

**Argentina | Economic Crisis 2024**



ARC volunteers assisting homeless people in Buenos Aires with first aid and hot meals 2024  
Poverty affects more than 52.9 per cent of the people in Argentina. Many people are living in overcrowded conditions or inadequate housing and number of homeless has increased. Photo: CRA

Appeal №: <b>MDRAR022</b>	To be assisted: <b>20,000 people</b>	Appeal launched: <b>17/09/2024</b>
Glide №:	DREF allocated: <b>CHF 500,000</b>	Disaster categorization: <b>Yellow</b>
Operation start date: <b>17/09/2024</b>	Operation end date: <b>30/09/2025</b>	

**IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 3 million**



Red Cross volunteers providing health information to people affected people during Argentina's gravest economic crisis in a decade. Photo: CRA

## TIMELINE

- December 2023:** A new political party, *La Libertad Avanza*, takes power in Argentina. They issue a "Decree of Necessity and Urgency", characterizing the state of the economy as "a **situation of unprecedented gravity**, generating deep imbalances, which have a negative impact on the entire population, especially in the social and economic areas".
- Early April 2024:** The Chamber of Deputies gives a majority opinion to the so-called "Bases Law" bill allowing the legislative process to move forward for the declaration of an economic emergency, ratifying this and other measures.
- Mid-April 2024:** The Humanitarian Observatory of the Argentine Red Cross prepares a detailed report that consolidates information from prestigious national and international entities, forming an analysis of the legal and juridical framework of the response by the National Society.
- 17 September 2024:** IFRC allocates CHF 500,000 from the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society. An Emergency Appeal is launched for CHF 3 million to support 20,000 people.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

## PRIORITIZED PROVINCES Argentina | Economic Crisis 2024

This map depicts information in regards provinces in Argentina being reached by the Emergency Appeal.

Last update: 30-October-2024



The Emergency Appeal will focus to address priority needs of **56 communities** in



Argentina is facing one of its most complex economic crises in recent years, with a rapid increase in the number of people living in poverty, limited access to health and food services, loss of jobs and difficulties in sustaining livelihoods, among others.

Inaugurated in December 2023, the new government declared an emergency for **the economic, financial, administrative, social security, tariff, health and social realms** with **Decree of Necessity and Urgency No. 70/2023**, in force until 31 December 2025. This measure highlighted a crisis of "unprecedented gravity" that "generates significant imbalances, negatively affecting the entire population, particularly in the social and economic areas". A "Law of Bases" was then approved on 27 June, modifying the Declaration of Emergency to cover administrative, economic, financial and energy matters for a period of one year.

These first measures triggered some protests by the opposition and in various sectors by social organizations, and some by trade unions, including two general strikes.

This crisis has led to a notable increase in poverty and indigence especially affecting children and adolescents, more than 55 per cent of whom live below the poverty line. Access to fundamental services, such as health and education, has dropped, and this has disproportionately affected the most vulnerable.

Families, already severely strained by inflation that reached 289.4 per cent in April 2024, have suffered a sharp decline in purchasing power, leaving many households struggling to meet basic needs such as food and medical care. For poor households, the average family income is ARS 407,171<sup>1</sup>, yet the cost of the total basic basket is ARS 709,318<sup>2</sup>, a 42.6-per cent shortfall.<sup>3</sup>

These figures starkly illustrate the growing chasm between household incomes and the cost of essential goods, deepening the crisis. Compounding this situation, unemployment has now surged as well, and work conditions have become increasingly precarious, forcing many people to seek multiple jobs or rely on the informal economy to make ends meet.

## Severity of humanitarian conditions

### Increase in poverty and indigence

This economic crisis has contributed to a rapid increase in poverty and indigence. According to official reports, poverty affects more than 52.9 per cent of the people in Argentina and 42.5 per cent of households, while 18.1 per cent of the people (13.6 of households) are affected by indigence. And this is after a significant increase over the previous quarter, where poverty had already increased by 10.7 per cent and indigence by 4.9 per cent.<sup>4</sup>

This sudden increase in poverty is associated with high inflation, which has had a particular impact on

<sup>1</sup> CHF 360

<sup>2</sup> CHF 627

<sup>3</sup> [Incidencia de la pobreza y la indigencia en 31 aglomerados urbanos. Primer semestre de 2024 \(indec.gov.ar\)](https://www.indec.gov.ar/indicadores/indicadores-de-pobreza-y-indigencia-en-31-aglomerados-urbanos-primer-semester-de-2024)

<sup>4</sup> [Incidencia de la pobreza y la indigencia en 31 aglomerados urbanos. Primer semestre de 2024 \(indec.gov.ar\)](https://www.indec.gov.ar/indicadores/indicadores-de-pobreza-y-indigencia-en-31-aglomerados-urbanos-primer-semester-de-2024)

the prices of basic foodstuffs. The northeastern region of the country has the highest poverty, at 62.9 per cent and 17.7 per cent indigence. Similarly, the northwestern region reports 57.0 per cent poverty and 13.9 per cent indigence. In greater Buenos Aires, 52.8 per cent of the people live in poverty and 19.8 per cent are indigent.<sup>5</sup>

### Labour is precarious

Reductions in public spending and deregulation of various sectors have influenced the labour market, leading to the precariousness of working conditions. These changes have mainly affected middle- and low-income households. Rising indigence rates have worsened labour conditions as well, pushing people into informal or precarious jobs as they struggle to meet basic needs.<sup>6</sup>

### Access to health care

The crisis has affected access to health services, and this is exacerbated by cuts in state programmes, increases in the price of medicines and increases in the cost of transportation to health care centres. Many households are now prioritizing food and basic survival, leaving little room for medical expenses.

