

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central America: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDR43004
Glide No. FL-2008-000198-HND, NIC,
BLZ, GTM
Operations Update n° 3
6 April 2009

Period covered by this Operations Update:
30 December 2008 to 3 April 2009

Revised Appeal Budget: CHF 1,469,778
(USD 1,288,657 or EUR 970,663).

Appeal coverage:

The appeal coverage figure reflected in the attached interim financial is of 98 per cent. However, this percentage includes the DREF funds which were initially allocated to the emergency operation. The International Federation will shortly reimburse CHF 214,893 to the DREF. It will not be possible to reimburse the DREF contributions in their entirety in order to be in a position to comply with commitments made by the National Societies with suppliers. Therefore, the current appeal coverage, taking into account the revised budget figure and including the partial reimbursement of DREF allocations is, in fact, of **83 per cent**.



Honduran Red Cross staff and volunteers carrying out distributions in Choluteca. Source: International Federation

[<Click here to view the revised appeal budget, here for the interim financial report or here to view contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 24 October 2008 for CHF 1,110,911 (USD 1,015,550 or EUR 707,586); for nine months to assist 30,000 beneficiaries.
- CHF 271,000 (USD 247,715 or EUR 172,611) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 20 October 2008 to support the National Societies.
- CHF 119,300 (USD 109,049 or EUR 75,987) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 28 October 2008 to support the National Society of Belize in delivering immediate assistance to some 2,000 beneficiaries.
- On 31 October 2008, the budget was revised to CHF 1,513,927 CHF (USD 1,388,924 or EUR 970,466) for nine months to reach 32,000 beneficiaries.
- On 1 April 2009, the budget was revised (due to the appeal coverage) to **CHF 1,469,778 (USD 1,288,657 or EUR 970,663)**, for nine months to reach 32,000 beneficiaries.

Summary: Throughout the months of October, November and December, 2008, heavy rainfall affected Central America, especially **Belize, Guatemala, Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, causing extensive flooding. Approximately 330,000 people were affected in these countries. Houses and public infrastructure were damaged and crops were lost. This Operations Update n° 3 reflects updated information on the relief activities accomplished by the National Societies of the affected countries. The National Societies of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua supported timely and appropriate response, through the delivery of essential emergency relief items, and several completed damage and needs assessments for early recovery activities. The relief phase is set to

be completed by mid April 2009.

This emergency appeal included specific water and sanitation, shelter, early recovery and National Society capacity-building activities. The water and sanitation objective was funded by bilateral contributions in some countries and after damage and need assessments were completed, it was decided shelter activities were no longer required. The remaining objectives could not be completed as planned, due to low appeal coverage. This operations update also includes a revised appeal budget to reflect better the financial scenario of this operation.

The International Federation would like to thank the institutions who have kindly contributed to this appeal: the Italian and Swedish governments, as well as Participating National Societies (the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross Societies).

This operation is expected to be implemented over 9 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 July 2009; a Final Report will be made available by 30 October 2009 (three months after the end of the operation).

The situation

On 16 October 2008, the entire Central American region was affected by heavy rain, due to Tropical Depression number 16 (TD16).

Belize was drenched with constant rain, overflowing several rivers and affecting many villages in Cayo, Orange Walk, Stann Creek, Belize and Corozal districts. Several of these districts (Orange Walk and Corozal) sustained damages by floods due to Tropical Storm Arthur, four months earlier in June 2008. Several sections of Cayo district were declared a disaster area. 38,000 people were affected in approximately 24 communities. Temporary emergency shelters were opened, initially housing 400 evacuated people. Livelihoods in farming, commerce and tourism were affected by flooding, but mainly due to interruptions in transportation. Many of the people affected are farmers whose main livelihood is agriculture. Due to the floods farmers lost their corn, rice, beans and papaya crops. The Emergency Committees in the remainder of the affected districts responded to the emergency by evacuating people and distributing emergency relief items.



Nicaraguan Red Cross volunteers mobilizing relief items. Source: Nicaraguan Red Cross

In **Honduras**, torrential rains across the entire territory, especially in the southern departments of Choluteca and Valle, and the northern department of Cortés, caused flash floods and mudslides. Bridges, roads, and crops were damaged or destroyed. Many people were forced out of their homes. TD16 caused rivers to overflow, flooding communities settled along the rivers including the municipalities of Potrerillos, Pimienta and Villanueva in the department of Cortés, and El Progreso in the department of Yoro (northern region). Similar conditions were experienced when Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998.

