DREF Final Report

Venezuela: Population Movement



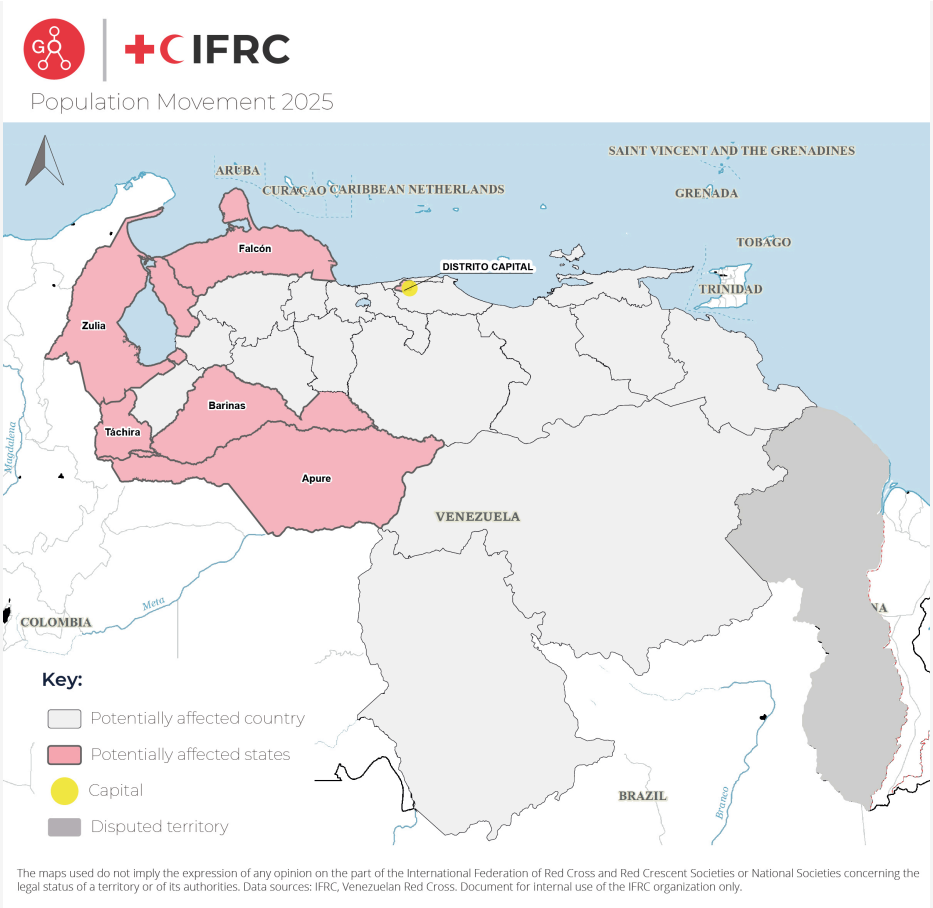
Preparation of hangar for reception. La Guaria, Maiquetía. August 2025

Appeal: **MDRVE011**	Total DREF Allocation: **CHF 497,787**	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: **Population Movement**
Glide Number: -	People Affected: **717,000 people**	People Targeted: **14,420 people**	People Assisted: **17,277 people**
Event Onset: **Slow**	Operation Start Date: **15-03-2025**	Operational End Date: **30-09-2025**	Total Operating Timeframe: **6 months**

Targeted Regions: **Apure, Barinas, Bolivar, Distrito Capital, Falcon, Tachira, Zulia**

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

Description of the Event



Map highlighting the targeted areas for this operation.

What happened, where and when?

Between February and May 2025, more than 5,000 Venezuelan men and women were returned from the United States, Mexico, and other transit countries. Many of these returns were carried out without adequate safeguards, affecting groups such as children, adolescents, unaccompanied women, and people with specific protection needs, among others. Some of these returns took place under the "Vuelta a la Patria" Plan, while others were conducted without processes that guaranteed the protection of rights. During the first half of 2025, changes in migration policies in the United States and several Latin American countries have had direct consequences on the lives, safety, and dignity of thousands of Venezuelans in human mobility. These decisions generated significantly protection risks, humanitarian needs, and returns—often under precarious conditions—to Venezuela.

In the United States, the termination of the humanitarian parole program, ratified by the Supreme Court, affected more than 530,000 people from Venezuela, Cuba, Haiti, and Nicaragua. This decision left them without a regular entry pathway, unprotected from deportation, and with limited access to dignified livelihoods (El País, 05/31/2025). In addition, the cancellation of the most recent designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS), which excludes a significant portion of Venezuelan nationals who arrived after 2021, created a greater uncertainty and risk of irregular migration (USCIS, May 2025).

At the same time, new measures promoted by the U.S. administration have led to mass deportations under extraordinary legal frameworks. In March 2025, more than 200 Venezuelans were transferred to El Salvador under the Alien Enemies Act of 1798 and confined in the Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT), in conditions highly questioned by international organizations due to reports of torture, sexual violence, and prolonged isolation. These deportations, carried out under bilateral agreements between the United States and El Salvador, raised global concern over the criminalization of migrants and the absence of minimum protection safeguards (Washington Post, 07/31/2025).

In Colombia—a country hosting more than 3 million Venezuelans—the reduction of international funding affected regularization processes, leaving more than 300,000 people without documentation to certify their migratory status. This led to limitations in access to

health care, education, and formal employment, and exposed many families to risks of exploitation and social exclusion (El País, 05/28/2025).

In transit routes, such as the borders between Panama and Costa Rica, an increase in Venezuelans stranded without resources or support networks was identified. The closure of entry routes to the north, along with pressure from new U.S. migration policies, led more than 14,000 people—mostly Venezuelans—to opt to return south, according to United Nations figures. This reverse movement demonstrated the exhaustion of safe options and the growing exposure to violence, misinformation, and exploitation throughout the journey (AP News, 06/19/2025).

For many deportees and returnees, “returning is not an option”: Venezuela's economic deterioration, lack of opportunities, and the social stigma they suffered upon returning increase their distress and exacerbate their vulnerability. The combination of external and internal pressures generated a cycle of precariousness that leaves thousands of families without a clear horizon of protection or dignified integration (El País, 06/20/2025).

These returns, according to El País (05/19/2025), took place in a context of urgent and unmet humanitarian needs—particularly in food, health, and temporary shelter. From a humanitarian perspective, these events highlighted the needs for coordinated responses based on human rights and protection frameworks, prioritizing the well-being of people on the move, regardless of their migratory status.



First aid to returned people. August, 2025



Handwashing stations, August, 2025.



