

OPERATION UPDATE

Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul | Floods

Emergency appeal No: MDRBR011 Emergency appeal launched: 11/05/2024 Operational Strategy published: 04/06/2024	Glide No: FL-2024-000063-BRA
Operation Update #3 Date of issue: 09/04/2025	Timeframe covered by this update: From 11/05/2024 to 06/12/2024
Operation timeframe: 16 months (11/05/2024 - 30/09/2025)	Number of people being assisted: 63,412
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 8 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal CHF 8 million Federation-wide	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1,000,000

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 8,000,000, has achieved 42.61% of its funding target. Given the current availability of funds and the pending actions yet to be implemented, a **four-month extension of the Appeal has been approved** with the new end date set for 30 September 2025.

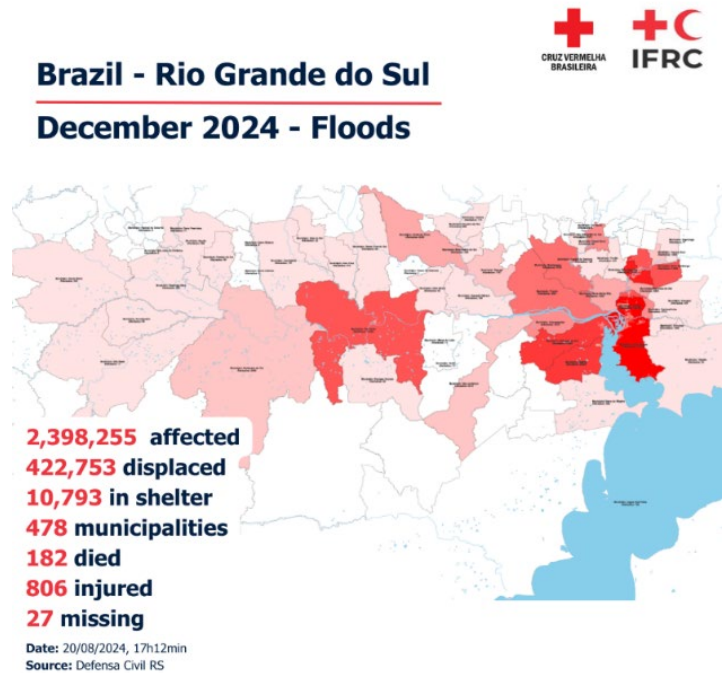


Distribution of cleaning kits in Canoas, 29 May 2024. Source: IFRC.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Between 29 April and 4 May, heavy rainfalls devastated Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, causing floods, landslides, and mudslides. This catastrophic event, the worst climate disaster in the state's history, affected 478 out of 496 municipalities. Over 1,000 millimetres of rain fell during this period, leading to significant destruction¹. By 20 August, the Brazilian Civil Defense reported that 2,398,255 people were affected, with 806 injuries and 182 deaths². The disaster forced 422,753 people from their homes, with 78,165 seeking refuge in official shelters at the height of the crisis³. During the first month of the crisis, water levels decreased in most areas, allowing some displaced families to return home and begin cleaning up their houses.



However, on 16 June, heavy rains hit the state, with an average of 200mm of rainfall in 24 hours. Further floods affected 19 municipalities along the Caí, Cadeia, and Sinos rivers, prompting evacuation messages. In some municipalities, such as Porto Alegre, the percentage of people in shelters rose again to 20% of its citizens nearly 2 months after the crisis. Besides basic needs such as clothing, food, hygiene and cleaning items, the prolonged period in shelters adds a heavy psychological toll on the affected population.

Based on figures from the Rio Grande do Sul state's Government, the number of people displaced in shelters decreased by 64% from the previous reporting period⁴, reflecting a gradual return to normalcy for some families⁵. However, as of 16 December 2024, approximately 1,233 individuals remain in temporary shelters, highlighting the ongoing need for humanitarian assistance⁶.

Because of the receding waters, there was an increased risk of waterborne diseases due to contact with sewage and contaminated water. As of 15 August⁷, the Ministry of Health reported 26 deaths from leptospirosis, 788 confirmed cases and 7,129 suspected cases as of the latest update⁸. Additionally, official reports of acute diarrhoea⁹ were registered in the region since the beginning of the crisis.

¹ <https://www.estado.rs.gov.br/defesa-civil-atualiza-balanco-das-enchentes-no-rs-10-6-9h>

² <https://defesacivil.rs.gov.br/defesa-civil-atualiza-balanco-das-enchentes-no-rs-10-7>
<https://app.powerbi.com/view?>

³ <https://defesacivil.rs.gov.br/defesa-civil-atualiza-balanco-das-enchentes-no-rs-10-6-9h-666c88c935ebc>

⁴ The Operation Updates 2 covers the period from 11 May to 16 June 2024. Document available at:
<https://adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=839407>

⁵ Rio Grande do Sul state's government emergency shelters dashboard, Social Development Secretary
⁶ Ibid.

⁷ <https://saude.rs.gov.br/leptospirose>

⁸ Brazil. Natural hazards monitoring: <https://www.paho.org/en/natural-hazards-monitoring/natural-hazards-monitoring-3-december-2024>

⁹ Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Secretaria de Comunicação Social: [Prevenção e alerta sobre diarreia em situações de enchentes - Jornal da Universidade](#)

The economic damages were estimated at R\$ 88.9 billion¹⁰ (around 1.3% of the state's GDP), primarily affecting the productive sectors (69%) and social areas¹¹ (21%), with significant losses in infrastructure and environmental damages as well. The floods led to a decrease in the state's economic output by an expected 1.3% and the potential loss of up to 432,000 jobs, representing a 7.3% reduction in the workforce. Many have lost their means of livelihood, including crops and livestock, adding to the socio-economic toll of the disaster. Inflation rates impacted food prices up to 250% increase for the first weeks after the disaster, stabilizing in the next months.

Six months after the floods, there are still challenges remaining to tackle. Some families, displaced to temporary shelters, have no place to return, as their homes were either destroyed or located in high-risk areas. The rehabilitation and reconstruction of their homes are required to ensure their return. Additionally, the loss of income-generating activities continues to pose a challenge, with significant difficulties in their reactivation. Among the long-term challenges are the lack of contingency plans at the local level and the absence of community disaster risk preparedness systems.

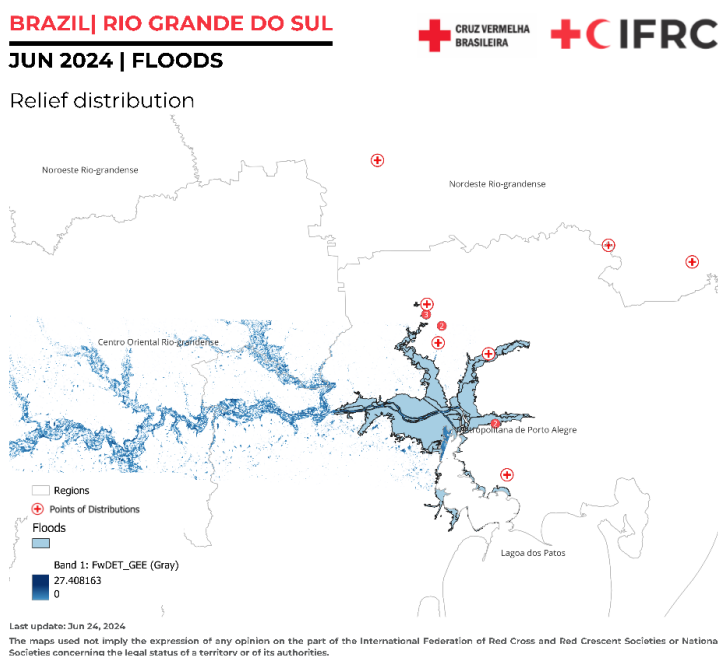
The agricultural recovery, especially in livestock sectors like dairy, beef, and poultry, will take time, and food security remains a major concern. Local authorities and organizations continue to provide emergency relief, but the overall rebuilding process is expected to be long and difficult. Significant needs persist in the humanitarian response. Mental health support, access to cleaning and hygiene materials, and water quality remain critical concerns. Evaluations in newly affected municipalities have identified more remote communities requiring basic items, while WASH assessments have highlighted poor water quality in many areas.

As summer began in December, Civil Defense issued warnings for heavy rain and strong winds, accompanied by lightning, hail, and localized flooding in the mountainous areas¹² and United Nations agencies -specifically PAHO- reported severe weather forecasted throughout the summer.

Summary of response

In response to the heavy rainfall recorded between April 29 and May 4 in Rio Grande do Sul, the Brazilian Red Cross (BRC) activated its Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) team and mobilized field teams to coordinate with local authorities and the Emergency Operations Center, participating in the identification of the most severely impacted areas.

With the launch of the IFRC's Emergency Appeal for the Brazil Floods response, two operational centers were established, one to cover the Serra region affected communities, based in Caxias do Sul city, and another in the capital of the state, Porto Alegre city, covering all activities implemented in the metropolitan region.



¹⁰ Assessment of the Effects and Impacts of Flooding in Rio Grande do Sul - November 2024

¹¹ Numerous schools, healthcare centers, and hospitals sustained damage: Assessment of the Effects and Impacts of Flooding in Rio Grande do Sul - November 2024

¹² <https://defesacivil.rs.gov.br/avisos-e-alertas>

The BRC's respective branches were able to negotiate the temporary lease of strategic warehouses from private partners (Anhanguera faculty in Caxias do Sul and Gravataí industrial area in Porto Alegre suburbs) to receive local donations and in-kind assistance shipped from the IFRC's Humanitarian Hub, facilitating the collection and distribution of household essential items.

The Brazilian Red Cross, through their local presence and volunteers, provided qualified humanitarian assistance in many areas, both within the resources mobilized through the Emergency Appeal as well as from direct donations from civil society and other organizations. Since the onset of the crisis, it has distributed:

Brazil | Rio Grande do Sul December 2024 | BRC distributions



BRC distributions and actions between May – December 2024. Source: BRC.