Additional floods were caused by the programmed discharges of water in the main dam in the department of Cortés. A national red alert was declared by the Permanent Contingency Commission (Comisión Permanente de Contingencias - COPECO) for the municipalities of Corquín and Cucuyagua in the Copán province, Belén, Gualcho in Ocotepeque and the province of Cortés.

More than 279,972 people were affected by the floods. In addition, more than 16,000 houses sustained damages while 250 were completely destroyed in the department of Cortés. 1,660 hectares of maize, palm trees, plantain, and sugar cane crops in the agricultural sector were affected. The emergency caused the death of 13 people. The people affected by the emergency lived in high risk areas and many of the affected areas are characterized by high unemployment rates and an inadequate health system.

In **Guatemala**, the government declared a state of emergency in 27 municipalities in El Petén and Quiché located along rivers and lowlands of the country. The floods claimed the lives of four people and affected over 24,332

people. According to the National Coordinating Body for Disaster Reduction (Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres - CONRED), the heavy rain affected approximately 183 communities in the northern and north-eastern territories in the departments of Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Chimaltenango, Izabal, Petén, Quiché and El Progreso.

Some communities were isolated, while more than 5,000 houses and 114 roads were destroyed or damaged. The most affected department was El Petén. However, Alta Verapaz had the highest number of affected persons (13,400), followed by Izabal (some 13,000 affected).

In addition, a large number of crops were lost due to the floods. The CONRED mobilized immediate response teams into various affected municipalities and was in charge of coordinating the response efforts. The President of Guatemala allocated USD 3,000,000 for the mayors and governors of the affected areas. 35 temporary shelters were opened and managed by local authorities in coordination with the Guatemalan Red Cross local branches in Petén, Puerto Barrios, Santo Tomás de Castilla and Estor.

In **Nicaragua**, the intense rains left four people dead and 10,633 people affected in eight departments, including Chinandega, Madriz, Estelí, León, Managua, Granada and Rivas. 22 emergency shelters were opened, housing approximately 1,500 people, while other affected people stayed with friends and family. The department of Chinandega, where 95 per cent of its income comes from agricultural activities, lost most of its crops due to the floods. The members of the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response (Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres - SINAPRED) coordinated rehabilitation activities in their region.

Coordination and partnerships

The **Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS)** worked closely with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), the Ministry of Human Development and Participating National Societies (PNS) present in the field such as the Norwegian Red Cross. In addition, the United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) made contact with the Belize Red Cross to offer support.



A woman in Choluteca, Honduras, receiving a hygiene kit from Japanese Red Cross. Source: Honduran Red Cross

In Honduras, the COPECO and the Municipality Emergency Committee (Comité de Desarrollo Municipal - CODEM) coordinated relief actions with the **Honduran Red Cross (HRC)**. The Japanese Red Cross Society, through an in-kind contribution to the Appeal, provided hygiene kits for 1,000 families. PNS including the Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross Societies, as well as other humanitarian agencies also worked in cooperation with the HRC outside the Appeal framework. The HRC, in cooperation with the Swiss Red Cross, delivered humanitarian aid to 1,600 families. Thanks to bilateral contributions from the German Red Cross and the United National Development Programme (UNDP), 1,000 families received kitchen and hygiene kits. Medical Global supported financially the HRC's plan of action and supplied 13 water purification plants to assist the people in the departments of Yoro and Colon. Additionally, the governments of Spain and the United States of America generously provided assistance to the HRC outside the framework of this Appeal. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) sent a United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team to the country. The International Federation and the HRC participated in the UN cooperation meeting, ECHO partnership meeting and international NGO meeting. An International Federation shelter delegate was deployed to participate in the shelter sector cluster.

In Guatemala, the CONRED, along with other humanitarian actors, coordinated initial relief actions and evaluated the needs with the **Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC)**, the Ministry of National Defense, the Armed Forces Humanitarian Rescue Unit, the National Police, and municipal fire department, among other governmental agencies. Outside the Appeal framework, the Norwegian Red Cross provided financial support for the mobilization of National Intervention Team (NIT) members, and the American Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the

Spanish Red Cross and the Swedish Red Cross Societies also provided technical and financial support to initial relief actions. In addition, the government of France provided funds to be used by the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) in the implementation of a water, sanitation and hygiene programme to provide safe water to the communities most affected by the floods, the government of Italy provided financial assistance for the procurement of food items and the World Food Programme (WFP) distributed 68.7 metric tons of food to 18,000 affected people for ten days.

