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## Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Paraguay: Severe Local Storm

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF Operation</b>	<b>Operation no. MDRPY017; Glide no. ST-2015-000041-PRY</b>
<b>Date of issue:</b> 28 April 2015	<b>Date of disaster:</b> 9 April 2015
<b>Operation manager:</b> Pabel Angeles – Disaster Management Regional Coordinator for South America	<b>Point of contact:</b> Fernando Casanova, Executive Director – Paraguayan Red Cross
<b>Operation start date:</b> 27 April 2015	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> 3 months
<b>Overall operation budget:</b> 263,228 Swiss Francs (CHF)	
<b>Number of people affected:</b> 10,000 people (2,000 families)	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> 6,000 people (1,200 families)
<b>Host National Society:</b> Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC)	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The Paraguayan Red Cross has a National Headquarter Office and 11 local branches and 7 sub-branches with volunteers at the national level.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> National Emergency Secretariat (SEN), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Departmental Government, Local Municipalities, Swiss Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).	

<Click [here](#) for the DREF budget; Click [here](#) for the contact information>

### A. Situation analysis

#### Description of the disaster

On 4 April 2015, a storm system developed in the department of Concepción in Paraguay with vertically-developed storm clouds that had a registered cap that exceeded 16,500 feet. Based on the damage caused in the district of Loreto, the event has been listed in that area as a severe microburst storm with descending winds. The district of Horqueta also sustained damages, specifically in the community of Naranjaty due to a combined effect of a microburst produced by a downdraft from the severe storm and a vortex or spiral twist produced by a category F1 tornado (wind gusts between 150 and 180 km/h). This phenomenon produced hail, strong winds, electric shocks and heavy rains in these two districts. .



House affected by the storm in the district of Horqueta.  
Source: SEN.

On 9 April 2015, the government of Paraguay declared a state of emergency (Law 5229/2015) for the department of Concepción for a period of nine months. This occurred after the state of emergency issued by the Departmental Board of Concepción in two districts: Loreto and Horqueta; other districts in this department were also affected by floods in 2014.

The extent of damage is reflected by the high degree of houses destroyed including surrounding forests and crops. According to the National Emergency Secretariat, 1,000 families are affected in the districts of Loreto and Horqueta in the department of Concepción to date. Eighty per cent of these families lost their household goods, furniture, clothing, documents, food and farm equipment as a result of the strong winds that removed the corrugated roofs and belongings. Additionally, roofs sustained damages due to the hail and rains. More than 150 houses were completely destroyed; two people died due to the collapse of their houses and 25 people suffered injuries. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock reported 25 dead cattle and 100 dead chickens.

The storm seriously affected the infrastructure of a school and left the population without electricity because 100 concrete electrical towers collapsed. Since the transformer to operate the water processing plant did not work in the early days of the emergency, water services were suspended; the service has since been partially restored.

**Table of families affected by house damages**

Department	District	Communities	No. of affected people	No. affected families	Deaths
Concepción	Loreto	17	3,025	605	2
	Horqueta	12	1,975	395	0
TOTAL		29	5,000	1,000	2

Source: National Emergency Secretariat

In regard to the effect on livelihoods, the storm arrived just at the time of harvest, resulting in losses of 90 per cent of crops for home consumption and income and limiting the recovery of seeds for later planting. According to the Directorate of Agricultural Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, estimated agricultural damages and losses in the districts of Loreto and Horqueta are 3,000 to 3,500 hectares, including maize, castor, sesame and paprika. In the district of Loreto, 1,127.5 hectares are partially affected including maize, cassava, beans, sweet potatoes and paprika, affecting 2,000 local farming families.

