

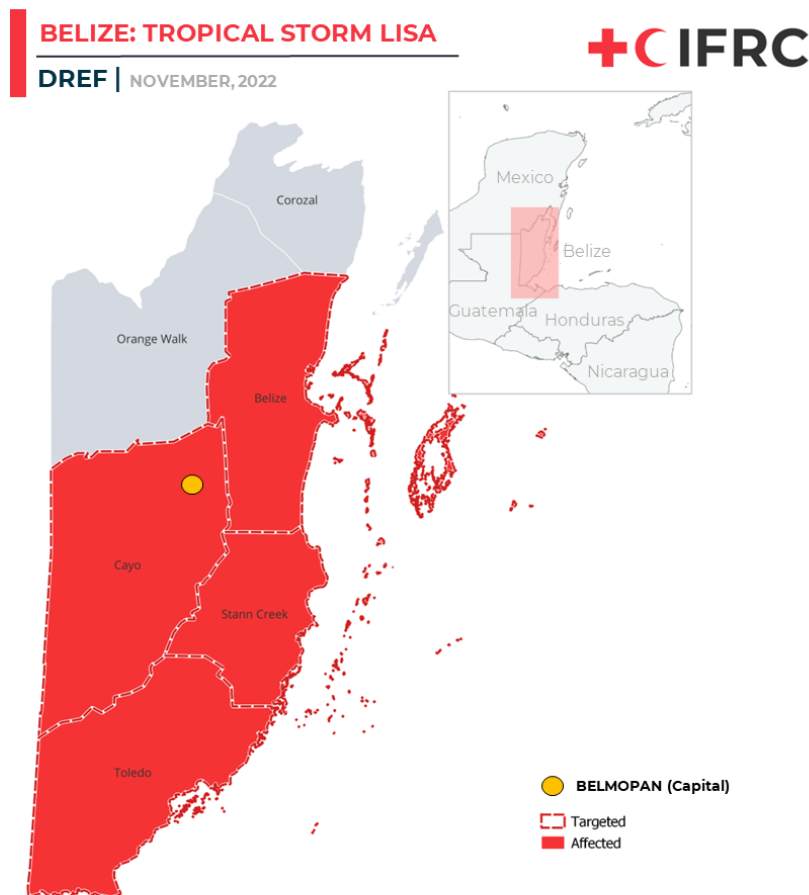


Household assessments being carried out by Belize Red Cross Society volunteers. Source: Tanya Hulse, Communications and Community Engagement and Accountability Officer

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Appeal: MDRBZ007 | Total DREF Allocation CHF 257,608 | Crisis Category: Yellow | Hazard: Cyclone |
| Glide Number: TC-2022-000357-BLZ | People Affected: 172,000 people | People Targeted: 5,000 people | |
| Event Onset: Sudden | Operation Start Date: 2022-11-09 | New Operational end date: | Total operating timeframe: 4 months |
| Targeted Areas: | Belize | | |

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, 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.

Description of the Event



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Data source: Belize Red Cross.
Produced by IM Team, DCCPRR, IFRC Americas.

Map of areas affected by Tropical Storm Lisa and areas targeted by the Belize Red Cross Society. Source: IFRC

What happened, where and when?

A category 1 hurricane hit the country of Belize on 2 November 2022 at 2:30 pm local time, accompanied by heavy winds of 85mph, rainfall measuring up to 4-6 inches, and flooding. Belize City, River Valley, Hattieville, and Ladyville were among the most affected communities by Hurricane Lisa, with Belize City being the most affected area. There was significant damage to houses, property, roads, drains, public infrastructure, and livestock. Electricity services were cut off for some time due to fallen trees and powerlines.

Fortunately, no lives were lost but about 500 residents had to evacuate their homes. A total of twelve (12) shelters were opened for evacuated families. However, all shelters were closed before the end of the operation, and occupants had returned to their homes or to the homes of family members.

The "All Clear" was given the day following the impact (3 November 2022) around 10:00 AM local time and the staff and volunteers of the Belize Red Cross Society set out to conduct rapid assessments and provide hurricane relief support to affected families, providing tarpaulins as it was evident that most affected houses lost their roof or suffered severe damage.

