



Emergency Plan of Action Update

Bolivia: Floods



Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja

Operation: DREF	Operation no. MDRBO010
Date of issue: 11 June 2015	Glide number: FL-2015-000008-BOL
Date of disaster: 21 February 2015	
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Pabel Angeles - IFRC Disaster Management Coordinator for South America	Point of Contact: Dr. Abel Peña and Lillo Telleria. President of the Bolivian Red Cross
Operation Start Date: 11 March 2015	Expected timeframe: 4 months
Host National Society: Bolivian Red Cross (BRC)	Operation budget: 193,101 Swiss francs (CHF)
Number of people affected: 185,120 people	Number of people to be assisted: 5,000 people (1,000 families)
Number of National Societies involved in the operation: the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Finnish Red Cross (the Finnish Red Cross has a development project underway in Bolivia, but it does not participate directly in actual emergency situations), German Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross. ,	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence (VIDECl is its acronym in Spanish), agencies of the United Nations such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and other organizations such as Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), ECO of the Habitat Network, Action against Hunger, World Vision, Save the Children, Plan International	

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Summary:

193,101 CHF has been allocated from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Bolivian Red Cross on the delivery of immediate assistance for up to 5,000 people. Un-earmarked funds to repay the DREF are encouraged.

The Bolivian Red Cross, supported with DREF funds, has been addressing and meeting the humanitarian needs of 1,000 families (5,000 people) in the departments of Pando and La Paz. So far, the National Society has conducted field assessments and coordinated with community and local authorities to provide assistance. To date, 1,000 food kits, 1,000 mosquito nets and 500 hygiene kits have been distributed to communities in affected municipalities in Pando and La Paz. Moreover, the BRC has also been conducting community-based activities.

Floods in Bolivia have affected nine departments in the country, causing damage to housing, livelihoods and water and sanitation in 120 municipalities and affecting 185,120 people (37,024 families); a total of 39 people are reported dead and 6 are missing. VIDECl has been addressing the main humanitarian needs.

The operation has been extended for one month in order to continue community-based actions and the distribution of seeds to the affected population.

On behalf of the National Society, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) would like to extend thanks to the Canadian Red Cross Society and the government of Canada, Belgian Red Cross and the government of Belgium and the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (DG ECHO) for their generous contributions to replenish the allocation made to this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross Society and government, Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the national society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

<http://www.ifrc.org/en/what-we-do/disaster-management/responding/disaster-response-system/financial-instruments/disaster-relief-emergency-fund-dref/>

A. Situation analysis

A.1 Description of the disaster

The rainy season began as usual in October 2014. In total, 62 per cent of victims were affected by hail and thunderstorms and 37 per cent by the rains. Precipitation intensified in the north-eastern areas of the country, especially northern La Paz, Beni and Pando. On April 15, the National Information System (SINAGER) of the VIDECI reported that the emergency left 32 people dead, 6 missing and affected 120 municipalities in 9 departments; a state of emergency was declared in 39 of them.



La Paz River in Mecapaca - coordination to deliver humanitarian aid and visit to beneficiary farmers. Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Although nine departments were affected, only two have declared a state of Emergency (La Paz and Chuquisaca) to date. According to the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands (MDRT), hail and frost have damaged more than 13,000 hectares of crops.

The department of Pando located in the Amazon region is the most affected by the overflowing rivers, especially the department's capital, Cobija, and other rural municipalities. A total of 1,392 families, which represents 6,960 people (VIDECI), were affected; most of the affected people were evacuated to 25 shelters that were set up in stadiums, schools, and sheds.

A state of emergency has been declared in the municipalities of Filadelfia, Bolpebra, Cobija and Porvenir. Humanitarian needs mostly involve food security, clean water and sanitation, housing and protection in shelters. Educational activities in the capital of Pando have been suspended and health problems are expected. The response is being coordinated by all three levels of government and has operational support from the armed forces, police and other

local institutions.

The Plurinational State of Bolivia reported that VIDECI has 20 million bolivianos (2.87 million US dollars) available to respond to emergencies in the country. It has the capacity to provide further resources if necessary; therefore, local authorities and municipalities do have access to financial resources.

During this period of response, affected families in Cobija were housed in 24 shelters. According to reports from departmental, municipal and the district Civil Defence emergency operation centre (EOC), a total of 1,022 families (some 5,000 people) have been housed.

Municipal and departmental EOCs are activated and state capacity is good. Municipalities have financial resources that have not yet been entirely spent (VIDECI). Needs are currently being covered with resources from the municipalities and the government, which worked together with the Civil Defence during the evacuations.

As mentioned before, the Department of La Paz also suffered the effects of heavy rains, particularly in municipalities in Yungas (Caranavi, Guanay, Mapiri and Tipuani). The water volume originated in higher areas such as the city of La Paz, which is located 3,600 m above sea level, causing floods and high river flows that strongly affected communities downstream, in particular the municipality of Mecapaca.