These conditions have led to interruptions in the treatment of chronic diseases, a reduction in vaccination coverage and an increase in morbidity and mortality in vulnerable sectors. According to the Ministry of Health, in 2024 less than 80 per cent of children under 1 year of age are.<sup>7</sup>

### Food insecurity

Nearly eight-and-a-half million people are not getting their basic food needs met, 4.2 million of them just coming onto the rolls in the past year. This has a disproportionate impact on children and adolescents: indigence affects 29.4 per cent of children aged 12 to 17.<sup>8</sup> Adjustments in the household economy have resulted in diet modifications due to high food prices too, significantly affecting the nutrition and development of children and youth.

### Housing and housing conditions

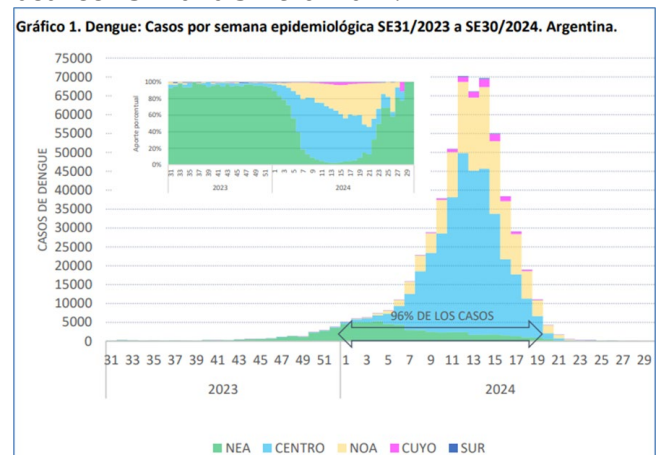
<sup>5</sup> [Incidencia de la pobreza y la indigencia en 31 aglomerados urbanos. Primer semestre de 2024 \(indec.gov.ar\)](https://www.indec.gov.ar/indicadores/indicadores-de-pobreza-y-indigencia-en-31-aglomerados-urbanos-primer-semester-de-2024)

<sup>6</sup> [Indigencia: 8,5 millones de argentinos no tienen las necesidades alimentarias básicas cubiertas - Infobae](https://www.infobae.com/argentina/economia/2024/08/08/indigencia-85-millones-de-argentinos-no-tienen-las-necesidades-alimentarias-basicas-cubiertas/)

Many people are living in overcrowded conditions or inadequate housing and number of homeless has increased. The rise in indigence has exacerbated these issues, resulting in more families being forced into cramped and substandard living environments due to their inability to afford proper housing.

### Increased seasonal diseases

Seasonal diseases such as dengue are on the rise as well, and since the beginning of the season, between epidemiological week (EW) 31 and 41 of 2023, autochthonous viral transmission has been observed in the northeastern region of the country. From week 42 onward, an increase in cases was observed in the northwestern and central regions as well. And in week 6 of 2024, cases began appearing in the Cuyo and Central regions. The highest number of cases of the season occurred between weeks 12 and 14 of 2024, with an average of 68,700 weekly cases nationwide and a maximum of 70,180 cases in EW 12. Ninety-six per cent of cases were registered between SE1 and SE19 of 2024.



At present, 583,297 cases of dengue have been reported in Argentina from EW 31/2023 to EW 30/2024, including laboratory-confirmed cases, laboratory-positive cases in areas with viral circulation and cases with an epidemiological link without a laboratory.

The cumulative incidence for the season was 1,239 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (rate calculated with projections for 2024 from the 2010 census).

Accumulated cases in 2023/2024 represent 3.41 times more than what was recorded in 2022/2023 and 8.65 times more than what was recorded in the

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2019/05/2024\\_08\\_26-cnv\\_2023-cierre-agosto-2024.pdf](https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2019/05/2024_08_26-cnv_2023-cierre-agosto-2024.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [Indigenciseca: 8,5 millones de argentinos no tienen las necesidades alimentarias básicas cubiertas - Infobae](https://www.infobae.com/argentina/economia/2024/08/08/indigenciseca-85-millones-de-argentinos-no-tienen-las-necesidades-alimentarias-basicas-cubiertas/)

same period of the previous epidemic season corresponding to 2019/2020.

from the beginning of August in the north of the country and reaching a peak in February and March.

Based on this, the increase in the national incidence of the disease can be observed, starting with cases

## CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

### 1. National Society response capacity

#### 1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

The Argentine Red Cross (*Cruz Roja Argentina* - CRA) has a network of 65 branches and a team of more than 7,000 volunteers and 150 hired technicians. This network allows CRA to respond to emergencies effectively through its National Response Plan. At the logistical level it has a "Humanitarian HUB" and vehicles for rapid mobilization of resources to priority areas. In addition, it has high community and government acceptance, ensuring effective coordination and direct access to the most affected communities. In recent operations, specialized teams have been activated in emergency health and psychosocial support.

CRA is currently responding to crises in Argentina through various initiatives. In more than 40 communities they are implementing **vocational training** and **job skills training**, including technical, vocational and soft skills workshops, as well as **job search advice and support**. They also develop **entrepreneurship and micro-financing programmes**, and carry out campaigns on **awareness and promotion of rights**, promoting the inclusion of socio-economically vulnerable groups.