The **Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC)** worked with PNS present in the country including the Canadian Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross Societies. The governments of Canada and Italy, the American Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross Societies also provided financial assistance in the procurement of food items outside the Federation Appeal framework. The NRC also worked in coordination with SINAPRED and other humanitarian agencies present in the field, including UNICEF.

The International Federation coordinated relief activities through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), the Regional Representations for Central America and Mexico in Panama and the Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago with its teams present in all the affected countries from the beginning of the emergency. The National Societies also coordinated relief activities in their respective countries with governmental and non-governmental organizations.

National Society Capacity Building

A pre-hurricane meeting took place in Panama in May of 2007, where countries prone to hurricanes – including Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua – participated actively in the development of a Contingency Plan for the region. This helped in exploring and further developing available disaster preparedness tools and response strategies to strengthen the region in order to rapidly respond when disaster strikes. In the pre-hurricane meeting that took place in Panama in May of 2008, the lessons learnt from the emergencies were discussed and adopted accordingly in the Regional Contingency Plan.

The **Belize Red Cross Society**, the **Guatemalan Red Cross**, the **Honduran Red Cross** and the **Nicaraguan Red Cross** have ample experience in disaster response, as hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural hazards often affect these countries. National Intervention Teams (NIT) trainings in Guatemala and Honduras have increased in number and have come to strengthen the capacities of the National Societies, especially those of their volunteers. The GRC has offered several risk reduction workshops for its volunteers as well as for those affected. The experience has had a positive impact on the participating branches in all three countries and their volunteers.

All National Societies affected by TD16 were well prepared with pre-positioned stocks, radio networks both within country and between National Societies in the region, trained personnel and pre and post emergency coordination meetings. All National Societies are part of the National Emergency Operations Centres in their countries and are assigned specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The **Belize Red Cross Society** conducted damage and needs assessments from the outset of the emergency in all the affected areas of the country. The BRCS provided hot meals for people in shelters. NIT members specialized in water and sanitation and first aid responded swiftly to the emergency to attend injured people. The NIT members also installed one emergency water plant and relocated one portable water unit to Cayo from Belize City. This portable water unit provided water for smaller villages not reached by the emergency water plant. Volunteers in southern Belize, including NIT members assisted with evacuations from affected areas. More than 30 NIT members were deployed to the Cayo area to perform initial assessments and deliver supplies. The BRCS drew up a preliminary plan of action for 400 families that included distribution of food and non-food items.

In the beginning of the emergency the **Honduran Red Cross** activated its NIT members. The HRC drew up a plan of action that included the distribution of food and non-food items, early recovery and capacity-building activities for more than 14,000 families. The International Federation/Honduran Red Cross Appeal aimed to assist 3,000 families with food and non-food items. Through the Office for Disaster and Emergency Management (Oficina para la Administración de Desastres y Emergencias - OPAD), the HRC conducted initial assessments and identified the most affected communities, and the number of targeted beneficiary families. The Federation's PADRU deployed two disaster management delegates, and a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member specialized in Information to assist in carrying out initial assessments, the design of a plan of action and the distributions of relief items. HRC volunteers provided 5,600 families with blankets and food items to those housed in temporary shelters thanks to a television network that conducted a nation-wide relief campaign. The HRC activated regional warehouses and mobilized food items to distribution points. The HRC has a detailed proposal for early recovery activities, shelter, water and sanitation, and rehabilitation of livelihoods that was reviewed by

the International Federation. Nonetheless, this proposal will not be implemented due to lack of funding. Therefore, the plan focused only on the delivery of food and non-food items (relief phase).

The **Guatemalan Red Cross** with the support of the Norwegian Red Cross activated its NIT since the beginning of the emergency and performed evacuation activities and damage and need assessments in the affected areas. The GRC provided first aid care, managed temporary shelters and carried out needs assessments. NIT members specialized in water and sanitation, along with equipment, were deployed to the areas in most need (department of Petén and Izabal). GRC volunteers from several local branches in the affected areas distributed 1,500 family kits supplied by the National Disaster Secretariat. The plan of action of the GRC aims to deliver food and non-food assistance to 2,000 families. Six Damage and Needs Assessment (DANA) teams were deployed to the department of Quiché to perform damage assessments in 14 communities. One general RIT member was deployed by PADRU from 24 October to 7 November 2008 to Guatemala, and provided assistance to the operation.

The **Nicaraguan Red Cross** conducted and finished the assessments in the affected areas in coordination with members of SINAPRED. The NRC plan of action included provisions of food items and non-food items for 1,000 families. A water and sanitation officer finished the mission in the country to assist the National Society in implementing cleaning activities for 250 wells.

