



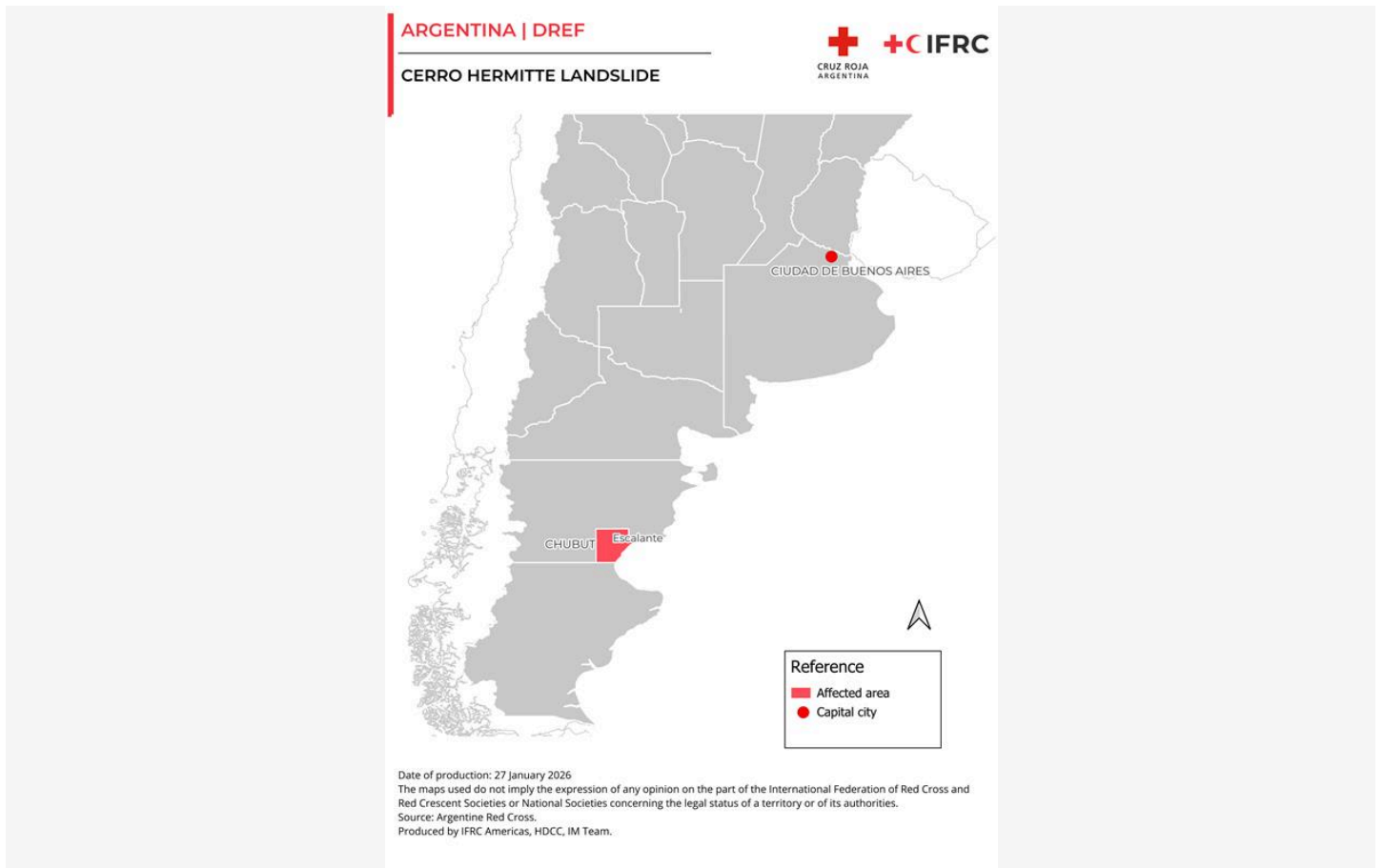
Landslide at Cerro Hermitte prompted the evacuation of hundreds of families.

Appeal: MDRAR025	Hazard: Landslide	Country: Argentina	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 138,490	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 10,500 people	People Targeted: 2,500 people	
Operation Start Date: 26-01-2026	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 31-05-2026	DREF Published: 04-02-2026
Targeted Regions: Chubut			

Description of the Event

Date of event

18-01-2026



Map of areas affected and prioritized by ARC.

What happened, where and when?

On 18 January 2026, the city of Comodoro Rivadavia, located in the province of Chubut, southern Argentina, registered landslides of significant magnitude in urban sectors located on unstable slopes, particularly in areas near Cerro Hermitte, where there were more than 1,500 homes. The event manifested itself through progressive and sudden movements of the ground, generating cracks, soil displacements and compromising the structural stability of homes and critical infrastructure.

Preliminary technical assessments indicated that the event was associated with pre-existing geological instability related to soil composition—with the presence of poorly consolidated materials and expansive clays—compounded by triggering factors such as recent variations in humidity, steep slopes, and urbanization processes in risk areas. These conditions favored the reactivation of old landslide planes, increasing the likelihood of new landslides.

As a direct consequence of the event, dozens of homes suffered structural damage, affecting walls, sidewalks, streets, service networks and accesses, which forced local authorities to order mass evacuations of families residing in highly vulnerable neighborhoods: Sismográfica, El Marquesado, Los Tilos, Médanos and Mazarredo, and surrounding sectors. Likewise, interruptions of essential services – including gas, water and electricity – were recorded as a safety measure against the risk of new displacements.

During the early hours of the emergency, response agencies faced operational constraints due to unsafe access to affected areas, unstable terrain, and the risk of progressive collapse. However, response actions quickly intensified, mobilizing municipal, provincial, and national resources, specialized technical teams, security forces, and civil society organizations, with the active participation of the Argentine Red Cross in humanitarian support, needs assessment, and assistance to the evacuated population.

