

PROGRAMME 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

PAN AMERICAN DISASTER RESPONSE UNIT (PADRU)

15 December 2006

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 181 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. MAA42001; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: 1 June to 31 October 2006; Appeal coverage: 57.4 % of budgeted amount for 2006; Outstanding needs for 2006: CHF 1,145,472 (USD 938,181 or EUR 716,390)

[Click here to go directly to the attached Interim Financial Report](#)

Appeal target 2006 - 2007: CHF 4,778,190 (USD 3,913,501 or EUR 2,988,330) for 2006 – 2007; of this amount, the budget for 2006 is CHF 2,687,331 (USD 2,146,405 or EUR 1,716,623).

[Click here to go to the Revised Budget for 2007](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Central America Annual Appeal 2006-2007 (MAA43001); Caribbean Annual Appeal 2006-2007 (MAA49001); South America Annual Appeal 2006-2007 (MAA46001); Suriname: Floods (Appeal MDRSR001); Ecuador: volcanic eruption (Appeal MDREC002)

Programme summary: The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has provided operational and logistics support to National Societies in response to five flooding emergencies and one disaster caused by a volcanic eruption in an effective and efficient manner according to needs. A total of CHF 372,922 was allocated between June and October 2006 through the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to operations in Chile, Ecuador, Haiti and Panama. In response to the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Ecuador an Emergency Appeal for CHF 623,064 was launched. Overall emergency assistance has been provided to over 4,612 families (an estimated 23,060 beneficiaries).

PADRU's continued focus on training and deployment of Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members throughout the Americas is a clear example of how local and regional Red Cross expertise, complementing international capacities, is brought to bear in responding to disasters rapidly and efficiently. This has helped to strengthen the National Societies, reinforcing cross regional collaboration, promoting human resource development, facilitating sharing of best practices and increasing standardization and understanding of Federation response tools and mechanisms.

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) has scaled up its capacity to meet the targeted relief needs of 25,000 families through pre-positioned stock and has increased its ability to provide services by achieving optimal

fleet stock levels and improving its transportation and fleet management. This increase in capacity was funded by ECHO through the global Disaster Management and Coordination appeal.

Through PADRU's active participation in regional and international coordination meetings with several international agencies, essential information, best practices and available resources have been shared in order to reduce duplication of efforts and ensure effective operational inter-agency coordination during disasters.

Most funding received for disaster response activities remain activity-specific. Additional non-earmarked funds would provide PADRU with the necessary flexibility to ensure better preparedness and ever more effective response in the face of disasters. PADRU is also facing constraints concerning limited human resources in the area of Health in Emergencies and IT and Telecommunications. In particular, Water and Sanitation capacity within PADRU requires further development, especially given the nature of disasters to which the Americas are prone.

As this reporting period was marked by boosting activities at various levels, the emphasis in 2007 will be laid upon improving existing response tools and mechanisms.

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This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). 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](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

As in the first half of the year, heavy rains throughout the Americas have again marked the later months of 2006. The resulting flooding has necessitated relief operations of varying sizes in Argentina, Chile, Haiti, Panama and Suriname. PADRU responded immediately to these disasters as well as to the volcanic eruption in Ecuador and has been providing operational and logistics support to National Societies in an effective and efficient manner, according to needs.

As the focal point for disaster response in the Americas, PADRU continued to activate and coordinate the technical response tools at global and regional levels. Four requests for Disaster Response Emergency Funding (DREF) were submitted during this reporting period and a total of CHF 367,879 was allocated. In addition, an Emergency Appeal for CHF 623,064 was launched in response to the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Ecuador. Emergency operations undertaken over the period by National Societies with direct PADRU support have assisted over 4,612 families (23,060 beneficiaries).

During the reporting period PADRU has been active with re-structuring, improving and up scaling several key areas of its work in order to strengthen the overall disaster response capacity.

As part of the Federation's Global Stocking strategy, PADRU has a goal of storing enough relief items in the Regional Logistics Unit (one of the world's three) to respond to 25,000 families. During the reporting period the focus has therefore been on increasing existing capacity. The overall target has been met as a result of the collaboration in the form of cash and in-kind donations of a number of Partner National Societies such as the American, British and Netherlands Red Cross Societies and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO). The Regional Logistics Unit's expansion in terms of space, quantity and staff to reach this

target has concluded. This scale-up in capacity was funded by ECHO through the global Disaster Management and Coordination appeal.

In order to strengthen the disaster response capacity of the Federation's system in the Americas, PADRU has emphasized the development of leadership and coordination skills in the National Societies. For this reason one of the key developments since the beginning of the year has been the added emphasis on deployment of Regional Intervention Team members. The key focus of the Red Cross since 1999 in scaling-up RIT training and deployments has produced a total of 341 qualified and specialized Regional Intervention Team members. During this reporting period an effort has been made to update the existing RIT database by aligning this with the global Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) database and developing new RIT alert activation procedures and policies. Nine RITs have been deployed during this reporting period - which makes a total of 27 RIT members in total between January and October 2006.

In order to scale up key human resources with the view to strengthening PADRU, a large number of Federation personnel continued to benefit from working in PADRU for periods of time during the reporting period. The high level of activity in training, internships and deployments of RIT and Emergency Response Unit (ERU) members together with the response to small scale disasters throughout the Americas, has required an increase of human resources within PADRU while ensuring PADRU's flexibility in response to operational needs. In order to provide up-to-date and valuable information during emergencies, PADRU especially brought in an Information Delegate and a Reporting delegate to provide coverage for the 2006 hurricane season.

PADRU has actively participated in regional and international coordination meetings with several international agencies in order to share information, best practices and available resources to reduce duplication of efforts and ensure effective operational inter-agency coordination during disasters. To enhance this overall coordination of all entities involved in large-scale disaster response, PADRU took part in two international disaster simulations. Regional meetings with United Nations (UN) agencies such as the Risk, Emergency and Disaster Task Force (REDLAC), the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other international agencies continued to be held on a monthly basis.

Since the beginning of the year one Disaster Management delegate is based in the Lima Regional Delegation and another one in the Port of Spain Sub Regional Office in Trinidad to act as a focal point for direct response in these Federation offices.

Disaster Management

Overall Programme Goal: Red Cross National Societies in the Americas are receiving significant benefit through support, services, coordination, resources and training from an efficient and effective disaster management unit that contributes to increasing the capacity to successfully help people reduce risk, respond to and recover from disasters, thus alleviating human suffering.

Disaster Response

Objective: At the request of the Regional Delegations, PADRU is delivering to National Societies in times of disaster, trained human resources, essential relief supplies, professional technical and coordination services that strengthen, enhance and, if necessary, augment their own emergency response capacities and assist in the transition from relief to rehabilitation.

Expected Results

The Americas' disaster response system is effectively coordinated by PADRU in collaboration with the Regional Delegations, and in coordination with Participating National Societies (PNS), the UN system and other relevant disaster response stakeholders.

Progress/Achievements

Between June and the end of October 2006, PADRU supported eight emergency operations throughout the region.

Four of these emergency operations commenced within the reporting period. The other four operations started before June but were ongoing at the onset of this reporting period.

In total, CHF 372,922 has been allocated to four emergency operations from the Federation's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) and one appeal was successfully launched for CHF 623,064 in response to the volcanic eruption in Ecuador. In the context of these operations, PADRU deployed five delegates and three RIT team members and 28 National Intervention Team (NIT) members were deployed directly by their National Societies as part of in-country responses (see table 1). These operations provided the opportunity to test and evaluate management and operational disaster response mechanisms, systems, tools, procedures and effectiveness (including human resources) in deployments - in addition to scaling up National Societies' response capacities.

Table 1 summarizes new PADRU-supported emergency responses between June and October 2006.

TABLE 1

Emergency (June – October 2006)	Deployment	DREF/ Appeal (CHF)	Total affected families/ (persons)	Federation supported response- Number of beneficiaries
Ecuador Volcanic Eruption	PADRU (2) RIT (1) NIT (17)	Appeal: CHF 623,064 (of which DREF, CHF 85,000)	5,000 families (15,000 persons affected directly and 300,000 indirectly)	1,632 families (8,160 persons) supported with DREF and appeal funding 5,517 families (25,028 persons) in total with other funding
Panama Floods	PADRU (1) RIT (1) NIT (8)	DREF: CHF 67,922	380 (1,900)	380 families (1,900 persons)
Chile Floods	PADRU (1) RIT (1)	DREF: CHF 130,000	19,172 (95,862 persons 28,177 of them severely affected).	2,000 families (10,000 persons)
Haiti Floods	PADRU (1) NIT (3)	DREF: CHF 90,000	3,000 (15,000)	600 families (3,000 persons)
TOTAL	PADRU (5) RIT (3) NIT (28)	Appeal: CHF 623,064 DREF: CHF 372,922	25,552 (127,762)	4,612 (23,060)

Table 2 summarizes PADRU-supported emergency response operations which started in the first reporting period but were ongoing between June and October:

TABLE 2

Ongoing Emergency	Deployment	DREF/ Appeal (CHF)	Total affected families/ (persons)	Federation supported response- Number of beneficiaries
Argentina Floods	NIT (5)	DREF: CHF 100,000	1,000 families (5,000 persons)	300 families (1,500 persons)
Colombia Floods	RIT (1)	DREF: CHF 160,000	67,976 families (339,880 persons)	10,000 families (50,000 persons) of whom 1,162 families (5,810 persons) reached with DREF
Ecuador Floods	PADRU (1) RIT (1) NIT (17)	DREF: CHF 80,000	5,734 families (25,803 persons)	1,670 families (8,350 persons)

Suriname Floods	PADRU (1) Netherlands Red Cross (2) RIT (6) PIRAC Team (4) RIT (2)	Appeal: 854,305 (of which DREF: 100.000)	5,000 families (25,000 persons)	4,000 families (20,000 persons)
TOTAL	PADRU (1) RIT (2) NIT (22)	Appeal: 854,305 DREF: 440,000	79,710 families (395,683 persons)	Total of 15,970 families, (79,850 persons) assisted 7,132 persons (35,660 families) assisted with DREF and appeal funding

All emergency operations that commenced before June and are reflected in the previous table are flood-related. Funding (DREF and Appeal) to assist these four operations were allocated before June. In the context of these four operations PADRU deployed one Disaster Management delegate and two RIT members, and 22 National Intervention Team (NIT) members were deployed directly by their National Societies as part of in-country response. A total number of 15,970 families (78,700 persons) have been assisted by the Red Cross, of which 6,962 families (34,010 persons) have been assisted directly through DREF and Emergency appeal funds.