Border Assessment Brazil and Venezuela. August, 2025



Delivery of kits for returnees. August, 2025.

Scope and Scale

The challenges identified for the reintegration of returnees were: social stigma, overburdened public services, and a labor market with very limited opportunities. In addition, rising violence and criminal activity in the country represent an additional risk for those returning. In the health sector, individuals with pre-existing conditions struggle to access necessary treatments, while the growing demand for mental health services strains a system with limited specialized coverage. The inability to adequately manage stress and frustration was also identified as a factor that could contribute to an increase in domestic violence.

Between January and October 2025, a massive wave of deportations of Venezuelan nationals to their country by air was identified, with more than 15,000 Venezuelans mainly deported from the United States, Honduras, and México, in conditions that required humanitarian assistance and support for its integration. During the same period, increased mobility was also observed at the border with Brazil, identified during a context analysis visit, which highlighted another area of growing pressure in terms of humanitarian needs. At this crossing point, an average of 400 people per day were recorded as being on the move, generating new demands for assistance. The most

urgent needs included immediate food, access to safe water, basic medical care, temporary shelter, registration and documentation services, as well as protection from the risks of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and labor exploitation. These needs reflected not only the constant flow of people on the move, but also the limited capacity of local systems to respond to the magnitude of the phenomenon.

Economically, Venezuela faces a challenging outlook: in April 2025, inflation reached 18.4%, with a cumulative rate of 63.1% during the first four months of the year. These adverse conditions persist, further complicating the reintegration of returnees and limiting their access to basic services. The context was also marked by rising regional tensions. In August 2025, the United States deployed warships in Caribbean and Latin American Pacific waters as part of anti-drug operations, while Venezuela reinforced its military presence along the Colombian border (Washington Post, 08/27/2025). These developments add geopolitical pressure to an already complex environment for people on the move.

This situation has been further strained by the revocation of Chevron's license to operate in Venezuela, announced by the United States government in February 2025, which caused a significant reduction in the country's oil revenues. More recently, in July 2025, a temporary and conditional authorization was granted for Chevron to partially resume operations, which could provide some short-term economic relief, although with limited benefits (Washington Post, 07/24/2025; El País, 08/11/2025). At the same time, crude oil exports experienced fluctuations: following the expiration of previous licenses in May, shipments to authorized buyers declined, with an estimated contraction of between 15% and 30% in the coming months (Reuters, 05/28/2025). The increase in returns and growing economic restrictions also contributed to the decline in remittance flows, which directly affected many families who depend on these transfers to meet their basic needs. In 2024, remittances accounted for 3.7% of Venezuela's gross domestic product (GDP).

At the regional level, there was an increase in reverse migration: people who were unable to enter the United States or who were deported have opted to return to their countries of origin or transit. According to the United Nations, more than 14,000 people—mostly Venezuelans—have returned south so far in 2025, reflecting the exhaustion of safe options and the growing exposure to violence, misinformation, and exploitation along the route (AP News, 06/19/2025). The most recent needs assessment highlighted a significant increase in demand for humanitarian services at service points located in the border states between Colombia and Venezuela and at international airports designated for the reception of deportees. Field data indicated a 20% to 30% increase in assistance provided to returnees at these points, reflecting the growing humanitarian pressure in border areas. In this scenario, the Venezuelan Red Cross reaffirmed its commitment to providing timely, impartial, and people-centered humanitarian assistance. The NS sought to strengthen coordination with key stakeholders and ensure that assistance was provided in a dignified, safe, and needs-adapted manner to individuals returning under increasingly challenging conditions.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Supreme Court allows Trump to revoke humanitarian parole for 530,000	https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/5/30/supreme-court-allows-trump-to-revoke-humanitarian-parole-for-530000#:~:text=Donald%20Trump-,Supreme%20Court%20allows%20Trump%20to%20revoke%20humanitarian%20parole%20for%20530%2C000,of%20former%20President%20Joe%20
2. Supreme Court	https://english.elpais.com/usa/2025-05-30/supreme-court-lets-trump-end-humanitarian-parole-for-500000-migrants.html?
3. The TPS designation for Venezuela	https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/temporary-protected-status/temporary-protected-status-designated-country-venezuela?
4. There is a risk of losing the progress made in recent years.	https://elpais.com/america-colombia/2025-05-28/mireille-girard-hay-riesgo-de-perder-los-avances-de-los-ultimos-anos-en-la-acogida-de-refugiados.html?utm_source=chatgpt.comhttps://elpais.com/america-colombia/2025-05-28/mireille-girard-hay-riesgo-de-perder
5. Returning a new face to migration.	https://elpais.com/america/branded/2025-05-19/el-retorno-un-nuevo-rostro-de-la-migracion-en-america-latina.html

6. Chevron	https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/venezuela-ramps-ups-taxes-private-sector-chevron-oil-exit-bites-2025-06-02/
7. The Discreet Impact of Venezuelan Remittances	https://www.caracaschronicles.com/2024/07/19/the-discreet-impact-of-venezuelan-remittances/
8. The Discreet Impact of Venezuelan Remittances	https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/venezuelas-oil-exports-stable-buyers-china-receive-more-2025-06-03/
9. Venezuela Inflación.	https://bitfinance.news/en/venezuelas-april-inflation-reached-18-4/
10. El Supremo de Estados Unidos autoriza el fin del 'parole' humanitario para medio millón de migrantes	https://elpais.com/us/migracion/2025-05-30/el-supremo-de-estados-unidos-autoriza-el-fin-del-parole-humanitario-para-medio-millon-de-migrantes.html
11. Termination of Parole Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans	https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/25/2025-05128/termination-of-parole-processes-for-cubans-haitians-nicaraguans-and-venezuelans
12. 14,000 US-bound migrants have returned south since Trump border changes, UN says	https://apnews.com/article/migration-venezuela-darien-gap-trump-colombia-dc7eab62980c98eba5c65ed591a2836f
13. Informe revela desafíos humanitarios entre la migración inversa de Costa Rica, Panamá y Colombia	https://www.oacnudh.org/informe-revela-desafios-humanitarios-entre-la-migracion-inversa-de-costa-rica-panama-y-colombia/
14. Migrants deterred by trumps border crackdown.	https://www.reuters.com/world/migrants-deterred-by-trumps-border-crackdown-wait-un-help-return-home-2025-04-25/

National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	Yes
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	Through the Country Humanitarian Fund, the Venezuelan Red Cross complemented its humanitarian efforts in the operations response to receive returning migrants with interventions in the areas of health, psychosocial support, water, hygiene and sanitation, protection, and restoring family links.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	Through its Delegation in Venezuela, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provided support, technical assistance, and coordination

	to the National Society since the outset of the response. The Delegation team present in the country has also been actively engaged in field operations
Participating National Societies	In Venezuela, a delegation of the German Red Cross is present, attentive, and ready to provide coordinated support to the response. Their contribution included the provision of medicines delivered on return flights, as well as the supply of 396 individual kits, which were distributed to returned migrants to help meet their immediate needs.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

Since 2015, in partnership with the Venezuelan Red Cross (VRC), the ICRC supports the VRC's national Restoring Family Links programme. This includes financial support for operations, key programme personnel, and sustained technical assistance. Activities related to Protection within the Movement, initiated in 2024, will continue in 2025 with Movement partners.