These communities, which depend entirely on agriculture, have had their main source of food and income affected, so these vulnerable families have seen their capacity to meet basic needs significantly reduced. There are approximately 1,600 families severely affected by floods in this specific area.



of Cobija in Pando to coordinate beneficiary selection strategies Source: Bolivian Red Cross

General description of the emergency by department

Department	Municipality	Deaths	Missing	Families affected
Pando	10	0	0	1,392
Beni	7	0	0	2,184
Chuquisaca	22	5	0	8,967
Cochabamba	26	10	4	9,188
La Paz	26	6	1	8,940
Oruro	5	1	0	1,952
Potosi	16	7	0	2,827
Santa Cruz	4	1	1	707
Tarija	4	2	0	867
Total	120	32	6	37,024

Source: SINAGER Vice Ministry of Civil Defence 15 April 2015

A.2 Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society



After the flood, people began to dismantle their homes to move to higher ground to avoid the waters Source: Bolivian Red Cross

During the rainy season, the Bolivian Red Cross sends Yellow alerts to its departmental branches through its National Relief and Disaster Unit in order to monitor local rainfall and its possible effects, which are then reported to headquarters for compilation.

During the emergency phase, in coordination with municipalities and other institutions, departmental branches in Beni, Santa Cruz and Pando through their teams of volunteers, helped evacuate families and conduct preliminary assessments together with local authorities. The BRC's national headquarters, which is located in La Paz, is monitoring and tracking information sent in by its branches. In addition, it is participating in coordination meetings with the Humanitarian Country Team (made up of UN agencies, the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies and the Bolivian Red Cross). Two meetings have been held at this time, and the BRC is in close communications with humanitarian organizations and the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence. It has coordinated actions in the field with the municipal EOC and Civil Defence, and it has mobilized its volunteers to provide pre-hospital care to the affected population and to set up a command post to manage the mobilization of volunteer brigades.

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

A plan of action was drawn up for the "2015 Bolivia Floods" operation in February with support from Pan-American Disaster Unit (PADRU)'s Disaster Management delegate, as well as the damage assessments and coordination with other humanitarian actors.

A Livelihoods Regional Intervention Team (RIT) from the Peruvian Red Cross was deployed in April to support response efforts and to provide technical support to the National Society. During his mission, he and the local DREF coordinator travelled to targeted communities in the Rio Abajo region in the department of La Paz; he later travelled to Cobija, the capital of Pando, with Dr. Ruben Gonzalez, who is the person responsible for the National Relief and Disaster Unit. In May, the regional disaster management coordinator for South America travelled to Bolivia to provide support to the National Society and to monitor the project.

The BRC promotes and maintains close communication and coordination with the ICRC and with Partner National Societies (PNSs) present in the country.

Movement coordination

The Bolivian Red Cross is providing information about the situation, and it is reporting jointly with the IFRC secretariat to all Movement members about the measures that should be taken. Coordination with the Movement is through joint actions with the representation office in Lima and IFRC's PADRU, with which the BRC is coordinating the next steps to be taken and the submission of technical and financial reports.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Plurinational State of Bolivia has provided humanitarian assistance to affected families in all of the departments through Civil Defence and supported departmental governorates and municipalities; it has allocated 20 million bolivianos to this end.

There is an EOC in the field led by VIDECI, the Pando Governorate authorities and the municipality of Cobija, which are coordinating response actions with other departmental and municipal institutions. It has provided food packages, mattresses and other situation-specific tools according to geographical area. Additionally, through its Departmental Health Service (SEDES), the Ministry of Health reported that it is mobilizing staff and medical supplies to flooded areas.

VIDECI has convened only one COEN meeting (National Emergency Operations Centre), with support from the Ministry for Planning and humanitarian organizations. It provided information on government actions and BRC informed the Vice-Minister of the IFRC-supported humanitarian interventions. No other agency has provided support to the affected families.

During the acute phase, departmental and municipal EOCs in Cobija held coordination meetings every day as these institutions had more time to devote to these information and coordination events.

So far, the Humanitarian Country Team has met only once (it met in February in La Paz; the meeting, which was in La Paz in February 2015, was attended by UNICEF, WFP, IOM, UNFPA and other organizations such as SDC, ECHO, Habitat Network, Action against Hunger, World Vision, Save the Children, Plan International and the Bolivian Red Cross Relief Director.



Registration process in the community of Cachuelita, Porvenir in Cobija, Pando - Source: Bolivian Red Cross

A.3 Needs analysis and scenario planning

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

During the worst of the flooding, some basic services such as water and electricity supply were interrupted, limiting the communications network as well as internet access. The Ministry of Environment and Water (MAYA) has conducted drinking water assessments in the affected sectors that were covered by the municipality. The drinking water supply has

been restored by repairing the places where the system suffered damages. Definitive actions to restore the system are being planned with support from the government; however, conditions are not optimal and safe, making it necessary to conduct basic sanitation, hygiene and waste management actions in the community.