Progress towards objectives

This operations update shows the relief distributions accomplished to date by the National Societies. In addition, it provides a brief explanation as to why several objectives of the Appeal could not be carried out.

| Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items) | |
|--|--|
| Objective: 6,701 families (3,000 families in Honduras, 2,000 families in Guatemala, 1,000 families in Nicaragua and 701 families in Belize) will benefit from the provision of essential food items and non-food items to recover from the effects of the emergency. Procurement will also replenish HRC, GRC and BRCS relief stocks (see table below), therefore strengthening and re-establishing their response capacity for future relief operations. | |
| Expected results | Activities planned |
| 6,701 families will receive essential relief items. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with public institutions. • Verification and census of the most affected population. • Purchase of food items. • Purchase of non-food items by Regional Logistics Unit (RLU). • Transport, customs and logistics arranged by RLU. • Distribution of food and non-food items. • Monitoring and evaluation. |

After assessments, it has been determined that a total of **6,701 families** will benefit from the distributions of food and non-food items.

Progress:

Belize

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama, sent by truck 810 light blankets, 400 hygiene kits, 900 jerry cans, and 1,490 mosquito nets. The BRCS distributed the relief items as well as buckets and food parcels in Cayo district, Belize River Valley and Orange Walk. A total of 701 families have been reached through the distribution of food parcels and non-food items, completing the objective for Belize.

Honduras

The Regional Logistics Unit has mobilized three trucks of non-food-items for 3,000 families (including 1 hygiene kit, 1 kitchen kit, 2 mosquito nets and 2 jerry cans per family).

The HRC coordinated the beneficiary selection process with local emergency committees. The selection was based on the following criteria:

- Reside in an affected community.
- Family affected by the emergency (flooded house, loss of crops, loss of livestock).
- Belong to one of the most vulnerable groups (single mothers, low income families, people with disabilities).

The Honduran Red Cross received and distributed 3,000 kitchen kits, hygiene kits, mosquito nets and jerry cans. In addition, 3,000 complementary food parcels were procured and distributed. The following chart demonstrates the departments and quantities distributed:

| Department | Food Parcels | Kitchen Kits | Hygiene kits | Mosquito nets | Jerry Cans |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Choluteca | 980 | 980 | 980 | 1,960 | 1,960 |
| Valle | 20 | 20 | 20 | 40 | 40 |
| Cortés | 600 | 600 | 600 | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| El Paraíso | 400 | 400 | 400 | 800 | 800 |
| Yoro (El Progreso) | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Total | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 |

The objective for Honduras has been completed with 3,000 families who have benefitted from the provision of essential food and non-food items. The distribution process in this country was carried out successfully with minor delays experienced in customs during the holiday season in December.

Guatemala

Each of the 2,000 families in Guatemala received a food parcel, a hygiene kit and two buckets. The GRC identified and selected the beneficiary families and distributed the relief items among the departments of Alta Verapaz, Petén, Izabal and Quiché. Mosquito nets have not been received yet due to delays experienced with the supplier, but are still scheduled for distribution.

The complementary food parcels contained: corn flour, beans, rice, cooking oil, salt, sugar, and maize flour. The hygiene kits contained: soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toilet paper, deodorant, comb and razors.

Distribution table for food parcels in Guatemala

| Department | Municipality | Community | N° of Beneficiaries | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Petén | La Libertad | Cooperative Ixmucané | 101 | |
| | | Cooperativa La Flor de la Esperanza | 65 | |
| | | La Bella Guatemala | 94 | |
| | | Cooperativa Santa Rosita | 40 | |
| | | Cooperativa Laureles | 117 | |
| | | Parcelamientos Ixcoch | 43 | |
| | Total per municipality | | | 460 |
| | Dolores | | Brisas del Chiquibul | 140 |
| | | | Cooperativa Valle de la Esmeralda | 118 |
| | | | Aldea Nuevo Progreso | 16 |
| | | | Aldea Los Limones | 16 |
| | | | San Luis Palo Grande | 65 |
| | Total per municipality | | | 355 |
| | Poptun | | Secacao, Machaca III | 23 |
| | | | San José, Machaca III | 37 |
| | | | Las Flores, Machaca III | 26 |
| | | | San Pedro, Machaca III | 56 |
| | Total per municipality | | | 142 |
| | San Andrés | | La Unión | 45 |
| | | | Total per municipality | |
| | Alta Verapaz | Cobán | San José Icbolay | 121 |
| | | | Brisas Chixoy | 16 |
| | | | Yalicar | 48 |
| Entre Ríos | | | 29 | |
| Plan Nuevo Amanecer | | | 37 | |
| Tierra Blanca Sebol | | | 60 | |