The ICRC's actions—responding to the consequences of armed violence, influencing laws, policies and behaviours, and promoting the integration and ratification of IHL and other treaties—contribute to strengthening the collective impact of the Movement's response in Venezuela. Through its operational sub-delegations and ongoing partnerships with the VRC in Health, Protection, Assistance and Cooperation Programmes, the ICRC supports VRC operations in branches most affected by armed violence.

As part of this effort, the ICRC donated 1,460 hygiene kits to people in vulnerable situations, supporting efforts to promote dignity and provide a comprehensive humanitarian response in prioritized communities.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	In the context of flight reception operations, the Government of Venezuela—led by the Ministry of People's Power, the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace, the Ministry of Foreign Migration, and supported by various agencies including security forces, civil protection, and the national armed forces—is at the forefront of coordinating and managing the arrival of returned migrants and repatriated individuals. As part of the reception procedures, the Ministry of People's Power for Health (MPPS) administers vaccinations including toxoid, trivalent, and screenings for COVID-19, malaria, and sexually transmitted infections. The Autonomous Institute of the National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (IDENNA) is responsible for the care and processing of unaccompanied returned children during their handover to immediate family members. Additionally, the National Service of Forensic Medicine and Sciences (SENAMECF) conducts forensic medical evaluations for each returnee as part of the arrival protocol and closure of care at the point of entry.
UN or other actors	The Humanitarian Country Team has been following the evolution of the migration context, the Venezuelan Red Cross authorities, the IFRC Delegation in Venezuela and organisations such as OCHA, UNHCR and IOM established a line of coordination of actions to complement the response according to their mandates. With the support of UNHCR, 12 portable washbasins were received and have been used in the operation.

	This year, at the request of the Venezuelan Red Cross, the Venezuelan Delegation was accredited to access the Humanitarian Country Fund, where it has an emergency fund in case a larger response is needed.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Coordination meetings were scheduled between the NS and all operational actors involved in managing the arrival of both returned migrants and voluntary returnees. It is possible to coordinate joint actions and the mechanism of action from the reception on the route to the last point of attention. The NS has convoked Movement coordination meetings to ensure a coordinated Movement response and tripartite leadership meetings with between Movement partners present in Venezuela are set to continue this issue.

Needs (Gaps) Identified

Health

Access to health services in the assessed areas (Maracaibo, San Cristóbal, Guasdualito, and Barinas) was severely limited due to the saturation of the public health system, the shortage of essential medicines, and the low availability of trained medical personnel. People on the move—particularly those with chronic illnesses, HIV+, and mental health conditions—face systemic barriers to continuous medical care.

Access to healthcare is further hindered by the high costs of private services and the lack of legal documentation, which restricts access to public health facilities. The absence of essential medicines and mental health services has led to an increase in cases of anxiety, depression, and suicidal behaviour.

Significant challenges have also been identified in providing care to persons with disabilities and pregnant women, many of whom lack prenatal care and clinical follow-up. The establishment of mobile or fixed primary healthcare points and the provision of psychological first aid represents a strategic priority.

Furthermore, given the demanding operational context, an urgent need to promote self-care strategies and psychosocial support for volunteers and technical staff were identified, to ensure the continuity and quality of the humanitarian response over time. The mental health needs of migrant populations are important and diverse, as migrants often face traumatic experiences, prolonged stress and emotional challenges arising from their migration and return process, and addressing these needs is critical to their overall well-being and effective reintegration into society.

As part of the NS work, essential medical equipment (stethoscopes, ENT equipment, sphygmomanometers, pulse oximeters and thermometers) was essential to monitor people's health. However, due to intensive and continuous use, they have deteriorated, affecting their functionality. This situation makes it necessary to replace them in order to guarantee the quality of care. It is also a priority to replace basic supplies such as personal protective equipment (PPE), alcohol, tongue depressors, gauze and bandages.

Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Hygienic conditions at transit points and temporary settlements are precarious, particularly affecting women, children and adolescents (NNA), as well as individuals with chronic illnesses. A critical need has been identified for safe drinking water and personal hygiene kits tailored to age, gender, and specific health conditions. Community centers and humanitarian service points urgently require improvements to their sanitation infrastructure to prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases, especially in high-traffic areas.

There are also significant limitations in access to basic menstrual hygiene supplies, directly compromising the dignity and health of women on the move. Investment in basic sanitation infrastructure, along with sustained hygiene promotion activities, is essential to mitigate public health risks.

In addition, several humanitarian service points located in prioritized states and zones require physical upgrades and the installation of appropriate systems to ensure continuous access to safe drinking water—an essential component for delivering comprehensive assistance to people on the move.

Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The mobility context in Venezuela exposes individuals to multiple protection risks, with particularly alarming cases of gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, labour and sexual exploitation, and forced recruitment. Informal routes—especially the so-called trochas—have become critical hotspots where women, children and adolescents (including unaccompanied minors), persons with disabilities, and members of the LGBTIQ+ community face extreme vulnerability.

The lack of legal documentation further exacerbates these risks by limiting access to essential services and increasing the likelihood of arbitrary detention. Protection gaps were especially evident in the provision of tailored support for unaccompanied minors, older persons, and survivors of violence.

An urgent need to implement early detection mechanisms was identified, establish safe spaces, and activate referral protocols to ensure dignified assistance with a human rights and intersectional approach. This information has been observed and validated through field monitoring visits, reflecting the realities directly witnessed in the prioritized areas

Migration And Displacement

The migration pattern in Venezuela evolved toward forced returns, irregular transit, and pendular mobility. These movements are characterized by family separation, lack of documentation, and constant exposure to risks such as violence, extortion, and human trafficking. There are significant gaps in en-route humanitarian assistance, including the absence of orientation services, legal support, and safe transportation.