Floods in Argentina (April – August)

Intense rainfall during March caused significant flooding in Argentina, affecting a total area of about 250,000 km² in the remote north-east of the country thereby affecting more than 1,000 families. Two members of the Argentine Red Cross (ARC), National Intervention Team members and technical staff were deployed to assess needs in the area. The Federation released CHF 100,000 from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to support 300 families (1,500 beneficiaries) through the distribution of personal hygiene kits, cleaning kits and 20,000 diapers. Based on outstanding needs identified by the ARC 1,966 bed sheet kits and 1,966 blankets were distributed to the most affected families. Private in-kind donations, mainly cleaning products, were received, packed and distributed by ARC personnel.

Furthermore, three NIT members supported and trained ARC volunteers in relevant areas such as Water and Sanitation, Psychosocial Support, Community Disaster Preparedness and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) in order to provide them with information and knowledge to carry out trainings within the affected communities. A total of 1,204 persons were trained by the ARC, including inhabitants of the most affected neighbourhoods, government employees, and university and elementary school students. PADRU constantly monitored the situation, coordinated actions and provided technical support to the ARC in its humanitarian relief activities.

Floods in Colombia (May - August)

The 2006 rainy season in Colombia saw an unusual increase in rainfall levels, over an extended period of time. A total of 67,976 families (339,880 people) were affected by flooding. Furthermore, 1,527 homes were destroyed, and 24,518 damaged throughout 316 municipalities. The Colombian Red Cross (CRC) together with several other humanitarian organizations and contributions from private citizens assisted 10,000 families by providing emergency food and non-food relief items such as bed sheets, foam mattresses, cooking utensils and hygiene articles. CHF 160,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund for the overall operation - which was implemented for a period of three months. 1,000 families were initially targeted – however, due to careful management of the funds - it was possible to distribute food and non-food relief goods to 1,162 families (5,810 beneficiaries).

Floods in Ecuador (March – October)

Heavy rains leading to flooding affected 5,734 families (approximately 26,000 people in six of Ecuador's coastal provinces) since early February. The Federation released CHF 80,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency fund to provide emergency food relief to 1,670 families in the affected areas. Evacuated families were also provided with non-food relief items and five local Branches received basic resources such as tents, stretchers, helmets and blankets in order to strengthen their capacity to give timely assistance in the event of disasters. A Regional Intervention

Team (RIT) member from the Dominican Red Cross was deployed to the field in March, along with a PADRU Disaster Management delegate, to support the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ECR) and to facilitate cooperation with other humanitarian organizations. A plan of action was developed by the ERC, with support of the Federation.

ERC Branches in the affected region responded to the disaster with evacuation and search and rescue operations, needs assessments, water and sanitation activities, food relief and the provision of primary health care. Furthermore, 17 National Intervention Team members were activated to support the Branches in the six affected provinces.

Floods in Suriname (May –November: ongoing)

Torrential rainfall in Suriname since the beginning of May 2006 caused flooding in the interior of the country, leaving approximately 25,000- 30,000 km² under water and around 25,000 people affected. Based on the needs assessment of the Suriname Red Cross (SRC), it was agreed that water and sanitation interventions, food relief, basic shelter and hygiene items were a priority. CHF 100,000 in Disaster Relief Emergency Funds was allocated and the Federation subsequently issued an Emergency Appeal on 15 May 2006, seeking CHF 854,305 in cash, kind or services to assist 4,000 families (20,000 beneficiaries) for a period of five months. The Federation has provided emergency relief items through the Pan American Disaster Response Unit, and has offered support in water and sanitation in collaboration with the French Red Cross' Platform for Regional Intervention Americas and Caribbean (PIRAC). A PADRU Disaster Management delegate was deployed to Suriname - along with a Disaster Management delegate from the Port of Spain Sub-Regional office - to assist in the operation.

Emergency food security assistance was provided during the first two months of the operation to 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries) – of which 4,000 (20,000 beneficiaries) were assisted with a second distribution under the Appeal, four weeks after a first distribution of food was undertaken directly by the SRC thanks to its own Disaster Emergency Fund. With the additional 4,000 hygiene kits distributed to families, the Suriname Red Cross provided rapid and much needed food and non-food relief to over 5,310 families (26,550 beneficiaries). A total of 2,500 families were selected to receive three pieces of plastic sheeting each and one tool kit which would be shared between five families. As a result of logistical constraints and the high distribution costs in light of the volume of the commodities, to date 2,840 plastic sheets of the 7,500 plastic sheets dispatched to Suriname have now been distributed, as well as 133 of the 500 tool kits. Given that water levels have now considerably receded and the dry season has begun, the SRC will retain the remaining materials in its warehouse in preparation for the onset of the new rainy season (November-February).

Two RIT members from the SRC specialized in Water and Sanitation conducted a training of 20 National Society staff and volunteers in June. The health promotion campaign which focused on improving hygiene practices to prevent water related illnesses has now been completed in the worst affected areas. Follow-up training and monitoring of impact will be undertaken in all areas, after the initial training activities. At the end of this reporting period 1,426 persons from the affected villages had been trained in water and sanitation and hygiene by the 20 newly trained volunteers of the SRC. These people are now disseminating the information within their own communities and to surrounding villages.

Volcanic eruption in Ecuador (July – January 2007: ongoing)

On 14 July 2006 the Tungurahua volcano began spewing ash, gas and molten rock. On 16 August, a devastating volcanic eruption swept away homes, crops, cattle and possessions of thousands of people in the area. It was estimated that 15,000 of the 300,000 affected suffered the worst damages. On 17 August the Government declared the area disaster zone to allow for immediate measures to be taken in order to provide emergency relief to those affected.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) activated its emergency plan of action and more than 240 volunteers were immediately mobilized to the area, to provide primary medical care and assist with search and rescue operations. On 19 July 2006 the Federation released CHF 85,000 from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to assist 500 affected families (2,500 people) through distributions of food parcels with 22 kilograms of goods, as well as hygiene kits - 37 additional families received food parcels and hygiene kits comprising items donated by the public.

In view of increased needs following new volcanic eruptions on 16 August an Emergency Appeal was launched on 23 August 2006 to seek CHF 623,064 to assist an additional 1,095 families (5,475 beneficiaries) for a period of five

months. Through the appeal 1,095 families (5,475 beneficiaries) in the two worst affected provinces of Tungurahua and Chimborazo will be assisted with food parcels, hygiene kits, cleaning kits, domestic protection kits, psychological support, medical care and safe drinking water for four months. In addition, 1,400 children aged 5 -17 will receive education kits and basic hygiene kits. With support of DREF and Appeal funding 1,632 families (8,160 beneficiaries) in total will be assisted.

The Appeal has been fully covered thanks to the contributions of the American Government/OFDA, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, China Red Cross, German Red Cross (Bavaria Branch), Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross and the Italian Government. The Ecuadorian public has made humanitarian aid contributions and the ERC has also received a number of national cash contributions. With the help of this additional funding the ERC has been able to assist a total of 5,517 families (25,028 persons) since the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in July.

Two Disaster Management delegates from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), together with PADRU's Water and Sanitation officer and a RIT were on the ground working in cooperation with the Ecuadorian Red Cross. PADRU, in close cooperation with the Lima Regional Delegation, has been providing technical and operational support to the National Society mainly in Water and Sanitation, Logistics and Disaster Management.

Floods in Panama (October – February 2007: ongoing)

As of 12 October torrential rains were reported in several areas of Panama. It was estimated that 1,900 people were directly affected by flooding and emergency situations resulting from these rains in the East and West of the province of Panama and the province of Chiriquí. Authorities have reported landslides and flooding mainly due to overflowing of the Chiriquí Viejo and Chico rivers.

The Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) provided initial response to the emergency by supporting activities such as rescue and evacuation, first aid, needs assessments and the provision of basic relief items in the form of clothing, dry food and hygiene kits. Following the assessments, it was decided to prioritize the provision of kitchen sets, hygiene kits, food, water and blankets. Relief goods were then distributed to the 380 families identified by the local Branches as the most vulnerable. CHF 67,922 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation.

