

Revised Plan 2011



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Country: Costa Rica

Country context

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)¹, Costa Rica is one of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean which stands out in relation to socio-economic indicators since it benefits from levels of equity and social cohesion which are above the regional average. In fact, Costa Rica has one of the highest levels of human development in Latin America and in 2009 it was ranked 54th in the UN Human Development Index. The total population of the country, according to data from the Central American Projections Centre (CPP) of the Costa Rica University (UCR)² is of 4,570,224 inhabitants, with a rate of population growth of 1.412 per cent. Life expectancy is of 79 years on average for both sexes: 76.6 years of age for men and 81.6 years of age for women. A statistic of particular relevance is the child mortality rate which has been maintained at levels under 10 per one thousand live births. The literacy rate in the country stood at 96 per cent in 2008 and poverty has been gradually decreasing over the last decade, from 20.3 per cent of the population living in poverty in 2002, to 16.4 per cent in 2008; extreme poverty or indigence has declined from 8.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent over the same period.

Nevertheless, this situation does not mean that Costa Rica is spared from a variety of social, economic, environmental, cultural and political problems.

Safety has become a very relevant issue for the country, and is stated to be the main problem at national level according to public opinion. A measurement carried out by the Latin American Public Opinion Project (Lapop)³ found that people's perception was that there was a significant increase in insecurity.

Furthermore, with respect to social violence, the rate of violent deaths (homicides, suicides, and all types of accidents) has shown significant increases in recent years. Programmes offering assistance in circumstances of domestic violence assistance which include health services have been growing steadily in recent years.

¹ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) www.undp.cr

² <http://www.ccp.ucr.ac.cr>

³ Inter American Development Bank 2009, Report on the results of the Lapop Survey

The favourable socio-economic context (in comparison with the other countries in the region), results in Costa Rica being a country which hosts many immigrants who are in search of improved lives. The percentage of immigrants arriving over the last five years has risen from 15.5 per cent to 18.2 per cent. The majority of immigrants are from Central American countries, in particular Nicaragua. On the other hand, over recent decades Costa Rica has become a refuge for thousands of Colombians who have left their country seeking personal and family stability.

Costa Rica is affected by meteorological phenomena such as hurricanes, storms, tornados, electrical storms and drought. Some of these phenomena result in long periods of heavy rainfall which are then the cause of other hazards such as landslides and subsidence. In addition, Costa Rica is located in a region which is seismically active and forms part of the Pacific ring of fire, with the Cocos secondary tectonic plate in the Pacific and the Caribbean secondary plate in the Caribbean region of the country. For this reason, this part of Costa Rica is vulnerable to intense volcanic and seismic activity. In recent years, Costa Rica has been particularly affected by floods together with an earthquake in 2009 which hit the region of Vara Blanca-Cariblanco, 35 km from the capital city of San José in early January

The most serious health issues in Costa Rica are related to vector-borne diseases including dengue which with major outbreaks in 1994, 1997, 2003 and 2005 and malaria, together with HIV and AIDS and other sexually-transmissible diseases, acute respiratory infections, as well as cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes.

To date, the Health Surveillance System has confirmed 2,678 cases of Influenza A(H1N1) resulting in an overall rate of 60.16 per 10,000 inhabitants with those under 30 being the most affected.

The total 2011 budget is 571,466 Swiss francs (Click here to go directly to the attached summary budget of the plan).