To mitigate the health impacts of the current crisis, CRA has implemented immunization projects through its vaccination centres in three localities in metropolitan Buenos Aires, Almirante Brown, San Martín and Quilmes. Additionally, it conducts self-care and first aid activities in 14 communities across various provinces. Through the **Elijo Ayudar** campaign, CRA also provides **psychosocial support, shelter and food distribution to homeless people** in nine urban centres, covering metropolitan Buenos Aires, Córdoba and Mendoza.

#### 2.1 Capacity and response at the national level

The Government is currently restructuring the Executive Branch, cutting social assistance budgets, particularly food assistance, and it is revising the pension system, among others. It has established a "Ministry of Human Capital" as well, with the purpose of strengthening policies for society, in particular for vulnerable populations.

These changes are having a direct impact at the provincial level, where provinces are making internal adjustments in order to sustain social assistance programmes. Many civil society organizations are carrying out food distribution and social assistance as well. CRA supports Human Development and Emergency Response programmes in general; in its auxiliary role to the public authorities, it articulates with different national ministries and with most of the provinces.

### 2. International capacity and response

#### 1.2 Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

##### IFRC membership

IFRC has a Multi-Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Argentina, which provides support to the "Southern Cone" countries of South America and Brazil. This office coordinates with both the CRA and the Health, Disasters and

Crises Department (HDCD) of IFRC's Regional Office for the Americas, based in Panama. Following the worsening of the situation in Argentina resulting from the current economic crisis, permanent communication and technical assistance have been maintained through the CCD specifically designated for the Southern Cone, collaborating in the development of the request for this Appeal.

## ICRC

ICRC maintains a regional delegation in Brazil, which manages its activities in Argentina. In addition to fulfilling its mandate of collaborating with the authorities to integrate, implement and promote international humanitarian law and rules on the use of force, it focuses on improving the capacities of CRA to respond to emergency situations in contexts of violence and crisis. CRA is implementing a Cooperation Action Plan with ICRC that seeks to address various issues associated with ICRC and with CRA's mandate. In recent months, social tension has led the National Society and ICRC to hold more frequent meetings and review aspects related to the Safer Access framework, strengthening the response to these contexts, among others.

(On Partner National Societies [PNSs], there are none present in the country, although German Red Cross provides support for Early Action Protocols.)

## 2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholders capacity and response

In collaboration with the *Observatorio de la Deuda Social Argentina* of the *Universidad Católica Argentina* (UCA), Caritas **Argentina** has presented reports on the alarming increase in poverty and food insecurity, which currently affects about 50 per cent of the population, with 18 per cent in extreme poverty or indigence. Caritas provides daily food to more than half a million people through its community centres, and it promotes the social economy through microcredit programmes, cooperatives and tool banks to generate local employment. It also works to promote education and early childhood care, focusing on the first 1,000 days of life and educational support in vulnerable areas.

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** continues its work in areas such as inclusive development, environmental sustainability and democratic governance. It also supports poverty reduction programmes and fosters partnerships with local, state and private-sector organizations to implement projects that impact millions of people. In 2024 one of the key areas of action has been digital inclusion in vulnerable neighbourhoods as part of a broader effort to improve access to digital environments and quality of life in affected communities.

Following reports that more than 1 million children in Argentina do not receive at least one meal per day, UNICEF has also begun a global campaign to raise awareness of the situation of child poverty and to raise funds for programmes to support nutritionally vulnerable people in developing key instruments, such as monitoring the national budget for children, among other initiatives.

## 3. Gaps in response

The economic crisis in Argentina has created gaps in key areas such as **health** and **livelihoods**, and the number of people under the poverty and indigence indexes exceeds historical levels, with record numbers of people living on the street or under levels of extreme vulnerability.

### HEALTH

In the health sector, Argentina's universal free public health care system is facing growing overload due to the increase in private medicine quotas, which generates greater demand for services in public hospitals, while resources and financing are not growing at the same pace. Technological disinvestment and the lack of medical supplies, together with the departure of professionals in certain specialties and increases in services such as electricity, gas and water, affect the quality and availability of care. Several provinces in border areas have also been forced to charge for the care of non-resident migrants, which increases the vulnerability of this group.

The loss of purchasing power, particularly for retirees and other vulnerable groups, is reflected in the alarming decrease in the ability to purchase medicines for the treatment of chronic diseases, which has an impact on public health in the medium and long terms, as well as on the ability to travel to health centres.

## LIVELIHOODS

Reductions in public spending are resulting in the suspension, reformulation or elimination of a large number of social protection and employment programmes. This is being enhanced by a scheme of strong government intervention in assistance mechanisms based on grassroots social organizations (community-based) as "intermediary" institutions between these programmes and the people and communities affected, which leads to deterioration of formal and informal support networks and deepens the gaps in local assistance.

A lack of main actors (especially at the Territory level) to diversify sources of income, livelihoods and employment generation means that many vulnerable communities do not have the necessary support to improve or guarantee their income. Various groups of people and local organizations promote and encourage local training proposals to provide new tools to vulnerable communities, although they are insufficient.

## OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Daily prices in Argentina vary on all items, making it difficult to make accurate projections. In addition, although officially there is a "stable" dollar, the so-called "parallel dollar" fluctuates weekly, and there is also devaluation of more than 70 per cent in the country. CRA volunteers face the same challenges in their own lives that the people in the populations that they are trying to help face too, which increases the turnover of volunteers in the organization. The National Society has adjusted its management structure and implemented various measures due to the impact of the crisis on the usual income of Headquarters, and a new structure has been proposed for the present operation. Many companies that financed small and medium-sized projects have stopped contributing to the National Society and individual donors are not renewing their contributions.

## FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach**, based on the National Society's response priorities and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities, including bilateral and nationally-funded activities.

## OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Vision

This emergency appeal aims to mitigate the impact of the economic crisis in Argentina through a comprehensive response that encompasses two key areas of intervention. In the current context, **health** services are in demand and service providers are focusing their attention on diagnosis and treatment of pathologies "in progress". Promotion and prevention are thus not priorities, hence the need for CRA to act in coordination with public health services to carry out prevention in communities, and to carry out preventive and early detection that: reduce the risk of getting sick; that increase food security; and that offer health education, mental health and psychosocial support.

At the same time, assistance will be provided for the protection, development and diversification of **livelihoods**, facilitating access to alternative professional training opportunities and access to the labour market.

In addition, immediate humanitarian aid will be provided to homeless people for hygiene, shelter and food, prioritizing the most affected urban areas in the provinces of Buenos Aires, the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Corrientes. These actions will benefit at least 20,000 people in 56 communities in the prioritized regions.

### **Territorial Approach**

The territorial approach will be based on the work of CRA branches, coordinated by the National Society's Headquarters based on three criteria:

1. The social and health impact of the economic crisis in the areas of influence of ARC branches.
2. The percentage of affected communities in each region.
3. The operational capacity of the affiliates including their community insertion, the current and potential capacities of their volunteers and previous experience in the implementation and accountability of social and health programmatic actions.

This Operational Strategy will be implemented in **three main stages**, based on the coverage of the appeal:

**Stage 1:** Response to immediate humanitarian problems and situations, addressing the direct impact of the crisis in the country, through the **distribution of humanitarian aid** in the identified communities, including local support for the health care of those who require it, supplies for the prevention of dengue fever and support for vaccination. At this stage, a multisectoral assessment will be carried out to further focus the assistance aspects required in this context.

For its part, and in line with the IFRC Strategy 2030, this first stage will begin a process linked to strengthening the household economy, seeking to ensure that people lead a safe, healthy and dignified life, with opportunities to prosper, including support for people's livelihoods.

**Stage 2:** The activities of Stage 1 will be continued and diversification of sources of income and **livelihoods through training** in trades at the territorial level will be initiated. At the same time, the existing resources and capacities of the National Society will be strengthened for livelihood training actions.

**Stage 3: Institutional capacities** will be expanded to establish continuity of assistance and promotion for a prolonged crisis.



# OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Argentina | Economic Crisis 2024



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Argentine Red Cross in its response to the humanitarian needs arising from the current economic crisis.  
Last update: 30-October-2024



**7.2 M** People affected or at risk



**20,000** People to be assisted



**CHF 3 Million** Funding requirements



**CHF 500,000** DREF allocation

This Operational Strategy will be implemented in three main stages, based on the coverage of the Appeal:

**1**

Response to immediate humanitarian needs and addressing direct impacts through the **distribution of humanitarian aid** to affected communities.

**2**

Stage 1 activities and promotion of **diversification of sources of income and livelihoods** through training. Strengthening of livelihoods National Society capacities.

**3**

Strengthening of **institutional capacities** to ensure continuity of humanitarian assistance.



## Integrated Assistance (Livelihoods)

**Target: 10,200 people**

### Summary of priority actions

#### Stage 1:

- Conduction of a multi-sectoral situation assessment.
- Setup of training spaces and conduction of workshops to provide medium- and long-term solutions to the family economy.

#### Stage 2:

- Conduction of trainings to strengthen livelihoods capabilities in the medium- and long-term.
- Delivery of tools and training kits for subsidiaries in prioritized areas.



## Health and Care (Mental Health and Medical Services)

**Target: 20,000 people**

### Summary of priority actions

#### Stage 1:

- Distribution of humanitarian aid kits to cover most urgent needs.
- Deployment of Mobile Health Units.
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions to support most affected people, including follow-up and referrals.
- Provision of first aid equipment to local health wards.

#### Stage 2:

- Food assistance and support for children.
- Food and nutrition interventions on 0 to 5 y/o children and parents.
- Promotion of vaccination awareness-raising campaigns for children and parents.

Stage 3 will focus on continuation of activities listed in Stage 2.



## Protection and Prevention (Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Migration, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Environmental Sustainability, and Education)

**Target: 20,000 people**

### Summary of priority actions

#### Stage 1:

- Referral routes for PSEA cases are validated.
- Design and implementation of mechanisms, tools and channels to collect community feedback.
- Development of mechanisms, tools and channels for validation of needs and selection criteria.

#### Stage 2:

- Design and implementation of training sessions for staff and volunteers on gender equality, inclusion and violence prevention.
- Conduction of awareness campaigns and creation of safe spaces in the most affected communities.

#### Stage 3:

- Conduction of CEA trainings for staff and volunteers

## Weather-related risks and adjustments to operations

Below-normal precipitation is expected in all regions of the country for the next three months and temperatures are expected to be above normal in all regions except for southern and eastern Patagonia. With this scenario, there may be heat waves, forest fires, strong winds, and to a lesser extent rainfall.

For institutional preparedness, a Seasonal Disaster Preparedness Campaign is carried out periodically, which provides the territorial network with information on expected scenarios and tools for monitoring and responding to them. This tool is updated quarterly according to forecasts by the National Meteorological Service.

CRA has a National Risk, Emergency and Disaster Monitoring Team, which is in charge of identifying imminent events and characterizing the operational context together with the local Branches, for the implementation of humanitarian actions. All actions are carried out within the framework of CRA's National Response Plan.

