

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ANNUAL REPORT

El Salvador | Droughts

March 2026



Resul Water sampling for chemical level monitoring and potability testing as part of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene readiness actions. Source: Salvadoran Red Cross.

EAP №: EAP2024SV01	Operation №: MDRSV017	Period covered by this annual report: 13/11/2024 to 31/12/2025
EAP approved: 13/11/2024	EAP timeframe: 5 Years	

Annual Budget: 214,679 CHF
EAP Budget: 544,464 CHF

SUMMARY OF THE EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL




Anticipatory Action fair held under the National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action, October 2025. Source: Salvadoran Red Cross.

The IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) has allocated **CHF 544,464** for the implementation of anticipatory actions to reduce and mitigate the impact of **drought** in **El Salvador** under **EAP2024SV01**. This Early Action Protocol includes an allocation of **CHF 306,904** for readiness and prepositioning to undertake annual preparedness actions and ensure timely implementation of early actions if and when the trigger is reached. The early actions have been pre agreed with the National Society and are described in the [Early Action Protocol summary](#).

This report summarizes the annual readiness and prepositioning activities done in the reporting period.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY PLANNED OPERATION

	CHF budget:	CHF actual:
 Multi-purpose Cash	57,225	9,829

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

During the reporting period, the Multi purpose Cash component focused on institutional readiness for a potential activation of the drought EAP.

Capacity strengthening was carried out through a Cash Transfer Programming training and refresher session for volunteers. A total of 19 participants successfully completed the process, strengthening key knowledge on cash based assistance and on how the EAP approach is applied.

In parallel, the feasibility study for the cash transfer programme was updated. The update incorporated information gathered through field visits and provided updated technical inputs for context analysis and operational planning. This process did not commit the National Society to any specific delivery modality.

Readiness also progressed for the management of 600 unconditional cash transfers intended to cover basic needs. However, implementation remains contingent on the formalization of a framework agreement with Financial Service Providers, which is expected to be pursued during the second year of implementation.

No direct cash transfers were delivered during the reporting period, as the activation threshold was not reached. Resources remain available for use once the EAP is activated.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

CHF budget:

112,644

CHF actual:

107,818

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

During the reporting period, the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) component advanced sustained technical, operational and logistical readiness to support the implementation of the drought EAP.

Technical preparations progressed for a capacity strengthening process for National Intervention Team WASH personnel on field water quality assessments and the appropriate use of purification plants. Required inputs were managed and the training was scheduled for January 2026.

In parallel, the National Society developed a concept note and session plan for a workshop on appropriate water use and hygiene awareness, including the prevention of gastrointestinal diseases, planned for February 2026. In this context, WASH technical focal points developed standardized operational processes with the intention of institutionalizing them following validation and subsequent dissemination.

Progress was also made in developing a water and hygiene awareness campaign. Visual materials and posters were produced with key messages on the management of dehydration and the prevention of heat stroke, while campaign content continues to be strengthened.

On the logistics side, market studies were conducted at no cost to inform the acquisition of community water tanks and storage accessories, alongside price monitoring for jerrycans, filters and chlorine. The National Society also completed a diagnostic assessment of its two water purification plants. Inputs for corrective maintenance were procured and support was requested from the WASH Hub and IFRC to restore full functionality. Procurement of additional inputs remains ongoing to ensure continued operability. Preventive and corrective maintenance was also carried out for three water tanker trucks, which are now fully functional and ready for the safe transport of water to communities.

At coordination level, the EAP was socialized through the Special Commission for Anticipatory Action and Early Warning Systems and through the health sector working group, strengthening coordination with strategic partners for hygiene promotion and the safe distribution of water.

Finally, educational materials in digital and printed formats were developed on water use and hygiene. Community water tanks with capacity of up to 4,100 litres were procured, including distribution and storage accessories for community use. Household water purification and hygiene kits were also prepositioned for 600 families and will be complemented in subsequent phases in line with operational needs.



Livelihoods

CHF budget:

308,747

CHF actual:

54,053

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

The Livelihoods component made significant progress in readiness actions to support implementation of the drought EAP.


A session plan was prepared for awareness workshops on adaptive practices for subsistence farming households. The session plan was validated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and is ready for implementation. In parallel, existing National Society agreements related to the delivery of cash assistance were reviewed, this review identified the need to establish new framework agreements with Financial Service Providers and, in response, the development of the corresponding terms of reference was initiated.

