



# DREF Final Report

## Bolivia: Floods

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

<b>Operation: DREF</b>	<b>Operation no. MDRBO010</b>
<b>Date of issue: 28 February 2016</b>	<b>Glide number: FL-2015-000008-BOL</b>
<b>Date of disaster: 21 February 2015</b>	
<b>Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA):</b> Pabel Angeles – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Disaster Management Coordinator for South America	<b>Point of Contact:</b> Dr. Abel Peña and Lillo Telleria. President of the Bolivian Red Cross
<b>Operation Start Date:</b> 11 March 2015	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> 4 months
<b>Host National Society:</b> Bolivian Red Cross (BRC)	<b>Operation budget:</b> 193,101 Swiss francs (CHF)
<b>Number of people affected:</b> 185,120 people	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> 5,000 people (1,000 families)
<b>Number of National Societies involved in the operation:</b> International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, German Red Cross and the Finnish Red Cross, which has a development project underway in Bolivia, but does not participate directly in actual emergency situations.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Vice Ministry of Civil Defence (VIDECI), 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 Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the European Commission’s Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), Habitat Network, Action against Hunger, World Vision, Save the Children, Plan International	

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### A. Situation analysis

#### A.1 Description of the disaster

The rainy season began as usual in October 2014. Sixty-two per cent of victims were affected by hail and thunderstorms and 37 percent by the rains. Precipitation intensified in the north-eastern areas of the country, especially in 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 the municipalities.

Although nine departments were affected, only two have declared an 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



Distribution of food kits to the affected population, La Paz River in Mecapaca Source: Bolivian Red Cross

affected by overflowing rivers, especially the department's capital, Cobija, and other rural municipalities. According to VIDECI, a total of 1,392 families, representing 6,960 people were affected, most of whom were evacuated to 25 collective centres that were set up in stadiums and schools.

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 the collective centres. Educational activities in the capital of Pando have been suspended and health problems are expected to arise. Response is being coordinated by all three levels of the government, which have operational support from the armed forces, police and other local institutions.

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

Municipal and departmental EOCs were activated and the government responded to the emergency. Municipalities have financial resources that have not yet been entirely spent, according to VIDECI. The affected people's needs are currently being covered with resources from the municipalities and the government, which worked together with the Civil Defence on the evacuations.

As mentioned before, the department of La Paz also suffered from heavy rains; the municipalities in Yungas (Caranavi, Guanay, Mapiri and Tipuani) were particularly impacted. 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, the municipality of Mecapaca in particular.

These communities, which depend entirely on agriculture, have had their main source of food and income affected, resulting in a significant reduction in vulnerable families' capacity to meet basic needs.

### 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>37,024</b>

Source: SINAGER Vice Ministry of Civil Defence April 15, 2015

## A.2 Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society

Through its National Relief and Disaster Unit, the Bolivian Red Cross declared a yellow alert in departmental delegations to monitor local rainfall and its possible effects, which must be reported to the National Society's headquarters for tracking purposes. During the emergency phase, teams of volunteers from departmental branches in Beni, Santa Cruz and Pando worked in coordination with municipalities in the affected departments mentioned in the table above and other institutions to help to evacuate families and conduct preliminary assessments together with local authorities.

The BRC's national headquarters is located in La Paz, which monitored and tracked information sent by its branches. In addition, it participated in coordination meetings with the Humanitarian Country Team. 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.

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

The 2015 Bolivia Floods Operation Plan of Action was drawn up in February, with support from the IFRC's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) disaster management delegate, as well as damage assessments and coordination with other humanitarian actors.

A Peruvian Red Cross livelihoods Regional Intervention Team (RIT) was deployed in April to support the response efforts and to provide technical support to the National Society. During his mission, he and the local DREF coordinator traveled to the communities in Rio Abajo that would benefit from the operation. Following his visit to the communities in Rio Abajo, he traveled to Cobija with the head of the National Relief and Disaster Unit. Likewise, the regional disaster management coordinator for South America traveled to Bolivia in May to provide support to the National Society and to conduct project monitoring activities. The IFRC's financial analyst also traveled to Bolivia to conduct a financial assessment of the operation.

