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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Storm Surge - El Salvador

International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency DREF Storm Surge DREF for replenishment	MDRSV008
Date issued: 15 May 2015	Date of disaster: 3 to 4 May 2015
Operation manager: Felipe del Cid	Point of Contact: Dr. Jose Benjamin Ruíz Rodas – President of the Salvadorean Red Cross Society (SRCS)
Operation start date: 2 May 2015	Expected timeframe: 2 months
Overall operation budget: 80,529 Swiss francs (CHF)	
Number of people affected: 20,000 people	Number of people to be assisted: 2,500 people
Host National Society presence (number of volunteers, staff, and branches): 1 Headquarters, 60 branches, 2,400 volunteers, 230 staff members.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Spanish Red Cross supporting the rapid assessment	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Civil Protection and its Commissions	

[<Click here to view the DREF budget. Click here to view the contact information>](#)

A. Situation Analysis

Description of the Disaster

Tropical storms in the Southern Hemisphere have affected the Pacific coasts of countries such as Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico, among others. An unusual phenomenon, which occurred 2 to 4 May 2015, produced waves that were two meters above sea level that left behind dozens of victims, evacuees and damage to infrastructure on the Pacific Ocean side of Central America.

Judging from reports from relief organizations and isthmus media, the Salvadoran coast was among the hardest hit. Damage can be seen across the entire coastal line in the departments of Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad, La Paz, San Vicente, Usulután and La Unión.

Below: A Salvadoran pier is pounded by waves.
Source: SRCS



Of the population affected in the departments of Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad, La Paz and Usulután, 1 person is missing, 1,367 have been evacuated, 514 are in shelters and 1,270 are providing their own shelter. Another segment of the population has migrated to areas where they have access to family shelters and to the Chapina Garita area. In Guatemala, 20 families from the Botoncillo and Bola de Monte areas are being sheltered in Ahuachapán.

An orange alert has been issued for 13 May as a second round of high waves is expected to hit the Salvadoran coast, which could worsen the situation of the people currently involved or increase the number of victims.

Summary of current response

On 2, 3 and 4 May, more than 600 people were evacuated and more than 100 people received first aid care. Evacuation and first aid care actions were focused mainly in the Port of la Libertad and the Port of Acajutla.

Needs and damage assessments were conducted on 5 to 6 May in the departments of Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad, La Paz and Usulután.

The SRCS is distributing humanitarian aid in the departments of Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad and La Paz, and donors are being sought in order to be able to provide supplementary aid to the departments of Sonsonate and Usulután. The Salvadorean Red Cross Society has already provided 500 hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets and jerrycans, all of which had been pre-positioned at the SRCS warehouse to respond to disasters.



Planning meeting in the field. Source: SRCS

DATE	Department	Municipality	CANTON	Families	People	Hygiene Kit	Pads	Blankets	5 Gallon Bucket	Medium Buckets	Plastic Rolls- 15 m	Set of Pots
08/05/2015	La Libertad	La Libertad	Melara	25	80	25	50	125		25	25	25
08/05/2015	La Libertad	La Libertad	Cangrejera	33	114	33	66	165		33	33	33
09/05/2015	Sonsonate	Acajutla	Metalio	46	214	46	46	230	46	46	46	0
09/05/2015	Sonsonate	Acajutla	San Julian	5	11	5	5	25	5	5	5	0
09/05/2015	Sonsonate	Sonsonate	Salinas de Ahuachapan	45	113	45	26	225	45	45	45	0
12/05/2015	Ahuachapan	San Francisco Menendez	Garita palmera	153	765	154	53	770	154	154	154	0
14/05/2015	La Paz	San Luis la Herradura	Pimental/Zun ganera	165	825	165	0	330	0	165	165	0
15/05/2015	Usulután	Jucuarán	El Espino	200	1000	200	154	1900	0	200	200	200
				672	2122	673	400	3770	250	673	673	258

Families supported by Salvadorean Red Cross Society Source: SRCS

Another important sector is the coordination and support that some private businesses have provided by contributing their own resources through the Salvadorean Red Cross Society. Through the SRCS, the Industrial Association of El Salvador donated: 400 bags of water (with 30 smaller bags each) and 1,900 light blankets. The UNILEVER Company will donate 130 mattresses.