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| | | Tierra Blanca Salinas | 37 |
| | | Tierra Blanca Chixoy | 48 |
| | | Isla de las Tortugas | 25 |
| | | Santa Marta Salinas | 40 |
| | | San Jorge la Unión | 41 |
| | | Senojá | 20 |
| | | Total per department | 522 |
| | | TOTAL | 1,524 |

*Detail on the distribution of food parcels completed in the department of Izabal is pending.

Distribution of hygiene kits per department

| Department | N° of Communities Reached | N° of Hygiene Kits |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| El Petén | 15 | 1,017 |
| Izabal | 17 | 876 |
| Alta Verapaz | 14 | 741 |
| El Quiche, Playa Grande | 7 | 339 |
| Pending to be delivered | 0 | 61 |
| Total | 53 | 3,034 |

*This distribution table includes hygiene kits that were procured locally through funds from this appeal and bilateral contributions provided by the United Nation's Population Fund.

In the department of Petén a total of 1,002 food parcels, 1,000 plastic buckets and 1,017 hygiene kits were distributed in the different municipalities. A total of 522 food parcels in the municipality of Cobán, in the Alta Verapaz department were distributed to the most affected families, as well as 741 hygiene kits and 500 plastic buckets. The breakdown of communities reached with food parcels in the department of Izabal will be detailed in the final report.

Nicaragua

Each of the 1,000 families in Nicaragua targeted in the department of Chinandega received a food parcel (contents including rice, beans, sugar, oatmeal cooking oil, corn and salt), three blankets and two plastic buckets. These were distributed as follows:

| Community | No. families | No. of people | Children | Children | Adults | Population by gender | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | | | 0 - 5 years | 6 - 15 years | 16 - + years | Male | Female |
| Mata Palo | 42 | 160 | 27 | 47 | 86 | 91 | 69 |
| Cepas | 30 | 108 | 17 | 27 | 64 | 56 | 52 |
| Huertas | 32 | 93 | 10 | 34 | 49 | 52 | 41 |
| Birmania | 19 | 45 | 6 | 5 | 34 | 24 | 21 |
| Aquezpalapa | 82 | 292 | 44 | 84 | 164 | 150 | 142 |
| Jicote | 113 | 310 | 39 | 69 | 202 | 163 | 147 |
| Platanal | 97 | 417 | 66 | 114 | 237 | 220 | 197 |
| El Porvenir | 85 | 314 | 56 | 77 | 181 | 159 | 155 |
| Mayocunda | 98 | 427 | 74 | 112 | 241 | 229 | 198 |
| Pozas | 27 | 125 | 23 | 33 | 64 | 62 | 58 |
| Sta Paubla Las 40 | 162 | 827 | 117 | 246 | 464 | 393 | 438 |
| Mata de Caña | 60 | 254 | 30 | 74 | 150 | 131 | 123 |
| Los Pizotes | 20 | 79 | 9 | 17 | 53 | 41 | 38 |
| Terencio Munguia | 133 | 866 | 147 | 220 | 499 | 448 | 418 |
| Total | 1,000 | 4,317 | 665 | 1,159 | 2,488 | 2,219 | 2,097 |

Water and Sanitation

Objective: The water and sanitation needs of the target population identified in the assessments are met with an appropriate planned programme. This plan may include an initial provision of clean drinking water to address emergency needs (e.g. ensure safe water supply by cleaning wells in Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras) and support for hygiene promotion and improved sanitation. This will be finalised following the findings of the current assessment.

| Expected results | Activities planned |
|---|--|
| <p>250 families will benefit from increased hygiene promotion and improved sanitation.</p> <p>250 families will benefit from the supply of safe water, through well-cleaning activities in all three countries.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Cleaning and rehabilitating of 250 family wells, conducted by team consists of people specialized in water and sanitation and will use special equipment and chemical products. • Delivery of potable water to the affected families using cisterns. • Distribute relief supplies (jerry cans and mosquito's nets) and control supply movements • Conduct information sessions on best hygiene practices to beneficiary families. • Conduct a workshop for Red Cross volunteers focusing on the training of water well restoration after a flood emergency and dealing with safe water. |

Progress

In **Honduras**, thanks to international support, water and sanitation activities in the department of Yoro and Colon were carried out by the HRC. In **Guatemala**, partners in-country assisted the GRC with water and sanitation activities. Lastly, in **Nicaragua** 250 wells are still being cleaned by NRC technicians and the procurement of mosquito nets was cancelled, since this was not longer necessary as the dry season had started. Therefore, this objective was not covered through appeal funds, in view of the fact that the National Societies of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, in coordination with other partners, carried out water and sanitation activities in the affected communities.