Many returnees lack support networks within the country, often ending up homeless or in conditions of extreme vulnerability. Children and adolescents returning without family accompaniment require specialized responses, which are currently insufficient. The establishment of safe and dignified mechanisms for transit, return, and reintegration is a humanitarian priority in the current Venezuelan context.

Community Engagement And Accountability

Current humanitarian responses still show weaknesses in effectively integrating affected communities, including people on the move themselves. A limited presence of formal feedback channels and mechanisms to ensure active participation in the design and implementation of services was identified. In a context marked by high institutional distrust and risks of discrimination, community participation is essential for building trust, increasing the relevance of interventions, and strengthening local resilience.

Communication strategies must be culturally and linguistically adapted, with accessible approaches for individuals with low literacy levels and those living in rural or border areas. Implementing community-based approaches grounded in rights, active listening, and co-design of solutions represents a key opportunity to close this gap and improve the quality of the humanitarian response.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF operation, the Venezuelan Red Cross initially intended to reach 3,500 people by implementing early actions to reduce and/or mitigate the humanitarian impacts of deported nationals.

Subsequently, through the transition from an imminent DREF to a response DREF, the Venezuelan Red Cross aimed to reduce the risk of a humanitarian crisis that could be triggered by an unusual increase in the number of returned migrants. To this end, the National Society sought to assist at least 14,420 people on the move in Venezuela, focusing humanitarian assistance on the sectors of health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), primary health care, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); protection, gender and inclusion (PGI); temporary shelter; and community engagement and accountability (CEA) during a six-month period in the priority states of: Apure, Barinas, Bolivar, Capital District, Falcon, Tachira, Zulia.

At the end of the operation, 5,729 people were reached in the anticipatory phase, and in the reponse phase 11,548 people were reached, for a total of 17,277 people reached in the framework of this operation.

Operation strategy rationale

In response to the sustained increase in the number of returnees in highly vulnerable conditions, the Venezuelan Red Cross (VRC), with the technical and operational support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), were implementing its operational strategy in a comprehensive and multisectoral manner. Building on the analysis carried out along the Venezuelan–Brazilian border in Bolívar state, the operation was designed to continue and expand based on the findings identified in that assessment. This new phase also reflected the strengthening that took place within VRC teams, allowing the National Society to broaden the scope of the response and reach more people. The possibility of scaling up the operation facilitated the agreements with suppliers and enabled more agile and reliable procurement processes.

The strategy aimed to strengthen the capacities built during the previous operation, expand territorial coverage, ensure effective coordination with key humanitarian actors, and sustain needs- and context-based interventions in prioritized areas. It focused on the dignity, protection, and comprehensive response for returnees, incorporating sector-specific actions tailored to the unique characteristics of each territory, based on the assessments conducted in prioritized states. One of the pillars of the operation was the reinforcement of operational coordination and national management capacity, ensuring the continuity of the DREF Coordinator and the incorporation of a Procurement Officer who was in charge to accelerate logistical processes and guarantee traceability in acquisitions. Together with the IFRC Venezuela delegation's logistics officer, they designed a critical path for the supply chain, supported by the deployment of SURGE technical personnel from IFRC to reinforce implementation, particularly in border areas, airports, and transit points.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) remained as a priority area of intervention. The operation maintained primary health care services through mobile units and fixed centres. The MHPSS manager based in Caracas provided cross-cutting technical support to ensure the integration of the MHPSS approach in all areas of intervention. Activities included the creation of safe spaces for children and adolescents, the distribution of context-appropriate MHPSS kits, and the development of emotional support and peer support activities. In addition, self-care spaces were created for staff and volunteers exposed to emotionally demanding situations. In the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector, measures included the installation of handwashing stations and hydration points, the improvement of sanitation infrastructure at humanitarian service points, and the distribution of hygiene kits adapted to age, gender and specific conditions. These efforts complemented by hygiene promotion campaigns using visual materials and community health promoters, contributed to the prevention of waterborne diseases and the maintenance of healthy conditions during transit and return.

In the area of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), a strategy was developed to enable the early identification and safe referral of individuals at risk, with a focus on women, older persons, LGBTIQ+ individuals, unaccompanied and separated children and adolescents, and young men traveling alone. Safe referral pathways were established and activated in coordination with institutional actors and specialized organizations, ensuring timely and coordinated response mechanisms. In parallel, all personnel involved in the operation received training on protection principles, child protection, and intersectional approaches. The strategy also integrated the Restoring Family Links (RFL) component as a key part of the migration response. RFL services were strengthened in entry and transit zones through equipment replacement, connectivity provision, and communication tools for returnees. Trainings were carried out for staff and volunteers on RFL fundamentals and their application in emergency settings.

Complementing these efforts, the operation offered a cycle of virtual training sessions (webinars) on various topics related to the humanitarian approach to migration, including mental health and psychosocial support, protection, legal frameworks, safe referral pathways, referral mechanisms, and humanitarian principles. These learning opportunities ensured a continuous capacity-strengthening process at national and local levels, promoting an informed and professional response. From a migration and human mobility perspective, humanitarian service points reinforced at borders, airports, and along return routes, offering integrated assistance including guidance, first aid, psychosocial support, referrals, distribution of kits, and connectivity for family communication. These actions were coordinated with other National Societies and regional bodies to ensure a coherent response along the migration corridor.

Finally, the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach was developed through the implementation of accessible communication channels (printed, radio, and digital materials), satisfaction surveys, in-person and virtual feedback mechanisms, and active participation spaces in the design and monitoring of the response.

The entire operation was subdivided by state, based on the specific needs identified in each territory and the priorities expressed by each branch. This territorial adaptation ensured more effective resource allocation, greater relevance, and a more community-centered response. Through this strategy—anchored in the findings of the Bolívar border assessment, supported by the strengthening of VRC teams, and enabled by supplier agreements—the Venezuelan Red Cross reaffirms its commitment to providing a neutral, dignified, and context-adapted humanitarian response, focused on people and aimed at promoting protection and relief in a highly challenging environment.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

Returned and repatriated migrants were assisted, with priority given to migrants in transit and those with protection needs, including adults, older persons, women, unaccompanied children and adolescents. The intervention focused mainly on supporting the "Return to the Homeland" plan and addressing the migratory flows identified along the Colombia–Venezuela border.

Host communities and humanitarian personnel were also included in order to complement activities with primary health care, mental health and psychosocial support services, as well as to promote awareness among receiving communities regarding the arrival of returnees. The following states were prioritized due to their strategic importance along the migration route and their capacity to provide essential services to returned migrants:

Capital District – Air route: Support was provided to returnees arriving by air, facilitating their reception and immediate assistance upon arrival through this route.

