



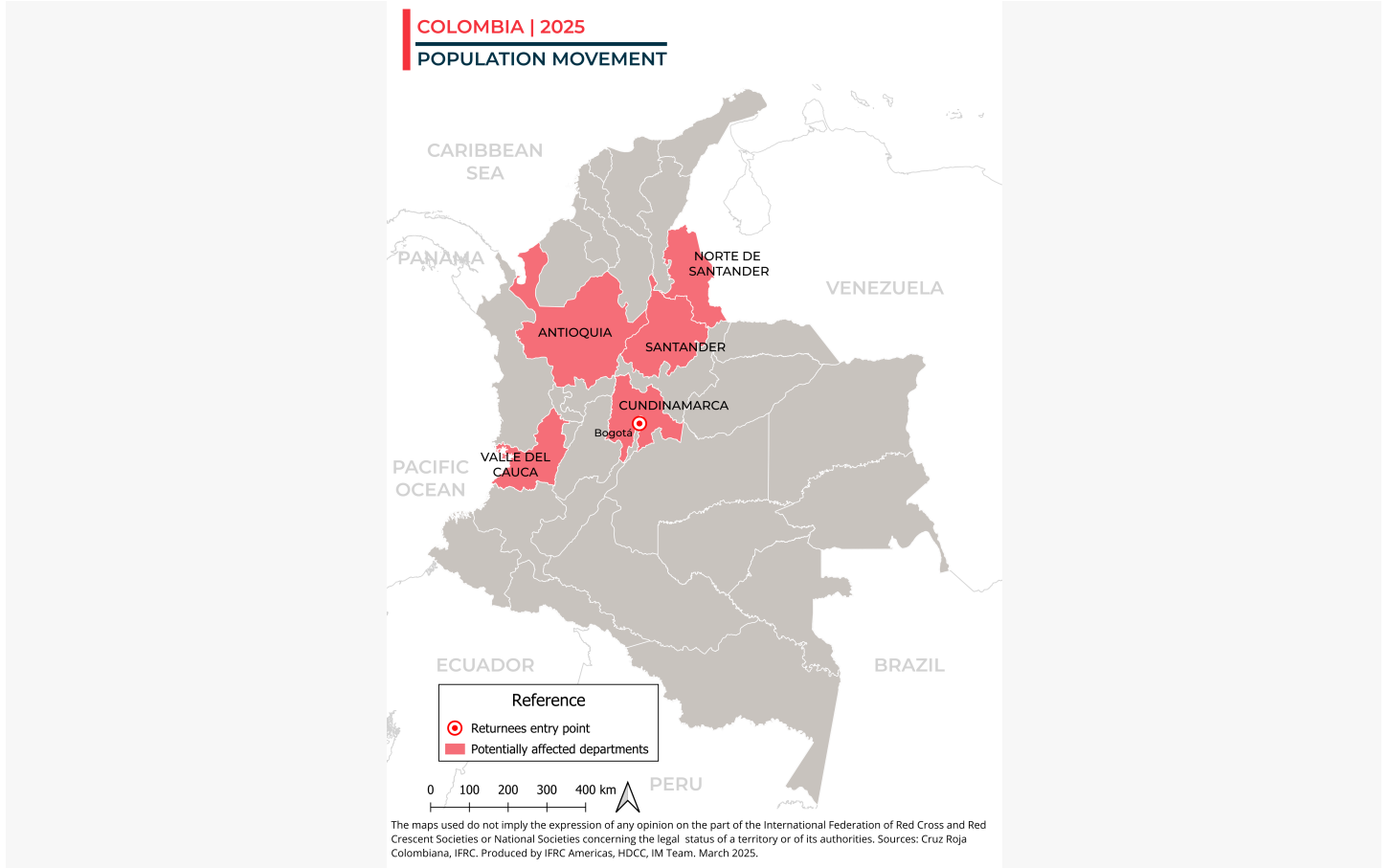
Colombian Red Cross attention to national migrants deported from United States to Colombia. El Dorado International Airport, January 28, 2025.

Appeal: MDRCO030	Country: Colombia	Hazard: Population Movement	Type of DREF: Imminent
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Slow	DREF Allocation: CHF 76,878	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 27,000 people	People Targeted: 2,500 people	
Operation Start Date: 27-03-2025	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 31-07-2025	DREF Published: 31-03-2025
Targeted Areas: Bogota D.C			

Description of the Event

Approximate date of impact

As of 20 January 2025, with the changes on immigration policy in the United States, a significant increase in deportations of Colombian citizens is projected. It is estimated that by 2025 the number of deportations of Colombians will amount to approximately 27,000 people, which would represent an increase of 58% compared to the previous year.



Map of the possible receptor departments by their International Airports in their main cities. Source: National Migration Strategy of the Colombian Red Cross, 2025.

Provide any updates in the situation since the field report and explain what is expected to happen.