## Security

Economic crises often lead to widespread security issues, affecting individuals and communities in profound ways. During such times, job losses and reduced income can create financial instability, making it difficult for people to meet basic needs like housing, food and healthcare. This financial strain can lead to increased stress and anxiety, as individuals worry about their future and the well-being of their families. Additionally, economic downturns can erode trust in government, as people may feel that their leaders are not effectively addressing the crisis. The uncertainty and fear generated by economic instability can also strain social relationships, as people may fight over scarce resources, which creates greater insecurity in the country and especially in the areas affected.

# Targeting

## 1. People this strategy is intended to help

### **HEALTH: 20,000 people**

#### **Food assistance, hygiene and dengue prevention**

This targets people living on the street and people with nutritional deficiencies identified through mobile health and dengue prevention devices, in localities and communities with the highest exposure, through a **Mobile Health Unit**. In a protracted crisis, ARC will contribute to “de-stressing” of the public health systems, allowing people to control their chronic diseases.

Within each community, priority will be given to children, adolescents, adults and elderly with symptoms that require professional care. In the case of pregnant women, those with pathological symptoms and lack of prenatal control will be prioritized.

The following criteria will be used to prioritize homeless families and people:

**Amount of time living on the streets:** Priority will be given to people who have been homeless for a considerable amount of time: less than six months; between six months and two years; and more than two years.

**Number of people in family groups:** Priority will be given to the care of entire families who live on the street, considering the number of adults and children.

**Health conditions:** Priority will be given to people with acute or chronic health problems that require attention, including mental and physical illnesses.

**Disabilities:** Priority will be given to persons with physical, sensory, intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.

### **Comprehensive assistance: 10,200 people**

#### **Housing and Livelihoods**

Assistance is targeted at a subset of the 20,000 people under Health outreach between the ages of 19 and 60. This population will be disaggregated by gender and age to ensure equitable and specific care according to the needs of each demographic.

Selection criteria:

- People living on the street with basic shelter needs.
- Unemployed or precariously employed people seeking to improve their economic situation through training to diversify their sources of income.
- On family responsibilities, priority will be given to fathers and mothers who need income to support their families.
- On previous training, this will target individuals with basic skills in trades who could benefit from additional training.
- On interest and motivation, this will target individuals with a strong desire to learn and improve their skills.
- On socioeconomic vulnerability, this will target people with low income or in situations of economic vulnerability.
- On people from specific vulnerable groups with clear support needs, this will target homeless people, and senior citizens, among others.

Criteria by group are detailed below with approximate distribution based on population served:

- Males 19-30  
Criteria: Young people seeking job training or first jobs, or who wish to improve their skills to increase their employment opportunities.

Estimated number: 1,632

- Males 31-45  
Criteria: men of working age seeking to re-enter the labour market, change careers or improve their skills in specific trades.  
Estimated number: 2,040
- Males 46-60  
Criteria: Males who need to upgrade their skills to remain competitive in the labour market or who are seeking new employment opportunities due to changes in the economy or their personal situation.  
Estimated number: 1,428
- Women 19-30  
Criteria: Young people seeking job training or first jobs, or who wish to improve their skills to increase their employment opportunities, with a particular focus on the inclusion of women in male-dominated trades.  
Estimated number: 1,632
- Women 31-45  
Criteria: Women of productive age seeking to re-insert themselves into the labour market, change careers or improve their skills in specific trades, with special attention to single mothers or those responsible for families.  
Estimated number: 2,040
- Women 46-60  
Criteria: Women who need to update their skills to remain competitive in the labour market or who are seeking new employment opportunities due to changes in the economy or their personal situation, with special attention to women who have been homemakers and are now seeking formal employment.  
Estimated number: 1,428

The criteria established above are approximate and multi-sectoral evaluation and implementation of activities will allow for adjusting them throughout the operation.

## **2. Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)**

CRA has developed protocols by region of the country and construction of "*recurseros*".<sup>9</sup> Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and other related functions are handled by the provinces, so that an effective referral network is established through dialogue and local interaction with organizations and state agencies of their jurisdictions. Selection criteria and objectives are explained to communities with a specific focus on PGI, to promote the idea that all activities and services are inclusive and equitable. This work includes participatory mechanisms including focus groups - face-to-face or virtual - disaggregated by sex and age, including women, children, gender diversities, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and other groups in situations of extreme socioeconomic vulnerability.

CEA will ensure the greatest possible participation of the people to be reached by developing mechanisms for validation and adjustment of selection criteria adapted to each sector whenever possible; including feedback mechanisms.

Communication of selection criteria and humanitarian objectives will be made in an accessible and culturally appropriate manner, using visual materials adapted to the different languages and cultures of the communities.

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<sup>9</sup> Database of organizations that can provide support.

CRA has a “Humanitarian Observatory”, which will be an integral part of the multi-sectoral evaluation of the first phase of this appeal, actively monitoring and evaluating interventions. This will assure accountability for target audiences, the community in general, CRA staff and volunteers, strategic alliances, donors, opinion leaders and others. A lessons-learned exercise, external evaluation and audit will also be conducted at the end of the appeal.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS


### MULTISECTORAL EVALUATION

In the first stage of the appeal, a multi-sectoral situation assessment will be carried out for stages 2 and 3, depending on the availability of resources.

### INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

#### LIVELIHOODS


Livelihoods assistance will provide vocational and trade training to the affected population to diversify income sources. With a total target of 10,200, priority is given to the equal inclusion of women and men over 18 years of age. Consulting technical guidelines will be crucial to align these initiatives with best practices, promoting local economic development and social inclusion through effective and market-driven job training.

