



Rapid Response Fund

ACT Secretariat Approval

Project Code 15/2024

Project Name Emergency response to the affected population by the migration crisis in the Darien Gap

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of **USD 80,000** from its Global Rapid Response Fund (GRRF24) and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish this payment.

For further information please contact:

National Forum Convenor

Jairo Barriga

ACT Regional Representative

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cyra".

Cyra Michelle Bullecer

Global Humanitarian Operations Manager

ACT Alliance Secretariat

Project Proposal

Emergency Prepared and Response Plan

EPRP last updated	Yes
Do you have a Contingency Plan for this response?	No
EPRP link on the online platform (or attach hard copy with proposal)	N/A

Please submit this form to the Regional Humanitarian Programme Officer in your region with a copy to the Regional Representative

Date submitted to ACT Secretariat

21/11/2024

Section 1 Project Data

Project Information

Project Name	Emergency response to the affected population by the migration crisis in the Darien Gap
Project Code	15/2024
Country Forum	ACT Forum Colombia
ACT Requesting Member (if there are more than one member, please use ALT+<Enter> to add another member)	Iglesia Evangelica Luterana de Colombia (IELCO)
Name of person leading the project	Ana Isabel Mendivelso Gil
Job Title	IELCO Diaconia Director
Email	directoradiaconia@ielco.org
Tel no./Whatsapp/Skype	3212457871
Location(s) of project (city / province)	Uraba Antioqueño: Necocli, Turbo, Carepa, Chigorodo and Apartado
Project start date (dd/mm/yyyy)	10/Dec/24
Project end date (dd/mm/yyyy)	10/May/25

Which sectors your response activities most relate to (please indicate number of planned beneficiaries per organisation in each sector where you plan to give assistance)

Sectors	Member (IGLESIA EVANGELICA LUTERANA DE COLOMBIA IELCO)	
	Male	Female
Cash/ Vouchers	80	120
Camp Management		
Education		
Food/Nutrition	2054	1946
Health		
Household items		
Livelihood		
Psychosocial	2054	1946
Shelter		
Wash	2054	1946

Section 2 Project Description

2.1 Context

1. CHS Commitment 1. Summarize the crisis event and how it is likely to develop over the duration of the project (maximum 5 bullet points)

Colombia, hosting nearly three million Venezuelan migrants as of February 2024, remains the largest recipient of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, part of a displacement crisis second only to Syria. About 7.7 million people have fled Venezuela following its economic collapse, with many seeking refuge in South America. Similarly, Haitian migration, initially spurred by the 2010 earthquake that displaced two million people, has been increasingly driven by poverty and violence. Ecuadorians represent the second-largest group of migrants in South America after Venezuelans, migrating mainly to Central America and the United States for economic reasons.

The Darién jungle, part of the migration route, represents one of the most perilous and dehumanizing segments of the journey. Migrants encounter armed group violence, diseases, food scarcity, extreme climatic conditions, and a lack of basic infrastructure, making them highly vulnerable. In 2023, nearly 540,000 migrants crossed the Darién Gap, with most originating from South America, the Antilles, and Asia. By September 2024, Panama's migration authorities reported over 263,000 crossings. Migrants pass through key Colombian border areas like Turbo, Necoclí, and Acandí, where ports are heavily influenced by an "economy based on migrants," often controlled by armed and organized groups that have historically wielded power in Urabá.

This unprecedented movement of people has overwhelmed local authorities and humanitarian organizations, which face immense challenges in addressing the migrants' needs, such as shelter, medical care, potable water, food, and health services. As migrant numbers grow, the region's response capacity risks being surpassed, necessitating greater coordination between governments, NGOs, and international organizations. Resource shortages further exacerbate social tensions within host communities and raise public safety concerns.

