

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

ARGENTINA: FLOODS IN SANTA FE PROVINCE

7 November 2003

Appeal No. 10/03; Operations Update no. 04

Appeal launched on 6 May 2003 for CHF 607,000 for 3 months for 8,000 beneficiaries.

Operations extended to 31 October 2003

Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000

Period covered: 20 July to 11 September 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 103%; See the Contributions List on the Federation's website for details.

Outstanding needs: None

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: 01.51/2003 South America

Operational Summary:

Distribution of food and non-food relief items is drawing to a close and 25 evacuation centres are now housing approximately 1,630 people, whereas at the outset of the crisis some 72,000 people were displaced. As people are returning to their homes, Red Cross activities are focusing on assistance to returnees. Community infrastructure, such as water pipelines, is being repaired or rebuilt. In addition, health campaigns have been ongoing as the Red Cross and its coordinating partners supply hygiene kits, cleaning kits and medicine to beneficiaries. As operations begin to close, the Red Cross is also focusing attention on helping victims return to their regular routines by providing psycho-social counselling.

International response to this appeal has been prompt and effective. The National Societies of Austria, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United States together with Greenpeace, Médicos sin Fronteras, OXFAM and UNICEF and the governments of New Zealand, the Netherlands and Spain have contributed to the appeal. Other public and private donors have also responded to the emergency both at the bilateral and appeal level. This support has allowed the Argentine Red Cross, in coordination with the Federation, Participating National Societies, the Argentine government and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to carry out activities according to the plan of action and provide aid to those affected by the floods.

Operational developments

Four months after the worst flooding in the history of the Santa Fé region, the official number of displaced persons has been reduced to an estimated 1,630 in 25 evacuation centres. Despite this encouraging number, there have been serious challenges for those returning to their homes. In many cases, homes are badly damaged and replacing furniture or obtaining tools to make repairs is proving difficult. Moreover, around 2,000 houses located close to the river will have to be completely rebuilt.

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The largest evacuation centre is the Florida tent camp, housing 490 beneficiaries. Other major centres are La Tablada tent camp and the Club Teléfonos warehouse, housing 185 and 163 evacuees respectively. There are an additional 132 people staying in the Hernandarias y Peñaloza warehouse and 129 persons staying in Belgrano station. The Argentine Red Cross (ARC) is lending support to all these and other smaller centres as well as to residents that are beginning to return to their homes.

Officials from the provincial government warn that more than 120 villages situated along the Salato River are in danger of new floods should medium or heavy rains occur. This is due to the critical conditions of the drainage system and the fact that the ground has not fully absorbed the enormous amount of water still remaining from the flooding. The situation is particularly serious since heavy rains are expected. For this reason, the local government is supplying all municipalities in the region with instructions on what to do in the event of more flooding.

The huge losses in the farming and agricultural sectors, evaluated at ARP 1,226 million (USD 417 million), have prompted the government to extend the state of emergency until the end of 2003. Crops, cattle, milk production and infrastructure have been seriously affected. In addition, new areas, such as the General Lopez region, are being considered as affected areas and will now benefit from government assistance.



The floods destroyed the livelihoods of more than 2,500 residents in the province.

Argentine authorities, including the government and the military, are running several programmes to assist those whose property has been damaged by the flooding. The Argentine Army is operating a door to door service in order to estimate damage and deliver goods such as food items, clothes and cleaning sets to returnees. In addition, on 13 August the local municipalities began providing supplies to those whose livelihoods had been affected in the following neighbourhoods: República de los Hornos, Piquete las Flores, Schneider, Ciudadela Norte and Yapeyú Oeste. The cost of this reimbursement programme is estimated at ARP 1,200 (around USD 410). Public institutions, cultural and sport centres and the local university have also been among the beneficiaries.

On 8 August the Santa Fé Children's Hospital's emergency unit, which reported major damage during the floods, was reopened. This recent advancement is greatly improving the health and living conditions of the inhabitants of the area.

The problem of garbage collection from the streets, which hampered public health and transportation, has been solved. However, new problems are emerging with the rise of unauthorized collection centres on the outskirts of Santa Fé, such as the one in Playa Norte.

