



Delivery of hygiene and cleaning kits in the community of Mama Chagua, Chitré, Herrera, January 2023.

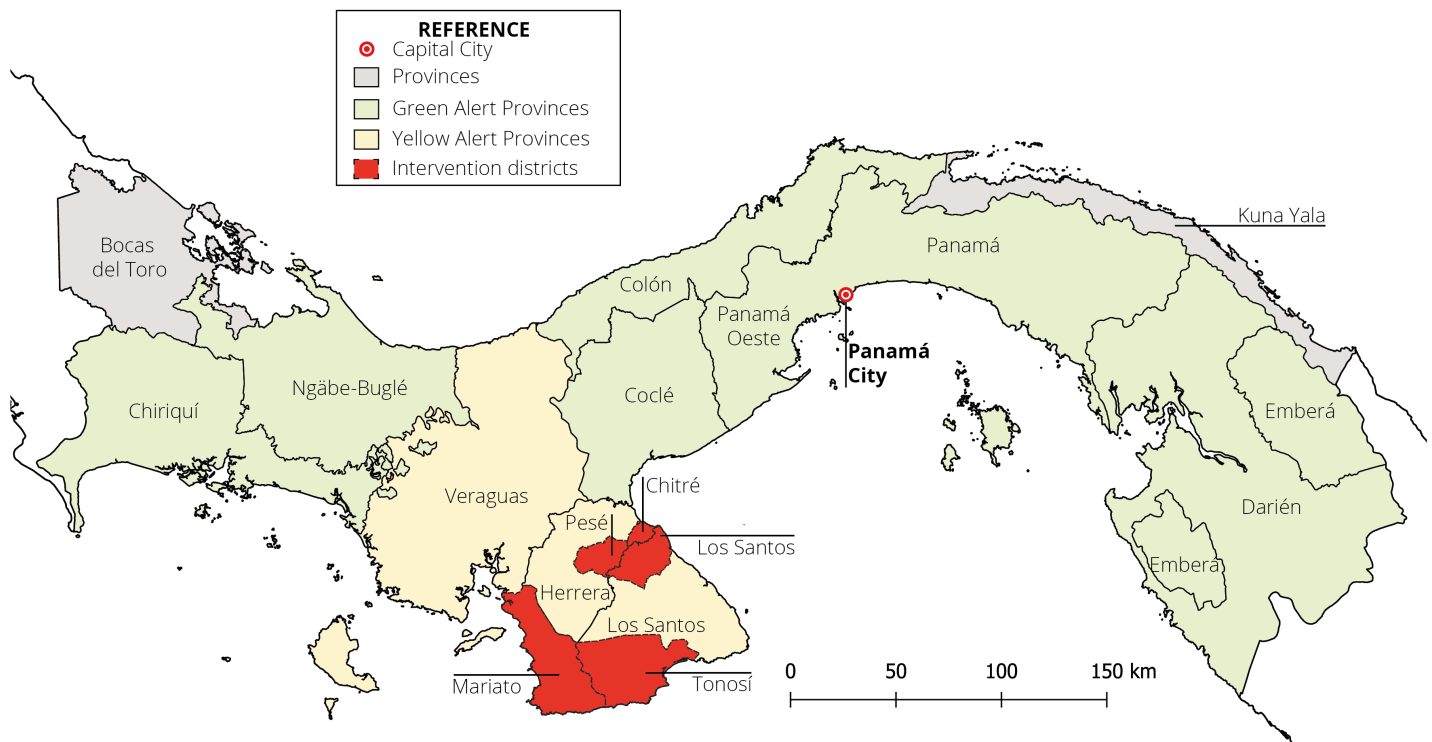
Appeal: MDRPA017	Total DREF Allocation CHF 155,985	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2022-000365-PAN	People Affected: 3,875 people	People Targeted: 1,500 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2022-11-17	New Operational end date:	Total operating timeframe: 4 months
Targeted Areas:	Los Santos, Veraguas, Herrera		

The major donors and partners, of the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez International Foundation, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the Red Cross Society of Panama, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

Description of the Event

PANAMA | Floods

DREF - November 11, 2022



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: government data sources, IFRC. Produced by IFRC Americas, Central America cluster IM team. November 2022.

Map of areas affected and areas targeted by the Red Cross Society of Panama. Source: RCSP

What happened, where and when?