**Table of families affected by livelihood damages**

Department	District	Community	No. of affected people	No. affected families	Crops damaged or lost (Hectares)	Crops partially affected (Hectares)
Concepción	Loreto	17	6,000	1,200	-	1,127.75
	Horqueta	12	4,000	800	-	-
TOTAL		29	10,000	2,000	3,000 to 3,500	-

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Host National Society

The PRC's national headquarters, which is located in the capital city of Asunción, has an established a management structure composed of an executive director, a legal advisor, a director of cooperation and strategic relations, a director of volunteering, a head of administration, a director of disaster risk management and community health, a national head of the Response Department, a head of the Health Department, an administrative assistant, a human resources officer and a Training department officer. Furthermore, The Volunteering Department is supported by the relief and youth areas.

The PRC has a national disaster response department, which is capable of coordinating response actions. The National Society currently has 11 active branches and 7 sub-branches that can be activated in support of the local branch if needed. The volunteers are available in local branches nationwide. The PRC currently has 45 national disaster response team (NDRT) members. The National Society currently has a portable laboratory (the procurement of supplies is needed), 2 motor boats, 2 pre-positioned tents and 1 vehicle with a load capacity of 1,000 kilogrammes and a 12 seat minivan.

The Paraguayan Red Cross's Concepción branch has experience in response interventions in the area through a

response project supported by the Swiss Red Cross, which has conducted activities in hygiene promotion, psychological support and distribution of relief items using Mega V.

Currently, the National Society has mobilized an assessment team as a response mechanism to support the Concepción branch in the performance of a damage assessment and needs analysis (DANA) with an emphasis on livelihoods and water and sanitation, food security and health sectors.

The Concepción branch mobilized volunteers to distribute 25-litre bottled water for at least 1,000 families in Horqueta, Loreto and the surrounding areas. This distribution was done with the support of the Lions Club and the National Police, which facilitated transportation. The branch has actively supported the first response and the initial assessment, which is the basis for National Society's and government's situation reports.

The evaluation team had meetings with local authorities in the municipalities concerned as well as with the governor of Concepción, the National Emergency Secretariat, the Department of Agricultural Extension (DEAG) and with United States Agency for International Development/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA).

The National Society has experience in conducting cash transfer programmes through the tornado emergency operation in 2012, where 750 families were assisted through vouchers for housing repair and purchase of household goods and through the 2013 flood operations, where vouchers were distributed to 516 fishermen and small farmer families.

The National Society's emergency operation centre (EOC) is activated and the policy decision making areas are enabled. These are comprised of the Executive Director, legal advisor, cooperation and strategic relations, branches, volunteering and internal resources management and the head of EOC, which is represented by the head of the Disaster Response National Department.

### **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

Currently, coordination and communication is maintained with the IFRC's Pan American Disaster Unit (PADRU) regional disaster management coordinator for South America on field evaluation (DANA with livelihoods approach) and for the development of the plan of action.

The Swiss Red Cross is in country completing a floods response project in Concepción, and it is partially supporting the field evaluation conducted by the National Society's headquarters office. It has also shown interest in the possibility of developing a complementary operation focused on livelihoods in Horqueta.

The ICRC supports projects to strengthen the Paraguayan Red Cross by working on integration, implementation and dissemination of international humanitarian law and standards on the use of force, visiting detainees, providing structural support for the prison system, assisting people affected by other situations of violence, supporting response capacities and strengthening the relief department to address emergency situations in the context of conflict and crisis; additionally, in coordination with the PRC, it supports livelihoods and wash in Azoteý, Horqueta, Iby Yaúand in Tacuatí Poty districts in Concepción. Following this emergency, the ICRC is evaluating whether it can support the National Society in the Horqueta, ICRC area of influence on the lines of psychosocial support and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

### **Movement Coordination**

The National Society maintains communication and coordination with the IFRC, the ICRC and the Swiss Red Cross to prepare the plan of action and to coordinate the response. The disaster management regional coordinator for South America is providing technical support to the National Society.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

The National Emergency Secretariat, the departmental government, the municipal governments and the Paraguayan Red Cross are working in the area of intervention. The House of Representatives declared a state of emergency via Declaration of Emergency (Law 5229/2015) for nine months after the declaration of emergency in the districts of Loreto and Horqueta by the Departmental Board.