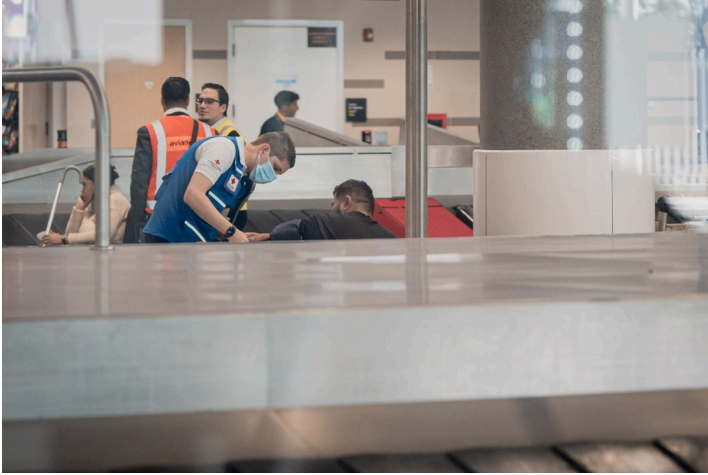
According to the dashboard developed by Migration Colombia, between 28 January and 6 March 2025, a total of 1,467 Colombians were deported on flights organized by the National Government in coordination with the Air Force, Migration Colombia, and the Foreign Ministry (1). These flights originated from the United States and Panama, arriving at airports in Bogotá and Medellín.

Deportations remained consistent throughout this period. The United States deported 201 people on 28 January and 105 on 29 January. On 3 February, Panama deported 43 Colombians to Medellín. Additional flights from the United States followed on 3, 6, and 10 February, carrying 109, 91, and 109 deportees, respectively. On 13 February, two flights arrived: one from Panama with 35 people in Medellín and another from the United States with 107 in Bogotá. The United States continued deportations with flights on 18, 19, 20, and 25 February, carrying 107, 96, 109, and 105 deportees, respectively. Panama sent another flight on 28 February with 35 deportees. Finally, in March, the United States operated two more flights, on 4 and 6 March, with 110 and 105 deportees, bringing the total for the period to 1,467. These figures only account for coordinated flights with government oversight, meaning the actual number of deportations could be higher.

Meanwhile, El Tiempo (2025) reports that approximately 1,000 Colombians are currently detained in the United States, awaiting deportation in the coming weeks (2). With an average of 200 people returning weekly to Bogotá through coordinated flights between the Colombian and U.S. governments, the Colombian Foreign Ministry estimates that deportations will continue at this rate in the months



ahead. However, this represents only a small fraction of the 27,000 Colombians with deportation orders, indicating that forced returns may increase further in the near future.



Colombian Red Cross attention to national migrants, deported from the United States to Colombia, El Dorado International Airport, January 28, 2025. Source: Colombian Red Cross



Arrival of deportation flights from the US to El Dorado International Airport, January 28, 2025. Source: El Espectador.

Why your National Society is acting now and what criteria is used to launch this operation.

Since the beginning of the deportations, the Colombian Red Cross has participated in coordination and response preparedness meetings with national entities. The Colombian Red Cross received the first request from the government on 28 January 2025, to support the first flights of deportees. In connection with the above, on 28 February, the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested support from the Colombian Red Cross to provide humanitarian assistance at El Dorado Airport as a result of the increasing demand for essential services not covered by the current government response and the absence of other humanitarian organizations affected by USAID funding cuts.

In total, the Colombian Red Cross has supported 6 flights since the first government request, representing a total of 627 people assisted through different actions including restoring family contact, food, hydration, first aid and information. In the initial flights, the CRC also provided temporary lodging and distribution of cleaning supplies.

In anticipation of a potential increase in deported nationals with humanitarian needs, the Colombian Red Cross developed its Contingency Plan. This plan is based on a scenario-planning exercise conducted in December 2024, involving migration specialists from various branches, organized by the Colombian Red Cross Migration Team and facilitated by the IFRC.

Drawing from the 17,090 Colombians deported in 2024 (3), three potential impact scenarios have been identified:

Moderate (Green Alert): A 10% increase, reaching approximately 1,350 deportees per month.

Worrisome (Orange Alert): A 30% increase, with 1,596 deportees per month.

Critical (Red Alert): A 50% increase, totaling 1,841 deportees per month.

In alignment with the government's 2025 projections, the Colombian Red Cross proposes a trigger-based action plan for this DREF Operation. The plan includes:

Trigger 1 – Anticipatory Actions Phase: Activates readiness, repositioning, and early actions.

Trigger 2 – Response Phase: If needed, escalates to full-scale response.

Trigger 1 – Anticipatory Actions Phase

This first trigger has already been met and is based on:

- Stricter U.S. immigration policies implemented since January 20, signaling an expected rise in deportations to Colombia in 2025.
- The Colombian government's request to Colombian Red Cross for humanitarian assistance at El Dorado Airport.

This phase focuses on strengthening the National Society's capacity to manage a potential Red Alert scenario, which could exceed response capabilities. The Colombian Red Cross has already initiated assistance activities using its own funds and will expand operations through this DREF Operation as soon as it is approved.