Damage and Needs Assessments commenced by the volunteers of the Belize Red Cross Society immediately after the storm and continued until the targeted areas were covered. The assessments were carried out house to house to



identify the households most affected and to gain information on their status and the people's needs. Data collected showed that some 200 plus houses were completely destroyed while others suffered various levels of damage. Heads of households from the affected population were supplied with necessities which included food packages and non-food items (cleaning kits, mattresses, shelter tool kits, hygiene kits). The last assessment was done between 9 to 12 December 2022. However, the National Society Headquarters received individual requests, and therefore, a few individual assessments were conducted only on a one-on-one basis from referrals or call-ins.



Distribution of NFIs in Belama



Destroyed homes after Hurricane Lisa, Belama

Scope and Scale

The direct impact of Hurricane Lisa came just 2 weeks after the country experienced heavy rains and associated flooding following the passage of Tropical Storm Julia. According to The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), flooding as a result of Tropical Storm (TS) Julia affected roughly 30 communities in southern and central Belize and approximately 3,000 families were directly or indirectly impacted. Four rescue operations saved 15 families, and 11 shelters were opened. 5 bridges were closed and slightly damaged, 2 ferries (Xunantunich and Baking Pot) were closed, 10 road networks flooded out, 11 rivers and 4 creeks reached flood stage, and 1 water system for Belize Water Services was impacted in San Ignacio.

In 2020, flooding associated with the passage of Hurricanes Eta and Iota cut off several communities, with Cayo, Stann Creek, and Belize districts being the most affected. Approximately 15% of the total population in Belize was impacted. In response to these historic floods, the Belize Red Cross launched an IFRC-DREF operation that targeted 5,000 people. The operation supported the distribution of household items, WASH activities, and Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance.

It should be noted that the recent impacts outlined above were not the result of a direct impact of a hydro-meteorological hazard. However, Hurricane Lisa directly impacted Belize so the scale of impact reasonably exceeded those 2 previous events.

Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS) received reports through staff, volunteers, and the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) that several communities were affected. Major areas impacted (hardest hit) were communities in the Belize District as forecasted by the NEMO and Meteorological services. No significant impacts in Stann Creek, Cayo, Toledo, and Orange Districts, which was confirmed through BRCS branches.

Overall, 333,549 people in the country were at risk from the impacts of the system. According to NEMO, at least 39% of the total population of Belize (approximately 160,000 people) was most affected by Hurricane Lisa. In the district of Belize, more than 90,000 people were reported to have been impacted. According to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the hurricane affected 172,000 people, causing the temporary displacement of at least 5,000



who sought refuge in state-managed shelters.

Food, water, hygiene kits, bedding, cleaning supplies, tarpaulins, power washers, and construction and roofing materials were the main items needed for the affected population. In addition, further damage and needs assessments (DANA) were conducted to ensure the most appropriate support was provided to the affected population. Multi-purpose cash was identified as a modality for the provision of support to ensure dignity, and freedom of choice and facilitate livelihood reactivation where markets/businesses can accommodate.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Secretariat</p> | <p>The IFRC provided valuable guidance to the Belize Red Cross Society during the Hurricane Lisa Response Operation.</p> <p>Three (3) IFRC Surge Delegates were deployed to Belize shortly following the disaster. The Disaster Management Coordinator from the Caribbean Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) also conducted support/monitoring visits.</p> <p>The Surge Delegates deployed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x Operations Manager 1x Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Officer to support the IFRC-DREF operations through the implementation of CVA. 1x Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) Officer, from St. Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross, to support Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM), training, and reporting including the use of new IFRC templates. <p>A working group between the CCD and the IFRC Americas Regional Office was activated to monitor the situation and to support the planning and development of the response operation.</p> |
| <p>Participating National Societies</p> | <p>Coordinated support from the Canadian Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross facilitated the deployment of surge in the form of Operations Manager and CVA Officer. This assistance was provided through the IFRC Americas Regional Office.</p> |