The National Emergency Secretariat coordinated the initial actions to support the provincial and municipal governments to deliver needed aid to alleviate immediately the human suffering caused by the event; tents, zinc sheets, mattresses, blankets, jerry cans with water for consumption and food kits were distributed.

Area	Humanitarian aid	Quantity delivered
Horqueta and Loreto, Concepción Department	20 Kg Food kits	575
	48 Kg Food kits	377
	Zinc sheets	8,000
	Plastic tents	350
	Mattresses	710
	Blankets	710

*Source: National Emergency Secretariat*

The local government has complemented the assistance received at the national level. It has assisted a significant number of people injured by fallen trees and displaced materials due to the strong winds. Two 10,000-litre water tanks were also deployed in two communities in Horqueta for water supply restoration work.

The Armed Forces, National Police, National Power Administration (ANDE), local Fire Corps, Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock are working in coordination. The prompt response from ANDE has enabled electricity to be supplied to hospitals and water intakes, providing vital services.

The Ministry of Education and Culture arranged the shipment of mobile classrooms at two schools in the affected area in order to ensure that students could still attend school.

In the disaster area, the National Police is providing security and support to people by helping them recover identity cards in order to ensure the continuity of individual and institutional administrative procedures and governmental social programmes and pensions.

The Ministry of Public Works and Communications, jointly with the Armed Forces, are working on the rehabilitation of roads affected by the disaster.

USAID/OFDA made a donation of 50,000 US dollars to assist families affected by the storm in Concepción. This aid is being channelled through ADRA through the procurement and distribution of kitchen kits, bedding and other materials in Loreto and Horqueta.

## **Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning**

### **Health:**

Health facilities in the affected area are actively monitoring the situation as there are still weather alerts for the region. The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare has reported a total of 25 injured people and the death of 2 people (a male and female) who were victims of collapsed houses. The injured people were sent to the Regional Hospital of Concepción. The Health Region I has two health centres and three family health units in the affected area. Cases of diarrhoea, stomach aches and vomiting have been reported.

Visits to several affected families were conducted. There are reported cases of flu and respiratory problems as a result of exposure to rains since many people lost their roofs or their homes altogether.

The head of the Family Health Unit in Horqueta and Loreto reported that psychosocial support actions were not planned. Signs of emotional distress were observed during the field visits due to the degree of impact of the event, which caused the detachment of ceilings, animal deaths and even the total destruction of houses. During the evaluation visits, the need to implement post-trauma psychosocial support activities was evident.

### **Water and sanitation:**

The DANA assessment conducted by the Paraguayan Red Cross showed the affected families in both districts had limited access to safe water due to the damaged community water tanks and infrastructural damage. This affected approximately 1,400 families (7,000 people), out of which only 70 percent had water; the water supply has since been

restored. In many cases, water presented high turbidity (red-coloured water) with a high probability of being contaminated by inadequate handling and storage.

Municipalities are delivering water by tanker trucks. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) plans to repair two tanks in Horqueta; however, due to the management and conservation of water for human consumption, hygiene promotion actions in the affected areas to minimize the risk of subsequent disease are necessary.

The local health sector requested support to implement activities on hygiene promotion and prevention of other water related diseases and to distribute 20-litre buckets for safe water transport, maintenance and consumption.

### **Livelihoods:**

The intervention area, which is socioeconomically disadvantaged, is characterized by low income households, extensive deforestation and environmental degradation, creating unsafe conditions for the population composed mainly of small-scale farmers, labourers, and people migrating in search of work as labourers on farms. In terms of livestock, breeding cattle on a smaller scale and family farming with crop areas of around 5 hectares on average is common.

The storm had strong winds, hail and torrential rains, which seriously affected agricultural production for crops and vegetables, such as beans, cassava, castor, sweet potato, banana, Chipa corn, Tupi corn and sesame, which were ready for harvest.

Many of these products are for domestic consumption or for sale depending upon their production; this is the case for locote (pepper), cassava, beans and banana. The three crops that are primarily for sale are: locote (capsicum), castor and sesame.