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society has extensive experience in disaster management in emergencies such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and floods. It has a network of 60 branches distributed across the country, and it is supported by more than 2,400 volunteers, many of whom are trained in emergency and disaster preparedness and response. It has a large central warehouse and a fleet of vehicles, which allows for rapid responses to emergencies and disasters anywhere in the country despite its limited size. Likewise, there is a stock of relief items to provide immediate response during emergencies, which has been made available to families affected by this event.



Evacuation of people
Source: SRCS



Transfer of affected people to shelters Source: SRCS



Evaluation of damages
Source: SRCS



Delivery of basic relief kits
Source: SRCS

Overview of the Red Cross - Red Crescent Movement in the country

In El Salvador, there are International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) delegations, as well as delegations from the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross, which supported projects in community health, disaster preparedness, organizational development, social inclusion and youth violence prevention previously.

Likewise, the American Red Cross and the Finnish Red Cross are funding disaster preparedness, violence prevention and health projects, and there is support from the Italian Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross.

Movement Coordination

Any humanitarian action by the Red Cross Movement in El Salvador will be conducted under a single plan of action and under the leadership and coordination of the Salvadorean Red Cross Society. All this is in line with the National Response Plan in order to maintain close communication with all Movement representatives with both direct and indirect presence in the country.

The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the IFRC's country coordinator for are in close communication with the Salvadorean Red Cross Society. The regional disaster management coordinator is in contact with the National Society, providing advice to the disaster director and the general director.

The Spanish Red Cross has provided technical personnel to provide guidance on water and sanitation issues, and the Swiss Red Cross is monitoring the damage situation, and it is ready to address the Salvadorean Red Cross Society's requests.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in the country

At the national level, the emergency is being coordinated by the National Civil Protection System, in which the Salvadorean Red Cross Society participates at the national, departmental and municipal levels. For this emergency, the National Civil Protection System is coordinating with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Environment, the National Aqueducts and Sewers Administrator and the Salvadoran Armed Forces, among others

In general, all State sectors (both civil and military) are ready to provide support. Various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have also been participating in coordination meetings, and United Nations agencies have continuously monitored f actions at the national level through the Country Humanitarian Team, in which the Salvadorean Red Cross Society participates and contributes to the exchange of information and humanitarian assistance.

Likewise, the SRCS has been involved in the various committees activated by the National Civil Protection System, such as shelter and emergency services, in order to coordinate and optimize the provision of aid on the ground.

The government is in charge of managing the shelters, and the Red Cross and other organizations are providing support to health care, water delivery, delivery of hygiene kits and evacuation as required.

Oxfam and World Vision have expressed interest in supporting some communities in Ahuchapán, but the IFRC does not currently have specific information regarding when they will be providing this aid.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

According to National Civil Protection System data and the National Society's own assessment, the most affected departments were Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad, La Paz and Usulután.

Shelter:

The departments that sustained damage to dwellings reported that 242 homes were destroyed, 937 homes were either partially or severely damaged (homes made from palm suffered the greatest damage from the waves) and 162 homes were flooded.

Families who suffered damage to their homes will need support in the medium and long term to rebuild their homes or at least basic supplies for the initial rebuilding phase.

Water and Sanitation:

Water wells for domestic use were also affected, as were dry latrines for families, latrine pits and some drinking water supply systems.

Health:

The SRCS branches in Santa Tecla, Tamanique and Puerto de la Libertad treated approximately 60 minor injuries, such as cuts from glass, trunks and other floating debris. Red Cross lifeguards treated around 40 tourists on 3 60-passenger buses there were on outings to the Majahual resort area when the wave struck. Of all the patients seen, only 11 needed to be hospitalized; the remaining patients were treated in ambulances and by teams with first aid kits.