During distributions to the affected communities, a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member and PADRU's Water and Sanitation officer were able to assess the water and sanitation situation. They determined that the areas of Chiriquí and Panama East had extremely vulnerable conditions and that an intervention in the form of awareness-raising talks within the population was required. In order to carry out this awareness raising campaign, the National Society has begun developing materials on environmental health issues with a focus on water and sanitation. In line with this, an initial training workshop will be carried out for Red Cross volunteers - who will then multiply this knowledge within the communities.

The RIT member was deployed with DREF funding to provide support for the environment health awareness-raising campaign. PADRU and the Panama Regional Delegation have provided constant technical support for the design, organization and implementation of the activities. PADRU continues to monitor the situation together with the National Society.

Floods in Chile (July –November: ongoing)

In early July, the south-central part of Chile was seriously affected by rains and gusty winds. According to the National Emergency Office (ONEMI) more than 95,000 people were affected by the floods, of which more than 24,000 were located in the southern region of Bío Bío which was declared "a disaster zone" by the nation's President. The floods caused landslides, uprooted trees, obstructed roads, collapsed bridges, damaged homes and interrupted drinking water supply in several communities.

The Chilean Red Cross (CRC) was appointed by the Chilean Government to be in charge of the distribution of relief items and the provision of health care to those affected, in coordination with the Chilean army. The CRC launched a national appeal since the onset of this emergency and received a large number of contributions, both financial and in-kind.

In order to support the Chilean Red Cross Plan of Action, CHF 130,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to distribute food parcels and hygiene kits to 2,000 affected families (approximately 10,000 beneficiaries) to support the mobilization of health teams. Part of the DREF allocation covered the costs of a chartered airplane which left the Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) headquarters containing the 2,000 hygiene kits and visibility material to be distributed by CRC on 18 July. The goods were transported by army trucks and were distributed to affected communities. Due to weather constraints, distributions took longer than expected but were successfully completed.

One Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member from Argentina - who was in PADRU finishing RIT logistics training - was deployed to the field. PADRU also deployed a Disaster Management delegate to the field to support the work of the National Society and to assess the situation with the CRC. More than 300 volunteers within the affected regions were mobilized, and 10 volunteers from other regions in the country specialized in education, health, shelters and damage assessment were deployed to the affected region in order to support and strengthen the response actions in the field.

Floods in Haiti (September -December: ongoing)

On the night of Saturday 26 August 2006, Tropical Storm Ernesto passed over Haiti's Southern coast. On the morning of Sunday, 27 August Ernesto became a category 1 hurricane as it started to leave Haitian territory. The very powerful rains that accompanied this system considerably affected Haiti since it was still recovering from bad weather and flooding caused by Tropical Storm Chris at the end of July 2006. The rains caused heavy damage in coastal areas of the regions of Sud and Grande Anse and lesser damage in Ouest, Nippes and Artibonite. Gusty winds and heavy rains - reaching 150 to 300 mm - hammered the peninsula and the department of Ouest, causing flooding in certain coastal villages of the south-west, the south, Nippes and Grande Anse.

According to the Haitian National Red Cross Society's (HNRCs) Disaster Management department, there were five deaths as a result of the storm, six homes were destroyed and 53 have suffered damages. Trees were uprooted, a bridge was destroyed by the flood waters and cattle were lost.

CHF 90,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs of this operation.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society has targeted 3,000 families who were directly or indirectly affected by the passage of Tropical Storm Ernesto on 26 and 27 August. Of these 3,000 families, 600 were provided with assistance in the form of non-food items such as a family kits, blankets, water purification tablets and mosquito nets, either in view of the damage they suffered or as a result of their limited resources for recovery. Regional National Society Branches are developing a plan of action regarding water and sanitation activities which will enable these 3,000 families to recover from the damages suffered.

Three National Intervention Team (NIT) trained volunteers and five volunteers from the local Red Cross Branch of Baint, participated in the distribution, supported by two Federation delegates from the Finance and Health department. An Information delegate was deployed from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit to the field in order to provide support to the operation by improving visibility and assisting with reporting.

Other situations monitored during the reporting period:

When Tropical Storm John (August) and Tropical Storm Lane (September) threatened Mexico, PADRU monitored the situations and was on stand-by for emergency response and support to the Mexican Red Cross.

PADRU and the Lima Regional Delegation continue to closely monitor the Galeras Volcano in Colombia since the recent eruptions in March and July, and are available to support to the Colombian Red Cross Society when necessary.

Impact:

The Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund has proved its efficacy and effectiveness in providing timely response and awareness-raising in medium or minor emergency response operations that would otherwise have

difficulty acquiring funding. Four National Societies in the region received support from the Federation for their emergency relief operations during the period, which translates into the provision of immediate relief to over 4,612 families (approximately 23,060 beneficiaries).

The Emergency Appeal launched to support 1,095 families (approximately 5,475 beneficiaries) affected by the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano as well as the ongoing emergency operation in Suriname confirmed - once more - the confidence of the public, donors, governments and private companies towards the Federation's activities in response and preparedness to natural disasters. PADRU has played a crucial role in enabling rapid response and effective coordination between local and regional resources and helped to build that credibility.

Eight National societies in the Americas received support from PADRU for their emergency relief operations during the reporting period. For four of these emergency operations DREF funding was allocated between June and October. In view of increased needs an International Emergency Appeal was launched for one operation to assist with emergency relief and strengthen capacities of National Societies and local Branches. These funding initiatives facilitated a fast and appropriate response to immediate needs in providing assistance to some 4,612 families (over 23,060 beneficiaries). This assistance had a direct impact on the beneficiaries in coping with their loss.

RIT deployments to emergency response operations have strengthened cross regional collaboration, facilitating sharing of best practice and promoting human resource development in National Societies.

Constraints:

Most funding received for disaster response activities remains activity-specific. Additional non-earmarked funds would provide PADRU with the necessary flexibility to ensure better preparedness and even more effective response in the face of disasters.

PADRU is still facing constraints concerning limited human resources for health in disaster emergency situations, particularly in the area of Water and Sanitation, which requires further development given the nature of disasters to which the Americas are prone. At present, there is only one local staff member within the Unit in Panama to coordinate all activities in the field of Water and Sanitation.

Given the Pan American Disaster Response Unit's role as a service unit for the Regional Delegations and all National Societies in the Americas, PADRU's goal, objectives and expected results regarding Disaster Management: Disaster Response and Disaster Preparedness for Response were formerly reflected in the logical frameworks pertaining to the regional plans for the Caribbean, Central America, Haiti and South America. For 2007 it has been decided to develop an independent logical framework for PADRU to reflect its specific mandate.

[Click here to access the logical framework for the 2007 plans for the Pan American Disaster Response Unit](#)

Planning 2007

The 2007 plans for Disaster Response will be finalized during planning exercises to take place in early 2007. These exercises will comprise assessments of the situation by PADRU staff in the first days of the year and will also take into consideration that a new structure within the Federation Secretariat is envisaged for next year. This paragraph therefore outlines the basic planning for 2007 and will be further specified in following reports.

PADRU's main orientation for 2007 is to increase the overall quality of Disaster Management by using, refining and improving existing tools such as RIT and DREF as well as Disaster Management techniques.

PADRU aims to increase the number of available RIT members for emergency operations by organizing at least two general RIT trainings. In order to maintain skilled human resources, at least two refresher courses will be held; in addition, a Water and Sanitation workshop will take place to enable RITs to respond quickly to the public health requirements of an emergency. In the same way, team leader skills among RIT members will be built by organizing a Team Leader training course in 2007. Various subjects aimed at improving the overall quality of disaster response will be incorporated into RIT trainings, such as information on the SPHERE standards, post-disaster psychosocial support, techniques relating to beneficiary involvement and so forth. Furthermore, PADRU will continue to

coordinate RIT internships based on requests received from National Societies to develop specific areas of expertise and to reinforce existing disaster management capacity and in order to provide National Societies personnel with more hands-on experience.

The overall amount of the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) will be increased for 2007, hereby stimulating the increased use of this effective and flexible technical response tool at global and regional levels.

In 2007 PADRU aims to explore the latest disaster response techniques and approaches for emergency operations - such as livelihood interventions, gender analysis, beneficiary participation and cash programmes with a view to achieving longer term, more sustainable impact.

To achieve further improvement of disaster response PADRU will explore the possibilities to increase the practice of beneficiary evaluations and inputs gathered during and after operations to assess the extent to which coordination procedures and guidelines have been respected and the level of beneficiary satisfaction with Red Cross assistance.

The SPHERE project which is aimed at improving the quality of assistance to people affected by a disaster, emphasizes the importance of the beneficiary involvement. Therefore, trainings in SPHERE standards will be organized in 2007 for Disaster Management delegates. As mentioned before, SPHERE methods will also be incorporated into RIT trainings.

The possibility of pre-positioning, deploying, financing and training regional Emergency Response Units (ERU) in the Americas will continue to be assessed. A team of ERUs is currently investigating the feasibility of this and will complete findings in 2007.

In summary, 2006 was marked by a scaling up of activities at various levels; therefore the emphasis in 2007 will be placed on continuing to improve existing tools and response mechanisms.

Disaster Preparedness for Response

Objective: At the request of the Panama and Lima Regional Delegations and the Port of Spain Sub-Regional Office, PADRU is contributing through technical support to the strengthening of the capacities of National Societies to reduce risk, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. Disaster preparedness for response mechanisms will be improved through systematic early warning, disaster monitoring and information sharing mechanisms.

Expected Result 1:

The National Society disaster preparedness and response plans are established according to vulnerability indicators, updated in line with the National Society strategic plan and national disaster plans, and the impact of their activities measured.