The evaluation and field visit in the district of Loreto concluded that the livelihoods damages are much more important due to the impact on consumption and income generation. To date, the number of affected hectares is 1,127.75 and damaged or lost hectares is 1,325.75<sup>1</sup> in Loreto. In Loreto and Horqueta there is a total loss of about 3,000 to 3,500 hectares, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. The beneficiaries mentioned the need to access cash to buy inputs to start ploughing their land. As many prioritize the rehabilitation of houses, there is no spare cash for working the land.

In the District of Horqueta, the government, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the local municipalities are supporting soil preparation and distributing seeds to encourage the cultivation of watermelon, feijao (a type of bean), pumpkin and vegetables for 500 families. These crops would suit the season (rain and warm weather due to the El Niño phenomenon) forecasted for the next three months, according to the National Meteorology and Hydrology.

According to the Directorate of Agricultural Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the livelihoods of 800 small farmer families in the district of Horqueta and 1,200 in the district of Loreto in a total of 29 communities have been affected.

Pastures and fields cultivated by small farmers have been affected by the hailstorm. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, farm animals were reported to have died in Horqueta due to lack of food. Furthermore, the cold season is approaching and risks will increase substantially.

There is one public municipal market where family basket products are available and there are two trading houses (hardware and agricultural). Family farmers often find provisions in nearby urban centres such as Loreto; however, they prefer to buy provisions in Concepción, which is 10 kilometres away, especially for bulk procurements.

The financial situation of many farmers has been affected in both districts. During the field visits, farmers revealed that they had financial commitments to pawnshops and/or credit banks. Fifty per cent of the people interviewed during the field visits said they have access to credit in several banks. The loss of carryovers for sale, both in agriculture and livestock, leave these groups without the possibility of fulfilling their financial commitments.



**Fruit trees torn out by the storm in the district of Loreto.**

**Source: SEN**

<sup>1</sup> Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock



## Shelter

One hundred per cent of the houses use zinc sheets for roofs; during the storm, the zinc sheets were blown away. Seventy percent of the houses are made of wood and 30 percent are made of brick; the wooden houses were the most affected. There are 1,000 affected families (5,000 people), approximately 150 houses are destroyed and the rest are partially damaged. According to the National Emergency Secretariat, 80 per cent of the affected people lost their household goods, furniture, clothes, documents, food, and farm equipment (tools, carts and wagons).

The National Emergency Secretariat and other humanitarian actors provided assistance (zinc sheets, tents, mattresses, blankets, water containers for drinking, cooking kits and hygiene kits) in Horqueta, where houses were the most affected.



Homes and items destroyed by the storm in the district of Horqueta. Source: SEN.

The affected people did not leave their homes after the event. Tents are acting as temporary shelters during the rebuilding process; the community is building an average of two to three houses are re-built per day with support from the authorities. In this situation, the installation of shelters or temporary shelters was not foreseen in any of the two districts.

## Risk Assessment

According to the Direction of Meteorology and Hydrology, rains could continue in April, greatly increasing the risk of further soil saturation. Additionally, higher rainfall is expected in May and June, accompanied by warmer temperatures due to the El Niño phenomenon.

## B. Operational strategy and plan

### Overall objective

To reduce the effects caused by the storm in Paraguay by assisting 1,200 families in the department of Concepción in the district of Loreto through psychosocial support, hygiene promotion and early recovery of livelihoods.

### Proposed strategy

Depending on the situation analysis in the areas of intervention in health, water and sanitation, livelihoods and shelter, a comprehensive intervention on three of these lines is proposed for the department of Concepción. In the district of Loreto, psychosocial support, hygiene promotion and livelihood activities are planned. This action is proposed due to humanitarian needs in the area and the large concentration of humanitarian support in the district of Horqueta.

The following actions are included:

#### Health

- Psychosocial Support Activities

#### Water and sanitation

- Promoting the use of good hygiene practices through community visits
- Distribution of 20-litre water reservoirs

## Livelihoods

- Cash transfer

Deployment of a psychosocial support team to prioritized communities where houses were affected or destroyed is planned. This will reduce the severe storm's effects on mental health of the affected population, especially the children; additionally, diagnosis and an intervention in psychosocial support first aid have been proposed.