A Crisis Committee was formed on the ground, composed of local, provincial, and national authorities and technical agencies, with the

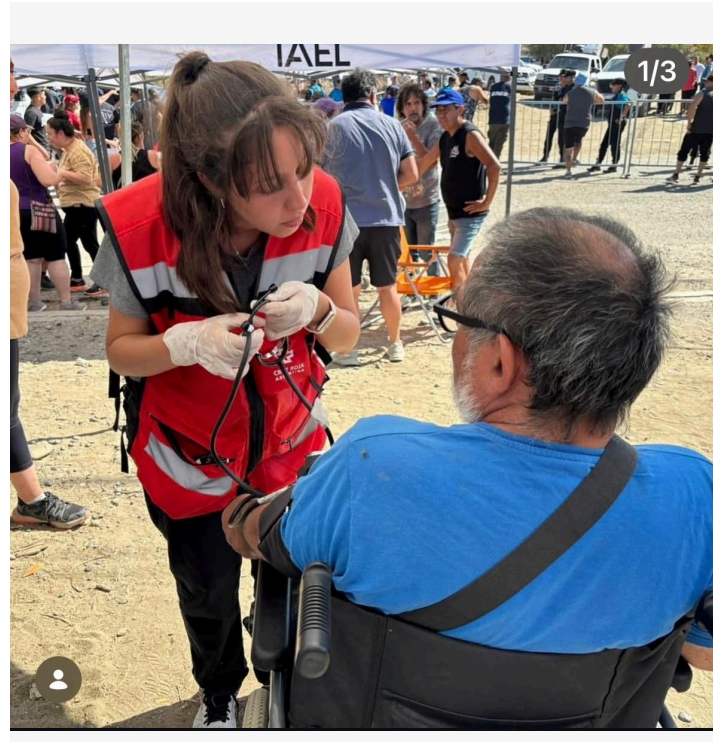


aim of coordinating response actions, monitoring the development of the event, and defining mitigation and early recovery measures. Given the magnitude of the event, its impact on densely populated urban areas, and the latent risk of recurrence, the emergency gained high visibility at the national level, receiving widespread coverage in the media and specialized organizations.

Even at the time of drafting this Action Plan, the affected terrain remained highly unstable, causing the evacuation zone to expand further and further and causing more damage every day, a situation that is expected to continue in the coming days.



ARC teams deployed to the area in coordination with national authorities



First Aid services are provided on site to affected community.

Scope and Scale

The city of Comodoro Rivadavia is the capital of the Escalante department and is located in the south of the province of Chubut, in the Patagonian region of Argentina. It is a strategic urban center at the regional level, with a high concentration of population and critical infrastructure associated with oil and gas, shipping, and services.

According to official data, the city of Comodoro Rivadavia has an estimated population of approximately 215,000 inhabitants, spread across a large urban area with numerous neighborhoods built on sedimentary slopes and hillsides, which increases exposure to geological hazards. Due to its size, Comodoro Rivadavia is the most populous city in the province of Chubut and one of the main coastal urban centers in Patagonia.

The landslides recorded on 18/1/26 significantly affected urban areas located on slopes, particularly in areas near Cerro Hermitte, including neighborhoods such as Sismográfica, El Marquesado, Los Tilos, Médanos, and Mazarredo, and surrounding areas. The event took the form of ground displacement, deep cracks, deformation of roads and sidewalks, and structural damage to homes, putting the resident population at immediate risk.

As a result of the soil instability, more than 516 homes were identified as having moderate to severe structural damage, some of which were declared uninhabitable as a preventive measure. It is estimated that approximately 1% to 5% of the urban population (between 5,500 and 10,500 people) has been affected, mainly by evacuations, temporary loss of housing, access restrictions, and disruption of basic services. At the time of drafting this plan, no fatalities have been reported; however, the risk remains due to the possibility of further progressive ground displacement, a situation that has been repeated daily since the initial impact. State agencies are working to quantify the number of homes that will no longer be habitable. This data is not yet available, as it requires a house-by-house assessment by structural damage experts. This information will allow for an estimation of evacuation times, particularly for those families who will be unable to return to their homes.

The authorities ordered preventive evacuations of families living in the areas most at risk, setting up temporary evacuation centers. In addition, a significant number of people evacuated on their own, moving to the homes of relatives, neighbors, or friends in safer areas of the city. It is estimated that more than 2,000 people remain temporarily displaced from their homes, with uncertainty regarding their relocation. In many cases, they are unable to return to retrieve their belongings due to the high risk of persistent landslides in the area.

Currently, three (3) Evacuation Centers are operating in different areas of the city, as follows:

- Club Atlético Florentino Ameghino (Miguel Jones 351): This center has the highest concentration of people receiving assistance. At the time of the survey, it housed 98 people (78 adults, 11 teenagers, and 18 children). It serves as the main shelter, providing food assistance, first aid, and psychosocial support.
- Hotel Deportivo Municipal – Ciudad Evita (across from the Municipal Stadium, sports area – Av. Roca and Av. Yrigoyen): This is one of the main evacuation points, housing families, senior citizens, and children.
- Salón del Parque Saavedra (Av. del Pinar and Juan Pozas): This center serves as a support and transit center, as well as a supplementary shelter. It currently houses 17 people, with the goal of their rapid relocation.

Basic services were partially affected as a preventive measure and due to direct damage to infrastructure:

Natural gas supply interruptions were recorded in specific sectors as a safety measure due to the risk of network breaks.

- The electricity service experienced localized outages in areas affected by ground movement.
- Specific damage was identified in drinking water and sewerage systems, as well as in internal road accessibility in the affected neighborhoods.
- Telecommunications experienced partial interruptions in specific areas.

The urban road infrastructure suffered significant damage, with blocked streets, road deformations, and restricted access, which hampered technical assessment, evacuation, and humanitarian assistance efforts during the early hours of the event. These conditions continue to limit safe mobility in the affected areas.

Even four days after the event, on 22 January, one of the designated evacuation centers, located 200 meters from the security perimeter, had to be evacuated due to new ground movements that caused damage to the infrastructure of that center and nearby areas, further expanding the “critical zone.”

In terms of municipal operational capacity, some of the local resources had to be redirected to geological assessment, risk control, and assistance to the evacuated population, which overloaded the local response system, particularly in terms of logistics, temporary housing, and psychosocial support. Despite this, all municipal services activated special measures, led by the local government and Civil Defense, to support the families directly affected, although there were major challenges in accessing the affected areas.