As the crisis persists, international efforts to provide assistance are intensifying. However, regional cooperation, particularly between Colombia and transit countries like Panama, is vital. While the Colombian government and international agencies are expected to adapt responses to ensure migrants' human rights are protected, the humanitarian impact will remain significant as long as the underlying drivers of forced migration—such as conflict, natural disasters, and lack of opportunities—persist.

2. CHS Commitment 1,2,3,4. Explain the impact of the crisis specific to the people you want to help (maximum 5 bullet points)

Migrants traversing the Urabá region toward the Darién jungle face significant threats, including violence from armed groups, sexual exploitation, accidents, and natural disasters. The precarious conditions of the route increase the risk of severe injuries or even death.

The lack of access to medical care, safe drinking water, food, and basic sanitation along the journey creates a severe public health crisis. Migrants are highly susceptible to infectious diseases, malnutrition, and dehydration. Moreover, the physical and emotional stress of the journey can lead to long-term psychological consequences.

Many individuals, especially women and children, are exposed to high levels of sexual violence, human trafficking, and labor exploitation. The migration route is characterized by a context of impunity, where migrants often lack effective protection against these abuses.

Family separations and the absence of proper accompaniment place many children and adolescents in highly vulnerable situations. Unaccompanied minors or those left behind with relatives face an elevated risk of abuse or orphanhood during the journey.

Migrants frequently lack proper legal documentation to reside or transit safely through Colombia, making them targets for persecution by authorities and criminal groups. Limited access to legal information or resources to regularize their status exacerbates their sense of despair and restricts their ability to navigate their circumstances effectively.

3. CHS Commitment 9. Explain the availability of funding each of your organisation can access for this crisis. (maximum 3 bullet points)

IELCO, as a member of the ACT Forum Colombia, lacks immediate funding to address the needs of populations affected by migration within its areas of intervention.

In response to the urgency of providing emergency assistance, the requesting members submit a proposal to the Rapid Response Fund (MRR) to address the needs of vulnerable populations identified during the needs assessment.

The purpose of the MRR proposal is to ensure the provision of urgent humanitarian assistance to migrant-affected populations in the intervention areas, delivering a swift and effective response.

2.2 Activity Summary

1. CHS Commitment 1, 2, 4. Explain your proposed project and why you have selected this particular response to the crisis.

If multiple members are responding, please explain the role of each member in the coordinated response as indicated in your EPRP Contingency Plan.

The project seeks to provide comprehensive and centralized support services for migrants in transit in the Urabá region (Necoclí, Turbo, Carepa, Chigorodó, Apartadó). The intervention will focus on the distribution of protection kits, hygiene kits, snacks, and training on water, sanitation, hygiene, and gender-based violence (GBV). Individual case management will also be carried out, offering temporary shelter, food, and transportation to the most vulnerable individuals who need urgent support.

IELCO will directly implement the project with the support of ACT Forum Colombia. The initiative will last five months and is expected to reach 1,000 families (with an average of four members per family, totaling approximately 4,000 migrants) through the provision of humanitarian services.

This response is based on the critical needs identified among migrants, who are facing extreme vulnerability. The proposed measures aim to mitigate the immediate impacts of the humanitarian crisis and ensure the safety, health, and dignity of those affected.

Protection:

- Psychosocial support: A psychosocial professional will provide emotional support to migrants, addressing stress and trauma related to displacement. This will include psychological first aid, stress management workshops, and case referrals for GBV or unaccompanied minors to specialized institutions.

- Activities:

Distribution of 1,000 protection kits to reduce risks of violence.

GBV awareness workshops to protect women and girls from violence and exploitation.

Case management providing temporary shelter, food, and transportation, using a structured donation system where payments are made directly to service providers (up to \$90 per case for 50 cases).