Trigger 2 – Response Phase

This trigger will activate if deportations increase by 30%, reaching 1,595 returnees per month. If met, the National Society will develop an operations update to scale up the operation and transition from anticipatory actions phase to response phase.

For this, the Colombian Red Cross will evaluate the total number of deportees from the previous month and the average number over the last three months. If there is a 30% increase, the response will be considered for escalation according to the National Society's contingency plan.

Additionally, escalation to a potential response phase may also be triggered by government requests informed by updated reports showing a sustained rise in deportations.

Given the fluid and often unpredictable nature of migration contexts, the Colombian Red Cross, in coordination with the IFRC Delegation for Colombia, will continuously monitor evolving needs. This will ensure that the activation of the Response DREF aligns with the immediate humanitarian needs of returnees at the right time.

Scope and Scale

A significant increase in deportations of Colombian citizens from the United States is projected for 2025, with estimates indicating a 58% rise compared to the previous year. This surge is driven by the tightening of U.S. immigration policies since January 2025, suggesting that the steady flow of deportees in vulnerable situations will persist.

As deportations increase, the situation is expanding in regional scope and scale, posing new challenges for returnee integration and stability. This influx is expected to impact key areas such as safety, health, emotional well-being, and socioeconomic conditions, underscoring the need for comprehensive response strategies.

Many Colombians migrate due to economic hardship, family reunification, or the pursuit of better opportunities and international protection. Their return requires reintegration strategies that ensure access to basic services, employment, psychosocial support, and protection mechanisms to uphold their rights.

Colombia's current social and economic conditions add another layer of complexity to the reintegration process. Strengthening response capacities and coordinating efforts among various stakeholders is essential to support sustainable resettlement.

Initial assessments by the Colombian Red Cross during the first deportation flights have highlighted urgent needs, including food, water, sanitation, hygiene, transportation, temporary shelter, and family reunification support. The limited resources for international cooperation and the increasing demand for services reinforce the urgency of intervention.

The Colombian Red Cross is stepping in as a key humanitarian actor, complementing government efforts to address the gaps in assistance for returnees. The government has already recognized the need to enhance support mechanisms, and ongoing requests for Red Cross assistance are expected as deportation numbers continue to rise.

[Supporting Documentation](#)

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Migration flows 2024 by Migración Colombia	https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/migraci.n.colombia/viz/FlujosMigratorios-2024/Inicio
2. Migration flows 2025 by Migración Colombia	https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/migraci.n.colombia/viz/FlujosMigratorios-2025/Inicio
3. Nearly 1,000 Colombians are ready to be deported from the U.S.	https://www.eltiempo.com/mundo/eeuu-y-canada/cerca-de-1-000-colombianos-estan-listos-para-ser-deportados-desde-estados-unidos-3425883



Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	No
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:

Previous experiences have left important lessons that can improve the implementation of an effective response to the crisis generated by the mass deportations of nationals. One of the main lessons is the need for efficient inter-institutional coordination, where coordination between government entities, humanitarian organizations and local actors is promoted, ensuring that resources are used effectively and avoiding duplication of actions.

Another key lesson is the importance of the differential approach, since not all deportees face the same risks or have the same needs (medical services, protection mechanisms, friendly spaces, GBV care, food requirements, etc.). Likewise, immediate mental health care; the lack of early psychosocial support can generate emotional crises and aggravate the reintegration processes, for this reason it is necessary to implement psychological first aid from the first contact. On the other hand, having access to the necessary resources available as a National Society for the readiness of personnel and prepositioning of stock is essential, especially considering that this year it is expected that deportation will be an event in constant increase.

Current National Society Actions

National Society anticipatory actions started

28-01-2025

Shelter, Housing And Settlements	Temporary accommodation for 20 people, provided by the Colombian Red Cross Cundinamarca and Bogotá Branch.
Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Delivery of more than 600 hot food rations in the airport to the people returned.
Health	The National Society supported the initial assessment and health care of people with mild impairments. Additionally, the psychosocial support line has also been addressed, which had the support of professionals from the National Society of the Colombian Red Cross and volunteers from the Cundinamarca and Bogotá branch. Likewise, 4 people were referred to the Emergency Medical Care Service (S.A.M.U) located at the HQ.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Delivery of hydration, shower service and personal hygiene points in temporary accommodation for at least 30 people. Delivery of 45 personal hygiene kits managed by the Colombian Red Cross Cundinamarca and Bogotá Branch.
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Support for the reestablishment of family contact, through cell phones, Wi-Fi connectivity for some people who required the service. At the same time, the Colombian Red Cross has carried out orientation and referencing activities on routes of access to rights, especially children and adolescents who have arrived in the country, in its connection with the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF). At the same time,



