

DAG Visit - Panama and Honduras

Relevant Information on the IFRC and the Americas region to support Social Media Actions

Data on the Americas

- The top 20 most unequal countries in the world include Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica & Peru
- 86M people in extreme poverty, 5M more than before the pandemic
- 56M people live in food insecurity in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 41 million people live in countries that are highly exposed to natural disasters
- 300 million people are vulnerable to displacement due to climate change consequences.

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 Pandemic has had devastating consequences for the already vulnerable population in the region. The humanitarian needs are increasingly higher and more acute.

In the Americas, **5 million more people have reached the extreme poverty level, as a direct consequence of the pandemic**, adding to a total of 86 million people living in extreme poverty.

Impacts of Multiple Disasters

In this region, women, children, LGBTQI+, youth, informal workers, and people on the move are the most vulnerable to the previously mentioned challenges.

141 million people living in countries highly or very highly exposed to disasters - **3.5 times the population of Canada**. And 300 million persons are exposed to potential displacement due to climate change. **Almost as much as the U.S. population.**

IFRC Network

The IFRC Network has a wide reach in the Americas region, as we have **600,000 volunteers** and **3,661 branches that are part of 35 National Societies**. Thanks to this, we can reach the most remote and isolated parts of the continent to provide much-needed humanitarian assistance.

35 National Societies Providing Services

- **Blood-related services:** El Salvador, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Suriname, Colombia, Ecuador
- **Search and rescue:** U.S., Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Panama, Guatemala
- **Ambulances and 911 services:** Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.
- **Hospitals:** Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela
- **Laboratories:** Honduras
- **Coffee brand/shop:** Honduras & Costa Rica

IFRC Presence in Americas

1. Americas Regional Office
2. IFRC Delegation to the UN

3. Andean Cluster Delegation
4. Colombia Office
5. Central America Cluster Delegation
6. Costa Rica Office
7. English and Dutch Speaking Cluster Delegation
8. Jamaica Office
9. Latin Caribbean Cluster Delegation
10. Southern Cone Cluster Delegation
11. Chile Office
12. Venezuela Country Delegation

Humanitarian Hubs

The IFRC Secretariat consolidates logistics capacity through the Panama and Argentina Humanitarian Hubs, investing in prepositioning of stock for rapid response in cases of emergency.

In addition to providing logistics services to its members, the Secretariat works with other humanitarian actors and strengthens its alliances while participating in technical tables and forums such as the R4V and in leading the Shelter Cluster.

Reference Centers

Reference centers provide specialized knowledge and services to members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. They promote collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and innovation across our global network and with humanitarian partners. In doing so, the centers help support strong and sustainable National Societies and improve the collective humanitarian impact and influence of our Movement.

Some reference centers are set up in partnership with the IFRC (referred to as IFRC reference centers). In other cases, the National Society provides the services directly.

The Reference Centers Network of the Americas is made up of 6 reference centers:

1. The Global Disaster Preparedness Center supported by the American Red Cross and the IFRC is a global reference center created to build a global community for disaster preparedness innovation and learning
2. The Reference Center in Institutional Disaster Preparedness in El Salvador is managed by IFRC in coordination with the Salvadoran Red Cross. It has trained more than 50,000 people and provided services to more than 40 National Societies with its network of facilitators reaching beyond the Americas Region.
3. The Community Resilience and Environment in Costa Rica is managed by the Costa Rica Red Cross directly and provides services to other National Societies and the IFRC, its approach includes Climate Change
4. The Interamerican Center of Volunteer Development in Costa Rica is managed by IFRC and supports National Societies to achieve their own objectives related to volunteering development and management with five key tools: the Volunteering Development Platform, the Network of Experts, the Working Groups, Exchanges + Internships, and Laboratories.
5. The Caribbean Disaster Risk Management in Trinidad and Tobago, managed by the IFRC to research, analyze, and develop knowledge on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities.

6. The Humanitarian Observatory in Argentina managed by Argentina Red Cross with a global reach is a space for research, knowledge, and awareness, it favors the understanding of social dynamics from a humanitarian perspective

Actions and Programs

- In migration, we reached 1.4 million people, including refugees, migrants, and host communities.
- 1 million people have been supported in evolving
- crises and disasters
- 3.6 million people were supported through health and wellbeing programs.
- In the context of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we provided water, sanitation, and hygiene services to 10 million people.
- While 7 million people were reached with vaccine acceptance information and 1.5 million were directly vaccinated by our national societies.

Funding Mechanisms

1. Disaster Response Emergency Fund

- Small- & Medium-scale disasters; and loans
- Early Action & Anticipatory response
- Floods in Honduras & Nicaragua
- Population movement in Guatemala
- Civil Unrest in Panama & Nicaragua
- 17 operations in support of 254,00 people in 11 countries | 9.3 M CHF

2. Emergency Appeals

- Large scale disasters
- 10 EA in Americas + Global COVID-19
- Hurricanes
- Migration
- Health Emergencies
- Earthquakes
- Volcanoes

It is not business as usual:

IFRC's commitment to transforming ourselves as the National Societies we serve are also transforming themselves, through:

- A green response (Solar water plant in Darien, Panama)
- Zero waste:
 - **2 million** people receive humanitarian assistance in a greener way.
 - **1000 TM of waste treated.**
- Nature-based solutions (programs like Resilient Islands)
- Gender equity & leadership: 11 women-led emergency responses between 2020 and 2021
- Use of big data and artificial intelligence (Humanitarian Observatory + Argentina Red Cross)
- More impactful and flexible ways of working through partnerships like the PPP:
 - The "**Pilot Programmatic Partnership**" is a partnership with ECHO, the IFRC together with EU National Societies, designed to boost the local capacities of NSs to support affected people across the continuum of preparedness, anticipatory/early action, and response efforts.

- Through the PPP, which will benefit several of our NSs over the next three years
- Close coordination with European National Societies has allowed us to implement the PPP with DG ECHO funds. The inception phase of the PPP has been a success, with the Americas having the highest implementation rate among all regions.