The USAR ARG-12 brigade, belonging to the Argentine Federal Police Fire Department, was deployed by the Federal Emergency Agency with its own airborne resources and specialized search and rescue engineers. In addition, the Ministry of Security has been involved since the beginning of the event, coordinating various tasks in cooperation with the local government. The provincial government of Chubut, for its part, is focused on this event but is overwhelmed due to the significant forest fires that have been ravaging the province since late December 2025.

Given the nature of the event, its impact on established urban areas, and the latent risk of recurrence, the emergency continues to receive a high level of technical, institutional, and media attention, requiring a focused, flexible, and coordinated humanitarian response, in which the Argentine Red Cross plays a key role in supporting the authorities and affected communities.

Source Name	Source Link
1. Agencia Federal de Emergencias	https://gis.minseg.gob.ar/portal/apps/sites/#/subsecretaria-de-gestion-del-riesgo-y-proteccion-civil

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	No
Did it affect the same population group?	-
Did the National Society respond?	-
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-



If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

Although no operations have been carried out for this type of event in recent years in the National Society, the Argentine Red Cross recently completed, in 2025, the closure of two DREF operations for Floods in Bahía Blanca (MDAR023) and in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires (MDRAR024), in addition to finalizing the implementation of an Emergency Appeal for Economic Crisis (MDRAR022). In this context, various processes have been carried out linked to lessons learned that have involved branches, communities and the headquarters of the National Society, where recommendations have emerged associated with the strategic planning of actions that allow sustaining emergency operations with a comprehensive approach between branches and various national technical areas; the results obtained from the latest Lessons Learned processes are being taken as a basis for improvement, including recommendations related to information management, the immediate deployment of teams from the Communication area, the streamlining of surveys, the improvement of communication, internal and sectoral coordination and decision-making, the strengthening of local volunteer capacities and security, among others.

Within this framework, recommendations are incorporated to optimize the management of strategic and operational information, strengthening internal communication flows through regular coordination meetings, systematic reports, and monitoring mechanisms that facilitate timely decision-making. Likewise, the importance of ensuring the early deployment of Communications teams to the field is highlighted, particularly in the initial phases of the emergency, to guarantee coordinated communication, timely recording of the situation, and proper management of reputational risk and resource mobilization.

The lessons learned also underscore the need to streamline and systematize relevant processes, including surveys and information-gathering tools, in order to have timely and reliable data to support the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of implemented actions. Additionally, the strengthening of internal and sectoral coordination mechanisms is emphasized, promoting regular exchanges between technical, finance, logistics, communications, and organizational development areas, enabling an integrated response throughout the different phases of the emergency.

Finally, the Lessons Learned reinforce the importance of strengthening local volunteer capacities, ensuring clear mechanisms for mobilization, support, and well-being, as well as adequate safety and self-care conditions. These aspects are key not only to improving the effectiveness of the immediate response, but also to consolidating a more robust, coherent, and sustainable institutional preparedness framework, in line with the objectives of the PECRA 2024–2029 and the updated National Response Plan.

Did you complete the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis in previous operations, what was risk level?

Yes

What was the risk level for Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis?:

Yellow

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

19-01-2026

Shelter, Housing And Settlements

Since 18 January 2026, the Argentine Red Cross has been supporting the preventive evacuations ordered by local authorities, in coordination with the various agencies within the response system, in urban areas affected by gradual and structural risks.

From the outset of the emergency, the National Society deployed support actions in temporary evacuation centers, prioritizing a focused humanitarian intervention aimed at protection, immediate assistance, and early identification of needs, complementing the response led by local governments.

In evacuation centers and access points, the Argentine Red Cross carried out specific actions, including:

- Providing first aid to affected individuals during the evacuation process and at the entrances to the impacted neighborhoods.



	<p>- Providing psychosocial support (MHPSS), with a special emphasis on children, adolescents, and older adults, including recreational activities and emotional support to contribute to their well-being and the recovery of normalcy in an emergency context.</p> <p>- Providing guidance and ensuring access to information based on immediate needs, facilitating referrals and access to available assistance. Although the evacuation centers were operational, most of the displaced population opted to self-evacuate to the homes of relatives, support networks, or precarious temporary shelters. Likewise, due to fear of theft or looting, many families used the centers primarily as transit spaces and places to receive assistance, avoiding overnight stays except in specific cases.</p> <p>In this context, the National Society's presence in the evacuation centers was selective and strategic, aimed at complementing state assistance, avoiding duplication, and concentrating efforts on high-value humanitarian actions, particularly first aid, psychosocial support, and community outreach.</p>
<p>Health</p>	<p>Since the beginning of the event, the National Society mobilized supplies and capabilities for the provision of first aid, to strengthen the local capacity of the Comodoro Rivadavia branch, providing field support and accompaniment to evacuees, in coordination with the local health system. The actions were mainly aimed at addressing stressful situations, treating minor ailments, checking blood pressure, and providing minor care, both in temporary shelters and at community meeting points at the entrances to the affected neighborhoods, where large numbers of people had gathered.</p> <p>Likewise, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) actions were activated, prioritizing evacuees, families with loss or restriction of the use of their homes and population exposed to the uncertainty generated by the persistence of the geological risk. Volunteers were deployed to provide emotional support, guidance and accompaniment, with special attention to the elderly, children and other groups in vulnerable situations.</p>
<p>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</p>	<p>Although the event did not have a massive impact on water and sanitation systems, there were occasional preventive service outages, especially in evacuated areas. Given this context, the Argentine Red Cross prioritized actions to promote hygiene and prevent health risks, targeting displaced people and those who were gradually beginning to return to their homes. There is currently sufficient access to drinking water supplies, without major difficulties. Access to personal hygiene materials is essential for prevention in this context.</p> <p>Actions in this sector are coordinated with local authorities and flexibly adjusted to the changing context and needs identified during ongoing assessments.</p>
<p>Protection, Gender And Inclusion</p>	<p>The Argentine Red Cross has set up community spaces for meeting and containment, with playful, recreational and psychosocial support activities, aimed at generating safe environments of relaxation, protection and emotional support. These actions include the celebration and accompaniment on significant dates, such as birthdays, contributing to emotional well-being and the restoration of protective routines for affected children.</p>
<p>Coordination</p>	<p>On the ground, the Argentine Red Cross was integrated into the operational and technical coordination spaces activated by the local authorities on 18/1/26, taking part in the inter-institutional coordination instances with local, provincial and national organizations, in close coordination with the Local Emergency Operations Center. Meetings have been held with local officials in the last few hours (Ministry of Health, Human Development, local Administration, among others), and the national authorities of the Ministry of Security maintain periodic communication with authorities of the Emergency Secretariat of the National Society.</p> <p>The National Society's participation in these forums enabled it to contribute to the exchange of humanitarian information, monitor geological risk developments, and coordinate assessment and assistance activities with response system actors, ensuring complementarity with government-led actions.</p> <p>The Argentine Red Cross has pre-existing institutional links with local authorities,</p>