Protection kit: This kit includes essential items designed to protect and assist in various situations. It contains a Poncho Tent Cylinder, which comes in a plastic case with a plastic carabiner for easy carrying. For sun protection, there is a bottle of Sundark sunscreen, alongside a Nude spray repellent to keep bugs at bay. A Trucker Cap22 provides shade, while a Yodora multipurpose cream is included for skin care. The kit also features a flashlight for visibility in low-light conditions and a Tosh Lyne cereal bar as a snack. A Ziploc bag (48x40 cm) is included for storing items, and an emergency whistle in keychain form is added for safety. Finally, the kit provides a water thermos and a drawstring backpack for convenient storage and portability.

Nutrition:

- Refreshments and hot meals distribution: To address food insecurity among migrants who lack access to food programs, specially during weekends, 4,000 refreshments and hot meals will be distributed. This initiative aims to provide immediate relief and meet basic nutritional needs, serving as a complement to the food distribution efforts of WFP and other organizations that do not operate during nights or weekends.

2. CHS Commitment 2. Explain how you will start your activities promptly. *Project implementation should start within two weeks. The project should be a maximum of 6 months.*

To promptly begin the execution of the project, a detailed action plan will be implemented to ensure that activities start within a maximum of two weeks, guaranteeing a swift and effective response to the needs of the migrant population. Initial activities will focus on logistical organization, beneficiary targeting, and the preparation of necessary resources.

In the first two weeks, the following key actions will be carried out:

- The recruitment, hiring, and induction process for the coordinator and financial logistics positions.
- Coordination meetings between IELCO and local authorities, the local government secretary, a presentation at the Inter-Agency Group on Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM in Spanish), organizations, and other key stakeholders will be held to ensure access to migrant communities.
- Logistically, quotes from local and national suppliers will be sought (since IELCO already has supplier databases to optimize time), and the mechanisms for distributing hygiene and, protection kits, and snack will be established.
- A rapid identification process will take place to determine which migrant individuals and families will be beneficiaries of the project, based on vulnerability criteria. At the same time, work teams—including psychosocial professionals, WASH specialists, and those responsible for training and case management—will be activated. They will receive training on the protocols and activities to be developed.
- Simultaneously, the first training sessions on water, hygiene, and gender-based violence (GBV) will begin in the migrant people. Hygiene and protection kits will also begin to be distributed, focusing on addressing the immediate needs of families.

During the first 15 days, the focus will be on establishing the operational foundations of the project, ensuring that the response is effective, efficient, and reaches those who need it most quickly. In this way, the project activities will be fully operational from the start, with continuous monitoring to ensure the quality of care and adherence to established timelines.

As for the project duration, it is expected that the delivery activities and workshops will take place over 4 months, with the 5th month reserved for collecting verifiers and organizing narrative and financial reports.

The project will ensure that all activities—from training to psychosocial support and the distribution of kits—are carried out in a timely manner and with maximum impact.

3. CHS Commitment 6. How are you co-ordinating and with whom? *Coordination ensures complementarity of interventions within forum members and other humanitarian actors to maximise the use of our resources and will address all unmet needs*

Dialogues have been established at the community level with municipal and religious leaders, local governments, and community organizations, in order to ensure constant communication and follow-up for the proper identification and selection of beneficiary families.

As IELCO, membership in the Inter-Agency Group on Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM) in Urabá has been secured, where support is provided with other international organizations. Networks of work are created to optimize resources, enabling the expansion of the reach of our response

4. CHS Commitment 3, 9. How are you planning to procure your goods or services? (This includes cash transfer methodologies)

Please tick boxes that apply. *Goods and services procured locally supports and revitalises economic activity either as livelihood for people or income for*

Locally or within the affected areas	x	Nationally	x	Regionally or neighbouring countries					Internationally	
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Do you have a procurement policy? What factors did you consider when you made this decision?

A procurement policy and procedure manual is in place at IELCO, ensuring that transparent purchasing processes with local and national suppliers are guaranteed. A procurement committee has been established and is responsible for evaluating the quotations received, with the following criteria being considered: price, quality, quantity, delivery time, and transportation.

This Procurement process is modeled after the FLM process, which was used to support the development of this process within the framework of the 'Churches and Emergencies' project. The main objective of this project was to strengthen IELCO by improving its various administrative processes.