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

### Movement coordination

The Bolivian Red Cross continuously informed the Disaster Management Regional Coordinator for South America about the situation and the measures that had to be taken. Coordination with the Movement was through joint actions with the Representation Office in Lima and the IFRC's PADRU.

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Plurinational State of Bolivia has provided humanitarian assistance to the affected families in all of the departments through Civil Defence, as well as supporting departmental governorates and municipalities; the government has allocated 20 million bolivianos (equivalent to CHF 2,873,326) to this end.

VIDECI convened a meeting with an official meeting from the National Emergency Operations Centre (COEN for its acronym in Spanish) which was attended by the Ministry of Planning and humanitarian organizations in the area. The meeting served to report on governmental actions, and the BRC discussed the IFRC-supported humanitarian intervention at length. The Humanitarian Country Team met in February to analyze the situation.

During the worst of the flooding, departmental and municipal EOC coordination meetings in Cobija were held on a daily basis. Response actions were coordinated with other departmental and municipal institutions, providing food packages, mattresses and other items as the situation required according to the geographical area. Through its Departmental Health Service (SEDES for its acronym in Spanish), the Ministry of Health reported that it was mobilizing both medical staff and supplies to the flooded areas.

## A.3 Needs analysis and scenario planning

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

During the worst of the flooding, some basic services such as water and the supply of electricity were interrupted; the interruption in the supply of electricity limited the communications network as well as internet access. The Ministry of Environment and Water (MAYA) has conducted drinking water assessments in affected sectors, whose needs 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.

### Health



Distribution of humanitarian aid in Cobija, Pando Source: Bolivian Red Cross

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

At the departmental level, SEDES reported on the support provided by professional health staff in the department. In February, the Minister of Health visited Cobija, stating during SEDES meetings that the flooding had created ideal breeding grounds for a potential increase in dengue cases, requiring preventive measures to be undertaken immediately.

## **Shelter**

The floods caused serious damage to property and affected household assets and work tools. Streets and homes had to be repaired, and small tools had to be replaced to allow families to actively participate in this restoration. Army personnel assisted in clearing streets, and cleaning efforts had to be fast-tracked in order to encourage the population to leave the collective centres and return to their homes. Many schools were used as collective centres during the early stages; however, normal class schedules resumed shortly thereafter.

## **Livelihoods**

In the rural areas, all of the communities depend on farming and livestock for their livelihoods. Many lost most of their crops as floods coincided with the harvest season, affecting their only means of supporting their families.

## **Beneficiary selection**

The selection criteria that were used were 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 (wage);
- Families with vulnerable members (seniors, pregnant women, young children).
- Families with more than five family members.
- Families with persons with disabilities

## **Risk Assessment**

The National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI) had predicted that rains would only continue until April; however, rainfall albeit less frequent, remained intense and damaged dirt and clay roads.

Autumn brings lower temperatures, especially in the high plateau where temperatures fall below zero degrees Celsius, which produces snowfall that reduces the temperature in the lower-lying areas.

## **B. Operational strategy and plan**

### **Overall Objective**

Reducing the effects the 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 actions were aimed at achieving the Bolivian Red Cross's 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, it will work with VIDECI, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Rural Development and Land (MDR-T for its acronym in Spanish) and the Inter-agency Humanitarian Country Team group. At the local level, it will work 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 involved addressing urgent needs in terms of access to food and water, sanitation and hygiene, 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 conducted its efforts according to this plan of action based on the municipalities prioritized by the emergency and its branches' coverage. The operational intervention began with detailed damage assessment in the field, which was performed by BRC staff and supported by the IFRC delegate. This action enabled a more objective identification of the situation and needs of the 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 the seed's production

Water and sanitation

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

Health (through water and sanitation activities)

- Distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) mosquito nets (only in Pando)
- Health promotion and awareness-raising about dengue and chikungunya (only in Pando)

