

FINAL REPORT



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

CARIBBEAN: HURRICANES DENNIS & EMILY

3 February 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.

In Brief

Appeal No. 05EA014; Final Report; Period covered: 15 July to 15 October 2005; Final appeal coverage: 75.2%.

[Click here to go to the Final Financial Report](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 15 July 2005 for CHF 758,000 (USD 587,505 or EUR 486,390) for 3 months to assist 29,000 beneficiaries (5,800 families).
- Total funding sought for the operation increased to CHF 852,612.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 250,000.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Caribbean Annual Appeal 05AA041; Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) Annual Appeal 05AA040

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>

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Grenada: Terry Charles, Director General, Grenada Red Cross Society; email crecs@caribsurf.com, phone (1 473) 440-1483, fax (1 473) 440-1829
- In Haiti: Dr. Michaèle Amédée Gédéon, President, Haitian National Red Cross Society; email croroha@haitiworld.com, phone (509) 510-9813, fax (509) 223-1054
- In Haiti: Toumane Dianka, Disaster Management Delegate, Haiti Country Delegation, Port-au-Prince; email Toumane.Dianka@ifrc.org, phone (509) 510-2629, fax (509) 221-2838
- In Jamaica: Yvonne Clarke, Director General, Jamaica Red Cross; email yvonneclarke@jamaicarecross.org, phone (1876) 984-7860, fax (1 876) 984-8272
- In Trinidad and Tobago: Julia Brothwell, Sub Regional Office Coordinator, Port of Spain; email julia.brothwell@ifrc.org, phone (1 868) 627-2665, fax (1 868) 627-9627
- In Panama: Leon Prop, Head of Regional Delegation, Panama City; email gilberto.guevara@ifrc.org, phone (507); 317-1300, fax (507) 317-1304
- In Geneva: Luis Luna, Federation Regional Officer, Americas Department, Geneva; email luis.luna@ifrc.org, phone (41 22) 730-4274, fax (41 22) 733-0395

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

Background and Summary

Early on in the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from 1 June to 30 November, the Caribbean region was affected by two major hurricanes. The first hurricane of the season was Dennis, which caused at least 30 deaths in the Caribbean before weakening to a tropical storm over the southern United States.

The storm's rain battered the southern coast of *Haiti*, causing rivers to overflow and roads to be flooded. Coastal villages were evacuated and approximately 654 people sought refuge in temporary shelters, particularly in the regions of Les Cayes, Port-Salut, and Grand Anse. According to data from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/UNDP, 56 people died, 24 people disappeared, 36 people were injured and 2,370 people were affected. A total of 929 houses were totally destroyed and 3,058 houses were damaged. The hospital in Les Cayes was flooded but continued to treat patients throughout and after the passage of the storm. In addition, one of the main bridges in Grand Goâves, in the southern part of the country, collapsed, completely blocking access. An assessment undertaken by the Civil Protection with the participation of the Red Cross branches in the affected areas indicated that 1,500 families became homeless as a result of the flooding in Grand Anse, of whom 675 were in urgent need of assistance. The Haitian government allocated five million gourdes (USD 123,653) towards the relief effort.

Hurricane Dennis struck *Jamaica* on Thursday, 7 July, as it strengthened to a category three hurricane. Although wind damage was not intense, the system brought substantial flooding, causing severe mudslides. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) confirmed that approximately 8,000 persons were affected in Jamaica. Persons were moved to shelters, mostly in the north eastern area of the country. The parishes of Saint Thomas, Saint Catherine, Portland, Saint Mary and Kingston and Saint Andrew were the areas that sustained the greatest impact.

Hurricane Dennis, at that time a category four hurricane, pounded *Cuba* for ten hours on Friday, 8 July, before heading into the Gulf of Mexico. Hurricane Dennis left ten people dead across the country and destroyed thousands of houses in the provinces of Habana, Camaguey, Ciego de Ávila, Las Tunas, Santiago de Cuba, Matanzas, Sancti Espíritus and Guantanamo. More than 1,400,000 people were evacuated, including tourists, 196,000 of which were moved to emergency shelters. Once the hurricane had passed over Cuba, national authorities, together with the Civil Defence and the Cuban Red Cross began conducting damage and needs assessments. The Cuban Civil Defence Agency estimated that some eight million people were affected by the hurricane and approximately 40,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. The Cuban Red Cross officially confirmed that the National Society did not require international assistance from the Federation to meet the needs of those affected by Hurricane Dennis.