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC supported the Belize Red Cross Society with \$9,803.39 Belize Dollars which was used for early mobilization of staff and volunteers and preliminary assessments. This well-needed support provided resources and aided in the implementation of the IFRC-DREF.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Government has requested international assistance</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| | <p>The Belize Red Cross Society works closely with Government agencies such as NEMO (National Emergency Management Office) and CEMO (City Emergency Management Organization), the Ministry of Health & Wellness, the Ministry of Human Development and Indigenous People's Affairs, USAID/BHA, UNICEF, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and other local partners in Belize. Collaboration is crucial to prevent duplication of aid and the omission of</p> |



| | |
|---|---|
| <p>National authorities</p> | <p>affected persons from receiving needed aid.</p> <p>The Government activated shelters and issued an evacuation order prior to the impact of the hurricane for persons living in low-lying areas. They engaged in necessary meetings with key partners such as the Belize Red Cross Society. Government organizations such as the Ministry of Human Development, NEMO, CEMO, and Politicians (Standard Bearers) in partnership with the World Food Programme did their part in providing food and housing materials for the reconstruction of homes of affected individuals.</p> <p>The Government also received international assistance through the Diplomatic Corps and WFP and possibly other in-country international organizations. In partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), the Ministry of Human Development also implemented a cash program with the support of DigiWallet (telephone company) distributing \$250 per affected family.</p> |
| <p>UN or other actors</p> | <p>WFP provided technical support to the Ministry of Human Development for the implementation of a cash program for basic needs. Exchange of information and coordination took place between BRCS, Human Development, and WFP. BRCS received significant support through unrestricted funds from the private sector (OYE FM Radio, Belize International Brewing Co., Processor, Belize Airport Concession, Central Bank of Belize, and the Belize sugar industry, among others). Unrestricted funds have served to support the mobilization of volunteers, as well as distributions.</p> <p>The InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB) provided financial support of US\$200,000 to the Ministry of Finance, which selected the Belize Red Cross Society to be the implementing agency for these funds. These funds provided support with food and non-food items (personal hygiene kits) and supported logistics costs.</p> |
| <p>Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?</p> | |
| <p>Coordination mechanisms were in place. Coordination by CEMO and NEMO through ad hoc exchange of information through the General Director of Belize Red Cross Society. There were period coordination sessions, however, this became less as the operations progressed.</p> | |



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

There was a need for ongoing monitoring to assess the quality of water for human consumption and preventive health actions for populations in significantly flooded communities. This reduced/prevented outbreaks and epidemics caused by the post-flood conditions. Post-flood conditions necessitated the provision of cleaning materials. Information on the safe sterilization of water and materials/information on safe hygiene practices were required in heavily flooded/waterlogged communities.

Community clean-up activities were also identified as a need to support families in wider clean-up and general return to good public health/sanitary conditions.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The hurricane caused heavy and sustained rainfall, generating floods and overflowing rivers in urban and rural areas. This further caused damage to public and private infrastructure, also affecting the livelihood activities of the most vulnerable people. Agriculture, small businesses, and tourism have been particularly affected. There was a risk that people would follow survival strategies as some suffered irreversible damage to livelihood assets.

The people most significantly affected needed support as they had very limited capacity to cope with the losses experienced. The implementation of Cash and Voucher Assistance was considered as an avenue to support affected individuals/families.

Both household and livelihood assessments revealed that some families required immediate assistance for basic needs. And also support heads of households to restart livelihoods.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

No immediate needs were identified from reports/assessments. However, the Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS) considered PGI as an underlining/crosscutting theme and actively considered the likelihood of PGI issues. As such there was ongoing monitoring through assessment and distribution processes.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Given BRCS's prior work in some communities and experience in community intervention from projects/programmes - CEA was highlighted as a low to medium need. However, determined to be of active consideration for crosscutting involvement in other areas of intervention due to urban gangs' potential to pose conflict in communities and possible issues during distributions.





Multi purpose cash grants

The initial target for households receiving cash was 300. However, 7 of these 300 households were unreachable therefore the distribution for these families was deferred to January 2023, along with an additional approved 52 families. The increase in targeted recipients of the cash grant was mainly due to the National Society's awareness that there were families identified who met the selection criteria and who still had needs to be filled, despite assistance received in the form of food and non-food items. There were savings in the budget lines for assessments, and ATM fees which were expenses used for the additional 52 assisted under the CVA Programme through an Operations Update.

Most vulnerable and more severely impacted families were assessed to have continued needs beyond the initial relief. Multi-purpose can be seen as the most dignified approach and feasibility study provided relevant as well as practical for implementation.

Based on the results of post-distribution monitoring, most families indicated that the top three categories on which they spent their cash were food and water, household repairs, and replacing household items.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Due to the impact of Hurricane Lisa, some houses were totally destroyed while others would require minor-major repairs. Some of these households were among the targets for receiving assistance from the Belize Red Cross Society. There was also the need for basic items such as personal hygiene items, blankets, shelter tool kits, and cleaning kits based on field assessments.