Barinas: As a key convergence point along the internal land migration route, a humanitarian service point operated in the La Caramuca area. This point was essential for returnees and people in transit heading to the west and central regions of the country and provided services including Restoring Family Links (RFL), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), first aid, distribution of drinking water, and differentiated hygiene kits.

Falcón, La Vela Branch: Located in the northeast of the country, this branch played a crucial role in assisting migrants arriving by sea, primarily to and from the Caribbean. It provided CPR, mental health and psychosocial support services, and first aid.

Apure (Guasdualito): This area experienced the highest influx of migrants. It offered RFL services, a connectivity point, document lamination, and first aid, and served as a strategic location for assisting migrants in transit.

Táchira: A humanitarian service point was established in the city of Capacho, directly on the internal migration route. It offered RFL and migrant support services, as well as the distribution of differentiated hygiene kits, and functioned as a critical point on the border with Colombia.

Zulia: RFL services were provided at the Maracaibo bus terminal, located three hours from the Colombia border (Paraguachón). This point offered connectivity, phone calls, travel guidance, safe referrals, and blood pressure monitoring. It also included a mobile humanitarian unit and the distribution of differentiated hygiene kits.

Bolívar: Following the humanitarian needs assessment conducted along the Venezuelan–Brazilian border, Bolívar was prioritized due to the strategic importance of Santa Elena de Uairén and surrounding areas as key entry and exit points. The branch strengthened its services to returnees and people in transit through the establishment of humanitarian service points offering first aid, MHPSS support, distribution of hygiene kits, hydration points, and safe spaces. Bolívar also played a critical role in monitoring migratory dynamics on the southern border and supporting coordination with local authorities and other humanitarian actors.

This prioritization ensured that resources and efforts were concentrated in the most critical and strategic areas, optimizing humanitarian assistance and enhancing the well-being and protection of returned migrants. In each of these states, personal hygiene kits and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) kits were distributed in accordance with the characteristics of the migratory flow and the needs of the affected population. Additionally, friendly spaces and handwashing stations were set up at selected humanitarian service points to ensure basic hygiene, dignity, and disease prevention in contexts of transit, return, or prolonged waiting.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The intervention prioritized returned and repatriated migrants in situations of high vulnerability, based on criteria of need, protection, and risk. Priority attention was given to the following profiles, identified through field assessments, recent migratory flow patterns, and principles of equity and inclusion:

Returned women, especially female heads of household, pregnant women, or breastfeeding mothers, due to their increased exposure to gender-based violence and greater barriers to accessing services.

Unaccompanied or separated children and adolescents, given their lack of protection, risk of exploitation, and difficulties in the

restitution of their rights. Young men who traveled alone.

Older people, who face greater risks in contexts of mobility and return, and who often have chronic health conditions or require dependency care. Persons with disabilities, who face physical, communication, and attitudinal barriers in accessing humanitarian assistance.

Persons with specific protection needs, including victims or survivors of violence, human trafficking, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, and others requiring differentiated care. Migrants in transit and return, particularly those without documentation or the means to continue their journey or return to their communities of origin.

Host communities and humanitarian personnel were also included in order to complement activities with primary health care, mental health and psychosocial support services, as well as to promote awareness among receiving communities regarding the arrival of returnees.

Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	-	Rural	**40%**
Assisted Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	**60%**
Assisted Men	-	People with disabilities (estimated)	**1%**
Assisted Boys (under 18)	-		
Total Assisted Population	**17,277**		
Total Targeted Population	14,420		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	**No**
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	**No**
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	**Yes**
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	**Yes**
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	**No**

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
The event exceeds the capacities of the National Society.	Constant monitoring of the situation in the country and the worsening of the event is carried out.
Lack of reports on the status and typology of returnees	Through the team in charge of coordinating the operation, periodic coordination meetings will be established with the entities in charge of each repatriation flight or operation, in order to know the typology of the same, to guarantee an adequate response and as accurate as possible for the attention of these.
Increased frequency of flights and flow of people that exceeds the response capacity of the subsidiaries.	Establish staff rotation systems and increase inter-branch support where possible, to cover the amount of care required based on the frequency and number of returnees.
Beginning of reverse migration, which may represent an increase in the number of people returning by land, increasing exposure to violence along the route and greater tension on the border with Colombia.	Binational border context analysis in cooperation with the country's entry zone affiliates and NSs in the region through the Safer Access of the Americas network and development of tailored security response plans.
Increased protection risks associated with the reverse migration route, such as xenophobia, lack of channels or mechanisms for social reintegration, stigmatisation, re-victimisation of survivors of violence, exposure to human trafficking, are risks that are highly potentiated. Similarly, the risks associated with return by sea are part of the scenario we may face.	VRC is working on an awareness-raising campaign through social media, promoting empathy and inclusive values, and establishing a monitoring and prevention system to identify and protect people at risk. And providing psychosocial support services to help migrants cope with the stress and trauma associated with migration and return.
Hydrometeorological risks. Even though the hydrometeorological forecast for this year indicates a neutral ENSO, one of the risks remains the possibility of increased heavy rains, which in the case of those returning by sea or river, and/or droughts along the migratory route, would increase the risks for people moving along the migratory route.	Monitoring of climatic conditions by centers in the region, awareness raising along the migratory route with specific measures at each of the extremes to reduce the humanitarian impact on the population.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

- Inadequate supplies for the operation, either due to delays in procedures or limitations in the supply chain.

- In terms of operational security, the reception of returnee flights involves a large mobilisation of volunteer staff and resources to care for the migrants arriving on each flight. This posed challenges in terms of the efficient coordination of personnel, the provision of specialised medical care and the distribution of essential items.

- In the town of Tibú, in the Catatumbo region of Colombia, there have been violent clashes between the National Liberation Army (ELN) and dissidents from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). This situation had a major impact on the local population during this year.