Hurricane Emily, the second major hurricane of the season, first began to form on 12 July in the eastern Caribbean Sea and moved towards the Windward Islands. Of the Windward Islands, *Grenada* was the most seriously affected by Hurricane Emily, which passed over the island early Thursday morning, 14 July, causing significant damage to buildings and crops. One death was reported in Grenada, as a result of the storm. The parishes of St. Patrick and St. Andrew were most affected as well as the dependencies of Carriacou and Petit Martinique. The National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA) reports that 2,641 roofs were damaged, of which the majority were in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Patrick, and 167 families were left homeless. There was a need for plastic sheeting, not only for the roofs damaged by Emily, but also for the many families affected by Ivan. Some families that suffered roof damage or loss by Ivan were still using plastic sheeting when Emily hit, and therefore lost this protection. Thirty Red Cross volunteers and staff members were dispatched to assess the most vulnerable parishes. The Grenada Red Cross Society's focus was on distributing materials and on providing psychosocial support, for which experts were available as a result of training received in response to Hurricane Ivan. A Federation disaster management delegate was deployed to Grenada on Saturday, 16 July to support assessment and response activities.

In the other Windward Island countries affected by Hurricane Emily, there were minimal needs and these were being addressed by the respective governments and Red Cross Societies. In *St. Vincent and the Grenadines*,

damage and needs assessments indicated that 11 houses lost their roofs: seven on the main island of St. Vincent, one in Cannau and three in Union. In total, 530 people were evacuated to 31 shelters in the country. A Federation disaster management delegate was pre-deployed to Saint Vincent on Wednesday, 13 July, to support assessment and response activities. In *Trinidad and Tobago*, a rapid nationwide assessment was conducted on 14 July. There were no casualties as a result of Hurricane Emily. In Tobago, two houses were destroyed and thirty suffered roof loss. In Trinidad, six houses suffered partial roof loss, and some 200 to 300 houses suffered flood damage. Several roads were affected by localized flooding and several landslides were reported in Trinidad and North Tobago. No needs were reported by the Overseas Branches of Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire.

Although Hurricane Emily, then a category four status, caused only tropical storm conditions in *Jamaica*, some of the areas most affected by Emily were also affected by Hurricane Dennis. According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the fact that the two hurricanes hit within a period of nine days complicated the assessment process. Hurricane Emily caused flooding in 65 communities in 8 parishes across the island, with the main areas of impact being Manchester and St. Elizabeth. In communities such as Riverhead in Saint Thomas and Somerset in Saint Andrew, there were incidences of landslides and some homes were totally destroyed. The aerial reconnaissance conducted by the Rapid Damage Assessment Team confirmed that these were the areas with the most damage. Approximately 3,594 persons occupied 108 shelters at the height of the storm. Throughout the storm and in its aftermath, the Jamaica Red Cross remained in communication with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), while the Red Cross branches maintained the parish-level communication with the Parish Disaster Committees.

The *Cayman Islands* experienced tropical storm conditions as a result of Hurricane Emily, which passed to the south of the islands throughout the night of 16-17 July. Telephone and electricity services were not affected. The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross briefed its volunteers and distributed emergency supply kits prior to Emily's arrival. Approximately 700 people stayed in temporary shelters over night, 60 of whom were in Red Cross shelters. Red Cross First Aid volunteers were assigned to each shelter. Shelters began closing on Sunday, 17 July, as people returned to their homes. Following Emily's passage, the Cayman Islands Overseas Branch deployed assessment teams; no major damage was reported.

Haiti experienced heavy rains with the passage of Emily, resulting in extensive flooding in the coastal city of Saint Marc in Bas Artibonite and surrounding areas. A representative of the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) and the Federation, together with the French Red Cross, conducted a damage and needs assessment of the affected area on Sunday, 17 July. The assessments indicated that five people died (four of whom were infants), one person went missing, and thirty children were injured. Further information provided by the United Nations indicated that in Les Cayes, in the south of the country, Emily resulted in one death and a total of 37 houses were destroyed, 48 were severely damaged and 65 slightly damaged.