	<p>protective spaces for children and adolescents have been managed at the Airport, thus responding to the immediate needs of the deported population.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that the National Society has carried out an identification of the needs of people who have so far arrived in Colombia as deportees, taking into account the possible implementation of actions such as humanitarian transport and temporary accommodation for those people with greater protection risks.</p>
Coordination	The Colombian Red Cross headquarters has held coordination and updating meetings with the Cundinamarca and Bogotá Branch, with the aim of organizing the initial response in a coordinated manner. On the other hand, with regard to the national system, the National Society participated in coordination spaces for the development of humanitarian actions and socialized its humanitarian outreach with the Group for Attention to Victims Abroad of the Unit for Comprehensive Attention and Reparation of Victims. Likewise, spaces for constant dialogue have been carried out with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Migration Colombia. Generating a direct communication channel that facilitates response coordination.
National Society Readiness	The National Society headquarters and the Cundinamarca and Bogotá branch have designed a humanitarian response plan to address a possible increase in the number of migrant population returned to Colombian territory, due to possible changes in the current immigration policies of the United States.
Resource Mobilization	The Colombian Red Cross has made available some resources to support the immediate response to the needs of nationals who have arrived in the country on the first deportation flights. Likewise, some areas of the National Society headquarters offered a series of supplies as donations that have been essential in the care.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	The Colombian Red Cross developed a Contingency Plan for the response to possible mass deportations from the United States on a nationwide coverage.
National Society EOC	Coordination of strategic monitoring meetings with migration referents of the branches. In addition, participation in emergency management crisis room and preparation of 2 situation reports (SITREP) on the care of returnees.
Other	Urban transport through shuttle service, from El Dorado Airport to the accommodation of the Cundinamarca Branch "Casa Volver".

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The IFRC Country Delegation in Colombia provides support to the Colombian Red Cross in finance, operations, PMER, internal coordination with in-country Movement partners and external coordination with the humanitarian country team. For this emergency, the IFRC team in Colombia supported the registration on the GO platform, as well as the formulation of this DREF.
Participating National Societies	The PNS present in the country have expressed their interest in learning about the humanitarian needs that have arisen from the current deportation process due to their interest in contributing to humanitarian action by complementing the response.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC has so far provided the Family Links Restoration (RFL) service, strengthening the deployment of actions for the re-establishment of family links, this service helps to reconnect deported nationals with their nuclei established in Colombia; the ICRC promotes this pillar of the movement through the financing of the line in the National Society of the Colombian Red Cross, who carried out the technical part of the operation.



Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs accompanied the arrival of the nationals of the first three flights. However, this request was extended for flights operated since March. - The National Police providing a space for the care of minors and the respective medical care. - OPAIN guaranteed a space to provide humanitarian assistance and managed humanitarian transport for people without a support network in the city of Bogotá and with high levels of vulnerability and multiple affectation. - The Mayor's Office of Bogotá arranged the temporary accommodation service for nationals without a support network in the city of Bogotá, meanwhile, their return to the different cities of origin was achieved. - The Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF) assessed the minors who arrived on the three flights and on 29 January they delivered liquid welfare to the children. - The Ministry of Health of Bogotá has arranged basic medical care. - The Ombudsman's Office received statements and referred cases to the Unit for Comprehensive Attention and Reparation to Victims in cases associated with the internal armed conflict.
UN or other actors	<p>Given the decrease in funding by the United States Government to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the response of other actors has been reduced, making it difficult to deliver humanitarian assistance, the presence of international cooperation and the services offered. Before this budget cut was known, the Colombian Red Cross managed to articulate in a coordinated manner with partners such as UNHCR and IOM the accommodation services operated by implementing partners within the framework of current projects. This made it easier for the returned migrant population to have access to showers, food, lodging and toiletries.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The Interagency Group on Mixed Migratory Flows – GIFMM has carried out an exhaustive monitoring of the migratory context in the face of the arrival of the returned migrant population that has been deported from the United States. This has made it possible to know not only the humanitarian needs, but also the impact on the different regions of the country and the possible trends of this dynamic.

Regarding the coordination for the response to returned migrants, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Migration Colombia and the Colombian Air Force were in charge of coordinating actions to assist this population, through the established protocol, with the participation of different public and private entities and in conjunction with the Colombian Red Cross.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has articulated a response on the ground, for the attention of nationals. This has allowed the non-duplication of actions, the strengthening of the line of integration and stabilization, complementarity in care and a safe referral for protection cases.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

In some specific cases, the need for support the people who arrive at points far from their places of origin has become evident, making it difficult for them to access support networks and immediate refuge. Lack of financial resources prevents them from continuing their journey or accessing temporary accommodation, exposing them to street situations and precarious living conditions. Likewise, the lack of safe reception spaces leaves many people without a decent place to spend the night. In addition, the absence of support mechanisms for family reunification limits the possibility that they can be reunited with their loved ones safely and quickly.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

It was evident that access to basic foodstuffs is a major limitation in the process of receiving deportees.