## **B2 Operational support services**

### **Human Resources**

The National Society's president has been actively involved in the operation, as well as other National Directory members. At the branch level, the Directory and branch presidents have also been major actors in the operation. One of the first actions to take place at the beginning of the operation was the hiring of the personnel that would be participating in the development of the project. The following personnel were identified and hired:

- 1 DREF coordinator at BRC's headquarters.
- 2 local field support coordinators; one in La Paz and another in Cobija (Pando).
- 1 financial administrative assistant at BRC's headquarters
- 100 volunteers, (approximately), all of whom were IFRC-insured
- 1 driver in Cobija

A Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member supported the DREF operation activities in Bolivia for one month; during this time, food, hygiene equipment and Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) 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 allowing for follow up on the DREF 2015 Bolivia Flood operations.

### **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's accounting administrative manual and the IFRC's procedures (Request for Quotes [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 Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) mosquito nets in 10 packs, which were sent via a previously contracted carrier to the city of Cobija after clearing customs.

## Information Technology

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

## Communications

During the emergency, the National Communications Unit provided information regarding the BRC's actions through press releases to various media, such as radio, television and the written press, as well as through virtual information posted on the Bolivian Red Cross's website.

Three information bulletins were issued and distributed to various mass media outlets, and information was constantly provided over the Bolivian Red Cross's website. All types of events where the Bolivian Red Cross participated were important means of disseminating direct information to the population.

Information link in the media:

<http://www.ifrc.org/es/noticias/noticias/americas/bolivia/cruz-roja-activa-plan-de-emergencia-ante-inundaciones/>



Distribution of informational material during community workshops. Source: Bolivian Red Cross

## Security

Heavy rains affected roads, causing landslides or destroying the roads, which hindered access. Other factors made access complicated, such as mass mobilizations or demonstrations.

During any type of risk during emergencies, the Bolivian Red Cross's Safety Standards must be taken into account in all institutional activities. For this operation, the preferred modes of transportation were by air and by land with Red Cross vehicles.

Insurance for operation volunteers was secured in coordination with the regional disaster coordinator after submitting 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, and it is being done in coordination with the BRC's president.

Given the BRC's headquarters proximity to the targeted municipality in the department of La Paz, monitoring and follow up is being conducted from its 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 Disasters Unit from information provided by the operation's team, the government and the BRC's branches.

## 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 (MoU) between the National Society and the IFRC. Financial resource management will be according to the National Society's and the IFRC's procedures. The MoU provides for 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. A meeting was held on Skype 20 April, with the participation of staff from the Finance, Projects, Health and Relief and Disaster Units along with PADRU staff in Panama and regional PADRU staff in Lima.

## 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 actors involved.	Outputs		% achieved
	<b>Output 1.1</b> Initial needs assessments are updated in consultation with beneficiaries		100%
	<b>Output 1.2</b> The operation is managed through a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system		100%
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		100%
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		100%
Support and monitoring visits by the IFRC	X		100%
Beneficiary satisfaction surveys	X		100%
Lessons learned workshop	X		100%
Operation evaluation	X		100%

#### 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 the Farmer Unions; the meetings culminated with a visit to these communities.

## **b) Multi-sector assessment by affected municipality**

The sector assessment was defined by the municipalities targeted by the BRC, especially in terms of Housing, Health, Agricultural and the Civil Defence Department. Volunteer staff from our institution participated in coordination with the departmental Risk Management Unit (UGR for its acronym in Spanish).

## **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, where the IFRC initially provided information on its intervention, the source of resources and the scope of the Red Cross, general agreements were defined regarding the operation, with the knowledge of these sectors, 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 neighborhoods in order to later agree on the days to distribute ID cards to communities and neighborhoods with the presence of BRC volunteers.

For early recovery of livelihoods, an assessment of losses and damage to the agriculture sector in Mecapaca was conducted, which determined the type and amount of seed that needed to be provided to 500 beneficiary families.

## **d) Hiring of operational and support staff for field activities**

One of the first actions conducted at the beginning was the hiring of the personnel that would be participating in the development of the project. The following positions were identified and hired:

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

## **e) Technical monitoring and supervision of National Society**

Due to the proximity to BRC's headquarters, monitoring and tracking of actions in Mecapaca were carried out in an integrated manner with the Development, Relief and Health units throughout the entire operation.