On 7 September, the province of Santa Fé held municipal and provincial elections, including elections for a new governor. More than 2,300,000 voters turned out for the elections. No disturbances were reported during the election period, but the Argentine Red Cross suspended relief distributions for ten days to ensure that the Red Cross would not be associated with political agendas.

The Santa Fé Floods Appeal has received more than 100% coverage. In addition, new items such as stoves, kitchen sets, furniture and radios have been received and beneficiaries for these goods have been identified. Construction projects and the furniture deliveries are expected to take place until the end of October.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress, impact

The Argentine Red Cross is operating according to the revised plan of action outlined in Operations Update 3, carrying out all its various components. Volunteers' main duties include conducting surveys and giving speeches

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in evacuation centres and neighbourhoods, distributing relief items and relief kits, and providing psychological support to flood victims. Cataloguing and distributing public donations, medicine and relief items included in the appeal are continuing according to the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) SUMA system.

The objectives outlined by the plan of action for the Santa Fé floods appeal were achieved through the support of the American, Austrian, Finnish, Japanese, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies. In addition, the German and Spanish Red Cross Societies contributed bilaterally to the appeal. These two PNSs have played an important role in the relief efforts, particularly in the rural community of Monte Vera.

Relief distribution of food and basic non-food items

Objective 1: to provide humanitarian assistance in the form of food for three months, together with a kitchen set and hygiene kit for 8,000 persons affected by the floods.

Progress/Achievements

In accordance with the SPHERE guidelines, the Argentine Red Cross is providing assistance to the following evacuation centres and communities:

Evacuation centre/community	Number of beneficiaries
Belgrano station and warehouse	129
La Florida	490
Campo Universitario	127
Telecom warehouse	60
Peñalosa and Hernanderias Warehouse	132
Flenor warehouse	55
Grossi Warehouse	35
Mitre station	125
Club Telefonos	116
Monte Vera Neighbourhood	3,165
TOTAL	4,434

To date, a total of 72,608 people in 383 evacuation centres have been assisted by the Argentine Red Cross since the beginning of the relief operation. The total figure includes both beneficiaries assisted within the appeal and those assisted through bilateral and private donations to the Argentine Red Cross.

As of 5 September, 2,760 tonnes of humanitarian aid had been brought to Santa Fé. The Argentine Army and Navy, and private businesses and individuals supplied more than 130 trucks to transport these goods. Items distributed include:

- 71,000 kg of cleaning and hygiene kits
- 72,666 litres of mineral water
- 252,000 kg of non perishable food items
- 352,426 units of medicine
- 233,200 kg of clothes and shoes.

Public aid that has been received but was not linked to the appeal includes: clothes, shoes, mattresses, toys for children, candles, food, medicine, water and hygiene products



More than 5,000 volunteers from almost all branches of the Argentine Red Cross participated in rescue operations

During the period covered by this update, 13 more trucks brought 260 tonnes of food and non food items to the warehouses in Santa Fé. The goods were supplied by the Argentine Red Cross. Assistance operations are now being implemented to assist affected person in evacuation centres and local communities.

Impact

During the period covered by this update, the following items were distributed:

Item	Quantity distributed (3.7-5..9. 2003)	Total Quantity distributed
Oil	337 litres	1,957 litres
Rice	3,910 kg	11,280 kg
Soup broth	526 packs	17,328 packs
Salt	1,113 kg	3,122 kg
Bread	51 kg	260 kg
Pasta	4,557 kg	13,116 kg
Wheat flour	1,417 kg	7,963 kg
Maize flour	4,057 kg	14,007 kg
Tomato sauce	3,425 units	10,795 units
Canned beans	/	412 units
Potatoes	/	28,000 kg
Dried beans	673 kg	2,653 kg
Fresh vegetables	/	7 packs
Dairy products	25 packs	699 packs
Long life milk	21,402 litres	32,574 litres
Powdered milk	4,998 kg	20,183 kg
Sugar	2,398 kg	9,917 kg
Tea	7,349 boxes	25,594 boxes
Mate cocido (tea)	3,159 boxes	17,207 boxes
Hierba mate (tea)	1,600 kg	8,935 kg
Cakes	55 units	854 units
Biscuits	681 packs	6,152 packs
Cocoa	449 packs	8,094 packs
Jam	241 boxes	502 boxes
Fruit juice	3,367 units	3,367 units