Health

According to official information from the Ministry of Health during the COEN meeting, health staff was deployed to flooded areas with essential medicine to provide assistance. These teams were not intended to provide care in urban health care centres, but rather as mobile teams for direct contact with communities.

At the departmental level, SEDES (Departmental Health Services) reported on the support provided by professional health staff in the department. In February, the Minister of Health visited Cobija and said during SEDES meetings that the accumulated waters had created ideal breeding grounds for a potential increase in dengue cases, requiring preventive measures to be taken.

Shelter

Cobija is the city where the most families were evacuated during the 2015 floods. In the early days of the flooding, there were 24 locations offering shelter to affected families; however, these families started returning to their homes after a few days. By mid-March, 3 temporary shelters remained in Cobija, which was the municipality with the greatest number of evacuees; these shelters housed a little more than 100 families, of which 86 had their homes totally destroyed. These families will remain in shelters until they receive the new homes being built by the central government to replace the destroyed ones. By April, the number of shelters in the city had been reduced to 2.

Education

Currently, all education facilities have resumed classes and scholastic activities. According to assessments, rehabilitation efforts have been conducted such as cleaning, desk, door and window repairs, and the provision of sanitation and water service to bathrooms.

Housing

The rains caused hundreds of homes to be flooded, especially in Cobija and other rural municipalities. This city suffered the most severe damage, where many homes were rendered uninhabitable due mainly to their precarious construction. In view of this problem and after visiting Cobija, the vice-president of Bolivia has announced a reconstruction programme that will provide decent and safe housing to 86 families in the city of Cobija.



Registration process in the community of Cachuelita, Porvenir in Cobija, Pando - Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Besides the destruction and deterioration of dwelling structures, the accumulation of mud in homes and rubble in the streets was one of the most pressing and immediate problems preventing families from returning to their homes and elevating the risk of contracting diseases of various kinds, especially those caused by lack of water and hygiene.

The municipality participated in clearing the streets with significant support from armed forces personnel; the affected families also took on this task with the support of armed forces personnel.

Early Recovery

The main livelihood in small rural communities is agriculture and livestock production. Many have lost most of their crops as this period is close to harvest time. In view of the fact that this is their only source of income to support their families, the Ministry of Rural Development and Land (MDR-T) has assessed the damage to cultivated lands in order to propose recovery programmes to develop agricultural production. These results were shared with the appropriate ministries, and the government said that their efforts to support this recovery are underway; although this process will probably take some time. In the meantime, families will have to replant their crops.

Logistics

Heavy rains and floods have significantly damaged roads and rendered some stretches unusable. It is imperative to mobilize heavy machinery to restore access by road, which is a serious need for rural families since they need to be able to access markets to sell their agricultural and livestock products. At the time of the writing of this report, access continued to be difficult and travel took days. Strong precipitation continued in May, affecting already precarious roads and increasing access time even more, especially the IFRC's access to the Department of Pando.

No major problems have been detected regarding the distribution of humanitarian aid in the municipality of Mecapaca thanks to its proximity to both the city of La Paz and suppliers.

Delivering supplies to Pando families first required having warehouse space to store items as well as transportation, which under normal circumstances takes between 4 and 5 days (La Paz to Cobija). As mentioned before, rains have made the delivery of humanitarian aid take even longer. Lastly, the IFRC's Logistics Unit coordinated the shipping of mosquito nets to Bolivia.

Beneficiary selection

The selection criteria that was used was proposed in the initial plan; however, the IFRC increased or stressed others that needed emphasizing while working in the field to identify beneficiary families, especially in the city of Cobija:

- Families who suffered moderate to severe flooding to housing
- Families who depend on subsistence agriculture;
- Families whose homes suffered structural damage;
- Families who have not received support from other actors;
- Families without a permanent source of income (wages);
- Families with vulnerable members (seniors, pregnant women, young children).
- Families with more than 5 family members.
- Families with people with disabilities



Transportation of food and cleaning kits and mosquito nets to beneficiary communities in Cobija, Pando – Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Risk Assessment

The latest report from the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI) has forecasted rains until April; although the precipitation is now less frequent, it is of greater intensity, which damages dirt and clay roads.

Autumn brings lower temperatures, especially in the high plateau where temperatures fall to below zero, causing snowfall that lowers temperatures in lower-lying areas.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

Contributing to the reduction of the effect that heavy rains in Bolivia have had on 1,000 families in the departments of Pando and La Paz through the implementation of food security, safe water promotion, sanitation and hygiene and participatory early livelihoods recovery activities.