Multi purpose cash grants

There has been evidence of a lack of access to humanitarian transport, which prevents deportees from moving from the cities of return to their places of origin or safe reception points. The absence of economic resources for their mobilization leaves many people without viable options to continue their journey safely, increasing the risk of being stranded in these cities and exposing themselves to street conditions, exploitation or insecurity. The situation is even more critical for those who do not have support networks in the city of arrival, which aggravates their vulnerability and makes family reunification difficult. In addition, the lack of assistance in conditional cash transfers for humanitarian transport increases exposure to the dangers of en-route migration, including human trafficking, violence and exploitation.

Additionally, it is required to guarantee humanitarian transport with accompaniment under a protection approach, and through an established protocol, ensuring that the humanitarian response does not cause action with harm and that people arrive at reception sites that protect their integrity. To this end, it is necessary to validate their reliable support networks to ensure the safety and well-being of those receiving assistance.



Health

Primary health care

It is critical to provide medical care to returnees to treat conditions arising from the trip, such as dehydration, fatigue, and respiratory infections, which can compromise their well-being. It is also necessary to ensure the proper management of physical injuries and ensure immediate access to health services. The availability of pharmacological treatments is essential to treat urgent medical conditions, as well as timely referral to specialized services in cases that require it.

Mental health

It is necessary to pay attention to the high levels of stress, anxiety and emotional effects derived from the deportation process, as well as psychosocial support in the face of family separation and the uncertainty of return. The creation of safe spaces for emotional expression and the implementation of psychological first aid are required. In addition, it is essential to guarantee a differential approach that responds to the particularities of each case.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

It is necessary to guarantee access to drinking water for consumption and hygiene, especially for those people who do not have a stable place to stay. In addition, the absence of basic hygiene supplies and the lack of adequate toilets and showers leave many people without access to safe and dignified facilities for their personal hygiene. It has been identified that, upon arrival, the nationals do not bring laces on their shoes and bring their belongings between sacks and tarpaulins that make them easily identifiable. That is why it is necessary to have shoelaces and tote bags that they can obtain upon arrival at the airport, as part of the elements of the Humanitarian Store Strategy.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The need to guarantee communication for returnees, due to family separation during the deportation process, has been identified to facilitate contact with their support networks. Likewise, the installation of free connectivity points that allow access to the internet and the making of essential calls is required. Inquiries have also been made about support networks and services available to people who are returning to Colombia under deported status.

As part of the implementation, the Colombian Red Cross team has been attentive to identifying people who may have faced situations of vulnerability in their migration process, such as forced displacement, human trafficking, gender-based violence, and other forms of violence that may affect their integrity and rights. Taking into account that some people may have left Colombia in search of international protection, special attention has been paid to identifying needs and thus strengthening orientation actions for the dissemination of



access routes to protection services and safe return. Attention is also paid to institutional processes for the restitution of rights in order to facilitate processes of safe referral and referral of cases to appropriate assistance and protection mechanisms.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF operation, the Colombian Red Cross plans to mitigate the risk of a humanitarian crisis that could be triggered by an unusual increase in the number of people deported. In this regard, anticipatory actions will be implemented designed to provide assistance to 2,500 deportees during 4 months through primary health care, psychosocial care, WASH, delivery of hygiene items, food assistance, accommodation, cash vouchers for in-land transportation, information as aid and the protection of family links.

Operation strategy rationale

The Colombian Red Cross has structured the anticipatory action phase into three activity blocks: readiness, pre-positioning for early actions, and early actions. These efforts aim to strengthen the National Society's capacity to effectively meet the identified needs of deported persons.

Additionally, it is worth noting that a small portion of stock is also being pre-positioned for potential response needs. This prepositioning will ensure that the National Society has the necessary materials to scale up the operation if required, preventing delays in timely assistance.

Readiness, pre-positioning, and early actions will be implemented upon approval of this DREF Operation. These actions respond to the first trigger—already met—linked to changes in U.S. immigration policies that have increased deportations and prompted a government request for humanitarian assistance from the Colombian Red Cross.

The anticipatory actions phase focuses on the following areas: Health, Shelter, Livelihoods and Basic Needs, Cash, PGI, WASH, CEA, and Migration, as outlined below:

HEALTH:

- Readiness and Pre-positioning: The Colombian Red Cross will ensure sufficient resources for early health interventions at El Dorado Airport in Bogotá. This includes:

- Coordinating the setup of a designated physical space.
- Identifying trained personnel to provide physical and psychological first aid.
- Procuring necessary medical supplies, including first aid kits.

These activities are based on assessments conducted by Colombian Red Cross teams supporting flight receptions and insights from local authorities. Additionally, as part of readiness efforts, a referral pathway will be established with medical centers for specialized care when needed.

- Early Actions: The plan includes providing physical and psychological first aid services to an estimated 540 returnees through trained personnel and necessary medical supplies. Given the operational context, the activation activities will be conducted for volunteers involved in assisting deportees to ensure their well-being and maintain effective service delivery.