Objective and Strategy Rationale

Overall objective of the operation

Through this IFRC-DREF Plan of Action, the Belize Red Cross Society aimed to provide disaster response relief to approximately 5,000 people (1,000 families) impacted by Hurricane Lisa through the provision of multi-purpose cash assistance, water and sanitation, shelter and health in the district of Belize which is reported to have been the most affected.

The original assessments carried out by the BRCS identified 1,000 families (approximately 5,000 people) in need of immediate assistance. At the end of the response operation in March 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society successfully reached and exceeded its targets, as a total of 1,105 families (5,525 people) were reached.

Response strategy implementation

Based on Damage and Needs Assessments (DANA) conducted by the Belize Red Cross Society, this operation aimed to assist 1,000 families (5,000 people) in the areas of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Shelter and Livelihoods and Basic needs. The National Society had ensured that the operation met the immediate needs of the most vulnerable affected people through its quick and effective response to the disaster.



Rapid Market assessments were carried out in the market research for Cash and Voucher Assistance. Through this, the National Society was able to identify which financial service provider would best facilitate the CVA process, persons preference for receiving assistance (most persons preferred both in-kind donations and multi-purpose cash), and preferred modality of receiving cash (most persons indicated they preferred cheques).

Prior to the implementation of CVA for Hurricane Lisa, the Belize Red Cross Society successfully implemented CVA twice in the past. Once in 2016, after Hurricane Earl and again after Hurricane Eta and Iota in 2020. For this IFRC-DREF Operation, the transfer value for cash was determined to be BZ\$600 (USD 300) per household, in one single instalment. This transfer value was determined based on the current minimum wage in Belize of BZ\$554. Multi-purpose cash grants have been proven to be a more efficient way to provide immediate assistance to persons affected. As reflected through post distribution monitoring, recipients are very pleased with the service and were able to spend their money based on their own individual needs.

With Feedback from communities visited and CDRTs, BRCS was able to adjust and add communities that were affected outside the scope of the city and add those to distribution efforts as well as remove communities that were not significantly impacted.

Though the purpose of the National Society (NS) was not to address poverty, the NS was aware of the most vulnerable areas within the city, both in terms of their economic situation and in terms of their susceptibility to storms. The latter had an added layer of intersectional vulnerability, since most within those vulnerable communities have compromised structures and those communities are geographically more prone to flooding and access can be compromised with excess water, even in the absence of a tropical system.

The Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS) was able to utilize assessment results to identify specific needs for shelter, basic needs, and WASH. A coordinated approach with the National Emergency Management Office and other actors was facilitated prioritizing areas that were either not covered by the government or whether assessments revealed further supplementary assistance was still needed.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The National Society established the following criteria to select and assist the affected population:

- Families most affected by winds and flooding, including people having suffered the most damage to their homes.
- Most vulnerable population groups, including mono-parental families, elderly adults, pregnant women, children under five, and people with disabilities.
- Households that have not received humanitarian assistance from the State and other actors.

CVA selection criteria:

- Meet the criteria of vulnerability.
- Reside in the affected target area.
- Direct impact on livelihoods due to flooding due to increased rainfall.

Application of CVA process further revised these processes to include households whose homes were totally destroyed and who sustained major damages.

Shelter and Basic Needs:

The general criteria were applied in the distribution of relief for shelter and basic needs. However, this was further prioritized based on other assistance received, the impact on livelihood, and the status of the head of household.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria were applied across all assessment communities and cross-checked with available community data from government assessments, as well as socioeconomic data.



Households with completely destroyed homes (identified in assessments) are located in the affected target area (Belize City, Hattieville, Ladyville, and River Valley).

Households with homes in need of major repairs (identified in assessments) located in affected target areas (Belize City, Hattieville, Ladyville, and River Valley) and with no income source (head of household unemployed).

