

Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

Section 1: Overview of the Response	
Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador	Humanitarian Response to People on the Move in Central America
Summary	
Requesting Members	Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM) Centro Evangélico de Estudios Pastorales en Centro América (CEDEPCA) Salvadorian Lutheran Synod (SLS)
Implementation period	22 October – December 22, 2018 (2 months)
Geographical area	Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico
Sectors of the response	WASH Food Security Protection Psychosocial support Advocacy
Selected beneficiaries	2,000 individuals, mainly children and pregnant women
Requested budget (USD)	54,500.00
Is there an EPRP ACT Forum updated?	Yes
Section 2: Narrative Summary	
<p>Background:</p> <p>Since Friday October 12, a caravan of approximately 6,000 Honduran migrants have been making their way north through Guatemala toward Mexico and the United States. It is the latest and the largest iteration of big groups of Central Americans migrating North in an effort to escape their desperate circumstances, often experiencing additional human rights abuses along the way, and ending up in a cycle of detention and deportation that leads them back to the same situation. Most people who joined the caravan have been ground down by low wages, unemployment and poor public services in Honduras and are looking for better opportunities elsewhere. Many are also escaping widespread violence associated with a breakdown of governance and the emergence of drug cartels. They fear for their lives and are seeking protection by applying for asylum in either Mexico or the United States. In their path, Guatemalan and Salvadorian people, affected by similar circumstances, are joining the caravan as well. Following the example of this spontaneous movement, other groups are starting to organize similar caravans, despite Mexican efforts to stop them at the border. Now growing throngs of Central American migrants have resumed their advance in southern Mexico toward the U.S. border, and their numbers have risen to about 6,000 overnight, walking toward the Mexican town of Tapachula.</p> <p>The Government of Mexico will request the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), so that in coordination with the authorities of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, and in conjunction with the National Institute of Migration (INM) and the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees (COMAR), proper attention can be given to those applying for refugee status at Mexico's southern border. The purpose of taking this step is to contribute to a humanitarian solution, in accordance with legislation, that is respectful of human rights, transparent, and has the assistance of the</p>	

international community through the pertinent bodies of the United Nations. In addition, this measure seeks to guarantee the safety and physical integrity of the migrants, especially minors, the elderly and women, and to prevent people from being exploited by international criminal organizations engaged in migrant smuggling, which endangers their lives.

Humanitarian Needs and Humanitarian Advocacy

The Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala forums are applying for an ACT Alliance Rapid Response Fund (RRF) to address the urgent humanitarian needs of 2,000 central American migrants. The response will particularly target the most vulnerable groups, including women and children who will be assisted with hygiene kits, food aid and psychosocial/protection support. Additionally, CEDEPCA in Guatemala and the Salvadorian Lutheran Synod (SLS) will provide psychosocial support and will advocate with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and churches in the Central American triangle in order to contribute to a proper management of the crisis. CASM is going to deploy staff to accompany the caravan along the migrant’s journey to the US border.

Capacity to respond

CASM has a migrant program, through which support is provided to youth deported from the United States, the program provide training and a small capital to initiate a small business, in order to help them to readapt in a safe manner to live in the country. It is important to mention that in 2014 CASM applied a RRF to provide humanitarian aid to unaccompanied children deported from the USA. SLS has a migrant program, through which it provides psychosocial support and legal guidance to returned migrants. CEDEPCA has been providing basic support to the Honduras migrants in temporary shelters in Guatemala. CASM has coordination with Migrant Houses, run by church members working in the community in Guatemala and Mexico, and has established coordination with Pop Noj in Guatemala, the Jesuit Refugee Service Network, the Scalabrinians congregation, as well as other networks such as the AMMPARO NETWORK, which have been engaged in strong advocacy work in the Northern Triangle countries of Central America, Mexico and the USA. CASM has long-established channels of dialogue with the Foreign Ministry of Honduras to coordinate support actions that require the intervention and support of the consulates of the countries through which the caravan pass through.