PADRU continues to support National Societies in the development of disaster preparedness and response plans. The process of developing a standardized Contingency Planning Guide for use of National Societies was initiated during the XVII Inter American Conference in Santiago, Chile (April 2003), when National Societies appointed the Federation to elaborate a guide for the design of response and contingency plans. Substantial effort has been made since then to develop these useful tools. The "Guide on Response and Contingency Plans", the "Guidelines for Emergency Assessments" and the "Well Prepared National Societies Questionnaire" have been disseminated to most of the National Societies throughout the Americas. A workshop on Emergency Assessment took place in Armenia, Colombia, in July 2006 and included an exercise with a specific community. A full set of training modules, ranging from a one-day introduction to emergency assessments to the full five day course with exercises is being produced and will be available at the beginning 2007. The dissemination and training process will continue in 2007 with sub-regional workshops.

The European Union – through the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) - has supported the International Federation in its aim to "strengthen disaster management capacity in the Caribbean region" through specific programme funding. Technical implementation and overall responsibility for the programme have

been entrusted to PADRU. This effort seeks primarily to build the capacity of the National Societies by strengthening the internal and external coordination mechanisms between the National Societies in the region and supporting Partner National Societies.

With ECHO Programmatic Funding, the Contingency Planning Guide has been produced especially for the National Societies in the Caribbean, based on material initially developed for Latin America, which has been updated and adapted to regional needs in close coordination with National Societies. This guide has been disseminated to all National Societies in the region, and has been complemented by relevant tools and training to facilitate implementation.

ECHO programmatic funding has not only enabled PADRU to improve training and coordination amongst National Societies but has also ensured the increase of relief stock and telecommunications equipment.

The reestablishment of the Caribbean Disaster Management Network as a focal group has been a key element in implementation of Federation-promoted Disaster Management systems and procedures.

Expected Result 2:

National Societies' response mechanisms are standardized and are in line with the Americas disaster response system.

As part of the International Federation's disaster response system, the network in the Americas groups together 35 National Societies and 16 Overseas Branches, PADRU, the Panama and Lima Regional Delegations, the Regional Finance Unit, the Regional Reporting Unit, the Sub-Regional Office in Port of Spain, and Partner National Societies. Through the disaster response system, the International Federation installs logistics systems, mobilizes international resources and organizes the preparations for disaster management and response. When a disaster occurs, the entire system is alerted. As a focal point for disaster response in the Americas, PADRU activates and coordinates the technical response tools at the global and regional level, such as RIT, Field Assessment and Coordination Teams (FACT), Emergency Response Units and DREF.

Improvement of the National Societies' communications in disaster response is continuously developing, and is made possible through collaboration with Ericsson Response. This initiative is supported through financial assistance and equipment provided by Ericsson Response. Local service providers have been contacted by National Societies to arrange agreements for air time.

As part of this programme National Societies have been supplied with mobile handsets which can be used in the event of a disaster response operation. In addition to the 150 cellular telephones that were distributed in the first months of the year to different National Societies, another 65 cellular phones have been distributed as follows: Salvadorean Red Cross Society (15), Honduran Red Cross (15), Nicaraguan Red Cross (15), Peruvian Red Cross (10), and Bolivian Red Cross (10).

From 22 to 27 October a meeting organized by the Centre of Reference for Disaster Preparedness in El Salvador and attended by a member of PADRU took place in El Salvador. The purpose of this meeting was to create a field guide for National Intervention Team members which provides basic and practical information and standardized procedures; this is intended to support NIT training in order to strengthen the response mechanisms of National Societies and standardize them within the Americas response system. This NIT field guide is now being developed and is expected to be finished and disseminated by the end of November 2006.

Protocols for National Society Team Deployment, for the use of specialized National Society intervention teams during regional deployments, are being developed. The Dominican Red Cross' water and sanitation teams and the Mexican Red Cross' relief teams have established protocols and mechanisms in relation to the provision of support to PADRU in future deployments of whole teams to respond to emergencies in the Americas. This initiative aims to further strengthen the response capacity of the region, through enhanced use of national resources.

Expected Result 3:

Skilled regional human resources are ready to respond in the event of disaster, according to Federation standard procedures.

A joint training exercise for over 400 emergency response volunteers from Central American National Societies took place in Panama in mid-June. PADRU provided communications back-up and logistics support to the Red Cross Society of Panama which hosted the event.

The overall goal remains to strengthen the disaster response capacity of the Federation system in the continent by developing leadership and coordination skills in the existing members of the national, regional and international response network. For this reason, one of the key focuses of PADRU since the beginning of the year has been to strengthen and scale-up RITs training and deployment. In line with this, selection procedures have been tightened and internships in PADRU for RIT members are taking place on a regular basis – with at least two members integrated into the Unit at any time.

Experience shows that National Societies are benefiting from the ever-increasing pool of skilled RIT and NIT members. Furthermore, the exchange of knowledge, experience and skills enabled by the RIT system is also strengthening regional cooperation and collaboration between National Societies. In addition, there is greater understanding of international standards, tools and operational requirements, which serves to strengthen and provide for more cohesive Federation operations as a whole.

During the reporting period emphasis has been placed on updating the existing RIT database. New procedures and policies for RIT alert activation have been developed in order to reach as many RIT members as possible at very short notice. The same alert system will be used as for the Field Assessment and Coordination Teams (FACT), alerted through different communications methods.

In order to explain and emphasize the importance of trained RIT members an article about RITs has been posted on the regional Federation website: www.cruzroja.org

RIT Training

In July a Logistics RIT workshop in Spanish organized by the Regional Logistic Unit (RLU) , took place in Panama for a total of twenty one participants from sixteen different National Societies from Central and South America. Participants were highly motivated and the workshop provided excellent results. The logistics capacity building process initiated with the Regional Logistics RIT workshop and helped reinforce and promote the Federation's standard logistics protocol with National Societies. Notwithstanding the added support that participants will bring to their respective National Societies, most of them are now being considered as additional RIT resources for Federation operations in the region.

Supporting National Societies through internships for RIT members

The RLU has a RIT from the Venezuelan Red Cross doing an internship in Logistics during October and November. This intern supports RLU activities and performs hands on tasks in the core logistics areas (i.e. warehousing, fleet, procurement and mobilization). Thanks to the support of the American Red Cross a RIT from the Mexican Red Cross is currently doing an internship in Disaster Management in PADRU, which will provide him with hands on training in basic Disaster Management areas such as coping with emergency operations and providing disaster preparedness workshops and trainings.

RIT Deployments

Since 1999, the Federation has focused on having more RIT trainings and deployments and has trained a total of 341 Regional Intervention Team members. The following table illustrates how many RIT members have been trained in each area.

<i>RIT GENERAL</i>	<i>RIT Refresher</i>	<i>RIT Water and Sanitation</i>	<i>RIT Logistics</i>	<i>RIT Public Health</i>	<i>RIT Telecom</i>	<i>Field Team Leader</i>	<i>FACT Team Leader</i>	<i>Other</i>
119	26	56	56	49	36	2	13	5

Between January and May 16 trained RIT members were deployed to 12 positions throughout the Americas. Between June and the end of October 2006, 11 RIT members were deployed to 9 different positions. As a result, between January and October 2006 there have been 27 RIT deployments in total.

RIT deployments between June and October 2006:

<i>Deployment / Date</i>	<i>Task</i>
Belize to Bahamas / June	Assistance in IT and Telecom
Panama to Mexico / July	Emergency response: floods from hurricane Stan
Argentina to Chile / July	Emergency response: floods
Colombia to Peru / July	Monitoring of emergencies and pending reports
Argentina to Ecuador / July	Emergency response: floods/volcanic eruption
Finland / August	3 RIT members attended TRIPLEX simulation
Panama to Mexico / September	Facilitated VCA workshop
El Salvador to Panama / October	Emergency response: floods
Venezuela to Panama / October	Logistics internship

Expected Result 4:

The Pan American logistics strategy is under implementation.

With its supply management system and Vehicle Rental Programme (VRP), the Regional Logistics Unit continues to support Federation and National Society activities in the region. The RLU has focused its activities during this reporting period on an intensive enhancement of its logistics capacities and service delivery funded by ECHO through the global Disaster Management and Coordination appeal.

The Federation's Global Response strategy has a target of stocking relief and shelter items for 25,000 families in the Americas region. During the reporting period, the RLU has concentrated on increasing its existing capacity to deliver relief goods to 25,000 families. The overall target has been met with the cash and in-kind collaboration of a number of Partner National Societies such as the American, British and Netherlands Red Cross Societies and ECHO. RLU expansion in terms of space, quantity and personnel to accommodate this target has concluded.

RLU plans to increase storage capacity through the use of Tropical Mobile Storage Units (TMSU) and canopies for VPR's vehicle park are still in progress. At least 62 percent of TMSUs are fully assembled and ready to use.

The concept of TMSU resulted from the need for additional secure, weatherproof warehousing to store emergency relief supplies. A second important contributing factor in the development of TMSU was the need for high security and low maintenance mobile storage units, adapted to the local tropical environment, which could be used to preposition emergency relief supplies in disaster-prone countries in the Americas.