Shelter

Objective: The shelter needs of the target population in Belize, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras identified in the assessments are met with an appropriate planned programme. This plan may include an initial distribution of shelter kits to address emergency needs and a more tailored response to address medium and longer-term needs. Pre positioning of shelter kits for HRC relief stocks may be considered to increase their response capacity for future shelter operations

Progress

As mentioned in the previous operations update, the activities planned were no longer necessary; since the damages sustained in these countries were not severe, the governments were able to provide assistance.

Early Recovery

Objective: Early recovery needs will be assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.

Livelihoods of most of the affected families were damaged or destroyed. These included damage to orchards, family livestock and small-scale family businesses. The plan of action intended to carry out several rehabilitation activities in the affected countries. The objectives were set out to begin in January 2009. Due to lack of funding, these activities will not take place.

National Society Capacity Building

Objective: The capacity of the National Red Cross Societies and their local branches will be strengthened.

| Expected results | Activities planned |
|--|---|
| <p>The National Red Cross Societies and their local branches will be better prepared for future disaster response.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will receive visibility and relief equipment according to established standards. • Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office • Procurement materials for repairing of damaged vehicle. • Procurement motor boat for relief activities (Guatemala and |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Honduras) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting a workshop for Red Cross volunteers focusing on the training of disaster preparedness, food security, livelihoods and risk reduction. |
|--|--|

Progress

Nicaragua

The NRC procured a radio antenna to be installed in the National Society headquarters and supplies for vehicle maintenance.

Honduras

HRC had scheduled a workshop and the procurement of visibility and relief equipment for volunteers. These activities are no longer to be accomplished, due to low appeal coverage.

Guatemala

The local branches in Puerto Barrios, El Estor, Santo Tomas en Izabal, Petén and Cobán in Alta Verapaz had planned to be fully equipped with volunteer equipment, office equipment and repair materials for buildings and vehicles. The local branch in Petén was going to receive a motor boat to be used in future rescue operations. Due to low appeal coverage, the GRC will only be able to receive supplies for vehicle maintenance.

Belize

The Belize Red Cross Society conducted psychosocial support (PSP) camps in Calla Creek, Cayo targeting 100 children, and in Orange Walk reaching 20 children in shelters. BRCS volunteers trained in PSP conducted the camps, consisting of social activities with children such as games, readings and drawings. Similar camps were carried out in Douglas, Orange Walk with at least 100 children and in Belize River Valley with 150 children. The PSP activities carried out helped the children cope with stress related symptoms after the emergency.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for advocacy, maintaining the profile of the emergency operation and for fundraising. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promoting greater quality, accountability, and transparency. The communications activities covered by this appeal are aimed at supporting the National Societies to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support effective operations. These activities will include training, capacity building, as well as material support and are closely coordinated with the Communications Department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

To date, there have already been over 15 publications in several different kinds of media, including television, radio and newspaper and the National Societies will work to maintain a media focus on this emergency response. The Honduran Red Cross conducted a nationwide press conference jointly with the International Federation and PADRU trained volunteers in information management.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<Revised appeal budget, interim financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY
CENTRAL AMERICA FLOODS