Total Targeted Population

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--|---------|
| Women: | 1,250 | Rural % | Urban % |
| Girls (under 18): | 1,250 | 22.00 % | 78.00 % |
| Men: | 1,250 | People with disabilities (estimated %) | |
| Boys (under 18): | 1,250 | 11.00 % | |
| Total targeted population: | 5,000 | | |

Risk and security considerations

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions

| Risk | Mitigation action |
|--|--|
| Security risk- gang activities are common in areas which presents an invisible barrier for persons from communities to access certain areas of the city. | Proper coordination with local organization in neighborhoods to assess security risks before distributions are conducted and ensuring community engagement and accountability. |
| Lack of or poor integration of communities in the implementation of actions. | Proper coordination with local organizations and ensuring community engagement and accountability. |
| Continuation of rainfall which could delay operations and possibly cause another flash flooding. | Continuous risk communications effort, temporary shelter preparedness and continuous follow up of evolving situation. |
| Limited vehicles for distribution in communities. | Renting of vehicles and requesting vehicles from private organizations. |

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

COVID-19 and Monkey Pox were ongoing threats within the region/country. Established infection and disease prevention control measures were maintained throughout the operation while maintaining the dignity and rights of individuals, and the existing government protocol.

Crime and violence in Belize are relatively on the rise but do not pose a major threat to the operations; however, invisible barriers due to gang activity in Belize city have been taken into consideration for distribution. Stay Safe measures will be employed through the operations by staff, volunteers, and surge personnel. Necessary visibility and protection measures will also be implemented.



Implementation

| | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|------------|
|  | Shelter Housing And Settlements | Budget | CHF 44,340 |
| | | Targeted Persons | 2500 |
| | | Persons Assisted | 2500 |

| Indicators | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| Number of households provided with household items (tarps, shelter toolkits, mattresses, pillows etc) that support the restoration and maintenance of health, dignity and safety and the undertaking of daily domestic activities in and around the home | 1000 | 1105 |
| Percentage of targeted population reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, respectful, accessible, accountable and participatory manner | 100 | 94 |
| Number of people (and households) provided with household items that support the restoration and maintenance of health, dignity and safety and the undertaking of daily domestic activities in and around the home | 2500 | 2500 |

Narrative description of achievements

The BRCS has distributed Household items such as tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets and mattresses to meet the immediate shelter needs of those most affected. Additionally, multi-purpose cash grants were given to selected families to help cover their additional needs, inclusive of shelter needs.

Majority of persons who received relief items and multi-purpose cash grants did indeed indicate that they spent most, if not all, of their money on household repairs.

Replenishment stocked were not required for the operations. The national society received support from the general public, the USAID, and the Inter-American Bank (IDB) for relief items. Further emergency stocks were also received through the ECHO Funded project facilitated by the IFRC Cluster Office.

Contribution to assessments was supported by the ICRC for the first phase of household assessments.

Lessons Learnt


The following are some key lessons learned as expressed by staff and volunteers in a one-day lesson learned workshop held at the end of the response operation.

- Some affected communities targeted were selected based on the lack of aid received.
- Food packages need revision as they do not take infants and young children or specifically older persons into consideration.
- MOUs put in place before the event work to minimize waiting time to get back into the affected communities.
- The existing questionnaire used by the NS in KOBO was not compatible with the IFRC KOBO platform. The questionnaire was revised and adjusted.
- Conducting one assessment to cover all needs eliminates having to return to the affected communities for a second assessment (e.g., HH assessments for Cash were done separately from regular assessments).
- Several recipients of cash were selected from the original assessments done and many had previously received food and non-food items but required additional support to rebuild and recover.
- Coordination with NEMO & CEMO needs strengthening. BRCS made efforts to coordinate but attempts were ineffective. Coordination of assessments & distributions through KOBO was shared with NEMO but not reciprocated.

Challenges

In terms of distribution of these items, the National Society lacked enough transportation to properly mobilize.

This challenge was addressed through renting vehicles and contacting private sector companies. Two companies responded. One with an open-back truck that supported the distribution of large food packages and transportation of same from the suppliers, the other with a pick-up truck for volunteer mobilization and distribution of smaller relief items (clothing, hygiene kits, blankets, cleaning kits, etc.)

| | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|
|  | Water, Sanitation And Hygiene | Budget | | CHF 33,240 |
| | | Targeted Persons | | 2500 |
| | | Persons Assisted | | 2500 |
| Indicators | | Target | Actual | |
| Number of cleaning kits distributed | | 700 | 893 | |
| Number of hygiene kits distributed | | 80 | 224 | |
| Percentage of targeted population reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, respectful, accessible, accountable and participatory manner | | 100 | 94 | |
| Number of people reached by WASH assistance | | 2500 | 2500 | |
| Number of people reached by hygiene activities in the response period | | 2500 | 2500 | |

Narrative description of achievements

Cleaning kits and hygiene kits were distributed as part of the National Society's WASH response to reduce the risk of water-borne and water-related diseases in communities that were affected by Hurricane Lisa.