Proposed strategy

The main action is aimed at achieving Bolivian Red Cross objectives through coordination with the various actors involved. At the national level and as an auxiliary to public authorities and part of the National EOC, the BRC will interact with VIDECL, the Ministry of Health (MoH), MDR-T and the Inter-agency Humanitarian Country Team group. At the local level, it will interact with governorates and municipalities and respective EOCs, SEDES, national institutions operating in

the field, social organizations, communities and national and international humanitarian agencies with a presence in the field.

The strategy involves addressing urgent needs in terms of access to food and water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as improving nutritional status and recovering the basic production capacity affected by the floods. As per the state of emergency declared by departmental and municipal governments, the National Society conducts efforts within this plan of action based on the municipalities prioritized by the emergency and its branches' coverage. The operative intervention began with a more detailed damage assessment in the field, which was performed by BRC staff with support from the IFRC delegate. This action will facilitate a more objective identification of the current situation and needs of families affected by the floods.

The following actions are included within the lines of action in the strategic operations plan:

Food security and nutrition for 500 families in the department of Pando

- Food distribution or nutritional surveillance
- Promotion of good food and nutritional practices.



Livelihoods for 500 families in the department of La Paz

- Food distribution or nutritional surveillance
- Seed distribution
- Training for beneficiaries on optimizing their seed usage

Water and sanitation

- Promotion of safe water use and hygiene habits during community visits

Health (through water and sanitation activities)

- Distribution of mosquito nets (only in Pando)
- Health promotion and awareness-raising about dengue and chikungunya (only in Pando)

The plan of action is aimed at 1,000 families (5,000 people) in the municipalities of La Paz and Pando. Beneficiaries are selected according to the established vulnerability criteria. In La Paz, 500 families will be assisted with restoration of livelihoods and food distribution. In the Department of Pando, 500 families will be assisted with distribution of food, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, water and sanitation and hygiene promotion.

B2 Operational support services

Human Resources

All the necessary personnel participate in DREF actions, including the president of the National Society, who is one of the individuals actively involved in these events, as well as other National Directory members. At the branch level, the Directory and Presidents are major actors in the operation. One of the first actions conducted at the beginning was the hiring of the personnel who would be participating in the project's development. The following were identified and hired:

- 1 DREF coordinator at headquarters.
- 2 local field support coordinators, one in La Paz and the other in Cobija (Pando).
- 1 financial administrative assistance at headquarters
- 100 volunteers (approximately), IFRC-insured
- 1 driver in Cobija

A Federation RIT supported DREF operation activities in Bolivia for one month; during this time, food, hygiene equipment and mosquito nets were distributed in the municipality of Mecapaca in La Paz and in Pando. In May, the regional disaster coordinator for South America provided technical support and monitoring to the National Society, thus providing follow-up on the DREF 2015 Bolivia Flood operations. He also made a field visit to the municipality of Mecapaca in the Department

of La Paz and held work meetings with the operation team and RIT delegate, analyzing and reviewing all plan of action activities to date and monitoring and analyzing the plan of action. A timetable was proposed for the remaining activities.

Logistics and supply chain

The Bolivian Red Cross has a financial administrative Department that bases its procedures on the "Accounting Administrative Manual", which serves as a guide for the acquisition of goods and services.

Humanitarian aid supplies (food and hygiene kits) have been purchased using the BRC accounting administrative manual and IFRC procedures (the Request for Quotation (RFQ), setting up of procurement committee, opening of envelopes, records of award, procurement requests and appropriate contracts).

The IFRC's Panama-based Logistics Unit provided support by sending 1,000 mosquito nets in 10 packs, which after having cleared customs were sent via a previously hired carrier to the city of Cobija.



Meeting with authorities members of departmental Civil Defense in Cobija, Pando – Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Information Technology

The BRC has a Communications and Information Management Unit with a computerized system to facilitate related services linked to this technology. It provides data links, Internet, and network access and technical support to operations and the team deployed in the field. It also has a national radio network to facilitate contact with both the operations team and the team deployed in the field. The Open Data Kit (ODK) technology in smart phones will be used for the satisfaction surveys, which have already been drawn up and designed in the system.

Communications

The National Communications and Dissemination Unit immediately began providing information and coverage of operation activities through the BRC's website and bulletins describing dissemination actions through mass media.

Below: This meeting was held to provide information on DREF objectives and beneficiary selection mechanisms. Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Mass information has been provided from the field over television and radio through interviews and information regarding humanitarian aid distribution, stressing that while the support was mainly aimed at rural areas, it was also provided urban areas.



Security

During initial assessment visits and subsequent meetings with local authorities, community representatives and respective social organizations, it was possible to observe and receive information regarding personal security, which was deemed adequate across the territory in comparison to the neighbouring countries.

In any case, BRC has a Security Standards Manual that is applied by all National Society staff, which clearly indicates all guidelines regarding personal and institutional identification, uniforms, operations in the field, and respect for and good use of the logo.