SHELTER, HOUSING AND SETTLEMENTS:

- As part of readiness and pre-positioning, the Colombian Red Cross will coordinate access to temporary accommodation for deportees in need of shelter upon arrival. A prioritization and support roadmap will be developed, focusing on families with children and those without support networks in Bogotá. To ensure service quality, trained personnel in the shelter, housing, and settlements sector will be identified, and visits to temporary accommodation facilities will be conducted. Additionally, warm-up kits for children and adults and cloth bags with key self-care messages will be pre-positioned based on identified needs.

- During the early actions phase, the pre-positioned kits will be distributed, and trained personnel will oversee accommodation services following the established prioritization protocol. At least 125 deportees will receive one night of lodging, with an early departure strategy limiting stays to a maximum of two days per person. Accommodation will be arranged in hotels with pre-identified providers, ensuring a safe and dignified space for returnees.

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS:

- As part of readiness and pre-positioning, the Colombian Red Cross will oversee the procurement and management of ready-to-eat food



for returnees. This includes designing a food assistance distribution protocol that establishes a safe, accessible, and convenient distribution point. The protocol will also assess and identify the most suitable food suppliers to ensure efficient distribution.

- During the early actions phase, the food assistance distribution protocol will be activated, enabling the purchase and distribution of snacks at the National Society's designated point of care.

MULTIPURPOSE CASH:

- As part of readiness and pre-positioning, the Colombian Red Cross will develop a protocol and feasibility study for providing conditional cash assistance to support deportees' transportation to their city of origin. This includes establishing agreements with transportation providers and defining the prioritization and support process for beneficiaries.

- During the early actions phase, a plan for Dignified Transport will be activated, providing humanitarian transportation vouchers to at least 250 deportees, enabling their safe travel from Bogotá to other cities.

Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI):

- The operational team will articulate with the Peacebuilding and Institutional Doctrine area of the Colombian Red Cross for the activities of readiness and prepositioning. This will allow the development and purchase of necessary tools and connectivity services to activate the RFL service at the point of care and take advantage of strategic alliances with UNHCR, Ombudsman's Office, Victims Unit, ICBF, Foreign Ministry, Colombia Nos Une Program, among others, for the update of key information for the referral of cases with protection needs with institutions and authorities specialized and in charge to handle asylum or refugee applications.

- As part of the early actions, restoring family link services will be conducted to support people to re-establish contact with their families and support networks. It is expected that at least 1000 persons will be supported with access to calls and connectivity network. Likewise, key messages on self-care and support routes and access to rights will be disseminated, for example, the channels of the Colombian government program for returnees "Colombia nos une" (Colombia unites us) will be disseminated.

Water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH):

- Readiness and prepositioning activities are aimed at acquiring the necessary elements to equip the humanitarian store with hygiene kits and hydration.

- Through WASH early actions, 2,500 people will be reached with differentiated hygiene kits for children, women and men, and the humanitarian tent strategy will be strengthened through which people will be able to access information on access to showers and toilets, as well as additional hygiene items for babies and women if necessary.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

- The National Society with the support of the IFRC's regional CEA team will develop an information, assistance and feedback strategy for deportees adapted to the country context and operational needs. In addition, the National Society will define the communication channels for the delivery of key information on available returnee assistance and participation channels, as well as the channels for receiving and managing concerns, complaints and recommendations from the people targeted. These activities will be supported by the development of an CEA workshop for staff and volunteers of the National Society.

Migration:

- Through this operation, the Colombian Red Cross will update its contingency plan and develop an action plan to support the deported population throughout the country. For this, an analysis of the humanitarian situation in Colombia by deportees will be developed. The achievement of these activities will be supported through a workshop that will be accompanied by IFRC staff.

In addition, the development of a lessons learned workshop at the end of the operation is proposed and coordination meetings with the IFRC Country Delegation is proposed, to ensure that actions are carried out according to plan, and to address possible complications and avoid delays. Regular updates on the situation will be made in collaboration with Migration Colombia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, humanitarian organizations present in the country, to evaluate the possible need to escalate this DREF to a Response DREF based on the defined triggers or, on the contrary, activate a stopover mechanism in the event that flights with deportees cease permanently, either by an official notification from the authorities or after 15 days of not receiving flights.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation prioritizes assistance to returnees in situations of high vulnerability, facilitating a humanitarian response based on needs and protection criteria. The selection of the population will be carried out through characterizations at the reception points and will focus on the following profiles:



- Priority will be given to the attention of deported people who arrive in the country through flights to El Dorado International Airport in Bogotá.
- Women at risk, especially pregnant, breastfeeding or at risk of gender-based violence.
- Diverse sexual orientation and gender identity people who report some type of risk.
- Families that include minors, the elderly, or those who refer to some type of disability.
- People with a medical diagnosis who need complementary care.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Assessments at the points of arrival

The National Society team will identify the people with the most urgent needs to be addressed by the team in a differentiated way and according to our response lines.

Vulnerability criteria

Assistance will be provided according to the situation of each individual, prioritizing risks of protection, health and access to basic elements.