Proposed response

CASM: CASM will mobilize a staff of 2 persons, who will accompany the caravan along its journey, and will establish coordination with churches and organizations providing accompaniment to the migrants in Guatemala and Mexico, to carry out the proposed response. CASM will keep a close coordination with the Municipal Development Committee and with the Permanent Contingency Committee, in coordination with these entities CASM will mobilize it staff to monitor the situation in the borders between Honduras and Guatemala. In Guatemala, there is coordination with local organizations attending to migrants such as Pop Noj, Scalabrinian Order and Migrant Houses, in order to distribute the humanitarian assistance avoiding the duplication of efforts. In Mexico, coordination has been established with the Mexican Commission for Migrants Support, The Migrants Center Fray Matias, and the Pastoral for Human Mobility, and UNCHR, specifically to provide guidance to those interested in applying for refugee status in Mexico. A communication campaign will be developed in order to raise awareness about their rights among those migrating and wishing to seek asylum, as well as among the local population about the migrants’ situation, and in order to communicate possible human rights violations to the concerned authorities in all affected countries. Such rights violations will also be systematically documented for longer-term advocacy purposes and follow-up.

CEDEPCA: In Guatemala CEDEPCA will work in close coordination with a temporary shelter for migrants located in Guatemala city, called The Migrant House. 2 psychologists will be hired to provide psychosocial support for up to one month in the temporary shelter. 1200 meals and 300 NFI kits containing socks, towels and raincoats will be provided. CEDEPCA is going to provide advice to The Migrant House related to humanitarian policies and practices in order to ensure an accountable approach to the response. Updates on the response will be shared with the concerned ACT Forums and with ACT Secretariat.

Salvadorian Lutheran Synod (SLS): On behalf of the El Salvador Forum, SLS is organizing an ecumenical network at regional level to support activities such as vigil, prayer chains and information sharing among faith-based organizations and civil society organizations. Press conferences will be carried out for a month-long period in order to update the progress of the caravan and raise awareness. A Pastoral letter is being prepared in coordination with several churches, which will be sent to churches in the region and USA, as well as to the governments of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States of America. In order to bring visibility and protection, a professional journalist is going to be deployed to Mexico and the USA. The purpose of these activities is to report from inside the caravan with the approach to call the attention to the plight of migrants, ensure a dignified approach upholding the migrants' human rights, .Finally a high-level ecumenical delegation will meet the governments in the concerned countries in order to advocate for migrants rights and protection.

Does the commitment of the proposed ACT response honors for safeguarding the child? Yes No

Problems	The population which is part of the migrant caravan is in dire need of food aid, NFI, psychosocial support, protection and advocacy support, there are families traveling with children, lacking basic materials means
Target beneficiaries	Children and pregnant women, who are in conditions of high vulnerability Selection Criteria Among the people participating in the migrant caravan, priority will be given to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unaccompanied children - Women traveling with children - Pregnant women - Persons with disabilities
Main Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purchase and distribution of prepared foods for immediate consumption 2. Purchase and distribution of hygiene kits. 3. Psychosocial support activities 4. Protection and visibility activities – including ensuring access to asylum procedures for those seeking international protection in neighboring countries, in collaboration with UNHCR, local authorities, and other humanitarian actors 5. Ecumenical Advocacy 6. Coordination meetings among the participant organizations
Specific objective / Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide food aid to 1,200 migrant children and women 2. To provide 2000 hygiene kits to women and children 3. To reduce vulnerabilities by increasing protection measures, Including visibility and direct accompaniment to the caravan. 4. Protect children in borders and high risks geographical areas

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Overall Objective/Outcome(s)	To alleviate the suffering of 2000 migrants on the move by providing humanitarian assistance in El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico.
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Reporting Schedule

<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
SITREP	November 30, 2018
narrative and final financial (60 days after the end date)	January 30, 2019
Audit report (90 days after the end date)	N / A

Monitoring and evaluation

CASM, SLS and CEDEPCA will coordinate to respond together to this humanitarian crisis and will link with key stakeholders in the field and with the assigned authorities in the countries where the Caravan is mobilized. Advocacy actions will be established with other organizations and media to inform the population about the events and calls will be made to the human rights instances, in order to guarantee the welfare of people in mobility, especially children and women. There will be a daily control of attentions and records of special cases as well as referrals to the attention and response instances.

