

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bolivia: Floods and landslide

Emergency appeal n° MDRB006
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000020-BOL](#)
Operations update n° 3
5 August 2011

Period covered by this Ops Update: 20 May to 6 July 2011.

Appeal target (current): 518,725 Swiss francs.

Appeal coverage: 86%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- 3 March 2011: 78,074 Swiss francs were initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the Bolivian Red Cross to respond.
- 8 March 2011: This [Emergency Appeal](#) for 518,725 Swiss francs was launched to assist 2,500 beneficiaries for six months.
- On 26 April 2011: The [operation update](#) included a redistribution of the budget to incorporate activities in transitional shelter for 100 families, with changes in the relief distribution and early recovery sectors. The number of beneficiaries was increased to 2,800.
- The current update extends the implementation timeframe to nine months. The timeframe was extended to enable the Bolivian Red Cross to carry out activities related to the shelter outcomes that were delayed due to the ongoing challenge to find appropriate land.



On 19 June 2011, the Bolivian Red Cross distributed food parcels and hygiene kits to 900 families in Río Beni and Reyes, Beni department. Source: BRC

Summary: As the weather in Bolivia has stabilized, and no new damages or needs have been reported, the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC) was able to continue most of the relief activities, reaching 2,300 families with hygiene kits and food parcels. The National Society also completed all the procurement process for the materials needed to improve the conditions of Colegio Militar camp and build transitional shelter modules. However, the BRC is waiting for the La Paz municipality to designate an appropriate plot of land to assemble the modules.

The National Society also developed a plan to support the formation of community health brigades and to complete sanitation and hygiene promotion activities. The BRC is currently waiting for the settlement of affected families in the transitional shelters to start the remaining activities needed to achieve the outcomes the health and hygiene and sanitation sectors. Due to the challenge encountered to find a plot of land for the affected families, the timeframe of the emergency appeal has been extended to nine months. The operation will therefore be completed by December 2012. In line with the IFRC's reporting standards, the final report (narrative and financial) is due 90 days after the end of the operation (by March 2012).

The International Federation, on behalf of the Bolivian Red Cross, expresses its gratitude to the following Partner National Societies and governments for their kind support to the Appeal: American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and Canadian government, Finish Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Netherlands government, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Swiss government. The International Federation also gratefully acknowledges the Voluntary Emergency Relief Fund of the World Health Organization (WHO) which has contributed to this operation.

The situation

As many other countries in South America, Bolivia suffered the impact of La Niña weather phenomenon that brought intense and constant rainfall throughout February 2011 after a period of drought. Widespread flooding was reported across the country and a massive landslide occurred in La Paz City, leaving behind 52 deaths and 17,765 affected families in 9 departments. The weather disruption affected 78 municipalities, particularly the valley region in Cochabamba; the Chapare region in Beni; and the municipalities of Rurrenabaque, Reyes and San Borja in La Paz. As a result, a state of emergency was declared by the Bolivian government on 23 February 2011.

At the moment all waters have receded, the red alerts have been lifted and no new damages have been declared. However, the affected families from La Paz City are still residing in tents or collective centres. In addition, the climate has changed significantly with the arrival of the winter. A cold front was experienced, with temperatures as low as -5 degrees Celsius in Oruro and 3 degrees Celsius in La Paz City. Thus far, there have not been reports of affected populations due to the low temperatures.

Coordination and partnerships

In Bolivia, the main coordination mechanism is the National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) which has called four meetings since the onset of the emergency. In addition, there are coordination meetings convened by the United Nations Emergency Team (UNETE), which have been extended to include different national and international organizations, and the departmental EOC meetings. The Bolivian Red Cross has been engaged in all of these coordinating spaces. Although there have been meetings to share information, currently coordination in Bolivia is generally bilateral and not multi-sectorial.