Considering the framework of dignity, access, participation and security that guide protection activities in the Movement. Likewise, the importance of coordination with government entities and other humanitarian agencies that can complement the response is considered.

Total Targeted Population

Women	615	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	10	Urban	100%
Men	1,845	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	30		
Total targeted population	2,500		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Team risks due to potential repercussions on the physical safety and well-being of the team such as emotional overload and exhaustion and insecurity and violence at points of care.	Implement rotating shifts for the staff involved in the operation, preparation in emotional self-care techniques. Clear information on the complementarity of the response to avoid frustration with the cases. Coordinate with local authorities and security agencies to identify appropriate spaces to install the point of attention. Take safer access measures
Lack of information and access to documentation that directly affect people in their process of transit to places of origin	Provide information and operational communication from the CEA approach to be linked in the implementation of humanitarian transport assistance. In addition, prior coordination with government entities.
Protection risks that may affect the integrity and fundamental rights of the returnees, due to stigma and discrimination.	Identify previously safe and private care spaces for people's care. Additionally, include the differentiated care approach according to the needs identified.



Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The deportation process of Colombian citizens from the United States has captured public and media attention in recent months. Various media outlets have covered the situation, generating information and opening the debate on the circumstances and consequences of the process. While this coverage helps to raise awareness of the issue, it has also raised concerns among deportees.

The presence of media at reception points can cause discomfort for some people, who fear that the public exposure of their cases will lead to them being stigmatized or singled out. This perception is intensified when individual stories are presented without proper context, which could in terms of security, expose them and reinforce narratives that do not reflect the complexity of their experiences.

On the other hand, although there is a main point of arrival or reception, in the short term many of the returnees will seek to continue their transit to their cities of origin within the national territory. In this process, a number of factors can affect both returnees and host communities.

According to a Recent report of the Ombudsman's Office, so far in 2025, 11 humanitarian emergency hotspots have been identified in the country, several of them associated with dynamics of violence and the presence of Organized Armed Groups (GAO). In some areas, these conditions have restricted access, which can hinder family reunification and affect the reintegration of returnees into their communities of origin, which implies an additional challenge.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 11,331

Targeted Persons: 125

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people accessing the accommodation service	125

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning:
 - Manage articulations with temporary hotel-type accommodation spaces, with access to essential services and facilities for returnees.
 - Design the method of prioritization and accompaniment for access to transitional accommodation services.
 - Identify staff trained.
 - Visit the temporary accommodation spaces already established, in order to evaluate their physical conditions and capacity.
 - Purchase of 100 warm kits for children and adults.
 - Purchase of 4000 tote bags for kits with key self-care messages.
- Early actions:
 - Deployment of trained staff to implement prioritization to access temporary accommodation service.
 - Guarantee the delivery of 125 accommodation services in accordance with the protocol established for prioritized deportees.
 - Delivery of 50 warm kits for adults and children.
 - Distribution of 2,500 tote bags for kits with key self-care messages at the point of care.





Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 6,192

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people receiving snack kits	2,500

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning
 - Manage the ready-to-eat food purchasing process.
 - Establish the accessible, safe and convenient distribution and delivery point for the recipients.
 - Design the protocol for the distribution of food assistance.
- Early actions:
 - Purchase and distribution of 2,500 snack kits at the point of care.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 8,049

Targeted Persons: 250

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of humanitarian transport services for migrants returned through conditional cash vouchers	250

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning:
 - Feasibility study for the delivery of conditioned cash for the transport of deported persons from Bogotá to their city of origin.
 - Search and consolidation of an agreement with a transport provider for the delivery of 250 vouchers.
 - Projection of the protocol for the delivery of humanitarian transport services.
 - Design the method of prioritization and accompaniment for access to humanitarian transportation.
 - Formalization of the protocol for the delivery of the transport service.
- Early actions:
 - Activation of the rapid, safe and dignified humanitarian transport plan for 250 people.



Health

Budget: CHF 817

Targeted Persons: 540



Indicators

Title	Target
Number of returned migrants receiving physical or psychological first aid	540

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning:
 - Manage a physical service point at the airport.
 - Identify available medical personnel and personnel trained in psychological and physical first aid.
 - Training of volunteers and staff in physical and psychological first aid.
 - Establish articulations with medical centers for the referral of cases with specialized medical needs.
 - Evaluate managed space and the capacity to store the elements to be prepositioned.
 - Purchase of two physical first aid kits.
 - Purchase of two psychological first aid kit.
- Early Actions:
 - Deploy medical supplies in the managed spaces according to their capacities.
 - Deploy brigades of medical personnel and personnel trained for psychological and physical first aid in the spaces already established.
 - Refer specialized cases to medical centers if necessary.
 - Psychological deactivation for volunteers and staff participating in the operation.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 21,052

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people reached with differentiated basic hygiene kits	2,500