Item	Quantity distributed (3.7-5.9.2003)	Total Quantity distributed
Mineral water	3,674 units	72,622 units
Cotton	266 packs	535 packs
Bleach	1,079 litres	4,268 litres
Clothes	3,377 sacks	20,497 sacks
Shoes	373 sacks	3,517 sacks

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Nappies	101,113 units	346,762 units
Toilet paper	2,558 units	9,328 packs
Bed sheets	140 units	1,038 pairs
Blankets	335 units	8,303 units
Mattresses	298 units	5,306 units
Matches	1,863 boxes	4,654 boxes
Soap	1,430 units	7,148 units
Towels	1,327 units	4,197 units
Candles	4,448 units	15,462 units
Pillows	133 units	2,233 units
Detergent	692 litres	815 litres
Beds	4	12 units
Toys	/	89 sacks
Chlorine	/	55 packs
Camp lamps	15 units	133 units
Lamps	/	190 units

As of 5 September, ARC volunteers had distributed the following kits:

Item	Within the appeal		Bilateral – public donations outside the appeal	
	Quantity distributed (3.7 -5.9.2003)	Total Quantity distributed	Quantity distributed (3.7 -5.9/2003)	Total Quantity distributed
Family food packages (8 persons/1 month)	320 units in Santa Fe 540 units in Monte Vera	2,131 units		
Kitchen sets		319 units	2 units	36 units
Personal hygiene sets		319 units		1,321 units
Feminine hygiene kits			6,501 units	16,879 units (UNICEF)
Cleaning kits	816 units	1,179 units		509 units

Constraints

Delivery activities had to be interrupted during the last week of the elections, but they were resumed after the elections and continued without problems.

Objective 2: To facilitate the return of evacuees to their homes and promote sanitary conditions.

Progress/Achievements

ARC volunteers are working with the community of Monte Vera, supplying returning residents with cleaning and hygiene kits, and kitchen and furniture sets. Food supplies have also been donated to the region by the Spanish Red Cross.

The Spanish Red Cross-funded operation which ensured provision of hygiene kits to the community of Monte Vera came to a close in the second half of August when the remaining 133 kits of the original 200 were distributed. Each hygiene kit included the following items:

ITEM	Quantity	Unit
Soap	5	Units
Sponge	1	Unit

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Toothbrush	5	Units
Toothpaste	2	Units (145 gr. each)
Sanitary towels	40	Units
Toilet paper	8	Units
Shampoo	2	Units (1 litre each)
Comb	1	Unit
Towel	3	Units

During the period covered by this update, the Spanish Red Cross also provided the following items:

- Kitchen set: 280 units
- Cleaning kits: 633 units
- Food packages: 633 units

The second delivery of food packages for 633 beneficiary families was scheduled for the second week of September. Each food package included the following items:

Rice	4 kg
Salt	0.5 kg
Tomato sauce	3 litres
Dried Peas	1 kg
Soya Beans	2 kg
Wheat flour	3 kg
Maize flour	3 kg
Pasta	12 kg
Soup base	24 units
Oil	1,5 litres
TOTAL	32 kg

The neighbourhood of Monte Vera also benefited from a German Red Cross donation, which included the following items:

Blankets 2,000 units
Mattresses 2,000 units
Bed sheets 2,000 pairs
Pillows 2,000 units
Towels 4,000 units
Hygiene kits 500 units



The German Ambassador, Mr. Hans Ulrich Spohn, delivering relief items to Monte Vera beneficiaries.

A donation from OXFAM provided 50 families in Monte Vera with tools and supplies to build their own furniture. The building sets included:

- 2 beds
- 1 table

- 1 kitchen cupboard.

As a part of the project to improve hygiene and living conditions, OXFAM donated tools to repair a broken water pipe in the community of Monte Vera. This operation has been completed and 483 beneficiaries now have access to running water.