Insurance for operation volunteers was secured in coordination with the regional disaster coordinator following the submission of a list of BRC volunteers.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Technical monitoring of the operation from the central level is conducted by the National Relief and Disaster Unit, the Development Unit and the Health Unit in coordination with BRC's president.

Due to the targeted municipality's proximity in the department of La Paz, monitoring and follow up is conducted from BRC's headquarters through the Development Unit. Monitoring of actions in Cobija is being done directly with support from the Relief and Disaster Unit manager.

Status reports are drafted by the Relief and Disaster Unit from information provided by the operation's team, the government and branches. The RIT has provided substantial support to the drafting of the first status report.

As mentioned above, this DREF Operation Update provides an overview of the activities carried out so far for the 2015 Bolivia DREF and to reflect the operational time extension to 30 June 2015.

Administration and finance

The Bolivian Red Cross has accounting, finance and audit departments to ensure the proper use of financial resources in accordance with conditions established in the memorandum of understanding between the National Society and the IFRC. Financial resource management will be according to National Society's and the IFRC's procedural rules. The memorandum of understanding includes a section that covers the expenditure justification process. IFRC formats will be used, including DREF guidelines and procedures to ensure the proper management of funds.

To this end, the project has hired a financial administrative assistant in order to improve these specific tasks. To strengthen this process, virtual training was provided to the operation's team, for which an invitation was extended to other BRC operational units. Contact was made over Skype on 20 April, with the participation of staff from the Finance, Projects, Health and Relief and Disaster Units together with PADRU staff in Panama and Regional PADRU staff in Lima.

The National Society has already submitted the financial reports, so a second transfer of funds has been done.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Quality programming/ Areas common to all sectors

Outcome1 Continuous and detailed evaluation and analysis to inform the design and implementation of the operation, with active participation from involved actors.	Outputs		% achieved
		Output 1.1 Initial needs assessments are updated in consultation with beneficiaries	
	Output 1.2 Operation is managed through a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system		50
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Conduct a rapid emergency assessment by affected municipality, with participation from volunteers	X		100%
Conduct a multi-sector assessment by affected municipality	X		70%
Beneficiary registration and census	X		100%
Hiring of operational and support staff for field activities	X		100%
Technical monitoring and supervision of National Society	X		60%
Support and monitoring visits by the IFRC	X		50%
Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys	X		50%
Lessons Learned workshop	X		0%
Operation Evaluation	X		0%

a) Rapid emergency assessment by affected municipality, with participation from volunteers

In order to develop the plan of action, a rapid assessment of affected areas in the departments of Pando and La Paz was performed by the Bolivian Red Cross and the PADRU delegate. Meetings were held with this municipality's Mayor, technical staff and representatives from communities referred to as Farmer Unions, which culminated with a visit to these communities.

b) Multi-sector assessment by affected municipality

The sector assessment was conducted at times defined by the municipalities targeted by the BRC, especially in the areas of Housing, Health, Agricultural and departmental Civil Defence Department. Volunteer staff participated in coordination with the departmental Risk Management Unit (UGR).

c) Beneficiary registration and census

After coordination meetings with departmental authorities such as the Governors of La Paz and Pando, the municipalities of Mecapaca and Cobija and Civil Defence, which were provided with information regarding the IFRC's intervention and the source of resources,- general agreements were defined regarding the operation and the operational staff to coordinate the operation was designated.

Subsequently, with suggested lists of specific coordination details, the IFRC coordinated: a) in Mecapaca with Farmer Union leaders; and b) in Cobija with the presidents of flooded neighbourhoods in order to later agree on the days to distribute ID cards to communities and neighbourhoods with the help of BRC volunteers.

The Date, of distribution, which was on 25 April, and the centres for distribution were finally agreed upon with the community; this was done 11 to 13 May in Pando.

d) Hiring of operational and support staff for field activities

One of the first actions conducted at the beginning was hiring the personnel who would be participating in the operation's development. The following were identified and hired:

- 1 DREF Coordinator DREF at headquarters.
- 2 local field support coordinators, one in La Paz and another in Cobija (Pando).
- 1 financial administrative assistance at headquarters
- 100 volunteers (approximately), IFRC-insured
- 1 driver in Cobija

e) Technical monitoring and supervision of National Society

In the department of La Paz, monitoring and follow-up is conducted from the BRC's headquarters through the Development Unit due to the targeted municipality's proximity.

Monitoring of actions in Cobija is being done directly with support from the Relief and Disaster Unit manager jointly with the delegate. Actions were also reported at the level of the presidency of the Bolivian Red Cross.

f) Support and monitoring visits by International Federation

The DREF Plan of Action was developed with support from the PADRU delegate. A General RIT from the Peruvian Red Cross was also deployed to support both the operation and the National Society. During this time, food, hygiene kits and mosquito nets were distributed in the municipality of Mecapaca and in Pando.

