



Distribution of water jerrycans. Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Appeal: MDRBO018	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 495,243	Crisis Category: Orange	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2025-000038-BOL	People Affected: 3,005,000 people	People Targeted: 12,000 people	People Assisted: 12,000 people
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 19-04-2025	Operational End Date: 31-01-2026	Total Operating Timeframe: 9 months

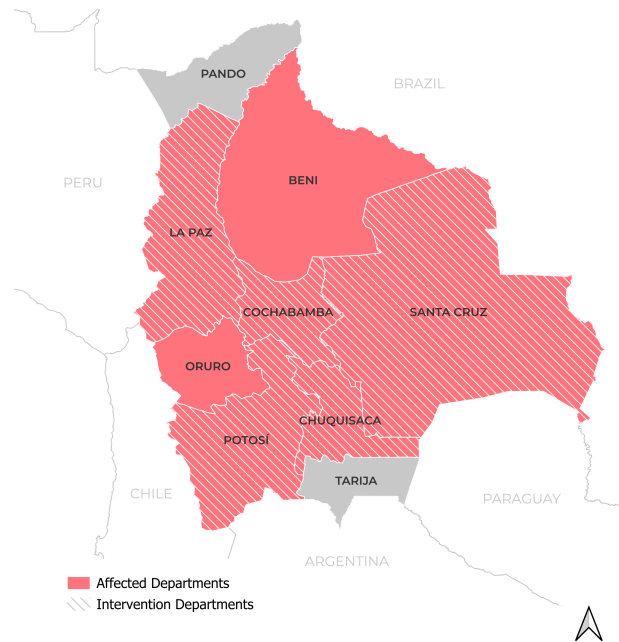
Targeted Regions: **Cochabamba, Chuquisaca, La Paz, Potosi, Santa Cruz**

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

Description of the Event

BOLIVIA | Floods

Affected Departments and Intervention Areas April 2025



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

Departments affected and intervention areas

Date of event

01-04-2025

What happened, where and when?

Bolivia experienced an exceptionally intense rainy season between late 2024 and 2025, resulting in widespread flooding, landslides and other hydrometeorological events across the country. The situation intensified during the first months of 2025, affecting multiple ecological regions including the Altiplano, the Amazon basin, the Chaco and the eastern lowlands. Recurrent rainfall events caused river overflows, soil saturation and mass movements in both rural and urban areas.

As the situation escalated, local authorities progressively issued disaster and emergency declarations across the country. By April 2025, 31 municipalities had declared a state of emergency and 109 municipalities had declared disaster status due to the cumulative impacts of the rainy season. In response to the magnitude of the crisis, on 1 April 2025 the Government of Bolivia declared a National Emergency and requested international assistance to support the humanitarian response.

Throughout the emergency, severe weather events continued to affect several departments. Repeated floods, flash floods and landslides were recorded in La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca, among others, generating recurrent disruptions to transportation, housing and agricultural activities. In some areas, prolonged rainfall and inadequate drainage systems led to persistent water stagnation, increasing environmental and sanitation concerns.

One of the most severe localized events occurred in November 2025 in the municipality of Samaipata, department of Santa Cruz, where more than six hours of extreme rainfall caused rivers and streams to overflow, triggering flash floods and landslides. Communities including Achira, Cuevas, Floripondio, Palermo and Agua Rica were severely affected, while road connectivity and local infrastructure sustained major damage.



By late 2025, although rainfall intensity had decreased compared with the peak months of the emergency, several municipalities, including Samaipata and El Torno in Santa Cruz, continued to maintain disaster declarations due to the persistence of flooding and landslide impacts. At the end of the operation, some areas remained affected by accumulated damages to housing, infrastructure, agricultural production and basic services, while recovery needs continued into early 2026.



Volunteers preparing the distributions.
Source: Bolivian Red Cross



People assisted through the WASH line.
Source: Bolivian Red Cross



Women receiving water jerrycans in La Paz.
Source: Bolivian Red Cross



Workshop on hygiene in emergencies.
Source: Bolivian Red Cross

Scope and Scale

The rainy season generated a large-scale humanitarian crisis across Bolivia, affecting approximately 601,000 families nationwide and resulting in 58 deaths and 10 missing persons, according to official information from the Vice Ministry of Civil Defense (VIDECI). The impacts extended across multiple regions of the country and affected both rural and urban populations.

Housing damage was considerable. Nationwide, 4,760 homes were reported damaged, of which 1,208 were completely destroyed, leaving many families without safe shelter and forcing temporary displacement in several municipalities. Flooding and landslides also caused significant disruption to roads, bridges, water systems and access to basic services, particularly in remote and rural communities with limited infrastructure.

Livelihoods and food security were severely impacted due to extensive agricultural and livestock losses. Approximately 301,193 hectares of crops were affected and 141,240 hectares were completely lost, including key subsistence and commercial crops such as maize, potatoes, quinoa and cocoa. In parallel, 1.15 million animals were affected and more than 48,000 livestock deaths were reported, further increasing economic vulnerability among households dependent on agriculture and livestock production.

The impact varied significantly across departments:

- La Paz recorded the highest number of affected families, with 267,134 households impacted, 1,676 homes damaged and major livestock losses.
- Cochabamba reported 72,142 affected families and the highest number of fatalities, with 22 deaths associated with floods and landslides.
- Santa Cruz experienced major agricultural losses, with approximately 58,000 hectares of crops affected and 25,998 families impacted.
- Chuquisaca reported 170,805 affected families, with 45 municipalities declaring disaster status.

The municipality of Samaipata (Santa Cruz) represented one of the most severe localized impacts during the operation. Floods and landslides affected 1,138 families, damaged 87 homes and completely destroyed 25 houses, forcing the temporary displacement of 125 families to shelters or host households. The emergency also caused the loss of 568 hectares of crops, affecting vegetables, tubers, fruit trees and pastureland, while approximately 30 kilometres of roads and several bridges were damaged, restricting humanitarian access and disrupting local economic activities.

In addition to material losses, the emergency increased public health risks in several affected areas. Floodwaters and prolonged water stagnation heightened exposure to waterborne and vector-borne diseases, particularly in municipalities with limited sanitation and



drainage infrastructure.

Although the most acute phase of the emergency had passed by early 2026, many communities continued to face recovery challenges related to livelihoods restoration, rehabilitation of infrastructure, and access to safe water and sanitation services.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Rainfall in Bolivia affects more than 601,000 families in 2025. (May 7, 2025)	https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/las-lluvias-en-bolivia-dejan-alm%C3%A1s-de-601.000-familias-afectadas-en-2025/89282707
2. River overflows in Samaipata, flooding homes, causing injuries, and reaching the highway between Santa Cruz and Cochabamba	https://television.unitel.bo/portada/noticias/se-desborda-el-r%C3%ADo-en-samaipata-hay-casas-inundadas-heridos-y-llego-mazamorra-a-la-carretera-entre-santa-cruz-y-cochabamba-ON18157009
3. Mayor of Samaipata reports six missing persons after river overflow caused flooding. FIDES News	https://www.noticiasfides.com/nacional/sociedad/alcalde-de-samaipata-reporta-seis-personas-desaparecidas-tras-desborde-de-r%C3%ADo-que-provoco-inundacion
4. Ministry of Public Works: Coordinated actions following the disaster.	https://www.oopp.gob.bo/nota_prensa/acciones-coordinadas-e-inmediatas-tras-desastre-en-samaipata-y-regiones-afectadas/
5. El Deber: Samaipata declares state of emergency due to rains.	https://eldeber.com.bo/santa-cruz/samaipata-declara-emergencia-desastre-desastre-intensas-lluvias_1763484133
6. Bolivia - Severe weather and floods, update (UNCT Bolivia, NOAA-CPC) (ECHO Daily Flash of 28 April 2025)	https://reliefweb.int/report/bolivia-plurinational-state/bolivia-severe-weather-and-floods-update-unct-bolivia-noaa-cpc-echo-daily-flash-28-april-2025

National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	No
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IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) supported the Bolivian Red Cross throughout the operation through the Andean Countries Cluster Delegation (CCD) based in Lima. The cluster provided continuous technical support to the National Society in planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting processes related to the DREF operation. This support was carried out in coordination with the IFRC Americas Regional Office in Panama to ensure alignment with operational standards and technical guidance for the response.</p> <p>To strengthen operational implementation, several short-term deployments were carried out during the operation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Coordinator -> Deployed for one month and
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	<p>based in La Paz, providing technical support on cash-based interventions and operational design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operations Manager -> First rotation, deployed for one month and based in La Paz, supporting operational planning and coordination during the initial phase of the response. - Operations Manager -> Second rotation, deployed for two months to ensure operational continuity and support the management and monitoring of activities in the field. - Multipurpose Cash (MPC) Specialist from the Canadian Red Cross -> Deployed for one month to strengthen technical capacities related to cash transfer programming.
Participating National Societies	<p>The Swiss Red Cross maintains a permanent presence in Bolivia and continues to support the Bolivian Red Cross in strengthening institutional capacities, particularly in the areas of disaster risk management, health and volunteering. Although the Swiss Red Cross did not provide direct operational support to this specific DREF response, its ongoing institutional strengthening initiatives contribute to enhancing the National Society's preparedness and response capacities.</p>

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) maintains ongoing cooperation with the Bolivian Red Cross in strengthening institutional capacities, including areas such as safer access, contingency planning and community-based initiatives. This collaboration contributes to reinforcing the National Society's preparedness and operational readiness in complex contexts.