In the period covered by this update, the following items have been distributed to beneficiaries in evacuation centres:

- gas stoves: 50
- hygiene kits:320
- cleaning kits:320
- kitchen sets: 320
- washing machines 40
- furniture: 50 sets

Furniture sets have also been distributed that include:

- 2 beds
- 2 mattresses
- 2 pillows
- 2 blankets
- 1 table
- 4 chairs
- 1 cupboard.

In addition, local authorities have started a reimbursement campaign and announced the construction of new houses for those who lost their homes, but the time frame for the implementation of this project remains unclear.

Impact

Returning residents are being assisted with cleaning and hygiene kits, and kitchen, furniture sets and gas stoves, facilitating their return home and their adjustment following the floods.

Constraints

Furniture sets in Monte Vera are still being constructed, and delivery of the remaining sets is still pending. These sets are scheduled to be delivered during September and October.

Health and Care

The ARC awareness campaigns among communities and evacuees are ongoing, and the response has been positive. Evacuation centres appear clean, and Ministry of Public Health statistics indicate that sanitary conditions among beneficiaries are good and within the average of this period of the year. No epidemics or emergency situations related to health and care issues have been reported during the period covered by this update.

The delivery of cleaning kits, hygiene sets and other public aid is nearing completion. In addition, bilateral donations to health and care issues are coming to a close.

Objective 1: To improve the health situation of those affected by the floods through health and hygiene promotion and disease prevention.

Progress/Achievements

ARC activities in this field are focused primarily on the reconstruction of water and sanitation infrastructure, distribution of hygiene sets to beneficiaries and hygiene awareness campaigns. During the period covered by this update, the ARC and OXFAM joint operation aimed at improving sanitary and hygiene conditions among

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evacuees concluded with positive results. ARC volunteers are continuing the awareness campaigns in evacuation centres and in rural and urban communities.

The activities carried out by ARC and OXFAM teams in this field are as follows:

EVACUATION CENTRES	ACTIVITIES
Campo Universitario	Restored water pipelines to provide drinking water in the kitchen. Provided a place for washing clothes. Repaired shower facilities. Health awareness promotion.
Telecom Warehouse 60 beneficiaries	Repaired toilets and provided two areas for washing clothes. Health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion.
Florida tent camp Sector 1: 19 tents Sector 2: 11 tents Sector 3: 18 tents 450 beneficiaries	Constructed showers and connected water and electricity supplies. Provided drinking water, including 5 water tanks. Implemented health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion.
Belgrano station and Belgranito warehouse. 310 beneficiaries	Repaired 6 showers and 2 toilets in Belgrano station. Constructed 8 areas for washing clothes. Constructed of 8 showers and 4 areas for washing clothes in Belgranito warehouse. Health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion.
Peñaloza y Hernandarias Warehouse 162 beneficiaries	Connected electricity and constructed showers. Carried out health awareness promotion.
Club Teléfono Warehouse 163 beneficiaries	Repaired water pipelines, toilet and showers. Constructed 2 areas for washing clothes. Carried out health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion.
La Tablada tent camp 135 beneficiaries	Constructed showers and connected water, including 2 water tanks and a scrubber. Implemented health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion.
Mitre Station	Health and HIV/AIDS awareness promotion implemented.
Monte Vera Community	Provided tools to fix a broken water pipe. Provided basic furniture kits to 50 families.

Provincial water and electricity authorities, the municipalities, Médicos sin Fronteras and the beneficiaries themselves all participated in the various phases of these projects.

Twenty-six ARC volunteers from the Santa Fé branch received training in hygiene and HIV/AIDS related issues. The volunteers then gave speeches and conducted workshops in local communities. This project was run in coordination with OXFAM and the Ministry of Health's provincial HIV/AIDS programme. During the meetings, 11,000 information leaflets and 10,880 condoms were distributed to beneficiaries.