strengthened from previous humanitarian work, in addition to links at the regional and in-country level, which facilitated rapid articulation, recognition of roles and fluid communication channels from the first hours of the event.

National Society Readiness

The Argentine Red Cross is governed by a national law that formally recognizes its role in assisting public authorities in humanitarian affairs, including emergency, crisis, and disaster response. It is also an active member of the National System for Comprehensive Risk Management and Civil Protection (SINAGIR by its initials in Spanish), formalizing the National Society's inclusion in the National System and strengthening its coordination with different levels of government and response agencies, primarily through the Federal Emergency Agency (AFE by its initials in Spanish).

The Argentine Red Cross headquarters have a specific institutional structure for comprehensive risk management and emergency and disaster response, which includes technical areas dedicated to planning, coordinating, and deploying response and early recovery operations. Among these is a National Emergency and Disaster Response Directorate, responsible for directing emergency operations, and a National Directorate for Risk Management, which supports community and institutional preparedness processes and risk, emergency, and disaster monitoring systems, among other lines of support to the National Directorate for Response. The National Society also has a National Response Plan, which establishes guidelines, capacities, and standardized procedures for dealing with various types of emergencies, including geological and multi-hazard events. For the current emergency, it has declared Emergency Category No. 1, and is considering raising the level depending on developments in the coming hours.

In line with its mandate and auxiliary role, the National Society acts under the premise of providing relevant, timely and complementary humanitarian services to the efforts of the State, consolidating itself as a key actor in the humanitarian system in Argentina, both in preparation and response phases. It is currently in direct coordination with authorities of the local government of Comodoro Rivadavia and the Provincial and National governments.

The Argentine Red Cross has a Humanitarian Hub located in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, which maintains its own stock and a minimum IFRC's stock. This Hub is operational available, and has already been activated – including the mobilization of basic resources for the visibility and protection of volunteers and staff on the ground, and first response teams, in addition to having the capacity to support the logistics of the response through the provision and distribution of priority humanitarian supplies to the affected areas. with agreements with logistics companies to ensure the rapid mobilization of humanitarian assistance in large volumes.

Regarding the regional impact of the emergency in Comodoro Rivadavia, the National Society has active branches in the province of Chubut and in nearby Patagonian provinces, in addition to having volunteers available throughout the national territory who have been trained in recent years in response to emergencies and disasters, needs assessment, first aid, psychosocial support and community risk management. The Argentine Red Cross has a National Emergency and Disaster Risk Monitoring Team (ENMO by its initials in Spanish) that carries out tasks 24 hours a day, every day of the year, as well as a National Emergency Team (ENE by its initials in Spanish); both teams, in addition to the entire structure of the National Society, are addressing this ongoing emergency, along with other events in the national territory.

The Comodoro Rivadavia branch of the Argentine Red Cross has local volunteers with knowledge of the territory and initial response capacity, which allows for rapid coordination with local authorities and an adequate adaptation of humanitarian actions to the specific context of the emergency. Likewise, the operation can be reinforced through the deployment of human and material resources from nearby branches and, if necessary, from other regions of the country, under the internal coordination mechanisms established by the National Society.

Assessment

Based on the early detection of terrain instability events and based on the permanent monitoring of the ENMO of the Argentine Red Cross, the corresponding formal monitoring of the event was activated, initiating the processing of available secondary information (technical reports, official communications, media and institutional



articulations) with the aim of supporting decision-making operational.

In coordination with the volunteers of the Comodoro Rivadavia branch, on 18/1/26, channels for the exchange of information were established with local authorities and technical organizations, and progress was made in the preliminary data collection about the scope of the event, the affected areas and the preventive evacuation measures adopted. In parallel, the National Society's internal coordination mechanisms were activated, with the support of the Central Headquarters and support branches, to prepare the deployment of evaluation and response capacities. Likewise, the Emergency Secretariat of the Argentine Red Cross maintained, and maintains, a close exchange of technical information with the National Emergency Alert and Monitoring System of the Argentine State (SINAME by its initials in Spanish).

The first rapid assessments, based on direct observation, reports from local volunteers, and the analysis of still limited humanitarian information, made it possible to identify urban sectors located on unstable slopes —particularly in areas near Cerro Hermitte, including the Sismográfica neighborhood and surrounding areas—as priority areas for intervention. These areas present a higher level of risk due to the persistence of ground movements, the structural impact on homes and the presence of evacuated population or at risk of evacuation.

In this context, and in coordination with local and provincial authorities, the need to deepen the evaluations was defined through focused and complementary surveys, aimed at identifying priority humanitarian needs, temporary housing conditions, access to basic services and psychosocial support requirements, to be implemented in the following phases of the response.

The National Director of Emergency and Disaster Response was deployed to the field within 48 hours of the event to support the evaluations together with the local team, and in coordination with the National Teams and the different levels of government.

Resource Mobilization

The Argentine Red Cross, through its Undersecretariat of Communication and Marketing, particularly with its National Directorate of Cooperation and Strategic Alliances, is in contact and articulation with various strategic partners with the aim of identifying complementary support for the response actions planned in the framework of the emergency due to landslides in Comodoro Rivadavia.