2.3 Description of Target Population

1. CHS Commitment 1, 9. How do you calculate the beneficiary numbers for this project? *For example, food and hygiene kits given to 2500 families, and 1 family = x beneficiaries.*

1000 families = average of 3-4 beneficiaries per family

1000 households will benefit, representing a total of 4000 individuals. The selection of beneficiaries is prioritized based on the following criteria:

- Migrant families in the most vulnerable situations will be prioritized, such as those living in beach, street, or settlement conditions, stranded in unsafe situations, as well as families experiencing extreme poverty with limited access to basic resources (water, food, healthcare services, etc.).
- Priority will be given to women, children, and individuals with special needs (elderly individuals, persons with disabilities), who are the most vulnerable groups during the migration process. Specifically, families led by women and households with unaccompanied minors will be prioritized.
- Families identified as victims of gender-based violence (GBV) or those in extreme risk situations due to exploitation or abuse will receive priority assistance. Those with severe psychosocial needs stemming from their migration situation will also be included.

2. CHS Commitment 1, 2, 3, 4. Which vulnerable groups are you specifically targeting? What makes them vulnerable? Please explain.

- Migrant families, mostly coming from another country or neighboring countries, are in a situation of extreme vulnerability due to the forced displacement they have experienced. Political issues, violence, economic conditions, and lack of opportunity, along with insecurity, forced them to leave their homes and belongings. Coupled with the harsh conditions of transit and arrival in new host areas, they are placed in a situation of high need, both materially and emotionally. Migration brings with it the loss of property, income, and access to basic services, making these families a particularly vulnerable group.
- Migrants women and girls are one of the groups most exposed to gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, and other forms of abuse during the migration process. The lack of protection and the risks associated with displacement, such as family separation and the absence of support networks, put them in an additional vulnerable situation. This project prioritizes support for women and girls by providing psychosocial assistance, hygiene kits, and guidance on GBV and reproductive rights.
- Unaccompanied minors represent another highly vulnerable group. Many migrant children and adolescents are forced to undertake the journey without the company of a responsible adult, significantly increasing their risk of abuse.

3. CHS Commitment 4. Explain how the target population has been/is involved in the design of the proposed intervention (maximum 5 bullet points)

- The migrant community has been consulted during the initial phases of the project through needs assessments with families and communities. These activities have allowed for a participatory identification of the most urgent needs of the population, such as access to food, hygiene, and protection, which has been crucial in designing a response tailored to their realities.
- The migrant population will be part of the beneficiary selection process based on vulnerability criteria. The most affected families, including those facing gender-based violence, unaccompanied minors, and persons with disabilities, will be prioritized. The community will be able to express their concerns and ensure that selection decisions reflect their actual needs.
- Members of the migrant community will participate in training on water, sanitation, hygiene, and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention. Through workshops and talks, they will receive key information to improve their health and protection conditions and will be able to apply the knowledge gained in their daily lives.
- Migrant families will be involved in the process of distributing hygiene and protection kits, ensuring that the delivered products are used properly. The participation of community leaders will also be promoted to help coordinate the

2.4 Expected Results

1. What will this project's success look like based on your time frame? *Please write your activities milestones including dates.*

The success of this project would be measured based on its ability to ensure access to basic services that enable the survival and well-being of individuals in mass human mobility in the Urabá region of Antioquia. This includes comprehensive care for the needs of the population in transit, such as the provision of water, hygiene, and sanitation, temporary housing, safe transportation, and psychosocial support. Additionally, success would lie in the effectiveness of the workshops on gender-based violence (GBV), which would contribute to reducing the risks of violence and exploitation along their journey. By providing an effective and coordinated response, the project would help people in transit continue their journey more safely and with better living conditions, reflecting a positive impact on their resilience and survival during their passage through the region. Moreover, success will depend on the coverage achieved, ensuring that at least 1,000 families are benefited, providing adequate assistance to about 4,000 people within the established timeframe.