As of 5 September, ARC volunteers had distributed 16,879 out of 20,000 personal hygiene sets for women, donated by UNICEF. Each feminine hygiene kit contained the following items:

Item	Quantity
Sanitary towels	40 units
Neutral soap	2 units
Deodorant	1 unit
Refreshing tissues	70 units

ARC volunteers are also distributing 350 hygiene kits, donated by UNICEF. Each kit contains the following items:

Item	Quantity
Detergent	10 litres
Bleach	10 litres

Shampoo	5 litres
Cloth	10 units
Duster	10 units
Sponge	10 units
Neuter soap	10 units
Garbage bags	100 units
Toilet paper	40 rolls
Toothpaste	10 units
Toothbrush (adult and child)	40 units
Disinfectant	10 litres

Impact

The construction of water and sanitation infrastructure, distribution of hygiene sets to beneficiaries and hygiene awareness campaigns have contributed to the well-being of those affected by the floods.

Constraints

As with other delivery activities, the supply of these items was interrupted during the electoral period. Activities were restarted after the elections.

Objective 2: To reinforce the capacity of individuals to prevent and mitigate the effects of post traumatic stress experienced when affected by a disaster, thus facilitating the readjustment of disaster victims to their usual social, personal and work routines.

Progress/Achievements

As stated in the plan of action, this component of the programme came to an end on 30 August. Seventy-three ARC volunteers from the branches of Santa Fé, Cordoba, Comodoro Rivadavia, Corrientes, San Francisco (Cordoba) and Saavedra received training to provide psycho-social assistance to flood victims. They also worked together with professionals and nurses in evacuation centres and communities to provide care to those in need.

Impact

More than 6,000 people have benefited from psycho-social assistance since the beginning of the operation. Particular attention has been provided to the most vulnerable beneficiaries, namely children, the elderly and families who lost their homes and belongings. The Argentine Red Cross has supplied 20,000 brochures and published reports to the local media, on the internet, television and radio, addressing psycho-social assistance.

Constraints

The four-month campaign proceeded without problems, meeting beneficiaries' needs.

Objective 3: To improve access to medicines and basic supplies by providing these to 16 evacuation centres and 10 primary health centres in the affected areas.

Progress/Achievements

ARC volunteers are completing the inventory of available medicine in the Santa Fé warehouse. Items are being delivered to the Ministry of Public Health and, from there, to beneficiaries. Compiling the database of available medicine, as well as stocking and delivering medicine, has been carried out according to PAHO's SUMA standards.

Impact

During the initial period, ARC volunteers worked with Médicos sin Fronteras to distribute medicine directly to evacuation centres. Drugs are now supplied to the Ministry of Health's Provincial Department in Santa Fé.

Evacuation centres that have benefited from direct ARC assistance are:

- La Tablada
- Ex Combatientes Malvina

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- Asociación Evangélica Filadelfia
- Colegio Nuestra Señora del Huerto
- Escuela Normal Superior
- Escuela Almirante Brown
- Federación de Ex Combatientes
- Galpón Vialidad
- Iglesia del Buen Pastor
- Centro Miguel Figueredo
- Centro Nuestra Señora del Calvario
- Predio Ferial
- Sindicato de la Carne

Hospitals that have benefited from ARC assistance are:

- Iturraspe
- Cullen

Thus far, there have been two deliveries of medical supplies, and the Ministry of Public health has scheduled a final delivery before the end of the operation. Items included in these deliveries are:

ITEM	Quantity supplied 5.9.2003 (Units)	Quantity supplied on the last delivery (end of August) (Units)	Quantity to be delivered (Units)
Analgesics	353,977	7,372	7,372
Allergy medicine	682	320	322
Anaemia medicine	1,226	16	16
Asthma medicine	476	29	29
Antibiotics	4,219	683	677
Epilepsy medicine	414	100	100
Anti-inflammatories	1,245	64	64
Parasite/malaria medicine	1,165	22	22
Cough medicine	1,118	25	25
Hypertensive medicine	3,157	419	439
Antispasmodics	744	120	46
Hormones	751	69	69
Diabetes medicine	1,043	57	57
Psychotherapeutics	2,054	47	47
Vitamins	1,507	46	46
Steroids	1,098		2
Gastro-intestinal medicine	1,834		233
Muscle relaxing cream	60		9
Hydroelectrolyte balance	2		5
Anaesthetics	30		
Disinfectants	6		
Diuretics	302		
Plasma	5		
Vaccines	745		
Basic solvents	5		
Ophthalmic solutions	14		
Ear, nose and throat (ENR)	1		

Local use	82		
Other	5,598		170
TOTAL	383.560	9,389	9,750

Constraints

The Argentine Red Cross's delivery of medicine to the Ministry of Public Health is almost completed, and there have been no constraints. The delivery of medicine was interrupted during the last week of the electoral campaign and resumed after the elections.