Although the ICRC did not directly participate in the implementation of the DREF Floods response operation, coordination between the institutions continued throughout the period of the emergency. In this context, the Bolivian Red Cross, with technical and financial support from the ICRC, developed contingency plans in the departments of La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Oruro to strengthen preparedness for potential humanitarian needs arising from social tensions and the national electoral process.

Additionally, the ICRC supported the implementation of community-based microprojects through branches in La Paz, Cochabamba, Chuquisaca and Oruro aimed at strengthening local resilience and response capacities. In Cochabamba, these initiatives complemented preparedness efforts in communities that were also covered by the DREF Floods operation.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	<p>The Government of Bolivia, through the Vice Ministry of Civil Defense (VIDECI), led the national coordination of the response to the impacts of the rainy season following the declaration of a National Emergency. National authorities activated emergency response mechanisms and mobilized humanitarian assistance to affected municipalities across several departments.</p> <p>VIDECI coordinated the distribution of humanitarian assistance in 37 municipalities, including areas in Cochabamba, La Paz, Oruro, Santa Cruz, Sucre and Tarija, reaching approximately 13,213 families with around 201 tons of relief items, including mattresses, blankets and food supplies. In parallel, the Government allocated approximately 2.5 million Bolivianos from the national treasury to support emergency response actions.</p> <p>At the departmental and municipal levels, local governments implemented complementary response measures, including the activation of emergency committees, rapid damage assessments and the mobilization of local resources. In several municipalities affected by flooding and landslides, authorities facilitated the clearance</p>



of roads, restoration of basic services and distribution of emergency assistance to affected families. For example, during the humanitarian mission deployed in Loreto, coordinated by VIDECI within the framework of the Bolivia Solidaria campaign, national and local authorities worked with humanitarian partners to support indigenous communities affected by flooding and facilitate the delivery of relief items and cash assistance.

The Ministry of Health and Sports, through its Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Unit, deployed medical interventions in affected municipalities across departments such as Beni, Santa Cruz, Tarija, Cochabamba and Pando. These interventions included the provision of medicines, mosquito nets and medical supplies to address increased public health risks associated with flooding, particularly waterborne and vector-borne diseases.

In addition, the Bolivian Highway Administration (ABC) under the Ministry of Public Works implemented actions to restore connectivity in affected regions, including the repair of damaged road sections and the establishment of alternative routes in areas impacted by landslides and infrastructure collapse, particularly in Cochabamba and La Paz.

Following the severe flooding in Samaipata (Santa Cruz), municipal and national authorities mobilized emergency support, including the provision of food supplies and the deployment of heavy machinery to reopen roads and restore access to isolated communities. Subsequently, the national government secured USD 380,000 in financial resources from FONPLATA and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to support humanitarian assistance and early recovery actions for families affected by the overflow of the Pirai and Achira rivers.

UN or other actors

Humanitarian response efforts were further supported through coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Bolivia, which brings together United Nations agencies, international organizations and non-governmental partners to complement national response efforts. Within this framework, humanitarian actors coordinated actions across priority sectors including food security, water, sanitation and hygiene, health, protection, education, shelter and livelihoods, aiming to avoid duplication of efforts and strengthen the overall humanitarian response capacity.

- Food Security and Livelihoods:

Several organizations contributed to food assistance and the recovery of productive systems in affected areas. The World Food Programme (WFP) implemented cash-based assistance in municipalities such as San Borja and conducted remote analyses of agricultural impacts and market functionality to assess the feasibility of emergency cash interventions. In addition, FAO, C aritas Bolivia, Practical Action and Plan International, among others, supported food assistance and productive recovery activities in municipalities such as San Borja, Corocoro, Escoma, Calamarca, Ayo Ayo, Ixiamas, San Buenaventura and Palos Blancos.

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):

Agencies including UNICEF, together with partners such as Save the Children and Practical Action, supported the distribution of water filters and hygiene kits, as well as the rehabilitation of water systems in several municipalities affected by flooding. These actions aimed to restore access to safe water and improve hygiene conditions in communities where water sources and sanitation infrastructure had been compromised.

- Health:

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) supported national health authorities through the provision of medicines, medical supplies and technical guidance to address increased health risks associated with flooding. Flood conditions increased the likelihood of outbreaks of diseases such as dengue, leptospirosis and acute diarrheal illnesses. In response, national health authorities implemented epidemiological surveillance, laboratory diagnostics and vector control activities with the technical support of PAHO/WHO and other partners.

- Protection:

Humanitarian organizations including Save the Children, Ayuda en Acci n, World Vision and Cascos Rojos FTH contributed to protection-related activities such as shelter management, psychosocial support and child protection interventions in communities



affected by flooding. In addition, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported protection and psychosocial assistance initiatives, including services aimed at strengthening family protection mechanisms and providing psychosocial support to affected populations.

- Coordination and Risk Management:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) supported municipal authorities in strengthening disaster risk management capacities and preparedness for emergency response. Other civil society networks such as Red UNITAS contributed to coordination and support activities across different humanitarian sectors.

Following the severe flooding in Samaipata (Santa Cruz), several humanitarian actors mobilized targeted support. UNICEF delivered water storage tanks to affected communities, while FAO, in coordination with national veterinary authorities, assessed assistance for livestock affected by the floods. Other organizations contributed to protection activities, shelter management and psychosocial support for affected families.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Coordination of the response to the rainy season emergency was carried out through national and subnational disaster management mechanisms, as well as through humanitarian coordination platforms involving government institutions, humanitarian organizations and the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC).

At the national level, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) was reactivated, bringing together United Nations agencies, humanitarian organizations, the Bolivia Humanitarian Consortium and the Bolivian Red Cross under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator. This platform aimed to strengthen coordination among humanitarian actors and promote an integrated approach to emergency operations across affected regions.

On 21 March, the Government activated the National Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and established several technical committees to address the ongoing emergency. Subsequently, on 31 March, the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Luis Arce, called on departmental governors and municipal associations to assess the impacts of adverse natural events across the country and to coordinate response actions at subnational levels.

Within this framework, several sectoral working groups and technical committees were activated. The Bolivian Red Cross actively participated in the Risk Management Working Group, convened by the Ministry of Education, and later joined the Technical Committee on Health and Nutrition at the request of the Ministry of Health. These coordination spaces included key institutions such as the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI), the Vice Ministry of Civil Defense (VIDECI) and technical programs of the Ministry of Health deployed in affected areas.

At the territorial level, the Bolivian Red Cross participated in Departmental and Municipal Committees for Risk Reduction and Disaster Response, supporting coordination of emergency actions, damage assessments and the implementation of mitigation measures in communities affected by floods.

Coordination during the emergency in Samaipata

Following the severe flooding and flash floods in the municipality of Samaipata (Santa Cruz), response actions were coordinated through the Departmental Emergency Operations Committee (COED), led by the Government of Santa Cruz. The committee established a permanent operational presence in the municipality to manage the response.

From the incident command center established in Samaipata, daily coordination took place with municipal authorities, armed forces, rescue teams, medical brigades and volunteer groups involved in the emergency response.

The Bolivian Red Cross participated through its Santa Cruz departmental branch and operational teams, contributing to monitoring, planning, evaluation and reporting of response activities. Inter-institutional coordination mechanisms were also implemented to organize the distribution of humanitarian assistance, fumigation campaigns, medical care and the rehabilitation of basic services, with support from the Ministry of Health and private sector actors providing logistical support and relief supplies.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Floods and landslides during the rainy season caused extensive damage to housing across several regions of Bolivia, significantly affecting living conditions and forcing some families to seek temporary shelter. Nationwide, 4,760 homes were reported as affected, of which 1,208 were completely destroyed, contributing to the severity of the emergency situation.

Needs assessment surveys conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross identified housing damage as the most significant impact reported by affected households nationwide, mentioned by 52.5% of surveyed families. The highest proportion of housing-related impacts was recorded in Cochabamba, where 84.14% of surveyed households reported damage to housing infrastructure, followed by Santa Cruz (35.22%) and Chuquisaca (37.58%).

The most significant impacts were recorded in the following departments:

- La Paz: 1,676 homes affected, 600 destroyed.
- Cochabamba: 648 homes affected, 102 destroyed.
- Potosí: 189 homes affected, 111 destroyed.
- Oruro: 624 homes affected, 47 destroyed.
- Beni: 1,058 homes affected, 220 destroyed.
- Santa Cruz: 329 homes affected, 55 destroyed.
- Tarija: 77 homes affected.
- Pando: 22 homes affected.

Damage to housing led to the establishment of temporary shelters in several municipalities. According to local media and information from Bolivian Red Cross branches, 120 people were sheltered in La Paz, while Puerto Pailas hosted 120 people and Riberalta accommodated 33 families. In Trinidad, six shelters were operating and approaching full capacity. In San Borja, only one shelter had been established with space for 50 people, despite an estimated need for shelter for 150 people as of 25 March, indicating limited shelter capacity in some areas.

Climatic conditions further aggravated shelter needs in highland departments such as La Paz, Oruro and Potosí, where night-time temperatures can drop to -5°C . Shelter management teams reported urgent needs for blankets and personal mattresses, as exposure to low temperatures increased the risk of respiratory illness and hypothermia among displaced people staying in collective shelters.

In addition to physical damage to housing, the emergency affected household assets and living conditions. Needs assessments identified losses of household goods among 18.12% of surveyed families in Cochabamba and 16.98% in Santa Cruz, further limiting the capacity of households to recover after the floods. Limitations in access and mobility were also reported, particularly in Santa Cruz, where 20.13% of surveyed households identified disruptions affecting mobility and access to services.