In this regard, conversations have been initiated or reactivated with private sector actors and logistics partners, aimed at the flexible mobilization of financial, in-kind and service resources, depending on the development of the humanitarian needs identified. Among the partners contacted are:

- Financial institutions: exchanges are maintained with Zurich, Santander and Banco Galicia, exploring possibilities of financial support and solidarity communication actions for the channeling of donations, subject to the final definition of the scope of the operation.
- Logistical support: the Cruz del Sur company is in contact with the National Society's Logistics team and has expressed its availability to collaborate with the delivery of humanitarian aid, in accordance with the operational needs defined.
- Digital fundraising channels: Resource mobilization campaigns have been carried out to support the ongoing operation through the activation of digital donation mechanisms, aimed at facilitating individual contributions from the population, in line with the National Society's resource mobilization strategy.

All resource mobilization actions are carried out in coherence with the principles of the Movement, the internal policies of the Argentine Red Cross and in close coordination with the operational planning of the response, ensuring that the contributions received respond to prioritized humanitarian needs and can be implemented in a timely and efficient manner.

Activation Of Contingency Plans

Day 1 – Sunday, 18/1/26: The red alert level was declared. The corresponding report was uploaded through the Risk Management Information System (SIGRID by its initials in Spanish) in accordance with the provisions of the National Response Plan of the Argentine Red Cross and Formal Follow-up was activated through the National Teams.
Day 2 – Monday, 19/1/26: A Category 1 Emergency was declared, in accordance with the National Response Plan, and teams were deployed to the field to support local assessments.



	Day 3 – Tuesday, January 20/1/26: The National Society's Response Directorate led, together with the branch, senior management articulation meetings in the field, with local and national authorities.
National Society EOC	Through the Emergency Secretariat of the National Society, special monitoring was activated through the ENMO. In addition, at least 4 members of the National Emergency Team were activated to support the local branch and the Central Headquarters in the tasks of information management. Frequent meetings were held between the key areas of the Headquarters to support the branch and the Response Directorate in the best possible way. Likewise, internal communication were maintained with all its members through SIGRID.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has a Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Argentina, which provides assistance and support to the countries of the Southern Cone. This Delegation coordinates with both the Argentine Red Cross and the Department of Disasters and Crises of the IFRC Regional Office for the Americas based in Panama. Throughout the emergency, permanent communication and technical assistance has been maintained through the CCD in support of this DREFF Application. The CCD's operations and programs coordinator is constantly in close contact with the National Society and is supporting the definition of this response strategy.
Participating National Societies	There are no PNS in the country

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has its regional office in Brasil. Beyond fulfilling its mandate, which involves working with authorities to integrate, implement and promote international humanitarian law and rules on the use of force, the ICRC focuses on improving the National Society's capacities to respond to emergencies in the midst of violence and crises. In addition, it offers Restoring Family Links (RFL) services. The ICRC's intervention is not necessary at this time.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>The three levels of government (municipal, provincial, and national) are coordinating their response to the landslide emergency in Comodoro Rivadavia, under an inter-institutional coordination scheme aimed at protecting human life and reducing risks.</p> <p>At the national level, the Federal Emergency Agency (AFE) is coordinating the national support operation, deploying federal forces to carry out preventive security and control tasks in the affected areas, in coordination with local and provincial authorities. Likewise, the Argentine Army is providing logistical and food support on the ground, including the preparation and distribution of food supplies for more than 300 people per day, as well as support with vehicles and operational resources.</p>



	<p>In addition, a USAR Brigade from the Argentine Federal Police, composed of specialized personnel—including command officers, engineers, and architects—has arrived to support technical assessment and structural analysis tasks in the affected area.</p> <p>At the institutional and legislative level, national deputies and senators of the province of Chubut presented bills to declare Comodoro Rivadavia as an emergency or catastrophe area, with the purpose of enabling extraordinary assistance measures, additional social benefits and tools that facilitate recovery and urban planning in the medium and long term.</p> <p>The actions of the National Government are developed in a context of active geological emergency, prioritizing the protection of the evacuated population, the maintenance of preventive measures and the accompaniment of local and provincial authorities in the management of a scenario that requires permanent monitoring and operational continuity.</p> <p>For its part, the Province of Chubut has been suffering devastating fires that have kept many human, logistical and economic resources affected since December 2025, which is why this emergency compromises Provincial efforts, in an already complex scenario.</p>
<p>UN or other actors</p>	<p>To date, there are no other local and national civil society organizations involved in the event, although there are national campaigns to manage donations and support, but at the moment they have not materialized in Comodoro Rivadavia.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Locally, through the participation of the Argentine Red Cross in the inter-institutional coordination spaces led by local authorities, in coordination with provincial and national organizations, within the framework of the Emergency Operations Center and the Incident Command. These mechanisms allow for the permanent exchange of information, the complementarity of actions and the technical coordination of the response to an active geological risk scenario.

At the national level, the Red Cross maintains close coordination with the Federal Emergency System, mainly consolidating primary information.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The landslides recorded in Comodoro Rivadavia have caused serious structural damage to a significant number of homes or placed them in high-risk areas, leading to preventive evacuations and self-evacuations. At the time of the formulation of this plan, approximately 516 families have been evacuated and self-evacuated, many of whom are unable to return to their homes in the short and medium term due to the persistence of the instability of the terrain, or due to the complete loss of their homes.

While evacuation centres have been set up, they operate mainly as transit and day care spaces, with limited capacity for prolonged accommodation, which has led to a significant proportion of displaced families resorting to informal solutions, such as family housing, temporary rentals or other precarious alternatives.

There is no official information yet regarding strategies for house reallocation or safe solutions for families to resume living in the area.

Support to self-evacuated and evacuated families is essential at this stage of the emergency.



Health

The landslide emergency in Comodoro Rivadavia has not generated a significant increase in waterborne or vector-borne diseases; however, it has caused specific health needs associated with population displacement, stress, and persistent risk conditions. Preventive evacuations and restrictions on household access have affected the continuity of medical treatments, especially for people with chronic diseases, the elderly and other vulnerable groups.