In order to reduce health risks (such as acute diarrhoea and gastroenteritis diseases) related to the consumption of unsafe water by affected populations, the plan of action includes activities in hygiene promotion. Some communities obtain water from artesian wells, do not have access to water, receive water from water tanks or travel to neighbouring places to retrieve water. In order to ensure water transport between the points of origin and consumption, the National Society will deliver 20-litre water reservoirs to the affected families and recommendations for the proper handling of water and safe consumption. The rehabilitation of water infrastructure is underway and coordinated by municipal and governmental actors.



**Banana trees torn out by their roots in the district of Loreto. Source: SEN**

Livelihood activities will be focused on reducing the negative impact of the severe storm on the affected population's livelihoods (crops for subsistence and income) through the provision of cash to farmers so that they can optimize their resources. The National Emergency Secretariat is ensuring the food security of the affected population for the next three months; however, the agricultural recovery will allow families to restore their livelihoods and food availability in the long term.

The Paraguayan Red Cross livelihoods focal point estimated that each family would receive 150 US dollar cash transfer to ensure the purchase of inputs and agro-livestock equipment for agricultural recovery according to the current season and weather conditions.

The operation includes a detailed emergency assessment and census. For accountability, a final assessment, including a satisfaction beneficiary survey, will be carried out including aspects such as the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of activities implemented in accordance with the standards and policies of the IFRC and SPHERE standards.

## Target population

This DREF operation will assist 1,200 families (6,000 people) in communities in the district of Loreto in the province of Concepción. The beneficiaries will be selected according to the following vulnerability criteria:

## Vulnerability criteria and identification of target population

The beneficiary selection criteria are:

- ✓ Priority will be given to rural area populations most affected by the storm
- ✓ Low socio-economic status
- ✓ Households with the most vulnerable people such as the elderly, children and people with disabilities
- ✓ Damage to their homes
- ✓ Damage to their livelihoods
- ✓ Families that have not received similar aid from other organizations

## Operational support services

### Human resources

The Paraguayan Red Cross's Department of Disaster Risk Management and Community Health of the Paraguayan Red Cross will manage the operation. A field coordinator will be hired for the operation in order to strengthen local coordination in the area of intervention. The field coordinator will be responsible for the coordination and implementation of the plan of action. Additionally, an administration officer, psychosocial support officer and a livelihoods officer will be hired.

The 100 volunteers involved in this operation will be insured. The regional disaster management delegate for South America will coordinate the mobilization of human, logistical and financial resources for the project implementation with the National Society. Moreover, a Regional Intervention Team member RIT who specializes in the cash transfer programme is being sought in order to better support the implementation of the programme.

## Logistics and supply chain

The operation will not procure items internationally; all procurements will be made at the national level in accordance with the National Society procedures and in compliance with the IFRC's standard policies and procedures.

## Information technologies (IT)

The Paraguayan Red Cross has computers and telecommunications equipment available for the operation.

## Communications

The National Society, through the head of the Communication department, has begun to inform the population about the situation and the field assessment actions.

As has been done in previous emergency operations, the communication component has a special role to document humanitarian aid actions in support of the affected communities. This component will enhance accountability and transparency, and it will record beneficiary testimonies.

For this operation, the following activities are included:

- Develop, with the support of the IFRC Americas zone office (AZO) Communication unit in Panama, a web note/press release on the DREF operation with 3 photos in high definition of the Children's Resilience Programme (CRP) in action, quotes by operational/technical staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries. It will be published on [www.cuzroja.org](http://www.cuzroja.org) and <http://cuzroja.org.py> and disseminated by the National Society and on the IFRC's social networks. Prepare notes for the web, a cash transfer programme, communication with beneficiaries and a best practice report. Two testimony cases on communication with beneficiaries and the tools used, including the satisfaction survey. Produce a 5 to 6-minute video about the operation to highlight the use of the cash transfer programme and satisfaction survey. Conduct a satisfaction survey for beneficiaries.