On Monday, 18 July, Emily, then a category four storm, battered the Yucatan peninsula of *Mexico* with winds of 135km/h (84mph). In anticipation of the storm, approximately 60,000 tourists were evacuated from the tourist areas on the peninsula, such as Tulum, Playa del Carmen and Cozumel; this included 30,000 people who entered temporary shelters in Cancun. The Mexican Red Cross (MRC) prepositioned materials, volunteers and support equipment in the state of Quintana Roo, including 38 tons of material, 6 transportation units, a communications unit, and 20 members of the National Rapid Intervention Unit. Furthermore, the MRC deployed its National Disaster Operations Coordinator to coordinate preparedness and response activities. After crossing the Gulf of Mexico, Emily re-entered Mexico on Wednesday morning, 20 July, in the state of Tamaulipas, 50km (30m) south of the Texas border. The storm, then with winds of 200km/h (125mph), brought down trees and power lines. No casualties were reported. Prior to Emily's arrival, the authorities had carried out preventative evacuations, and the country's Disaster Fund and Plan was activated. MRC national headquarters supported the branches' actions, including the distribution of materials that had been pre-positioned in both affected areas. The MRC Merida branch was given the responsibility of coordinating damage assessment for the state. The Mexican Red Cross confirmed that the National Society did not require international assistance from the Federation to meet the needs of those affected by Hurricane Emily.

Coordination

The Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit had coordination responsibility for the Federation for this operation; however, both the Port of Spain Sub Regional Office and the Panama Regional Delegation were monitoring the situation and providing support, as required.

In *Grenada*, the Grenada Red Cross Society (GRCS) worked closely with the National Disaster Management Agency. In addition, the GRCS worked with Grenada's Coast Guard to undertake damage and needs assessments and to distribute relief materials. The GRCS also worked with the Ministry of Social Services in the area of psychosocial support and with the Ministry of Health regarding first aid needs.

In *Haiti* coordination took place on a regular basis between the Federation, which has the lead role regarding natural disasters, the ICRC, which is the lead agency in the country, Partner National Societies, OCHA and UN agencies, as well as NGOs regarding response activities for Hurricanes Dennis and Emily. The HNRCS and the Federation are part of the rapid needs assessment team that is coordinated by OCHA. The Federation also has a coordinating role, in collaboration with UNICEF, in managing temporary shelters. An agreement as to assistance to be provided by the Red Cross was reached through liaison with the national authorities, and UN and NGO representatives working in Haiti. USAID pledged assistance to affected fishermen in the South of the country through the provision of fishing equipment. In addition, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with ECHO funding, provided seed and agricultural tools to assist farmers in recovering from the effects of the hurricanes.

In *Jamaica*, the Jamaica Red Cross coordinated with both local and international organizations. A meeting was held at the request of the Minister of Labour and Social Security to discuss lessons learned and next steps. The work of the Jamaica Red Cross and the Federation in community action and community preparedness was endorsed by the Minister, and all agencies were encouraged to follow-up on their initiative in these areas. The JRC also advocated for additional support and recognition of the importance of psychological support in disasters.

In addition to providing 250 hygiene kits, UNFPA committed to providing an additional 500 hygiene kits as pre-positioned stock. A memorandum of understanding was signed between the JRC and UNFPA which addressed the provision of these kits as well as reproductive health emergency kits. The JRC will store the reproductive health kits, which will allow for expeditious response in an event of a future emergency or natural disaster. The JRC is also in dialogue with the Jamaica Bakers' Association regarding the provision of supplies in the event of a disaster.

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements, impact

Grenada

Emergency relief (food and non-food):

Objective 1: 3,000 vulnerable families will have benefited from the provision of non-food items to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane. Of these families, 300 of the most vulnerable will be assisted through the provision of food items.

Achievements

Grenada Red Cross Society focused on the distribution of hygiene kits and blankets received from PADRU, firstly in the three most affected parishes of St. Andrew's St. Patrick's, and Carriacou, then later to the other affected villages island-wide. Hygiene kits were distributed to 1,950 families in the country, with each family receiving one hygiene kit. Blankets were distributed in shelters in St. Andrew's parish; 57 families each received two blankets.

	Hygiene Kits	Blankets
St. Patrick's	481	
St. Andrew's	1,083	114
Carriacou	120	

Caribbean: Hurricanes Dennis & Emily; Appeal no. 05EA014; Final Report

St. David's	50	
St. George's	106	
St. Mark's	50	
St. John's	60	
TOTAL	1,950	114

*Please note that the number of hygiene kits distributed has been reduced slightly from the number reported in Operations Update no. 2 (2,002 hygiene kits). The reason for the discrepancy is that there was some confusion when a small number of families returned hygiene kits that they did not need. These kits were then redistributed to families with a higher level of need and mistakenly recounted. GRCS staff followed up on the matter and determined that the correct number of kits distributed was 1,950.