Educational material in the form of WASH posters was also replicated and distributed to the affected communities and the branches.

The BRCS distributed a total of 224 Hygiene kits and 893 cleaning kits to households affected by the disaster. WASH campaigns were not carried out during the relief response but were ongoing throughout the year under the ECHO-funded projects through the IFRC Country Plan funding. However, WASH educational posters were printed for distribution within the affected communities, Branches, and partners, and in March 2023 two community clean-up activities were conducted with the cooperation of the Belize City Council in the Jane Usher Area and the Village Council in St. Paul's Bank, Belize District. The Belize Red Cross Society provided equipment such as rakes, brooms, shovels, heavy-duty gloves, garbage bags, etc. for the clean-up activities.

The Government through the Hydrology Unit in the Ministry of Natural Resources conducted water testing and monitoring to assess safe water for human consumption.

Replenishment stocks were not requested as the National Society received stock via ECHO Project implementation through the IFRC two days prior to impact. Further, spontaneous donations saw the National Society not depleting its resources.

Lessons Learnt

1. Most affected households began clean-up activities immediately after the event. The BRCS will further explore possibilities for anticipatory action in this regard for future events
2. WASH components were not originally included in household assessments and were revised after the first 3-4 weeks for fast analysis/response to needs

Challenges

There was the need for large scale coordination among government infrastructure and public works entities for fast clearance of access and waterways. This delay posed additional challenge to both cleaning/sanitation activities as well as initial assessments.

While there was an original intension to target 700 cleaning kits for distribution (with 550 to be replenished), the actual distribution was 893. This was a result of the direct needs identified in the assessment and prior clean-up activities for some households due to specific vulnerabilities (such as female headed household, with head close to retirement and multiple dependents). As such some households received 2 kits, as well as more persons were found in need.

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | Multi-purpose Cash | Budget | CHF 114,381 |
| | | Targeted Persons | 352 |
| | | Persons Assisted | 352 |
| Indicators | Target | Actual | |
| Percentage of people targeted reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, respectful, accessible, accountable, and participatory manner | 100 | 94 | |

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Percentage of households who report being able to meet the basic needs of their households, according to their priorities | 100 | 100 |
| Number of families who successfully receive cash for basic needs | 352 | 352 |

Narrative description of achievements

At the end of the response operations in March 2023, 352 households had received cash assistance via CVA. An additional 52 households were approved in an Operations Update. This was viewed as necessary on consideration of the results of applying the selection criteria and the remaining persons affected.

Consideration was granted on the basis of limited cash assistance from the government and savings from charges/fees associated with the use of visa cards.


Note: After a detailed assessment of the market and needs of beneficiaries cheques were deemed to most appropriate distribution method.

Lessons Learnt

Proper documentation of phone numbers should be practiced. If possible, two contact numbers should be documented for each person in the event that they can't be reached on one.

Challenges

Seven persons were unreachable for the first distribution however they were rescheduled and received their cash in for the second distribution with the additional 52 persons.

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
|  | Secretariat Services | Budget | CHF 29,500 |
| | | Targeted Persons | 0 |
| | | Persons Assisted | 0 |
| Indicators | Target | Actual | |
| Percentage of operational staff and volunteers receive a security briefing | 100 | 90 | |
| Percentage of financial reporting respecting IFRC procedures | 100 | 100 | |
| Number of surge missions or deployments | 3 | 3 | |

Narrative description of achievements

The NS received support from the IFRC through the Disaster Management Coordinator for the Cluster on relief operations.



Surge Delegates:

- CVA officer: 17 November to 22 December 2022
- Operations Manager: 11 November to 10 December 2022
- PMER Officer: From 18 January to 17 February 2023. Provided support in Post post-distribution monitoring of CVA and reporting using IFRC templates.

This rapid response personnel provided well-needed technical support to the Belize Red Cross Society.

Lessons Learnt

1. The Operations Manager was a Spanish speaker and provided value to the assessment process in interpretation for some Spanish-speaking migrants.
2. An officer from the region or with experience in the Caribbean (such as the CVA Officer) quickly adapted to the operation environment and context.

Challenges

Some delays initial deployment of rapid response personnel cause delays in needing support for analysis to aid in decision-making. This affected to some degree the timeliness of the response.