Additional needs were identified among displaced populations living in temporary shelters, including access to information on available services and rights, psychosocial support, recreational and educational activities for children and adolescents, and assistance for the recovery of personal documents lost during the floods.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The rainy season severely affected livelihoods across several regions of Bolivia, particularly in rural areas where households depend heavily on agriculture and livestock production for both income and food security. Floods and landslides caused extensive losses in crops, livestock and productive assets, leaving many families facing significant challenges to secure food supplies and restore economic activities.

Nationwide, the impact on agricultural production was substantial. More than 141,240 hectares of crops were destroyed by flooding, while over 48,000 heads of livestock were lost, significantly affecting agricultural production and food availability in rural communities.

Needs assessment surveys conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross identified losses related to crops and agricultural land as one of the main impacts reported by affected households nationwide, affecting 36.74% of surveyed families. Livelihood impacts were also reflected through the deterioration of income-generating activities, reported by 15.12% of households. In comparison, losses related to animals and livestock were reported less frequently at household level, affecting 8.2% of surveyed families, although official figures indicated significant cumulative livestock losses nationwide during the emergency.

Assessments conducted during the emergency indicated that floods and landslides destroyed a large portion of local harvests, directly



affecting household economies. In addition to crop losses, the death of farm animals such as cattle and poultry further reduced income and food sources, as these animals represented essential livelihood assets for many rural households.

The impact on livelihoods varied across departments. In Chuquisaca, 60.51% of surveyed households identified crop and agricultural losses as their main impact from the floods, while 28.03% reported direct effects on livelihoods and 4.88% reported losses related to animals and livestock. In Cochabamba, 13.92% of surveyed households reported losses related to crops and agricultural production, while 11.97% reported impacts on livestock. In Santa Cruz, households also reported impacts on crops and livestock, both affecting 10.69% of surveyed families.

Livelihood activities were also disrupted by damage to transport infrastructure. Approximately 30 km of roads were affected, including sections of the Santa Cruz–Samaipata highway and inter-community routes, limiting access to markets and making it more difficult for farmers to transport and commercialize agricultural products.

In the municipality of Samaipata, assessments identified approximately 112 hectares of crops affected, mainly maize, potatoes, peanuts, vegetables and legumes, which represent key products for both subsistence consumption and local markets. The loss of these crops further reduced household income opportunities and affected food availability in the area.

Overall, the combined effects of crop destruction, livestock losses and damaged transport routes significantly reduced economic opportunities for affected households, leaving many communities in a situation of increased economic vulnerability and highlighting the need for support to restore livelihoods and reactivate productive activities.

Health

Needs assessments and health surveillance during the rainy season emergency identified a deterioration in public health conditions in several affected departments. Flooding, water stagnation and environmental contamination increased exposure to infectious diseases and placed additional pressure on local health systems, particularly in rural and peri-urban communities.

Needs assessment surveys conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross identified acute respiratory infections (ARI) and acute diarrhoeal diseases (ADD) among the most frequently reported health concerns in affected communities. Nationwide, 71.46% of surveyed households identified ARI as a common illness in their communities, while 33.55% reported the presence of ADD. Other relevant health concerns identified included Chagas disease (10.44%), gastritis (9.05%) and dengue (5.43%).

The floods generated a sustained increase in vector breeding sites in the departments of Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca. The proliferation of vectors was associated with stagnant water, waste accumulation and the collapse of drainage systems in flooded areas. According to information from the Departmental Health Service (SEDES) of Cochabamba reported on 26 November 2025, there was a 5% increase in Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) and suspected dengue cases, indicating a growing public health risk linked to the emergency.

National reports from the Ministry of Health confirmed an increase in diseases associated with the rainy season, including acute diarrhoeal diseases, respiratory infections, fungal infections and complications related to hypertension, particularly among displaced families living in unsafe conditions. Since March 2025, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) had warned that flooding represented one of the highest public health risks in the country because of its potential to trigger outbreaks of dengue, leptospirosis, diarrhoeal diseases and other waterborne or vector-borne illnesses.

Community assessments also showed that the health of many families had been seriously affected by environmental contamination and the conditions created by the floods. In Chuquisaca, 74.95% of surveyed households reported ARI as a frequent health concern and 29.3% identified ADD within their communities, while Chagas disease and gastritis were also commonly reported. In Cochabamba, 66.67% of surveyed families identified ARI and 46.28% reported ADD, while dengue cases were also reported among community health concerns. In Santa Cruz, 70.44% of surveyed households identified ARI as a common illness, while dengue represented the second most frequently reported health concern at 25.16%.

The loss of safe housing and the deterioration of water wells increased exposure to waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea and gastrointestinal infections, while the presence of stagnant water facilitated the proliferation of vectors associated with dengue, malaria and other endemic diseases. Nearly half of surveyed households nationwide (49.09%) reported concerns regarding the smell, colour or taste of consumed water, reflecting persistent risks related to access to safe water during the emergency.

Limited access to health services in some rural communities further increased vulnerability, particularly among children, older persons and other high-risk groups. The emotional impact associated with the loss of homes and livelihoods was also reported as affecting the mental wellbeing of affected families.

By January 2026, the health situation remained complex in several departments, including Cochabamba, La Paz, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca. In the context of vector-borne diseases, the chikungunya outbreak in Santa Cruz exceeded 4,300 confirmed cases, with 40 hospitalizations and five deaths, prompting the declaration of a hospital red alert due to the risk of health system overload. During the same period, Cochabamba reported approximately 190 cases, La Paz around 70 cases, and Chuquisaca reported lower numbers within the national total.



At the same time, acute diarrhoeal diseases increased significantly, particularly in La Paz, where more than 2,100 cases were reported in a single week, reflecting the vulnerability of communities exposed to contaminated water sources. Health facilities in Santa Cruz, La Paz and Cochabamba experienced increased pressure due to the demand for medical attention, while rural areas in Chuquisaca continued to face challenges related to limited access to basic health services.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The rainy season significantly affected water, sanitation and hygiene conditions in several regions of Bolivia, increasing risks related to water contamination, environmental pollution and poor sanitation. Flooding damaged or contaminated water sources and sanitation infrastructure, leaving many communities with limited access to safe drinking water and adequate hygiene conditions.

Needs assessment surveys conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross identified persistent challenges related to access to safe water across affected communities. Nationwide, 42.39% of surveyed households reported relying on the public water network as their main water source, while 32.37% depended on rivers and springs and 20.77% relied on wells. In addition, 49.09% of surveyed families reported concerns related to the colour, smell or taste of consumed water, reflecting widespread perceptions of water contamination and reduced water quality following the floods.

One of the most critical problems identified during needs assessments was the contamination of water wells, springs and household water connections, which significantly deteriorated the quality of potable water in affected communities. As a result, many families were forced to rely on untreated alternative water sources, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases.

Flooding also damaged basic sanitation infrastructure, generating the accumulation of stagnant water and waste in several communities. The lack of adequate drainage and sewage systems further aggravated these conditions, creating contaminated environments that posed risks to public health and hygiene.

These problems were particularly evident in Cochabamba and Chuquisaca, where the absence or collapse of sewage and drainage systems led to stagnation of wastewater and seepage of septic residues into water sources, significantly increasing the risk of gastrointestinal diseases. In the municipality of Quillacollo, the absence of sewage systems resulted in the accumulation of wastewater and contamination of surrounding areas.

Needs assessments in Chuquisaca identified a high dependence on rivers and springs as the main water source, reported by 63.91% of surveyed households, highlighting the vulnerability of communities relying on surface water sources during flooding events. In Cochabamba, 76.05% of surveyed families reported concerns regarding the smell, colour or taste of consumed water, indicating severe deterioration in water quality conditions following the floods. In Santa Cruz, most surveyed households relied on the public water network (62.26%), although communities also reported challenges related to water quality and access following the emergency.

Flooding also caused the accumulation of waste and sediment in water sources and surrounding areas, facilitating the proliferation of disease vectors and further deteriorating environmental sanitation conditions.

In Samaipata, the floods affected water and sanitation conditions in communities such as Achira and Cuevas, where damage to infrastructure and contamination of water sources created additional challenges for accessing safe water.



Education

The rainy season emergency significantly disrupted the education sector in several regions of Bolivia, affecting school infrastructure, access to classrooms and the continuity of learning for children and adolescents in affected communities. Flooding, landslides and extreme weather conditions damaged educational facilities and limited safe access to schools, particularly in rural and river-basin areas.

At the peak of the emergency in March 2025, approximately 1,000 educational units nationwide were reported as affected by flooding and related hazards. Through coordinated actions by education authorities and communities, the number of schools directly impacted gradually decreased as mitigation measures and temporary solutions were implemented to restore classes.

As of 9 April 2025, 32 educational units across six departments were operating under semi-presential or distance learning modalities due to the impacts of flooding and health-related disruptions. According to the Ministry of Education, 27 schools were affected by flooding, while five schools suspended in-person classes due to disease outbreaks. The number of affected schools increased rapidly during the early phase of the emergency, rising from 17 to 32 schools within three days.

The impact varied across departments:

- Beni was the most affected, with 15 schools in the municipality of San Andrés-Loreto suspending in-person classes due to flooding.