Disaster Preparedness

Objective 1: To promote the preparedness and response capacity of the population for future emergencies and disasters through the promotion of community education in risk management.

Progress/Achievements

According to the revised plan of action, it was decided that the Argentine Red Cross would not implement a specific programme for disaster preparedness as the government is currently training staff from 120 municipalities in case further flooding occurs and evacuation operations are launched.

Impact

Basic awareness campaign activities have been carried out by volunteers in evacuation centres. In addition, information provided to the media by the Red Cross included elements of disaster preparedness.

Constraints

Due to overcrowding in evacuation centres at the beginning of operations, the Red Cross was not able to run specific, neighbourhood-based evacuation strategy campaigns. At the time, priority was given to other forms of assistance, such as organizing evacuation centres, supplying food and non-food items to beneficiaries and providing psycho-social support. Evacuation strategy campaigns were further hindered by continuously unstable numbers of evacuees in centres, and the fact that members of the same community were often being housed in different evacuation centres. It was decided that the Red Cross would focus on future evacuation strategies after beneficiaries had returned home, but there have been continuing difficulties as communities continue to be scattered among those who have returned home and those who have remained in the various evacuation centres. Finally, many people feel dissatisfied with the local government, which they view as responsible for the disaster. It has been difficult for the Red Cross to organize community-based activities in this environment.

Advocacy

Objective 1: To promote the reduction of potential tensions between social groups through appropriate design and implementation of humanitarian activities.

Progress/Achievements

In order to reduce social tension in evacuation centres, the Red Cross has held speeches, provided psycho-social assistance and ensured that clear criteria were used in the delivery of relief items. Needs assessments and readjustments in the distribution of relief goods have been conducted in cooperation with beneficiaries. In addition, beneficiaries have taken on the responsibility of caring for evacuation centres, and have demonstrated good will and cooperation with Red Cross volunteers. These efforts are ongoing in evacuation centres and communities.

Impact

The risk of social tension has greatly decreased as the number of beneficiaries in evacuation centres has been reduced and ARC volunteers are now focussing their attention on providing psycho-social support.

Constraints

There are no constraints to report.

Federation coordination

The ARC national headquarters in Buenos Aires is coordinating relief operations with the Santa Fé branch. Furthermore, the Federation's sub regional office in Buenos Aires is working closely with the National Society.

At field level, coordination meetings are ongoing with operational partners, such as the local and municipal government, UNICEF, Caritas, Medicos sin Fronteras and other NGOs. The ARC is now participating in the Executive Reconstruction Unit (ERU), a new forum of NGOs that meets on a weekly basis in order to improve coordination among partners and set priorities for intervention.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Ongoing reconstruction activities, as well as search and rescue and relief activities carried out during the emergency phase, are based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focused on the vulnerability of those affected.
- Relief operations have been conducted with respect for the culture of the beneficiaries, ensuring gender sensitivity and prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is ensured, including the production of regular narrative and financial reports.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal are in line with Strategy 2010, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.

National Society Capacity Building

During the period covered by this update, a four-day national intervention team (NIT) course took place in Buenos Aires. Twenty-three people participated from 14 ARC branches, as well as representatives from the Chilean and Uruguayan National Societies and from the Federation's sub regional office in Buenos Aires. Case studies and simulations took place during the course.

The new national emergency plan, including frameworks, capacities, vulnerabilities and organizational responsibilities, has been completed and will be presented to branches of the Argentine Red Cross in four regional meetings, scheduled for mid September.

Volunteers from the eight branches that are working on the Social Crisis Appeal will also be trained in community disaster preparedness by the ARC and Federation team that participated in the training sessions in Santa Fé.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

On the 100th day after the flooding occurred, the ARC published an updated version of the brochure containing information on Red Cross activities in the region. In addition, a press release was distributed to the media containing relevant information about Red Cross activities since operations began. Additional information has been included on the ARC web site.