- It has led to the displacement of Colombian citizens to the Venezuelan side, more specifically to the municipality of Jesús María Semprún in the state of Zulia, mainly to the towns of Casigua el Cubo and El Cruce. Tensions on the border with Colombia and the increased risk of violence may lead people to engage in human mobility, increasing their exposure to protection risks and vulnerabilities.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	**Yes**

Implementation

Health

Budget: CHF 110,570
Targeted Persons: 7,000
Assisted Persons: 10,384
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people receiving primary health care.	7,000	10,384
# of people who receive psychological first aid	6,000	7,151
# of group mental health sessions for children	20	78
# of people who have received psychological support and/or psychiatric care delivered by National Society trained staff/volunteer	6,000	7,151
# of people who received psychosocial support, including Psychological First Aid (PFA), by a trained staff member or volunteer	6,000	7,150
# of policies, procedures and activities developed and implemented by the National Society related to staff and volunteer care	6	6

Narrative description of achievements

• During this period, significant progress was made in integrating mental health and psychosocial support as a cross-cutting pillar of humanitarian response. The strengthening of peer support helped to consolidate internal networks of care that accompany volunteers and staff in situations of high emotional demand. At the same time, key protocols were developed, including the psychological care protocol and the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) protocol for flights, both providing clear and context-adapted guidelines for different intervention scenarios.
• In addition, a strategy for the implementation of MHPSS kits was designed as a practical tool to ensure rapid, standardized, and people-centered responses in emergencies. Training also played a central role, with the implementation of a refresher workshop on skills and resources for facilitating psychological first aid, which allowed teams to update their competencies and strengthen their response capacities.
• Regional cooperation contributed valuable learning, particularly through the Terms of Reference returned in El Salvador within the framework of the “Return to the Homeland” initiative, which enriched the work perspective with concrete experiences. Finally, an MHPSS webinar was carried out in three complementary sessions: the first focused on the status of MHPSS in emergency response, the second on a proposed work framework adapted to these contexts, and the third on self-care and peer support as essential tools for sustaining the well-being of responders
• Taken together, these achievements represent a process of institutional strengthening that reinforces the capacity to provide an integral, humane, and professional response to mental health and psychosocial support needs in situations of emergency and human mobility.

Lessons Learnt

• Among the lessons learned, it was recognized that having private spaces for care is essential to ensure appropriate support, although it was not always possible to provide them due to the dynamics of the operation. It was also identified that training the teams was a fundamental pillar, as it strengthened internal capacities and ensured that assistance was delivered in a more integrated way, with shared protocols and common tools. This process not only demonstrated the strengthening of the area at an internal level but also highlighted the need to have salaried staff to guarantee continuity and provide sustainability for the progress achieved.

Challenges

• Maintaining permanent staff to ensure the continuity of actions has been a constant challenge for the National Society. Although efforts are made to preserve team stability, staff turnover and availability have made this goal difficult to achieve.
• Similarly, the internalization of MHPSS protocols proved to be a demanding process, as it was necessary to train teams not only to become familiar with the topic but also to deepen their understanding and practical application in the field



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 211,731
Targeted Persons: 14,420
Assisted Persons: 14,420
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of returned migrants receiving hygiene supplies.	14,420	14,420
# of handwashing facilities installed	12	12
# of people reached through community awareness campaigns.	14,420	14,420

Narrative description of achievements

• Within the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) actions, significant progress was achieved to improve the health and well-being of the assisted population. Differentiated hygiene kits were distributed, designed to address the specific needs of each group and ensure an inclusive and sensitive approach. In addition, handwashing stations were installed at humanitarian service points, helping to strengthen hygiene practices and prevent disease in high-vulnerability contexts. Complementarily, informational and educational materials were developed for these spaces, aiming to promote healthy habits and reinforce key hygiene and self-care messages within the communities reached

Lessons Learnt

• The planning of kit procurement was carried out in a more organized manner during the second phase, building on the lessons learned from the first phase of the imminent DREF. In this new stage, traceability and monthly projections of required kits were improved through a more accurate estimation of the number of people to be assisted. This allowed for more efficient procurement and distribution processes, ensuring a timely and well-adapted response to the identified needs.

Challenges

• The procurement of supplies was carried out in response to increased demand, requiring swift adaptation of logistical processes. Adjustments were made to the installation of handwashing stations at the airport operation, ensuring their proper functionality and

accessibility. Additionally, the distribution of handwashing units and kits to branches had to be reorganized due to transportation route disruptions caused by heavy rains and flooding, while still ensuring the timely delivery of assistance to the planned locations.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 6,631
Targeted Persons: 7,000
Assisted Persons: 5,476
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people who receive information on Protection, Gender and Inclusion actions	7,000	5,476
# of individuals from priority vulnerable groups (pregnant and lactating women, children under 2, adolescents, older adults, and persons with disabilities) who receive differentiated care.	1,000	1,232
#of active safe referral pathways	3	3

Narrative description of achievements

• During this period, significant progress was made in strengthening protection efforts, ensuring a more humane, safe, and coordinated response for people receiving assistance at humanitarian service points.
• One of the main achievements was providing accessible and clear information on protection, ensuring that individuals are aware of their rights, the available services, and the existing support pathways. At the same time, differentiated care mechanisms were implemented, recognizing the diverse needs of vulnerable groups and adapting the humanitarian response to ensure respectful and dignified treatment.
• Safe referral pathways were developed and implemented in three key areas: general protection, gender-based violence (GBV), and child protection (CP). These pathways allow cases to be handled safely, confidentially, and promptly, ensuring coordination with relevant institutions and organizations for an integrated response.
• In addition, informational and awareness-raising materials were developed for distribution at humanitarian service points, aiming to spread key protection messages and strengthen the capacities of field teams.
• Finally, the draft Protection Policy was developed — a strategic document that establishes the institutional foundation for integrating the protection approach across all areas of action, promoting safer, more inclusive, and people-centered environments. These achievements reflect a sustained commitment to dignity, safety, and well-being, placing protection at the heart of humanitarian action.

Lessons Learnt

• The activities developed made it possible to deepen the topic of the importance to include protection from a professional perspective, strengthening theoretical knowledge to ensure better practical application in operations. Additionally, through the development of draft safe referral pathways, it was possible to highlight and systematize the work already being carried out by the branches, recognizing their progress and good practices in addressing protection cases.

Challenges

• The approach and work with children and adolescents still require strengthening technical knowledge to improve the quality of field actions. However, the webinars conducted helped to reinforce the capacities of staff and volunteers, promoting a more appropriate and effective intervention tailored to this specific group of the population.