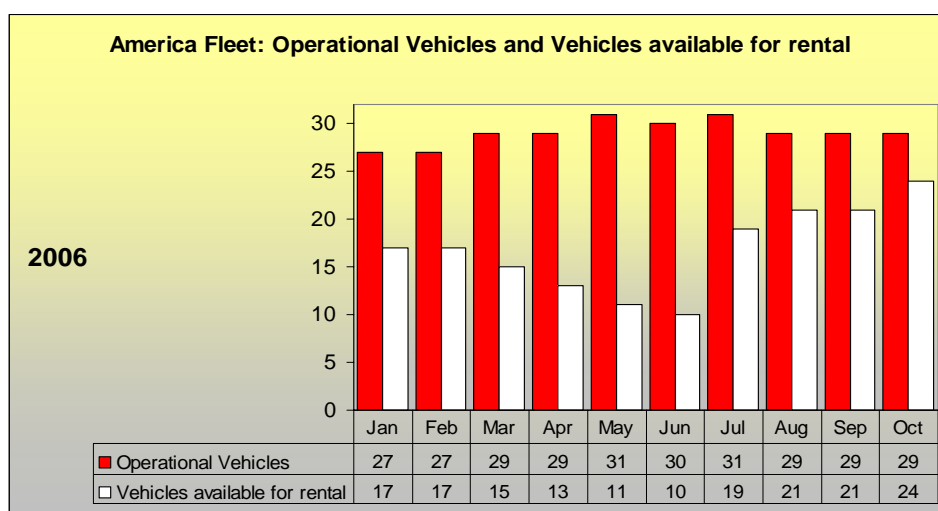
The training for National Societies in line with the Pan American Logistics Strategy in order to provide capacity building in the procurement, forwarding, maintenance and warehousing of emergency response stock began successfully in 2006. As mentioned above, a Logistics RIT workshop took place in July in Panama City, with a total of 21 participants from 16 National Societies in the region. A Procurement RIT workshop also took place in November in Panama City. In addition, the RLU continues to provide ad-hoc information and advice on specific logistics issues to National Societies upon request.

Two new procurement assistants have been recruited to strengthen the RLU. Together with an overall improvement of working strategies, this has led to more timely response in disasters. As mentioned before, the RLU is hosting a Logistics-RIT intern from the Venezuelan Red Cross during October and November, who currently supports RLU activities.

The Federation's VRP has now been decentralized and operates out of three regional centres: Dubai (Europe, Africa, MENA), Kuala Lumpur (Asia Pacific) and Panama (Americas). For the Americas, a new VRP Office has been established within the RLU, staffed by a Regional Fleet Coordinator since May, and a Fleet Assistant.

2006	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Operational Vehicles	27	27	29	29	31	30	31	29	29	29
Vehicles in transit to user						1				3
Vehicles available for rental	17	17	15	13	11	9	9	16	21	18
Back to stock for disposal				2		2	2	3	3	3
New Vehicles							10	5		3
Disposed Vehicles				-2				-4		
Vehicles Total	44	44	44	42	42	42	52	49	53	56

As shown in table above, the Federation's Vehicle Rental Programme for the Americas has increased its assets during the reporting period from 42 cars in June up to 56 vehicles in October.



7 new rental contracts were entered into between June and October 2006:

- 1 Toyota Prado for PADRU
- 1 Toyota Land Cruiser for the Spanish Red Cross/Haiti
- 2 Toyota Prado for the Federation's Haiti Country Delegation
- 1 Toyota Prado for the Federation's Lima Regional Delegation
- 2 Toyota Land Cruisers for the Panama Red Cross Society

Expected Result 5:

The Federation Secretariat closely collaborates with National Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Partner National Societies and regional and international disaster management agencies to identify available resources and reduce duplication of efforts.

UNDAC Training

A PADRU Disaster Management Delegate was selected to participate in the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) Americas training course, held in Panama on 28 May - 9 June 2006. The UNDAC team is a stand-by team of disaster management professionals who are nominated and funded by member governments, OCHA, UNDP, operational humanitarian UN agencies such as WFP, UNICEF and WHO, as well as international humanitarian organizations such as the Federation.

Upon request of a disaster-stricken country, the UNDAC team can be deployed within hours to carry out rapid assessment of priority needs and to support national authorities and the UN Resident Coordinator, to coordinate international relief on-site. The UNDAC team is responsible for providing first-hand information on the disaster situation and priority needs of the victims to the international community through OCHA. In this respect, the participation of PADRU Disaster Management delegates in this course reinforces existing coordination and collaboration between international humanitarian organizations, contributing to experience sharing and better and more efficient response activities.

Regional Humanitarian Workshop

The Humanitarian Reform is a process initiated in 2005 which aims to improve the predictability, timeliness, and effectiveness of humanitarian response. There are three mutually reinforcing elements to this reform programme: 1) ensuring predictable funding (Central Emergency Response Fund - CERF); 2) strengthening the Humanitarian Coordinator system; and 3) strengthening the overall humanitarian response capacity.

From 3 to 4 August, the Humanitarian Reform Support Unit (HRSU) in collaboration with the regional office for Latin America organized the first humanitarian reform workshop worldwide. PADRU staff and the Head of the Panama Regional Delegation attended the meeting together with other humanitarian actors such as OCHA personnel from different countries, members of the Risk, Emergency and Disaster Task Force (REDLAC) and Non-Governmental partners such as World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF and the UN. The first objective of the meeting was to review and identify operational challenges at all levels of the regional system with a new approach in response to disasters. The second objective of the meeting was to update the different humanitarian actors on the Humanitarian Reform.

Participants reached the conclusion that a cluster approach by grouping organizations and other stakeholders would enhance accountability, predictability, and effectiveness of humanitarian response during an emergency. This implies that one agency takes full responsibility for ensuring the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance for a given cluster, under the overall coordination and leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator. Cluster implementation would ensure partnerships and predictability of response, as well as better common planning, prioritization and accountability to one another, and to beneficiaries. The Federation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OCHA which states that the Red Cross is willing to take full responsibility for ensuring the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance for the Shelter cluster.

Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) Training Workshop

A PADRU Disaster Management Delegate represented the Federation during the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) Training Workshop, which was organized by WFP in Barbados on 21 - 25 August. The aim was to enhance the capacities of The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member States' National Emergency Preparedness Response (EPR) staff in designing, planning and implementing Emergency Food Security Assessments, and to create an opportunity for exchanging EFSA related concepts and methods between The CARICOM EPR entities and the WFP.

International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG)

INSARAG is a global network of more than 80 countries and disaster response organizations under the United Nations umbrella. INSARAG deals with Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) related issues. INSARAG aims at establishing standards for international USAR teams and methodology for international coordination in earthquake response. Members of INSARAG are both earthquake prone and responding countries and organizations. As each year, INSARAG organized a regional USAR simulation exercise and awareness raising course on 23 - 25 August. This yearly event provides a vehicle to introduce and practice disaster response coordination methodology as defined in the INSARAG Guidelines. This year it was hosted by Guatemala. A

PADRU Disaster Management Delegate attended the exercise, although the target audience are national disaster managers, the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team, the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) Support Modules as well as domestic disaster response teams and international USAR teams. This exercise has allowed PADRU and other international humanitarian organizations to practice and review their urban search and rescue methodologies in order to coordinate and improve international earthquake response.

TRIPLEX 2006

This year Finland hosted the TRIPLEX 2006 Exercise, which took place on 3 - 8 September. It was a coordination exercise based on the United Nations humanitarian response systems. It was organized by the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) in co-operation with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA).

TRIPLEX is a biannual exercise which was held in Norway in 2004, in Denmark in 2002 and in Sweden in 2000. This year's scenario was a category 5 hurricane in urban and port areas, with different elements such as pollution and security. Objectives of this initiative were to provide a civilian exercise for international humanitarian organizations and to train them for humanitarian operations, as well as to train and raise awareness on security issues at field level. One important goal was to improve inter-agency cooperation and understanding as well as to improve coordination among the UN, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, NGOs and other international actors. The Finnish Red Cross as well as a team consisting of five members (four from the Americas and one from Europe) of the Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) and Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT/RIT) participated in the exercise. TRIPLEX 2006 has improved overall inter-agency cooperation and coordination and has provided the opportunity to disseminate knowledge about the Federation, Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and its response system.

Water and Sanitation meeting

On 18 and 19 September 2006 a first meeting focused on Water and Sanitation took place at the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU). Participants were from PADRU, the Pan American Health Organization, UNICEF and Procter and Gamble. Special emphasis was placed on the importance of developing strategic alliances among key actors in Water and Sanitation emergency interventions. Appointments have been made to evaluate human resources, equipment and training of each agency and organization in the Americas. The possibility to share Federation Water and Sanitation equipment and Procter and Gamble training facilities at the different locations has been discussed. Procter and Gamble has offered their human resources management courses to all attendees, as well as information of suppliers of essential Water and Sanitation products at different locations in order to have them available in case of emergencies.

Besides fostering effectiveness and efficiency by identifying available resources, the meeting mainly focused on improving coordination between all actors, including National Societies, during Water and Sanitation operations.

Eastern Caribbean Donor Group for Disaster Mitigation (ECDGDM)

A PADRU Disaster Management Delegate attended a meeting in Barbados on 5 October. The meeting was called by the Eastern Caribbean Donor Group for Disaster Mitigation (ECDGDM) to discuss the proposal by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) as part of their Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) strategy for the Caribbean. This meeting was a precursor to CDERA's annual meeting scheduled for December 2006. During the Barbados meeting a sub-working group was formed to develop the concept of improved coordination in disaster response amongst governments, the UN and NGOs during disasters in the Caribbean region. As a result, the PADRU Disaster Management Delegate in attendance agreed to be part of this sub-group.