## Security

The Paraguayan Red Cross has a document on National Security Policies and Procedures and field intervention.

The Paraguayan Red Cross's Security Standard aims to reduce risks when performing institutional tasks in the field at all times and in other circumstances, through the application of measures and practices, that provide a timely, quick, effective and safe response to the most vulnerable people.

There are no significant safety issues expected in the area of intervention. The security measures for the mobilization of volunteers and resources are expected to be implemented according to the following criteria:

The following requirements were taken into account for field operations:

- Underage volunteers may participate with the permission of their parents and/or guardians and the President of the Concepción branch.
- General knowledge of all institutional areas. Good health, fitness, maturity, self-control, ability to assess a situation in difficult times, determination and proven experience.

They must know the action plans relating to the operation as well as be familiar with the evacuation plans in case of emergency. They also need to be familiar with the geography, resources and capabilities in the area and have a list of contacts.





## Health & Care

### Needs analysis:

Psychosocial support actions are based on behavioural changes observed during field evaluation. The degree of impact of the event and strong winds, which caused detachment of ceilings or even the total destruction of some homes, deaths and the disappearance of animals, caused distress in the affected population.

The mental health programme is included within the actions of the Health Ministry; however, the UFS (family health unit) does not focus on the psychosocial support component. Considering this situation, the PRC has prioritized this intervention line since the rainy and strong winds season is ongoing, this can have significant impact on the daily lives of the affected population. For this reason, an assessment will lay the foundations for the intervention. The National Society will also provide psychological first aid to strengthen protective factors in the context of a psychosocial support campaign that will be carried out in communities and schools in the district of Loreto.

The DREF actions focus on the district of Loreto. Currently, the National Society, along with the IFRC, is assessing the possibility of covering affected families in the district of Horqueta.

**Population to be assisted:** At least 1,200 affected families in Loreto district are assisted through psychological first aid in order to reduce the risks to mental health after the event.

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS											
<b>Outcome 1:</b> The families regained their emotional equilibrium, allowing them to perform regular activities	No. of families conducting regular activities											
<b>Output 1.1</b> At least 1,200 families receive psychosocial care.	Number of assistances Number of campaigns											
Activities/ Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Psychosocial Support Campaign Planning		X	X									
Psychosocial campaign implementation (diagnosis and first aid)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

## Water, Sanitation and hygiene promotion

### Needs analysis:

Limitations in water supply in some areas occurred due to the deterioration and damage to the distribution systems. A problem that was identified was inadequate water storage where the service was restored (home tap). There are areas where the service had still not been restored at the end of evaluation; however, the authorities were distributing drinking water through water tanks.

Given that storage and management of water is limited (buckets, drums, pots, flasks and other utensils that do not have caps), the National Society will procure and deliver water reservoirs accompanied by a hygiene promotion and sanitation campaign. Lastly, cases of diarrhoea and stomach pain in children and adults were identified through interviews.

### Population to be assisted:

The objective is to ensure handling, transportation and consumption of water to reduce the affected population's health risks. A total of 1,200 families were affected in the district of Loreto.

The National Society's support is focused in the district of Loreto as there is greater concentration of aid in Horqueta (buckets and rehabilitation of water supply in houses). For Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) sessions, branch volunteers will be trained to disseminate the training to the affected population.

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Risks related to safe water and hygiene are reduced for the population affected by the floods.	Number of families assisted
<b>Output 1.1</b> At least 1,200 affected families have improved their	Number of families sensitized on hygiene

practices and knowledge to reduce waterborne diseases.	promotion and proper handling of water											
<b>Output 1.2</b> 1,200 families improve their water storage conditions by using 20-litre water buckets.	Number of families receiving buckets											
<b>Activities / Week</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Perform a PHAST workshop for volunteers		X										
Community PHAST sessions conducted by volunteers					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Purchase and distribution of 20-litre water buckets					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

## Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

### Needs analysis:

The objective is to rehabilitate the livelihoods in the district of Loreto and to reduce the negative impact of the severe storm on the affected crops (subsistence and income) through the proposed cash provision. This support aims to optimize the resources of farmers so that they can focus on housing recovery and food security. The National Emergency Secretariat ensures food security coverage for the next three months. The Ministry of Agriculture distributed seeds in Horqueta; however, the support for the farmers will allow families to regain their livelihoods and improve food security.