Migration And Displacement

Budget: CHF 46,336
Targeted Persons: 14,420
Assisted Persons: 13,545
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of contingency plans applied in activities to human mobility emergencies	1	1
# of volunteers involved in the operation sensitized with key information on themigration program	155	307
# of migrants in mobility reached with RFL services	500	2,357
# of migrants reached with soft drinks and hydration kits.	14,420	13,545

Narrative description of achievements

• Significant progress was made in strengthening humanitarian preparedness and response on migration, with concrete actions aimed at improving coordination, operational security, and regional context analysis.
• The Contingency Plan on Migration was developed as a key document defining procedures and capacities to respond to large-scale migratory flows, ensuring timely, coordinated, and protection-centered action.
• As part of awareness and capacity-building efforts, an Informative Capsule on Migration was produced to share key concepts and humanitarian approaches. Additionally, webinars on the Emergency Operations Center and Operational Security were conducted, reinforcing staff and volunteer competencies in emergency management and field safety.
• Two essential operational tools were also created: the Protocol for Reception of Flights, outlining steps and responsibilities for receiving returnees, and the Protocol for Branch Rotation in Flight Response, ensuring organized and efficient team management during deployments. These products were developed thanks to the feedback and participation of the communities, the needs analysis at the operational points, and the guidance of the National Society in carrying out operations that are both effective and respectful of the dignity of the people reached.
• At the analytical level, Needs and Context Analyses were carried out for both the Colombia–Venezuela and Brazil–Venezuela borders, providing a comprehensive understanding of migratory flows, vulnerabilities, and local response capacities.
• Finally, progress was achieved in drafting the Migration Policy, which will guide institutional action through a rights-based and protection-focused approach, reinforcing the auxiliary role of the Venezuelan Red Cross in this area. These achievements reflect an integrated and coordinated effort that strengthens the foundation for a more effective, collaborative, and sustainable humanitarian response to migration challenges in the country and the regional level.
• In response to the identified needs and based on the results of satisfaction surveys, the operation made use of the operational update framework to complement or prioritize the procurement of hygiene kit items. This highlighted the flexibility and relevance of the operation in relation to the services delivered, as well as the feedback received by the National Society team from the people reached.

Lessons Learnt

• The reactivation of the response network for addressing migration was a key step toward the professionalization of the intervention, promoting an integrated approach aligned with the principles and guidelines of the Movement.
• The development of guidance documents helped strengthen the coherence and consistency of work across different states, while also enabling the adaptation of actions to the specific needs identified during the six months of operation, ensuring a more effective and context-sensitive response.

Challenges

• Among the main challenges faced during the operation was the limited availability of official or up-to-date data, as there is no publicly accessible record maintained by governmental entities. In this context, information from other humanitarian agencies, local actors, and field assessments proved essential to maintain an accurate understanding of the situation.
• Another significant challenge was sustaining field monitoring activities, as the high financial costs associated with these visits made their continuity difficult. Additionally, the security context at times posed an extra obstacle to accessing certain areas and carrying out activities on a regular basis

Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 1,658
Targeted Persons: 700
Assisted Persons: 241
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of feedbacks received from people served on the services provided.	700	54
# of volunteers and staff sensitized on the importance of feedback collection	100	187

Narrative description of achievements

• During this period, mechanisms for communication and community participation were strengthened, promoting actions that foster a more inclusive, transparent, and people-centered humanitarian response.
• An informative capsule on the use of the Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) checklist was developed to facilitate its understanding and practical application by field teams. This tool helped standardize processes and improve the quality of services provided to communities.
• In addition, a CEA webinar was conducted for National Society facilitators, the Regional Office (ARO), and prioritized response states, contributing to capacity building and the exchange of experiences in the implementation of community engagement and accountability approaches
• Progress was made in updating the National Society's feedback mechanisms, ensuring more accessible, effective, and safe channels for communities to share their opinions, concerns, and needs — thereby strengthening trust and institutional accountability. These achievements reaffirm the NS commitment to a participatory, transparent, and people-centered humanitarian action.

Lessons Learnt

• The review allowed the National Society to analyze and strengthen its data collection mechanisms, as well as to clearly define the thematic focus and types of relevant information needed to improve service quality. This process helped identify gaps and optimize how information is gathered and used for decision-making. However, the work at the airport presented additional challenges, since various regulations did not allow for the implementation of these data collection mechanisms within operational areas, which partially limited the systematization of information in that context.

Challenges

• The review took longer than initially planned to ensure the effective implementation of the new mechanisms, at least in the prioritized states, thus guaranteeing a more solid process adapted to the operational realities of each context.
• For this type of operations responding to human mobility events such as deportation, the registration of individuals involved a high level of complexity due to the limited time available to provide humanitarian assistance, in contrast with the moral and physical impact experienced by people returning to the country. In this regard, efforts were made to maintain community engagement and accountability

activities, and their results informed the various operational updates required to adapt the operation to the needs of the deported population; however, monitoring of the indicator was not maintained.

Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 66,023
Targeted Persons: 0
Assisted Persons: 0
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of monitoring and evaluation visits by IFRC Venzuela delegation	7	7
# of surge personnel deployed (Field Coordinator)	1	1
# of paid staff	2	2
# of international and national procurement processes conducted for supply replenishment	4	7

Narrative description of achievements

• The support provided by the Secretariat during the operation ensured the smooth implementation of operational processes and the timely and adequate provision of essential supplies. Throughout the period, seven procurement processes were carried out, including three acquisitions of medical supplies, two purchases of individual hygiene kits, and one of family kits, reaching a total volume of 18.29 tons. These procurements combined five local purchases and two international, demonstrating efficient and well-coordinated management across different operational levels.
• In parallel, two major import operations were carried out: the reception of a maritime shipment of 14.15 tons and an air shipment of 0.11 tons, complemented by the ACNUR donation of handwashing stations, which added 0.26 tons. Each of these processes was closely monitored by the IFRC Procurement Department, ensuring the traceability of supplies and compliance with established protocols for their reception, transportation, and storage.
• In addition, the Procurement team provided continuous support from the development of the procurement plan, including active participation in the committees; the IFRC team's presence at the aiport during operations also strengthened and adapted response dynamics while ensuring efficient coordination with authorities and partner organizations.
• From the Security Department, regular context updates were provided for all prioritized states visited during the operation, along with recommendations for improvement based on identified needs.
• The Human Resources Department played a key role by implementing a rapid recruitment protocol for emergency situations, which enabled the swift hiring of National Society personnel during the second phase of the operation-a valuable resource that was also adapted in another DREF operation running in parallel.
• Technical and operational support was further enhanced through four SURGE deployments, contributing to strengthen field response and share experiences and capacities through the IFRC network in Americas.
• These actions reflect and integrated, coordinated and professional support effort by the Secretariat, combining logistics, security, procurement management, and technical deployments to guarantee an effective, transparent and timely response. The joint work across different areas not only addressed immediate needs but also strengthened institutional capacities for future operations, consolidating a management model that prioritized efficiency, collaboration and quality in humanitarian assistance.