On 4 November the National Civil Protection System declared a Green Alert in 9 provinces (Chiriquí, Veraguas, Los Santos, Herrera, Coclé, Panamá Oeste, Panamá, and Darién) due to a low-pressure system and the intertropical convergence zone, located to the north of the country, which could generate landslides and the overflowing of rivers and streams. On 9 November, the Yellow Alert was raised in six provinces (Chiriquí, Darién, Herrera, Los Santos, Panamá, and Veraguas). Heavy rains in the provinces of Herrera, Veraguas, and Los Santos caused the main rivers in these provinces to overflow. On 11 November, the National Civil Protection System downgraded the Yellow Alert for the provinces of Chiriquí, Darién, and Panamá, but maintained the Yellow Alert in the provinces of Veraguas, Herrera, and Los Santos, as these were the most affected. On 13 November, the Yellow Alert was lifted in the provinces of Herrera, Los Santos, and Veraguas, and a Green Alert was issued over the entire national territory with the exception of Bocas del Toro and the Guna Yala region.

At the time of the closing of this operation, there were no relevant updates regarding the alerts and succession of the event.





Person assisted with CVA. Mariato. Distribution of food kits, blankets and mosquito nets. Los Santos.

Scope and Scale

As of 14 November, in a coordination meeting with different actors, National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC, by its initials in Spanish) reported a total of 776 families (3,875 people) affected in the provinces of Los Santos, Herrera, and Veraguas. As the water levels dropped, damage and needs assessments were carried out in Soná, San Francisco, Furniales, Cocuyo, Higueronoso, Pese, Sarigua and Santa Ana, La Salina sectors.

The selected communities were part of the most remote ones that were left uncommunicated and where other government support did not reach the people affected, as they prioritized families in Los Santos province.

Additionally, SINAPROC distributed a one-time aid as soon as they completed their evaluations, therefore, the Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) complemented these actions. According to a report shared internally with the RCSP by SINAPROC in late November, the number of affected families in the province of Los Santos alone reached 750 families. At the time of writing this final report, no further official information had been shared.

Movement Partners Actions

IFRC

The Red Cross Society of Panama coordinated its actions with the Health, Disaster, Climate, and Crisis (HDCC) Unit of the IFRC Americas Regional Office (ARO), which provided technical support and coordination for this emergency response. Similarly, the Regional Logistics Units (RLU) of the IFRC provided logistical support to the National Society's collection center with logistical equipment and trained human resources in warehouse management.

The IFRC maintained contact with the Red Cross Society of Panama through its Country Cluster Delegation in Central America to continue to respond to the emergency.

The Red Cross Society of Panama is part of ECHO's Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) and although the geographical area of intervention was not the same, within the framework of the PPP, activities to strengthen the National Society were carried out, including CVA activities (awareness raising during the last general assembly), where the different modalities of intervention were made known, one of which was CVA in emergencies.



	In addition, within the framework of the PPP, training was given to volunteers in risk management.
ICRC	The ICRC continued to provide technical advice on the Safer Access Framework and Restoring Family Links (RFL), as well as on advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy issues, as part of the National Society's interaction with the country's authorities; however, they did not support any of the actions proposed in this IFRC-DREF Plan of Action.
Participating National Societies	The American Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, and Canadian Red Cross are present in Panama through their regional delegations; however, they did not support any of the actions proposed in this IFRC-DREF Plan of Action.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The Government of Panama responded to this emergency through SINAPROC and the provincial technical boards. The actions that were carried out at the beginning of the emergency were: cleaning of roads, distribution of drinking water, distribution of food, mattresses, and household cleaning kits, and damage and needs assessments. The Presidency of the Republic activated the provincial Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs), which were constantly monitoring the state of the weather and the affected areas, drafting and distributing situation reports, as well as managing alerts. The Ministry of Public Works made repairs to the roads in Mariato, Tonosi. The National Aqueduct and Sewer Institute (IDAAN, by its initials in Spanish), carried out cleaning and repairs of wells in the provinces of Herrera and Los Santos, mainly in the communities near the La Villa River. On the other hand, the Ministry of Health supported the Rural Aqueduct Administration Board (JAAR, by its initials in Spanish) with training sessions on cleaning and disinfection of wells and water intakes. They also carried out vector control campaigns with fumigation and awareness-raising on diseases such as Hantavirus.
UN or other actors	
Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?	