	<b>Livelihoods</b>	Women > 18: <b>3,100</b>	Female < 18: <b>3,100</b>	<b>CHF 823,606</b>
		Men > 18: <b>2,000</b>	Male < 18: <b>2,000</b>	<b>Target: 10,200 people</b>
<b>Objective:</b>		Promote the diversification of sources of income through the development of job skills for people in vulnerable situations, facilitating their access to professional training opportunities and the labour market, and guaranteeing an inclusive and equitable environment.		
<b>Priority actions:</b>		<b>Stage 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Training spaces are being set up in the ARC Branches in priority areas and workshops are being offered to provide medium- and long-term solutions for the family economy.</li> <li>○ Themes will be prioritized in the multi-sectoral evaluation.</li> </ul> <b>Stage 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mobile classroom adapted for the delivery of trainings.</li> <li>○ A mobile classroom equipped to teach trades in remote and excluded communities is being developed. It will be equipped with appropriate tools to propose medium- and long-term solutions.</li> <li>○ Implementation of trainings for trade skills that strengthen livelihoods in the medium and long terms.</li> <li>○ Delivery of tools and training kits for subsidiaries in prioritized areas.</li> </ul>		

# HEALTH & CARE

## (MENTAL HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES)


The main objective of health interventions is to facilitate access to primary health care to communities, improve the nutritional and hygiene status of communities and homeless people, promote vaccination and prevent dengue fever. This will combine direct care provided by professionals in a Mobile Health Unit, which will have as a priority those communities with greater difficulty accessing local health care providers, and health promotion with special emphasis on children. This will include Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS).

 <b>Health and Care</b> <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support [MHPSS]/Community Health/Medical Services)</i>	Women > 18: <b>6,000</b>	Female < 18: <b>6,000</b>	<b>CHF 1,181,165</b>
	Men > 18: <b>4,000</b>	Male < 18: <b>4,000</b>	<b>Target: 20,000 people</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>Improve access to health controls for priority communities. Improve the nutritional quality of food and improve hygiene for target communities. Increase vaccination. Prevent the spread of seasonal diseases such as dengue. Provide MHPSS.</p>		
<b>Priority actions:</b>	<p><b>Stage 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Humanitarian aid “KITS”<sup>10</sup> are distributed to support the most urgent cases and people on the street. These KITS are distributed based on the greatest need, prioritizing food, shelter, hygiene and dengue prevention.</li> <li>○ Mobile Health Unit deployed.</li> <li>○ Direct interventions in MHPSS are implemented for the most affected, including follow-up and referral.</li> <li>○ Local health wards are supported with the delivery of first aid equipment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stage 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Mobile Health Unit is deployed with professionals and volunteers in community areas, to provide primary health and promote referrals to medical centres where necessary.</li> <li>○ Assess children’s weight, height and body mass to detect obesity; food assistance and training in healthy nutrition.</li> <li>○ Interventions for children 0 to 5, together with their mothers, fathers and/or tutors, in community dining rooms, educational institutions and other community spaces. We provide tools and support material for playful stimulation appropriate to each stage of neurodevelopment.</li> <li>○ Review and consultation on the "national vaccination calendar" for children together with awareness-raising for mothers, fathers and guardians.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stage 3</b></p> <p>The interventions of the previous points are continued.</p>		

<sup>10</sup> Food, hygiene and first aid kits

## PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

(PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION [PGI], COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY [CEA]), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)

	<b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)</b>	Women > 18: <b>5,000</b>	Female < 18: <b>5,000</b>	<b>CHF 9,086</b>
		Men > 18: <b>5,000</b>	Male < 18: <b>5,000</b>	<b>Total target: 20,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>		Promote an inclusive and equitable environment in all activities and programmes of CRA, integrating PGI and ensuring protection of and support to vulnerable groups and people.		
<b>Priority actions:</b>		<p><b>Stage 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referral routes for PSEA cases are validated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stage 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training sessions are designed and implemented for staff and volunteers on gender equality, inclusion and violence prevention.</li> <li>Awareness campaigns are carried out in the communities most affected, together with creation of safe spaces for the most vulnerable.</li> </ul>		


## COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

	<b>Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)</b>	Women > 18: <b>5,000</b>	Female < 18: <b>5,000</b>	<b>CHF 55,148</b>
		Men > 18: <b>5,000</b>	Male < 18: <b>5,000</b>	<b>Total target: 20,000 people</b>
<b>Objective:</b>		Ensure that the needs, interests, context and capacities of the target communities are considered and prioritized throughout implementation, including necessary adjustments and lessons learned.		
<b>Priority actions:</b>		<p>Throughout all stages of the appeal, CEA actions will be carried out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mechanisms, tools and channels for validation of needs and selection criteria will be implemented, guaranteeing the participation of the communities reached and the organizations involved.</li> <li>Design and implement mechanisms, tools and feedback channels related to humanitarian actions, guaranteeing participation of the communities reached and organizations involved.</li> <li>Design and implement accountability mechanisms, tools and channels to ensure communication with the</li> </ul>		

communities reached, Civil Society Organizations and Governmental Agencies involved, donors and collaborators, CRA members and the general public.

During Stage 3, CEA training will be conducted for staff and volunteers.