Food vouchers were provided for 162 families in the parishes of St. Andrew's, St. Patrick's and Carriacou for two months (15 August to 15 October) on a fortnightly basis. A household with an occupancy of 1-2 persons received EC\$ 80.00 (USD 30) per month whereas a household with more than three members received EC\$ 160.00 (USD 60) per month. The plan of action had originally included 300 families to receive food items for a period of one month; however, following further consultations between the GRCS and the Federation it was decided to provide approximately 150 families with food for two months.

	No. of Families
St. Patrick's	53
St. Andrew's	51
Carriacou	58
TOTAL	162

Impact

The receipt of hygiene kits, blankets and food vouchers helped vulnerable beneficiaries either in their homes or staying in shelters to recover from the effects of the hurricanes.

Objective 2: 3,000 families in Grenada will be able to return home as a result of the provision of temporary shelter materials.

Achievements

The National Society completed a further assessment of Saint David, Saint John and Saint Mark; beneficiaries are using the plastic sheeting provided and are in the process of rebuilding their homes. A total of 2,490 families received plastic sheeting, nearly all families receiving two tarpaulins each. Tarpaulins were distributed as follows:

	Tarpaulins
St. Patrick's	975
St. Andrew's	2,295
Carriacou	600
St. David's	338
St. George's	315
St. Mark's	175
St. John's	284
TOTAL	4,982

Impact

The provision of plastic sheeting helped to ensure that families were able to leave shelters and return to their homes. As the rainy season continued in Grenada, the distribution of plastic sheeting protected people and their belongings from further damage. Many of the people affected were those whose houses were damaged by Hurricane Ivan and who had not yet recovered.

Objective 3: The water and sanitation needs of 3,000 families in Grenada have been assessed and a plan has been developed to deliver assistance in this sector. The assistance will include the distribution of 3,000 collapsible jerry cans.

Achievements

A total of 1,500 litres of water were distributed in shelters in St. Andrew's parish by GRCS volunteers. In addition, 968 jerry cans were distributed, nearly half of which were provided to families who were forced to remain in a temporary shelter in St. Andrew's. The original objective was to distribute 3,000 jerry cans and this number of jerry cans was purchased by the GRCS; however, as the water situation in the country was resolved more quickly than expected, it was decided that the remaining 2,032 jerry cans would be stored by the GRCS for use in future disasters. Jerry cans and water were distributed by the GRCS as follows:

	Jerry Cans	Water (Litres)
St. Patrick's	100	
St. Andrew's	668	1,500
St. David's	25	
St. George's	50	
St. Mark's	75	
St. John's	50	
TOTAL	968	1,500

Impact

The receipt of jerry cans and water helped those without easy access to clean water, in particular families obliged to remain in a temporary shelter in St. Andrew's, to recover from the effects of the hurricanes.

Objective 4: The first aid needs of the most vulnerable internally displaced people will have been addressed.

Achievements

Five first aid volunteers from the GRCS visited shelters following the passage of the hurricanes to monitor the health and sanitation situation, in cooperation with the Grenada Ministry of Health. There were three established shelters where first aid volunteers provided services for minor cases, ranging from minor cuts and abrasions to one case of dehydration. In addition, some twelve first aid volunteers were placed on full alert, if needed. The GRCS health department works in close collaboration with the General Hospital's Emergency Services through coordination with the head physician. The GRCS also provided water and some medical supplies to the General Hospital.

Impact

Red Cross volunteers helped to alleviate the suffering of those with minor ailments staying in three temporary shelters.

Psychosocial Support

Objective 5: Persons in shelters and those who have been adversely affected by the hurricanes will have benefited from the provision of psychosocial support.

Achievements

Immediately following Hurricane Emily, the psychosocial support trained facilitators were called out, which included some twelve persons willing to do outreach. One of the active GRCS volunteers was given a temporary assignment to coordinate activities, reporting to the director general through the health & safety director.

The plan of action for the three month operation included:

- (1) Community outreach using door-to-door meetings in the most affected areas – this activity was coordinated with the advice of the National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA) and the Ministry of Social Development.
- (2) Outreach through parent groups (PTA) in schools during the month of October – some schools were unable to reopen following the effects of the two hurricanes.
- (3) Regular meetings/updates with facilitators – a meeting was held every two weeks since 10 August.
- (4) Visibility activities, including psychosocial support promotional materials for children and adults, and for facilitators, including folders and t-shirts. Posters on managing stress effectively were also distributed to community buildings.
- (5) Debriefing sessions were carried out for facilitators at the St. George’s University Counselling services unit, through a partnership with the unit.