The mobile health clinic (Health Bus - "Onibus da Saúde") was used as a vaccination site in Caxias do Sul through a partnership with the local Department of Health. During July, and in coordination with the NGO Xingu+Catu (local indigenous community), the BRC provided health services to both indigenous and Quilombo (African descendant) communities. It also delivered healthcare consultations to 130 people across 9 communities in Canoas. A partnership between the BRC and LaSalle University enabled the integration of volunteer psychologists into the operation, providing individual and group psychological support to 715 individuals during the reported period¹³. The MHPSS activities conducted between October and December by the State Branch of Rio Grande do Sul enabled reaching 67 women and 93 children in Canoas, Mathias Velho, Novo Hamburgo, Eldorado do Sul and Sarandí.

Complementing the assistance provided by the BRC, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), was able to deploy a total of 48 rapid response personnel through its global surge pool, providing immediate support across various technical sectors and support services, such as Relief, WaSH including an Emergency Response Unit for Water Treatment, Sanitation and Hygiene (HWTS), Health, Cash and Voucher Assistance, Communications, Logistics & Supply Chain, Human Resources, Security, PGI, Information Management, and PMER. To sustain the deployments, internal cooperation was essential: 20 (42%) of the deployments were financed by PNSs, the remaining deployments were financed by the Emergency Appeal funds, enabling 14 (29%) surge deployments from NSs of the Americas region, and 14 (29%) deployments from the IFRC Secretariat.

Since September, international staff have been withdrawn as the operation transitioned from the response phase to the recovery phase. Actions at this stage have focused on the distribution of hygiene and cleaning kits, community training on hygiene and sanitation issues, and the disbursement of multipurpose cash assistance. To date, 9,885 individuals have been reached, with 50 tons of humanitarian aid distributed. The following results have been achieved through the Emergency Appeal activities:

¹³ As reported in Operations Update 2, by 18 June, the BRC had reached 1,500 individuals with MHPSS services.

Brazil floods I Rio Grande do Sul

December 2024 I IFRC response

2,394 families reached with essential households items



Shelter

901 households had their basic needs met through the Multipurpose Cash Assistance Program



Multipurpose cash

3,162 people were reached with WASH items and services



WASH

4,678 people sensitized on health promotion and disease prevention



Health

70 children received school kits



PGI

IFRC response, May - December 2024.

Since the start of the operation, a training curriculum was developed, through which 1,326 volunteers and personnel of the BRC received online and face-to-face training sessions as follows:

Brazil floods I Rio Grande do Sul

December 2024 I Volunteer and staff training

17 people trained in Psychosocial Support.



40 people trained in Community Engagement and Accountability



71 people trained in Protection, Gender and Inclusion



72 people trained in Information Management



95 people trained in Security



102 people trained in Communication



105 people trained in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



824 people participated in emergency response inductions



Volunteer and staff training, December 2024.

Given the current availability of funds and the pending actions yet to be implemented, a **four-months extension of the appeal has been approved** with the new completion date set for 30 September 2025. The lack of an IFRC’s Legal Status Agreement (LSA) in Brazil have challenged the operation, limiting its ability to recruit local staff or perform local procurement. And despite that a Framework Agreement was subscribed with ICRC’s delegation office in Brasilia -providing significative financial and logistics support to the operation- the bureaucracy experienced between the public authorities at the Federal, State and Municipal level, and the lack of legal facilities for humanitarian assistance brought a 3 months delays in the clearance of 27.4 MT of in kind cargo shipped from the Logistics Hub in Panama.

In addition, municipal elections were held in October, causing added delays in the coordination with local authorities as the handover and transition of management were taking place. This mainly impacted the agility of distributions in the Serra region, where displaced families by the flashfloods and landslides are scattered between temporary shelters, housing mobile units and temporary solutions, where the community tissue remains unrepaired and coordination with local authorities rests as the only entry point.

With the extension of the operation, the target of the Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance Program will increase to reach 3,000 families. Also, a number of capacity building trainings and studies will be conducted:

- *Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) and NEAT+* for the staff and volunteers of local Red Cross branches. This will take place in May 2025 to assess the community resilience including climate change analysis.
- *Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE) workshop for Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS)* to be held in June 2025, aiming to promote the use of key, evidence-based, and concise messages for disaster risk reduction prevention and strengthening of community resilience.
- *Management and maintenance training of the SETA 3000 water treatment plant* is scheduled for July 2025 and will be facilitated by the Spanish Red Cross who deployed the HWTS ERU.
- *Anticipatory Action feasibility study* to define the scope of a Floods Modelling study will be produced by the AA global/regional team with data collection support from The Netherlands Red Cross, to be implemented from May to July 2025.

Needs analysis

The floods in Rio Grande do Sul have caused widespread devastation in several cities, with essential services remaining disrupted for weeks following the disaster. The restoring of Porto Alegre’s international airport was delayed for five months¹⁴. Following heavy rainfall during mid-June, rapid initial assessments were conducted in São Sebastião do Caí, in the Serra Region, identifying recurring flooding with at least 200 riverine families displaced to six shelters. Four aerial assessments were conducted through the AirBus partnership:

Date	Route
18 June	Flight along Taquari and Caí Rivers – from Caxias do Sul across several municipalities, including Lajeado, Estrela, and Farroupilha (111km from Caxias do Sul)
22 June	Flight along Lagoa dos Patos – from Caxias do Sul towards Rio Grande (421 km from Caxias do Sul)
23 June	Flight along Jacuí River – from Caxias do Sul towards Agudo (275 km from Caxias do Sul)
29 June	Flight along Taquari River, until Venancio Aires (130km from Caxias do Sul)

¹⁴ After more than 171 days of non-operation, the airport reopened on October 18 as can be verified at [Aeroporto de Porto Alegre é oficialmente reaberto](#)

By end-July, intermediate multisectoral assessments were carried out by teams from the IFRC and BRC in the Serra region to identify remaining uncovered needs and gaps:

Date	Location
24 July	Lajeado
26 July	Estrela
27 July	Cruzeiro do Sul
30 July	Encantado
01 August	Arroio do Meio
03 August	Mariante

The results of the assessments are visualized in a dashboard published in GO platform [here](#).

Also, sector-specific needs assessments were conducted, results are detailed as follows:

1. Shelter and livelihoods:

The floods caused extensive damage, leading to the complete or partial destruction of many homes, businesses, and infrastructure in general; the loss of personal belongings such as clothing, furniture, personal documents, crops and livestock, severely impacted livelihoods and local economies. Following the floods, emergency shelters (Centros Humanitários de Acolhimento – CHA) were installed in the suburbs of Porto Alegre, providing temporary housing for displaced persons, jointly managed by the government, UNHCR, and IOM.



Flooded communities in El Dorado do Sul, Canoas.
Source: IFRC.

In the Serra region, municipal coliseums and cultural centres were adapted as temporary shelters, managed by the local municipalities. Up to date, most families have left shelters –decreasing from 78,165 people in official shelters at the peak of the crisis, to 1,233 as of 6 December¹⁵. The government has officially launched the A Casa É Sua – Calamidade (Temporary Housing) program, through which 500 modular housing units have been allocated. To date, 212 temporary housing units have been successfully delivered, all situated in the Serra region¹⁶.

It is estimated that the floods have affected 293,500 students. A total of 855 schools across 228 municipalities were impacted by the storms. Of these, 421 educational institutions sustained damage, and 68 were used as shelters for displaced residents¹⁷. Currently, the recovery of livelihoods is reported as essential for the economic stability of affected communities. However, rebuilding livelihoods faces significant challenges, including the loss of productive assets, disruption of economic activities, and the need for training for new employment opportunities. It is crucial to continue implementing economic support and training programs to facilitate recovery and strengthen the resilience of the affected communities.

¹⁵<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoibThhYTZmMGMtZDhkNy00OTEyLTkzNmEtYjU1NWlyMTZmNTVjliwidCI6IjE1ZGNkOTA5LThkYzAtNDBIOS1hMWU1LWNIY2lwNTNjZGQxYSJ9>

¹⁶ Após seis meses da enchente histórica, Estado investe mais de R\$ 2,2 bi em ações e projetos de reconstrução - Portal do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul

¹⁷ <https://www.ei-ie.org/en/item/28585:brazil-teachers-and-educational-centres-in-rio-grande-do-sul-affected-by-floods>

2. Health

Approximately 3,000 healthcare facilities were affected, including healthcare facilities, clinics, and pharmacies. Communities with preexisting vulnerabilities were impacted, among them about 40 Quilombola communities, 240 favelas (impoverished slums), and five indigenous villages.

