



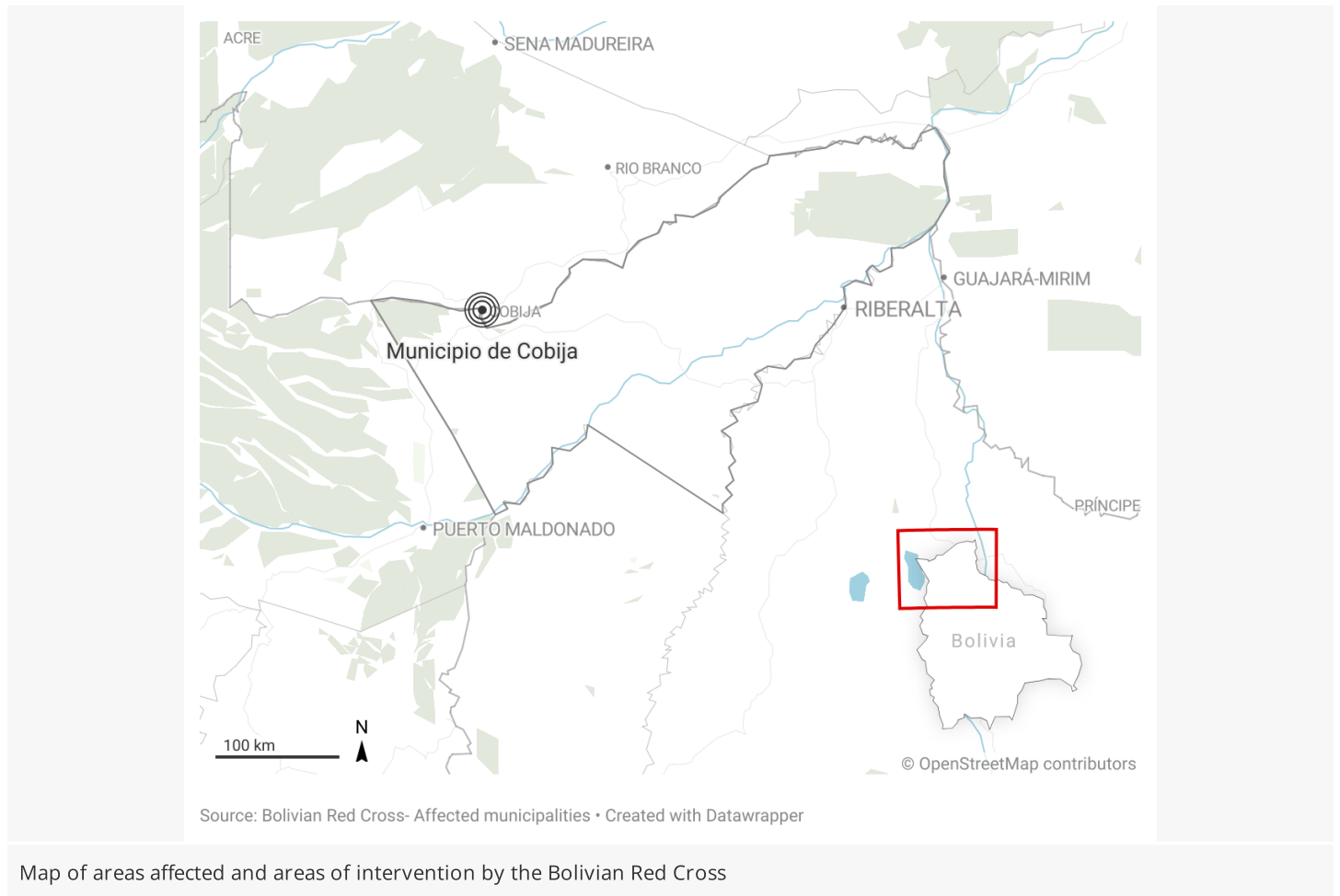
Aerial photograph depicting the impact of the Acre River overflow in the municipality of Cobija, Bolivia. Source: Municipality of Cobija.

Appeal: MDRBO016	Country: Bolivia	Hazard: Flood	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 142,267	
Glide Number: FL-2024-000021-BOL	People Affected: 3,990 people	People Targeted: 1,500 people	
Operation Start Date: 2024-03-13	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 31-07-2024	DREF Published: 14-03-2024
Targeted Areas: Pando			

Description of the Event

Date of event

2024-02-29



What happened, where and when?