In total, three community outreach sessions were completed in the parishes of St. Andrew, St. Patrick and Carriacou. Each session was carried out by four psychosocial support facilitators. In total, 120 people were interviewed during these sessions, and then shared the information gained during the sessions with their families. Therefore, a total of 360 beneficiaries were reached, as follows:

Parish	People interviewed	People (family size)	Females (adults)	Males (adults)	Children (under 12)	Teenagers	Elderly (over 60)
St Andrew (Grenville)	42	84	28	34	9	n/s	n/s
St Patrick (Pointzfield/Rose Hill)	32	114	28	44	6	18	18
Carriacou	46	162	73	70	16	3	n/s
Total	120	360	129	148	31	21	18

Impact

Following the psychosocial support sessions, several people called the Red Cross to express their appreciation. A counsellor assigned to a particular secondary school called for support when having to deal with a case of possible incest. Persons in two of the communities requested sessions for parents in two schools in those communities. Based upon this success, the Red Cross has also begun to hold ongoing psychosocial support sessions during disaster preparedness training, first aid training and with Red Cross youth groups and their parents.

Haiti

After a dialogue between representatives of the Haitian Civil Protection, MINUSTAH, UNDP, the Haitian National Red Cross Society and the Federation, the Federation provided the HNRCS with kitchen sets, hygiene kits, blankets, laundry and bath soap to assist 1,800 families (9,000 persons) affected by Hurricanes Dennis and Emily.

Emergency relief (non-food)

Objective 1: 800 vulnerable families (4,000 people) that were affected by Hurricane Dennis will have benefited from the distribution of relief items.

Achievements

In Port-au-Prince, the HNRCS deployed a team of 25 relief workers and a number of ambulances to address the needs in areas of the capital city that are frequently affected by flooding. In total, 500 volunteers were mobilized

Caribbean: Hurricanes Dennis & Emily; Appeal no. 05EA014; Final Report

after the HNRCS issued an alert in response to the flooding. A delegate from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit was mobilized to Port-au-Prince to assist the Haiti Country Delegation and the Haitian National Red Cross Society in the provision of assistance to affected persons.

Volunteers from the HNRCS evacuated 504 people from flooded areas of Les Cayes and took them to the 14 temporary shelters that had been set up, mostly in schools. In Grande Anse, a particularly hard to reach area, 7 shelters were set up for the evacuation of affected persons. In total, 300 people were evacuated in this area.

An HNRCS team transported the non food kits to the towns of Grand Anse, Petit and Grand Goave, Roseau, Bainet and Côtes-de-Fer on 19 August 2005. At this time, relief items were transported to les Anglais and Tiburon, which were affected by Hurricane Emily (please see objective 2). Although initially foreseen to take place the previous week, the majority of the distributions were finally carried out on 21 August as there was a delay in the availability of beneficiary lists. The final 50 kits were distributed in Bainet on 23 August. In total, 800 families of Grand Anse, Petit and Grand Goave, Roseau, Bainet and Côtes-de-Fer received 800 hygiene kits, 800 blankets, and 3,200 units of body and laundry soap.

Objective 2: 1,000 families (5,000 people) will have benefited from the distribution of non food items to assist them in recovering from the effects of Hurricane Emily.

Achievements

Following the passage of Hurricane Emily, which caused flooding in Saint Marc, the Federation carried out a damage and needs assessment on 17 July in 13 affected areas. Hundreds of families in the area of Saint Marc and surroundings suffered damage to their personal belongings, and some to their homes. In addition, latrines filled and were blocked with water and refuse. The area also experienced loss to agriculture and livestock.

Based upon this assessment and input from the HNRCS branch in Saint Marc, the joint HNRCS and Federation assessment team identified 1,000 families with the most urgent need for non-food items. The selection of beneficiary families was based on the level of vulnerability, with special attention to families whose homes were destroyed or seriously damaged, those who suffered significant losses in personal goods, female heads of households, and families with many children.