Livelihoods:

The following areas suffered losses along the coast:

- Huts used as temporary businesses
- Anacardium plantations
- Sea turtle nurseries.
- Interruption of artisanal fishing and loss of tools
- Loss of premises for seafood sales
- Closing of beaches, decreased tourism
- Reduction in informal sales, crafts or souvenirs from coastal areas.
- Suspension of school classes in affected areas

Most urgent needs at the familial level:

- Food
- Water
- Hygiene kits
- Cleaning kits
- Kitchen kits
- Mattresses and blankets
- Cleaning out wells and latrine repair
- Materials for temporary roofs.

First damage report by El Salvador's Civil Protection System issued on 11 May 2015:

El Salvador's Civil Protection System National Commission met on May 11 to learn about the first technical report on the damage caused by the powerful waves that pummeled the Salvadoran coast:

Impact to people:

1,367 evacuees
1,270 sheltered
14 communities evacuated

Impact to vital lines:

578 contaminated wells (most of them in Ahuachapán)
185 wells destroyed
783 flooded latrines

Impact to housing and public buildings:

937 homes partially damaged
242 homes destroyed
66 homes flooded

Impact to livelihoods

11 hectares of basic grains crops destroyed
73 hectares of orchards destroyed
2 hectares of produce damaged

Other impact

2,412 fisherman left without jobs
1 pier damaged
552 storage huts damaged
7 hotels affected

Departments with the greatest number of people affected:

1,766 people affected in Ahuchapán
 488 people affected in Sonsonate
 276 people affected in Usulután
 227 people affected in La Libertad

Departments with greatest damage to housing and public buildings:

658 damaged houses/infrastructure in Ahuchapán
 236 damaged houses/infrastructure in La Libertad
 217 damaged houses/infrastructure in La Paz
 66 damaged houses/infrastructure in Sonsonate

B. Operational plan and strategy**Overall objective**

Families in the departments affected by the high waves are assisted with immediate shelter and water and sanitation relief items

Proposed strategy

A total of 600 hygiene kits, buckets, blankets and mattresses are being distributed by the volunteer service in low-income communities significantly affected by the waves in the departments of Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, La Libertad and La Paz.

Given the type of event, the Red Cross will continue to coordinate with the National Civil Protection System in order to carry out relevant and timely actions in affected places.

Additionally, in coordination with the National Civil Protection System and local NGOs, areas of action and geographical coverage are being established so as to not duplicate efforts and to achieve localized impact in respect to accountability at the level of beneficiaries, donors and the general public.

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society's actions will be in accordance with Sphere minimum humanitarian standards.

Selection criteria:

The plan of action aims to provide humanitarian assistance to families using the following vulnerability criteria:

- Residing in communities affected by the high waves.
- Low level of income.
- Families with older adults, children, people with disabilities, pregnant women and female heads of household.
- Homes destroyed or severely damaged
- High risk of disease due to unsanitary conditions
- Limited access to safe water.

Operational support services

Through its response plan, which is currently being updated, the Salvadorean Red Cross Society is organized according to the following working sectors:

- Planning and Appeal
- Public and institutional information
- Support services to volunteers and branches
- Administrative-logistics support services.

- Operations. Areas targeted by the first-response operations sector:
 - Emergency response and rescue services area
 - Health area
 - Monitoring and Evaluation area
 - Security in operations area
 - Humanitarian Assistance area

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society organizes its disaster response at three levels: political, managerial and operational.

Human Resources

Among the first actions carried out by the SRCS was the rescue and evacuation of affected people, deployment of damage assessment & needs analysis (DANA) teams to identify primary needs, especially in coastal communities and the mobilization of 200 volunteers. Both meals and travel expenses for these volunteers are being covered, as well as the use of National Society vehicles for the transportation of volunteers.

In accordance with the work plan, the National Intervention Team (NIT) members and SRCS Disaster Directorate staff will provide support to these volunteers on the planned operations during their visits to communities.