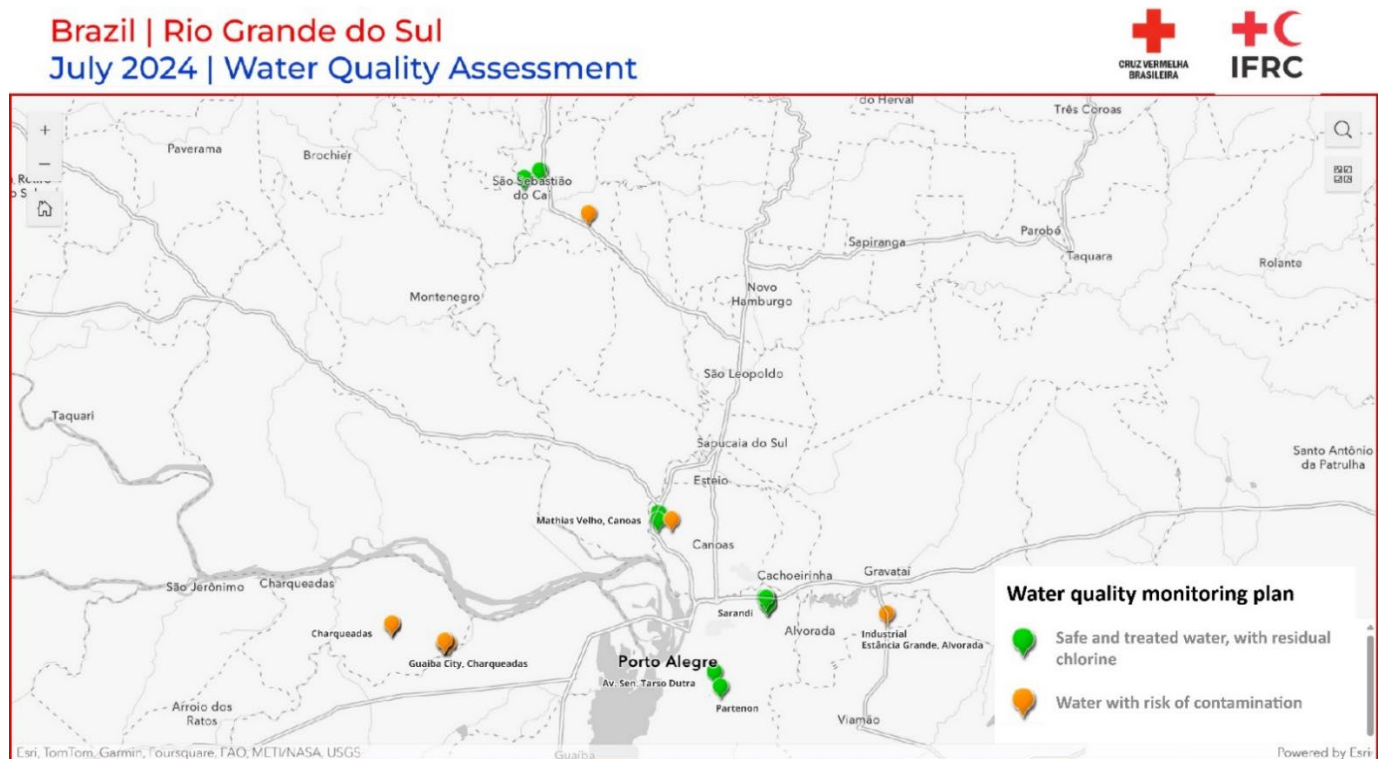
The death toll of the flooding is 182 people, which along with the trauma experienced by survivors, have caused significant distress, creating a need for grief counseling and emotional support.

As a result of the receding waters an increased risk of waterborne and vector-borne diseases appeared. As of November 2024, health authorities in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, reported a total of 2,548 cases of leptospirosis related to the flooding in the state, of which 148 cases (5.8%) have been confirmed¹⁸.

Regarding dengue, the state has experienced a significant rise in reported cases compared to the same period last year. While exact figures for November 2024 are unavailable, Brazil has reported a total of 7,866,769 dengue cases nationwide up to epidemiological week 23 of 2024¹⁹, marking a threefold increase compared to the number recorded in the same period of 2023.

3. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH)

The floods contaminated water sources and pipelines, significantly increasing the risk of diseases such as diarrhea, leptospirosis, hepatitis, and dysentery. Assessments conducted by the ERU HWTS and WaSH teams identified improvement in the water quality, specifically in urban areas; however, ongoing disinfection of wells, pipelines and water tanks remains a need. Assessments carried out during the relief phase in 25 communities have highlighted urgent needs in water treatment, shelter kits, and sanitation.



Water quality assessment, Rio Grande do Sul. July 2024.²⁰

¹⁸ <https://saude.rs.gov.br/plano-de-contingencia-contra-a-dengue-e-apresentado-em-oficina-com-coordenadorias-regionais>

¹⁹ saude.se.gov.br

²⁰ <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dca8e9dc0ebc46e3bc2e5b3457600824>

In the month of November, an assessment was conducted in the Quilombola community of Menino Deus, through the coordination of the UNHCHR and with the support of the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship. The purpose of these activities was to evaluate the medium- and long-term impact of the rains, as well as to identify new areas requiring intervention and support.

Operational risk assessment

The risk of continued rainfall persists and is projected to intensify in the first half of January. Moreover, the summer season poses a risk of extreme temperatures, which will particularly impact individuals living in vulnerable housing conditions, alongside the potential for wildfires²¹.

Although the operational risk assessment remains largely unchanged, field operations were scaled back during the final week of September and the first week of October 2024 to avoid the politicization of activities, in response to the municipal elections in Rio Grande do Sul. This slowdown in operations coincided with the downsizing of personnel, with the departure of surge delegates and the transition into the recovery phase.

The reduced number of staff dedicated to the operation, along with both internal -lack of LSA- and external -bureaucracy, unrestored social tissue- challenges to the operation, led to the identification, six months prior to the operation's conclusion, of a potential scenario in which the full implementation of planned actions may not be achieved, resulting in the inability to implement the available funds. As the primary measure to mitigate this risk, a **four-month extension of the operation until 30 September 2025 has been approved.**

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The operation has officially transitioned from the relief to the recovery phase, with the finalization of the surge personnel and ERU deployment, the recruitment of the operations long-term staff and the transition of the implementation responsibility from the IFRC's Americas Regional Office Health, Disaster, Climate and Crisis Unit to the Country Cluster Delegation for the Southern Cone.

The activities during the recovery phase focus on distributing the remaining in-kind assistance to families with unmet needs and its prepositioning to the strategic warehouse of local branch for disaster preparedness. This also includes implementing multipurpose cash assistance, promoting the transition of affected populations to longer-term housing solutions and the reactivation of income-generating activities, and the strengthening of the local capacities of the Red Cross' branches. These efforts aim to establish a technical foundation for contingency planning or community-based disaster risk preparedness systems, enabling the operation's exit strategy.

²¹ <https://portal.inmet.gov.br/paginas/incendio>

DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Objective:

Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solution

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	Number of families reached with essential household items	2,394	2,500
	Needs assessment including assessing shelter needs completed	Yes	Yes
	Number of families trained on the best use of in-kind assistance and safe sheltering practices	2,394	15,000

***Methodological clarification:** The indicator "Households received shelter support through CVA vouchers" has been removed compared to Ops Update 2 for several reasons: 1. Shelter sector rapid response personnel were not deployed, 2. a Housing Reallocation Program is being implemented by public authorities, and 3. emergency temporary housing solutions were managed by UNHCR, IOM, and local governments.

In relation to shelter services, during the first four weeks of the emergency, BRC teams conducted rapid assessments in the Serra region, in the communities of Cruzeiro do Sul, Encantado, Arroio do Meio, and Santa Teresa. These visits mapped the official shelters and identified the urgent needs of the families. A Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) rapid assessment was conducted in November for the temporary shelters at CTG San Rafael, Centro, and XV de Novembro in Cruzeiro do Sul. Based on the findings, a document of recommendations was developed and presented to the Protection inter-agency Working Group for the improvement of shelter facilities.

During the relief phase, household and hygiene items funded by the initial provisions of the emergency appeal were received. In May, two cargo shipments arrived at the operation from the IFRC warehouses in Argentina and Panama, which included shelter tool kits, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, cleaning kits, tarpaulins, solar lamps, jerry cans, family water filters, and blankets.

Another container was shipped in June to the Port of Santos, Sao Paulo state, including hygiene kits, kitchen sets, cleaning kits, jerry cans, and water filters for 500 families. In addition, two containers with in-kind assistance provided by the German Red Cross were dispatched in September from IFRC's Americas Logistics Hub with blankets and cleaning kits. The three containers included a total of 27.5 tons of in-kind assistance. Due to internal bureaucratic delays involving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Customs, and the Port Administration, the containers were not released until November, which delayed distributions. These items are now being considered for prepositioning as in-kind assistance to strengthen local response capacities ahead of the next rainy season.



Warehouse in Porto Alegre, November 2024. Source: IFRC.

Since the onset of the emergency, the BRC has provided vital support to the most affected communities across 60 municipalities, distributing essential items such as blankets, mattresses, pillows, filters, and lamps. Through resources mobilized by the BRC from Brazilian civil society and various organizations, 14,630 affected families (43,891 individuals) have been reached with essential household items.

Additionally, 2,394 families²² have been assisted through the distribution of essential household items from the IFRC across nine municipalities within the two intervention areas (Metropolitan Area and Serra Region):

Item	Quantity distributed	People reached
Mosquito Nets	616	616
Tarpaulins	553	1,659
Solar Lamps	436	1,308
Kitchen Sets	332	996
Blankets	1500	1500
Shelter Toolkits	368	1,104

The essential household items stock currently available for distribution and prepositioning by the IFRC includes:

- 8,500 blankets
- 635 kitchen sets



Livelihoods

Objective:

Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

²² The number of families and individuals reached is based on the quantity of supplies distributed, with the assumption that the average family size in Brazil is 3 individuals (Average Size of Households in Brazil (2010 - 2021) - GlobalData).

Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators: Needs assessment for livelihoods and food security is used to generate criteria for targeting the most at-risk people/households	Yes	Yes

***Methodological clarification:** Two indicators “number of volunteers and staff trained on LPC and ERLA” and “People reached through livelihoods activities” were removed compared to OPS Update 2 due to the following reasons: 1. Livelihoods RIT was not deployed, and 2. no medium- to long-term livelihoods interventions were established.

During the first month of the emergency, BRC and IFRC conducted rapid assessments in four affected municipalities. These assessments identified the need for safe water and concerns of food insecurity due to the loss of stock, crops, and disruption in the supply chain of local stores and supermarkets:

Date	Location
31 May	Cruzeiro do Sul
01 June	Encantado
03 June	Arroio do Meio
04 June	Santa Teresa

Since the onset of the floods, food baskets donated by Brazilian civil society and various organizations have enabled the BRC to ensure food security for 18,517 families (55,553 people). A total of 9,800 baskets were distributed in the Serra region, with 8,717 distributed in the Metropolitan area.

Month	Total (kg)
May	26,948.57
June	16,077.50
July	2850
August	5,824.39

The National Society also distributed 1,624,717 liters of water, 10,150 bags of clothing, and 142,559 medicines between May and December. The distributions took place in the following locations within the Metropolitan Area:

- Porto Alegre
- Gravataí
- Canoas
- Cachoeirinha
- Esteio
- São Gerônimo
- Charqueadas
- General Câmara
- São Lourenço do Sul
- Eldorado do Sul
- Viamão
- Novo Hamburgo
- Tramandai
- Santa Maria
- São Leopoldo
- Alvorada



Distributions in Kurity community, June 2024. Source: BRC.