- La Paz reported 10 affected schools, including five impacted by disease outbreaks.
- Cochabamba reported three schools affected by flooding and one affected by COVID-19 cases.
- Pando reported two schools operating in semi-presential modalities due to rainfall impacts.
- Santa Cruz and Tarija each reported one school affected by adverse weather conditions.

Flooding and landslides also damaged access roads and transportation routes to schools, creating additional barriers for students and teachers, particularly in remote communities. In some municipalities, displacement of families, housing damage and the deterioration of living conditions further reduced school attendance and disrupted educational routines. Needs assessment surveys conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross also identified limitations in access and mobility among affected households, particularly in Santa Cruz, where 20.13% of surveyed families reported mobility constraints associated with the floods and damaged infrastructure.

Health conditions during the emergency may also have affected school attendance and learning continuity. Surveyed households reported high prevalence of acute respiratory infections (ARI) and acute diarrhoeal diseases (ADD) across affected communities, particularly in Chuquisaca, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, increasing health risks for children and adolescents during the rainy season.

Throughout the remainder of the rainy season, authorities implemented measures such as hybrid learning modalities, temporary adjustments to school schedules and community-led recovery actions to gradually restore educational services. Despite these efforts, the emergency highlighted vulnerabilities in the education sector, particularly in flood-prone areas where infrastructure damage and access constraints can significantly interrupt schooling during hydrometeorological events.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Needs assessments conducted in affected communities during the rainy season emergency identified important challenges related to trust, communication and community participation. The impacts of flooding and landslides generated significant uncertainty among families regarding their safety, housing conditions and future livelihoods. In addition to damage to homes, public infrastructure such as health centers and schools was also affected, increasing the demand for clear and reliable information about the situation and about available assistance.

A total of 939 needs assessment surveys were conducted by the Bolivian Red Cross across affected communities, primarily in Chuquisaca (50.16% of surveyed families), Cochabamba (32.91%) and Santa Cruz (16.93%). The assessment process provided important insights into community perceptions, priority concerns and barriers affecting access to information and participation during the emergency.

Community consultations indicated that local leaders were often perceived as trusted representatives and played a key role in communication between affected families, authorities and external actors. In several communities, families had temporarily moved to relatives' homes or migrated internally due to structural damage caused by prolonged exposure of houses to floodwaters. These conditions increased the importance of having trusted intermediaries to communicate needs and concerns.

Assessments also revealed dissatisfaction among community members regarding the management and distribution of humanitarian assistance by municipal authorities, which many residents perceived as insufficient or poorly targeted. This perception contributed to frustration among affected families and reinforced the demand for more transparent information on how assistance was being allocated.

Field observations and assessment processes also identified concerns related to public health information and access to safe water. Surveyed households frequently reported acute respiratory infections (ARI) and acute diarrhoeal diseases (ADD) as common health concerns in their communities, while nearly half of surveyed families nationwide identified problems related to the colour, smell or taste of consumed water. These conditions reinforced the need for accessible and trusted communication on health risks, safe water practices and available services.

In addition, field observations identified a reluctance among some community members to share personal information during needs assessments. This reluctance was linked to previous experiences with government institutions that had collected personal documentation during earlier emergencies under the promise of assistance that was not subsequently delivered. As a result, some residents expressed concerns that their personal data could be used for political purposes, which initially limited participation in assessment processes.

Communities reported having received visits from multiple government entities, including representatives from departmental and municipal authorities, during which personal documentation was requested without clear follow-up on assistance. These experiences contributed to skepticism toward external actors and created barriers to open communication.



Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF operation, the Bolivian Red Cross aimed to assist 2,400 families affected by flooding in the departments of Santa Cruz, La Paz, Chuquisaca and Cochabamba through activities in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Health, Multipurpose Cash Transfers, Livelihoods, and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), reaching the expected 2,400 families, equivalent to approximately 12,000 people, by the end of the operation.

Operation strategy rationale

Considering the needs identified during assessments and the operational capacity of the Bolivian Red Cross, the response strategy focused on addressing the most urgent impacts of the floods, particularly those related to loss of livelihoods and purchasing capacity, deterioration of water and sanitation conditions, increased public health risks, and the need for transparent communication with affected communities. The intervention prioritized households most affected in the departments of Santa Cruz, La Paz, Chuquisaca and Cochabamba, through complementary actions in the following strategic areas.

I. MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA)

The strategy incorporated Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) as a primary modality to address the immediate economic impacts of the floods on affected households. Damage to livelihoods, productive assets and sources of income reduced the purchasing capacity of many families, making cash assistance an appropriate mechanism to support access to essential goods and services.

The initial operational design considered assisting 2,000 families through cash transfers of Bs 600 per household. However, following updated market assessments conducted during the emergency, the transfer value was revised to Bs 1,200 per household due to significant increases in the prices of basic goods and the household consumption basket. This adjustment aimed to ensure that the assistance remained sufficient to cover priority needs identified during the response.

As a result of the increase in transfer value and the need to maintain operational feasibility within the available budget, the strategy was adjusted to prioritize the most vulnerable households based on vulnerability criteria and humanitarian needs. Consequently, the target was revised to 1,118 families receiving MPCA support at the updated transfer value.

To ensure operational feasibility across different contexts, the strategy contemplated the use of digital cash transfer systems, including the RedRose platform and financial service providers, complemented by direct cash-in-hand distribution modalities in areas with limited access to financial services.

II. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

The WASH strategy aimed to mitigate the deterioration of water and sanitation conditions following flooding, which resulted in contamination of water sources and increased exposure to waterborne diseases in affected communities.

The response focused on supporting households affected by flooding through access to essential hygiene supplies, water treatment materials and safe water storage solutions, complemented by community-based hygiene promotion measures aimed at strengthening safe water management and disease prevention practices.

III. HEALTH

The health component of the strategy addressed the increased risk of vector-borne and water-related diseases associated with flooding and environmental contamination. Stagnant water and debris created favorable conditions for vector proliferation, while damaged living conditions increased exposure to disease.

The strategy therefore prioritized community-based prevention and risk reduction measures, focusing on strengthening awareness of disease prevention, reducing vector breeding risks and promoting protective health practices in affected communities, while also considering psychosocial wellbeing needs resulting from the impacts of the emergency.

IV. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA)

Community Engagement and Accountability was integrated as a cross-cutting element of the strategy to ensure that affected populations had access to clear information, communication channels and mechanisms to provide feedback throughout the response.

The strategy aimed to strengthen two-way communication between communities and humanitarian actors by promoting accessible feedback mechanisms, supporting communication through community leaders and ensuring that information about the response was



disseminated in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways. This approach sought to enhance transparency, strengthen trust with communities and ensure that the response remained aligned with the priorities expressed by affected populations.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

This operation aimed to assist 2,400 families (approximately 12,000 people) affected by flooding in municipalities across the departments of Cochabamba, La Paz, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca.

The departments and geographic areas prioritized for the response were selected based on the level of impact caused by the floods, population density, accessibility to resources and operational personnel, and the presence of active volunteer networks and community leaders. These criteria ensured that the intervention reached the most affected populations while promoting an effective and participatory community response.

Families were selected through a comprehensive needs assessment, prioritizing households facing the greatest barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance from other organizations.

The communities prioritized for assistance were identified by Bolivian Red Cross branches, taking into account the level of impact in each area and the operational capacity of each branch, including the availability of volunteers, equipment and previous experience in emergency response.

Targeted Areas

LA PAZ – LAJA AND GUAQUI MUNICIPALITIES

Communities:

- Masaya Quentuni
- Masaya Kalasaya
- Masaya Jankarullo
- Masaya Chosacota
- Yaurikorahua
- Belen A
- Belen B
- Patarani
- Santa Rosa
- Villa Tintuma

COCHABAMBA – QUILLACOLLO MUNICIPALITY (DISTRICTS 3, 4, 5 AND 10)

Grassroots Territorial Organizations (OTBs):

- 27 de Mayo
- Villa Providencia Sud
- Cotapachi
- Esquilan Chico
- Esquilan Iquircollo
- Demetrio Canelas
- Libertad Sapenco
- Pocopollo
- Nuevo Amanecer
- Nueva Esperanza
- Roby
- Villa Providencia Norte
- Santo Domingo
- Ramón G. Prada
- Rotari
- Martín Cárdenas
- Miranda Siles Sud
- Canillitas

SANTA CRUZ – COTOCA, PUERTO PAILAS, EL PAILÓN, OKINAWA AND SAMAIPATA



Communities:

- 3 de Mayo
- Canaán
- La Salvadora
- Valle Hermoso
- La Verdad
- San Antonio
- Achira
- Palermo
- Cuevas
- Floripondio
- Agua Rica

CHUQUISACA – ZUDAÑEZ AND PRESTO MUNICIPALITIES

Communities:

- Lomán
- Huallapampa
- Aramasi
- San Francisco
- Misión Pampa
- Llavetani

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Households assisted through this operation were selected based on vulnerability and impact criteria, with the objective of prioritizing families most affected by the floods and facing the greatest barriers to restoring their wellbeing and livelihoods.

Priority was given to households including members in situations of heightened vulnerability. These included:

- Older persons.
- Single-parent households.
- Persons with disabilities.
- Persons with limited economic resources.
- Persons with pre-existing health conditions.

In addition to vulnerability factors, the prioritization process also considered the severity of the impact caused by the floods, particularly where the damage significantly affected the capacity of households to recover their living conditions. The main impact criteria included:

- Damage to housing infrastructure.
- Loss of livelihoods, including crops, livestock or income-generating activities.
- Disruption of essential services, such as access to safe water, health care and other basic services.