During the food kit deliveries in Cobija, this was done directly with supervision from the head of the Relief and Disaster Unit in a joint action with the RIT delegate; later it was conducted by National Relief with support from branch volunteers. It is important to mention that all actions were reported to the BRC president. After distribution, health actions were conducted with participation from the National Health Unit.

## **f) Support and monitoring visits by International Federation**

The initial proposal for the 2015 Bolivia Floods operation and the development of the final 2015 DREF Plan of Action was carried out with support from the PADRU delegate; the development of field and operational support activities was supported by the Peruvian Red Cross RIT that was deployed for one month.

As part of his monitoring of the 2015 DREF, the IFRC's regional disaster management coordinator for South America visited Mecapaca and met with the operation team and the RIT delegate to review and analyze the plan of action's progress to date. Jointly with the BRC, a schedule was proposed for the remaining activities. The financial assessment was supported by the IFRC's financial analyst.

## **g) Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys**

A beneficiary satisfaction survey was designed for Cobija and Mecapaca using ODK. A total of 90 satisfaction surveys were conducted with beneficiary families in Cobija and in rural areas in Porvenir, Pando, as well as in Mecapaca, La Paz. BRC tablets and smartphones, with the ODK format pre-installed, were used by volunteers.

Results show that 97 per cent of beneficiaries consider that food and seed delivery was good, adequate, useful and varied. In terms of amount of aid based on their immediate needs, 78 per cent were satisfied; although 12 per cent

considered the amounts to be insufficient, 88 per cent felt that the delivery time was adequate, and 84 per cent deemed the distance to aid distribution points as adequate. Regarding health, hygiene and nutrition workshops, 95 per cent of the population that participated considered the training useful, and all of the beneficiaries that were interviewed expressed that they were well treated by Bolivian Red Cross staff.

## h) Lessons learned workshop

The lessons learned workshop was held at the end of the operation and facilitated by the national headquarters in La Paz. It was attended by 15 people, including headquarters staff and volunteers from the El Alto branch in La Paz and the Pando branch.

The meeting was characterized by significant participation from volunteers, who traced the operation's critical path from the moment the document was drawn up, the objective, and the manner in which operational activities were implemented while identifying the aspects that facilitated results and reflecting on the aspects that needed improving and its recommendations on how to go about doing it.

Facilitating factors	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal organization within the operation team.</li> <li>• Support from unit heads</li> <li>• Inter-agency coordination</li> <li>• Adequate plan of action design</li> <li>• Coordination with external actors (VIDECI, Humanitarian Country Team)</li> <li>• Cooperation agreements established with municipalities</li> <li>• Meeting with actors and beneficiaries</li> <li>• Community accessibility</li> <li>• Distribution process.</li> <li>• IFRC support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited access to information from secondary sources</li> <li>• Geographically dispersed communities</li> <li>• National Society financial resources</li> <li>• Damage to roads from rain and geographic conditions</li> <li>• Limited number of volunteers at the Pando branch.</li> <li>• Lack of trained volunteers</li> <li>• Some communities were wary of signing the meeting minutes</li> </ul>

An important aspect of the operation was the inclusion of the livelihoods issue in the response proposal, which was highly valued by the community.

## i) Operation Evaluation

The operational evaluation of the operation consisted of a financial assessment by the IFRC's financial unit. The IFRC's financial analyst was deployed to Bolivia to review National Society accounting and administrative processes for the operation, and conduct a financial analysis of activities and how consistent these were with the development, purchasing processes, and procurement of services and human resources. National Society technical staff, providers and people served were interviewed for this assessment.



## 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.

Accumulated waters created risk areas that increased the potential for emergence of chikungunya and dengue fever cases. Physical protection from mosquito bites was reduced through the distribution of mosquito nets. Prevention and awareness were considered necessary and fostered through hygiene promotion and epidemics control, which became important actions to prevent the population from contracting these diseases.