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning:
 - Acquire hygiene supplies for the Mobile Humanitarian Store methodology and hydration points.
 - Identify trained staff for the Mobile Humanitarian Store Strategy.
 - Purchase of implements for the provision of a humanitarian store, which will work in a complementary manner to the delivery of basic hygiene kits, so that returnees can choose the items they need most to meet their immediate needs.
 - Procurement of 5,000 basic differentiated hygiene kits for women, men and children.
- Early actions:
 - Deploy the response for the delivery of hygiene supplies and operation of the humanitarian store.
 - Share information about access to showers and toilets
 - Deliver 2,500 basic differentiated hygiene kits for women, men and children.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 2,923

Targeted Persons: 1,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people receiving RFL services	1,000
Number of people oriented towards routes of access to rights	1,000
# of activities focused on the prevention of child safeguarding	1

Priority Actions

- Readiness + prepositioning:
 - Articulation with the area of Peacebuilding and Institutional Doctrine of the NS for the management of RFL activities.
 - Acquire the necessary connectivity services for telephone equipment.
 - Identify RFL trained staff.
 - Update of key information for the referral of cases with protection needs with institutions specialized in handling asylum or refugee applications (UNHCR, Ombudsman's Office, Victims Unit, ICBF, Foreign Ministry, Colombia Nos Une Program, among others).
 - Development of a tool for the identification of people at risk of international protection.
 - Install a strategic RFL point at the site of the emergency.
 - Printing of key messages on protection issues.
 - Purchase of help table implements with connectivity elements (folding table and folding chairs, charging tower and cables).
- Early actions:
 - Deploy trained staff and share information about access to the service.
 - Identification of persons at risk of international protection and guidance on access routes.



Migration And Displacement

Budget: CHF 2,477

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of workshops developed for the update of the contingency plan and action plan	1
Number of analysis of the humanitarian situation in Colombia due to deportations	1

Priority Actions

- Readiness:
 - Workshop for the update of the contingency plan and the action plan for the escalation of the humanitarian situation by returnees.
 - Development of an analysis of the humanitarian situation in Colombia due to deportations.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 1,238

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of strategies of information, help and feedback for deportees developed	1

Priority Actions

- Define the channels to receive and/or manage concerns, complaints and recommendations from the population. Development of information materials on available return assistance routes and participation channels for returnees.
- Workshop for the development of an information strategy as help and feedback for deportees.
- Delivery of previously designed material for the purpose of providing information as aid.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 2,823

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of missions of the CEA focal point	1
Number of monitoring visits	2

Priority Actions

- Mission of the CEA focal point for the development of the information and feedback strategy community participation.
- Monitoring visits.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 19,975

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of lessons learned workshops developed	1
Number of monitoring visits	5

Priority Actions

- Hiring the operational staff.
- Monitoring visits.
- Lessons learned workshop.



About Support Services

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

For the development of the operation, there will be 1 National Administrator in charge of managing and facilitating the elements required by the operation. This person will be responsible for the follow-up on the contract of suppliers process, managing legalizations, advances, logistics and payments, and ensuring the timely availability of essential supplies for the humanitarian response. In addition, he/she will support in the validation and elaboration of feasibility studies for the required services. Taking into account, the current operations, this person will also be the administrative focal point for all ongoing operations with the IFRC in Colombia.

Likewise, 1 Community Engagement and Accountability Analyst in charge of processing and analyzing information to strengthen the strategy of attention to deportees, ensuring that informative materials, communication channels and engagement strategies are effective, and evidence based. This role will have a cross-cutting approach, supporting the material that will be developed within this operation, contributing to the lessons learned exercises and the construction of frameworks that reflect the needs identified, as well as the development of participation and accountability mechanisms for the people served.

In addition, three (3) volunteers are expected to provide support by facilitating timely and adequate access to available humanitarian assistance. This team will be supported by the staff of the National Migration Strategy.

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

The National Society of the Colombian Red Cross will carry out procurement processes in accordance with its internal procurement procedure. In addition, it has a specific process designed to respond to emergency situations.

How will this operation be monitored?

The monitoring and progress of the operation will be carried out weekly between the National Society and the IFRC delegation in Colombia. Several follow-up visits will also be carried out by the staff of the National Society and the staff of the IFRC Delegation in Colombia. This is framed in a specific monitoring plan for the fulfillment of the proposed operational strategy.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

Institutional actions will be identified by distinctive elements with the emblem of the Colombian Red Cross, facilitating the location of the points destined for the provision of humanitarian assistance. In addition, graphic material will be collected to develop communication pieces that will be disseminated in the coordination spaces. To this end, the Office of Communications and Image of the Colombian Red Cross will provide the necessary support in the management of internal and external communication strategies, supporting by the IFRC Regional Communications Team.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRCO030 - Colombian Red Cross Colombia: Population Movement

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	54,080
Shelter and Basic Household Items	11,331
Livelihoods	6,192
Multi-purpose Cash	8,049
Health	817
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	21,052
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	2,923
Education	0
Migration	2,477
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	1,238
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	22,798
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	2,823
National Society Strengthening	19,975
TOTAL BUDGET	76,878

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](#)