The identification of eligible households was carried out in coordination with Bolivian Red Cross branches and community leaders, supporting the verification of needs and ensuring that assistance was directed to the most affected families.



Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	4,200	Rural	60%
Assisted Girls (under 18)	1,800	Urban	40%
Assisted Men	4,200	People with disabilities (estimated)	3%
Assisted Boys (under 18)	1,800		
Total Assisted Population	12,000		
Total Targeted Population	12,000		

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?	No
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	No
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
Difficult access to communities due to flooded roads, landslides and damaged infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles were maintained in good operational condition and clearly identified. • Relief supplies were prepositioned in strategic locations to facilitate access and response continuity. • Coordination with local authorities and private transport providers was maintained to obtain updated access information and additional logistical support when required.
Increased operational costs due to fuel shortages in Bolivia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular monitoring and follow-up of branch activities were conducted to identify potential operational delays. • Departmental branches developed contingency plans to address fuel shortages and maintain operational continuity.
Political use of humanitarian response during the electoral processes scheduled for the third quarter of 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neutrality was reinforced through both internal and external communication.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear Red Cross visibility and identification were ensured throughout all response activities. • Cases of inappropriate political use of the response were monitored and addressed. • The role and mandate of the Red Cross were promoted throughout the operation to strengthen public understanding of its humanitarian function ahead of the electoral process. • Communication materials and key messages on humanitarian principles, the role of the Red Cross and protection of the emblem were produced and disseminated.
<p>Impact of vector-borne diseases and extreme weather conditions on response teams. There was a risk that Bolivian Red Cross response teams could be affected by vector-borne diseases and extreme climatic conditions, including heavy rainfall, heat exhaustion and low temperatures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response teams included volunteers with first aid experience and knowledge of emergency health measures. • Safety and wellbeing considerations for staff and volunteers were integrated into field operations, including monitoring exposure to climatic conditions and health risks during deployments.
<p>Social and political instability during the third quarter of 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close coordination with local authorities was maintained throughout the operation. • Periodic security assessments were conducted with departmental branches. • Staff and volunteers received relevant security briefings and followed established security protocols. • Clearly marked Red Cross vehicles and uniforms were used to strengthen visibility, recognition and protection. • Debriefing meetings, community follow-up activities and emotional support spaces were conducted to strengthen staff wellbeing and operational feedback mechanisms.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

The operation was implemented in a context with several factors affecting the safety and protection of staff, volunteers and affected communities. These risks were continuously monitored and managed through coordination with local authorities, community leaders and the internal security protocols of the Bolivian Red Cross.

Initially, the intervention considered the inclusion of the Potosí branch. However, in June 2025, clashes, road blockades and insecurity incidents occurred in the municipality of Llallagua (Potosí), resulting in three fatalities and more than 60 injuries. Based on the security analysis and in order to safeguard the physical integrity of staff and volunteers, the Bolivian Red Cross decided not to implement operational activities in that area and prioritized intervention in departments where safe access and operational conditions could be ensured.

Operational risks were also associated with logistical constraints, including incidents related to contracted transport services and limitations in vehicle maintenance. These risks were mitigated through strengthened operational coordination, monitoring of field movements and the application of internal logistical procedures to ensure safe deployment of teams. In addition, the geographic conditions of several communities required long travel times; therefore, movements were planned in coordination with local branches and authorities to reduce exposure to potential security risks.

During the electoral period, there were also reports of attempts to instrumentalize humanitarian assistance for political purposes in certain areas. To mitigate these risks, the Bolivian Red Cross reinforced communication on its neutral and independent humanitarian mandate, ensured clear visibility of the organization during activities and maintained close coordination with community leaders to preserve acceptance and trust within affected communities.

<p>Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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Implementation



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 172,460
Targeted Persons: 5,590
Assisted Persons: 4,997
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of families assisted with Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) program	1,118	1,118
Number of feasibility studies developed	1	1
Percentage of households participating in post-distribution survey	80	80

Narrative description of achievements

The Bolivian Red Cross implemented the Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) component to support 1,118 families affected by the floods (approximately 4,997 people, based on post-distribution monitoring average household size) in La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca. Each household received Bs 1,200 (approximately CHF 138) to cover essential needs and support early recovery. Of the total assisted households, 933 families received assistance through digital cash transfer mechanisms using the RedRose platform and financial institutions, while 185 families in Chuquisaca received direct cash-in-hand assistance due to operational constraints and limited access to financial services.

I. FEASIBILITY AND MARKET ASSESSMENT

Prior to the implementation of the cash transfer programme, a feasibility study was conducted in Santa Cruz and La Paz to support the design of the intervention. The study included market analysis, needs assessment and operational feasibility analysis, providing key information on the availability of goods, price levels and operational conditions for implementing cash transfers in the targeted areas.

The assessment identified significant increases in the prices of basic goods and the household consumption basket during the emergency context. At the time, the national minimum wage in Bolivia was Bs 2,400, and the study concluded that the initially proposed transfer value of Bs 600 would not be sufficient to adequately support affected households in meeting their priority needs. Based on these findings, the transfer value was revised to Bs 1,200 per household, doubling the initial amount and positioning the assistance above the transfer values commonly provided by other humanitarian actors during the emergency. Consequently, while the initial operational design considered assisting 2,000 families, the target was adjusted to 1,118 households to maintain operational feasibility within the available budget while prioritizing the most vulnerable families.

The results of the feasibility assessment confirmed the viability of the MPCA modality and informed the operational parameters of the intervention.

II. CASH ASSISTANCE DELIVERY

Cash transfers were delivered primarily through the RedRose platform using MoneyGram as the main financial service provider. A total of 933 families received assistance through this modality in La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz. Depending on the location, families accessed their transfers through different financial institutions, including Banco Ganadero, Banco Económico, Ecofuturo, FIE, Diaconía and Banco Nacional de Bolivia (BNB).

In La Paz, families collected transfers through Diaconía, Banco Ganadero, Banco Económico, Ecofuturo and FIE. In Cochabamba, transfers were accessed mainly through Banco Ganadero, Banco Económico and Banco Nacional de Bolivia (BNB), while in Santa Cruz families accessed transfers through Crecer, Banco Ganadero and Banco Económico.



In these departments, families travelled using their own means to reach the designated municipalities and collection points, primarily through public transportation, with average transportation costs ranging between Bs 10 and Bs 15 for a round trip.

In Chuquisaca, due to operational constraints and limited access to formal financial services, assistance for 185 families in the municipality of Presto was delivered through direct cash-in-hand distributions (“sobre seguro”). Given the remote context and access limitations, a private transport service was contracted to facilitate the secure movement of staff and cash during the distributions. The delivery process was accompanied by the Regional CVA Coordinator, who provided technical support and oversight during the implementation process.

The intervention reached 1,118 families across four departments and seven municipalities as follows:

- * La Paz – 250 families assisted
- * Guaqui: 148 families
- * Laja: 102 families
- * Cochabamba – 419 families assisted
- * Quillacollo: 419 families
- * Santa Cruz – 264 families assisted
- * Puerto Pailas: 134 families
- * Pailón: 100 families
- * Okinawa: 30 families
- * Chuquisaca – 185 families assisted
- * Presto: 185 families

The implementation of the CVA component also received technical support from a Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) specialist from the Canadian Red Cross.

III. POST-DISTRIBUTION MONITORING

To assess the effectiveness of the intervention, post-distribution monitoring (PDM) was conducted with 894 households, representing 80% of the families assisted. Survey coverage by department was as follows:

- * La Paz: 128 households surveyed (51% of the 250 families assisted)
- * Cochabamba: 357 households surveyed (85% of the 419 families assisted)
- * Santa Cruz: 224 households surveyed (85% of the 264 families assisted)
- * Chuquisaca: 185 households surveyed (100% of the 185 families assisted)

The post-distribution monitoring identified an average household size of 4.47 members. This average household composition was used to estimate the reach of the MPCA component with greater precision, resulting in an estimated total reach of approximately 4,997 people supported through the assistance provided to 1,118 households.

Of the surveyed respondents, 63.65% (568 individuals) were women, reflecting a high level of female participation in the monitoring and feedback process.

Findings from the surveys confirmed that families prioritized the use of cash assistance to address immediate basic needs and support early recovery processes. The main reported uses of the transfers were:

- * Food purchases: 77.85% (696 households)
- * Health-related expenses: 38.59% (345 households)
- * Basic household items: 21.14% (189 households)
- * Education expenses: 5.93% (53 households)
- * Materials and labour for house repairs: 5.26% (47 households)
- * Livestock care and purchase: 4.7% (42 households)
- * Agricultural inputs: 4.7% (42 households)

Additional uses included payment of public services (1.9%, 17 households), debt repayment (0.67%, 6 households), transportation (0.56%, 5 households), savings (0.45%, 4 households) and child-related protection expenses (0.22%, 2 households).

The use of the assistance varied according to the needs and livelihoods profile of each department. In Chuquisaca, food represented the main expenditure category for 98.38% of surveyed households (182 households), while 73.51% (136 households) also allocated resources to health expenses, reflecting the immediate impact of the emergency on household consumption and wellbeing.

In Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, families primarily used the assistance for food, health expenses and replacement of basic household items, while a smaller proportion invested in home repairs and education-related expenses. In Cochabamba, 79.27% of surveyed households (283 households) prioritized food purchases, 29.13% (104 households) allocated resources to health expenses and 27.17% (97 households) used the assistance to replace household items. In Santa Cruz, 70.98% of surveyed households (159 households) used the assistance for food, 41.96% (94 households) for health expenses and 20.54% (46 households) for household items.



