provided to volunteers	50	75
One staff hired to support the implementation of the operation	1	1

Headquarters Monitoring Visit

The monitoring is being done remotely by each provincial board.

Hiring of an administrative and logistical technician

As of 1 August 2022, the administrative and logistics technician was hired until 30 September 2022.

Administrative support for Headquarters

The purpose of this activity is to provide support to Headquarters with Internet service expenses for three months and for the prioritized Provincial Boards. The guidelines were sent to the Provincial Boards so that they can send the invoices for the payment of these services; this information will be submitted by 30 September.

Vehicle Maintenance

The vehicle maintenance will be done by each provincial board to the vehicles that support this intervention.

Printer and Institutional visibility (volunteer cards, banners, etc.)

This activity is in the process of implementation. Ops Coordination is defining with the Provincial Boards the existing needs for the identification of volunteers.

Personal protection and visibility equipment for volunteers and staff.

The process of purchasing personal protective equipment and uniforms - T-shirts and caps - to be given to volunteers in the 10 prioritized Province branches has begun, while the purchase of 10 vests for field coordinators and hired personnel has also been requested.

The visibility elements, uniforms: 200 T-shirts, 200 caps and 10 vests, were satisfactorily distributed to the 10 prioritized Provincial Boards between the last week of August and the first week of September; as well as a pair of vests to staff members, as shown in the distribution matrix in Annex 2.4 T-shirts and caps. Based on the balance of the budget allocated for uniforms, it was decided to purchase 150 more T-shirts; this purchase process is underway, and the supplier expected to deliver by 15 October.

Regarding the acquisition of PPE, Bio-safety elements (masks and alcohol), the purchase process is in its final stage, since the IFRC validation process was delivered on 26 September; these elements have been awarded and are awaiting delivery by the supplier, which will take 10 days, i.e., until October 5, after which they will be distributed immediately.

Masks for volunteers with replacement filters

75 gas masks were acquired in accordance with the technical specifications approved under European Standard EN 136:1998 and 300 pairs of replacement filters for various types of chemical contaminants, particles, vapors and acid gases approved under European Standard EN 14387:2004 + A1:2008, which were distributed to the provincial boards to assist in humanitarian actions in contexts of social demonstrations in Ecuador.

Response Equipment for Provincial Boards (HF Radios)

With respect to the process of equipping the Provincial Boards with response equipment (HF radios), the following equipment was purchased: 2 (two) HF radios, 1 (one) HF radio antenna and 1 (one) power source, which have been received by the Ecuadorian Red Cross and are expected to be installed by the second week of October 2022.

Lessons Learned Workshop (covered by other funds)

This activity took place between 18 August and 7 September. It counted with the participation of 12 Provincial Boards, under the following schedule:

Workshop	Provincial Branch	Date	Modality
Workshop 1	Imbabura	08/18/2022	On-site
Workshop 2	Azuay	09/07/2022	Virtual
Workshop 3	Guayas	08/25/2022	Virtual
Workshop 4	Pichincha	08/26/2022	On-site
Workshop 5	Cotopaxi, Tungurahua, Chimborazo y Bolívar	08/30/2022	Virtual
Workshop 6	Napo, Pastaza, Sucumbíos y Morona Santiago	08/31/2022	Virtual

The six reports of lessons learned from these workshops with the provincial boards are being prepared, with the purpose of compiling successes, challenges, recommendations, and lessons learned from the social mobilizations events that took place in June 2022 at the national level, considering that each province had a different context. The approved reports will be available the first week of October. The lessons learned workshops were carried out with ICRC funds.

NOTE: The number of insured Volunteers will not be reported in this operation because Ecuadorian Red Cross insured them with other funds and it was not budgeted as part of this DREF.

Outcome S3.1: The IFRC Secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.

Indicators	Target	Actual
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Communication campaigns implemented

1

1

The communication campaign implemented by the Ecuadorian Red Cross aims to reach the public and key actors such as: indigenous leaders, media, government, social and academic organizations to raise awareness of the humanitarian role played by the Red Cross in the field of social protests or mobilizations, basing its actions on the Fundamental Principles of Independence, Impartiality and Neutrality.

Implementation and development of a communication strategy prioritizing messages on the humanitarian role of the ERC in social situations (Dissemination through social networks and mass messaging).