## Enabling approaches

 <b>National Society Strengthening</b>	Women > 18: <b>1,000</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF 887,930</b>
	Men > 18: <b>900</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: 1,900 people</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	CRA strengthens and develops its capacities for efficient management of the economic crisis, promoting the sustainability of its humanitarian actions.		
<b>Priority actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Design and implementation of specific training for staff and volunteers to strengthen management of the action plan (accountability, logistics, CEA, PGI, security, communication, volunteer management, Planning Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER).</li> <li>○ Adaptation of CRA's virtual training platform to streamline volunteer training, such as more secure access and institutional doctrine, among others.</li> <li>○ Visibility, safety and protection elements for volunteers and personnel (PPE, institutional clothing).</li> <li>○ Strengthening of a management structure that allows for efficient implementation of the appeal, incorporating personnel and adjusting activities of the existing structure.</li> <li>○ The operation is executed and controlled through a specific management platform.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commitment to external partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strengthening coordination with national, provincial and municipal government authorities, including information exchange, accountability and cooperation agreements within the framework of the auxiliary role of CRA and current legislation.</li> <li>○ Design and implementation of a mechanism for coordination, information exchange, accountability and cooperation.</li> <li>○ Design and implementation of a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy to guarantee humanitarian services.</li> <li>○ Implementation of a cooperation and resource mobilization strategy aimed at the expansion of humanitarian services not committed to in this action plan and at the continuity and sustainability of the actions after its completion.</li> <li>○ Development of tools through the Humanitarian Observatory to effectively monitor the crisis.</li> </ul>		



## Coordination and Partnerships

Female > 18: **N/A**

Female < 18: **N/A**

**NA CHF**

Male > 18: **N/A**

Male < 18: **N/A**

**Total target:**

### Objective:

*Strengthen coordination within the IFRC membership and the Movement to bring technical and operational complementarity and enhance cooperation with external partners.*

### Priority Actions:

#### Membership Coordination

- Maintain and enhance collaboration between the Southern Cone CCD, Argentine Red Cross, and the Department of Disasters and Crises of the IFRC regional office in Panama.
- Facilitate regular, transparent updates and exchanges between IFRC, Argentine Red Cross, and regional stakeholders to monitor the evolving social and economic crisis.
- Ongoing technical assistance through the Southern Cone CCD to contribute to the formulation and submission of document appeals for resources and support, ensuring that the requests reflect current needs accurately.

#### Engagement with external partners


- Maintain close coordination with exposed communities through local branches to ensure responsive support.
- Collaborate with local and national organizations, including small local groups and large Civil Society organizations like Scout de Argentina and Fundación CADENA, to unify humanitarian efforts.
- Hold routine meetings with municipal and departmental authorities to align on crisis response and support.
- Engage regularly with National State authorities to reinforce support, focusing on the Argentine Red Cross's Auxiliary Role.
- Maintain active coordination with the Ministries of Security, Human Capital, Health, and other national portfolios to optimize resource allocation and response.
- Strengthen relationships with provincial authorities in the most affected regions to ensure tailored crisis intervention and support.

#### Movement Cooperation

- Work closely with authorities to integrate and promote international humanitarian law and rules on the use of force.
- Support the National Society in building capacity to handle emergency situations amid violence and crisis.
- Execute a joint action plan addressing key issues aligned with the ICRC's mandate to reinforce the National Society's response capabilities.
- Conduct more frequent coordination meetings with the National Society to adapt response strategies for escalating social tensions.



- Review and enhance the Safer Access framework to ensure safe and effective access in volatile situations.
- Provide ongoing training and capacity building for volunteers and staff to respond effectively in social tension contexts.
- Establish continuous information exchange through technical teams to monitor and address situations of violence and social tension effectively.

 <b>IFRC Secretariat Services</b>	Women > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF: 37,971</b>
	Men > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: N/A</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Strengthen management capacity of the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) to provide support to CRA for implementation as part of the Emergency Appeal.		
<b>Priority actions:</b>	<p><b>Strategic support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The IFRC secretariat will support the operation, ensuring both effective and efficient implementation by providing technical expertise to maintain strategic direction with support from the Southern Cone Country Cluster Delegation and Americas Regional Office.</li> <li>o Joint liaison with key external stakeholders and donors for continued broad positioning for the protracted crisis.</li> <li>o Continued capitalization of learning and knowledge management from the operation and wider programming.</li> </ul> <p><b>Logistics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Providing support to the ARC Logistics Team and HUB to coordinate supply chain efforts and ensure that relief items reach people in need in the affected areas.</li> <li>o Support local procurement as required.</li> <li>o Launch a mobilization table in close coordination with ARC to seek in-kind donations to meet operational needs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Human Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Coordinate timely deployment of rapid response personnel ops manager and evaluation teams.</li> <li>o Facilitate measures to ensure the wellbeing of rapid response personnel and staff.</li> <li>o IRFC surge mechanisms will be used to guarantee compliance with the regional rapid response personnel competency framework and management.</li> <li>o Strengthen the capacity of CCD by hiring Disaster Management (DM) personnel to support the operation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Ensure compliance with financial procedures to guarantee transparency and accountability during the operation.</li> </ul>		

- o Ensure the timely and proper submission of financial reports.
- o Plan and implement an audit of the operation.

#### **Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting**

- o Provide support to CRA to update of the Operational Strategy.
- o Support CRA on preparation and implementation of a multi-sectoral needs assessment.
- o Develop and jointly implement a monitoring plan with CRA.
- o Support CRA on updates.
- o Jointly plan and implement a lessons-learned workshop with CRA.
- o Plan and implement an external evaluation of the operation.