Activities	Star and end dates	Mounth					
		December	January	February	March	April	May
1. Recruitment process	Dec 9-13						
2. Signing of contracts and Code of Conduct and Good Practices	Dec 16-18						
3. Project planning, identification of the target population	Dec 19-21						
4. Request for quotations and purchasing process	Dec 23 - Jan 18						
5. Psychosocial and water and hygiene workshops, distribution of protection and hygiene kits, and case management	Jan 20 - Apr 30						
6. Preparation of narrative and financial reports	May 1-10						

2. Describe the risks to a successful project and how you are managing them.

- Delays in resource distribution due to logistical issues or the lack of infrastructure in the intervention areas. This risk could affect beneficiaries' timely access to hygiene kits, protection, and food.

Risk management: To mitigate this risk, prior agreements have been made with local suppliers, alternative logistical routes will be used, and close coordination will be established with local authorities and community organizations to ensure that resources reach the affected areas quickly.

- Violence (presence of the Gulf Clan) or insecurity in the areas where migrant communities are located. This could hinder the execution of activities, especially in rural or remote areas.

Risk management: IELCO, together with other NGOs, has identified high-risk areas, and continuous monitoring of the security situation will be carried out. Activities will be adapted to local conditions, and the most accessible areas will be prioritized, with secure route planning and coordination with local actors who can ensure the safety of the teams.

- Adverse weather conditions, such as heavy rains or additional natural disasters, could hinder the delivery of assistance.

Risk management: We adhere to the local disaster prevention plan, implementing protective measures for supplies and the possibility of storing resources in safe locations. In addition, the weather will be constantly monitored to reschedule distribution or training activities in case of bad weather, ensuring the health and safety of both beneficiaries and staff are not compromised.

2.5 Monitoring, Accountability & Learning

1. CHS Commitment 7. Describe how you will monitor the project. What monitoring tools and process will you use? How will you gather lessons from the project?

IELCO will develop a comprehensive monitoring plan that aligns with the principles and standards of ACT PME. This plan will include specific monitoring tools to closely track the progress of the project and ensure the achievement of its objectives. Monitoring will be carried out through periodic field visits to assess progress, accomplishments, and challenges, in order to ensure proper implementation of activities and appropriate resource allocation.

The Project Coordinator will be responsible for managing, coordinating, and facilitating project activities, as well as ensuring proper follow-up and reporting on progress. Additionally, they will promote the project at the local and regional levels, fostering networking with various key stakeholders. During the implementation of the project, field professionals will monitor daily activities, and this team will conduct regular analysis and share the results during the scheduled monthly meetings with the IELCO coordination team and the Diaconia Director.

Periodic audits will be carried out by IELCO's accounting department to assess expenditure and budget compliance, ensuring transparent financial management.

To ensure active participation and transparency, all project reports will be shared with stakeholders, allowing everyone involved to stay informed of progress and contribute to collective learning. At the start of the project, informational sessions will be organized with the communities to present the components, policies, and humanitarian and gender standards that will guide the implementation of the project, ensuring a participatory approach that respects the rights of all those involved.

2. CHS Commitment 8. Does your organisation have a Code of Conduct? Have all staff and volunteers signed the Code of Conduct? *We may ask you to submit copies of the signed Code of Conduct. You can use ACT Alliance's Code of Conduct if your organisation does not have one.*

IELCO adheres to the FLM Code of Conduct and has also signed the ACT Alliance Code of Conduct.

3. How will you ensure you and all stakeholders will be accountable to the affected population. How will you share information. How will you collect and use feedback and complaints? CHS 4 and 5

IELCO complies with Commitment 9 of the CHS, emphasizing that resources are used responsibly for the purpose and achievement of activities, as described technically and budgetarily, in a legal and ethical manner. The following actions will be implemented:

- Expenses will be made according to the costs and expenditures outlined in the budget.
- The technical and financial components of the project will be presented and explained to focus groups (beneficiaries) in order to assess transparency in the use of funds at the end of the project.
- Commitment 5, "Communities and people affected by humanitarian crises have access to safe and efficient mechanisms to manage complaints," will be shared and discussed with the focus groups for each activity to ensure timely and proper management of complaints.