On 27 February, the level of the Acre river in the department of Pando (bordering Brazil) exceeded 17 meters, surpassing its historical maximum and resulting in the flooding of 16 urban sectors and 3 rural communities (Bajo Acre, Bajo Virtudes and Velmonte) in the municipality of Cobija, capital of the department.

On February 28, the Autonomous Municipal Government declared a disaster situation (Decree No. 06/2024) as a result of the floods that would have led to the displacement and loss of property and livelihood of at least 3,710 people.

Following the declaration of the Municipality of Cobija, the Departmental Government of Pando declared on February 29 the Flood Emergency (Decree No. 03/2024) in order to advance in the activation of the Emergency Operating Committees and implementation of contingency plans in view of the imminent risk of floods due to the unusual increase in the level of the rivers of the department, as well as the need to support the emergencies in the municipalities of Cobija and Santos Mercado.

As per the National Service of Meteorology and Hydrology (SENHAMI), there has been a gradual decrease in the water level since February 29, prompting some families to take the risk of leaving shelters to initiate the recovery process for their homes.

Simultaneously, the National Government's Joint Command of Response to Adverse Events, in collaboration with the Amazon Strategic Operational Command and the Sixth Naval District "Pando," has deployed 279 military personnel to engage in post-flood activities. These efforts aim to assist the population by cleaning houses and streets in the municipality. It is anticipated that in the upcoming days, as the water level continues to decrease, progress will be made in assessing the damage to at least 300 homes that have been completely inundated.

SENAMHI's rainfall forecasts for various regions of Bolivia have raised concerns among authorities regarding potential repercussions if the waters of the main departmental rivers continue to rise. According to the Vice-Ministry of Civil Defense, between November 2023 and February 2024, at least 44 individuals have lost their lives, and 31,000 families have been affected by the rains. Additionally, SENHAMI has issued a red hydrological alert for river flooding in the departments of Pando and La Paz, and an orange alert in the Departments of Beni, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, and Oruro based on the rainfall predictions for the forthcoming days



Need Assessments, Bolivian Red Cross Volunteers, Pando's Branch. Source: BRC.



Impact on healthcare facilities in the municipality of Cobija, Bolivia. Source: PAHO.

Scope and Scale

According to data compiled by the Humanitarian Country Team in Bolivia, between 1 November 2023 and 4 March 2024, a total of 112 adverse events related to rainfall have been recorded throughout the country, with the month of February being the most intense with a total of 56 recorded events. Floods (flash floods), as well as seasonal or prolonged floods (slow floods), tend to occur within the first 3 months of the year, a pattern that links with the rainfall beginning in November, reaching its peak in January and persisting until March (1).

The year 2024 has been particularly critical for Bolivian communities that had just experienced a prolonged drought in 2023 due to the El Niño phenomenon. Between 1 November 2023 and 4 March 2024, VIDECI's national report on the effects of the rainy season recorded 79 affected municipalities (19 of which have declared disasters), at least 37,776 families affected, 843 houses destroyed, 38,380 hectares of crops affected, 122,932 head of livestock and 44 deaths (1).

The worst emergency recorded so far has been in the Municipality of Cobija, Department of Pando, where at least 1,140 families (3,990 people) were affected by floods that peaked in intensity on 24 March 2024. Since the first days prior to the emergency, the Municipal Government and relief institutions set up 8 shelters, and three more were set up after the river burst its banks. According to the preliminary registry of affected people supported by volunteers of the Bolivian Red Cross, as of 1 March at least 1,022 people are staying in shelters.

Although the river level began to decrease on 29 February, according to information gathered by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the municipality still faces significant challenges and humanitarian gaps after the flooding that would exceed its current response capacity, in addition to the total loss of goods and belongings of 300 families, evaluations conducted by the HCT in the area highlighted in particular the impact on educational institutions and health facilities.

According to PAHO/WHO, which held coordination meetings in the affected area with local health authorities, the "Mapajo" health facility was 100% physically damaged, resulting in the total loss of furniture, part of the medicines, supplies, and some minor medical equipment. Also, a rehabilitation center for people with disabilities, which had complete equipment and furniture, was totally affected (3).