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Before emergencies, communities did not have measures or actions in place to be prepared and respond effectively to disasters. On the other hand, the lack of community organization and coordination with the municipal authorities and SINAPROC increase the vulnerability of the community because they did not allow for key actions in mapping vulnerable areas and the degree of exposure to risks experienced by the community.

This IFRC-DREF aimed to assist 150 people in this sector (community leaders and local authorities).



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Initial assessments showed that 80 houses had been damaged by the floods. As of the writing of this Final Report, consolidated official figures from local authorities were not available. While government authorities distributed mattresses in the early days of the emergency, the affected population was still in need of additional support to meet their basic needs, such as household items (cleaning kits, kitchen kits, and repair materials).

Support for the clean-up and rapid repair of affected houses was identified as a priority. For this, a CVA program was considered under this IFRC-DREF Plan of Action. The cash transfer value (CHF 150) was calculated on the basis that the main products used for construction were wood, nails, and zinc, as well as costly materials such as bags of cement since many of the houses affected had dirt floors.

Based on initial needs assessments, out of the 80 houses damaged, the RCSP prioritized 60 families with these funds. In addition, agreements with local hardware stores were drawn to promote local economies.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Panama is still suffering from the economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. The main sources of livelihood in the provinces of Herrera, Veraguas, and Los Santos are agriculture and livestock. Heavy rains and flooding affected much of the soil, affecting agriculture in the area. Losses were reported in livestock, both pigs and cattle, and crops such as rice, corn, and vegetables.

The extent of damage to local small businesses and agriculture and livestock was significant, given the current economic crisis in the region. Along with this, damage to small business infrastructure, agricultural production activities, and the collapse of various roads delayed recovery.

Because the most affected communities were in rural areas, in which agriculture and livestock farming are subsistence activities, it was necessary to provide in-kind humanitarian assistance in the form of food kits.

The Red Cross Society of Panama opted for the delivery of food kits instead of CVA, as the affected communities were in rural areas where there were no nearby markets to buy food and, in some cases, they would have had to



travel up to 2 hours to get to the nearest town in addition to the limited availability of public transport in these areas.



Health

State institutions led search and rescue operations in the affected areas. The Red Cross Society of Panama provided emergency health services, but the affected population also required psychological first aid services due to the adverse effects this emergency could have had on their mental health.

The incidence of vector-borne diseases due to stagnant water increased. The floods also caused latrines and wells to overflow, contaminating water sources, leading to diarrhea and other diseases.

The number of people affected in this sector as per the Red Cross Society of Panama's DANAs was 2,225. This IFRC-DREF Plan of Action aimed to assist 1,500 people that met the selection criteria.

Initially, it was expected to provide more first aid assistance in the first days of the emergency, however, search and rescue activities were carried out by SINAPROC, the Fire Department, and the Red Cross in La Villa de Los Santos and Tonosí during the subsequent floods (17 November).

During the intervention, assistance was provided in healing and cleaning wounds, taking vital signs, and two transfers to the regional hospital in the province of Veraguas.

In general, the RCSP covered the health needs of the population, since the intervention focused on psychosocial support that was not covered by other actors.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Wastewater treatment and drinking water production were seriously affected in several areas. The Institute of National Aqueducts and Sewers (IDAAN, by its initials in Spanish) in the provinces of Veraguas, Herrera, and Los Santos reported that the water production system had been severely affected by the heavy rains.

Several water treatment plants also stopped functioning due to the situation in Santiago, Chitré, and Los Santos, the latter affecting the drinking water supply to Las Tablas, Guarere, and La Villa de Los Santos.

In other communities, there were rural aqueducts, administered by the Minister of Health (MINSAL, by its initials in Spanish) where the supply of chlorine tablets was required for the potabilization of well water and the cleaning of wells, as well as the delivery of water containers and distribution of bottled water during the first weeks of the operation.

In these same rural communities where there is no sewage service, families use latrines, which were also flooded and contaminated. The planned intervention for this IFRC-DREF Operation included the cleaning of latrines through the distribution of lime.