The DREF will cover the operational cost related to 50 volunteers that has been deployed to the affected areas.

Logistics and supply chain

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society has a specific department for procurement of goods and services, which has established procedures that are accepted by local authorities and donors alike. The local market allows alternatives in terms of suppliers. Moreover, the IFRC's Regional Logistics Unit in Panama will provide support to acquire hygiene kits, buckets, tarpaulins, blankets and kitchen sets.

The National Society also has a large and secure warehouse to protect acquired assets and three trucks to transport goods to communities, as well as 10 branches near the affected area.

Information Technology (IT)

The National Society has a computerized purchasing and warehousing system and regular internet access. For this operation, Mega V and Open Data Kit (ODK) systems will be used for the identification and selection of beneficiaries and distribution of humanitarian aid.

Communications

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society's public relations and Press Department will periodically inform both the institutional authorities and the general public regarding the progress of the operation, using its own means of communication and the media to facilitate the dissemination of actions, as well as the Salvadoran Red Cross's virtual platforms.

Information published in the media:

<http://elmundo.com.sv/pescadores-de-la-libertad-sin-poder-acceder-a-su-fuente-de-ingresos/>

http://www.elsalvador.com/mwedh/nota/nota_completa.asp?idCat=47673&idArt=8913726

http://www.elsalvador.com/mwedh/nota/nota_completa.asp?idCat=47654&idArt=9644575

<http://www.laprensagrafica.com/2015/05/04/mitur-ordena-cerrar-complejo-turistico-del-puerto-de-la-libertad>

<http://www.laprensagrafica.com/2015/05/04/continua-alerta-verde-por-fuerte-oleaje-en-costas-salvadoreas>

<http://www.laprensagrafica.com/2015/05/04/mar-destruye-cultivos-de-maraon-y-tortugeros-en-tecoluca>

<http://elmundo.com.sv/inician-evaluacion-de-impacto-de-oleaje-en-la-costa/>

<http://www.elfaro.net/es/201505/noticias/16928/Un-desaparecido-decenas-de-evacuados-y-da%C3%B1os-materiales-por-fuerte-oleaje-en-El-Salvador.htm>

<http://www.laprensagrafica.com/2015/05/04/daos-y-evacuaciones-por-incremento-en-el-oleaje>

<http://mas.sv/mas/articulo.aspx/75355/9647290/puno-de-gente-afectada-por-las-fuertes-olas#.VU4MErdFDmI>

<http://noticiaslagaceta.com/0215049-intensa-marea-en-costas-salvadorenas-provoca-lesionados-y-danos-materiales/>
<http://diario1.com/nacionales/2015/05/un-joven-desaparecido-por-fuerte-oleaje-en-el-salvador/>

Security

The SRCS is following the National Civil Protection System's security guidelines. The National Society will also coordinate with the branches, key actors and authorities that are responsible for security in the area.

All operational actions will take place during daytime hours, and the security conditions will be analyzed by authorities and community leaders prior to any actions. All Red Cross personnel and equipment will be properly identified, highly visible and insured.

In terms of security, it is necessary to clarify that there is a gang (*maras*) presence in most communities, which could eventually affect the work schedule or in extreme cases force a change in communities.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

The general director and the emergency operations director shall ensure the full implementation of the plan of action by the coordinating team, making sure that a report for the first month and an end of operation report are submitted. In addition, they will receive support from the IFRC regional disaster management coordinator on the corresponding process.

Coordination meetings will be held with Salvadorean Red Cross Society's branches in Ahuachapán and Sonsonate, which are providing direct providing support during the emergency. At the end of the operation, a lessons learned workshop will be held involving national authorities and representatives from the group of volunteers directly involved in field operations and Movement representatives who participated in the operation.

A beneficiary satisfaction survey has been planned as part of the operation in order to improve the future humanitarian interventions for the affected population.