In addition to the information presented on the [previous update](#) on transitional shelter, the following table illustrates some additional relief activities carried out by other in-country actors:

Organization	Line of Action	People to reach
Caritas	Food distribution	6,000 families (2 months)
	Sanitation and hygiene promotion in camps	Families in La Paz camps
OXFAM	Water tanks and sanitation	2 camps
	Emergency shelter (tents)	150 families
Shelterbox	Emergency shelter	200 families
World Food Program (WFP)	Food distribution	7,000 families (1 month)
	Storage space	Bolivian authorities

In relation to the Red Cross and Red Crescent partners, the Bolivian Red Cross is also working alongside the Spanish Red Cross and the German Red Cross. With the support of the Spanish Red Cross, the National Society is reaching 492 families in Rio Abajo with relief items and early recovery activities. The German Red Cross supported the identification of 900 families from the Reyes municipality, in the Beni department, which are now being supported through the Emergency Appeal. The IFRC, through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the regional representation of the Andean Region, has supported the operation with the mobilization of two Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members and the visit of the IFRC shelter coordinator.

National Society Capacity Building: Throughout the emergency response, the BRC has been able to strengthen several aspect of the institution:

- The National Society has increased its visibility and image as the communities, the government and other organizations have witnessed the implementation of several activities.
- The BRC has been recognized in its efforts to disseminate the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and how these are implemented during emergencies.
- Lessons are being learned on the multiple levels of interaction with government authorities, both at the national and departmental levels.
- The administrative and operative aspects of the National Society have been strengthened with the current Emergency Appeal, with new learned skills building on previous experiences.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

Approximately 100 Bolivian Red Cross volunteers have been mobilized across the country to respond to the emergency. At present, the National Society has completed all the planned relief distributions, reaching 2,300 families in La Paz, Cochabamba and Beni with food parcels and hygiene kits. The BRC also developed a plan to support the formation of community health brigades and to complete sanitation and hygiene promotion activities. The National Society is currently waiting for the settlement of affected families in the transitional shelters to start the remaining activities needed to achieve the outcomes the health and hygiene and sanitation sectors.

The BRC also completed all the procurement process for the materials needed to improve the conditions of Colegio Militar camp and to assemble the transitional shelter modules. The activity will be completed as soon as the appropriate plot of land is designated by the La Paz municipal authorities. Due to the challenge encountered in this regard, the timeframe of the emergency appeal has been extended to nine months.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: The most vulnerable families will benefit from the provision of essential food and non- food items to meet their immediate needs resulting from the emergency situation.	
Outputs	Activities planned
1,700 families from the departments of Cochabamba and Beni will receive food parcels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop a beneficiary targeting and distribution plan and a registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Prioritize local tendering following IFRC standards. • Identify distribution points and monitor supply movements to end user. • Monitoring and reporting from BRC headquarters. • Complete a general National Intervention Team (NIT) training.
2,300 families from the departments of Cochabamba and Beni and the city of La Paz will receive hygiene kits.	
50 families from La Paz Department will receive kitchen kit.	

Progress: The first two outputs have been reached successfully. As the table bellow illustrates, 1,700 families have received food parcels and 2,300 families have received essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs.

Department	Area	Food Parcels	Hygiene kits
Beni	Reyes	495	495
	Río Beni	405	405
Cochabamba	Leque	310	310
	Chivi Rancho	272	272
	Japo	69	69
	Pongo	149	149
La Paz	La Paz City	0	600
TOTAL		1,700	2,300

The last planned output of this component, 50 families from La Paz receiving kitchen kits, will not be completed until the 50 transitional shelters are constructed, as the families receiving the kits are the same as the ones receiving the transitional housing solution. Contents of all kits are listed in the Emergency Appeal published on 8 March 2011.

The National Society is currently working to complete a general National Intervention Team training with the support of the regional representation for the Andean Region and PADRU. The BRC is proposing to carry out the training on 25 July and invitations are currently being sent out.

Challenges: Although more details will be given in the section of transitional shelter, the National Society is confronting difficulties to start the construction of the 50 transitional shelters as they are waiting for the La Paz municipality decision on available lands.

Emergency Health	
Outcome: The health risks of the emergency on the affected population are reduced through provision of health promotion and community-based health care.	
Output	Activities planned
500 families have reduced health risks as a result of habit changes and community-based health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid evaluation of health needs in those communities identified as priority. • Complete a workshop for volunteers on community health education. • Train leaders and pro-active community members on community first aid. • Complete health workshops and fairs for the whole community. • Print informative material developed by the National Society.