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

While all people are affected by crises, women and vulnerable groups have differentiated impacts in Panama. For instance, several studies show the gender gap between men and women. The gender inequality index in the country is 0.58, and 0.87 in indigenous areas, qualifying Panama as a country with high gender inequality. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately one in five people in Panama was in a situation of multidimensional poverty. This implied the need for adequate plans for the care of vulnerable groups in the context of the health crisis, emergencies and subsequent socio-economic recovery.

At the community level, other vulnerabilities arise related to access to support, decision-making and sexual and gender-based Violence (SGBV). Children and adolescents were also key to being included as a population to be assisted. Safe spaces for children were needed in affected communities.

The target population was defined based on surveys and assessments conducted by volunteers in the field. This IFRC-DREF also included providing assistance to 900 children in safe spaces.

Objective and Strategy Rationale

Overall objective of the operation

Through this IFRC-DREF Plan of Action, the Red Cross Society of Panama aimed to contribute to the national response to the floods and landslides affecting the provinces of Herrera, Los Santos, and Veraguas, providing support to the emergency needs of 300 affected families (1,500 people) in the areas of health; livelihoods and basic needs, water, sanitation, and hygiene; shelter; protection, gender and inclusion, and disaster risk reduction.

Response strategy implementation

The proposed strategy was based on permanent coordination with the Emergency Operations Centre established by the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC, by its initials in Spanish). To ensure that there was no duplication of efforts, communities and needs were jointly identified in coordination with the national and provincial emergency operations centers and municipal authorities.

This operation was carried out in rural areas, in remote communities, so mobilization costs were high. In addition, humanitarian aid purchases were made through the Regional Logistic Unit (RLU) in Panama City which meant that all the materials needed to be transported to the intervention area. For reference, previous IFRC-DREF operations in remote areas such as MDRPA013 and MDRPA014 had logistics, transport and storage costs of around CHF 30,000 over a 3-month period.

At the beginning of the emergency, water bottles were distributed, and first aid services were provided as part of the first response actions. Then, based on the assessments made in the field, other actions were defined according to the needs found, which focused on Health, WaSH, Livelihoods, Shelter, PGI and Disaster Risk Management, always with the CEA cross-cutting approach.

Targeting Strategy



Who will be targeted through this operation?

The Red Cross Society of Panama implemented this IFRC- DREF Plan of Action in the most affected communities in the provinces of Herrera, Los Santos, and Veraguas. Specifically, the National Society worked in:

- Los Santos Province, Districts of Tonosi and La Villa de Los Santos.
- Veraguas Province, District of Mariato.
- Herrera Province, District of Chitre cabecera, and Pese.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The Red Cross Society of Panama established the following criteria to select and prioritize the affected population:

- Families most affected by the floods, including people who had suffered the most damage to their homes.
- The most vulnerable population groups, including single-parent families, older adults, pregnant women, children under five, and people with disabilities.
- Households that had not been reached by humanitarian assistance from the state and other actors.

For the distribution of CVA, the families assisted were identified through the damage assessment. The profile of the selected families was based on the following criteria:

- Households with pregnant or breastfeeding women.
- Households with older adults (65 years old).
- Households with members with special needs (mental or physical).
- Single-parent households (single mother or father, or in the care of grandparents/direct relatives).
- Households with members suffering from chronic diseases (diabetes, HIV, cancer, hepatitis, hypertension).
- Households that did not receive any type of state subsidy.
- Unemployed or with casual jobs.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	506	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	169	100.00 %	0.00 %
Men:	619	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	206	2.00 %	
Total targeted population:	1,500		

Risk and security considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
The aid provided was not sufficient for the number of people affected.	Established appropriate selection criteria and implemented a CEA approach in communities.
Rainy season (May to December) which generated additional flooding and limited access to certain areas.	- National Society staff was required to mitigate security concerns by implementing a security plan and providing appropriate equipment.
In general, hydro meteorological and other extreme weather events.	- Vehicles used by the National Society complied with the RCSP policy for their use.



- In the event of another event, actions to cover affected people would have been reconsidered.
- Close coordination with humanitarian actors present in the intervention zone.
- Identification of distribution points outside communities.
- Contingency and evacuation plans.
- Information and communication with local actors.
- Refrained from moving in non-recommended and unauthorized areas and coordinated with the different actors in the intervention zone.
- Monitored the evolution of risks.

Road and highway blockages or transport problems

- Identification of distribution points outside communities
- Identification of alternative routes
- Contingency planning
- Close communication with local partners to identify the risk of road blockages in a timely manner

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

No major security and safety concerns at the time of closing the operation.