The need to strengthen first aid care is identified, mainly preventively, in areas of controlled access and at the entry points to the affected neighborhoods, where people return temporarily to remove belongings, exposing themselves to physical risks derived from the instability of the terrain, damaged structures and unsafe environments. In this context, the availability of trained personnel and basic



health supplies is key for the prevention and timely care of minor injuries and health emergencies. In addition, the daily risk of greater landslides requires attention and keeping equipment ready for the next few days.

Likewise, the situation has generated a significant impact on the mental health and psychosocial well-being of the affected population, evidenced by high levels of stress, anxiety and uncertainty in the face of the possibility of new landslides and the loss or uninhabitability of homes. Priority needs for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) are identified, both for evacuees and for those exposed to prolonged risk, as well as for the accompaniment of volunteers and frontline personnel.

Although the local health system remains operational, it requires complementary support to guarantee the continuity of primary care. Another requirement is the articulation of preventive and community containment actions in a dynamic and prolonged emergency scenario.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The emergency due to mass removal in Comodoro Rivadavia has not caused a generalized outages of the drinking water and sanitation system; however, there are specific and preventive effects in sectors located within the risk perimeter, mainly associated with breaks in water and gas networks, as well as access restrictions for security reasons.

Evacuees and self-evacuees have specific needs related to personal hygiene, especially those in transit Evacuee Centers or temporary housing solutions, where continuous access to basic hygiene supplies may be limited due to local availability and precarious conditions in the evacuation centers. The foreseen situation of prolonged displacement increases the need for actions to promote hygiene and prevent health risks, mainly through adequate cleaning.

Although a scenario of massive water pollution is not identified, the importance of ensuring clear and timely information to the population about the safe use of available water, adequate hygiene practices and waste management is recognized, particularly in a context of damaged urban infrastructure and locally interrupted services.

In this regard, needs are identified aimed at the focused provision of hygiene and cleaning supplies, community accompaniment and awareness in safe practices, in coordination with local authorities, as part of a preventive response adapted to the evolution of the scenario.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The emergency affects groups in situations of greater vulnerability, in particular the elderly, people with disabilities, children, and people with chronic diseases, who face greater difficulties in evacuating, adapting to temporary displacement and continuously accessing essential services.

Preventive evacuations, prolonged uncertainty and the loss or restriction of the use of housing increase the risks of exclusion, lack of protection and psychosocial distress, especially in households with high dependence on care.

Priority needs are identified for early identification of people with specific requirements, differentiated accompaniment, access to clear information and referral and support mechanisms, with the aim of reducing barriers to access and preventing protection risks in a context of dynamic and prolonged emergency.

Children and adolescents are exposed on a daily basis to high levels of stress and uncertainty derived from the emergency and the temporary displacement of their families.



Community Engagement And Accountability

The emergency presents significant challenges in terms of risk communication, given the technical nature of the event, its uncertain development and the persistence of an active geological hazard. The affected population faces difficulties in understanding the available information, which increases anxiety, the circulation of rumors and the misperception of risk.

In this context, it is necessary to reinforce clear, accessible, and consistent communication actions, mainly through direct contact with each affected person, as well as to promote community participation spaces that allow people to access reliable information, express their concerns, and take informed decisions during the response and early recovery phases.



Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF operation, the Argentine Red Cross aims to assist at least 500 families affected by the landslides in Comodoro Rivadavia by improving their well-being and hygiene, and mitigating the psychosocial impact of the emergency. This will be achieved through timely access to basic hygiene and cleaning supplies, as well as first aid and psychosocial support, with priority given to evacuated households and those in the most vulnerable situations.

Operation strategy rationale

The information used in the drafting process of this Action Plan arises from the analysis of rapid evaluations, direct observation and inter-institutional articulations carried out by the Argentine Red Cross during the emergency due to mass removal in the city of Comodoro Rivadavia, complemented by the permanent monitoring of the National Team for Monitoring Risks, Emergencies and Disasters (ENMO) and with secondary information provided by local, provincial and national authorities.

The evaluation and monitoring actions were carried out in coordination with the volunteers of the Comodoro Rivadavia branch, with the technical support of the Central Headquarters, allowing the early identification of priority humanitarian needs, the groups in situations of greater vulnerability and the main gaps in the response, in a context characterized by an active geological hazard. Beyond this, the scenario continues to be dynamic since there are daily ground movements that aggravate the situation or modify the situation.

The defined response strategy seeks to address the immediate needs of the affected population, with a focused, flexible and complementary approach to State-led actions, prioritizing the protection of life, risk reduction, psychosocial well-being and the coverage of basic needs, in a scenario where the safe return to housing cannot be guaranteed in the short term for a significant number of families.

For this end, the development of actions is foreseen mainly in the following sectors:

Shelter, housing and settlements / basic needs / WASH:

The strategy prioritizes support for evacuated and self-evacuated families, through the distribution of hygiene and cleaning kits, aimed at improving living conditions in temporary accommodation and accompanying eventual progressive returns, provided that security conditions allow them. The intervention focuses on mitigating the impacts of prolonged displacement, without intervening in reconstruction processes or permanent housing solutions, which are under the responsibility of the competent authorities.

Health and First Aid:

Community first aid actions will be strengthened, with a presence at strategic access points to the affected neighborhoods and in spaces of assistance to the evacuated population. All the activities of the operation will have the participation of volunteers trained in first aid, allowing immediate attention to minor injuries and timely referral to the local health system when necessary.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS):

Considering the high level of stress, anxiety and uncertainty generated by the emergency and its extension over time, the strategy incorporates priority actions of emotional containment, psychosocial accompaniment and strengthening of community capacities, with special attention to evacuees, children, the elderly and other groups in vulnerable situations.

Communication, Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

The CEA approach will be implemented in a transversal manner throughout the operation, strengthening risk communication, access to clear and understandable information, and mechanisms for participation and feedback with the community. This component is central to reducing uncertainty, preventing rumours and supporting informed decision-making by the affected population.

The strategy adopted allows the Argentine Red Cross to respond in a relevant and proportional manner to the identified needs, adapting to the evolution of the context and maintaining the capacity to adjust and scale up according to the dynamics of the emergency and the results of continuous evaluations.