Annex1
MDR43004

| | ORIGINAL | REVISED | VARIANCE |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| <u>RELIEF NEEDS</u> | | | |
| Shelter | 6,000 | | 6,000 |
| Construction Materials | | | 0 |
| Clothing & Textiles | 103,860 | 101,308 | 2,552 |
| Food | 423,682 | 436,000 | -12,318 |
| Seeds & Plants | | 65,300 | -65,300 |
| Water & Sanitation | 16,500 | 26,500 | -10,000 |
| Medical & First Aid | | | 0 |
| Teaching Materials | | | 0 |
| Utensils & Tools | 240,550 | 135,794 | 104,756 |
| Other Supplies & Services | 188,700 | 197,000 | -8,300 |
| Total Relief Needs | 979,292 | 961,902 | 17,390 |
| <u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u> | | | |
| Land & Buildings | | | 0 |
| Vehicles Purchase | | | 0 |
| Computers & Telecom Equipment | 6,600 | 24,400 | -17,800 |
| Office/Household Furniture & Equip. | | | 0 |
| Medical Equipment | | | 0 |
| Other Machinery & Equipment | 24,000 | 24,000 | 0 |
| <u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u> | | | |
| Storage - Warehouse | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0 |
| Distribution & Monitoring | 36,000 | 31,000 | 5,000 |
| Transport & Vehicles Costs | 55,000 | 67,000 | -12,000 |
| Service fee & recovery | 19,500 | 16,000 | 3,500 |
| <u>PERSONNEL</u> | | | |
| International Staff | 27,000 | | 27,000 |
| Regionally Deployed Staff | 19,800 | 9,700 | 10,100 |
| National Staff | | | 0 |
| National Society Staff | 59,400 | 63,251 | -3,851 |
| Consultants | 12,000 | 12,000 | 0 |
| <u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u> | | | |
| Workshops & Training | 65,000 | 58,782 | 6,218 |
| <u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u> | | | |
| Travel | 36,500 | 29,500 | 7,000 |
| Information & Public Relations | 13,000 | 11,998 | 1,002 |
| Office running costs | 15,300 | 15,210 | 90 |
| Communication Costs | 27,900 | 22,500 | 5,400 |
| Professional Fees | | | 0 |
| Financial Charges | | | 0 |
| Other General Expenses | 17,730 | 25,500 | -7,770 |
| <u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u> | | | |
| Programme Support - PSR | 98,405 | 95,536 | 2,870 |
| Total Operational Needs | 534,635 | 507,876 | 26,759 |
| Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind) | 1,513,927 | 1,469,778 | 44,149 |
| Available Ressources | | | |
| Net Request | 1,513,927 | 1,469,778 | |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43004 - Central American- Floods

Interim Financial Report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/2 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/7 |
| Appeal | MDR43004 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

| | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination | TOTAL |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| A. Budget | 1,469,778 | | | | | 1,469,778 |
| B. Opening Balance | 0 | | | | | 0 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| <u>Cash contributions</u> | | | | | | |
| <i>American Red Cross</i> | 115,929 | | | | | 115,929 |
| <i>British Red Cross</i> | 89,622 | | | | | 89,622 |
| <i>Canadian Red Cross</i> | 96,805 | | | | | 96,805 |
| <i>Finnish Red Cross</i> | 44,444 | | | | | 44,444 |
| <i>Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund</i> | 314,000 | | | | | 314,000 |
| <i>Netherlands Red Cross</i> | 150,761 | | | | | 150,761 |
| <i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i> | 75,004 | | | | | 75,004 |
| C1. Cash contributions | 886,566 | | | | | 886,566 |
| <u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u> | | | | | | |
| <i>American Red Cross</i> | 135,403 | | | | | 135,403 |
| C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued) | 135,403 | | | | | 135,403 |
| <u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u> | | | | | | |
| <i>Japanese Red Cross</i> | 26,212 | | | | | 26,212 |
| C3. Inkind Goods & Transport | 26,212 | | | | | 26,212 |
| <u>Other Income</u> | | | | | | |
| <i>Voluntary Income</i> | 390,300 | | | | | 390,300 |
| C5. Other Income | 390,300 | | | | | 390,300 |
| C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5) | 1,438,481 | | | | | 1,438,481 |
| D. Total Funding = B + C | 1,438,481 | | | | | 1,438,481 |
| Appeal Coverage | 98% | | | | | 98% |

II. Balance of Funds

| | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination | TOTAL |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| B. Opening Balance | 0 | | | | | 0 |
| C. Income | 1,438,481 | | | | | 1,438,481 |
| E. Expenditure | -1,021,243 | | | | | -1,021,243 |
| F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E) | 417,238 | | | | | 417,238 |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43004 - Central American- Floods