Rapid Response Fund

Financial Budget and Report

Project Code

15/2024

Project Name

Emergency response to the affected population by the migration crisis in the Darien Gap

Budget Exchange rate (1 USD to local currency)

4,000.000000

Exchange rate source in this site:

http://www.floatrates.com/historical-exchange-rates.html?currency_date=2023-01-13&base_currency_code=PHP&format_type=html

Description	Type of Unit	No. of Units	Unit Cost		Budget	
			local currency	COP	USD	
DIRECT COSTS						
1 PROJECT STAFF						
1.2.1. Project Coordinator	Month	5	3,500,000	17,500,000		4,375
1.2.2. Financial and Logistics professional	Month	5	3,000,000	15,000,000		3,750
1.2.3. Psychosocial Professional	Month	5	3,000,000	15,000,000		3,750
1.2.4. WASH Professional	Month	5	2,800,000	14,000,000		3,500
TOTAL PROJECT STAFF				61,500,000		15,375
2 PROJECT ACTIVITIES						
2.1. Cash/Vouchers					18,000,000	4,500
2.1.1. Case management: accommodation, food, transportation (Cash delivery)	Case	50	360,000	18,000,000		4,500
2.4. Food/Nutrition					32,000,000	8,000
2.4.1. Delivery of refreshments and hot meals	Meal	4,000	8,000	32,000,000		8,000
2.8. Psychosocial support / Protection					101,890,000	25,473
2.8.1. GBV Sessions (Materials, travel expenses)	Session	5	1,168,000	5,840,000		1,460
2.8.2. Protection kits	Kits	1,000	96,050	96,050,000		24,013
2.10 WASH					60,050,000	15,013
2.10.1 Hygiene kits	Kits	1,000	60,050	60,050,000		15,013
TOTAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES				211,940,000		52,985
TOTAL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION						
4 QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY						
4.1 Visibility	Global	1	3,000,000	3,000,000		750
4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation	Global	1	7,500,000	7,500,000		1,875
4.3 Audit	Global	1	5,000,000	5,000,000		1,250
TOTAL QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY				15,500,000		3,875
5 LOGISTICS						
5.1.2 Vehicle rental and fuel	Global	1	8,000,000	8,000,000		2,000
5.2.1 Bank fees	Global	1	2,060,000	2,060,000		515
TOTAL LOGISTICS				10,060,000		2,515
6 PROJECT ASSETS & EQUIPMENT						
5.1. Computers, accessories and office furniture	Global	1	5,000,000	5,000,000		1,250
TOTAL PROJECT ASSETS & EQUIPMENT				5,000,000		1,250
TOTAL DIRECT COST				304,000,000		76,000

INDIRECT COSTS: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT						
Salaries - Accountant	Global	1	6,400,000	6,400,000	1,600	
Salaries - IELCO Director	Global	1	6,400,000	6,400,000	1,600	
Salaries - IELCO Diaconia Director	Global	1	3,200,000	3,200,000	800	
Bank cost				-	-	
Translations				-	-	
Staff salaries - Cost shared				16,000,000	4,000	
Office rent				-	-	
Office Utilities				-	-	
Office stationery				-	-	
Office Insurance				-	-	
Phone and internet charges				-	-	
Bank fees - Bank transfer charges				-	-	
Office Operations				-	-	
TOTAL INDIRECT COST: PERSONNEL, ADMIN. & SUPPORT				16,000,000	4,000	
Percentage of Indirect Costs against Total Budget				5%	5%	
Total Budget				320,000,000	80,000	