According to the Ministry of Education, two educational units, "Héroes de la Distancia" and "Sofía Cal Piñeiro," were affected by the loss of computers and furniture and damage to infrastructure.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. PAHO	https://www.paho.org/es/noticias/5-3-2024-opsoms-apoya-autoridades-nacionales-locales-respuesta-emergencia-por-inundaciones
2. Bolivia: Inundaciones, lluvias intensas, deslizamientos, mazamorras y riadas (al 4 de marzo de 2024)	https://reliefweb.int/attachments/7768fa8b-a56b-4f19-b66d-8959e8b7120d/Bolivia%20--%20Inundaciones%2C%20lluvias%20intensas%2C%20deslizamientos%2C%20mazamorras%20y%20riadas%20%28al%204%20de%20marzo%20de%202024%29.pdf
3. National Rainfall Impact Report 2024. VIDECI.	http://www.defensacivil.gob.bo/web/uploads/imagenes/doc_20230531_141841.pdf

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	No
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

The Bolivian Red Cross has launched several DREF Operations in the past to address a range of emergencies, including floods, droughts, and forest fires. While no DREF Operations have been launched in response to flooding emergencies in the past 5 years, the most recent being in 2019 (MDRBO012), it is important to highlight that in 2023, with support from the Swiss Red Cross, the Bolivian Red Cross carried out a project to aid families affected by floods in the Municipality of Cobija. This initiative reached 200 families through cash transfer programs and community education aimed at preventing prevalent diseases in the area. Due to the magnitude of the emergency, some families assisted by this DREF operation may have received assistance through the project implemented with the support of the Swiss Red Cross. This will be analyzed later during the registration of affected families to be assisted.

Building on the expertise gained from previous response operations, lessons learned have been integrated into the development of the current DREF request. This integration aims to mitigate similar challenges encountered during implementation, including:

- Improve coordination with social organizations regarding market and feasibility studies to run multipurpose cash transfer programs.
- Develop community awareness of the Red Cross's Auxiliary Role in order not to confuse humanitarian actions with political campaigns.
- Strengthening community engagement by socializing the lines of work of the operation and opening effective feedback channels for the adjustment of the intervention strategy.
- Not to develop actions with the populations in shelters exclusively. As in the emergency of 2023, more than 70% of the affected population does not resort to the shelters set up by the public authorities.



Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

2024-02-26

Health	Since 26 February, the Bolivian Red Cross has been providing health services through the Pando branch in coordination with staff from the headquarters. Among the services provided are basic first aid to 65 adults, of which 46 were male and 19 female, as well as two children aged 13 and 11. In addition, emotional support was provided to approximately 300 people affected by the emergency.
Coordination	<p>At the national level, the authorities of the Bolivian Red Cross participate in the Humanitarian Country Team, which is made up of agencies of the United Nations System, NGOs, and civil society organizations. The Bolivian Red Cross is currently co-leader of this team at the national level.</p> <p>At the local level, the Bolivian Red Cross Pando's Departmental Branch is part of the Municipal Committee for Risk Reduction and Disaster Attention - COMURADE, whereby the decision of those present it was agreed that the BRC-Pando Branch would carry out the data collection and registration of the people affected by the event.</p>
Assessment	<p>The Departmental Branch of Pando has deployed a team of 10 volunteers to collect data on the needs of the families affected by the floods, as well as to register the families that were evacuated to the different shelters in the municipality. Currently, Bolivian Red Cross volunteers are part of working groups for Damage Analysis and Needs Assessment (DANA) with the Municipal Government, coordinating activities with humanitarian agencies such as Save the Children, IOM, and UNICEF.</p> <p>The Pando's Departmental Branch conducted a needs assessment of the population affected by the floods, identifying financial support for the return to their homes and the distribution of hygiene kits as the main lines of support to the affected population in addition to the response provided by public authorities.</p>

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) for Andean Countries based in Lima covers Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru. The CCD maintains a close relationship and coordination with the Bolivian Red Cross. Additionally, permanent communication is maintained with the different levels of the IFRC, who have made their technical support available to the Bolivian Red Cross for planning, execution, and reporting, if required.</p> <p>During the first week of March, the IFRC Reference Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) was in Bolivia supporting the development of the first cycle of the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) through a workshop to elaborate contingency plans, where the Pando branch participated and elaborated a draft of a Floods Contingency Plan which is still in draft waiting to be approved. This activity was supported by IFRC with Swiss Red Cross funding.</p>
Participating National Societies	The Swiss Red Cross has an office in the country. It supports the National Society in strengthening its institutional policy on risk and disaster management, among other crucial policies, seeking to contribute to the development of institutional capacity to create conditions that guarantee the effectiveness of Disaster Risk Management and Health services and programs.



ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC has an office in Bolivia and supports the National Society in the strategies of strengthening the capacity of the National Society, Safer Access, and Restoring Family Links, especially in border regions. The Bolivian Red Cross is not currently taking action with the ICRC in response to the emergency.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>The National Government has supported the affected families by sending 40 tons of humanitarian aid.</p> <p>Likewise, in response to the lowering of the river level, 276 army personnel and machinery have been mobilized to support the removal of debris and the cleaning of streets and houses.</p>
UN or other actors	<p>The country's Humanitarian Team is developing a flood response plan that will allow focusing aid based on the needs of the affected population. Currently, IOM and Red Helmets are on site, managing shelters.</p> <p>PAHO is supporting damage assessment work in the affected area in coordination with the Ministry of Health and Sports in support of local authorities. It also provided information material for risk prevention and donated a stock of water purifiers to the Ministry's National Environmental Management Program. Finally, PAHO offers technical assistance to the management of shelters to carry out epidemiological analyses of tracer diseases in order to detect health risks in a timely manner.</p> <p>UNICEF is in the affected area, providing emotional support to affected families through its Safe Family program. UNICEF is also supporting the educational authorities in return for the students of the schools "Héroes de la Distancia" and "Sofía Cal Piñeiro," who had to suspend classes due to the flooding.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The Humanitarian Country Team, led by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and composed of United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and non-governmental organizations, such as World Vision, Save the Children-CAHB and Soluciones Prácticas, promotes coordination and information exchange among humanitarian organizations to support the development of a coordinated response to the emergency. The Bolivian Red Cross is co-leader of this coordination space together with WFP.

Through the Risk Management Education Roundtable (MEGERI) led by the Ministry of Education, the Bolivian Red Cross is carrying out specific evaluations regarding education and the impact on schools together with UNICEF and Save The Children.

At the local level, the Bolivian Red Cross participates in the Municipal Committee for Risk Reduction and Disaster Response (COMURADE), whose objective is to provide analytical advice and recommendations on Risk Reduction and Emergency and/or Disaster Response actions in coordination with the main municipal authorities of Cobija.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Due to the magnitude of the emergency in Cobija, the authorities ordered the evacuation of 5,507 people. According to VIDECI and the Humanitarian Country Team in Bolivia, as of 1 March, the Municipal Government of Cobija had set up 11 shelters, where 1,022 people belonging to 326 families were staying. Four of these shelters concentrate the largest number of people: 158 people (68 women and 90



men) are in the Ernesto Nishikawa Coliseum (representing 15.45% of the total), 156 people in the La Peta Coliseum (15.2%), 155 people in the La Amistad Coliseum (15.1%), and 141 people in the Vaca Diez Educational Unit Coliseum (13.8%). If the emergency evolves, and the rains increase, support will be required to set up new shelters.

In order to move both to shelters and to gradually return to their homes, affected families have to incur extraordinary expenses, which are difficult to cover, as their livelihoods have also been affected. Within the shelters, the main needs are related to the provision of basic services for the affected families, mainly health care, food, lighting, water and sanitation, which must be provided with the required safety and hygiene measures.

Thanks to the lowering of the river level, municipal and departmental authorities have begun the process of assessing damage to homes, which will determine the government's programs for reconstruction, adaptation of homes or resettlement of families.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The municipality of Cobija faces significant environmental degradation, primarily due to deforestation and cattle ranching, exacerbating socioeconomic challenges. Reports on socioeconomic development reveal high poverty rates among the municipality's residents, many of whom reside in riverside neighborhoods along the Acre River.

Presently, the overflowing of the Acre River has forced families to evacuate to shelters as their homes are submerged under water. Initial assessments of affected individuals indicate that at least 1,140 families have incurred complete or partial loss of possessions, needing tools and supplies for cleaning, as well as replacement of household items such as mattresses and bedding.

The flooding has exacerbated the need for stable employment among a significant portion of the affected population, who rely on day-to-day earnings, often through informal border trade with Brazil. Additionally, children have lost their school supplies, hindering their ability to return to school.