Interim Financial Report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/2 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/7 |
| Appeal | MDR43004 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

| Account Groups | Budget | Expenditure | | | | | TOTAL | Variance |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination | | |
| A | | B | | | | | A - B | |
| BUDGET (C) | | 1,469,778 | | | | | 1,469,778 | |
| Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| Shelter - Relief | | 141 | | | | | 141 | -141 |
| Clothing & textiles | 101,308 | 47,434 | | | | | 47,434 | 53,874 |
| Food | 436,000 | 97,988 | | | | | 97,988 | 338,012 |
| Seeds,Plants | 65,300 | | | | | | | 65,300 |
| Water & Sanitation | 26,500 | 632 | | | | | 632 | 25,868 |
| Utensils & Tools | 135,794 | 110,859 | | | | | 110,859 | 24,935 |
| Other Supplies & Services | 197,000 | 94,254 | | | | | 94,254 | 102,746 |
| Total Supplies | 961,902 | 351,309 | | | | | 351,309 | 610,593 |
| Land, vehicles & equipment | | | | | | | | |
| Computers & Telecom | 24,400 | | | | | | | 24,400 |
| Others Machinery & Equipment | 24,000 | | | | | | | 24,000 |
| Total Land, vehicles & equipment | 48,400 | | | | | | | 48,400 |
| Transport & Storage | | | | | | | | |
| Storage | 1,500 | 1,261 | | | | | 1,261 | 239 |
| Distribution & Monitoring | 31,000 | 9,915 | | | | | 9,915 | 21,085 |
| Transport & Vehicle Costs | 67,000 | 23,993 | | | | | 23,993 | 43,007 |
| Total Transport & Storage | 99,500 | 35,169 | | | | | 35,169 | 64,331 |
| Personnel | | | | | | | | |
| Regionally Deployed Staff | 9,700 | 4,346 | | | | | 4,346 | 5,354 |
| National Staff | | 174 | | | | | 174 | -174 |
| National Society Staff | 63,251 | 12,677 | | | | | 12,677 | 50,574 |
| Consultants | 12,000 | | | | | | | 12,000 |
| Total Personnel | 84,951 | 17,197 | | | | | 17,197 | 67,754 |
| Workshops & Training | | | | | | | | |
| Workshops & Training | 58,782 | 6 | | | | | 6 | 58,776 |
| Total Workshops & Training | 58,782 | 6 | | | | | 6 | 58,776 |
| General Expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Travel | 29,500 | 16,208 | | | | | 16,208 | 13,292 |
| Information & Public Relation | 11,998 | 111 | | | | | 111 | 11,886 |
| Office Costs | 15,210 | 54 | | | | | 54 | 15,156 |
| Communications | 22,500 | 3,896 | | | | | 3,896 | 18,604 |
| Financial Charges | 25,500 | 6,253 | | | | | 6,253 | 19,247 |
| Other General Expenses | 0 | | | | | | | 0 |
| Total General Expenditure | 104,708 | 26,522 | | | | | 26,522 | 78,185 |
| Programme Support | | | | | | | | |
| Program Support | 95,536 | 66,115 | | | | | 66,115 | 29,420 |
| Total Programme Support | 95,536 | 66,115 | | | | | 66,115 | 29,420 |
| Services | | | | | | | | |
| Services & Recoveries | 16,000 | 10,086 | | | | | 10,086 | 5,914 |
| Total Services | 16,000 | 10,086 | | | | | 10,086 | 5,914 |
| Operational Provisions | | | | | | | | |
| Operational Provisions | | 514,838 | | | | | 514,838 | -514,838 |
| Total Operational Provisions | | 514,838 | | | | | 514,838 | -514,838 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D) | 1,469,778 | 1,021,243 | | | | | 1,021,243 | 448,535 |
| VARIANCE (C - D) | | 448,535 | | | | | 448,535 | |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43004 - Central America Floods

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/2 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2008/10-2009/7 |
| Appeal | MDR43004 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Project Details

| Project | Name | Opening Balance | Income | Expenditure | Closing Balance | Budget | Variance |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | A | B | C | A + B + C | D | D - C |
| Goal 1: Disaster Management | | | | | | | |
| P43016 | Central America Floods | 0 | 16,000 | -2,885 | 13,115 | 0 | -2,885 |
| PBZ005 | Belize Floods | 0 | 208,922 | -118,277 | 90,645 | 155,626 | 37,349 |
| PGT010 | Central America Floods 08 - Gu | 0 | 383,769 | -115,381 | 268,388 | 421,765 | 306,383 |
| PHN004 | Central America Floods 08 - Ho | 0 | 580,360 | -604,694 | -24,334 | 634,866 | 30,172 |
| PNI011 | Central America Floods 08 - Ni | 0 | 249,430 | -180,004 | 69,425 | 257,521 | 77,516 |
| Sub-Total Goal 1: Disaster Management | | 0 | 1,438,481 | -1,021,243 | 417,238 | 1,469,778 | 448,535 |
| Total | Central America Floods | 0 | 1,438,481 | -1,021,243 | 417,238 | 1,469,778 | 448,535 |