National Society's priorities and current work with partners

The Costa Rican Red Cross's priorities for 2010–2011 are as follows:

NATIONAL SOCIETY PRIORITIES	STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP)	IFRC STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK
OD, Voluntarism, Governance and Management:	OD, Voluntarism, Governance and Management:	S2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen capacity in accountability. 2. Support implementation of strategic development plan (SDP): SDP 2008–2012 is revised in line with S2020. 3. Voluntarism: promotion of volunteer policy and volunteer management guide; Internships and social micro-projects. 	<p>The Costa Rican Red Cross is recognized as a credible and trustworthy institution. (R 5.4.1.)</p> <p>The Costa Rican Red Cross benefits from a strong organizational structure to enable proper implementation of its SDP 2008–2012 (R 5.1.1.)</p> <p>Strengthen volunteer management system with a view to maximizing the National Society's impact. (Operational Obj. 6.2)</p>	<p>Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises.</p>
Humanitarian Principles and Values	Humanitarian Principles and Values	S2020
Reorganize the functioning of the Humanitarian Principles and Values sector.	<p>Institutional and Movement-wide principles and objectives are known and applied.</p> <p>General population is informed and awareness is raised through promotion of greater respect for diversity and human dignity, with the aim of reducing intolerance, discrimination, violence</p>	<p>Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and</p>

	and social exclusion.	social exclusion.
Disasters	Disasters	S2020
Strengthen institutional capacities to respond to emergencies and disasters by trainings at the national, regional and local levels. Communities and branches are strengthened to respond and recover quicker from disasters, identifying measures and actions to implement to reduce risk and before the immediate affect of a disaster. In addition to mobilizing resources and existing capacities. The National Society will build strategic alliances with NGOs, other organizations and stakeholders ensure the sustainability of risk reduction activities.	The Costa Rican Red Cross has an up-dated National Disaster Plan, integrated and implemented in all areas of Relief and Operations (R 1.1.1.) Strengthen local, regional and national response capacity in emergencies and search and rescue, according to community-based needs for humanitarian assistance. (Op. Obj. 1.3) Strengthen institutional capacity in community-based disaster prevention and preparedness with a view to reducing risks associated with disasters and emergencies. (Op. Obj. 2.1.) Contribute to community-level organization for risk reduction in emergency and disaster situations. (Op. Obj. 2.3).	Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises.
Health in the Community	Health in the Community	S2020
Establish the health and care in the community sector, in line with Movement standards and Strategy 2020, within the Costa Rican public health framework as per the National Society's role as an auxiliary to government, and integrated with the Global Alliance to ensure sustainability. Strengthen National Society health structures, through community-based health management, with a view to improving quality of life, and disaster and emergency response.	Carry out community-based health and development projects, with a view to improving the quality of life of the most vulnerable. (Op. Obj. 3.2.). Promote personal development as a tool for the prevention of addiction and psychosocial problems. (Op. Obj. 3.5.)	Promote healthy and safe lives.

The Costa Rican Red Cross is involved in coordination and technical support with the following:

- Public Education Ministry: Support to education programmes and prevention of violence.
- Public Health Ministry: Coordination of health programmes, awareness-raising campaigns and emergency response.
- Costa Rican Social Security (CCSS)
- National Disaster Response Agency
- National Emergencies Commission (C.N.E)
- National Training Institute (INA)
- Costa Rican HIV Network (REDCOR)
- Association of People with HIV/AIDS (ASOVIHSIDA)
- International community of women living with HIV-AIDS (ICW)
- Demographic Association of Costa Rica (ADC)
- Centre for the Promotion and Investigation of Human Rights in Central America (CIPAC)
- UNAIDS
- Lutheran Church
- Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development (AECID)
- Office for Disaster Assistance of the US Agency for International Development (USAID/OFDA)
-

Programmatic area	Sector	Movement Partners
Health and care	HIV and AIDS	IFRC
	Water and Sanitation	Finnish Red Cross
Government, development	Institutional Capacity Building	German Red Cross, American

and volunteering		Red Cross
	Governance and volunteer management	IFRC
Humanitarian principles and values	Violence prevention	Spanish Red Cross
	Support the development of the Humanitarian Principles and Values programme	ICRC
Disaster Risk Management	Disaster Risk Reduction	IFRC
	Climate change	The Netherlands Red Cross

Secretariat supported programmes in 2011

The Costa Rican Red Cross (CRRC) is focusing its activities on building capacity to ensure an effective response to emergencies and disasters, and is committed to maintaining its leadership position in disaster risk management by involving communities in their own development by providing them with the necessary tools to encourage self-sufficiency, and enhance their preparedness to better protect their lives and livelihoods. The National Society also intends to focus on health and care in the community, working in the areas of disease prevention and psychosocial support. Furthermore, the CRRC is committed to redoubling its efforts in promoting the Fundamental Principles, and Humanitarian Principles and Values of the Movement, with a view to reducing discrimination and social exclusion.