Lessons Learnt

• The joint work with the National Society made it possible to strengthen key concepts and guidelines, as well as to identify new needs at field to continue improving operations focused on migration.
• Effective coordination among different support areas was achieved, leading to the development of documents and tools that enhance joint perfomance. Enabling the NS to recognize the importance of creating documents/protocols/guidance tools for the implementation of emergency operations.
• These goods practices and lessons learnt are now replicated in other response DREFs implemented by the National Society, demostrating the sustainability and positive impact of institutional learning.

Challenges

• The current migration context requires ongoing support from the Delegation, which can be challenging given the context and prioritization of needs. Nevertheless, this support was present and essential to ensure the continuity and coherence of the actions implemented.

National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 54,840
Targeted Persons: 0
Assisted Persons: 0
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of personnel hired directly for the operation	4	4
# of lessons learned workshops conducted	1	1
# of monitoring and evaluation visits by NS	7	7

Narrative description of achievements

• The National Society achieved significant milestones that strengthened its operational and emergency response capacity. Among them, the drafting of the Emergency Staff Recruitment Policy, adapted to institutional needs and the national context, stands out as a key step toward a more structured approach to human resource management in emergency situations.
• In addition, technical support was provided for procurement and financial management processes during operaitons, allowing for more efficient and transparent implementation.
• Furthermore, assessments carried out in border areas - specifically in Zulia, Barinas, Táchira, Apure, Bolívar and the Capital District - made it possible to better identify humanitarian needs and guide strategic actions.
• These achievements reflect a wide range of concrete actions aimed at strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of the National Society, consolidating its emergency response capabilities and its role within the Movement.

Lessons Learnt

• The importance of continuing institutional strengthening processes was identified, ensuring that the knowledge gained is sustained over time and integrated into the National Society's operational practices in a sustainable way.
• Likewise, the need to systematically follow up on the outcomes of the lessons learned was emphazied, transforming them into concrete improvement actions to consolidate progress, avoid the recurrence of previous challenges, and enhance the quality and effectiveness of the humanitarian response..

Challenges

• Among the main challenges identified is the need to continue advocating for staff sustainability, ensuring stable teams that can guarantee the continuity and quality of interventions. Likewise, it is essential to strengthen and empower volunteers thorugh training and the provision of tools that contribute to the professionalization of activities and competencies of those who sustain humanitarian actions in the field.

• Another key challenge is to ensure the continuity of the migration response beyond emergency situations, promoting the development of sustainable, long-term programs that integrate assistance to migrants into regular work of the National Society.

• Due to the number of volunteers available locally with the technical skills needed to implement the proposed activities, an overload was identified among the staff supporting the operation, highlighting the need to integrate mechanisms for timely disconnection and relief.

Financial Report

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/3-2026/4	Operation	MDRVE011
Budget Timeframe	2025-2026	Budget	APPROVED

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 23/Jun/2026

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRVE011 - Venezuela - Population Movement

Operating Timeframe: 15 Mar 2025 to 30 Sep 2025

I. Summary

Opening Balance	**0**
Funds & Other Income	**494,205**
DREF Anticipatory Pillar	148,383
DREF Response Pillar	345,822
Expenditure	**-462,190**
Closing Balance	**32,015**

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items			**0**
PO02 - Livelihoods			**0**
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			**0**
PO04 - Health	89,606	83,224	**6,381**
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	184,343	247,957	**-63,613**
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	6,226	1,210	**5,016**
PO07 - Education			**0**
PO08 - Migration	67,063	13,916	**53,147**
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	30,381	70,059	**-39,678**
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	1,557	605	**951**
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			**0**
Planned Operations Total	**379,176**	**416,971**	**-37,795**
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships			**0**
EA02 - Secretariat Services	61,993	26,224	**35,770**
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	56,618	18,995	**37,623**
Enabling Approaches Total	**118,611**	**45,219**	**73,392**
Grand Total	**497,787**	**462,190**	**35,597**

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Please explain variances (if any)

A total of CHF 494,205 was allocated from the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) for the implementation of this operation. By the end of the operation, total expenditures amounted to CHF 462,190. The unspent balance of CHF 32,015 will be returned to the DREF.

The most notable variances between the budgeted and actual expenditures include: The programmatic and technical scope of the operation exceeded the technical targets while remaining within the same approved budget. The most significant variances are mainly

attributable to this scale-up. In the WASH sector (PO05), an overspend of -63,613 CHF was recorded, primarily due to an increase in the target population from 10,000 to 14,620 people as a result of an influx of migrants. This adjustment resulted in a 146% increase in the procurement of hygiene kits (4,620 additional kits), enabling the programme to reach its revised target of 14,620 people following the second update. This increase responded to the sustained flow of returnees at assistance points, prioritizing public health measures. Optimization through IFRC global agreements and donations (handwashing infrastructure) allowed partial absorption of the additional costs, maximizing reach without a proportional increase in the overall budget.

In contrast, Migration (PO08) shows an under-execution of +79% (+CHF 53,147), resulting from operational efficiencies: reduced costs of food kits, local procurement, and lower expenses in assessments and RFL services. Despite this reduction, the sector reached 13,545 assisted people (94%), demonstrating a better cost-benefit ratio and complementarity with WASH and health.

The Climate Risk Reduction and Adaptation line (PO09) shows a significant over-execution of CHF 39,678. A key factor influencing these discrepancies is the adaptation of the ERP system during its implementation. Updates to the financial “Activid” dimension and adjustments to align with National Society processes led to distortions in budget coding and reporting. As a result, expenditures were incorrectly allocated across budget lines (PO09), while “Enabling Approaches” show significantly lower execution than planned, particularly in Secretariat Services, which were implemented as foreseen.

Cross-cutting areas present under-execution: PGI (PO06) with +80% (+CHF 5,016) and CEA (PO10) with +61% (+CHF 951), due to operational limitations in beneficiary registration, airport restrictions, and availability of specialized technical staff. Nevertheless, these approaches were integrated transversally into the main interventions, without requiring proportional direct investment.

Regarding enabling approaches, significant savings were recorded in National Society Strengthening (EA03: +66%), associated with reduced deployments, use of remote modalities (monitoring and virtual trainings), and greater operational capacity assumed by the Venezuelan Red Cross. These efficiencies allowed resources to be redirected toward direct assistance without compromising operational quality. Overall, the financial variations reflect a continuous process of evidence-based programmatic adaptation, where sustained increases in migration flows and operational constraints required prioritization of critical sectors. The operation succeeded in expanding coverage, maintaining quality standards, and optimizing resources.

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