A business continuity plan is expected to be developed for the Cooperativa de Costureiras Unidas Venceremos²³, a community-based organization that played an active role in the response, particularly in pre-identifying the potential households for the multipurpose cash assistance in accordance with the targeting criteria. This plan aims to mitigate the loss of livelihoods in the event of future extreme weather conditions, while also focusing on the empowerment and training of women community leaders.



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective:	<i>Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs</i>		
Key indicators	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Conduct market and feasibility studies	Yes	Yes
	Number of families who successfully received cash for household needs after being identified and processed for transfers	901	6,000
	Number of volunteers trained on cash	30	100

²³ Self-managed women's cooperative founded in 1996 in the Sarandi neighborhood: <https://www.instagram.com/cooperativaunivens/>

Number of Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys conducted	0	1,000
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***Methodological Clarification:** One other indicator was also removed compared to Ops Update 2: “Percentage of households receiving cash transfers from the RCRC are satisfied with the amount received” as it reports the same information as the indicator: “# of families who successfully received cash for household needs after being identified and processed for transfers”

During the relief phase, in May 2024, a feasibility analysis was conducted by the CVA Coordinator deployed by the American Red Cross. The analysis revealed the following: 1. political and community acceptance, as 70-80% of adults in Brazil held a bank account; 2. market functionality, as the market was operational and accessible; and 3. the operational capacity of the IFRC in CVA interventions²⁴. Three modalities and payment mechanisms were compared against criteria such as cost-efficiency, coverage of needs, scalability, and risks. MoneyGram²⁵ -for cash pickup or bank transfer- scored the highest, as the IFRC has had a Global Framework Agreement with RedRose since 2018, which connects with MoneyGram. This partnership ensures a swift program rollout, efficient data management, and enhances transparency and accountability. A minimum expenditure basket was calculated to identify the gaps, and the value transfer amount was based on the minimum wage.

The final transfer value was set at R\$ 1,400 (235 CHF / 260 USD). The cash assistance was provided through bank transfers and, in a few cases, pick up at MoneyGram agencies. With the roll out of the program, an additional payment mechanism was identified - PIX²⁶- and included in the RedRose platform, proving to be more effective.

As detailed in the Operations Update 2²⁷, the implementation of the program commenced with a pilot test for beneficiary registration conducted during the first week of July. From then to December 2024, a total of 1,066 families were registered and selected to receive multipurpose cash assistance. Thus far, a total of CHF 182,484 has been disbursed to 901 families:

Date	Activity	Number of households
18 July	Sarandi leaders' meeting and family's registration	165
21 July	Registration in Fazendinha	66
24 July	Lajeado needs assessment update and family's registration	45
13 August	Registration in Sarandi-Nossa Senhora Aparecida	111
20 August	Registration in Assentamento	44
25 August	Registration in Guaiba City	98
7 September	Registration in Sarandi-Nossa Senhora Aparecida	44
14 September	Registration in Mariante	42
21 September	Registration in Sarandi-Nossa Senhora Aparecida	86
23 September	Registration in Sarandi-Asa Branca	83
27 November	Registration in Nossa Senhora da Aparecida	74

²⁴ <https://cash-hub.org/>

²⁵ MoneyGram offers money transfers and other international financial services through digital platforms and locations around the world. More information is available at: <https://www.moneygram.com/mgo/br/en/>

²⁶ Pix is an instant payment system created by the Central Bank of Brazil, enabling users to transfer funds between transactional accounts at a lower acceptance cost, thanks to its operation with minimal intermediaries. More information is available at: https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/financialstability/pix_en

²⁷ Operations Update 2 available at: <https://adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=839407>

The identification of selected households was done through the following vulnerability and targeting criteria:

- Households affected by the floods in the prioritized intervention areas of the operation, with one or more additional vulnerability criteria:
 - households with a member over 60 years of age,
 - households with a member under 7 years of age,
 - households with a member living with a disability,
 - households with a member suffering from a chronic illness,
 - households with pregnant or lactating females, and
 - single-headed households.

Brazil floods | Rio Grande do Sul

December 2024 | Households reached through the multipurpose cash assistance program

Among the 1,066 families approved to receive assistance:



803 were headed by a woman



435 had at least one member with a chronic illness



187 had at least one person with a disability

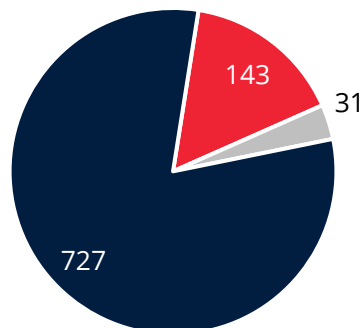


63 had a pregnant or lactating woman

Regarding the payment method, most of the people received the assistance through Pix (80.6%), as shown in the following chart:

Multipurpose Cash Program: payment method

■ Bank Account (IBAN) ■ Pick Up (Money Gram) ■ Pix



The work of the BRC in identifying local partners, such as the Instituto Mulher em Construção²⁸, must be highlighted. Through collaborative efforts with the community leaders of this organization, 215 households in Canoas, led by women, were targeted for the multipurpose cash assistance, ensuring the localization of our assistance by working with local actors.

Considering the protection approach as a cross-cutting theme, informational brochures in Portuguese are provided to household candidates at the registration venue, outlining the purpose, vulnerability selection criteria and the hotline provided for questions, complaints and suggestions.



The IFRC remains the only organization providing unrestricted cash assistance, empowering households to prioritize and allocate resources based on their specific needs. This approach upholds dignity, strengthens community autonomy, and stimulates local markets.

Additionally, in November, alongside the multipurpose cash assistance program, the Rio Grande do Sul State Branch, with technical support from the Minas Gerais Branch and funding raised by the São Paulo Branch, launched a voucher assistance program in Marques de Souza, Serra region. This initiative benefited 426 families, each of whom received electronic vouchers to address their basic needs. A total grant of R\$1,950 will be disbursed in three installments of R\$650 each in a timeframe of 3-5 months.



CVA activities at Marques de Souza, Rio Grande do Sul. Source: BRC.

²⁸ Início | Mulher em Construção



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Objective:	<i>Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community level interventions and health system strengthening</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Conduct a health needs assessment	Yes	Yes
	Number of volunteers trained on community-based health, epidemics prevention, and mental health in emergencies	17	100
	Number of people sensitized on health promotion and disease prevention	4,678	63,412
	Number of people reached with primary care, orientation on first medical aid or wound care.	347	5,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial support	2,215	5,000

During the relief phase, the Health Delegate conducted an assessment which determined that the priority health actions included: 1) immediate medical care in shelters and affected areas, 2) infectious disease control and prevention, 3) mental health and psychosocial support, and 4) public education on hygiene and cleaning practices.

1. Medical care activities

During the relief phase, the distribution of 347 wound care kits took place across three shelters in São Sebastião do Cai and the Mariante community, in the Serra region. During the distribution process, the need for first aid information was identified. As a result, the first aid materials were translated into Portuguese and appropriately adapted, with the distributions subsequently accompanied by awareness sessions.

As mentioned in previous reports²⁹, the Brazilian Red Cross (BRC) mobile health unit, Ônibus da Saúde, was remobilized to Canoas to deliver high-quality primary healthcare services to indigenous communities in the metropolitan area of Porto Alegre.



Demonstration of wound care practices in Mariante, Saturday 6 July. Photo: IFRC.

²⁹ Operations Update 2 available at: <https://adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=839407>

BRC's medical services were logistically supported by Xingu+Catu -indigenous communities local NGO- and Bandeira Científica (Medical Faculty of the Sao Paulo University), providing volunteer medical staff. The Public Health in Emergencies surge delegate provided technical support to the Red Cross community health dispensary and mobile health clinic.

2. Infectious disease control and prevention activities

Messages on leptospirosis prevention specific to flood contexts were delivered in Sarandí, Porto Alegre's metropolitan region. During the activities, informational materials were distributed:



3. Psychosocial Support activities

Following the online training conducted in June, facilitated by the IFRC Health Regional Lead and the IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support as detailed in Ops Update 2³⁰, the BRC began implementing MHSPSS activities.

A partnership between the BRC and LaSalle University enabled the integration of volunteer psychologists into the operation, providing individual and group psychological support to 715 individuals, especially women and children, through the implementation of safe spaces. The MHPSS activities conducted between October and December are detailed below:

Date	Location	Activity	People reached
5 October	Mathias Velho neighbourhood, Canoas	Child Friendly Space	16 women 8 children
12 October	Getúlio Vargas Residents Association, Mathias Velho	Psychosocial Group Support Child Friendly Space Individual sessions	18 women 25 children 2 women
26 October	Boa Saúde neighbourhood, Novo Hamburgo	Child Friendly Spaces and Vector control dissemination campaign	12 women 10 children

³⁰ Ibid.

26 October	Getúlio Vargas Residents Association, Mathias Velho	Psychosocial Group Support Child Friendly Space	13 women 10 children
8 November	Picada, Eldorado do Sul	Child Friendly Space: Educational circus activity for hygiene promotion and the prevention of communicable and infectious diseases.	30 children
9 November	Getúlio Vargas Residents Association, Mathias Velho	Psychosocial Group Support Child Friendly Space	6 women 10 children
7 December	Sarandí neighborhood, Porto Alegre.	Individual sessions Psychosocial Group Support	No data
14 December	Getúlio Vargas Residents Association, Mathias Velho	Individual sessions Psychosocial Group Support Child Friendly Space	No data

In October, as part of this collaboration, the Rio Grande do Sul Branch participated in the 3rd edition of Sapiens at LaSalle University, where they delivered the Psychological First Aid (PFA) course. The event also featured a traffic accident simulation, organized in partnership with the university's Psychology and Nursing programs, along with municipal security forces.



Sapiens at Lasalle University, October. Source: BRC.