Furthermore, the disruption of irrigation systems has impacted at least three rural communities, potentially leading to the suspension of planting seasons or loss of seed stocks for future seasons. This could result in decreased food availability for both humans and animals, further straining the livelihoods of affected families, who also face challenges with housing damage and reduced access to food due to crop losses in rural areas.



Health

The contamination of river water with sewage presents significant health hazards, particularly affecting children and leading to infections such as diarrheal diseases and illnesses transmitted through contaminated water and food. Additionally, there is a rise in arboviral diseases, particularly in municipalities where stagnant water accumulates, facilitating mosquito breeding and increasing the risk of dengue fever outbreaks. According to the Ministry of Health and Sports, as of 10 March, a total of 638 cases of dengue fever have been reported in the department of Pando, with 102 cases recorded in the municipality of Cobija, which are at risk of increasing due to people's exposure to the outdoors, lack of protective items and water that attracts vector-borne disease transmitters.

It was verified that the "Mapajo" health establishment was 100% physically affected, causing the total loss of furniture. Part of the medicines, supplies and some minor medical equipment were rescued before the river overflowed. State entities and humanitarian organizations in the area are expected to work collaboratively to carry out a post-disaster assessment of the health facility, which is still covered in mud and water. A rehabilitation centre for people with disabilities, which was fully equipped and furnished, was also completely affected.

According to the Humanitarian Country Team in Bolivia, up to 29 February, a total of 1,660 medical consultations were carried out as a result of the disaster situation in Cobija. Among the main pathologies treated were dermatitis, back pain, stress and anxiety, hypertension, acute respiratory infections (ARI) without pneumonia, acute diarrhoeal diseases and diabetes. Due to the situation, the population's health care needs have been affected by the damage to health centres. However, these needs are being partially met by the organizations present in the area, both at home and in the shelters.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Information provided by municipal authorities indicates that the flooding has resulted in significant damage to water supply and sanitation infrastructure, particularly through the contamination of drinking water systems and sources used for both human and animal



consumption.

The Municipal Public Social Water and Sanitation Company (EPSA) of Cobija has stated that the two drinking water treatment plants are operational and are supplying water to the population, both within shelters and outside. However, the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which comprises eight pumping stations, currently has four stations (Mapajo, Santa Cecilia, Internacional, and Cataratas) submerged and non-functional. Additionally, technical equipment access for repairs at the plant is hindered due to a landslide in the Cataratas neighborhood.

Contamination of water and soil heightens the risk of waterborne diseases, including diarrhea and leptospirosis. Furthermore, a needs assessment conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross underscores the urgent requirement for hygiene items, particularly for families residing outside of shelters.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Of the 1,022 people in Shelters, 499 are women and 524 are men. Of the total, 474 are adults, while there are 268 children between the ages of 1 and 13. There are also 80 adolescents between 14 and 17 years old, 65 older adults over 60 years old, and 12 infants under one year old. In addition, people with special vulnerabilities have been identified, including 9 migrants, 40 women who are heads of households, 59 individuals with chronic illnesses, 25 people with physical or mental disabilities, and 23 older adults who are alone.

The population housed in temporary shelters require a space that guarantees their protection, with permanent security, hygienic services for men and women, areas adapted for children and the elderly, and reporting and response mechanisms in the event of possible events that affect their integrity. Likewise, because of the emergency, many people have had their identity documents damaged, so recovering their identification or obtaining a new one is a key need in order to be able to access the assistance provided by the state and humanitarian organisations.



Community Engagement And Accountability

During the emergency, families face a situation of uncertainty for their wellbeing and for the future of their community, since not only their homes have been affected, but also public structures such as medical centres, schools, etc. Likewise, when faced with the intervention of different state entities and humanitarian organisations, they require the participation of their local leaders as people they can trust for strategic coordination and for the transparent channelling of aid to the most affected people. Likewise, the affected population, mobilized, housed in shelters or temporary accommodation, needs access to key information on aid deliveries, the progress of the emergency and possible changing risks, as well as the opportunity to provide feedback on the aid delivered or on their needs through information media accessible in the context.

[Assessment Report](#)

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF allocation, the Bolivian Red Cross aims to support 300 families (1,500 people) affected by the overflowing of the Acre River in the municipality of Cobija, Bolivia, through the implementation of activities in the Health, WASH, Multipurpose Cash, and CEA sectors.