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|-----------|
|  | Community Engagement And Accountability | Budget | CHF 9,692 |
| | | Targeted Persons | 5000 |
| | | Persons Assisted | 1760 |

Narrative description of achievements

House assessment and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) actions were carried out successfully.

- 98% of the respondents stated that they felt completely safe during the distribution process.
- 1% stated they felt somewhat safe.
- Only 1% stated they did not feel safe at all.

Lessons Learnt


The BRCS requires further training for staff and volunteers in CVA, CEA, and PMER processes. While the NS understood the concepts and general requirements. Different techniques and use of technology could have been better employed.

Some initial training was facilitated during the operation by rapid response personnel and remote support from the Americas Regional Office.

Challenges

Rapid response PMER was delayed in deployment resulting in some delays to final distribution and Post Distribution Assessments.



| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|
|  | National Society Strengthening | Budget | | CHF 26,455 |
| | | Targeted Persons | | 0 |
| | | Persons Assisted | | 0 |
| Indicators | | Target | Actual | |
| Number of staff positions to receive partial support | | 5 | 5 | |
| Narrative description of achievements | | | | |
| National Society was able to deliver all targeted operations activity and maintain a level of normal operation with the financial and technical support provided through this IFRC-DREF | | | | |
| Lessons Learnt | | | | |
| Regular communication between the NS and the bank and IFRC and the NS is crucial for planning. | | | | |
| Additional staff and volunteer needs to be trained on the KOBO system, CVA Programming, and overall disaster management arrangements (including coordinating assessments). | | | | |
| Challenges | | | | |
| IFRC-DREF (funds disbursement) for the CVA program was delayed at the local bank for 2 weeks. This delayed the launch of the program. | | | | |
| Approval from IFRC to increase the number of cash recipients from 300 to 352 was delayed. This along with the Christmas and New Year holidays, as well as verification exercises, caused a pause in distribution for two months (January & February 2023). | | | | |



Financial report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRBZ007 - Belize - Tropical Storm Lisa

Operating Timeframe: 09 Nov 2022 to 31 Mar 2023

| Selected Parameters | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2022/11-2023/7 | Operation | MDRBZ007 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2022-2023 | Budget | APPROVED |

Prepared on 23/Aug/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance | 0 |
| Funds & Other Income | 257,608 |
| DREF Response Pillar | 257,608 |
| Expenditure | -155,824 |
| Closing Balance | 101,784 |

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

| Description | Budget | Expenditure | Variance |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items | 44,340 | | 44,340 |
| PO02 - Livelihoods | | | 0 |
| PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash | 114,381 | 110,303 | 4,078 |
| PO04 - Health | | | 0 |
| PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | 33,240 | 7,154 | 26,085 |
| PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion | | | 0 |
| PO07 - Education | | | 0 |
| PO08 - Migration | | | 0 |
| PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery | | | 0 |
| PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability | 9,692 | 5,110 | 4,581 |
| PO11 - Environmental Sustainability | | | 0 |
| Planned Operations Total | 201,652 | 122,568 | 79,084 |
| EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships | 320 | | 320 |
| EA02 - Secretariat Services | 29,181 | 13,634 | 15,547 |
| EA03 - National Society Strengthening | 26,455 | 19,622 | 6,833 |
| Enabling Approaches Total | 55,955 | 33,256 | 22,699 |
| Grand Total | 257,608 | 155,824 | 101,784 |



[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

Please explain variances (if any)

The Belize Red Cross Society spent a total of CHF 155,824. The remaining balance of CHF 101,784 will be returned to the Disaster Response Emergency Fund.

The Belize Red Cross Society initially planned for the replenishment of anticipated distributions and also for support in terms of human resources. However, the support from the general public and specific in-country donors such as embassies and the Inter-American Development Bank provided significant unexpected support. This coupled with support from an existing IFRC Project (ECHO Funded) provided support in the form of stock and continued engagement for some human resources.

Specifically, the shelter and WASH replenishment stocks were not requested as the National Society stock via ECHO Project implementation through the IFRC two days prior to impact. On the other hand, coordinated support from the Canadian Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross facilitated the deployment of surge personnel in the form of Operations Manager and CVA Officer through the IFRC Americas Regional Office.

As such the operations did not utilize replenishment stock funds and also had some savings for human resources.

Contact Information

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

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