4. Population education on hygiene and cleaning practices activities

These activities originated from both the health needs assessment and the WaSH assessment and were carried out jointly by both sectors. These actions reached 1,504 families (see the following section "Water, Sanitation and Hygiene").



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective:

Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions

Key indicators:

Indicator	Actual	Target
Number of communities/sites with WASH situation assessments conducted at least once	18	10

Number of people provided with essential items for personal hygiene and household cleaning/disinfection	3,162	21,000
Number of people reached with effective water treatment materials	1,058	7,500
Number of people with households and water systems rehabilitated/disinfected	124	600
Number of people reached with hygiene promotion activities	1,986	63,412
Number of volunteers involved in WASH activities	46	20

Initial assessments were conducted on-site and via helicopter in various indigenous communities, the Metropolitan Region, the Serra Region, Vale do Caí, and rural areas. These assessments identified urgent needs related to access to safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene practices, and WaSH items.

Further evaluations revealed that, while the urban water distribution system had been re-established and the water was deemed potable, affected communities were hesitant to consume it due to its taste and occasional turbidity. Data from the Brazilian Ministry of Health highlighted debris removal as a primary concern, as individuals were handling debris and waste without proper decontamination processes. In contrast, some rural communities and small villages relied on unsafe water sources from shallow boreholes and wells contaminated by floodwaters.

In June, during the relief phase, an Emergency Response Unit (ERU) from the Spanish Red Cross arrived in the country, focusing on the treatment and safe storage of water at household level (HWTS). In coordination with the Public Health in Emergencies delegate, activities were implemented to prevent and mitigate the risk of WaSH-related diseases. These efforts were centered on ensuring a safe and dignified return home, providing access to safe water at the household level, and enabling the adoption of safe hygiene practices.

Promotional materials were developed and disseminated in alignment with the guidelines of the State's Health Surveillance Center (CESV), based on the five key topics identified as priorities in the sectorial coordination mechanism organized by the local government of Porto Alegre: Handwashing, Leptospirosis, Dengue, Safe Water Management, and House and Water Tank Cleaning. Communication channels included door-to-door visits during WaSH item distributions, awareness-raising through a community circus, and mass communication via radio. The IFRC Rapid Response audiovisual officer produced a social media video on the circus activity, available [here](#).

As part of the exit strategy of the HWTS ERU from the Spanish Red Cross in August, the BRC teams from the local branches of the areas of intervention -Porto Alegre and Caxias do Sul- received face-to-face trainings and mentoring in the determination of residual chlorine, turbidity, and microbiological analysis for detecting coliforms and Escherichia Coli. Laboratory equipment for measuring pH, turbidity, and water conductivity was also provided to both local branches.



Training in WaSH in emergencies in Porto Alegre, August 2024. Source: IFRC.



Training in WaSH in emergencies in Caxias do Sul, August 2024. Source: IFRC.

Based on these trainings and the donated equipment, water quality inspections were conducted in November in the metropolitan area of Porto Alegre:

- November 21: In the Quilombola -African descent- community, Menino Deus neighborhood, water testing revealed chlorine levels below the minimum required. On December 8, a total of 80 households received cleaning kits, water filters, and jerrycans, accompanied by a hygiene promotion circus.
- November 22: In Morro da Polícia, Glória neighborhood, water testing also showed chlorine levels below the minimum required. On December 4, a total of 55 households that have their children registered in the CREA neighborhood's foundation received cleaning kits, water filters, and jerrycans.
- November 23: In the Sapucaia do Sul neighborhood, São Leopoldo of the metropolitan area, 186 households received cleaning kits, including: (a) 27HHs that received double kits as large families (above 4 members), and (b) 20HHs with members with disabilities that received family hygiene kits. During the distribution, volunteers conducted recreational activities to raise awareness about vector-borne diseases like dengue.



Registration and distribution in Sapucaia do Sul, 23 November. Source: IFRC.

Since the beginning of the operation, a total of 1,504 families³¹ were reached with the distribution of WaSH items:

³¹ The number of families and individuals reached is based on the quantity of supplies distributed, with the assumption that the average family size in Brazil is 3 individuals ([Average Size of Households in Brazil \(2010 - 2021\) - GlobalData](#)).

Item	Quantity distributed	People reached
Water filters	740	1,058
Hygiene kits	554	2,079
Cleaning kits	815	1,986
Jerrycans	670	2,010

These items were distributed to the most affected communities in both the Metropolitan and the Serra regions, as well as to three shelters in Cruzeiro do Sul, the Quilombola community in the Menino Deus neighborhood, and three indigenous communities: Kaingang Oré Kupri, Xokleng Konglui, and Kurity.



Distribution of kits in Rio Grande do Sul, May 2024. Source: IFRC.

The BRC has provided constant support in the distribution activities and, in addition, managed to mobilize resources from the Brazilian civil society and various organizations, reaching a total of 216,771 affected families (650,315 people) with distributions of mineral water, cleaning and hygiene kits.

The IFRC's WaSH stock currently available for distribution and prepositioning includes:

- 341 water filters
- 364 jerrycans
- 599 hygiene kits
- 2,142 cleaning kits
- 50 hydraulic kits



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective: *Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of people sensitized on protection, gender, and inclusion issues	0	63,421
	Needs assessment on protection, gender, and inclusion	Yes	Yes
	Number of children reached by protection, gender, and inclusion services	70	350 ³²
	Number of RCRC staff and volunteers trained on prevention and protection of sexual exploitation and abuse, and child safeguarding	71	100

***Methodological clarification:** *The indicator 'Number of people reached by protection, gender, and inclusion services' was modified to 'Number of people sensitized on protection, gender, and inclusion issues'. Additionally, the indicator 'Number of children reached by protection, gender, and inclusion services' was introduced to highlight the efforts made to prevent school dropout within the scope of the operation.*

***Financial clarification:** *Due to delays caused by the registration of the expenditures in the ERP system, the costs of PGI actions are not yet reflected in the financial report. Future reports will show the sector's actual implementation.*

Throughout the response, the most vulnerable population, particularly Afro-descent communities and migrants have been consistently prioritized across all sectors.

Between August and September, a PGI delegate was deployed by the Icelandic Red Cross to provide cross-cutting support in the integration of minimum standards into the WaSH and CVA sectors, particularly in the implementation and design of post-distribution monitoring.

To build local capacities within the BRC in protection, gender, and inclusion, the delegate conducted four trainings, reaching a total of 71 participants, as outlined in the "National Society Strengthening" section.



Training course on Child Friendly Spaces (CFS), 1 October 2024. Source: IFRC.

³² The target was determined by considering 5% of the total population of children and adolescents in the registered locations. <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/brazil-population/>

Among the specific protection actions, school kits were distributed to 70 children and adolescents aged 4 to 17 to promote educational continuity.

Each kit included:

- Backpack
- Pencil case
- Notebook
- Pen
- Modeling clay
- Glitter
- Ruler
- Colored pencils
- Black pencil
- Eraser



Distribution of school kits in Asa Branca, 30 September 2024. Source: IFRC.

The prioritization and identification of families were carried out with the support of community-based organizations. Registrations and distributions were carried out according to the following schedule:

Date	Location	Community-based organization	People reached
21 September	Neighbourhood of Mathias Velho in Canoas	Associação de moradores Getúlio Vargas	40
30 September	Asa Branca, Sarandí	Associação Comunitária Loteamento Asa Branca	30

To promote awareness of the reporting channels, the following flyers were designed and distributed:



As a result of the joint efforts from the PGI delegate and UNHCR, an inter-agency Protection Working Group was fostered and hosted by the Ministry of Social Development. Resources were allocated, and a consultant was recruited specifically to provide coordination and technical support to the working group. The group remained active, holding weekly meetings during its first month -September-, transitioning to biweekly

meetings starting in November. A permanent seat was guaranteed for the Red Cross, represented by the local branch, along with:

- Secretariat for Justice, Citizenship, and Human Rights
- Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship
- State Collegiate of Municipal Social Assistance Managers
- State Public Defender's Office
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- International Organization for Migration
- United Nations Population Fund
- UNICEF
- United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The objectives of the Working Group included strengthening the protection of individuals affected by the severe floods and landslides in the state, focusing on the prevention and mitigation of human rights violations, information sharing -a 4W map was developed- and complementarity of actions, agreement of common standards and identification of gaps to be addressed. An inter-agency assessment was performed in December to the shelter facilities of CTG San Rafael, Centro, and XV de Novembro in Cruzeiro do Sul municipality, Serra region. From January 2025 the Protection working group will be deactivated keeping a digital library³³ of technical documents.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of complaints, questions, suggestions, inquiries and appreciations received through the feedback mechanism (% of total people reached)	37%	70%
	Needs assessment on community engagement and accountability	1	1
	Number of volunteers trained on CEA	40	100
	Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information through different trusted channels	69%	100%
	Percentage of community members, including marginalized and at-risk groups, who know how to provide feedback or make a complaint about the operation	100%	100%

³³ Upon completion the library will be available at: <https://www.gov.br/mds/pt-br>

***Methodological clarification:** The indicator “Number of complaints received through feedback mechanisms (% of total)” has been modified to report different types of feedback received: “Number of complaints, questions, suggestions, inquiries and appreciations received through the feedback mechanism (% of total people reached)”

At the end of the relief phase of the operation, the Regional CEA Lead was deployed to the field, conducting a needs assessment and delivering various training sessions that reached 40 volunteers and staff, as detailed in the "Strengthening of the National Society" section. The deployment also provided technical support for the transition to the recovery phase and the development of frontline messaging.



Training on Community Engagement and Accountability, 23 July 2024. Source: IFRC.