Disaster Management:

The National Society aims to build its capacity in disaster and emergency response, whilst simultaneously reducing vulnerabilities through community-based disaster risk management programmes. The priority is therefore to train human resources in both of these areas.

Another aim is to up-date the CRRC's National Disaster Preparedness Plan, with a view to implementation at all levels of response within the National Society, and addressing the specific vulnerabilities of the country.

In terms of risk management, the National Society will strengthen its capacity through the training of trainers working directly with communities, aiming to strengthen organization at community-level for reducing the risk of disasters and emergencies by providing the population with the necessary tools to encourage self-sufficiency and enhance their preparedness to better protect lives and livelihoods. This will be accomplished through the use of a variety of methodologies, including Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA), Prepared Families, Protected School, and similar training modules available from the Centre of Reference for Community Based Education in Disaster Preparedness.

Humanitarian Principles and Values:

Expected results stem from the urgent need to reorganize the Dissemination Sector within the Costa Rican Red Cross, with a view to promoting Humanitarian Principles and Values and the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, both internally and externally.

Once the 'Ethics, Principles and Values' sector (as it is proposed to be named), has been reorganized and is appropriately staffed, the National Society will be in a position to promote an organizational culture based on the principles and objectives of the Movement, and in line with its own mission. At the same time, this will enable it to reach the objectives set out in its strategic development plan 2008–2012 to

inform and raise public awareness of respect for diversity and human dignity, whilst striving to reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

Health and Care in the Community:

The National Society envisages two essential components for its work in health and care in the community, namely: establishing this sector within the National Society, as well as strengthening health structures at local, regional and national levels to better respond to emergencies and disasters.

The National Society intends to intensify its on-going efforts in the areas of emergent, recurrent and transmissible diseases; it will also work in close coordination with other organizations involved in HIV and AIDS, and will undertake activities through its branch committees to integrate communities in the processes of education and prevention.

A number of communities (and in particular the most vulnerable) remain stymied in their development, thereby accentuating their vulnerability as a result of on-going socioeconomic disadvantages and the after-effects of disasters and emergencies, amongst other problems.

The Costa Rican Red Cross is taking on new challenges to address this situation, through a closely planned approach of community-based projects to improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable, by providing them with the necessary and most effective tools to this end.

Governance and Volunteer Management:

The National Society aims to be well prepared through strengthening its capacities in the areas of accountability, planning, monitoring, evaluation, financial management and reporting, at all levels. To achieve this, it is currently setting up an information management system called 'Exactus', which will ensure the integration and convergence of computing, telecommunications and technology for data processing purposes.

The project will be carried out in three stages, of which the first is currently being implemented, focusing on three areas: accounting, human resource management and procurement. The remaining two stages will be implemented in 2011, to cover 14 units at headquarters level, as well as 120 branch committees and 9 regional headquarters.

Furthermore, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent will continue to support activities based on the National Society's Strategic Development Plan 2008–2012, bringing it in line with *Strategy 2020*. In addition, support will be provided to volunteer management, through the promotion of the CRRC's volunteer policy and guide, involving the Youth Directorate in internships and the development of micro-projects.

Disaster Management

a) Purpose and programme components

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impacts of disasters.

The disaster management programme budget is 173,595 Swiss francs.

Programme component 1: Organizational Preparedness
Component outcome 1: The secretariat supports the Costa Rican Red Cross in developing

skilled human resources, and improving its financial and material capacity for effective disaster management, supported by the REDCAMP-DESASTRES network.