Expected Result 6:

National Societies are utilizing the Safer Access module and Restoring Family Links in natural disasters.

Activities under this section are being carried out by the Federation's Secretariat, in close association with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). PADRU involvement for the period has consequently been

limited to the procurement of two deployment-ready Family Links kits and financial support for the participation of a member from the Saint Lucia Red Cross in a Family Links Workshop which took place in Guyana.

Due to the end of the mission of PADRU's Telecommunications delegate, no further action has been taken regarding a pilot project of the Vestigo software programme – suited to facilitate Family Links – in the region.

Expected Result 7:

The activities of the Federation and National Societies are promoted during emergencies, starting with an effective monitoring system, giving visibility, promoting the network role and activities, and developing tools.

Emergency monitoring is ongoing through the internal alert system and seeks to support National Societies in times of disaster and to provide assistance in the posting of information on the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) intranet site. The National Societies in the region have posted a total of 66 alerts and updates during the reporting period, representing a significant increase.

A total of 25 Emergency Appeals, Operations Updates and Information and DREF Bulletins have been regularly published and made available to the public, donors, other humanitarian organizations and the media.

In order to provide up-to-date and valuable information during emergencies, PADRU hired an Information Delegate and a Reporting Delegate in order to ensure coverage for the hurricane season 2006. In order to continue PADRU's output of accurate and up-to-date information to the key target audience, a Reporting Officer was hired after the mission of the Reporting Delegate came to a close.

As part of the support given to the Red Cross Society of Panama, two PADRU information staff facilitated a two-day workshop for National Society communicators on communications issues. In addition, a session on the Code of Conduct and the SPHERE project were held during a health training workshop organized by the PRCS. Continuous support has been given to the updating of the Red Cross Society of Panama's website.

PADRU supported the X Inter-American Communications Forum with the organization of a meeting in Guatemala that took place on 21-25 August. All communicators from Latin America and Spanish speaking Caribbean National Societies participated in this meeting. PADRU's Information delegate and a RIT member presented a session on Disaster Management and Communications in Disasters.

A communications plan for the hurricane season 2006 was developed based on previous experiences during hurricane seasons. Key messages for the 2006 season as well as facts and figures for hurricane seasons 2004 and 2005 were produced, shared with all National Societies and posted on the regional websites. Special sections were created and continuously updated on the two regional websites: www.cuzroja.org and www.caribbeanredcross.org. A presentation of the hurricane season communications plan took place in July for the REDICOM (Red de Comunicadores y Difusores de Centro América) meeting.

During the reporting period a communications plan was designed to support two emergency operations: Panama Floods and Ecuador Volcanic Eruption. These plans have five main targets: the media, the Red Cross Movement, beneficiaries, local authorities and donors. The different channels of communication include national media and National Society and Federation regional and global websites. For the emergencies in Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Panama, four special sections have been created in the Federation regional website (www.cuzroja.org), press releases were drafted and distributed to regional and national media and support was given in communications and visibility issues to Federation staff deployed to the field. Several interviews were conducted by Red Cross staff in the field.

PADRU provided support to the Red Cross Society of Panama in a combined launch together with the International Risk Reduction Strategy, the National Civil Defense System (SINAPROC – Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil), UNICEF and the Ministry of Education to commemorate International Risk Reduction Day, within the campaign 'Risk reduction starts in schools'. National authorities, the media and other humanitarian organizations were present in the launch. The aim was to increase awareness on risk reduction and include risk reduction activities in the national curricula.

The two information staff from PADRU participated in two meetings with the REDLAC sub-group on information (Risk, Emergency, and Disasters Task Force of the Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean). A partnership for the systematization of information sharing through the information group was drafted.

A meeting with ECHO's information officer was held in Panama to discuss visibility issues in ECHO funded projects.

Expected Result 8:

A high frequency (HF) network for Central American National Societies is established and is operational.

PADRU is working on arrangements for finalizing the availability of a high frequency (HF) network for Central American National Societies, in view of the success of a similar network in the Caribbean. Although a high frequency network is available in Panama, needs in the remaining Central American countries still need to be addressed. A volunteer from the Red Cross Society of Panama is currently monitoring the installed network, which is based in PADRU. This will ensure that all National Societies in the Caribbean are utilizing the network according to the newly developed Protocol.

With Spanish Red Cross funding, PADRU was able to strengthen the Very High Frequency network (VHF) for the Red Cross Society of Belize. The Unit also assisted in the installation of a similar network for the Red Cross Society of Panama. This communications network has national coverage and connects more than 15 Branches.

As part of PADRU's IT and Telecommunications responsibilities, technical support has been offered during several emergency operations. Disaster Management Delegates and RIT members deployed to the field were provided with an IT and Telecommunications kit. Significant technical support was provided during the volcanic eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Ecuador, in Mexico for the IT and Telecommunications training for the National Society to strengthen the Mexican Red Cross and in Panama during different training activities resulting from the floods.

Due to the lack of a PADRU IT and Telecommunications delegate the proposed plans for an additional RIT training on IT and Telecommunications and a pilot scholarship programme with selected universities in Panama have been postponed.

Impact:

With the strengthening of disaster response capacity both regionally and within National Societies, and the increased standardization and widespread understanding of Federation response tools and mechanisms, it is clear that the Red Cross is better able to tailor its response to the size and nature of a disaster – making more effective use of the variety of resources at its disposition. This in turn leads to better overall coordination and increased collaboration within the Movement and with external partners. The more frequent deployment of RIT members throughout the Americas is a clear example of how local, regional and international Red Cross expertise is brought to bear in responding to disasters rapidly and efficiently. All this helps build National Societies' capacity, strengthens cross regional collaboration, facilitates sharing of best practices and promotes human resource development, particularly by ensuring that RIT members work closely with NIT members.

The PADRU-based RLU has enhanced its capacity and service delivery and has successfully increased its ability to meet the relief needs of 25,000 families through pre-positioned stock. It has also achieved optimal fleet stock levels and improvement of transportation and fleet management service delivery. Its response time during disasters has also improved.

Through PADRU's active participation in regional and international coordination meetings with several international agencies, useful information, best practices and available resources have been shared in order to reduce duplication of efforts and ensure effective operational inter-agency coordination during disasters. Therefore, internal and external planning and coordination mechanisms are established and utilized by PADRU in coordination with other international organizations.

Constraints:

Due to funding constraints, PADRU was not able to fully accomplish its goal to further strengthen the disaster response capacity of the Federation system in the Americas through the development of leadership, coordination and technical skills in the national, regional and international response network. The key focus to scale-up RIT trainings could not be fully accomplished and several planned workshops had to be postponed due to lack of funding.

In the same line, PADRU faced constraints in the development of several IT and Telecommunications activities due to limited human resources in that area since the mission of the IT and Telecommunications delegate came to a close in August.

Planning 2007

Planning for 2007 concerning Disaster Preparedness for Response will also be formulated after the planning exercises that will take place in early 2007. The following outlines the basic planning for 2007 and will be further specified in the reports issued in 2007.

The main focus for 2007 in Disaster Preparedness for Response will be on increasing the overall quality of disaster monitoring, information sharing and disaster preparedness mechanisms and on improving existing tools.

As mentioned before (see pag.11) a full set of training modules, ranging from one-day introduction to emergency assessment to the full five day course with exercises is being produced and will be available at the beginning of 2007. The dissemination and training process will continue in 2007 with sub-regional workshops – thereby ensuring training in standardized and improved methodologies and procedures for providing timely damage and needs assessments in times of disaster. Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) for Disaster Management and Logistics will be developed by PADRU in 2007 and shared with National Societies in the region.

PADRU will carry out mapping exercises related to National Societies' capacities in water and sanitation, telecommunications, logistics and also with regard to the availability of trained RITs through surveys and by field visits by PADRU staff. This will aid PADRU in meeting the appointments made during the Water and Sanitation meeting (see page 15) to evaluate human resources, equipment and training. These mapping exercises will also support PADRU's continuous aim to reinforce and improve the RIT human resources and equipment data base and develop methodologies and resources, including financial and equipment support.

Furthermore, PADRU will support Regional Delegations and National Societies in the implementation of their regional and national Contingency Response Plans. Now that the contingency planning guides have been developed and disseminated, PADRU will support National Societies on their request to implement the contingency plan according to their specific situation. This will ensure continuous use of the contingency planning by National Societies.

The initiative of deploying National Society teams in regional emergency operations aims to further strengthen the disaster response capacity of the region, through enhanced use of national resources. The Protocols for National Society Team Deployment, for the use of National Society intervention teams in regional deployments have been developed and are now being discussed and reviewed. A final report will be presented in 2007. These protocols and mechanisms will be adopted as standardized documents and will support PADRU in future deployments of teams in regional emergency operations.

The 2007 pre-hurricane meeting will be held with the participation of external partners and National Societies from the Americas and it aims at strengthening the Red Cross regional network prior to the onset of the 2007 season. A joint simulation exercise will be organized during this meeting to test disaster preparedness tools and operating procedures and provide participants with hands-on practice of concepts disseminated through RIT trainings. Regional meetings with UN agencies such as REDLAC, OCHA, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP and other international agencies will continue to be held on a monthly basis. PADRU will continuously participate in relevant inter-agency coordination meetings and joint simulation exercises. Furthermore, the Federation through PADRU will continue to

explore how to fulfil its role as “emergency shelter” coordinator and to take full responsibility for ensuring the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance for the Shelter cluster.