In La Paz, a significant proportion of families allocated resources toward productive recovery activities, including livestock care and agricultural inputs, reflecting the agricultural and livestock-based livelihoods of the targeted communities. Among surveyed households, 29.69% (38 households) used the assistance for livestock-related expenses and 22.65% (29 households) for agricultural inputs, while 56.25% (72 households) prioritized food purchases.

Lessons Learnt

- Conducting market and feasibility assessments prior to the implementation of cash transfers proved essential to confirm the viability of the MPCA modality and to adapt the intervention to local market conditions. These analyses provided key information on the availability of goods, price levels and operational feasibility, allowing the programme to be implemented more efficiently.
- Multipurpose cash assistance proved to be an effective and flexible modality to address the diverse needs of affected households. Families were able to prioritize expenditures according to their most urgent needs, including food purchases, livelihood recovery and basic household repairs.
- The use of digital tools such as the RedRose platform strengthened the management and traceability of cash transfers. The system, managed from IFRC's Regional Office, facilitated beneficiary registration, monitoring of transfers and improved overall programme management and transparency.
- Coordination with local branches and community leaders facilitated the identification and verification of beneficiary households, contributing to a more efficient targeting process and strengthening trust between the communities and the response teams.
- Post-distribution monitoring provided valuable feedback on the adequacy and use of the assistance, confirming that the cash transfers helped households address their most urgent needs following the floods.

Challenges

- Administrative requirements imposed by some financial institutions created delays and difficulties for beneficiaries when withdrawing the transfers. Although families had been informed of the basic requirements, including identity documents, photocopies of identification cards, the MoneyGram code and bank transfer documentation, some institutions requested additional information at the time of withdrawal. In particular, institutions such as Ecofuturo, Banco FIE and Diaconía required extra administrative procedures that complicated the process for some households. In the case of Diaconía, beneficiaries were additionally asked to provide the name of the person sending the money and the tax identification number (NIT) associated with the transfer, despite already having information regarding the institution and country of origin of the funds.
- Limited access to financial services in certain areas required the use of alternative delivery mechanisms. In Chuquisaca, operational constraints and the absence of accessible financial institutions made it necessary to implement direct cash-in-hand distributions, which required additional logistical coordination, transportation arrangements and reinforced security measures.
- The geographic dispersion of the targeted communities and long travel distances increased operational complexity, requiring careful planning of field movements and coordination with local branches to ensure safe and timely implementation. In some cases, community members had to travel to nearby municipalities or urban centres to access financial institutions, generating additional transportation costs and logistical barriers for participating in the cash distribution process.
- The electoral context created sensitivities around the distribution of humanitarian assistance, as there was a risk that the support could be perceived as politically motivated. This required reinforcing communication on the neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian mandate of the Bolivian Red Cross throughout the implementation of the programme.
- During the operation, one local political leader attempted to condition the acceptance of humanitarian assistance on its delivery under his political representation, stating that the community would reject the assistance otherwise. To address the situation and avoid the politicization of the response, the Bolivian Red Cross established direct communication and mediation with the community, reinforcing the independent humanitarian nature of the intervention and ensuring that assistance was delivered under Red Cross principles.



Health

Budget: CHF 33,602
Targeted Persons: 7,000
Assisted Persons: 7,000
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -



Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people receiving individual psychosocial support, including psychological first aid, by National Society staff or trained volunteers	200	696
Number of support meetings or psycho-educational activities organized for staff and volunteers (emotional ventilations).	10	10
Number of families supported through vector control interventions	1,400	1,400
Number of community awareness-raising workshops on prevention of vector-borne diseases.	7	20

Narrative description of achievements

The Bolivian Red Cross implemented health interventions aimed at reducing the risk of vector-borne diseases and strengthening psychosocial wellbeing in communities affected by the floods. In total, 1,400 families (approximately 7,000 people) were reached through vector control, environmental sanitation and community health promotion activities in Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca. In addition, 696 people received individual psychosocial support, including psychological first aid provided by trained staff and volunteers.

These interventions contributed to improving environmental hygiene conditions, strengthening disease prevention practices and addressing the emotional impacts of the emergency among affected populations.

I. VECTOR CONTROL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTIONS

Vector control activities were implemented to reduce the risk of vector-borne diseases associated with stagnant water, environmental contamination and poor sanitation conditions following the floods. These interventions included training for staff and volunteers on physical vector control, community awareness activities and the distribution of cleaning kits to support environmental sanitation at household level.

In total, 1,400 families (approximately 7,000 people) received support through these interventions, distributed as follows:

Cochabamba – 742 families assisted (approximately 3,710 people)

- Quillacollo: 742 families

Santa Cruz – 305 families assisted (approximately 1,525 people)

- Puerto Pailas: 164 families

- Pailón: 108 families

- Okinawa: 33 families

Chuquisaca – 353 families assisted (approximately 1,765 people)

- Presto: 353 families

As part of these interventions, 1,400 cleaning kits for household vector control were distributed. Each kit included:

- Detergent powder (1 kg bags) – 2 units

- Bleach in 1 litre plastic containers – 2 bottles

- Rubber gloves (size M) – 1 pair

- Garbage bags (90 × 110 cm, pack of 10 units)

- Kitchen cleaning sponges (pack of 4 units)

- Plastic broom (brush type)

- Medium-sized dustpan

- Plastic bucket (10 litres)

These materials enabled families to improve sanitation conditions within their homes and surrounding environments, contributing to the reduction of vector breeding sites and the prevention of vector-borne diseases.



To reinforce prevention practices, 20 community workshops on the prevention of vector-borne diseases and the use of cleaning kits for environmental sanitation were conducted in the targeted communities. The distribution of workshops was as follows:

Cochabamba – 8 workshops conducted

- Quillacollo: 8 workshops

Santa Cruz – 3 workshops conducted

- Puerto Pailas: 1 workshop

- Pailón: 1 workshop

- Okinawa: 1 workshop

Chuquisaca – 9 workshops conducted

- Presto: 9 workshops

These sessions strengthened community awareness of disease prevention and promoted improved hygiene and environmental sanitation practices at the household level, supporting families in reducing potential vector breeding sites and maintaining safer household environments following the floods.

II. PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

• For communities:

Psychosocial support activities were implemented to address the emotional and psychological impacts of the floods on affected populations and response teams.

A total of 696 people received individual psychosocial support through community activities and MPCA-related sessions, significantly exceeding the initial target. The support reached affected individuals in the following departments:

* La Paz – 220 people supported

* Cochabamba – 326 people supported

* Santa Cruz – 150 people supported

Psychosocial support activities incorporated Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) approaches, including active listening techniques, emotional support and the creation of safe spaces for expression and dialogue within community sessions.

As part of the MPCA workshops and surveys, participants were asked about their main personal concerns at the time of the intervention, which facilitated emotional expression and helped identify psychosocial stressors affecting households. The results showed that the main concerns among surveyed families were related to economic and income instability (24.93%, 177 households), health conditions (17.18%, 122 households), agriculture and livestock impacts (14.08%, 100 households) and concerns associated with meteorological disasters (13.52%, 96 households). Other concerns included family and social situations (9.15%, 65 households), housing and infrastructure damage (6.76%, 48 households) and food-related concerns (5.21%, 37 households).

The information collected through these activities helped teams better understand the emotional and social impacts of the emergency on affected populations and contributed to adapting communication and support approaches according to the concerns expressed by communities.

This psychosocial support approach was not implemented in Presto (Chuquisaca) due to the different cash delivery modality used in that location.

• For the team:

To support the wellbeing of response teams, 10 emotional ventilation sessions were conducted for staff and volunteers, distributed as follows:

* La Paz – 3 sessions

* Cochabamba – 3 sessions

* Santa Cruz – 3 sessions

* Chuquisaca – 1 session

These sessions were carried out during operational debriefings following field activities and through a departmental workshop evaluating the implementation of the project, providing spaces for emotional support and reflection for volunteers and staff involved in the response.



Lessons Learnt

- Community awareness and training activities on vector control and disease prevention helped strengthen community understanding of the importance of preventive practices, contributing to improved hygiene and environmental sanitation behaviors in flood-affected areas.
- The cleaning kits delivered to households proved to be highly useful for beneficiaries, as they contained essential items required for maintaining hygiene and reducing vector breeding risks. This was confirmed through satisfaction surveys conducted after the distribution.
- Integrating psychosocial support into operational activities allowed affected individuals to express concerns and emotional stress in a safe environment, facilitating the identification of psychosocial needs among participants.
- Emotional ventilation sessions for staff and volunteers contributed to strengthening the wellbeing of response teams and created spaces for reflection and collective learning following operational activities.
- Communities assisted during the intervention expressed their willingness to continue collaborating with the Bolivian Red Cross in future initiatives aimed at strengthening community preparedness and resilience.