Operation strategy rationale

The purpose of this DREF operation is to contribute to responding with the necessary inputs to the floods produced in 16 neighborhoods of the municipality of Cobija, contributing to reducing the suffering of families and allowing them to recover from the emergency through:

- Humanitarian assistance through the multipurpose cash transfer program (MCTP) to enable families to meet their basic needs, such as the purchase of inputs for the repair of their homes, food, and household items such as mattresses and sheets destroyed during the emergency.
- Delivery of personal hygiene kits supporting the prevention of diseases transmitted by contaminated water and helping people gain a



sense of normality after the flood.

- Promotion of community health, oriented to the prevention of vector-borne diseases.

The intervention will last 4 months and will be carried out by the volunteers of the Pando's Departmental Branch, with the continuous monitoring and support of the Central Office staff through its national directory and the volunteer, health, communication, and relief and disaster operational units.

The operation is intended to support 300 families address their most immediate needs after the flood and facilitate their recovery process.

The Bolivian Red Cross is an auxiliary of the public authorities. For this reason, the main point lies in the inter-institutional coordination with authorities of the Central Government, governor's office, and municipalities, as well as the active participation of the community, volunteers, and staff of the central office. The scope of the operational strategy in each of the prioritized sectors is detailed below.

A) MULTIPURPOSE CASH

To assist 300 families (1,500 people) through a multipurpose cash transfer program intended as a temporary relief for affected families to cover unsatisfied basic needs while the Government and other strategies for the return or relocation of affected families are being finalized.

The program will prioritize those with special protection needs, such as families with pregnant women, children under five years of age, older adults, single-parent families, and people with disabilities.

Depending on the number of members in each family and the level of impact, each family will receive a total of Bs 2,362 (approximately CHF 207), corresponding to the estimated value of the country's minimum wage. The cash distribution will be made through IFRC debit cards administered by the Regional Office for the Americas. The Bolivian Red Cross has experience and is a national focal point for cash transfer programs. Among others, it has experience in cash distribution in flood emergencies in Pando during the first quarter of 2023, an operation supported by the Swiss Red Cross, as well as operation MDRBO015 for droughts, which includes support to 1,200 families through cash transfer programs.

The prioritization of families will be done through a needs analysis, and information will be collected through the KoboCollect application. At the operational level, assessment teams of 10 volunteers will be formed for the municipality of Cobija, where a total of 7 neighborhoods (Mapajo, Villa Montes, Cataratas, Junín, Puerto Alto, Petrolero, and Frontera) and 1 rural community (Bajo Virtudes) will be covered according to the distribution of sectors established by the Municipal Government.

B) WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

To assist 300 families (1,500 people) through the delivery of family hygiene kits, as well as the development of community workshops on water care, hygiene, and prevention of waterborne diseases.

The definition of the items in the kits will be established with the communities, seeking to ensure that they are culturally sensitive and adapted to their specific needs. The differential analysis of the needs of boys, girls, men, and women will be considered in the composition of the kits. For the definition of the amount per kit, the Sphere parameters were considered, so each kit may include, but is not limited to, the following items: soap 100 grams per person per month, toothpaste 75 grams per person, toothbrush 1 unit per person, sanitary towels 10 x women per month, hand sanitizer, glass, and 20 liter jerry can, other items such as wet wipes, mosquito repellent and diapers could be considered in the composition.

C) HEALTH

To assist 300 families (1,500 people) through the distribution of supplies to communities for cleaning and filling tanks as well as the development of community cleanup campaigns and community workshops.

The community workshops will be conducted on environmental protection strategies against mosquitoes such as repairing and closing holes in windows, walls, and roofs, using insecticide-treated mosquito nets on windows and doors if available, eliminating standing water and covering water containers, and messages on how to store food, avoid potential infection through contaminated water and avoid proliferation of rodents.

Health activities will focus on supporting the Government's strategy through its technical table of health and nutrition for vector control and entomological survey. Currently, the plan to be implemented by the Departmental Government includes the destruction of breeding sites and unsuitable materials, fumigation, and delivery of mosquito nets in order to mitigate the transmission of Dengue, Zika, and Chikungunya.

D) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA)

Prior to the start of the intervention, meetings will be held with community leaders and local authorities to present the personnel, volunteers, and the operation's strategy in order to generate adequate entry into the communities. Through these coordination spaces,



the most affected areas and special attention cases to be prioritized during the intervention will be determined. Likewise, during the surveys, questions will be added to identify people with special protection needs.