Progress: About 20 per cent of the activities have been completed. As mentioned on previous updates, the National Society has assessed the health needs of the identified communities and developed a plan to support the formation of community health brigades. These activities will be completed, together with those on sanitation and hygiene promotion, in La Paz City once the affected families are settled in the transitional shelters being constructed by the BRC and other aid organizations.

In addition to the activities included in the Emergency Appeal, volunteers from the Cochabamba branch have given psychosocial support to 140 affected children between the ages of 3 and 14 years old. Activities were completed from 27 February to 3 April 2011 in the collective centres of Sapenco Agrario, Sapenco Libertad and Canillitas, all in the area of Quillacollo.

Challenges: The National Society plans to work with 500 of the affected families in La Paz that will be settled in transitional shelters. Although the National Society has identified the coordinator for the health, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities its contract has not started as of yet, waiting for the definition of terrains for all the transitional shelter projects. The coordinator will present a timeline for the currently halted activities once all families are settled.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion for 500 families.	
Outputs	Activities planned
500 families receive safe water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid water and sanitation emergency needs and capacity assessments in coordination with the relevant local authorities. • Procure water tanks and general sanitation equipment. • Monitor water quality in the selected communities. • Complete a refresher course for the NIT trained in Water and Sanitation.
The health status of the population is improved through hygiene and sanitation promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a timeframe of activities. • Coordinate with community leaders and government authorities. • Identify and prioritize target communities and camps. • Conduct training with locally recruited volunteers to continue hygiene and sanitation promotion activities. • Produce hygiene and sanitation promotion materials based on existing

	<p>materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out community workshops on hygiene promotion. • Establish cleaning brigades with the support of the community. • Monitor the correct use of the hygiene kit.
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Progress: As the quality of water is being controlled by the Water and Sanitation Public Social Company (Empresa Pública Social de Agua y Saneamiento - EPSAS) and the municipal authorities undertook the task to truck safe water, the National Society will concentrate its activities on hygiene and sanitation promotion.

These promotion activities, which will be completed together with the emergency health activities, which will take place with the affected families of La Paz City once they are settled in the new transitional shelters that are under construction.

Challenges: Multi-institutional coordination is still a challenge in Bolivia as the National EOC has called for few meetings. Even though the Bolivian Red Cross has participated in the meetings convened by the National EOC, as well as in the informal UNETE meetings, most coordination is carried out with the municipal authorities and community-based organizations.

Transitional Shelter

Outcome: Improve the living condition of 100 affected families still living in tent-camps by assisting in their longer-term shelter needs	
Output	Activities planned
<p>50 affected families whose houses have been damaged or destroyed have a more durable and appropriate-to-the-context housing solution to live in.</p> <p>At least 50 families living in Colegio Militar camp enjoy a multipurpose space, a warehouse for food items, a communal kitchen and an office space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of most appropriate, timely and feasible housing solutions. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy. • Complete a workshop to disseminate knowledge on temporary shelter solutions to the BRC. • Design housing alternatives in coordination with local authorities and communities. • Monitor activities and provide reporting. • Construction of a social area and a kitchen in <i>Colegio Militar</i> camp • Provision of a warehouse and office module for the <i>Colegio Militar</i> camp. • Community work at <i>Colegio Militar</i> camp • Coordinate activities with other sectors and actors.

Progress: After the technical support provided by the IFRC's shelter coordinator, and discussion with the municipal authorities of La Paz in relation to the housing design, the National Society started the procurement process for the 50 housing modules. The BRC has already received the modules but is currently waiting for the municipality to designate an appropriate plot of land to assemble them and fulfil the first output.

In regards to the second output, improving the conditions of *Colegio Militar* camp, some difficulties have arisen. As mentioned in the previous update, the materials for the kitchen and multipurpose space in this camp have already been purchased by the BRC; however, the construction has not proceeded because the authorities of *Colegio Militar* want to transfer the affected families to a different location. The National Society is coordinating with La Paz municipality and the Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence to reach a solution.

Challenges: Currently, the progress in the sector is co-dependent to the progress of the Municipality of La Paz in acquiring agreements with all actors and securing land tenure. The National Society cannot carry out further actions until land for their project is designated. To ensure this will be accomplished in a timely manner, the BRC has regular communications with the International Relations Director of the La Paz municipality.