The National Society aims firstly to strengthen its capacity in disaster management by approving and disseminating its National Disaster Preparedness Plan to all areas within the National Relief and Operations Directorate. In addition, the CRRC will train its staff with diverse specialties to provide quality services in emergencies and disaster. The GRC seeks to have trained staff that commit to knowledge-sharing in favour of the population they assist and provide support in the development of local and regional contingency plans.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- In the first quarter of 2011 the National Emergencies and Disasters plan will be printed and disseminated throughout the National Society
- In the second quarter of 2011 the CRRC will hold courses on training, specialization and refresher on National Intervention Team (NIT)
- During the third quarter of 2011 a course will be given on training and specialization in the management of an emergency operation centre and guidelines
- During the second trimester of 2011 a local plan will be developed for transborder emergencies and disasters

Programme component 2: Building safer and resilient communities

Component outcome 1: Communities and branches are better prepared, more organized to respond/recover from the effects of disasters, recognizing potential risk reduction measures and actions to be taken to mobilize resources and existing capacities

The Costa Rican Red Cross will develop strategies aimed at strengthening institutional capacity to work at community level in disaster risk reduction. This will involve firstly, training of staff, followed by programme development aimed at strengthening local capacities by fostering a culture of vulnerability reduction. In addition, CRRC will strengthen the communities and branches so they are able to quickly and efficiently respond and recover from disasters, identifying measures and actions to implement risk reduction before the immediate effects of disasters, mobilizing resources and existing capacities that have been results of assessments that have been carried out in vulnerable communities.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- In the first quarter of 2011 a national workshop will be carried out “Learning by Doing” for CRRC community leaders and volunteers
- Between the second and third quarter of 2011, risk reduction VACs will be carried out in five communities
- Between the second and third quarter of 2011, community organization for risk reduction will be established in five communities
- Between the second and third quarter of 2011, community planning for risk reduction will be developed in five communities
- In the second quarter of 2011, a VAC risk reduction community assessment will be carried out in a community located on the boarder

Programme component 3: Coordination

Component outcome 1: The Costa Rican Red Cross has strategic alliances with NGOs and other

organizations in order ensure the sustainability of risk reduction activities

The National Society will build strategic alliances with NGOs, other organizations and stakeholders ensure the sustainability of risk reduction activities, strengthening the National Societies relations with the community.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- By the third quarter of 2011 active participation will promote the National Society at the local, regional or national level in meeting to look for strategic alliances
- By the fourth quarter of 2011 the CRRC will support the participation of national activities organized by key members

b) Potential risks and challenges

- Increased number of emergencies and disasters in the country, which may prevent implementation of the proposed actions.
- Lack of support from strategic partners.

Health and Care

a) Purpose and programme components

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

The health and care programme budget is 36,269 Swiss francs.

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

Component outcome 1: The Costa Rican Red Cross, supported by the secretariat, reduces vulnerability to HIV and its impact through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination.

With IFRC support the National Society will strengthen its capacity to better work with communities for health and safer living. This will involve establishing a community-based health sector, focusing on the most vulnerable, and working within the public health sector in Costa Rica, based on Movement standards and *Strategy 2020*, and integrated with the IFRC's Global Alliance on HIV to ensure sustainability.

It is important to underline that the National Society will continue to develop preventive health services with regards to HIV and AIDS, including inter-institutional coordination with other actors involved in the area, and in full accordance with Costa Rican Ministry of Public Health, the Movement and institutional policy guidelines

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- During the first quarter of 2011 the National Council approves the proposed framework for the Community Health Sector, and a National Sector/Unit Coordinator is named.

- A study is carried out during the second quarter of 2011, to identify the most vulnerable sectors of the country where the CRRC could have an impact, along with principal sources of funding to support community health interventions in these areas.
- Once the establishment of the Community Health Unit is approved, an HIV and AIDS programme is developed and implemented, with technical support and in line with the Global Alliance on HIV framework and standards.
- An information strategy is developed, targeting 30,000 people over the course of the year, to raise awareness on preventive measures and non-discrimination related to HIV and AIDS.
- It is expected that external medical staff possess adequate information regarding HIV and AIDS.