During the evaluation, three affected groups were identified in both districts: farmers, ranchers and labourers; the three groups interact and support one another depending upon the season and needs. In order to support the affected farmers, the National Society seeks to aid all three affected livelihoods: agriculture due to crop loss, livestock due to deaths of livestock and/or low price; and labourers since they will have leave their jobs to rebuild their homes or production areas.

Another important element for sustaining this type of intervention lies in the financial situation. Fifty per cent of these groups have agricultural credit. The loss of carryovers for sale, both in agriculture and livestock, leave these livelihoods groups without the possibility of fulfilling their financial commitments to the banks.

It was discovered during the field visits that several of the damaged crops were for subsistence and that the small amount that had been recovered was sold at a minimum price. Moreover, the death or sale of animals at low prices and the lack of local jobs forced family members to migrate to other regions.

The National Society livelihoods focal point calculated 150 US dollars per family for the cash transfer activities to purchase inputs and agro-livestock equipment for agricultural recovery according to the season and current weather conditions. As mentioned earlier, local markets are active according to the rapid assessments. Lastly, a feasibility study and the selection of beneficiaries, as well as a video to promote the use of the cash transfer programme are planned.

During interviews with beneficiaries, they mentioned the need to access money to buy supplies to start ploughing their land as many of them have no spare cash for working their land because they prioritize the rehabilitation of their homes.

### Population to be assisted:

A total of 1,200 families will be assisted in the restoration of their livelihoods in the district of Loreto in the department of Concepción through a cash transfer programme prior to the implementation of the activities; this will include community leaders, affected families and municipalities in the needs assessment and cash transfer programme feasibility study.

The deployment of a livelihoods RIT experienced in cash transfer is being considered in order to support the implementation of the operation.

OJECTIVES	INDICATORS
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Families have restored their livelihoods and their regular agricultural production, promoting food security.	Number of families that have restored their livelihood.
<b>Output 1.1:</b> 1,200 families received funding via the cash transfer for the restoration of their livelihood	Number of vouchers registered and used in accordance with established procedures for the cash transfer programme.

Activities / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conduct market research/identification and selection of suppliers for the programme	X	X	X									
Community meetings for the identification and selection of beneficiaries with Open Data Kit (ODK)			X	X								
Training on the use of CTP to families				X	X	X						
Implementation of cash transfer programme for 1,200 families				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Evaluation of the use of Cash transfer programme by beneficiaries												X
Production of a 5 to 6 minute video on the operation and the cash transfer programme						X	X	X				

## Contact Information

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

### In the Paraguayan Red Cross:

- Luis Díaz de Bedoya, president of the Paraguayan Red Cross, phone: 59521-222-797; email: [presidencia@cruzroja.org.py](mailto:presidencia@cruzroja.org.py)

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### For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

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# DREF OPERATION

MDRPY017 - Paraguay Concepcion Storm

28/04/2015

Budget Group	DREF Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	0
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	8,584
Ustensils & Tools	6,867
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	171,684
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>187,136</b>
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	16,024
Logistics Services	0
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>16,024</b>
International Staff	4,769
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	12,733
Volunteers	9,189
Other Staff Benefits	1,288
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>27,979</b>
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	1,431
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>1,431</b>
Workshops & Training	954
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>954</b>
Travel	6,677
Information & Public Relations	3,481
Office Costs	1,001
Communications	2,003
Financial Charges	477
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>13,639</b>
Partner National Societies	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
<b>Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	16,066
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>16,066</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>263,228</b>