In addition, the feasibility of implementing a Cash Transfer Program within this operation was analyzed internally by the Argentine Red Cross and in dialogue with local authorities. However, at the time of the formulation of this Plan of Action, there is no clear definition of relocation strategies or medium-term housing solutions for the affected families, nor have any housing reconstruction needs been identified, since the final destination of the damaged homes or homes in risk areas has not yet been determined.

Similarly, given the high cost of living in the city of Comodoro Rivadavia, deploying specialized equipment requires a significant operational effort. The cost-benefit ratio of a cash transfer intervention in a limited-scale operation must also be considered. For these reasons, it was considered that the amounts potentially transferable would not have a significant impact on meeting the priority needs identified.

In this context, and in coherence with the needs analysis carried out, the National Society has defined prioritizing in-kind assistance,



together with first aid, mental health and psychosocial support and communication with the community, as detailed in this document, maintaining the flexibility to review this decision depending on the development of the context and eventual definitions of housing solutions.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation will focus on providing assistance to families affected by the emergency, prioritizing those who are evacuated, self-evacuated or with restricted access to their homes due to the active geological risk. The assistance will focus mainly on the directly impacted neighborhoods - including Sismográfica and surrounding areas - and will target at least 500 families (considering that each family consists of an average of 5 people), with emphasis on households with higher levels of vulnerability, such as those who have elderly, children, people with disabilities or with chronic diseases and pregnant women.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection of the target population will be carried out based on criteria of direct impact and vulnerability, prioritizing families evacuated and self-evacuated as a result of mass removal, as well as those with restricted access to their homes because they are within the perimeter of active geological risk. Priority will also be given to households with greater vulnerability factors, including the presence of elderly people, children, people with disabilities, people with chronic diseases, and families with limited support networks or affected livelihoods. The identification and validation of the recipients will be carried out through coordination with local authorities, field surveys and the volunteers of the Argentine Red Cross, ensuring transparency, relevance and humanitarian focus in the assistance.

Total Targeted Population

Women	1,000	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	425	Urban	100%
Men	650	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	425		
Total targeted population	2,500		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	Yes



Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes
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Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
Reactivation of the mass removal process due to rainfall, even light rainfall, which hinders safe access to the affected areas	Permanent monitoring of the evolution of risk through the National Team for Risk, Emergency and Disaster Monitoring (ENMO), in coordination with local technical authorities and national authorities. Dynamic adjustment of operational activities, preventive suspension of actions in the field and prioritization of the safety of volunteers and the population.
Exposure of volunteers and staff to physical risks arising from unstable terrain, damaged structures and controlled access	Strict application of safety and self-protection protocols, provision of personal protection elements, prior induction to activities and coordination with local authorities for safe access to the enabled areas.
Logistical constraints and delays in the provision or distribution of humanitarian supplies, due to geographical distance and access restrictions.	Advance logistics planning, use of local and regional suppliers, coordination with logistics partners and prioritization of staggered deliveries according to the evolution of the context. Adjustment of operational schedules to ensure compliance with established deadlines.
Limited capacity of the Argentine Red Cross to cover all humanitarian needs in a prolonged and dynamic scenario.	Permanent coordination with local, provincial and national authorities, as well as with other humanitarian organizations, to ensure the complementarity of actions, optimize available resources and prioritize assistance to the most vulnerable groups.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

The main safety and security concern for this operation is linked to the active and unstabilised geological risk, which implies possible new land displacements and limits safe access to certain urban sectors. Likewise, risks associated with the exposure of volunteers and the population to damaged structures, restricted access and contexts of high uncertainty are identified, as well as psychosocial effects derived from prolonged displacement. The operation will prioritize the protection of life, the safety of personnel and volunteers, and coordination with the authorities for controlled and safe access to the affected areas.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	Yes
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Planned Intervention



Budget: CHF 27,864
Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people reached with first aid and pre-hospital care.	800



# of people reached with actions to promote community health and risk prevention.	2,500
# of Community First Aid Kits Distributed	20
# of first aid posts that are held at community meeting points in risk areas	2
# of people reached with mental health and psychosocial support activities	1,500

Priority Actions

- Provision of First Aid in all the activities of the operation, including presence at access points to the affected neighborhoods and in assistance spaces for evacuated and self-evacuated population.
- Implementation of health promotion and risk prevention actions, with a focus on injuries, accidents and self-care in contexts of instability of the terrain and damaged structures.
- Distribution of community first aid kits to strengthen local immediate response capacities and community support.
- Articulation with the local health system for the timely referral of cases and the accompaniment of people with specific health needs.
- Spaces for active listening and emotional support for evacuees and self-evacuees.
- Specific psychosocial support for children and adolescents, integrated with recreational activities.
- First aid posts are set up in the zone zero, to assist and accompany displaced families who do not move to temporary shelter.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 54,209

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
# of families reached with 2 hygiene KITS (1 delivery per month)	510
# of families reached with 2 cleaning KITS (1 delivery per month)	510
# of people reached with hygiene, water and sanitation awareness	2,498

Priority Actions

- Distribution of family hygiene kits to evacuees and self-evacuees, with a monthly delivery for two months, prioritizing households with higher levels of vulnerability (children, the elderly, people with chronic diseases).
- Distribution of cleaning kits to support living conditions in temporary accommodation and accompany progressive returns to housing when safety conditions allow it.
- Implementation of actions to raise awareness and promote safe hygiene practices, adequate use of available water and safe waste management, adapted to the context of temporary displacement and locally interrupted services.
- Dissemination of key health risk prevention messages in Evacuation Centers, transit points and community spaces, in coordination with local authorities.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 3,709

Targeted Persons: 2,500



Indicators

Title	Target
Number of children friendly and safe space running	2
Number of children that received recreational activities	400
% of population that requested information on referrals and received it	100

Priority Actions

- Creation of friendly and safe space for children in evacuation centers
- Provide information for referrals
- Ensure all volunteers and staff are aware of PGI and Code of Conduct.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 3,882

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
% of people assisted who feel that National Society support/services meet their most important needs/provide useful support.	70