Challenges

- The political context during the implementation period created sensitivities in some communities, where humanitarian assistance was occasionally perceived as linked to political interests, requiring continuous communication on the neutral and independent humanitarian mandate of the Red Cross.
- Social events related to fuel shortages in the country created logistical challenges by affecting the mobility of response teams and the transportation of supplies required for the preparation and distribution of hygiene kits.
- Language barriers in some communities limited direct communication with beneficiaries, requiring the support of local translators or community intermediaries to facilitate interaction and understanding during activities.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 104,772
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Assisted Persons: 12,000
Targeted Male: -
Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people who received personal hygiene kits, which include menstrual hygiene management.	2,000	12,000
Number of people reached with effective water treatment materials and promotion	2,400	12,000
Number of awareness sessions on hygiene promotion conducted in affected communities.	18	20

Narrative description of achievements

The Bolivian Red Cross implemented WASH interventions to reduce health risks associated with contaminated water sources, unsafe water storage and inadequate hygiene conditions following the floods. In total, 2,400 families (approximately 12,000 people) were reached through the distribution of family hygiene kits, water treatment materials, safe water storage containers and community hygiene promotion activities in La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca.



These interventions aimed to improve household hygiene conditions, strengthen safe water management practices and reduce the risk of waterborne diseases in affected communities.

I. DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILY HYGIENE KITS

A total of 2,400 family hygiene kits were distributed to households affected by the floods. The distribution by department and community was as follows:

La Paz – 307 families assisted (approximately 1,535 people)

- Guaqui: 189 families
- Laja: 118 families

Cochabamba – 742 families assisted (approximately 3,710 people)

- Quillacollo: 742 families

Santa Cruz – 802 families assisted (approximately 4,010 people)

- Puerto Pailas: 196 families
- Pailón: 159 families
- Okinawa: 47 families
- Samaipata: 400 families

Chuquisaca – 549 families assisted (approximately 2,745 people)

- Presto: 549 families

Each hygiene kit included:

- Ecological bag – 1 unit
- Shampoo (1,000 ml) – 1 bottle
- Soap bars (100 g) – 5 units
- Sanitary pads (pack of 10 units) – 2 packs
- Toothpaste (180 g) – 2 units
- Medium toothbrushes – 5 units

For Samaipata, the hygiene kit was reinforced with additional items due to the conditions in shelters and the scale of the emergency. In addition to the standard contents, the kits included:

- Personal towels – 5 units
- Toilet paper – 1 pack of 6 units
- Razors – 3 units

II. WATER TREATMENT AND SAFE STORAGE

To address the contamination of water sources caused by the floods, the intervention included the distribution of materials for household water treatment and safe storage. In total, 2,400 families (approximately 12,000 people) received water treatment supplies distributed across the same communities.

During the operation, the following items were delivered:

- 192,000 water purification tablets (approximately 80 per family, sufficient to purify an estimated 5 litres of water)
- 2,400 jerrycans of 10 litres (1 per family)
- 2,400 jerrycans of 5 litres (1 per family)

The tablets allowed households to treat water for safe consumption, while the jerrycans supported the safe preparation and storage of treated water, helping reduce exposure to waterborne diseases.

III. ADDITIONAL WASH SUPPORT IN SAMAIPATA

Following the sudden flooding in Samaipata, additional WASH support was provided to collective shelters and local schools hosting affected families and students. This included:

- 2 boxes of flocculants distributed in shelters to improve water clarification.
- 5 water filters installed in schools in the municipality of Samaipata to improve access to safe water for students and teachers.



- 20 buckets distributed in shelters to facilitate safe water storage and hygiene practices.

IV. HYGIENE PROMOTION

To reinforce the use of the distributed materials and strengthen preventive practices, 20 community hygiene promotion sessions were conducted in affected communities, exceeding the initial target. These sessions addressed safe water management, safe storage of treated water, handwashing practices and the prevention of waterborne diseases.

The distribution of sessions was as follows:

La Paz – 4 sessions conducted

- Guaqui: 2 sessions
- Laja: 2 sessions

Cochabamba – 6 sessions conducted

- Quillacollo: 6 sessions

Santa Cruz – 7 sessions conducted

- Puerto Pailas: 2 sessions
- Pailón: 2 sessions
- Okinawa: 2 sessions
- Samaipata: 1 session

Chuquisaca – 3 sessions conducted

- Presto: 3 sessions

These sessions ensured that people receiving the assistance understood how to correctly use hygiene kits, water purification tablets and storage containers, strengthening community knowledge on hygiene practices and reducing the risk of disease transmission following the floods. In most locations, the sessions were conducted directly with households receiving assistance during distributions, while in Santa Cruz the activities were opened more broadly to the community to expand outreach and preventive health awareness.

Lessons Learnt

- Strong community engagement was observed during hygiene promotion sessions, with the assisted population showing willingness to participate in information and training activities beyond the distribution of supplies.
- Information shared during the sessions was often disseminated within households, allowing hygiene and safe water practices to be replicated among other family members and extending the impact of the intervention.
- The distribution of hygiene kits using reusable “tocuyo” backpacks proved to be an innovative and well-received approach by communities. Beyond transporting the items, families identified additional practical uses for the bags, including food storage, carrying household items and filtering agricultural products, increasing the usefulness and perceived value of the assistance provided.

Challenges

- Community mistrust was encountered during the completion of registration forms and signature sheets used to document the delivery of assistance. In several communities, previous experiences of providing personal information to government institutions without receiving the expected support generated hesitation and required additional explanation to build trust during distributions.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 8,794

Targeted Persons: 0

Assisted Persons: 894

Targeted Male: -

Targeted Female: -



Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Percentage of people surveyed who report they know how to provide feedback about the Red Cross activities during the emergency response	80	99
Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information	80	100
Number of committee meetings and focus group discussions held with affected communities to share operation results and lessons learned	14	14

Narrative description of achievements

The Bolivian Red Cross integrated a Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach throughout the operation to ensure transparent communication, community participation and accessible feedback mechanisms. The strategy focused on providing clear and timely information to communities, strengthening trust between the assisted population and the National Society, and enabling two-way communication to inform the response.

CEA activities included the development and dissemination of key messages, meetings with community leaders, the installation of visible information materials in public spaces and the establishment of accessible feedback channels for the assisted population.

I. COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND MESSAGING

Key messages were developed on health, hygiene, disaster prevention and public awareness topics to support the implementation of the operation and promote preventive practices in affected communities.

Spanish was used as the primary written language for communication materials. Although many community members speak Quechua, Aymara and Guaraní, it was identified that a significant portion of the population does not read or write in these languages. Therefore, messages were reinforced through verbal communication and supported by volunteers familiar with local languages to ensure understanding during community activities.

To complement communication activities, surveys were conducted with 710 families in Cochabamba, La Paz and Santa Cruz to better understand community concerns, perceptions regarding the cash transfer process and satisfaction with the assistance provided.

The results identified economic and income-related concerns as the main priority among surveyed households (24.93%, 177 households), followed by health concerns (17.18%, 122 households), agriculture and livestock-related concerns (14.08%, 100 households) and concerns related to meteorological disasters (13.52%, 96 households). Other concerns reported included family and social situations (9.15%, 65 households), housing and infrastructure (6.76%, 48 households) and food security (5.21%, 37 households).

II. COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENT

A total of 14 committee meetings and focus group discussions were conducted with affected communities to share information about the operation, present results and gather feedback and lessons learned. The distribution of these meetings was as follows:

- * La Paz – 2 meetings conducted
- * Guaqui: 1 meeting
- * Laja: 1 meeting
- * Cochabamba – 1 meeting
- * Quillacollo: 1 meeting
- * Santa Cruz – 8 meetings
- * Puerto Pailas: 2 meetings
- * Pailón: 2 meetings
- * Okinawa: 3 meetings
- * Samaipata: 1 meeting
- * Chuquisaca – 3 meetings
- * Presto: 3 meetings

These meetings facilitated dialogue between communities and the Bolivian Red Cross, enabling community members to share their perceptions of the response and contribute feedback and lessons learned from the operation.



Community engagement activities also contributed to strengthening understanding of the assistance process. Across surveyed households, 94.51% (671 households) reported understanding why they had been selected to receive cash assistance, while 98.59% (700 households) considered that they had been adequately informed about the cash transfer process.

Perceptions regarding the treatment provided by volunteers were highly positive throughout the operation. Overall, 92.39% of surveyed households (656 households) assigned the highest satisfaction rating to the treatment received from volunteers and staff involved in the response.

The assessments also identified important vulnerability considerations among assisted households, with 16.2% of surveyed families (115 households) reporting the presence of at least one person with a physical or mental disability within the household.

III. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK MECHANISMS

To ensure accessible communication channels, two dedicated Bolivian Red Cross phone numbers managed by the project coordination team were shared during assistance distributions, allowing the assisted population to submit questions, comments and suggestions regarding the response, particularly related to the cash transfer process.

These mechanisms enabled continuous communication with communities throughout the operation. During implementation, several calls and messages were received through the communication lines, mainly related to consultations about cash assistance deliveries, transfer procedures and withdrawal processes. Communities also used these channels to express appreciation and provide comments regarding the assistance received.

Suggestion boxes were not implemented during the operation due to language and literacy considerations identified in some communities, where verbal communication mechanisms were considered more appropriate and accessible.

IV. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, SATISFACTION AND PERCEPTION OF THE RESPONSE

Information banners were installed in strategic locations such as schools, markets, shops and health facilities, providing key messages related to health, hygiene and prevention practices. These materials helped reinforce awareness messages and ensured that communities had permanent access to relevant information throughout the operation.

Additional awareness sessions were conducted during hygiene kit distributions and community workshops, reinforcing messages related to hygiene promotion, safe water management and disease prevention. The results of post-intervention satisfaction surveys highlighted the relevance of these activities among participating communities.