Early Recovery

Outcome: Contribute to the early recovery of vulnerable families who have lost their livelihoods as a result of the floods.	
Outputs	Activities planned
450 families receive technical and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and develop a technical assessment and intervention strategy in prioritized affected areas.

economic support to recover their livelihoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish mutual collaboration agreements with national institutions (agricultural associations and/or NGOs). • Training beneficiary families. • Early Recovery Training to volunteers. • Provide technical support throughout the operation. • Conduct monitoring and evaluation activities. • Establish an exit strategy.
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Progress: No further progress has occurred with the activities of this sector since the last update, as the limitations in funding remains. However, the National Society is further assessing the possibility to complete in some extent this output with some families in Cochabamba, and not with the affected families in La Paz as was previously considered.

Logistics

Outcome: The local logistics capacity of the Bolivian Red Cross to respond is strengthened with technical support for local procurement from RLU.	
Outputs	Activities planned
Enhanced logistics capacity and technical support to facilitate the procurement and distribution of relief items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mobilization table for 1,500 hygiene kits and 50 kitchen sets • Provide technical support for the local procurement process of 1,500 hygiene kits and food parcels, and of 50 kitchen kits. • Deployment of a logistics IFRC staff to support procurement if required.

Progress: With the support of the IFRC's Regional Logistic Unit (RLU), the National Society completed all local procurement processes following standard IFRC requirements. The BRC successfully acquired all hygiene kits, food parcels and transitional shelters.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

In addition to the regular activities mentioned in previous updates, the BRC communications unit included a floods and landslide report in the last edition of the National Society's magazine as part of their support to the emergency operation.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<Financial statement attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/6
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MDRBO006
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	518,725					518,725
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross (from United States Government - Missions)</i>	75,852					75,852
<i>American Red Cross (from United States - Private Donors)</i>	81,644					81,644
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>	46,101					46,101
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	37,831					37,831
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	17,100					17,100
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	6,211					6,211
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>	65,677					65,677
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	43,498					43,498
<i>Swiss Red Cross (from Swiss Government)</i>	75,000					75,000
<i>VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief</i>	1,300					1,300
C1. Cash contributions	450,214					450,214
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	450,214					450,214
D. Total Funding = B + C	450,214					450,214
Appeal Coverage	87%					87%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	450,214					450,214
E. Expenditure	-299,715					-299,715
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	150,499					150,499

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
MDRBO006 - Bolivia - Floods and Landslides

Appeal Launch Date: 08 mar 11

Appeal Timeframe: 03 mar 11 to 31 aug 11

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/6
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MDRBO006
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)	518,725						518,725	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Transitional	81,840							81,840
Construction Materials	9,300							9,300
Food	78,120							78,120
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	37,665							37,665
Medical & First Aid	18,600							18,600
Utensils & Tools	5,616							5,616
Other Supplies & Services	111,600							111,600
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	342,741							342,741
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	4,650							4,650
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	4,650							4,650
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	4,185							4,185
Transport & Vehicle Costs	9,300							9,300
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	13,485							13,485
Personnel								
International Staff	42,030	6,651				6,651		35,379
National Staff	2,325							2,325
National Society Staff	20,460							20,460
Total Personnel	64,815	6,651				6,651		58,164
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	4,650							4,650
Total Consultants & Professional Fees	4,650							4,650
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	28,830							28,830
Total Workshops & Training	28,830							28,830
General Expenditure								
Travel	11,160	3,764				3,764		7,396
Information & Public Relation	5,580	6				6		5,574
Office Costs	2,790	9				9		2,781
Communications	5,580	878				878		4,702
Financial Charges	2,785	11,560				11,560		-8,775
Total General Expenditure	27,895	16,216				16,216		11,679
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		258,556				258,556		-258,556
Total Operational Provisions		258,556				258,556		-258,556
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Service Support	31,659	18,292				18,292		13,367
Total Indirect Costs	31,659	18,292				18,292		13,367
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	518,725	299,715				299,715		219,010
VARIANCE (C - D)		219,010					219,010	