Implementation

	Community Engagement And Accountability	Budget		CHF 1,491
		Targeted Persons		1500
		Persons Assisted		840
Indicators		Target	Actual	
# of NS that has a CEA mechanism in place		1	1	
Narrative description of achievements				
The people to be assisted selection criteria were elaborated with CEA. A feedback mechanism was implemented that was distributed with the deliveries (sticker with telephone number and email) and a barcode that allowed knowing the opinion on the humanitarian aid delivered and to receive feedback on the relevance of the products delivered. From 24 to 26 February, a face-to-face satisfaction survey was carried out. The surveys were conducted with the National Society's CEA-trained volunteers, allowing for better coverage in the field. The people surveyed (168 heads of households: 48 men and 120 women) were approached to inquire about their interest in filling out the survey after having received some of the humanitarian assistance provided by the RCSP, which was done in the following districts: Tonosí (52), La Villa (42), Mariato (41), Chitré (26), Pesé (4), Parita (3). Some of the results of this survey showed that 76% of people were informed about the actions of the Red Cross. When asked if the Red Cross met their most important needs, these were the results: - Yes, completely 76.79% - Yes, somewhat 17.26% - Not at all 3.57% - Neutral 1.79% - Not very much 0.6%. Additionally, 92% of the people surveyed said that they were satisfied with the aid provided.				
Lessons Learnt				
- The use of social networks such as a WhatsApp line allowed people to present suggestions, complaints and congratulations on the work done. - The surveys made it possible to identified aspects to be improved when defining the target communities. - The time of the operation should have been planned to take into account the hours and distances of the places to be intervened.				
Challenges				
- Improve planning at the time of distributions. - Timely call to the communities.				

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 23,947
		Targeted Persons	1500
		Persons Assisted	1500

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of households supplied with conditional CVA for house repairs	60	59
# households supplied with household items (at least one item)	300	300

Narrative description of achievements

296 families were reached with the distribution of blankets in December 2022, the target to reach 300 families was not achieved as some families were not in their houses due to the end of the year holidays or because they changed their residence or were away from home due to the school vacation period. However, all 600 blankets were distributed in Mariato, Tonosi, Herrera and La Villa de los Santos, giving a few extra blankets to some of the most vulnerable families.

In February, kitchen kits (along with food kits and mosquito nets) were distributed to the 300 families (1,500 persons) initially selected (70 families in Mariato, 88 families in Tonosí, 87 families in Herrera, and 55 families in La Villa de los Santos).

Through the Cash and Voucher assistance intervention, 59 families were assisted who were previously identified through the damage assessment. The value of the transfer was taken considering the priority materials for the construction or improvement of housing according to consultations with the communities. The costs were calculated according to the prices of selected local businesses. The average income generated at the local level was also used as a reference.

The distribution of the different items was based on evaluations carried out by the RCSP to select the families to be assisted. The results of these evaluations showed the needs of the affected families, so the aid was pertinent and welcomed by the communities.

Lessons Learnt

- Having a list of suppliers for different areas of intervention, supplies, etc., will allow for the proper development of a feasibility study.
- Carry out preliminary studies and have them available when required in emergencies.

Challenges

- The intervention in the communities was delayed due to the lack of a prior feasibility study.

		Budget	CHF 43,708
		Targeted Persons	1500

	Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Persons Assisted		1315
Indicators		Target	Actual	
# of families receiving livelihoods orientation		300	263	
# of families receiving one-month food kits		300	263	
Narrative description of achievements				
Distribution of food kits was done on two separate occasions, where the most vulnerable families were identified, and two food kits were distributed to most of them, allowing them to cover their short-term needs. Initially, it was budgeted to purchase 600 food kits to reach 300 families with two kits for each to last one month. However, at the time of the purchase, prices had gone up, and only 525 food kits were acquired, reaching 263 families (1,315 people). During the distribution of the food kits, orientation talks were given on livelihood protection, with topics such as considering the right places for seeding and animal protection during floods. These items were included in the distributions, as per the results of the needs assessments. Post-distribution survey results show that families were very pleased with the aid, as the food kits contained high-quality food items and they were culturally appropriate.				
Lessons Learnt				
- Optimizing resources made it possible to meet short-term needs.				
Challenges				
- Since the National Society could not make these purchases directly and had to make them through the RLU, the internal processes for the purchase of inputs took a long time to be delivered to the community.				