In addition, periodic price monitoring of basic goods and agricultural inputs was conducted using official national sources, strengthening the technical basis for planning the cash transfer programme. Key messages and technical specifications were also developed for the production of educational materials on adaptive practices. A guidance leaflet on essential expenditures for basic needs was designed, reproduced and prepositioned.

Finally, an action plan was developed for the management of cash transfers, including both unconditional and conditional modalities linked to training sessions for subsistence agricultural and livestock households. Implementation remains contingent on the formalization of framework agreements with Financial Service Providers.

No direct community level activities were implemented during the reporting period, as the trigger was not reached. Resources remain available for immediate implementation when required.

Enabling approaches

	CHF budget:	CHF actual:
Coordination and Partnerships	0	293

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

During the reporting period, actions were carried out to strengthen coordination with key stakeholders through socialization and review processes related to the implementation of the simplified EAP for extreme rainfall. Engagement included local actors such as government institutions, including Civil Protection, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and the Ministry of Health, as well as United Nations agencies present at national level, civil society organizations, and National Society administrative staff and volunteers.

These spaces enabled clear communication of the sEAP objectives, activation criteria and planned actions, and facilitated the collection of inputs from both community and institutional levels. They also supported stronger ownership of the Anticipatory Action approach and contributed to a shared understanding of roles, responsibilities and participation and feedback mechanisms, with a view to ensuring timely and people centred activation if triggers are met.



Secretariat Services

CHF budget:

CHF actual:

23,313

23,281

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Part of the budget has been allocated to cover the salaries of the finance officer, the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) officer, as well as the risk management coordinator of the Central America Cluster. These technical profiles have provided specialized support to the Salvadorean Red Cross throughout the entire process, from the formulation of the simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) to the technical follow-up of the implementation of preparedness actions. This support has helped ensure methodological coherence, accountability, and compliance with the operational standards established within the sEAP framework.



National Society Strengthening

CHF budget:

CHF actual:

42,534

19,405

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

During the reporting period, National Society Strengthening remained a cross-cutting priority. Capacity strengthening and technical accompaniment activities were delivered for staff and volunteers, with a focus on anticipatory action, risk analysis and protocol activation.

These efforts contributed to strengthened organizational readiness and enhanced anticipatory response capacity of the Salvadoran Red Cross in drought scenarios.

CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, PROPOSED AJUSTMENTS

During the reporting period, implementation of readiness and prepositioning activities under the drought EAP highlighted several operational and administrative challenges. Key constraints included administrative timelines related to procurement and contracting processes, particularly those linked to establishing framework agreements with Financial Service Providers and the purchase of specialized items. In addition, there remains a need to further strengthen a practical and cross cutting understanding of the Anticipatory Action approach, both within the National Society and among key external stakeholders, to support smooth implementation aligned with the critical time window defined by the protocol.

Based on experience from the first year of implementation, the following lessons learned were identified.

- The importance of initiating readiness processes early, including administrative, logistics and financial planning, as well as prepositioning arrangements for strategic items, to reduce bottlenecks during an

activation phase

- The value of maintaining consistent and structured coordination with national level stakeholders, including government institutions and strategic partners, to align efforts and strengthen complementarity of anticipatory actions
- The need to reinforce internal simulation exercises and practical training spaces to optimize activation timelines, clarify roles, and strengthen decision making under anticipatory activation scenarios

Regarding proposed adjustments, no changes were identified in the operational, institutional or risk context that would require an amendment to the approved EAP. However, a budget reclassification was submitted and approved to optimize the use of available resources and strengthen achievement of the objectives for the first year of implementation, while maintaining alignment with the approved EAP framework.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of the 2025 reporting period, a total of CHF **214,679** has been expended for the implementation of readiness, pre-positioning, and early action activities. This represents approximately **39.43 per cent** of the overall five-year budget of CHF **544,464**.

Contact information

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

In the Salvadoran Red Cross

- **General Director:** Rigoberto Hernández, rigoberto.hernandez@cruzrojasal.org.sv
- **Head of Crisis and Disaster Management:** Omar Ayala, josue.ayala@cruzrojasal.org.sv

In the IFRC

- **IFRC Country Cluster Support Team:** Diana Oviedo, Programs and Operations Coordinator, diana.oviedo@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office:** Maria Martha Tuna, Manager Operations, Evolving Crisis and Disasters, maria.tuna@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva DREF Team:** Malika Noisette, DREF Senior Officer (anticipatory pillar), malika.noisette@ifrc.org

Reference



Click here for:

- [EAP Summary and budget](#)