**Population to be assisted:** A total of 500 affected families in the department of Pando living in temporary collective centres in the city of Cobija and rural communities defined in the area of intervention.

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Families have a greater knowledge to prevent epidemics.	<b>Outputs</b>		<b>% achieved</b>
	<b>Output 1.1</b> Epidemic prevention measures carried out for 500 families.		100%
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Implementation on time?</b>		<b>% of progress</b>
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
Community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) awareness-raising workshops for Red Cross volunteers and other like-minded institutions that will be working beneficiaries.	X		100%
Distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) 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 beneficiaries.**

A workshop with the first three CBHFA modules course was held, as well an Epidemics Control workshop aimed at volunteers and institutional staff. These were attended by representatives from Civil Defence, the Risk Management Directorate, Ministry of Education, Universidad Amazónica, and Pando branch volunteers. The workshop was facilitated by the CRB technical team, the Health Director and the Project Coordinator.

**b) Distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) mosquito nets to 500 families in Pando (2 per family)**

Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) 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
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>500</b>	<b>1,000</b>

**Challenges:** The rains have made it difficult to transport materials to the area, and customs procedures also delayed the arrival of the Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) mosquito nets. An important aspect is the proper use of mosquito nets, although this can be transmitted verbally.

**Lessons Learned:** It is necessary to build the capacity of local volunteers and branches to enable them to present strategic intervention proposals to the community.

## Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

**Needs Analysis** Flooding caused by the Acre River overflowing its banks forced 1,800 families in Cobija to be relocated to 25 temporary collective centres within the city. The situation required water provision efforts to maintain adequate supply levels; however, they were still insufficient for family sanitation and hygiene. Moreover, communities have experienced significant water stress due to the continuous rainfall in the affected areas.

This makes it necessary to develop health and hygiene promotion activities. 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 will conduct humanitarian actions in water and sanitation and hygiene promotion to assist 500 affected families in the department of Pando living in temporary collective centres in Cobija, as well as targeted rural communities.

Outcome1 Safe water- and hygiene-related risks are reduced in the population affected by floods.	Outputs		% achieved
	<b>Output 1.1</b> Affected families have improved their practices and knowledge to reduce waterborne diseases		100%
	<b>Output 1.2</b> 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		100%
Hygiene promotion and safe water management workshop for Red Cross volunteers and other related institutions engaging in community outreach.	X		100%
Community hygiene promotion workshops held in 25 community centres	X		100%
Mutual cooperation agreement between communities, the municipality and the Bolivian Red Cross	X		100%

### a) Hygiene assessment and water provision to centers and areas targeted by the BRC

During the floods, the water supply in the collective centres was unsafe due to the damage suffered by the municipal water system. These centres received water from tanker trucks, which limited access for hygiene and increased the risk of contracting waterborne gastrointestinal diseases. Currently, the water supply has been restored; although, only a temporary basis in some areas.

A total of 500 hygiene kits were 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
		MAPAJÓ	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
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>

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

The CBHFA workshop included hygiene promotion training. These sessions were conducted within other community health modules. The workshops were aimed at volunteers and institutional staff and attended by representatives from Civil Defence, Risk Management Directorate, Education, Universidad Amazónica, and Pando branch volunteers. The workshop was facilitated by the BRC technical team, the health director and the project coordinator.

**c) Community hygiene promotion workshops held in 25 community centers.**

Following the CBHFA and epidemics control training workshops, Pando branch volunteers and community board leaders provided a report on these activities and drew up a timetable to develop these community workshops.