CEA has been strongly integrated into the Multipurpose Cash Program. Various community-based organizations collaborated in the program's implementation, strengthening key messages, reducing the likelihood of rumors and speculation, mitigating the risk of exclusion/inclusion in the targeting process, and supporting the registration and identification of vulnerable households. The community-based organizations with whom we collaborated were:

- Instituto Mulheres em construção³⁴
- Associação dos Moradores do Bairro Carioca Zoológico³⁵
- Cooperativa Central Justa Trama³⁶
- Crescer, aprender e se divertir³⁷
- Aldeias de Crianças SOS³⁸
- Associação do Quilombo Areal Baronesa³⁹
- Banco Comunitário Asa Branca⁴⁰
- Cultural Maps⁴¹

An exit survey box was used in the registration venues for the multipurpose cash program, collecting feedback from 69% of the registered families. A WhatsApp hotline is in place to address questions from the registered

³⁴ [Início | Mulher em Construção](#)

³⁵ <https://www.instagram.com/associacaocariocazoologico/>

³⁶ <https://justatrama.com.br/>

³⁷ <https://www.instagram.com/projetocad/>

³⁸ <https://www.aldeiasinfantis.org.br/>

³⁹ <https://www.instagram.com/arealbaronesa/?hl=es>

⁴⁰ <https://www.instagram.com/asabrancabc/>

⁴¹ [Cultural Maps | LATINNO](#)

families. The hotline is active Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It features automated messages for reception and out-of-office hours. Additionally, quick responses have been designed for frequently asked questions.

 <p>Informações IMPORTANTES 20 de julho de 2024</p>	 <p>Programa de assistência monetária LINHA DE CONTACTO</p>
<p>Se você reside em <i>Sarandí</i> e se registrou para o programa de assistência monetária pelas enchentes da FICV (Federação Internacional da Cruz Vermelha) nos dias <i>6 e 7 de julho de 2024</i>, informamos que os pagamentos já foram efetuados na conta bancária informada no momento do registro.</p> <p>Verifique com seu banco a recepção do dinheiro.</p> <p>Em caso de não ter recebido a transferência, entre em contato pelo WhatsApp no número +55 51 99521 0504.</p>	<p>Se tiver sugestões, perguntas ou reclamações sobre o nosso programa de assistência monetária em caso de enchentes, pode contactar-nos através do WhatsApp.</p>  <p>+55 51 99 521 0504</p> <p>De Segunda a sexta-feira das 10:00 às 16:00</p>

To date, the hotline has facilitated contact with 548 beneficiaries. Between July and December, a total of 373 communications were received. The types of communications received via the hotline are presented in the table below:

	Rumor	Suggestion	Inquiry	Complaint	Appreciation
July	2	0	23	3	1
August	0	0	63	3	6
September	0	0	4	0	0
October	3	0	127	3	4
November	2	0	69	3	5
December	0	0	47	0	5
TOTAL	7 (1.87%)	0 (0%)	333 (89%)	12 (3.2%)	21 (5.63%)

The **inquiries** predominantly concerned the timing of assistance distribution and specific requests for items, such as water filters or baby food for newborns and family members with specific nutritional needs. The **rumors** mainly revolved around the eligibility and vulnerability selection criteria. Lastly, the **complaints** were primarily about delays in the disbursement of the cash grants and exclusion from the program due to non-compliance with the vulnerability selection criteria. A Post-Distribution Monitoring for the MPC program is under way and scheduled for the second week of February.

The first Post Distribution Monitoring was conducted in August to assess the efficiency and the quality of the distributed relief items since the start of the operation. Surveys were conducted through phone calls, with a sample size of 15% of the households that received IFRC essential household items. The Caxias do Sul Branch mobilized 7 volunteers to carry out the calls. A PDM training session was conducted, including interview best practices and the use of Kobo forms, aiming at preparing volunteers and enhancing their skills in community engagement and surveys application.



BRC Volunteers engaging on the PDM of IFRC Kits. Source: BRC.

Additionally, a second PDM will be applied in the quarter 2 of 2025, the design of data collection instruments for the implementation of a general PDM is underway, it will include individual surveys, key stakeholders' interviews, focus groups, and a virtual timeline workshop. These will be fundamental inputs for the lessons learned workshop to be applied at the end of the operation.

In the context of the ongoing Emergency Appeal, and as part of the recovery phase, an exit strategy is being planned to ensure the sustainability of the outcomes and the transfer of capacities at local level. This will be mainly based on capacity strengthening and disaster preparedness activities to be further developed on the risk reduction, climate adaptation and recovery section.

A key component of the strategy involves investing in the knowledge of community volunteers and local leaders to continue critical activities. Additionally, the feedback from community members will provide input throughout the process. The goal is to leave the community with strengthened resilience and the capacity to manage their recovery, while maintaining ongoing support and communication channels to address any emerging needs. This approach ensures that the progress made during the intervention is sustained and fosters ownership and self-reliance among the affected populations.



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of people reached by the RCRC through disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation activities	0	63,412
	Needs assessment on DRR and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)	Yes	Yes

Environmental baseline of the operation has been assessed using an appropriate environmental screening tool (e.g. the NEAT+), and progress against recommendations has been tracked

No

Yes

***Financial clarification:** *The budget deficit indicated in the financial report is due to discrepancies registration between expenditures and budgeting in the ERP system. The next report will present the corrected data.*

Since the start of the operation, cross-cutting measures aimed at supporting the green response have been incorporated. These include:

- *Use of reusable materials:* The cleaning kits were delivered in airtight, vector-proof plastic containers, specifically designed for reuse in food storage to help prevent the spread of diseases. This approach effectively minimizes the generation of solid waste from the distributed kits.
- *Distribution of water filters:* to reduce the need for bottled or canned water, thereby preventing the creation of solid waste, but also ensuring a long-term solution to guarantee access to safe water along with hygiene practices.
- *Use of hybrid vehicles for transportation to reduce the carbon footprint and environmental impact:* During the reporting period a total of 18,511 kms⁴² were driven in a hybrid vehicle in the transportation of the operation's staff to the warehouse, assessments and distributions planned:



Cleaning and disinfection kits locally procured, August 2024. Source: IFRC.

Month	Kilometers driven
May	988
June	678
July	1,951
August	9,099
September	2,125
October	633
November	2,602
December	435

The local government of Porto Alegre has launched a process to develop an integrated contingency plan with a focus on heavy rains and flooding as these events occur annually in September and during winter –May to July-, the BRC is a key actor to contribute to this contingency plan, thus a training on Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) is envisaged for the local Red Cross branch staff and volunteers, to provide the essential abilities and tools for them to develop community preparedness and response plans. The comprehensive planning process involves detailed risk assessments and the development of clear action plans to address various scenarios, ultimately strengthening the region's preparedness and resilience. A riverside community is expected to be selected to take part in the EVCA, followed by the implementation of a flood modeling study within the same community. This training also aims to enhance the autonomy of local

⁴² This distance is equivalent to traveling 2.5 times the total length of Brazil's coastline.

communities in future responses and reinforce the "Do No Harm" principles once the operation is completed, as outlined in the CEA section regarding the exit strategy.

Additionally, the National Disaster Risk Management Coordinator of the National Society attended the NEAT+ tool training course facilitated by the Uruguay Red Cross. This acquired competency will enable the National Society to conduct environmental assessments aimed at identifying risks and designing long-term recovery interventions.



NEAT+ training hosted by the Uruguayan Red Cross with participation from the BRC, 8-10 November 2024. Source: Uruguayan Red Cross.

Finally, a campaign is planned to raise awareness about disaster risk reduction, which be disseminated through the social media channels of the Rio Grande do Sul State Branch.

Enabling approaches



National Society Strengthening

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of volunteers involved in the response operation that have increased their skills in response and management of operations	460	100
	Number of volunteers provided with equipment for protection, safety and support (e.g., PSS) appropriate to the emergency	0	100
	National Society has National Disaster Response teams trained and management systems in place	Yes	Yes
	National Society has in place capacities to conduct Emergency Needs Assessment	Yes	Yes

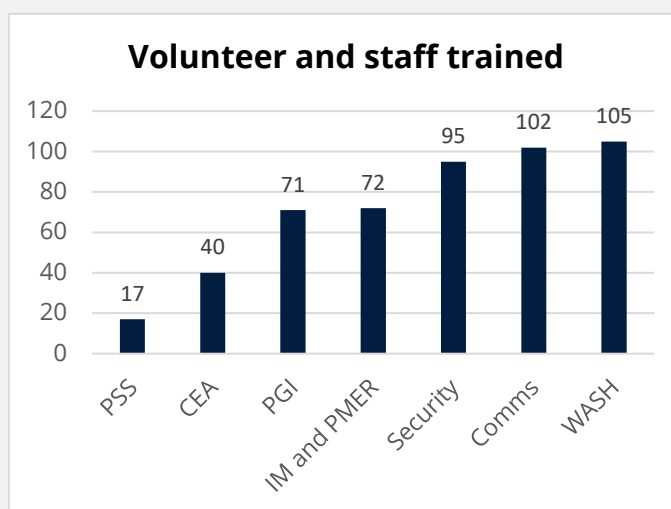
Since the onset of the operation, a plan has been developed for the recruitment of new volunteers as well as the management of volunteers by the National Society, encompassing National Society Development (NSD) initiatives and providing strategic advice on operations management. To further strengthen operational capabilities, the acquisition of laptops, tablets, and phones has been carried out, equipping teams with the necessary tools to enhance communication and efficiency.

During the first two months, 824 volunteers participated in daily induction training designed to mobilize new teams and adequately prepare all volunteers supporting operations at the distribution center.

In addition to the 17 BRC volunteers trained in mental health in emergencies (as reported in the Health & Care section), the operation’s team developed a training plan to strengthen BRC staff and volunteers' capacities in sectors relevant to the operation:

Date	Topic	Modality	People reached
11 July	Induction on IM and PMER	Online	37 participants
13 July	Induction on Wash	In-person	42 participants
15 July	Communications in emergencies	Online	80 participants
19 July	Stay Safe	Online	95 volunteers
21 July	Data Collection	In-person	20 volunteers 3 staff
22 July	Induction to WASH and Hygiene promotion	In-person	25 volunteers
23 July	Community Engagement and Accountability	In-person	40 volunteers
3 August	WASH in emergencies	In-person	17 volunteers
5 August	Non-violent communication	Online	22 volunteers
12 August	Managing ticketing with Kobo	In-person	15 volunteers
20 August	WaSH in emergencies	In-person	21 volunteers
2 September	Basic training on Psychosocial First Aid and PGI	In-person	25 volunteers
5 September	PGI in emergencies	Online	20 volunteers
9 September	PGI in emergencies	Online	20 volunteers
1 October	Safeguarding	In-person	6 volunteers

The distribution of people trained by sector is presented in the following graph:



In total, 1,327 individuals from the National Society have received training on various aspects related to emergency response.