	Health	Budget		CHF 27,232
		Targeted Persons		1500
		Persons Assisted		700
Indicators		Target		Actual
# of people receiving first-aid services		1500		12
#of PSS kits procured and distributed to the target population		900		700
# of health promotion campaigns		4		4

# of people receiving PSS	1500	700
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Narrative description of achievements

Since first aid actions were carried out mostly at the beginning of the emergency (12 first aid services provided), it was pertinent to offer the communities basic control health services. Therefore, health promotion campaigns were carried out in the four communities and key messages were provided. These actions were carried out through health fairs where services such as blood pressure, glucose, and first aid were provided. Also, during the whole intervention, the ambulances were made available.

Additionally, vector control campaigns were carried out, including the distribution of mosquito nets and repellents, which were done in February. The distribution of vector control kits was carried out with the Loma de Quebró community board, accompanied by a family activity to close the year for the affected families. In the other communities, it was carried out during the distribution of supplies to the families, and while they were there, activities with the children were carried out separately. These vector control activities were pertinent as in the La Villa, Chitre, and Tonosi communities, stagnant water remained after the floods, which generated the proliferation of mosquitoes. The families were given orientation on the correct use of repellent and to avoid accidents due to inadequate use.

Training in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) was completed in January and 30 volunteers from the 4 committees participated.

MHPSS sessions were held during the distributions and individual sessions were also held with children. A total of 900 PSS kits were purchased, however, due to the end of the year holidays, many children were not at home, and only 700 kits were distributed. The remaining 200 kits are pre-positioned in the National Society and will be used in future DREF interventions.

The safe spaces and MHPSS activities focused on the children of the affected communities were relevant for them to be able to spread out in a time of crisis and to express their feelings of fear of the situation they faced. Some adults were included in MHPSS activities to provide them with coping tools to overcome the crisis.

Lessons Learnt

- The activities carried out helped to reduce stress and tension in the community.
- MHPSS should also be applied to adults in future emergency operations.

Challenges

- When delivering the MHPSS kits, some of the children were not in their homes. As the activities were carried out in small spaces, there was little participation.
- First aid care was a necessity at the time of the emergency. When the IFRC-DREF funds arrived, the need had already been covered. However, at the time of the distributions, there was an ambulance with personnel equipped to provide health care if necessary.

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget	CHF 20,746
		Targeted Persons	1500
		Persons Assisted	1500

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of families receiving a cleaning kit	300	300
# of families receiving a hygiene kit	300	300
# of people provided with safe drinking water (according to WHO standards)	300	300

Narrative description of achievements

Training for volunteers and community leaders on cleaning of wells and latrines was carried out in January 2023. A total of 55 people participated.

At the beginning of the emergency, assistance was provided with the distribution of bottled water to affected households. These actions were important in the first days of the emergency since the people of the Mariato community did not have access to safe water. Cleaning and personal hygiene kits were planned from the beginning of the intervention because they are always a priority need in flood emergencies.

The distribution of the kits was accompanied by hygiene awareness talks. The kits were distributed in the districts of Mariato, Tonosí, La Villa, and Chitré. In total 300 hygiene kits and 298 household cleaning kits were distributed between December 2022 and January 2023. Additionally, 94 personal hygiene kits were distributed in La Villa and Tonosí, these items were prepositioned in the National Society. Along with the distributions, cleanliness and hygiene promotion campaigns were carried out and lime was distributed as part of the actions to clean latrines.

Lessons Learnt

- Intervention in the communities through house-to-house visits allows for a closer approach and greater emphasis on the messages to be delivered to the affected families.
- In the future, cleaning kits must be differentiated as houses have different construction type and, for example, some have dirt floors.

Challenges

- Having the appropriate equipment for handling chemical materials.
- To have appropriate vehicles for distributions.

	Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Budget	CHF 2,471
		Targeted Persons	900
		Persons Assisted	600
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of child-friendly spaces created	4	4	
# of staff and volunteers informed of child protection standards	100	28	

Narrative description of achievements

A workshop was held jointly with the local branches, where training was provided to volunteers on Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policies, code of conduct, and minimum PGI standards.

