

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ACTIVATION

El Salvador | Drought

18 May 2026



Source: Salvadoran Red Cross, Communications Department.

EAP No: EAP2024SV01	Operation No: MDRSV017	EAP approved: 13/11/2025	EAP revised timeframe: No timeframe revision
Trigger date: 05/05/2026 (Trigger 2)	Early action lead time: 2-3 months	Early action timeframe: 3 Months	

Total Budget: 544,464 CHF
Early Action Budget: 237,560 CHF
To assist: 10,000 people

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ACTIVATION

Activation Overview

The Salvadoran Red Cross has activated its Early Action Protocol for drought.

Based on the monitoring and technical analysis conducted by the General Directorate of the Environmental Observatory (DGOA), the Early Action Protocol (EAP) for drought is activated due to the fulfilment of the two triggers established in the approved protocol.

The activation is based on the following technical criteria:

- **First trigger**, The DGOA has reported the presence of conditions associated with the El Niño phenomenon in the Niño 3.4 region for the next three to four months, with a probability equal to or greater than 60%, according to the official forecast issued by the IRI-CPC as of January. Reached on 14 April 2026.
- **Second trigger**, Likewise, the DGOA has issued the quarterly climate outlook indicating that accumulated rainfall for the May-June-July period will be below normal (33rd percentile), significantly increasing the risk of impacts due to water deficit in the prioritized areas. Reached it on 4 May 2026.

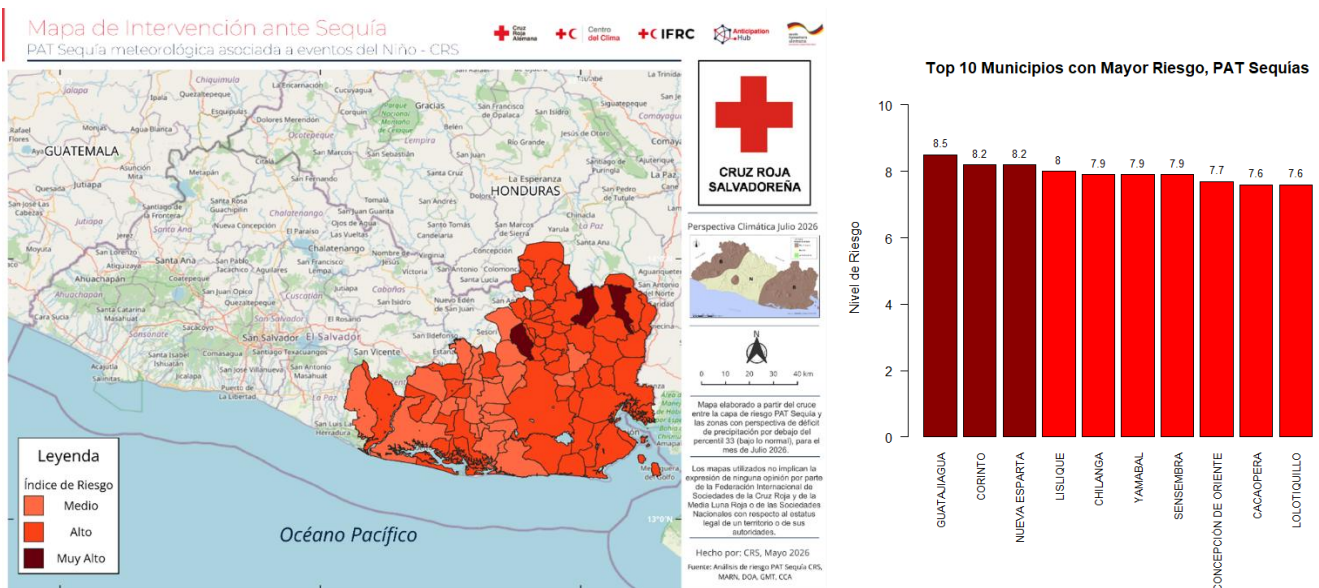


Figure 2. Map of municipalities with meteorological drought risk indices for El Salvador.




Based on the overlay of the EAP risk layer and the areas with below-normal precipitation deficit outlooks issued in the climate outlook, the departments at highest risk are **Usulután, San Miguel, Morazan and La Union**. Therefore, initial engagement is expected to be carried out in the departments of Morazan and La Union. The planned implementation period is three months following approval of the activation.

On this basis, the Early Action Protocol is officially activated with the objective of implementing anticipatory actions aimed at reducing humanitarian impacts on the most vulnerable populations, particularly in food security, livelihoods, access to water and protection.

Early action targeting: The planned actions will be implemented in coordination with national authorities, humanitarian actors and prioritized communities, in accordance with the operational procedures and coordination mechanisms established in the EAP, targeting the most vulnerable families who could be most affected by this phenomenon.


Early Action Overview


PLANNED OPERATIONS

 Livelihoods	Female:	1,400	112,354 CHF
	Male:	1,600	AP Code: 007
Indicator:	3,000 people reached with livelihood interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness workshop on adaptive practices for households with agricultural livelihoods. Trigger 2. 2. Dissemination of drought alerts to the at-risk population in high-risk municipalities. Trigger 1 (does not require funding). 3. Unconditional cash transfers linked to a training session on adaptive practices for subsistence farming households. Trigger 2. 4. Unrestricted cash transfers conditional on a training session on adaptation practices for households with subsistence livestock livelihoods. Trigger 2. 		
 Multi-purpose cash	Female:	1,000	113,889 CHF
	Male:	2,000	AP Code: 081
Indicator:	2,000 families (10,000 people) reached WASH interventions in advance of a hazard.		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness workshops on the use of cash transfers (activation). Trigger 2. 2. Distribution of 600 unconditional cash transfers for basic needs (food, fuel and vehicle rental). Trigger 2. 3. Cash transfer satisfaction survey. Trigger 2. 		
 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female:	4,000	5,371 CHF
	Male:	6,000	AP Code: 110,111
Indicator:	10,000 people reached with water, sanitation and hygiene interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment, treatment and distribution of safe drinking water to 600 families (3,000 people), providing 15 litres per person for 25 days through the deployment of personnel, water purification plants and/or water trucks within the communities (including travel, fuel and other costs). 		

2. Workshop on the appropriate use of water and hygiene, including prevention of gastrointestinal diseases - Trigger 2.
3. Hygiene promotion campaign with key messages on dehydration treatment and heatstroke prevention, using social media and distributing educational materials to 2,000 families (10,000 people) - Trigger 1.
4. Installation of five community tanks in schools and health centres - Trigger 2.
5. Distribution of 600 family water purification and hygiene kits - Trigger 2.

Enabling approaches

	Secretariat Services			3,069 CHF
				AP Code: 122
Objective:				
Priority Early Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expenses for visit during activation. 2. Financial expenses. 		

	National Society Strengthening			2,877 CHF
				AP Code: 124,125,126
Objective:				
Priority Early Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring and evaluation of lessons learned. Trigger 2. 		

Contact information

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Reference



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- [EAP Summary and budget](#)
- [Annual reports from previous years](#)