#### **Information Management**

- o Design data collection strategies for needs assessments in coordination with the Humanitarian Observatory and develop visual products required to enable ongoing actions.
- o Support ARC in implementing data collection, processing and analysis to support timely decision-making.
- o Support the ARC information management team.

#### **Communications**

- o Promote the Emergency Appeal.
- o Develop a communication plan and key messages related to the operation in coordination with CRA.
- o Support the CRA on communication materials related to the operation.
- o Disseminate key messages and other communications materials through mass media.
- o Manage reputational risk at the country, regional and global levels.

#### **Risk management**

- o Create a risk register and implement clear mitigation measures.
- o Regular monitoring of risk management register to make sure that “risk owners” follow-up on their tasks.

## **Risk management**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
<b>1.</b> Political tension with the National Government	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintain open and regular communication with government to manage expectations, report on the progress of operations and avoid misunderstandings.</li> <li>● Ensure collaboration with local and regional authorities, which can facilitate operations.</li> </ul>
<b>2.</b> Duplication of efforts among humanitarian actors	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish coordination mechanisms with local and international actors and ensure</li> </ul>

			clear and continuous communication to avoid duplication. Reactivate the Argentine International Humanitarian Network (RHIA).
3. Staff and volunteer attrition and fatigue	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a personnel rotation system and provide psychosocial support for the wellbeing of the teams.</li> </ul>
4. Emergence of new situations generated by the current crisis, such as social tension	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of contribution mechanisms to deal with these situations, including the mobilization of response teams.</li> </ul>
5. The number of people affected is large	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the strategy and evaluate the possibility of expanding it.</li> </ul>

## Quality and accountability

A lessons-learned workshop will be held at the end of the implementation of the appeal. In compliance with established international procedures, this appeal will be subject to external evaluation and audit.

### Indicators

Intervention Areas
Integrated Assistance
Livelihoods
<i>Indicators</i>
#of people reached with livelihood training activities to strengthen the family economy
#of people trained in the "mobile classroom" in itinerant activities
# of people reached with services/information essential to income generation
# of families (and individuals) reached with essential services/information for employment opportunities, including self-employment
# of families (and individuals) reached who have completed training in improved production practices
Health
<i>Indicators</i>
# of people receiving MHPSS in emergency situations
# of people attended to in the mobile health units sent to vulnerable communities
# of KITs distributed and people reached with humanitarian aid
# of children 0 to 5 reached by neurodevelopmental stimulation activities in community kitchens, educational institutions and other community spaces
# of children 6 to 12 with anthropometric evaluation performed in community kitchens, educational institutions and other community spaces
# of children 6 to 10 with evaluation of vaccination compliance for school enrolment
# of people receiving first aid
Protection and Prevention
PGI
<i>Indicators</i>
# of sectoral or PGI assessments performed using PGI Minimum Standards
# of people reached by PGI
# of people trained in the implementation of PGI Minimum Standards

# of referrals made (GBV, Child Protection or others)
<b>CEA</b>
<i>Indicators</i>
# of people trained in operational communication and CEA
# instances of feedback received and responded to
# of accountability documents prepared and disseminated to stakeholders

## FUNDING REQUIREMENT



# OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS



## DREF OPERATION

MDRAR0XX - Argentine Red Cross  
Economic Crisis Appeal

#### Operating Budget by Output Codes

	Total
<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>2,069,004</b>
<b>Shelter and Basic Household Items</b>	<b>0</b>
AP005 Shelter assistance to households	0
<b>Livelihoods</b>	<b>823,606</b>
AP007 Improvement of income sources	823,606
<b>Multi-purpose Cash</b>	<b>0</b>
AP081 Multipurpose cash grants	0
<b>Health</b>	<b>1,181,165</b>
AP107 NS health capacity	0
AP108 Health services	1,181,165
AP109 Health services in emergencies	0
<b>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene</b>	<b>0</b>
AP110 WASH	0
AP111 WASH in emergencies	0
<b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion</b>	<b>9,086</b>
AP114 Humanitarian values and principles	0
AP116 Protection/gender/inclusion services	9,086
AP117 Protection/gender/inclusion capacity	0
<b>Education</b>	<b>0</b>
AP115 Access to education	0
<b>Migration</b>	<b>0</b>
AP112 Support to migrants and displaced	0
AP113 NS Migration & Displacement Capac	0
<b>Risk Red., Climate Adapt. and Recovery.</b>	<b>0</b>
AP101 Climate change adaptation	0
AP103 Comm. risk reduction and resilience	0
AP104 Assistance to people affected	0
AP105 NS DM Capacity	0
AP106 Disaster Law	0
<b>Community Engage. and Accountability</b>	<b>55,148</b>
AP129 Community engagement/accountability	55,148
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	<b>0</b>
AP102 Climate change mitigation&greening	0
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>925,901</b>
<b>Coordination and Partnerships</b>	<b>0</b>
AP049 IFRC coord. in humanitarian system	0
AP118 Engagement w. stakeholders	0
AP119 Influencing and hum. diplomacy	0
AP120 Innovation	0
AP121 Digital Transformation	0
AP127 Membership Coordination	0
AP128 Movement Cooperation	0
<b>Secretariat Services</b>	<b>37,971</b>
AP122 Secretariat services strengthening	37,971
<b>National Society Strengthening</b>	<b>887,930</b>
AP124 National Society Development	352,858
AP125 Volunteering development	535,073
AP126 Leadership development	0
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>2,994,906</b>

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## Contact information

For further information please contact:

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### For in-kind donations and mobilisation table support:

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