Section 3: ACT Alliance Coordination

Coordination

Since the migrant caravan is a regional crisis, it implies a close coordination among the Central Americans ACT Forums, especially Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala, which are on the caravan route. The concerned forums will provide a joint response, along the route from Honduras to the border between Mexico and the USA. CASM on behalf of the Honduras ACT Alliance Forum have disposed to send a staff integrated by 2 persons to accompany the Caravan along its route and will contribute in the assurance of the accomplishment of the proposed outcomes. CEDEPCA on behalf of the Guatemala Forum have established coordination with Migrants House, and will attend to migrants' shelter needs at this location. Coordination will be established with the ACT forums in El Salvador and Guatemala respectively as well as with regional networks, churches in Guatemala and Mexico, Pastoral de Movilidad Humana and POP NOJ, in order to guarantee the correct and fair implementation of the activities. SLS will establish coordination with governmental entities in order to contribute to a dignified treatment to the migrants during their mobilization. Regular coordination meeting among the ACT Alliance members involved in this response will be carried out, in order to identify challenges and lessons learned in the process.

Implementation Arrangements

CASM, SLS & CEDEPCA are responsible for the implementation of the project. A team composed of four persons will be mobilized following the migrant caravan route. Close coordination will be established between CEDEPCA and SLS.

Human Resources and Administration of Funds

ACT members have manuals of administrative procedures that guides financial management at the institutional level, internal regulations, and other guidelines on human talent management processes such as personnel selection, development, and performance evaluation. CASM will assign a Coordinator of the mission and 3 technicians for support, CEDEPCA and SLS will assign human resources as well, who will be responsible for the timely execution of the RRF. Requesting members will create a separate account for the management and administration of these funds.

Communications

A communication campaign will be carried out, along the migrant caravan displacement, in order to raise awareness about their situation, and to compile testimonies and share through different communication channels. The aid will be duly identified with the logo of the ACT Alliance, photos and life stories will be taken to build a historical memory of the project and its impact on the lives of the participants, and will be published on social networks and other media. Coordination with ACT Alliance and its partners will be ensured to coordinate effective longer-term advocacy messages on migration and displacement in the region, and to utilize this intervention as a building block for establishing more effective ecumenical partnerships going forward.

Section 4: Budget Summary

	Type of	No. of	Unit Cost	Appeal	Appeal
	Unit	Units	Lps	Lps	USD
DIRECT COSTS					
1 PROGRAM STAFF					
1.1.1	Staff CASM	Months	1	60,000	2,552
1.1.2	Staff CEDEPCA	months	1	22,500	957
1.1.3	Staff SLS	Months	1	1,000	1,000
TOTAL PROGRAM STAFF					4,509
2 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES					
2.1. Food security				782,200	19,566
2.1.1	Food Rations CASM	rations	8,000	400,000	17,014
2.1.2	Food Rations CEDEPCA	rations	1,200	60,000	2,552
2.2 Non Food Item				161,100	6,852
2.2.1	NFI Kits CASM	Kit	150	45,000	1,914
2.2.2	NFI Kits CEDEPCA	Kits	387	116,100	4,938
2.3. Protection/Psychosocial Support				1,000	6,814
2.3.1	Press conferences in Guatemala, El Salvador and Mexico		1	3,000	3,000
2.3.2	Coordination meeting with high level leadership		1	2,500	2,500
2.3.3	Psychosocial Support Psychologist CEDEPCA	Staff	3	30,900	1,314
TOTAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES					37,742
3 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION					
3.1	Visibility	Months	1	30,000	1,276
	Journalist deployment	Journey	1	6,000	6,000
3.2	Monitoring CASM	Months	1	9,000	383
3.3	Monitoring visit and coordination ACT Secretariat		1		2,000
3.4	Transportation, Meals, accomodation during staff deployment. (CASM)		1	99,300	4,224
TOTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION					144,300
4 PROGRAM LOGISTICS					
4.1	Hire/ Rental of Vehicles	Travels	1	35,000	1,489
TOTAL PROGRAM LOGISTICS					35,000

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TOTAL DIRECT COST				179,300	53,113	
INDIRECT COSTS: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT						
e.g.	Translation	global	1	13,850	13,850	589
	Accountant CEDEPCA		1	1	500.00	500.0
	Telephone and fax	Months	1	7,000	7,000	298
TOTAL INDIRECT COST: PERSONNEL, ADMIN. & SUPPORT				7,500	1,387	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE				186,800	54,500	

ACTION

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of \$ 54,500 USD from its Rapid Response Fund, and would appreciate receiving contributions to replenish this payment in full or in part. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered an advance.

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