Programme component 2: Public Health in Emergencies

Component outcome 1: The Costa Rican Red Cross (CRRC), supported by the secretariat, improves its capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from epidemics/pandemics and disasters, and ensures access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene services to vulnerable populations.

One of the National Society's priorities is training its health staff to better support humanitarian response operations following disasters and emergencies, including providing psychosocial support to both staff and volunteers, as well as to the people in the affected communities.

The focus of IFRC support in 2011 will be on technical and operational support to emergency operations, coordination and representation with external partners, capacity building efforts with the national society and their regional health and disaster networks.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- During the first quarter of 2011, update, review and define standard operational procedures (SOPs) for emergencies and disasters in accordance with Movement strategies and policies, *Strategy 2020*, and the disaster context specific to Costa Rica.
- Over the course of 2011, improve coordination and inter-institutional communication with regard to public health to ensure better access and services to the most vulnerable communities, as set out in *Strategy 2020*.
- At least 80 per cent of the people who have been affected psychologically have received psychosocial support in emergencies and disasters, this in line with *Strategy 2020* emergency intervention protocols
- Between the third and fourth quarter of 2011, at least 150 Red Cross volunteers have received training in psychological first aid

Programme Component 3: Community Health

Component outcome 1: Develop at least two community projects in the area of physical and mental health, in line with the Guayaquil commitments and *Strategy 2020* of the IFRC.

With the support from the IFRC, in 2011 the CRRC foresees community work with an integral and planned focus using the IFRC's new Community based health and first aid methodology. Implementing community projects in line with the Guayaquil Commitments and *Strategy 2020* will contribute to bettering the quality of life of vulnerable people by providing them with the necessary tools for their organization and development. In addition, activities will be carried out to prevent emerging, re-emerging and transmittable diseases in coordination with local health authorities and assuring that branches have the optimum resources to operate and carry out their job.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- Carry out two field visits to identify at least two communities in the most vulnerable areas in the country
- Carry out an assessment in each of the two communities that have been identified for CBHFA pilot projects
- Develop at least two community development projects in line with the Guayaquil commitments and Strategy 2020 that are based on the findings of the assessment, in order to monitor and strengthen local capacities.

b) Potential risks and challenges

- Outbreak of a health-related emergency, such as A(H1N1) flu or dengue, which would take up most human resources and thereby prevent implementation of the project.
- Lack of donor support

Organizational Development / Capacity Building

a) Purpose and programme components

Programme purpose
Increase the skills of local communities, civil society, and Red Cross to face the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

The organizational and development/ skill strengthening programme budget is 352,262 Swiss francs.

Programme component 1: National Society leadership and management development
Component outcome 1: Support National Society governance and management to strengthen the ability to effectively lead the organization and its service delivery: leadership abilities increased through development of governance, establishment of sustainable organization, innovation and through effective coordination and collaboration within the IFRC and with other partners.

The National Society aims to increase its credibility vis-a-vis the general population, the Movement as a whole and within the institution itself, by establishing a comprehensive information management system which will promote accountability, planning, monitoring, evaluation, financial management and reporting at all levels, in line with the Guayaquil commitments, *Strategy 2020* and national regulations.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- By the fourth quarter of 2011, the National Society has implemented the first stage of 'Exactus'.
- During the first half of 2011, the Costa Rican Red Cross will undertake the second and third stages of the Exactus Project, this will consist of a study to analyze the process of each CRRC department.
- During the second half of 2011, an integrated information system is set up, and the process of implementation in 14 units is approved.

Programme component 2: Strong and sustainable organization provides effective services to the vulnerable nationwide.

Component outcome 1: Provide technical support to National Society in their organizational development processes through effective coordination within the IFRC, access to resources to better manage, strategic planning and change management, and update legal base towards enhancing the integrity through transparent legal and accounting mechanisms.