The offices of the HNRCS branch and the Antoinette Dessalines Centre were designated as distribution sites. Some 40 volunteers were mobilized to carry out the distributions, under the supervision of the disaster management director of the HNRCS and assisted by the Federation logistics delegate. The volunteers began by registering families and providing them with cards, and on 28 July 800 affected families received much needed non-food items. In total, 800 kitchen kits, 800 blankets, 2,400 boxes of laundry soap and 2,400 bars of toilet soap were distributed to beneficiary families in Saint Marc. A further 200 families in Tiburon (50) and Les Anglais (150) received hygiene kits and kitchen kits on 21 August.

Items in Hygiene Kits	Quantity
WASHING POWDER, 1kg	3 bags
TOILET PAPER, twin ply	12 rolls
SOAP, body soap, 100 gr	5
TOOTH PASTE, 75ml/100g	5
TOOTH BRUSH, medium	5
SHAMPOO, adult, normal hair	2
RAZOR, disposable	5
SANITARY PAD, normal	box 10x8

Items in Kitchen Kits	Quantity
COOKING POT, 7L, +handle	1
COOKING POT, 5L, +handle & lid	1
FRYING PAN, 2.5L, lid for the 7L cooking pot	1
BOWL, 1L, metallic	5
PLATE, deep, aluminium, 0.75L	5
CUP, 0.5L, metallic	5
SPOON, table, 15ml, stainless steel	5
FORK, table, 20cm, stainless steel	5
KNIFE, table, 17cm, stainless steel	5
KNIFE, kitchen, 15cm stainless steel blade	1
SPOON, wooden, stirring, 30cm	1

Impact

The immediate relief needs of 1,800 families have been met through these distributions. The telecommunications network established in 2004 with the cooperation of the ICRC and with ECHO funding is helping to ensure communications between the Headquarters and the branches, although this needs to be reinforced.

Constraints

Conditions continue to be difficult in Haiti given the security situation and the lack of human resources in the field. The Federation's logistics delegate was nominated as focal point for disaster management given that it had not been possible to identify a disaster management delegate. The National Society is currently recruiting a Disaster Management Director in order to strengthen its capacity in disaster preparedness and response.

Jamaica**Emergency relief (food and non-food)**

Objective 1: 1,000 vulnerable families (5,000 people) will have benefited from the provision of food and non-food relief items to assist them in recovering from the hurricane.

Achievements

Jamaica Red Cross has distributed 1,701 food packages to families in affected communities. Food packages contained the following items:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Flour	2lbs
Rice	5lbs
Cornmeal	2lbs
Sugar	2lbs
Powdered milk	2 packets
Powdered drink mix	2 packets
Dried soup mix	2 packets
Vegetables (mixed, corn or peas)	2 cans
Baked beans	2 cans
Mackerel or sardines	2 cans
Corned beef	2 tins
Sausage	2 cans
Porridge mix	1 can
Cocoa	1 can
Oil	1 bottle

Location	No. Food Packages
Clarendon	170
Manchester	5
St. Elizabeth	280
Trelawny	100
St. Thomas	280
Kingston/St. Andrew	4
Portland	100
St. Catherine	762
TOTAL	1,701

Non-food items such as jerry cans, hygiene kits, kitchen kits, plastic sheeting and mattresses were provided to the families most affected by Hurricanes Emily and Dennis. The hurricanes caused more flooding than wind damage.

Hundreds of families lost their belongings and many found, for example, that they had nothing to sleep on as flood waters had strewn their mattresses across their properties. Many of their mattresses and other personal effects were irreparable due to the severity of the water damage. Cleaning and disinfectant agents such as chlorine were also distributed, while jerry cans and buckets were supplied for storing and transporting potable water.

Items Distributed	Clarendon	Manchester	St. Elizabeth	Trelawny	St. Thomas	Portland	Kingston St. Andrew	St. Catherine	TOTAL
Blankets	--	--	--	90	170	150	--	32	442
Hygiene kits	110	250	330	160	41	--	12	14	917
Kitchen sets	--	230	175	50	40	25	--	1	521
Tarpaulins	151	300	101	100	226	100	56	23	1,057
Jerry cans	100	--	25	50	215	100	--	3	493
Buckets	50	56	200	--	62	--	15	1	384
Water (bottled)	270	54	52	--	346	120	--	78	920
Bleach	1	--	45	55	135	45	--	3	284
Beds (double)	40	10	30	35	26	20	1	5	167
Mattress (double)	45	50	80	20	42	25	1	6	269
Sheets (double)	40	10	30	25	25	25	--	3	158
Bed (single)	10	--	--	--	1	--	--	2	13
Mattress (single)	--	20	--	--	1	--	--	2	23
Sheet (single)	--	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	10

Impact

Food was one of the items in greatest demand. Families also experienced temporary loss of their ability to generate income and by receiving assistance in the form of food supplies, beneficiaries were able to concentrate on other elements of their recovery. The fact that these packages were prepared at the National Headquarters and then distributed through Red Cross branches made it easier for branch personnel to respond to those in need in a timely manner as the packages were 'ready-for-distribution' and no additional packing or preparation was required.