In summary, as 2006 was marked by a scale up at various levels, the emphasis in 2007 will be laid upon improving existing tools and response mechanisms.

Conclusions

PADRU has provided operational and logistics support to National Societies in response to five flood related emergencies and one related to a volcanic eruption. Besides coordinating and facilitating international disaster response in the region, PADRU has also contributed to strengthening the local and regional disaster response capacity of the National Societies through the frequent deployment of RIT members, providing the opportunity for RIT internships, disseminating guides, holding workshops and supporting IT and Telecommunications and communications. All this has fostered standardization and widespread understanding of Federation response tools and mechanisms. Furthermore, the PADRU-based Regional Logistics Unit continues to support Federation and National Society activities in the region through its supply management and Vehicle Rental Programme, which have been enhanced. In addition, PADRU has actively participated in regional and international meetings with several international agencies to reduce duplication of efforts and ensure effective operational inter-agency coordination during disasters

Unfortunately- due to lack of funding - PADRU had to face constraints concerning limited human resources for Health in Emergencies and IT and Telecommunications, as well as funding limitations for RITs workshops.

PADRU will continue to coordinate and facilitate the international disaster response of the Red Cross in Latin America and the Caribbean. When not responding to disasters, it will continue to contribute to the strengthening of local and regional disaster response capacity of National Societies while continuously increasing the overall quality of existing tools, mechanisms and procedures.

[Interim financial report and 2007 budget below;](#)
[click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA42001 - PAN AMERICAN DISASTER RESPONSE UNIT

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/10
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA42001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		4'394'333			383'858	4'778'190
B. Opening Balance		500'019			19'071	519'090
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross		444'645				444'645
British Red Cross		0			0	0
Canadian Red Cross Society					2'015	2'015
DFID Partnership		17'804				17'804
Ericsson		0				0
Icelandic Red Cross		9'898				9'898
Norwegian Red Cross		3'015				3'015
OXFAM		9'280				9'280
Spanish Red Cross		3'445				3'445
Swedish Red Cross		84'838				84'838
C1. Cash contributions		572'924			2'015	574'939
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
ECHO		2'350				2'350
Ericsson		-18'845				-18'845
Norwegian Red Cross		31'153				31'153
Spanish Red Cross		1'040				1'040
Swedish Red Cross		108'028				108'028
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		123'726				123'726
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
American Red Cross		0				0
British Red Cross		-23'498			23'498	0
Canadian Red Cross Society		27'228				27'228
DFID Partnership		17'462				17'462
Japanese Red Cross Society		25'288				25'288
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)		46'480			23'498	69'978
Inkind Personnel						
Canadian Red Cross Society					62'000	62'000
Norwegian Red Cross		71'507				71'507
Spanish Red Cross		113'853				113'853
C5. Inkind Personnel		185'360			62'000	247'360
Other Income						
Miscellaneous Income		839				839
Service Agreements		798			5'128	5'926
C6. Other Income		1'637			5'128	6'765
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		930'128			92'641	1'022'769
D. Total Funding = B + C		1'430'147			111'712	1'541'859

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		500'019			19'071	519'090
C. Income		930'128			92'641	1'022'769
E. Expenditure		-1'332'746			-181'380	-1'514'126
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		97'401			-69'668	27'733

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA42001 - PAN AMERICAN DISASTER RESPONSE UNIT

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/10
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA42001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance	
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation			
A							B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)		4'394'333					383'858	4'778'190	
Supplies									
Shelter - Relief			-7'140			7'140	0	0	
Clothing & textiles			4'642				4'642	-4'642	
Water & Sanitation			1'050				1'050	-1'050	
Teaching Materials			-102				-102	102	
Utensils & Tools			145				145	-145	
Other Supplies & Services	174'072		-14'512			15'208	696	173'376	
Total Supplies	174'072		-15'917			22'348	6'431	167'641	
Land, vehicles & equipment									
Land & Buildings			-3'924				-3'924	3'924	
Vehicles			13'133				13'133	-13'133	
Computers & Telecom	320'842		26'695				26'695	294'147	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment			-1'744			2'922	1'178	-1'178	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	320'842		34'160			2'922	37'082	283'760	
Transport & Storage									
Storage	115'635		13'017			864	13'881	101'754	
Distribution & Monitoring	26'400		1'671			1'709	3'380	23'020	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	20'898		29'102			1'348	30'450	-9'552	
Total Transport & Storage	162'933		43'790			3'921	47'710	115'223	
Personnel Expenditures									
Delegates Payroll	952'800		131'949			8'387	140'335	812'465	
Delegate Benefits	977'900		342'215			103'261	445'476	532'424	
Regionally Deployed Staff	229'865		28'982				28'982	200'883	
National Staff	59'530		53'153			12'355	65'507	-5'977	
National Society Staff	24'000		17'090			5'891	22'981	1'019	
Consultants	43'164		13'766				13'766	29'398	
Total Personnel Expenditures	2'287'259		587'154			129'894	717'048	1'570'211	
Workshops & Training									
Workshops & Training	875'797		433'754			72	433'826	441'971	
Total Workshops & Training	875'797		433'754			72	433'826	441'971	
General Expenditure									
Travel	195'755		13'226			514	13'740	182'015	
Information & Public Relation	222'004		36'614			4'305	40'919	181'085	
Office Costs	141'095		37'290			3'483	40'774	100'321	
Communications	11'113		59'729			6'169	65'897	-54'784	
Professional Fees	754		1'055			803	1'858	-1'104	
Financial Charges	1'219		10'275				10'275	-9'056	
Other General Expenses			3'371			670	4'040	-4'040	
Total General Expenditure	571'940		161'560			15'944	177'503	394'437	
Depreciation									
Depreciation	74'765		13'108				13'108	61'656	
Total Depreciation	74'765		13'108				13'108	61'656	
Program Support									
Program Support	310'582		85'845			11'528	97'373	213'209	
Total Program Support	310'582		85'845			11'528	97'373	213'209	
Operational Provisions									
Operational Provisions			-10'708			-5'248	-15'956	15'956	
Total Operational Provisions			-10'708			-5'248	-15'956	15'956	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	4'778'190		1'332'746			181'380	1'514'126	3'264'064	
VARIANCE (C - D)			3'061'586			202'478	3'264'064		

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.(s) selected: MAA42001

Delegation code(s) selected: 43

PROGRAMME:	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total CHF
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & First Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	87,036	0	0	0	0	87,036
SUPPLIES	0	87,036	0	0	0	0	87,036
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & Telecom	0	160,421	0	0	0	0	160,421
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	160,421	0	0	0	0	160,421
Storage	0	31,648	0	0	0	0	31,648
Distribution & Monitoring	0	13,200	0	0	0	0	13,200
Transport & Vehicles cost	0	3,960	0	0	0	0	3,960
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	0	48,808	0	0	0	0	48,808
International Staff	0	828,000	0	0	0	0	828,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	65,292	0	0	0	0	65,292
National staff	0	23,360	0	0	0	0	23,360
National Society Staff	0	12,000	0	0	0	0	12,000
Consultants	0	21,582	0	0	0	0	21,582
PERSONNEL	0	950,234	0	0	0	0	950,233
Workshops & Training	0	402,839	0	0	0	0	402,838
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	0	402,839	0	0	0	0	402,838
Travel & related expenses	0	91,500	0	0	0	0	91,500
Information & Public Rela	0	110,164	0	0	0	0	110,164
Office Running Costs	0	46,916	0	0	0	0	46,916
Communication Costs	0	2,400	0	0	0	0	2,400
Professional Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other General Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	0	250,980	0	0	0	0	250,980
Asset Depreciation	0	54,635	0	0	0	0	54,635
DEPRECIATION	0	54,635	0	0	0	0	54,635
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	0	135,906	0	0	0	0	135,905
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	0	135,906	0	0	0	0	135,905
TOTAL BUDGET:	0	2,090,860	0	0	0	0	2,090,859

PANAMA REGIONAL DELEGATION – Plans for 2007

PROGRAMME NAME: Disaster Response

AREA: Disaster Management, the Americas

PROJECT TYPE CODE:

Date of Elaboration: September 2006

Programme	Indicators	Sources of Verification	Risks/Assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>National Societies in the region are implementing efficient, responsive and focused programmes that contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable people</p>			
<p>Programme Objective:</p> <p>A well functioning Americas disaster response system is strengthened and providing support to National Societies in the provision of assistance to those affected by disasters.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Red Cross programmes and activities related to disaster preparedness for response carried out. 2. Efficient, accurate and timely humanitarian aid response to benefit the most vulnerable populations in the Americas during 2006-07. 3. Coordinated response with governmental and non-governmental agencies. 4. Standards, coordination mechanisms and operational procedures are developed and adopted by Red Cross National Societies and other organizations. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Disaster response and contingency plans. 1.2 Training courses agenda and list of participants. 1.3 Minutes of coordination meetings. 1.4 Mission and activity reports. 2.1 Written reports of damage and needs assessments. 2.2 Situation reports produced during the operations. 2.3 Written reports summarizing the regional and/or international response tools utilized during an operation. 3.1 Plan of Action document agreed to by all parties and implemented during the operation. 4.1. Agreements between participating organizations. 4.2. Coordination and operational procedures agreed to by participating parties. 	<p>Donor governments and National Societies continue to support the further development of Federation disaster preparedness and response in the Americas.</p> <p>The socio-political situation in the Americas does not hamper programme implementation.</p>