The Costa Rican Red Cross has been implementing a process of phased planning for over two decades in order to strengthen its organizational structure and achieve greater unity. The National Society firmly believes that planning is a key component in ensuring its proper functioning and therefore actively promotes participation of the various structures in planning at all levels – since to be effective, planning must be participative.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- During 2011, the IFRC will support CRRC in the dissemination of *Strategy 2020* and align the goals of its Annual Operational Plan 2012 accordingly.

Programme component 3: Mobilizing and maintaining volunteer networks.

Component outcome 1: Support National Societies in their volunteering development and management efforts through effective coordination within the Federation and, in promoting an enabling environment for voluntarism in their national contexts.

The National Society fosters volunteer participation by opening up spaces for analysis and discussion to improve decision-making and institutional policy formulation, whilst also encouraging opportunities for different types of voluntarism which contribute to meeting the overall institutional mission.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- The National Society with IFRC support will develop a process to disseminate its Volunteer Policy.
- Support will be received for the implementation of social micro-projects aimed at strengthening the capacities of the most vulnerable communities.
- Similarly, in coordination with the IFRC, the National Society will participate in internships with a view to strengthening its own capacity as well as that of other Societies.

b) Potential risks and challenges

- Lack of financial resources on the part of donors for strengthening the capacity of the CRRC.
- Emergencies or disasters interrupt the planned activities.

Principles and Values

a) Purpose and programme components

Programme purpose

Promote respect for diversity and preservation of human dignity, reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

The principles and values programme budget is 9,340 Swiss francs.

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Component outcome 1: The Costa Rican Red Cross will have enhanced internal understanding of the Fundamental Principles, by carrying out a systematic programme to promote HPV and integrate this into National Society operational programmes (disaster management and health and care), with support from the IFRC.

The Costa Rican Red Cross wishes to participate in building a more tolerant society, which values solidarity and respect for human dignity, by striving for diversity and a reduction in intolerance, violence and social exclusion through the promotion and dissemination of the Ethics, Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

The National Society proposes to reorganize its Ethics, Principles and Values sector, and train staff so as to achieve the stated objective.

The following indicators will measure the achievement of the component outcome for 2011:

- During the 3rd quarter of 2011, the National Society will proceed with recruiting the Director of Ethics, Principles and Values of the CRRC. In addition, during this period, technical support will be received from the IFRC to update the curricula in this sector.
- The CRRC intends to train 11 disseminators, who will be responsible for promoting the humanitarian Ethics, Principles and Values, both within the organization and externally.
- With technical support from the IFRC, the National Society will adopt at least one project related to each of the themes being disseminated by ethics, principles and values, including migration, violence, promoting a culture of peace, and fighting social exclusion, amongst others.
- The CRRC receives technical assistance for the production of a radio broadcast, to be used as a tool in disseminating the institutional ethics and the humanitarian principles and values of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

b) Potential risks and challenges

- Lack of financial resources for developing activities and projects in the area of humanitarian principles and values.
- Emergencies and disasters in the country, which impede the implementation of stated activities.
- On-going socio-economic crisis.
- Lack of funding from donors for project development.

Role of the Secretariat

The IFRC will support the Costa Rican Red Cross in meeting the planned objectives set out in each sector for addressing its established priorities, whether through financial resource management for project and programme development, or through the provision of technical support, as required.

a) Technical programme support

The secretariat will provide technical advice to the National Society regarding the various activities it intends to undertake in each sector or programme area, in line with established priorities.

Support will also be provided by the National Society Regional Centre of Reference, in terms of human resource training, as well as for the implementation and systematization of projects.

Work will be carried out in close coordination with the various regional networks linked to the different programmes, with a view to providing information exchange, technical support, internships and financial support for the development of community-based projects or capacity building activities.