On November 10, Caxias do Sul Branch held a First Aid and Hemorrhage Control training in Santo Antônio da Patrulha for the 9th Military Fire Battalion (Military Fire Brigade) and the 4th Military Fire Platoon (Civil Defense of Santo Antônio da Patrulha). The aim of the training was to prepare the professionals to act quickly and efficiently in emergency situations.



First Aid and Hemorrhage Control training in Santo Antônio da Patrulha, November 2024. Source: BRC.

Coordination is underway with the Reference Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) to organize a Training of Trainers for the National Intervention Team (NIT) with a general profile to be held in Porto Alegre in the first quarter of 2025. Applicants with the technical profile from all branches are enabled to apply.

A training on the proper use of the water treatment plant donated by the Spanish Red Cross, along with a workshop on Enhance Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (EVCA) as part of the exit strategy, are currently in the budgeting stage.

The IFRC is implementing an institutional roadmap, and this emergency appeal contributes to its advancement by supporting the implementation of key strategic actions.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Movement coordination meetings are organized, and updates are provided to Movement partners	Yes	Yes

Internal Coordination

The IFRC has no LSA in Brazil yet, but the ICRC has been a key cooperation partner from the outset of the operation, providing logistical support for the import and clearance of in-kind assistance. Additionally, a

framework agreement was signed to transfer funds to ICRC's local bank account and issuing debit cards, facilitating local purchases and payments and reducing the amount of petty cash.

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) deployments from the Spanish Red Cross -HWTS- and the Swiss Red Cross -Logs- played a critical role in strengthening the emergency response efforts. The Logs ERU provided technical support and guidance on inventory and warehouse management of the BRC. The HWTS ERU mentored two volunteers and one staff member of the BRC on water testing and preparedness activities for cleaning and hygiene promotion. The Argentine Red Cross deployed a WaSH team of five staff members from the National Society to install the water treatment plant and train personnel.

The following Partner National Societies contributed to the appeal funds -either through the in-kind mobilization table or cash pledge-, but also enabling deployments of rapid response personnel:

- Spanish Red Cross
- Argentine Red Cross
- American Red Cross
- Colombian Red Cross
- Mexican Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Sweden Red Cross
- Bolivian Red Cross
- Denmark Red Cross
- Honduran Red Cross
- Jamaican Red Cross
- Norwegian Red Cross

External Coordination

The IFRC and BRC have actively participated in external coordination meetings, strengthening their engagement with SOS Children's Villages, UNHCR, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), and the Health Secretariat on health activities. A cooperation agreement was also established with the Pontifical Catholic University of Brazil (PUC) for effective data collection.

Furthermore, a humanitarian flight funded by the Solidaire Foundation facilitated the mobilization of WaSH response personnel from the Argentine Red Cross and the transportation of 11 tons of essential supplies, including kitchen kits, hygiene and cleaning supplies, water filters, jerry cans, blankets, shelter tool kits, tarpaulins, and mosquito nets. These supplies were sent from the IFRC Humanitarian Hub in Buenos Aires to the Canoas airport on the outskirts of Porto Alegre, enabling immediate assistance to over 1,000 people. In addition, two cargo planes with 500 wound care kits and 5,000 hygiene kits from the International Medical Corps were donated on July 16.

Coordination has also been established with the ABC (Brazilian Cooperation Agency), ensuring that the government is kept informed of all IFRC assistance in Rio Grande do Sul.

Partnerships with Ford, through the loan of Ranger vehicles, and with Airbus have facilitated operations in the most remote and hard-to-reach areas.

Between July and October, in the metropolitan region, the BRC and the IFRC participated in biweekly coordination meetings with agencies such as Civil Defense, INMET, the Navy, IBAMA, Funasa, the Health Secretariat, and United Nations agencies. The main objectives of these coordination efforts were the hydrological monitoring of rivers and supporting INMET updates on rainfall and cold waves.

In September, the IFRC supported a monitoring visit conducted by the EU Ambassador, along with representatives from IFRC, ADRA, and UNICEF, in both the Metropolitan region of Porto Alegre and the Serra

region, specifically Cruzeiro do Sul and Caxias do Sul. This visit not only facilitated the implementation of community assistance activities but also strengthened ties with key institutions involved in the response.



ECHO, UNICEF, ADRA and IFRC visit emergency shelters in Cruzeiro do Sul, September 2024. Source: BRC.

Between October and December, the Rio Grande do Sul State Branch participated in the biweekly meetings of the Protection Working Group (as outlined in the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion section), chaired by the Ministry of Social Development and bringing together representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF, UNHCHR, ADRA, World Vision, and the Social Protection Department.

In December, the Operations Manager was invited by the State Branch of Rio Grande do Sul to join a dinner hosted by the Canadian Consulate in Porto Alegre. ADRA and World Vision's representatives also attended the dinner. Updates from each participant were shared, providing an overview of their impact on the assistance provided to the flood' affected population.



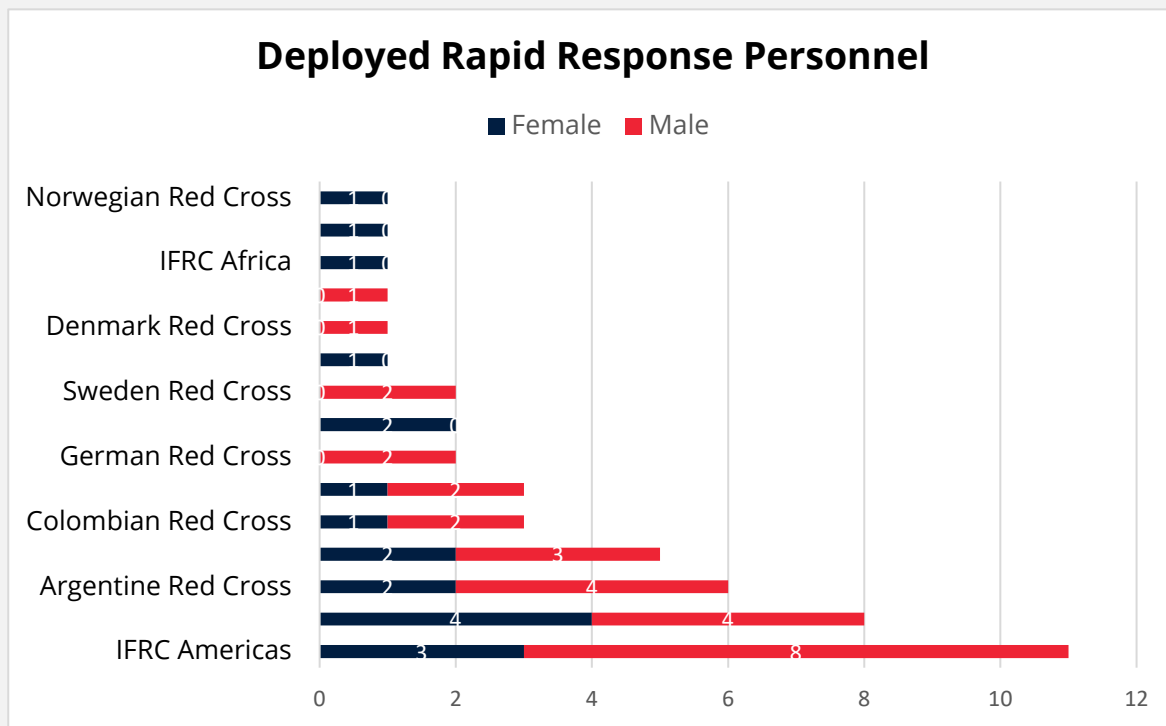
Secretariat Services

Objective:			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of surge missions or deployments	48	-
	Number of IFRC monitoring and support missions	3	15
	Development of articles, press releases, and interviews is supported by the Communications team	Yes	Yes

***Methodological clarification:** Since Ops Update 2, the indicators: 1. # of IFRC monitoring and support missions and 2. # of IFRC field missions were unified as they reported the same information.

IFRC's Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) response team collaborated closely with BRC in formulating the response plan for the ongoing emergency. The IFRC Americas Regional Office (ARO) played a pivotal role by offering technical guidance and support to both the Country Cluster Delegation and BRC.

Throughout the reporting period, 48 Rapid Response members were deployed for different timeframes to bolster the Emergency Appeal operation⁴³. Currently 0 are in the country:



Since the commencement of operations, a Finance Officer from the FICR office for Venezuela has been integrated, hired as local staff.

As the rapid response personnel phased out in September, the IFRC recruited staff for the medium- and long-term operation's implementation. The following personnel was incorporated:

- October 7: Operations Manager
- November 18: Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting Officer
- December 30: CVA Consultant

Additionally, IFRC personnel have conducted monitoring and technical support visits to accompany the operation during the transition from the rapid response staff:

- Advocacy visit by the Head of the Southern Cone Country Cluster Delegation: it was conducted during the second week of September and included meetings with various embassies and donors.
- Technical support mission conducted by the Regional CVA Assistant to troubleshoot those recipients with rejected payments, update data and train the CVA consultant on the use and management of the RR platform.

Since the launch of the appeal, the Communications team focused on raising awareness of the emergency and its impact across multiple platforms to reach diverse audiences. Operational deployment included two specialized roles: a media liaison and an audiovisual officer. Key achievements include the development of a

⁴³ To sustain the deployments, internal cooperation was essential: 42% of the deployments were financed by PNSs, the remaining deployments were financed by the Emergency Appeal funds, enabling 14 surge deployments from NSs of the Americas region, and 14 surge deployments of the IFRC Secretariat.

strategic key messages document and the coordination of interviews, social media posts, press releases, and video production for the ICLEI World Congress⁴⁴.