### Community Hygiene Promotion and dengue and chikungunya Prevention Workshops

No	Community	Workshops	Participants
1	U.E. Vaca Diez	2 Workshops	70
2	Puerto Alto	2 Workshops	44
3	Villamontes	2 Workshops	46
4	Mapajo	2 Workshops	57
5	Junín	2 Workshops	48
6	Cataratas	2 Workshops	43
7	U.E. Héroes Distancia	2 Workshops	66
8	Porvenir	1 Workshop	17
9	Cachuelita	2 Workshops	46
10	U.E. Defensores Acre	2 Workshops	67
11	Rogelia Menacho	1 Workshop	32

12	U. comunitaria Ejercito	1 Workshop	38
13	U. comunitaria Ejercito	1 Workshop	44
		<b>22 Workshops</b>	<b>618</b>

A total of 22 workshops were held for Pando communities and conducted by branch volunteers, the project coordinator and supported by the head of the National Aid and Disaster Unit. The collective centres had initially been taken into account, but most of the people housed there returned to their homes.

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

The agreement document was accepted by both the Bolivian Red Cross and the municipalities, as the main authorities responsible for these territorial units. This agreement was validated by the personnel appointed by Cobija and Mecapaca authorities.

**Challenges:** The distance between the Headquarters and the Pando branch.

**Lessons learned:** The National Society teams need to be able to conduct multi-sectorial assessment activities when these are not conducted in a timely manner by public institutions, which shows us that more people need to understand the intervention sectors.

After meeting with volunteers, the IFRC concluded that information-training events in community workshops should be conducted during coordination meetings with communities when they are motivated by the prospect of receiving humanitarian supplies, ensuring that the beneficiaries' participation is effective.

Besides communities, community workshops also need to include educational units, as these are an important sector for replicating the themes that need to reach the population.

## 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. Consequently, this situation requires the coverage of the communities' food security.

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 actions with the municipality in terms of flood mitigation through land rehabilitation

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

Outcome1	Affected families have immediate access to food, improve their nutritional status and recover their livelihoods.	Outputs	% achieved
		<b>Output 1.1</b> 1,000 families in the departments of Pando and La Paz received food aid during the first months of the operation	100%

Activities	Implementation on time?		% of progress
	Si	No	
	<b>Output 1.2</b> 500 families in Rio Abajo in the department of La Paz have reactivated their livelihoods and their regular and alternative agricultural production		
Beneficiary Identification and registration	X		100%
Signing of mutual cooperation agreement between the municipality and BRC.	X		100%
Acquisition of food packages	X		100%
Distribution of food kits of food and nutritional surveillance with SEDES team.	X		100%
Healthy eating habits workshop	X		100%
Assessment of level of impact types of affected crops and average area of sown land.	X		100%
Seed acquisition	X		100%
Seed distribution	X		100%
Livelihoods workshop for volunteers	X		100%

**a) Beneficiary Identification and registration**

The National Society coordinated with: a) in Mecapaca with Farmers Union leaders; and b) in Cobija with the presidents of flooded neighborhoods, in order to later agree on the days to distribute ID cards to communities and neighborhoods, with the presence of BRC volunteers.

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

Based on the meetings held with local authorities as part of the operation's implementation, the IFRC proceeded to prepare a document for cooperation between targeted municipalities and the National Society. A generic document describing actions to be conducted was signed.

More than 90 per cent of the population in Mecapa engages in agriculture, and all of the farmers lost tools to the floods, such as shovels, picks, scythes, rakes, hoes, wheelbarrows, machete, or spraying equipment, in addition to 55 head of cattle. Crops also suffered damage: 19 per cent of corn, 13 per cent of potatoes,

11 per cent of lettuce and 10 per cent of broccoli; celery, parsley, tomato, chard, beet, carrot and turnip crops were also damaged, but to a lesser extent.



Distribution of food kits. Source: Bolivian Red Cross

### c) Procurement of food kits

In total, 1,000 food kits were purchased for affected families in Pando and La Paz. Meetings were held to form an agreement with communities on this matter; some changes were made to the kits in terms of quantities and composition, and the kits included the following contents in the end:

#### FOOD KITS

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

### d) 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 presence of the local project coordinator, El Alto branch volunteers and National Relief and Disaster Unit staff. Each family received the food kit mentioned above.