The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) will continue to provide technical and financial support to disaster response or emergency operations.

b) Partnership Development and Coordination

The Costa Rican Red Cross will enter into partnerships and cooperation agreements with organizations working for the benefit of communities, to develop projects in each sector, with the secretariat acting as adviser and counsellor, whilst at the same time setting new standards for strengthening the National Society.

At present, cooperation agreements exist with the National Training Institute (Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje (INA) for training of human resources; similarly, close coordination is maintained with organizations involved in HIV and AIDS projects, such as REDCOR, ASOVIIH-SIDA and UNAIDS amongst other.

The CRRC also maintains a direct relationship with the Ministry of Public Education for the implementation of educational programmes and projects, in coordination with schools and teachers in various localities throughout the country.

c) Representation and Advocacy

Given the Costa Rican Red Cross' role as an organization working for humanity, and above all for the most vulnerable sectors of the country, the National Society has been able to position itself in a leadership role, and has acquired credibility vis-a-vis the general population. This has enabled the CRRC to enter into strategic alliances aimed at facilitating the implementation of its programmes and projects, thereby providing an opportunity for disadvantaged groups to participate actively in the development of their own communities

At the same time, the National Society intends to develop a communications strategy to raise popular awareness of its work, and in this regard, will continue its partnerships with various media in the country. The dissemination of humanitarian values and principles – both internally and externally – is seen as fundamental by the CRRC, and it will therefore use a range of social communications media and institutional tools in this regard (email, internet, web, radio, press, TV, amongst other).

Communication and coordination with the central government and local authorities will be essential for ensuring the on-going development of the CRRC's institutional mission, and the National Society will therefore undertake activities to raise awareness and generate support for the on-going development of programmes and activities to benefit the most vulnerable communities

Quality, accountability and learning

The Costa Rican Red Cross will carry out two types of evaluations each year: one, to monitor and evaluate the Annual Operational Plan by sector, to be carried out on a quarterly basis, by way of nine regional workshops and one at headquarters level; the other, on an annual basis, to determine the degree of compliance with the strategic development plan, and involving the various organizational structures in establishing their respective level of compliance with the stated objectives. A report will be produced in both instances, with results of the evaluations communicated internally to all sectors within the National Society, as well as externally to the Comptroller General of the Republic and communities throughout the country.

To reinforce the National Society's evaluation mechanisms, the secretariat will provide technical support aimed at assessing capacity in the areas of governance and management, voluntarism, humanitarian programming, resource mobilization and branch development.

To ensure transparency and accountability, a systematic and planned approach is to be taken whereby outcomes from each sector will be integrated, to achieve an overview which combines accounting data, progress towards goals and actual budgetary status.

How we work	
<p>The IFRC's vision is to:</p> <p>Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.</p>	<p>The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises. 2. Enable healthy and safe living. 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Costa Rican Red Cross: Esmeralda Moreno, Planning Director; email: esmeralda.moreno@cruzroja.or.cr; phone: + 506 2528 0060; fax:+506 2528 0061 • In the Regional Representation for the Central America and Mexico in Costa Rica: Fabricio Lopez, Regional Representative; email: fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org; phone: + 506 2528 0211; fax: 506 2226-6634 • In the Americas Zone Office in Panama: phone: + 507 317 3050; and fax: + 507 317 1304 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan Gelfand; Head of Operations; email: jan.gelfand@ifrc.org - Zuleyka Maynard; Resource Mobilization Officer; email: zuleyka.maynard@ifrc.org 	

MAACR001 - Costa Rica

Budget 2011

Budget 2011

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	Total
Supplies						
Land, vehicles & equipment						
Transport & Storage						
Personnel	7,000	11,200	288,972			307.172
Workshops & Training	116,000	19,855	11,702	8,770		156.327
General Expenditure	40,000	3,000	30,089			73.089
Depreciation						
Contributions & Transfers						
Programme Support Services Contingency	10,595	2,214	21,500	570		34.878
Total Budget 2011	173,595	36,269	352,262	9,340		571,466