Expected Results	Indicators:	Sources of Verification	Activities:
<p>Expected Result 1:</p> <p>The America's disaster response system is effectively coordinated by PADRU in collaboration with the Panama and Lima Regional Delegations and the Port of Spain Sub Regional Office, and in coordination with Partner National Societies, the UN system and other relevant disaster response stakeholders.</p>	<p>1.1. Appropriate and timely activation of the different Federation tools.</p> <p>1.2. Implementation of contingency plans in multi-national disasters.</p> <p>1.3. Disaster response externally evaluated, recommendations followed up and information disseminated.</p> <p>1.4. No duplication of efforts and resources.</p>	<p>Written reports concerning the activation of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF), Regional Intervention Teams/Disaster Response Teams (RITs/RDRT), Field Assessment and Coordination Teams (FACT), and Emergency Response Units (ERUs), if applicable.</p> <p>Disaster Management Information System reports, Information/DREF Bulletins, Operations Updates.</p> <p>Minutes of operation coordination meetings during an emergency.</p> <p>External evaluations reports on operations.</p> <p>Contingency plans and reports (Avian Flu, El Niño).</p>	<p>Activities for Expected Result 1:</p> <p>1.1 Coordinate response team activities and tasks in support of the National Society network in the region. This will take the form of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, Regional Intervention/Disaster Response Teams, Field Assessment and Coordination Teams and Emergency Response Units.</p> <p>1.2 Ensure the correct equipment for RIT and PADRU staff members deployed to disaster response operations.</p> <p>1.3 Assess the feasibility of pre-positioning, deployment, financing and training of Regional ERUs.</p> <p>1.4 Support and promote the high frequency (HF) network for the Caribbean National Societies and the Red Cross Society of Panama established in 2006.</p> <p>1.5 Provide, in collaboration with Ericsson Response, IT and telecommunications equipment and training to the National Societies in the Americas Region (cellular, VESTIGO, GSM container, etc).</p> <p>1.6 Support the creation of water and sanitation and hygiene promotion sections within the Red Cross National Societies in the Americas Region.</p> <p>1.7 Implement existing procedures for gathering, sharing and developing innovative applications of disaster information management within the Red Cross Movement and also with</p>

			<p>external partners such as the UN, ECHO and specialized agencies, in coordination with the Regional Delegations and the Secretariat Headquarters.</p> <p>1.8 Systematically monitor, report on and evaluate disaster response operations.</p> <p>1.9 Provide coordination support to the Red Cross National Societies and with a view to mobilizing resources.</p> <p>1.10 In consultation with the Operations Support Department and Regional Delegations, ensure that Federation information systems, tools and response mechanisms available in the region are utilized in regional response operations.</p> <p>1.11 Promote and utilize the latest disaster response approaches including livelihoods, gender analysis, beneficiary participation, cash / voucher distribution, etc.</p> <p>1.12 Coordinate all logistics activities for the Federation in the Americas and provide support to Red Cross National Societies when needed.</p> <p>1.13 Carry out effective handover and design exit strategy for emergency operations, in coordination with the affected National Societies and Regional Delegations.</p>
<p>Expected Result 2:</p> <p>National Societies' response mechanisms are standardized and are in line with the</p>	<p>2.1 Number of National Societies that have adopted Standard Operating</p>	<p>Sources of Verification</p> <p>Regional Logistics mapping and database.</p>	<p>Activities for Expected Result 2:</p> <p>2.1 Conduct training in standardized and improved methodologies and</p>

<p>Americas disaster response system.</p>	<p>Procedures (SOPs) for the regional response system by end 2007.</p> <p>2.2 Number of National Societies that have identified their role and responsibilities within national disaster plans.</p> <p>2.3 Number of National Societies using the disaster response system and tools by end 2007.</p> <p>2.4 A data base including the logistics capacities of the National Societies in the America's region is established.</p> <p>2.5 Exercises carried out with partner agencies such as CAPRADE, CEPREDENAC, CDERA, OCHA, OFDA and UN Humanitarian Agencies to test and compare specialized teams, instruments and Red Cross disaster management mechanisms.</p> <p>2.6 A standard contingency planning guide has been elaborated and shared with the National Societies of America's region and harmonized with other partner organizations.</p> <p>2.7 Number of National Societies in the America's region which have implemented the contingency planning guide; have developed a contingency plan and ensured coherence with local governmental and non-governmental organizations.</p>	<p>Cooperation agreements between involved parties.</p> <p>Operational procedures agreed to by involved parties.</p> <p>Exercises and lessons learned reports</p> <p>Safer Access module and the document relating to restoring family links in natural disasters finalized and agreed to by all parties involved</p> <p>Final documents of the standard contingency planning guide.</p> <p>National Societies response / contingency plans.</p>	<p>procedures for providing timely damage and needs assessments in times of disaster.</p> <p>2.2 Develop and share Disaster Management and Logistics SOP with all National Societies in the region.</p> <p>2.3 Test and compare Federation's Disaster Response System with those of other agencies (TRIPLEX simulation etc.).</p> <p>2.4 Support Regional Delegations in the implementation of contingency planning guides.</p> <p>2.5 Strengthen and augment National Societies logistics' capacity through specialized training, logistics mapping and procurement pre-agreements supported and coordinated by PADRU and the RLU.</p> <p>2.6 Carry out mapping exercises related to National Society capacities in water and sanitation, telecommunications and logistics.</p>
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<p>Expected Result 3:</p> <p>Skilled regional human resources are ready to respond in the event of disaster, according to Federation standard procedures.</p>	<p>3.1 Standards and operational procedures are developed and adopted by the network of Red Cross National Societies for activation and deployment of RITs/RDRT members.</p> <p>3.2 Shared terminology and common curricula are established for national, regional and international disaster response training.</p> <p>3.3 Regional Intervention Team / Disaster Response Team (RITs/RDRT) trainings have been held in the America's region.</p> <p>3.4 Specialized RITs/RDRT members, as well as PADRU staff, take part in Federation advanced disaster management training such as FACT, ERU, team leader courses, and exchanges are held between Red Cross staff and members of partner agencies in relevant training exercises</p>	<p>Standards and operational procedures document for activation and deployment of RITs/RDRT members.</p> <p>Written report of activation of the Regional Intervention Teams/Disaster Response Teams (RITs/RDRT), if applicable</p> <p>Standard job descriptions format.</p> <p>All selected RITs/RDRT members have professionally prepared and clear mission instructions.</p> <p>Agenda of the global curricula for RITs / RDRT harmonized for the region with the network of Red Cross National Societies.</p> <p>Training lessons, trainers' notes and trainee support materials developed for RITs/RDRT trainings.</p> <p>Final reports on training courses.</p> <p>Participants' lists</p>	<p>3.1 Reinforce and improve the RITs human resource and equipment data base and develop methodologies and resources, including financial and equipment support, to ensure broader participation of RITs members in disaster management operations and activities, including participation in FACT teams.</p> <p>3.2 Organize regional human resource training (Regional Intervention Teams / Disaster Response Teams – RIT / RDRT) in coordination with the Regional Delegations and the FACT/RDRT Officer at the Secretariat Headquarters.</p> <p>3.3 Support training of National Society staff in specific technical skills such as logistics, telecommunications, reporting, finance, relief, shelter, information management, Public Health in Emergencies and water and sanitation.</p> <p>3.4 Support training of National Society staff in specific technical knowledge such as Humanitarian Reform, SPHERE standards</p> <p>3.5 In consultation with the Regional Delegations and National Societies identify National Society candidates to attend advanced disaster management, FACT, ERU, team leader and other partners' relevant training courses.</p> <p>3.6 Identify PADRU candidates to participate in advanced disaster management, FACT, ERU, team leader and other partners' relevant training courses.</p>
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			3.7 Facilitate internships and exchanges among National Societies and other organizations.
<p>Expected Result 4:</p> <p>Internal and external planning and coordination mechanisms are established and utilized by the Red Cross in coordination with other organizations present in the region.</p>	<p>4.1 Number of internal and external planning and coordination meeting held with active participation of National Societies and Federation Regional Delegations in conjunction with organizations such as CAPRADE, CEPREDENAC, CDERA, UN Humanitarian Agencies and other humanitarian networks such as REDLAC.</p> <p>4.2 Cooperation and/or mutual aid agreements are developed between the Federation and the National Societies in the Americas and other non RC organizations (UN –WFP, UNICEF-), NGOs, Regional DM Offices, Ericsson Response, etc).</p>	<p>Reports and minutes of the meetings.</p> <p>Final report of the pre-hurricane meeting.</p> <p>Final report from the meetings of the network of Red Cross Relief Directors.</p> <p>Agreements between involved parties, when applicable.</p> <p>Memoranda of understanding or service agreements and/or contracts signed by participating parties.</p> <p>Cooperation agreements between involved parties.</p>	<p>4.1 Strengthen and seek to develop new coordination mechanisms for networking in times of disaster between National Red Cross Societies, and their counterpart governmental and non-governmental systems as well with regional and international agencies in country.</p> <p>4.2 Maintain close links and technical coordination with the network of Red Cross National Societies, the ICRC, PNS and external agencies such as the UN, ECHO, DFID, CIDA and NGOs to ensure close coordination and the implementation of complementary activities in times of disaster.</p> <p>4.3 Participation of PADRU in regional and international meetings related to Disaster Response and Emergencies.</p> <p>4.4 Organize and facilitate an annual pre-hurricane meeting for National Societies.</p>