Priority Actions

- Implementation of accessible feedback mechanisms, which allow the assisted population to express opinions, concerns and suggestions about the response, guaranteeing confidentiality, protection approach and timely response.
- Application of post-distribution monitoring surveys to evaluate the relevance, quality and usefulness of the assistance provided, and adjust actions based on the results obtained.
- Systematic dissemination of key information and messages related to the emergency.
- Sustained assessment of the situation and community perception, through interviews
- Design, production and distribution of clear and accessible informational materials, culturally adapted and in plain language, to support the understanding of information and informed decision-making by the community.
- Generation of dissemination pieces of the operation to make the emergency visible



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 5,866

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Reports are timely and quality accepted	100



# of monitoring visits	2
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Priority Actions

- Support in PMER
- Facilitation of refresh training in WWPP
- Support with induction and cross-cutting activities
- Monitoring visits



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 42,960
Targeted Persons: 100

Indicators

Title	Target
% of volunteers provided with adequate protection, safety and support equipment for the emergency.	100
# of lessons learned workshops held	1
# of staff trained in WWPP procedures	15

Priority Actions

- Acquisition and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) for the volunteers deployed in the operation, including security and visibility elements appropriate to a context of mass removal and controlled access to risk areas.
- Provision of elements of institutional visibility (vests, identifiers or other supplies), ensuring safe conditions and recognition of volunteers during field activities.
- Comprehensive support to the volunteers involved in the response, including accommodation coverage, transfers, recognition and basic welfare conditions, in order to ensure operational continuity and reduce the overload of local staff.
- Implementation of monitoring and follow-up missions by the Headquarters, including costs associated with transportation, vehicle maintenance, communications, and office operating expenses.
- Refresh training on WWPP financial procedures
- Holding a Lessons Learned workshop, aimed at systematizing experiences, identifying good practices and opportunities for improvement, and strengthening institutional capacities for future geological emergencies

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

The Argentine Red Cross has a national base of more than 6,000 volunteers and 1,855 rented people, with capacities distributed throughout the country. In recent years, a significant number of volunteers have been trained in emergency response, first aid, psychosocial support and community risk management, allowing for flexible and scalable mobilization according to operational needs. Additionally, during 2025, the National Emergency Team (ENE) was created to accompany the National Intervention Team (ENI) of the National Society, being today a great complement of technical support given its recent training and experiences, in addition to the number of people distributed in different parts of the country with the possibility of mobilizing.

For this DREF operation in Comodoro Rivadavia, the mobilization of approximately 30 volunteers from different Affiliates of the country is planned, in addition to those who will remotely support monitoring or support activities in general, to the local volunteers who have a team of 50 people, complemented, if necessary, by specialized volunteers from other regions of the country. The volunteers deployed



fulfill functions in first aid, psychosocial support, distribution of assistance, hygiene promotion, community communication, administrative management, management and operational support in the field.

In support of the operation, it is envisaged to allocate 50% of the activities of the National Response Director, who is mobilized in the field, and the hiring of additional personnel is not considered, although the National Society will allocate approximately 15% of the time of approximately 10 staff members including the areas of administration and finance. emergencies, logistics, communication and marketing, human development, among others.

The operation is also supported by the Headquarters, which provides technical, logistical and management support. Specialized national teams are activated, including the National Emergency Team (ENE) and the National Risk, Emergency and Disaster Monitoring Team (ENMO). The ENE supports the tasks of operational coordination, security and accompaniment to the local subsidiary, while the ENMO contributes to the permanent monitoring of the geological risk, the management of information and the analysis of the evolution of the event.

For all field activities, specific induction and training instances will be carried out, with emphasis on security, community support, protection and accountability. Volunteer mobilizations will be organized in short-term missions, prioritizing the care of personnel and volunteers, and contemplating the costs associated with accommodation, food, transportation and insurance, in accordance with the guidelines for volunteer care of the National Society.

Does your volunteer team reflect the gender, age, and cultural diversity of the people you're helping? What gaps exist in your volunteer team's gender, age, or cultural diversity, and how are you addressing them to ensure inclusive and appropriate support?

The volunteer base of the NS reflects the gender and cultural diversity of the country.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

All purchases necessary for the operation, including clothing, supplies and personal protective equipment, will be managed and made directly by the Argentine Red Cross. The National Society has recently certified the OCAC assessment process and follows the IFRC's WWPP procedures.

In most cases, existing stock will be mobilized, and processes for its replacement will be initiated.

Maintenance will be carried out on the vehicles affected by the operation, so that they are operational taking into account the season that Argentina is going through and the need for them to be available again and in optimal conditions at the end of this operation.

How will this operation be monitored?

The planning and monitoring of the operation will be in charge of the Secretariat of Emergencies and Disasters of the Argentine Red Cross, with a focus on continuous follow-up and operational adaptation, integrating information from the field, community feedback mechanisms and the monitoring of geological risk carried out by the National Team for Risk, Emergency and Disaster Monitoring (ENMO). A progress report and a final report will be prepared, and at the end of the operation, a lessons learned workshop will be held to systematize specific learnings, with the participation of the IFRC Secretariat as an observer.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The National Society has extensive experience in communication in emergency contexts, including supporting several National Societies in the region. For this purpose, it has a National Communication Directorate that manages the National Society's social networks and relations with the media. In this regard, in order to disseminate the humanitarian action of the National Society and strengthen the processes of community participation and accountability to the community, different activities will be carried out, including:

- Audiovisual recording of the main activities of the DREF operation.
- Production and editing of testimonial and accountability audiovisual pieces.
- Printing of multi-threat communication pieces.
- Development of community consultation tools, with permanent contact with the Red Cross.
- Design of a final accountability of the operation to present to the community and strategic partners.
- Creation of a digital audiovisual record (on-line folder) of the operation.
- Review and development of key messages for volunteers in the field and references for the execution of the response strategy.



- Press actions to accurately disseminate the activity to different audiences and subsequent clipping of notes (subject to an analysis of the situation).



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRAR025 - Argentine Red Cross Argentina: Landslides

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	89,664
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	27,864
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	54,209
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	3,709
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	3,882
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	48,826
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	5,866
National Society Strengthening	42,960
TOTAL BUDGET	138,490

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)