In relation to the implementation and development of a communication strategy prioritizing messages on the humanitarian role of the National Society in social events (dissemination through social networks and mass messaging), communication messages have been designed, which have been socialized in the official social networks of the Ecuadorian Red Cross emphasizing that as a humanitarian actor we request and influence that the medical mission and that of humanitarian workers be respected, positioning the message that we are not a target and not part of the State.

The Communications Management designed a key message on the humanitarian work of the Institution, to socialize with the population that the Red Cross is not part of the State and the Emblem is present in 192 countries. The messages were sent to people in the provinces of Imbabura; Guayas; Pichincha; Cotopaxi; Bolivar; Tungurahua; Chimborazo; Sucumbios; Pastaza and Azuay. The mass messaging service was carried out on 20-22 September.



Development of a communication strategy prioritising messages on the humanitarian role of the ERC in social situations (Dissemination through social networks and mass messaging)

Dissemination of key messages on prevention measures for the rupture of family links

Regarding the dissemination of key messages on prevention of the rupture of ties, the ERC is coordinating with the technicians responsible for the Restoration of Family Links (RFL) the appropriate key messages for public dissemination of the service provided by the Ecuadorian Red Cross and the technical part of RFL will disseminate the messages focused on the beneficiary population. (Duplicated activity, it is described in the migration component).

Audiovisual communication materials

Regarding audiovisual communication materials, the purchase process was initiated to select the supplier that will make a communication product for media and social networks, which is focused on the positioning of our role as a humanitarian organization and respect for the use of our emblem and medical mission.

The due purchase process was carried out and the producer ABP Productions was selected, who are making a 40-second video about the work of the Ecuadorian Red Cross, Emblem, identification of volunteers, vehicles, and ambulances. The video is expected to be completed by 30 September. It should be noted that the development of this video involves a creative process that must be technically defined prior to the request for the procurement process.

The video will be posted on 30 September on the Institution's official social networks (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube) for a period of one month.

Challenges

After the social mobilizations, new elements and scenarios have been considered from the communicational point of view, which allowed to work on messages that are more in line with the current reality and the behavior of the different actors. The most important challenges lie in creating a more effective and efficient Humanitarian Diplomacy in the sense that it must be permanent both communicatively and politically speaking.

Likewise, this activity has also been included in the PGI component, which is duplicated.

D. Financial report

See Annex.

Reference documents

Click here for:

- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/6-8	Operation	MDREC020
Budget Timeframe	2022/7-2022/9	Budget	APPROVED

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 03/Oct/2022

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDREC020 - Ecuador - Civil Unrest

Operating Timeframe: 02 Jul 2022 to 30 Sep 2022

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	173,415
DREF Allocations	173,415
Expenditure	-103,305
Closing Balance	70,110

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items			0
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			0
PO04 - Health	80,514	103,305	-22,791
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	15,742		15,742
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	13,845		13,845
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability			0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	110,101	103,305	6,796
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	3,408		3,408
EA02 - Secretariat Services	10,650		10,650
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	49,256		49,256
Enabling Approaches Total	63,314		63,314
Grand Total	173,415	103,305	70,110

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/6-8	Operation	MDREC020
Budget Timeframe	2022/7-2022/9	Budget	APPROVED

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 03/Oct/2022

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDREC020 - Ecuador - Civil Unrest

Operating Timeframe: 02 Jul 2022 to 30 Sep 2022

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	84,331		84,331
Medical & First Aid	63,750		63,750
Teaching Materials	20,581		20,581
Land, vehicles & equipment	2,500		2,500
Computers & Telecom	2,500		2,500
Logistics, Transport & Storage	2,000		2,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,000		2,000
Personnel	55,300		55,300
International Staff	10,000		10,000
National Society Staff	8,800		8,800
Volunteers	36,500		36,500
Workshops & Training	100		100
Workshops & Training	100		100
General Expenditure	18,600		18,600
Travel	1,900		1,900
Information & Public Relations	400		400
Office Costs	5,300		5,300
Communications	10,600		10,600
Financial Charges	400		400
Operational Provisions		97,000	-97,000
Operational Provisions		97,000	-97,000
Indirect Costs	10,584	6,305	4,279
Programme & Services Support Recover	10,584	6,305	4,279
Grand Total	173,415	103,305	70,110