The items that were distributed were much needed by the beneficiaries. Other response agencies such as the Ministry of Labour and Social Security made known its appreciation of the efforts of the Red Cross.

Constraints

Transportation was sometimes a challenge as vehicles suitable for haulage needed to be acquired due to the minimal capacity of the JRC fleet in relation to the quantity/size of the items that required delivery.

Psychosocial Support

Objective 2: Persons in shelters and those who have been adversely affected by the hurricanes have benefited from the provision of psychosocial support.

Achievements

The Disaster Mental Health Unit (DMHU) made interventions to provide psychosocial support to affected families. The interventions included visits such as that made to a family of eleven persons in Yallahs, St. Thomas, the only family remaining in a shelter since the passage of Hurricane Dennis on 7 July 2005 and to the family of three of the five persons who died in a car accident on 16 July 2005 due to the passage of Hurricane Emily. The counsellors provided psychosocial support to the families and helped them to understand and come to terms with their situation. Where necessary, referrals and follow up visits were made.

Impact

There has been an island wide media coverage campaign on the unit including interviews on radio and television as well as features and tips in newspapers. Through the media coverage, the public has been learning about the DMHU and the service it offers and how they can benefit from or access it. Since the campaign, a number of organizations have called in seeking psychological assistance or training for their staff on dealing with stress, and the DMHU has been responding to these requests. There are also plans to expand the unit to include counsellors outside of the corporate area; the branches have been alerted and will assist in identifying professionals in this field who may be interested in volunteering their service and expertise to the Red Cross as a part of the Disaster Mental Health Unit.

Constraints

There is some stigma attached to mental health or psychosocial support. There is a belief that only 'certain' people seek this form of assistance. However with the vast amount of visibility given to the unit, persons are now moving away from the myths of mental health and are gradually seeing it as a critical part of general wellness that requires attention. It is now less taboo to seek or even mention counselling services of this nature.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Relief activities being carried out are based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the vulnerability of those affected.
- Relief operations are being conducted with respect for the culture of the beneficiaries, ensuring gender sensitivity and prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is being ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal are in line with Strategy 2010, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.

National Society Capacity Building

The capacity of the three National Societies involved in this operation was strengthened as a result of the implementation of the operation. In particular, they have gained important experience in logistics and the distribution of relief goods.

In *Grenada*, based upon lessons learned from the Hurricane Ivan relief operation, the GRCS was able to organize its relief effort more quickly and efficiently. In particular, the GRCS's relationship with other stakeholders, such as NaDMA, was better coordinated, and staff and volunteers were able to apply the skills and training they had received.

In *Haiti*, the Federation and the ICRC jointly assisted the HNRCS in the thorough rehabilitation of its telecommunications network. Today, thanks to the radio communication procedures established, permanent contacts have been made possible in most of the departments in the country. This has greatly increased the National Society's capacity to monitor activities in the field. The HNRCS's visibility and image in the country was also significantly improved during this relief operation, which will ensure that the National Society is looked upon as a key partner for future relief operations.

In *Jamaica*, the Jamaica Red Cross collaborated with the ODPEM to facilitate further preparedness and response training. These included:

- Initial Damage Assessment Training in conjunction with the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)
- Swift Water and Flood Rescue training

Other capacity building exercises included JRC participation in Communication for Behavioural Impact (COMBI) training hosted by UNICEF. This methodology is useful for health, social development and risk management communication programmes.

The JRC is also refining its assessment reports database and will be one of the first organizations included in ODPEM's launch of its new disaster information system. This system will consist of agency reports, agency activities for action and general information for the public. It is anticipated that coordination will be further enhanced to improve future response efforts.

Lessons learned

The Federation monitored the passage of storms and hurricanes and was therefore able to enforce speedy mobilization activities to render assistance to the affected National Societies.