Among the 894 surveyed households participating in post-distribution and satisfaction surveys:

- * 98.99% (885 households) considered it important to receive assistance in the form of hygiene kits.
- * 99.89% (893 households) considered the information shared during workshops and awareness sessions to be important.
- * 97.32% (870 households) considered that hygiene and cleaning products contribute to disease prevention at household level.
- * 97.54% (872 households) considered it useful to receive support for safe water storage and treatment.
- * 97.87% (875 households) reported that the assistance improved their perception of the Bolivian Red Cross.

The results confirm that the communication and engagement strategies implemented during the response enabled communities to access relevant information, understand the assistance process and interact with the feedback mechanisms established by the Bolivian Red Cross.

Lessons Learnt

- The establishment of direct communication channels through dedicated Bolivian Red Cross phone lines facilitated continuous dialogue with communities and enabled timely responses to questions related to cash assistance deliveries and operational processes. The absence of negative feedback through these channels reflected a generally positive perception of the response among assisted communities.
- Early coordination with community leaders proved essential to ensure active participation throughout the operation, helping strengthen acceptance of the intervention, facilitate communication with communities and improve the relevance of the activities implemented.
- Repeated dissemination of information regarding communication channels and assistance processes contributed to a high level of awareness among assisted households on how to contact the Bolivian Red Cross, raise questions and share feedback during the response.
- The participation of volunteers familiar with local languages and cultural contexts facilitated communication with communities, helping reduce language barriers and improving the effectiveness of community engagement activities, particularly in areas where verbal communication was more appropriate than written materials.
- Feedback and community interaction throughout the operation reinforced the importance of maintaining accessible and real-time



communication channels during emergency responses, particularly for cash assistance programmes that require continuous guidance and clarification for participants.

- Inclusive communication approaches proved essential during community activities, particularly to ensure the participation and understanding of older persons and people requiring additional support. Providing clear verbal explanations and personalized guidance during sessions helped strengthen comprehension of the assistance process and facilitated more effective community engagement.

Challenges

- Difficult access to some communities due to road conditions and weather-related impacts affected the continuity of some planned engagement activities and limited participation in certain workshops.

- Limited access to communication infrastructure in some communities complicated coordination and slowed the flow of information during certain stages of the response.

- Communication in local languages remained a challenge in some communities where indigenous languages are widely spoken. Although bilingual volunteers supported the activities, the available capacity was not always sufficient to meet the demand for translation and interpretation during community engagement activities.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 88,292

Targeted Persons: 0

Assisted Persons: 0

Targeted Male: -

Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Monitoring visits	4	1
Surge deployed	2	3

Narrative description of achievements

To strengthen operational capacity during the implementation of the operation, three surge personnel were deployed to support the Bolivian Red Cross in key operational areas:

- Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Coordinator – deployed for 1 month, providing technical guidance for the design and implementation of the cash transfer programme.
- Operations Manager – first rotation – deployed for 1 month, providing operational coordination and field support during the initial phase of the response.
- Operations Manager – second rotation – deployed for 2 months, ensuring continuity in operational management and coordination of response activities.

Separately, with funding from the Canadian Red Cross, a Multipurpose Cash (MPC) Specialist was deployed for 1 month to provide specialized technical support and strengthen the implementation of the cash transfer programme.

In addition, one monitoring visit was conducted in Chuquisaca to accompany the implementation of the cash-in-hand distribution modality (“sobre seguro”), ensuring transparency and security in the delivery of cash assistance.

Lessons Learnt

- The technical accompaniment provided during the operation contributed positively to the implementation process, as it allowed continuous guidance to branches and operational teams, helping refine procedures and strengthen the quality of implementation.
- The availability of specialized technical support in areas such as Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) facilitated the correct application of



operational tools and systems, including the use of the RedRose platform, which improved the management and traceability of cash transfers.

Challenges

- The absence of a National Society DREF operational manual limited the availability of standardized procedures for implementation and required additional coordination to ensure consistent operational practices.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 87,324

Targeted Persons: 0

Assisted Persons: 0

Targeted Male: -

Targeted Female: -

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Lessons learned Workshop	1	1
Number of monitoring and technical support visits to branches carried out by the National Society's technical staff	20	20

Narrative description of achievements

- A total of 20 monitoring and technical support visits were conducted from the National Headquarters to the departmental and municipal branches involved in the emergency response, enabling operational coordination, technical accompaniment and follow-up on implementation progress. The distribution of visits was as follows:
 - Cochabamba – 9 visits
 - La Paz – 6 visits
 - Santa Cruz – 4 visits
 - Chuquisaca – 5 visits
- Three technical positions were recruited to support the implementation of the DREF operation and strengthen operational management:
 - National Coordinator
 - Financial Logistics Coordinator
 - PMER Technician
- Three laptops were acquired to strengthen information management and coordination between the National Headquarters and departmental branches during the implementation of the operation.
- Refresher and training sessions on operational safety and Safer Access were conducted for staff and volunteers, including the use of safety checklists and operational briefings and debriefings before and after field activities.
- 100 institutional Red Cross uniforms (including T-shirts, caps and buffs) were distributed to volunteers and teams in the branches of La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca, strengthening institutional visibility and supporting field operations.
- Four departmental feedback workshops were conducted with branches to review operational progress and strengthen coordination.
- One Lessons Learned workshop was organized at the closure of the operation to reflect on the implementation and identify recommendations for future emergency responses.

Lessons Learnt

- Regular monitoring visits from the National Headquarters strengthened coordination with departmental branches and enabled continuous technical accompaniment during the implementation of the operation.



- Training activities on operational safety and Safer Access helped strengthen the confidence and preparedness of volunteers to operate in complex or potentially sensitive environments.
- The distribution of institutional uniforms and equipment reinforced the visibility of the Red Cross and strengthened volunteers' sense of belonging and motivation during field activities.
- Coordination between branches, volunteers and the technical team highlighted the importance of maintaining continuous institutional strengthening processes to ensure improved operational standards for future emergency responses.

Challenges

- Changes in coordination personnel during the operation created challenges for operational continuity and required additional efforts to maintain coordination and ensure the implementation of planned activities.
- Coordination with branch focal points was sometimes difficult due to their voluntary role and competing personal and professional responsibilities, which occasionally limited their availability for operational coordination and activities.



Financial Report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRBO018 - Bolivia - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 19 abr 2025 to 31 ene 2026

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/04-2026/03	Operation	MDRBO018
Budget Timeframe	2025/04-2026/01	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 04/May/2026

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	495.243
DREF Response Pillar	495.243
Expenditure	-458.993
Closing Balance	36.251

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	30.226	2.350	27.877
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	182.676	174.544	8.132
AOF4 - Health	38.636	33.823	4.813
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	70.116	98.898	-28.782
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	321.654	309.615	12.040
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies	90.685	103.837	-13.152
SF12 - Effective international disaster management			0
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC	82.903	45.541	37.363
Strategy for implementation Total	173.589	149.378	24.211
Grand Total	495.243	458.993	36.251

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

Please explain variances (if any)

This IFRC-DREF operation had an approved budget of CHF 495,243, of which CHF 458,992 (93%) were executed and CHF 36,251 will be returned to the DREF fund. The main financial variations are summarized below.

Exchange rate variation

The final transfer of funds was received with a lower exchange rate than initially projected, which affected budget planning due to the



volatility of the national currency. This fluctuation represented a continuous challenge throughout the implementation of the operation.

During the budget update, operational priorities were adjusted to respond to the emergency situation in Samaipata and Santa Cruz. Within this context, the acquisition of water filters for Samaipata and Cochabamba, as well as flocculants and buckets, was incorporated into the response. In addition, the provision of family hygiene kits was increased to support the families affected by the floods in Samaipata.

Indirect costs corresponded to the departmental CEA structures, which supported coordination and operational follow-up during the response.

Financial adjustments

Financial adjustments during the implementation of the project were primarily related to the exchange rate differential generated by the shortage of US dollars in Bolivia, which affected the value of the Bolivian boliviano against the US dollar and, consequently, against the Swiss franc (the reference currency for the DREF). Since the CHF-BOB conversion is indirectly calculated through USD, fluctuations in the exchange rate affected the real cost of goods, services and transfers in local currency.

These variations required internal budget adjustments to prioritize essential supplies and respond to emerging needs while maintaining the total approved budget in Swiss francs unchanged and ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of the humanitarian response.

Budget reallocation in the December 2025 update

The December 2025 operational update included an internal redistribution of the budget between sectors while maintaining the total approved amount.

- CVA – AP081 decreased from CHF 182,676.46 to CHF 161,933.94, reflecting optimization in the transfer strategy.
- Health – AP109 decreased from CHF 38,635.70 to CHF 31,551.28, through the prioritization of essential activities.
- WASH – AP110 increased from CHF 70,116.16 to CHF 98,377.39, due to the expansion of activities to respond to the flooding in Samaipata, enabling the assistance of an additional 400 affected families.
- CEA – AP129 increased slightly from CHF 7,985.66 to CHF 8,256.87.
- National Society Development and Volunteering – EA03 decreased marginally from CHF 82,699.48 to CHF 81,994.05.

Unexpended balance: An unexpended balance of CHF 36,251 will be returned to the DREF. This is mainly attributable to savings related to Rapid Response Deployments, as most of the required deployments were supported through existing Regional Surge mechanisms. In addition, the final deployment for Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) coordination was covered directly by the Canadian Red Cross. These arrangements resulted in reduced DREF expenditure while ensuring timely and appropriate technical support to the operation.



Contact Information

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[Click here for reference](#)