In May, the regional disaster coordinator for South America provided technical support to the National Society as well as monitoring, thus providing follow up on the DREF 2015 Bolivia Flood operations.

g) Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys

The satisfaction survey has not been conducted as activities to distribute seed and training events are still pending. After the meeting mentioned above, surveys will be conducted at the end of the operation. The format of the survey model and

those responsible for it have been agreed upon, jointly with the IFRC's regional disaster coordinator. The format is ready and uploaded onto ODK so that it can be applied later.

h) Lessons Learned workshop

This will be carried out at the end of the operation; it has been scheduled for 29 to 30 June.

i) Operation Evaluation

It will be scheduled by the Federation's Regional Delegation at the end of the operation

Health

Needs analysis: The accumulation of water has generated ideal conditions for a potential increase in dengue cases. Physical protection from mosquito bites, prevention and awareness of affected communities is essential to avoid contracting these diseases. In regard to hygiene promotion activities, it will be essential to distribute mosquito nets and inform the population of the vector-borne diseases mentioned above. Therefore, it is necessary to provide community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) training to Pando branch volunteers so as to ensure appropriate awareness by beneficiaries.

Population to be assisted: A total of 500 affected families in the department of Pando who are living in temporary shelters in the city of Cobija and rural communities in the intervention area.

Outcome 1: Families have a greater knowledge to prevent epidemics.	Outputs		% achieved
	Output 1.1 Epidemic prevention measures carried out for 500 families.		50%
Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
CBHFA awareness-raising workshops for Red Cross volunteers and other like-minded institutions who will work with beneficiaries.	X		20%
Distribution of mosquito nets to 500 families in Pando (2 per family).	X		100%

a) CBHFA awareness-raising workshops for Red Cross volunteers and other like-minded institutions that will be working with beneficiaries.

This activity included planning, organizing and coordination with the health sector and attending the CBHFA, hygiene promotion and water and sanitation training

People from other institutions such as Municipal and Departmental Risk Management Units, neighbourhood leaders and health staff will also be invited to participate in these community workshops. This is also a good opportunity to recruit volunteers.

b) Distribution of mosquito nets to 500 families in Pando (2 per family)

As mentioned before, mosquito nets were sent from Panama to La Paz and then to Cobija, where they were distributed to rural and urban families as follows:

Mosquito net distribution table

DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES	MOSQUITO NETS
PANDO	COBIJA	JUNIN	47	94
		VILLAMONTES	60	120
		PUERTO ALTO	50	100
		MAPAJÓ	80	160
		CATARATAS	85	170
	PORVENIR	PORVENIR	77	154
	BELLA FLOR	BELLA FLOR	20	40
	SAN LORENZO	SAN LORENZO	16	32
	SAN PEDRO	SAN PEDRO	54	108
	VILLANUEVA	VILLANUEVA	11	22
TOTAL			500	1,000

Challenges:

The rains have made it difficult to transport materials to the area. An important aspect is the proper use of mosquito nets.

Measures:

The transport company is being monitored, and the IFRC is coordinating with authorities to facilitate the delivery of materials to Pando. This task will need to be assumed by the Directory and volunteers at the Pando branch; the BRC's headquarters will seek their operational commitment.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs Analysis: Flooding caused by the overflow of the Acre River in Cobija forced 1,800 families to be relocated to 25 temporary shelters in this city. The situation indicates that water provision efforts maintain adequate supply levels, although insufficient for family sanitation and hygiene. Communities have experienced significant stress due to the continuous rainfall in the affected areas. This makes it necessary to develop health and hygiene promotion activities. In addition, it will be necessary to visit homes in affected communities to reduce the risk of water-borne diseases. After the on-site assessment visit and the inter-agency meetings were held, it was determined that the BRC would focus its capacity on reducing the risk of safe water-related diseases and consequences related to their excreta, as well as on health and hygiene promotion. This will be supplemented by the distribution of hygiene kits

The following lines of intervention have been identified:

- Promotion of hygiene habits and optimal utilization of safe water
- Distribution of hygiene kits

Population to be assisted: The DREF operation will conduct humanitarian actions in water and sanitation and hygiene promotion to assist 500 affected families in the department of Pando living in temporary shelters in Cobija and targeted rural communities.

Outcome	Outputs	% achieved
Outcome1 Safe water- and hygiene-related risks are reduced in the population affected by floods.	Output 1.1 Affected families have improved their practices and knowledge to reduce water-borne diseases	0
	Output 1.2 500 families will receive hygiene kits to improve their hygiene habits.	100

Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Yes	No	
Hygiene assessment and water provision to centres and areas targeted by the BRC	x		50%
Hygiene promotion and safe water management workshop for Red Cross volunteers and other related institutions engaging in community outreach.		X	0%
Community hygiene promotion workshops held in 25 community centres		X	0%
Mutual cooperation agreement between communities, the municipality and the Bolivian Red Cross		X	50%

a) Hygiene assessment and water provision for centres and areas targeted by the BRC

During the floods, water supply in shelters was unsafe due to the damage suffered by the municipal water system. These centres received water from tanker trucks, which has affected hygiene and increased the risk of water-borne diseases. However, there has been no reports of epidemic outbreaks.