In *Grenada*, the GRCS was able to respond successfully to the disaster and implement the operation in close coordination with the Federation's disaster response mechanisms. The mobilization of volunteers, the commitment of staff and volunteers, the volunteer management system, rapid damage assessment, and communication between the Port of Spain Sub Regional Office, PADRU and the GRCS ensured a high quality relief intervention. However, confirmation of the information reported in the damage and needs assessment on the part of NaDMA was slow and coordination between NaDMA and the GRCS should be improved in future. In addition, one of the major constraints of the operation was the lack of pre-stocked items available in the country, which meant that relief items had to be flown to the country on costly charter flights. This issue has now been addressed through the building of a warehouse for the Grenada Red Cross Society.

In *Haiti*, the operation was an opportunity for the Haitian National Red Cross Society to measure and improve its capacity to react to a humanitarian crisis. However, the passage of several other storms during the 2005 hurricane season, most notably Hurricanes Stan and Wilma, stretched the capacity of the HNRCS to the limit. Improved communication and relations between HNRCS headquarters and the branches continue to be required. In general, HNRCS volunteers and staff gained and displayed a reasonable level of experience in the delivery of relief materials, and beneficiaries have expressed their satisfaction with the kind and quality of relief assistance provided through this relief operation.

In *Jamaica*, communication between PADRU, the Sub Regional Office in Port of Spain and the JRC greatly enhanced the response operation. Other best practices included:

- Pre-packing food items – this process eased the pressures on branches as all they had to do was distribute the packages. It saved time, money and facilitated standardization
- Excellent media relations between the JRC headquarters and local media agencies year round made it easier to have stories carried and facilitated inclusion in key interviews
- The maintenance of the Disaster Mental Health Unit
- The provision of volunteer guidelines in disaster response. This was not only useful for newly recruited persons but also for more seasoned volunteers who used the guidelines as a consolidation of previous training.

[Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

M05EA014 - CARIBBEAN: HURRICANES DENNIS & EMILY

Final financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2005/6-2006/6
Budget Timeframe	2005/6-2005/10
Appeal	M05EA014
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		852'612				852'612
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross		257'400				257'400
British Red Cross		90'380				90'380
Canadian Red Cross Society		52'000				52'000
Hong Kong Red Cross		2'977				2'977
Icelandic Red Cross		5'093				5'093
Japanese Red Cross Society		24'968				24'968
Swedish Red Cross		166'000				166'000
C1. Cash contributions		598'818				598'818
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
American Red Cross		0				0
DREF		42'453				42'453
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)		42'453				42'453
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		641'271				641'271
D. Total Funding = B + C		641'271				641'271

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		641'271				641'271
E. Expenditure		-641'271				-641'271
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

M05EA014 - CARIBBEAN: HURRICANES DENNIS & EMILY

Final financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2005/6-2006/6
Budget Timeframe	2005/6-2005/10
Appeal	M05EA014
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)		852'612					852'612	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	159'635		110'663				110'663	48'973
Clothing & textiles	49'610		23'506				23'506	26'105
Food			20'644				20'644	-20'644
Medical & First Aid	2'690		2'432				2'432	258
Teaching Materials			35				35	-35
Utensils & Tools	61'726		44'748				44'748	16'978
Other Supplies & Services	144'521		115'243				115'243	29'278
Total Supplies	418'182		317'270				317'270	100'912
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	7'200		182				182	7'018
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	7'200		182				182	7'018
Transport & Storage								
Storage	272'600		5'951				5'951	266'649
Distribution & Monitoring			183'303				183'303	-183'303
Transport & Vehicle Costs			3'636				3'636	-3'636
Total Transport & Storage	272'600		192'890				192'890	79'710
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	11'600							11'600
Delegate Benefits			7'541				7'541	-7'541
Regionally Deployed Staff	29'970							29'970
National Staff			27'814				27'814	-27'814
National Society Staff			13'311				13'311	-13'311
Consultants			1'382				1'382	-1'382
Total Personnel Expenditures	41'570		50'047				50'047	-8'477
General Expenditure								
Travel	25'020		11'127				11'127	13'893
Information & Public Relation	3'760		7'238				7'238	-3'478
Office Costs	10'580		6'418				6'418	4'162
Communications	5'280		12'853				12'853	-7'573
Professional Fees	13'000		10				10	12'990
Financial Charges			1'541				1'541	-1'541
Other General Expenses			13				13	-13
Total General Expenditure	57'640		39'199				39'199	18'441
Program Support								
Program Support	55'420		41'683				41'683	13'737
Total Program Support	55'420		41'683				41'683	13'737
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	852'612		641'271				641'271	211'341
VARIANCE (C - D)			211'341				211'341	