Notable interviews were secured with France24 Español and NTN24, while press coverage extended to prominent publications such as La Vanguardia, SwissInfo, and Infobae:

- [Interview in France24 Español with Roger Alonso: https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1793630180365451293](https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1793630180365451293)
- [Interview in NTN24 with Roger Alonso: https://www.ntn24.com/noticias-actualidad/desde-nuestro-trabajo-buscamos-la-manera-de-cubrir-todas-las-necesidades-cruz-roja-sobre-inundaciones-en-brasil-492226](https://www.ntn24.com/noticias-actualidad/desde-nuestro-trabajo-buscamos-la-manera-de-cubrir-todas-las-necesidades-cruz-roja-sobre-inundaciones-en-brasil-492226)
- <https://www.lavanguardia.com/vida/20240606/9712529/cruz-roja-pide-mantener-ayuda-humanitaria-brasil-afrontar-continuas-lluvias-agenciaslv20240606.html>
- <https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/la-cruz-roja-envia-desde-panama-su-primer-vuelo-con-ayuda-humanitaria-a-brasil/78065645>
- https://www.prensa.com/mundo/cruz-roja-pide-88-millones-para-asistir-a-afectados-por-inundaciones-en-brasil/#google_vignette
- <https://www.infobae.com/america/agencias/2024/06/06/cruz-roja-pide-mantener-la-ayuda-humanitaria-a-brasil-para-afrontar-las-continuas-lluvias/>

Visual materials have played a vital role, with curated photo collections distributed alongside key messages through the IFRC network's weekly communication newsletters:

- [Collection 1](#)
- [Collection 2](#)

On platform X (formerly Twitter), 22 posts were shared via regional and global accounts, driving engagement on critical updates:

- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1861061862822998391
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1821221673393176792
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1803149038969094266
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1800567626482975096
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1798771640563798295
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1798084512683073872
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1794044570243649764
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1793630180365451293
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1793331574978527402
- <https://x.com/MKeaysIFRC/status/1792988830095622294>
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1792646585584599354
- <https://x.com/MKeaysIFRC/status/1791603267094434048>
- https://x.com/IFRC_es/status/1791570440688632028
- <https://x.com/TDellaLonga/status/1798649099660759448>
- <https://x.com/ifrc/status/1795814830164636138>
- https://x.com/jagan_chapagain/status/1793727221305168104
- https://x.com/KateForbes_IFRC/status/1792970922615279698
- <https://x.com/AlekSaGor/status/1790607704685203752>
- <https://x.com/ifrc/status/1790500119885803958>
- https://x.com/KateForbes_IFRC/status/1790486874500268096
- https://x.com/jagan_chapagain/status/1790095248841974163
- <https://x.com/TDellaLonga/status/1790017037558800515>

⁴⁴ ICLEI World Congress – 18-21 June • São Paulo, Brazil

Over 20 Instagram posts reached an audience of more than 70,000, sharing human stories, operational updates, and the significance of volunteer efforts:

- [IFRC Americas | En Brasil, las devastadoras inundaciones han afectado a 2 millones de personas en el peor desastre de la historia de Rio Grande do Sul... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Desde Brasil, Marco Franco y Santiago Rodríguez nos dan una actualización sobre las inundaciones en el estado de Rio Grande do Sul, las... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | PA 🇵🇦 🇧🇷 Nuestro primer vuelo con ayuda humanitaria para las personas afectadas por las inundaciones ya va rumbo a Brasil. Este envío será... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | En #Brasil, más del 80% de la población de Porto Alegre, capital de Rio Grande do Sul, sigue sin agua potable. La higiene personal, las... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Marco Franco acaba de regresar de Brasil y nos cuenta cuál es el estado actual de la emergencia tras las devastadoras inundaciones en Rio... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | BR 🇧🇷 🇧🇷 Nuestros equipos viajaron hoy a Porto Alegre, donde 1 de cada 5 familias está afectadas por las inundaciones. La ciudad sigue... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | La Cruz Roja Brasileña utiliza la información como ayuda para salvar vidas. Tras realizar evaluaciones sobre el terreno, la Cruz Roja... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | BR 🇧🇷 Sigue lloviendo en la zona afectadas por las inundaciones y nuestros equipos siguen trabajando sin descanso para llevar ayuda a la po... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | 🇧🇷 🇧🇷 La menstruación no se detiene durante los desastres. Julia Klock, médica voluntaria en la emergencia por las inundaciones en Brasil... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Las historias que cuentan las personas voluntarias en la emergencia por las inundaciones en Brasil son realmente conmovedoras. Marco... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Hace un mes empezaron las lluvias que causaron las inundaciones más devastadoras en la historia de Río Grande do Sul. Desde entonces, los... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | BR 🇧🇷 🇧🇷 Brasil y en el mundo, nos mueve la solidaridad, nos mueve la humanidad, nos mueve el amor. BR 🇧🇷 🇧🇷 In Brazil and in the world, we are... | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Seguimos trabajando de la mano con las comunidades afectadas por las inundaciones en Brasil, en su camino hacia la recuperación. | Instagram](#)
- [IFRC Americas | Continúan las lluvias e inundaciones en Brasil, el equipo de la IFRC reporta desde São Sebastião do Caí. Ayúdanos a compartir el mensaje... | Instagram](#)
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/C-XyCKagrca/>
- https://www.instagram.com/p/C9u7Cj7p805/?img_index=1
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/C9nWb8wpLwa/>
- [IFRC Americas \(@ifrc_es\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- [IFRC Americas \(@ifrc_es\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- [IFRC Americas \(@ifrc_es\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- [IFRC Americas \(@ifrc_es\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

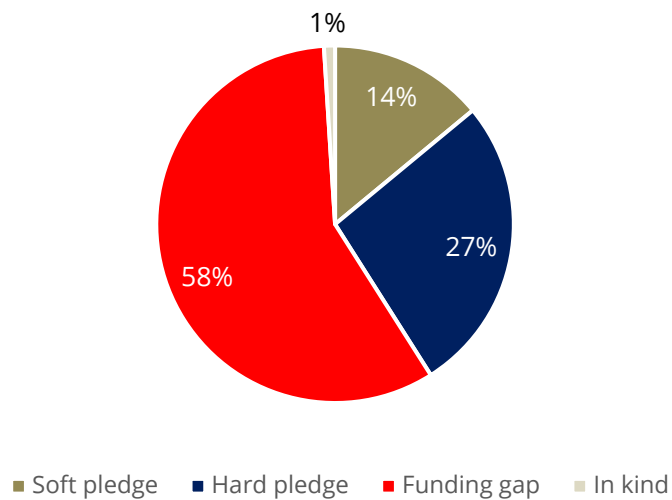
C. FUNDING

To date, 15 donors have supported the operation, achieving 42.61% of the required funding coverage:

Donor	Amount (CHF)
Canadian Red Cross	166,055
Japanese Red Cross	29,070

Spanish Government (AECID)	488,282
American Red Cross	179,028
Luxemburg Government	194,433
Monaco Red Cross	9,594
South Korea Government	269,247
Swedish Red Cross	170,169
Italian Government	485,362
DG ECHO	187,140
Howden Foundation	4,302
The Netherlands Red Cross	404,261
German Red Cross	296,889
Tik Tok	425,730
Swiss Red Cross	100,000

Coverage



Three additional donors have committed contributions, which are under process of registration:

Donor	Amount (CHF)
Lichtenstein Red Cross	20,220
Swedish Red Cross	73,000
Fundacion Brico Depot	5,000

Contact information

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

In the Brazilian National Society

- **Secretary of International Cooperation:** Thiago Quintaneiro; thiago.quintaneiro@cvb.org.br

In the IFRC

- **Head of Country Cluster Delegation – Southern Cone Countries:** Daniel Bolaños; daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
- **Operations Manager – Brazil floods:** Roxana Trigo Ballivian, roxana.trigo@ifrc.org
- **Head of Health, Disasters, Climate and Crises:** Mariana Kuttothara; marianna.kuttothara@ifrc.org
- **Operations, Evolving Crises and Disasters Manager:** Maria Martha Tuna; maria.tuna@ifrc.org
- **Communications Manager:** Susana Arroyo; susana.arroyo@ifrc.org
- **Senior Officer, Operations Coordination:** Antoine Belair; antoine.belair@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **Head of Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization:** Monica Portilla; monica.portilla@ifrc.org
- **Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization in Emergencies Manager:** Mei Lin Leon; meilin.leon@ifrc.org
- **Financial Sustainability Officer:** Micaela Magliola micaela.magliola@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Regional Head, Global Supply Chain:** Jose Fernando Giraldo; fernando.giraldo@ifrc.org
- **Regional Logistics Manager:** Stephany Murillo; stephany.murillo@ifrc.org

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Operational Strategy](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Emergency Appeal

Interim FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2024/5-2024/12	Operation	MDRBR011
Budget Timeframe	2024-2025	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 07 Abr 2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBR011 - Brazil - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 11 may 2024 to 31 may 2025; appeal launch date: 11 may 2024

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	0
AOF2 - Shelter	0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	0
AOF4 - Health	0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	0
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	0
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	-8.000.000
Total Funding Requirements	-8.000.000
Donor Response* as per 07 abr 2025	2.620.603
Appeal Coverage	-32,76%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	349.306	365.561	-16.255
AOF2 - Shelter	137.925	112.358	25.567
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	723.167	241.938	481.229
AOF4 - Health	47.365	29.757	17.608
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	510.434	103.226	407.208
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	0	0	0
AOF7 - Migration	0	0	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	465.808	115.880	349.928
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	0	0	0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0	0	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	783.536	235.455	548.081
Grand Total	3.017.542	1.204.176	1.813.366

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2024/12

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	3.335.676
Expenditure	-1.204.176
Closing Balance	2.131.501
Deferred Income	191.470
Funds Available	2.322.970

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	1.000.000	Reimbursed :	1.000.000	Outstanding :	0
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