Two humanitarian aid distribution points were set up; the first distribution point was in in the community of Millocato to serve 2 communities, and the other one was in the community of Carreras for the remaining 10 communities. In attendance were the mayor of Mecapaca, Mecapaca Farmers Union leaders, the secretary general 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	138	138
		MECAPACA	75	75
		TAYPICHULLO	30	30
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>

#### Department of Pando

Humanitarian assistance in Pando was programmed to assist 500 families. The amount distributed was agreed between the Governorate, the Cobija municipality and Departmental Civil Defence: a) 200 for rural families in the most affected municipalities: Porvenir, Bella Flor, San Lorenzo, San Pedro and Villanueva, b) 300 for families in affected neighborhoods. The first distribution was to rural areas with transportation provided by municipalities and the Governorate.

DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES	FOOD KITS
	COBIJA	JUNIN	47	47

PANDO		VILLAMONTES	60	60
		PUERTO ALTO	50	50
		MAPAJÓ	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
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>

A nutritional evaluation was conducted in Mecapaca at the Children's Centre, with support from the Metacapa Health Center. A total of 19 children were evaluated, of which 68.4 per cent had hemoglobin levels lower than the 11 grams/deciliter (g/dL) point, i.e. suffering from some degree of anemia; 30.7 per cent of these children were female and 69.2 per cent of the children were male. According to hemoglobin reference values, 7.6 per cent of these children suffered from severe anemia, 69.2 per cent from moderate anemia, and 23.08 per cent from mild anemia.

According to the 2003 National Demography and Health Survey, the weighted prevalence of anemia in La Paz among children under 2 is 75 per cent. Study results are consistent with these findings, sometimes even higher, with a prevalence rate of 67.4 per cent. This is a truly alarming fact mainly because of the short or long-term impact on children's health. Short term effects may include mental, motor and immune system development issues, while long term effects may include stunting, low school performance and even serious physical limitations.

The humanitarian aid that was provided included the delivery of food items, such as rice, sugar, flour, oil, salt, chocolate and milk, to 500 families in 10 communities in Mecapaca. In order to fully comply with the Sphere and Ministry of Health standards, attention should be paid not only to the provision of the necessary calories and protein through the types and food groups donated, but to fulfill pre-established standards, even more so when the affected population is already suffering from diseases or have profiles consistent with malnutrition and anemia. This type of humanitarian assistance needs to continue to be prioritized for these populations.

#### e) Healthy eating habits workshop

This training event was held in June 2015, in coordination with the Ministry of Health and the Health Unit in Mecapaca. It was based on the CBHFA methodology to build the capacity of the affected families to improve their food and nutritional conditions. The first workshop on healthy eating habits was attended by 25 representatives from 5 communities (22 men and 3 women), plus 5 volunteers and 2 facilitators from the BRC. The second workshop was attended by 19 representatives from 5 communities (17 men and 2 women), plus 5 volunteers and 2 facilitators from the BRC.



CBHFA methodology workshops with volunteers and other organizations Source: Bolivian Red Cross

The content of the healthy eating habits workshop was based on food security components and used the Ministry of Health Food Preparation Guide, which was distributed to the participants. The second part dealt with food safety and used the Quality Water Use and Environment Manual from Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO) - BRC. Two water samples were taken as part of the CBHFA methodology: one from the water distribution network and the second from sources not recommended for consumption.

#### f) 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 Metacapa. The damage assessment process was conducted jointly with community leaders, and it identified crop damage and losses to prioritize the aid for the affected farmers.

### g) Seed procurement

The process to acquire seed for 500 beneficiary families in Mecapaca began with coordination meetings to agree on the type and amount of seed for the affected families. These agreements were reached with direct participation from the communities and support from the municipal agronomist, and the participants agreed upon the amounts of corn, lettuce, turnips, beets and parsley seed to be distributed. The balances from other optimized budget lines were used to complete the purchase.

#### Total Amounts of seeds procured

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	AMOUNT
1	Corn	Kilo	1,000
2	Lettuce	Grams	17,500
3	Turnip	Grams	12,500
4	Beet	Grams	10,500
5	Parsley	Grams	10,500

### h) Seed distribution

Prioritized seeds were acquired and delivered in June as per the damage assessment and community consensus. Two distribution points were set up; one was in Millocato for 2 communities, and the other one was in Carreras for the remaining 8 communities.