Currently, water supply has been restored; although only on a temporary basis in some areas, which will be verified through a current assessment of the population's situation with regard to this important service.

A total of 500 hygiene kits have been purchased to distribute to affected communities in Pando.

HYGIENE KITS

ITEM	AMOUNT
TOOTHPASTE	6 TUBES
TOOTHBRUSH	6 UNITS
HAND SOAP	6 UNITS
LAUNDRY SOAP	3 UNITS
SANITARY NAPKINS	3 UNITS
POWDERED DETERGENT	3 UNITS
TOILET PAPER	10 ROLLS

DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES	HYGIENE KITS
PANDO	COBIJA	JUNIN	47	47
		VILLAMONTES	60	60
		PUERTO ALTO	50	50
		MAPAJO	80	80
		CATARATAS	85	85
		PORVENIR	77	77
		BELLA FLOR	20	20
		SAN LORENZO	16	16
		SAN PEDRO	54	54
		VILLANUEVA	11	11
TOTAL			500	500

b) Hygiene promotion and safe water management workshop for Red Cross volunteers and other related institutions engaging in community outreach.

This activity has been scheduled and coordinated and is underway. People from other institutions such as Municipal and Departmental Risk Management Units, neighbourhood leaders and health staff will also be invited to participate in these community workshops. This is also a good opportunity to recruit volunteers.

c) Community hygiene promotion workshops held in 25 community centres.

Training sessions for the community will be held after the training sessions for the volunteers and health staff.

d) Mutual cooperation agreement between communities, the municipality and the Bolivian Red Cross.

This agreement document has already been agreed upon, and the process to collect the signatures of the involved municipalities is underway.

Challenges: The distance between the BRC's headquarters and the Pando branch are important factors in terms of time, which will be the main challenge. Obviously, the branch volunteers' motivation will be essential when conducting the training events because it will be an opportunity to interact directly with volunteers and other participants.

Measures: Awareness efforts are being conducted to this end and to influence branch motivation and commitment.

Food Security, nutrition and livelihoods

Needs analysis: Constant rainfall in January and February in Bolivia, particularly in the departments of La Paz and Pando, has left few resources to feed the families affected by the floods. This situation requires covering the food security of the communities as the population has suffered from the onslaught of the rainy season since October 2014, which has led to decreased food supplies.

During the emergency, coverage of food security is being shared by the national, departmental and municipal governments for one month; therefore, rapid assistance will be provided to meet food needs. A medium-term strategy will be established for restoring the livelihoods of the affected population.

The Bolivian Red Cross will provide food assistance to 1,000 families. Given the impact of the floods, it was considered necessary to support 500 families in the department of Pando through the distribution of food and hygiene kits in both rural and urban areas, as well as 500 families in the department of La Paz through livelihoods recovery (seed distribution to 500 families) and community-based disaster prevention education.

The following lines of intervention have been identified:

- Food and nutritional security through the distribution of food kits to 1,000 families in the affected departments.
- Livelihoods through the distribution of seed, building agricultural technical capacity and joint flood mitigation actions with the municipality through land rehabilitation

Population to be assisted: The DREF operation will carry out humanitarian actions in food security, nutrition and livelihoods in order to assist 1,000 families affected in the departments of La Paz and Pando.

Outcome1	Outputs	% achieved
Affected families have immediate access to food, improve their nutritional status and recover their livelihoods.	Output 1.1 1,000 families in the departments of Pando and La Paz received food aid during the first months of the operation	100%
	Output 1.2 500 families in Rio Abajo in the Department of La Paz have resumed their livelihoods and their regular and alternative agricultural production	25%

Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Si	No	
Beneficiary Identification and registration	X		100%
Signing of mutual cooperation agreement between the municipality and BRC.		X	50%
Acquisition of food packages	X		100%
Distribution of food kits of food and nutritional surveillance with SEDES team.	X		75%
Healthy eating habits workshop		X	0%
Evaluation of the degree of involvement, type of crops and average area of planted land		X	50%
Seed acquisition	X		50%
Seed distribution	X		0%
Livelihoods workshop for volunteers		X	0%

a) Beneficiary Identification and registration

After coordination meetings with departmental authorities such as the Governors of La Paz and Pando, the municipalities of Mecapaca and Cobija and Civil Defence, where the IFRC provided information regarding its intervention and the source of resources, general agreements were defined regarding the operation and the operational staff to coordinate the operation was designated.