The child-friendly spaces were adapted and improved with paintings and didactic materials in Loma de Quebró and Tonosi. In La Villa de Los Santos and Chitré, baseball and football fields were adapted. A total of 700 children were reached with ludic activities and MHPSS kits (reported under the health section).

Lessons Learnt

- Consider PGI volunteer training with the Safer Access approach in future operations.

Challenges

- At the beginning, the difficulty was the identification of the friendly spaces, and it was necessary to consult with local authorities to define which were the spaces.
- The call for volunteers training did not meet the request of the volunteers and staff, due to the low budget in the line for the training activity.

	Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery	Budget		CHF 2,428
		Targeted Persons		150
		Persons Assisted		40
Indicators		Target		Actual
# of people and local authorities informed on Response and Risk Management Issues		150		40

Narrative description of achievements

At the community level, constant communication was maintained with community leaders and local authorities. In the province of Los Santos, a meeting was held with local authorities for the management of the response.

Through social networks, from the moment of the flooding, the National Society worked on the dissemination of prevention messages and identification of safe places during an emergency. In the area of Mariato, during January, training on community risk mapping was developed, with the participation of 40 people from the health committee, water committee, leaders, and members of the community boards.

In coordination with local authorities in Tonosi, Loma de Quebró, future actions will be carried out in vulnerable areas outside the scope of this operation. On the other hand, during this coordination meeting, the opportunity was taken to provide first aid orientation.

Lessons Learnt

- Identify these actions to be carried out at the beginning of implementation.

Challenges

- One of the main challenges in convening the local authorities was to count on their availability, as they gave higher priority to the response.

	Secretariat Services	Budget		CHF 2,662
		Targeted Persons		0
		Persons Assisted		0
Indicators		Target	Actual	
# of surge deployments		1	0	
# of monitoring visits		1	1	
Narrative description of achievements				
A monitoring visit was done in January 2023 with visits to the communities of the provinces of Herrera and Los Santos and participated in the distribution of cleaning and hygiene kits. The surge deployment included in the original IFRC-DREF Application was not materialized and a volunteer supported the finance area.				
Lessons Learnt				
- For future emergency operations, if it were possible for the National Society to make all purchases, it could minimize the purchasing process timing and make the distributions on time.				
Challenges				
- Procurement processes through IFRC' RLU take too long for emergency response times, which hinders the delivery of humanitarian aid to the people to be assisted, which should be the priority.				

	National Society Strengthening	Budget		CHF 31,300
		Targeted Persons		0
		Persons Assisted		0
Indicators		Target	Actual	
Lessons learned workshop		1	1	
# of staff recruited for the operation		2	2	
# of volunteers receiving visibility material		100	100	
Narrative description of achievements				

Visibility materials for volunteers were acquired and distributed in November 2022 as well as protection equipment. The distribution was made to each of the branches and then distributed to the volunteers who directly supported the operation.

The coordinator and the logistician were hired as planned, although 18 days late, which allowed the payment of an extra 15 days for the coordinator, until 15 March, when activities ended.

The lessons learned workshop was held at the end of March with the participation of the 4 branches involved in the operation.

Lessons Learnt

- It is important to consider the type of activities to be carried out in order to properly define the personal protective equipment to be used by volunteers.

Challenges

- The high personnel turnover in the human resources department resulted in the delay and selection of staff to be hired.



Financial report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRPA017 - Panama - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 17 nov 2022 to 31 mar 2023

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/11-2023/6	Operation	MDRPA017
Budget Timeframe	2022/11-2023/03	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 31/Jul/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	155.985
DREF Response Pillar	155.985
Expenditure	-155.549
Closing Balance	436

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	22.905	22.867	39
PO02 - Livelihoods	47.797	47.769	28
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			0
PO04 - Health	29.478	29.572	-94
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	13.733	13.600	133
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	2.126	2.123	2
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery			0
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	1.169	1.094	75
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	117.209	117.025	184
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	2.663	2.618	44
EA02 - Secretariat Services		0	0
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	36.114	35.906	207
Enabling Approaches Total	38.776	38.524	252
Grand Total	155.985	155.549	436



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

Please explain variances (if any)

The Red Cross Society of Panama spent a total of CHF 155,549. The remaining balance of CHF 436 have been returned to the Disaster Response Emergency Fund.

Contact Information

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

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