As feedback mechanisms to gather information from the communities, a WhatsApp service line will be constantly available to the population, where they will have the opportunity to send their concerns and suggestions. Likewise, at the end of the cash delivery, a survey will be applied to find out how beneficial the aid was for the population served and to collect some recommendations.

The CEA approach will be incorporated throughout the operation to ensure proper community participation in the process. The main operational activities in this area will be linked to community communication. They will include 1) Production and radio broadcasting of Micro spots on water care and prevention of vector-borne diseases, 2) Design of materials with key messages, to be decided after the multisectoral evaluation, and dissemination of these through institutional social networks and printed materials delivered to the population. Printed messages will also be delivered to people receiving MTPs so that they have more information about the delivery process. 3) Banners with key messages installed in strategic meeting places. This activity was tested in COVID-19 projects developed by the Bolivian Red Cross with good results. Alliances will be established with public institutions to place the banners in strategic locations.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

This operation plans to reach 300 families (1,500 people) affected by the floods in the municipality of Cobija. Prioritization will be based on the families' ability to meet basic needs and barriers to accessing humanitarian aid established by public authorities, UN agencies, and international NGOs in the affected area.

Likewise, the selection criteria include two indicators that will delimit the total beneficiary population: vulnerability and impact.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

During the prioritization of families, special attention will be given to groups with special protection needs, such as pregnant women, single-parent families, families with children under five years of age, older adults, people with disabilities, as well as migrant population with protection needs.

The Bolivian Red Cross has links at the community level that will allow the branches to adequately identify the most vulnerable cases and those with the greatest lack of access to government assistance activities.

Total Targeted Population

Women	552	Rural	12%
Girls (under 18)	148	Urban	88%
Men	600	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	200		
Total targeted population	1,500		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Identification of vector-borne diseases in staff and volunteers.	Providing volunteers with repellents, long-sleeved shirts, and boots as a preventive measure against possible vector-borne and zoonotic diseases in the intervention areas.



Possible delays in procurement	All items to be distributed (with the exception of CVA) will be procured locally to avoid delays in procurement. Also, in case of changes or delays, the National Society will inform community leaders, with whom it is in close coordination, in a timely manner.
Increased flooding and blockage of access to communities due to the rainy season	Periodic monitoring of SENHAMI rainfall forecasts and early warning systems of the Ministry of Environment and Water. Preparation of contingency plans for floods with the departmental branch.
Delay in the post-flood survey and needs analysis process.	The Bolivian Red Cross has cell phone kits acquired for the assessment processes within the framework of operation MDRBO015. These kits will be sent to the departmental branch to support the information-gathering processes.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Considering the health emergencies recently declared by the Municipal Government of Cobija, there is a risk of vector proliferation in the area, as well as river overflows and landslides that could affect the work schedules of the teams at the territorial level.

During the first month of operation, the contingency plans and security protocols for the personnel and volunteers of the Pando departmental branch will be updated.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?
No

Planned Intervention



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 75,137

Targeted Persons: 1,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of feasibility and market studies conducted	1
Number of families assisted with multipurpose cash	300
Number of volunteers trained in cash assistance delivery processes	9
Percentage of families covered through post-distribution surveys	80

Priority Actions

- Feasibility study and market study for the implementation of the multipurpose cash transfer program.
- Sending IFRC ARO debit cards to Bolivia.
- Development of workshops with families to explain the use of the card and the objectives of the program.
- Deliver multipurpose cash assistance to the affected population to cover basic needs.
- Post-distribution surveys of assisted families





Health

Budget: CHF 12,496

Targeted Persons: 1,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of family kits distributed for physical vector control for dengue	300
Number of community workshops in vector and reservoir control	7

Priority Actions

- Local workshops on vector-borne disease prevention
- Community clean-up days
- Delivery of cleaning kits and supplies for tank cleaning to prioritized families.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 9,420

Targeted Persons: 1,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of families who received a hygiene kit	300
Number of community workshops on hygiene promotion	4

Priority Actions

- Distribution of hygiene kits to affected families
- Development of community workshops on the prevention of waterborne diseases in markets, schools, and places with large numbers of people.
- Development of a workshop on hand hygiene in children and water care