The Argentine Red Cross has maintained regular contact with the local and national media, keeping the media updated on all changes in operations and activities. In addition, there was significant media coverage of the Spanish government's donation to the Argentine Red Cross.

Outstanding Needs

The Appeal for the Santa Fé floods operation has received more than 100% coverage for the emergency appeal launched in May 2003. In addition, goods, such as food and medicine, have been received from donors, both in response to the appeal and bilaterally. This has allowed the Argentine Red Cross to assist thousands of victims, providing them with food, shelter and psycho-social counselling. While the period of emergency is coming to a close, the reconstruction efforts are only just beginning. It has been predicted that it will take years to restore the Argentine society, economy and infrastructure to its pre-disaster state. With this in mind, the period of the

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emergency appeal will come to a close in the end of October, but the Red Cross will remain in Argentina, helping in the reconstruction process. Donors are invited to follow these developments in case bilateral assistance will be needed in the future.

For further information please contact:

- Argentine Red Cross; Phone: 54 11 4952 7200; Fax: 54 11 4952 7715; email: info@cruzroja.org.ar
- Fernando Casanova, sub regional coordinator, Buenos Aires, Phone 54 11 4951 0720; Fax (54) 11 4951 7662; e-mail: ifrcar01@ifrc.org
- Olaug Bergseth; regional officer, Americas Department Phone: 41 22 730 45 35; Fax: 41 22 733 03; email: olaug.bergeth@ifrc.org

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Argentina - floods

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 10/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

05/11/03

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					607,000	TOTAL COVERAGE 103.4%	
AMERICAN - RC		15,000	USD	20,393	12.05.03		
ARGENTINA - GREENPEACE		1,500	ARS	746	19.06.03		
AUSTRIAN - RC		40,000	EUR	60,440	19.05.03		
FINNISH - RC		25,000	EUR	37,775	09.05.03		
GERMAN - GOVT/RC		62,000	EUR	93,682	16.05.03	BILATERAL	
JAPANESE - RC		15,000	USD	20,393	15.05.03		
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		5,000	ARS	2,485	21.08.03	BILATERAL	
NEW ZEALAND - GOVT		14,534	USD	19,635	16.06.03		
NORWEGIAN - RC		300,000	NOK	56,100	16.05.03		
PRIVATE DONORS				2,876	26.06.03		
PRIVATE DONOR BANCO COMAFI		7,766	ARS	3,859	21.08.03	BILATERAL	
PRIVATE DONOR SHOW MIDACHI		66,669	ARS	33,134	21.08.03	BILATERAL	
SPANISH - RC		63,106	EUR	97,751	21.08.03	BILATERAL	
SPANISH - GOVT		44,488	EUR	68,911	21.08.03	BILATERAL	
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		500,000	SEK	80,000	19.05.03		
WHO - PRIVATE DONORS				1,000	22.05.03		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				599,180	CHF		98.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
UNICEF				28,525	21.08.03	BILATERAL, KITS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				28,525	CHF	4.7%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA MIXTA				3,250	21.08.03	BILATERAL, YERBA
PRODUCTOS DE AGUA SA				5,000	21.08.03	BILATERAL, MINERAL WATER

Argentina - floods

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 10/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

05/11/03

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
DANONE SA				7,500	21.08.03	BILATERAL, YOGURT
KIMBERLEY-CLARK				11,250	21.08.03	BILATERAL, DIAPERS
CARREFOUR				5,600	21.08.03	BILATERAL, MILK & MINERAL WATER
PROCTER & GAMBLE				75,000	21.08.03	BILATERAL, DIAPERS
SATLER & CIE				3,820	21.08.03	BILATERAL, GRUPO ELECTORGENO
OXFAM		102,195	ARS	50,790	21.08.03	BILATERAL, WATSAN EQUIPMENT
PERFUGROUP/MOLINOS		29,965	ARS	14,892	21.08.03	BILATERAL, FOOD ITEMS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				177,102	CHF	