Administration and Finance

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society has a permanent administration and finance system, which ensures the proper use of financial resources in accordance with conditions laid down in the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the National Society and the donor. Financial resource management will be according to National Society regulations and DREF guidelines. In addition, the National Society's own procedures will be applied to the justification of expenses process, and it will use the IFRC's formats.

According to DREF procedures, the operation will only cover costs incurred during the three-month operation; it will not cover permanent structural costs.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Outcome 1 A detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.	No. of assessments conducted (<i>general and/or sectorial</i>)
Output 1.1 Initial needs assessment are updated following consultation with beneficiaries.	Assessment reports which show that beneficiaries are consulted Assessment reports that provide data on affected population disaggregated by sex, age and vulnerabilities
Output 1.2 The management of the operation is informed	Plan of action and sectorial plan for which a

by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system	monitoring and evaluation plan has been developed											
Output 1.3 Operation activities are disseminated at the local, national and regional level	No. of press releases issued No. of beneficiary stories completed No. of media publications on SRCS actions											
	May				June				July			
Activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conducting an emergency rapid assessment												
Creating a cross-sector plan of action												
Conducting a detailed assessment of impact to communities												
Producing and disseminating press releases												
2 operational monitoring visits by the IFRC												

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis:

Population being assisted:

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS											
Outcome 1 Cover the target population's immediate water and sanitation needs	No. of families receiving water and sanitation items during the first week of the emergency											
Output 1.1 600 families receive buckets and hygiene kits, which meet Sphere standards and are provided to the entire affected population.	600 families have received hygiene kits during the first two weeks of the emergency 600 families have received buckets during the first two weeks of the emergency											
	May				June				July			
Activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Distribution and replacement of 600 hygiene kits and 600 buckets (from SRCS warehouse)												
Identification and registration of families												
Development of baseline on hygiene knowledge in communities targeted by the SRCS												
Development of satisfaction survey												

Health

Needs analysis:

Population being assisted:

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS											
Outcome: The SCRS provides first aid to people affected by the emergency	No. of affected people receiving first aid from the SRCS											
Output 1.1 Provide first aid to 100 people from areas affected by and evacuated due to the high waves	No. of volunteers that have participated in the provision of first aid care No. of first aid treatments provided during the emergency											

Activities Week	May				June				July			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mobilization of volunteers to the emergency area												
First aid care												
Replacement of first aid supplies for 20 first aid kits												

Shelter:

Needs analysis:

Population being assisted:

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS											
Outcome: Meet basic care needs of families most affected by the emergency	No. of families having their basic needs met in shelters											
Output 1.1 600 families receive mattresses and blankets necessary during their time emergency shelters	3,000 blankets distributed during the first two weeks of the emergency 600 mattresses distributed during the first two weeks of the emergency 200 kitchen kits distributed during the first two weeks of the emergency											
	May				June				July			
Activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Identification and registration of families												
Replenishment of mattresses, kitchen kits and blankets from the SRCS warehouse												
Conduct a beneficiary satisfaction survey												

Contact information

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

In El Salvador:

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IFRC country coordination office for Guatemala and El Salvador

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In Panama:

- IFRC Americas region office:** Carlos Inigo Barrena, disaster response and crisis and early recovery coordinator; phone: +507 317 3050, email: ci.barrena@ifrc.org

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(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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1. Click [here](#) to view the DREF budget
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DREF OPERATION

MDRSV008 - El Salvador Storm Surge

15/05/2015

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	8,318
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	22,182
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	16,637
Medical & First Aid	2,773
Teaching Materials	0
Ustensils & Tools	6,562
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	56,472
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	462
Distribution & Monitoring	1,386
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,714
Logistics Services	2,773
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	9,335
International Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	693
Volunteers	3,383
Other Staff Benefits	0
Total PERSONNEL	4,076
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	2,773
Information & Public Relations	739
Office Costs	370
Communications	1,386
Financial Charges	462
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,730
Partner National Societies	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	4,915
Total INDIRECT COSTS	4,915
TOTAL BUDGET	80,529