Subsequently, suggested lists of specific coordination details were used to coordinate with: a) in Mecapaca with Farmer Union leaders; and b) in Cobija with the presidents of flooded neighbourhoods in order to later agree on the days to distribute ID cards to communities and neighbourhoods with the involvement of BRC volunteers

b) Signing of mutual cooperation agreement between the municipality and BRC

This agreement document has already been agreed upon, and the process to collect the signatures of the involved municipalities is underway.

c) Acquisition of food packages

A total of 1,000 food kits were purchased for affected families in Pando and La Paz. Meetings were held to reach an agreement with communities on this matter. Following the feedback from the meetings, some changes were made to the kits in terms of quantities and composition, which included the following:

FOOD KITS

ITEM	QUANTITY
RICE	8 KILOS
SUGAR	10 KILOS
NOODLES	10 KILOS
FLOUR	10 KILOS
OIL	6 LITRES
SALT	3 KILOS
CHOCOLATE	1 1-KILO BAG
MILK	1 800g BAG

Distribution of food kits of food and nutritional surveillance with SEDES team

Department of La Paz- Municipality of Mecapaca

Food kits were distributed to Mecapaca families on Saturday, 25 April, with the participation of the local project coordinator, El Alto branch volunteers and National Relief and Disaster Unit staff. Each family received the food package mentioned above.

Two humanitarian aid distribution points were set up: the first one was in the community of Millocato to serve 2 communities, and the other one was r in the community of Carreras for the remaining 9 communities. In attendance were the mayor of Mecapaca, Mecapaca Farmer Union leaders, the secretary generals of the beneficiary communities and the National Society.

DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES	FOOD KITS
LA PAZ	MECAPACA	YUPAMPA VALENCIA	42	42
		AVIRCATO	51	51
		CACHAPA	20	20
		PEÑOL	30	30
		CARRERAS	34	34
		HUAJCHILLA	40	40
		LLACASA	40	40
		MILLOCATO	121	121
		MECAPACA	50	50
		TAYPICHULLO	30	30
		FAMILIAS RECIENTEMENTE INCORPORADAS	42	42
TOTAL			500	500

DEPARTMENT OF PANDO

Humanitarian assistance in Pando was programmed to help 500 families. The amount distributed was agreed upon between the governorate, the Cobija municipality and departmental Civil Defence: a) 200 food kits for rural families in the most affected municipalities: Porvenir, Bella Flor, San Lorenzo, San Pedro and Villanueva, b) 300 food kits for families in affected neighbourhoods. However, these amounts were modified according to direct objective Red Cross assessments.

DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES	FOOD KITS
PANDO	COBIJA	JUNIN	47	47
		VILLAMONTES	60	60
		PUERTO ALTO	50	50
		MAPAJO	80	80
		CATARATAS	85	85
	PORVENIR	PORVENIR	77	77
	BELLA FLOR	BELLA FLOR	20	20
	SAN LORENZO	SAN LORENZO	16	16
	SAN PEDRO	SAN PEDRO	54	54
	VILLANUEVA	VILLANUEVA	11	11
TOTAL			500	500

The distribution of food aid was conducted on 11 to 13 May. The first distribution was to rural areas with transportation provided by the municipalities and the governorate.

d) Healthy eating habits workshop

This training event will be held in coordination with the Ministry of Health and Mecapaca's Health Unit.

e) Assessment of level of impact to, type of crops in and average area of sown land

The IFRC has the assessment performed by the municipality of Mecapaca. Additional information will be collected to determine the level of impact and the affected population.

f) Seed acquisition

The process to acquire seed for 500 beneficiary families in Mecapaca is underway. This was done with the direct involvement of the communities, who jointly deciding on the type of seed: corn, lettuce, beets, radish and parsley.

g) Seed distribution

As per the damage assessment requirements, a community consensus was reached on the type of seed and supplier acquisition and delivery procedures; the seeds will be distributed in Mecapaca in the final month of the operation.

h) Livelihoods workshop to volunteers

The livelihoods workshop involving volunteers will be held in June.

Challenges: Gathering information regarding health indicators.

Measures: Coordinating with health authorities to provide the information.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Bolivian Red Cross:** Dr. Abel Peña y Lillo, president; phone: (5912) 220 2934; email: secretaria@cruzrojaboliviana.org
- **In IFRC regional office:** Carlos Inigo Barrera, disaster response and crisis and early recovery coordinator; phone: +507 317 3050; email: ci.barrera@ifrc.org.
- **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Stephany Murrillo, Zone Senior Logistics & Mobilization Officer, Phone: +507 317 3050; email: Stephany.murillo@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Cristina Estrada, quality assurance senior officer, phone: +41.22.730.4529, email: cristina.estrada@ifrc.org

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

- **In IFRC regional office:** Priscila Gonzalez, planning and monitoring senior officer; phone: +507 317 3050; email: priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **In IFRC regional office:** Ursula Araya, Relationship Management Coordinator. +507 317 3050; email: Ursula.araya@ifrc.org.

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