Department	Municipality	Community	Families	Corn (kg)	Lettuce (gr)	Turnip (gr)	Beet (gr)	Parsley (gr)
La Paz	Mecapaca	Millocato	138	276	4,830	3,450	2,898	2,898
		Taipichullo	30	60	1,050	750	630	630
		Huajchilla	40	80	1,400	1,000	840	840
		Mecapaca	75	150	2,625	1,875	1,575	1,575
		Avircato	51	102	1,785	1,275	1,071	1,071
		Llacasa	40	80	1,400	1,000	840	840
		La Carreras	34	68	1,190	850	714	714
		Cachapa	20	40	700	500	420	420
		De Peñol	30	60	1,050	750	630	630
		Valencia	42	84	1,470	1,050	882	882
<b>Total</b>			<b>500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>10,500</b>

### i) Livelihoods workshop for volunteers

The Livelihoods workshop was held in June 2015, with support from the IFRC's Livelihoods Centre and attended by 20 people from 9 departmental BRC branches. The National Development Unit and the National Relief and Disaster Unit facilitated this workshop.

**Challenges:** Gathering information regarding health indicators was challenging. Weather conditions hampered the transportation of food kits due to the damage to the roads between La Paz and Pando.

**Lessons Learned:** During the rainy season, programming dates need to be broadened, especially in distribution areas where supplies need to be transported over roads that make access difficult. It is necessary to have qualified staff to coordinate with authorities due to the level of political coordination involved.

## Contact information

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

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## Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRBO010 - Bolivia - Floods

Timeframe: 11 mar 15 to 11 jul 15

Appeal Launch Date: 11 mar 15

Final Report

## Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2014/3-2015/12	Programme	MDRBO010
Budget Timeframe	2014/3-2014/6	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>							
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>							
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		193.101				193.101	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		<b>193.101</b>				<b>193.101</b>	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		<b>193.101</b>				<b>193.101</b>	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>		<b>193.101</b>				<b>193.101</b>	

\* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

## II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>							
<b>C. Income</b>		193.101				193.101	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-168.802				-168.802	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		24.299				24.299	

## Disaster Response Financial Report

## MDRBO010 - Bolivia - Floods

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Final Report

## Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2014/3-2015/12	Programme	MDRBO010
Budget Timeframe	2014/3-2014/6	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>								
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Clothing & Textiles			2.516			2.516	-2.516	
Food			71.515			71.515	-71.515	
Seeds & Plants			16.510			16.510	-16.510	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			14.145			14.145	-14.145	
Teaching Materials			6.789			6.789	-6.789	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>			111.475			111.475	-111.475	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring			10.688			10.688	-10.688	
Transport & Vehicles Costs			4.643			4.643	-4.643	
Logistics Services			1.168			1.168	-1.168	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>			16.500			16.500	-16.500	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff			4.226			4.226	-4.226	
National Society Staff			13.024			13.024	-13.024	
Volunteers			623			623	-623	
<b>Total Personnel</b>			17.873			17.873	-17.873	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training			802			802	-802	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>			802			802	-802	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel			5.891			5.891	-5.891	
Information & Public Relations			1.875			1.875	-1.875	
Office Costs			1.644			1.644	-1.644	
Communications			1.188			1.188	-1.188	
Financial Charges			1.250			1.250	-1.250	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>			11.849			11.849	-11.849	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recove			10.302			10.302	-10.302	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>			10.302			10.302	-10.302	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>			168.802			168.802	-168.802	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			-168.802			-168.802		

**Disaster Response Financial Report****MDRBO010 - Bolivia - Floods**

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Final Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2014/3-2015/12	Programme	MDRBO010
Budget Timeframe	2014/3-2014/6	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**IV. Breakdown by subsector**

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
<b>BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people</b>							
Disaster response			193.101	193.101	168.802	24.299	
Subtotal BL2			193.101	193.101	168.802	24.299	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>193.101</b>	<b>193.101</b>	<b>168.802</b>	<b>24.299</b>	