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 2,745

Targeted Persons: 140,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of radio micro spots	1
People indirectly reached thorough messages on prevention measures and good practices	140,000



Priority Actions

- Elaboration of micro-spots on water care and prevention of vector-borne diseases.
- Disseminate key messages through social networks and community radio stations.
- Production of banners with key messages installed in strategic meeting places.
- Enabling a WhatsApp line as a channel for collecting feedback.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 19,425

Targeted Persons: 0

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of monitoring visits carried out	1
Number of surge deployments	1

Priority Actions

- Monitoring visits by CCD Andean Countries to the National Society to accompany it in gathering information for communications, monitoring, evaluating, generating reports, and systematizing lessons learned from the operation.
- 1x surge Operation manager deployed for one month to support the Bolivian Red Cross response.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 23,044

Targeted Persons: 0

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of lessons learned workshops conducted	1
Number of monitoring visits carried out	4
Number of volunteers insured	20
# of staff hired to support the implementation	2

Priority Actions

- One lesson-learned workshop conducted with staff and volunteers of Pando's Branch who are involved in the operation.
- Monitoring visits by the National Society to support the prioritized branches during the operation.
- Monitoring and technical support visits of the Bolivian Red Cross HQ and Branches to support Pando's Branch emergency response.



About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

The Bolivian Red Cross has limited personnel available to support the intervention. The following professionals will be hired as National Society staff and will be 100% dedicated to the operation:

One local coordinator - 100% (3.5 months): Responsible for developing operational actions in the field, coordinating with local authorities, establishing synergies with other humanitarian organizations, developing awareness processes with the affected communities, managing volunteers, coordinating CVA activities, facilitating volunteer training processes, gathering information for the diagnostic and complementary processes within the framework of the CEA.

One Financial Coordinator - 100% (3.5 months): Responsible for the development of a purchasing and procurement plan and preparation of periodic financial reports.

For the implementation of this operation, 20 volunteers will be deployed in areas close to the prioritized areas, and they will have the support of the Departmental Delegations to assist vulnerable populations if required. The volunteers will be covered by insurance contracted by the National Society for 2024.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

An operations manager will be deployed for one month to support the start-up of the operation, update territorial security plans, prepare work plans, and distribute roles and responsibilities within the National Society's technical teams and volunteers involved in the emergency response.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The National Society will conduct all procurement processes in accordance with IFRC procedures, with the exception of MCTP debit cards, which the Regional Logistics Unit of the IFRC Americas Regional Office will manage.

How will this operation be monitored?

The operation will be continuously monitored from the Bolivian Red Cross headquarters through the Disaster Risk Management Unit to ensure the correct implementation; all personnel and volunteers involved in the process will be trained in the National Society's emergency response procedures, which are aligned with IFRC guidelines for emergency response. The coordination responsible for the Disaster Risk Management Unit will periodically visit the intervention zones to supervise the activities carried out and provide technical support to the teams in the field.

The Country Cluster Delegation for the Andean Countries will support the National Society at the administrative level for the transfer of funds and financial follow-up, as well as face-to-face and remote support during the initial needs assessment, field coordination, progress monitoring, and reporting.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The National Society's communication unit will produce and disseminate audiovisual material on the emergency and the National Society's response actions. The materials will be broadcast through the Bolivian Red Cross website and social networks to raise public awareness of the National Society's auxiliary role.

Considering that the emergency may vary during the execution of the activities and that the reality of each locality is different, the National Society will adapt the content and means of communication to disseminate the key messages to those most used in the prioritized localities.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRBO016 - Bolivian Red Cross
Bolivia: Floods

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	99,797
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	75,137
Health	12,496
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	9,420
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	2,745
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	42,470
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	19,425
National Society Strengthening	23,044
TOTAL BUDGET	142,267

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

National Society contact: Jorge Jhonatan Quino Soliz, Executive Director, dirección.e@cruzrojaboliviana.org.bo, +59172560786

IFRC Appeal Manager: Ruben Romero, Head of Country Cluster Delegation, ruben.romero@ifrc.org

IFRC Project Manager: Julian Perez, Coordinator, Program and Operations, julian.perez@ifrc.org

IFRC focal point for the emergency: Julian Perez, Coordinator, Program and Operations, julian.perez@ifrc.org

Media Contact: Susana Arroyo, Manager, Regional Communications, susana.arroyo@ifrc.org

[Click here for the reference](#)

