

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

CENTRAL AMERICA, MEXICO AND HAITI: FLOODS FROM HURRICANE STAN

26 April 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. 05EA021; Operations Update no. 04; Period covered: 24 December to 24 March 2006; Appeal coverage: 85.2%.

[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 7 October 2005 CHF 1,568,000 (USD 1,230,694 OR EUR 1,012,648) for 6 months to assist 10,250 families (51,250 beneficiaries).
- A revised Emergency Appeal was issued on 17 October 2005, seeking CHF 6,175,760 (USD 4,780,996 or EUR 3,974,564) in cash, kind, or services to assist 10,050 families (50,250 beneficiaries) for 6 months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 280,000

Outstanding needs: CHF 915,084 (USD 695,405 or EUR 580,277)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: El Salvador: Floods and Volcanic Activity (Appeal 05EA020); Haiti: Floods (Appeal 22/2004); Bahamas, Cuba and Mexico: Hurricane Wilma (Appeal 05EA024); Central America: Annual Appeal (Appeal 05AA043); Pan American Disaster Response Unit: Annual Appeal (Appeal 05AA040)

Operational Summary: The Red Cross Societies in Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua have completed food and non food distributions and many families have now returned to their homes. In Haiti, distribution of non-food items is expected to be completed by the end of April. In Guatemala, by far the country that was hardest hit by this disaster, approximately 1,100 of the affected families remain in two shelters, while many others are staying in the homes of friends or relatives, recovering from the devastating affects of the storm.

Due to the complexity and scope of the operations in Guatemala, the appeal period has been extended to 31 December 2006 since the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) is now transitioning from the emergency to the rehabilitation phase. The comprehensive rehabilitation plan includes activities in community health, HIV/AIDS awareness, psychosocial support, water and sanitation, disaster preparedness and capacity building and has recently been approved by the National Society. Details of this plan will be published in the next operations update and, in the meantime, the plan is also available upon request.

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Background

Hurricane Stan, the 18th named storm of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season brought heavy rains to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and south eastern Mexico. The storm was a category one hurricane when it came ashore in the Mexican state of Veracruz. The storm system also brought heavy rains to Haiti, specifically in communities in Artbonite.

Costa Rica

On Monday, 19 September, heavy rains in Costa Rica caused flooding of major rivers and landslides. Some 2,000 people were affected in the Provinces of San José; Puntarenas, Alajuela; Guanacaste; Cartago and Heredia. At least three deaths were attributed to the floods. As a result, over 1,500 people had to evacuate their homes and moved into 24 shelters or in the houses of family and neighbours. More than 600 houses were damaged by the rains, water and electricity supply was affected in some areas, 48 bridges, 4 dikes and 28 sewerage systems were damaged, over 100 roads were waterlogged and there was major damage to crops. On Tuesday, 27 September, the Costa Rican president, Abel Pacheco, declared a state of emergency and the National Emergency Commission issued a red alert on 5 October in several cantons of the Province of Guanacaste in the north.

Guatemala

The damages caused by Hurricane Stan in Guatemala are now estimated to have surpassed those caused by Hurricane Mitch in 1998, as entire communities were engulfed by landslides. The statistics show that in Guatemala, more than 669 deaths have resulted from hurricane Stan, while 268 deaths were reported with hurricane Mitch.

In October, five straight days of rains brought on by Hurricane Stan caused flooding and landslides in Guatemala, affecting some 1,500,000 people in the departments of Santa Rosa, Jutiapa, Sacatepéquez, Escuintla, Chimaltenango, Quetzaltenango, Sololá, San Marcos, Totonicapán, Retalhuleu, Suchitepéquez and Huehuetenango. In the initial days of the emergency, the Guatemalan Red Cross reported that 7,202 houses were damaged and 140,226 people were housed in 762 emergency shelters, and estimated that some 225,915 people had been seriously affected.

The Mayan villages of Panabaj and Tzanchaj, on the shores of Lake Atitlan, an area popular with Western tourists, were particularly hard hit. This area was buried in massive mudslides, as tonnes of mud poured down the sides of the mountains surrounding the lake. A total of 1,400 people were confirmed missing and are presumed dead. Efforts to determine the number of dead and missing were hindered by rain as floods and landslides wiped out roads, making it difficult for rescue teams to reach the affected areas. Government officials stated that continuing

to search for bodies in these areas was too risky and called for a number of the communities to be declared mass graves.

Volunteer fire-fighters evacuated more than 6 thousand residents in the departments of San Marcos, Jalapa, Sololá, Santa Rosa, Huehuetenango, Jutiapa, Sacatepéquez, Escuintla and Retalhuleu. Crops of sugar cane in the coastal areas and maize and beans in the Altiplano were wiped out or damaged, putting livelihoods at risk. Between 80 and 140 mm of rain were being reported each day; the normal amount of rainfall is between 10 and 30 mm. More than 200 landslides were reported through the country's road network, blocking access to many communities. However, according to Guatemalan authorities, the main access roads to the departments and municipalities have now been made accessible, although work is continuing to rehabilitate all the damaged roads.

Haiti

In Haiti, at least one person died and around 2,000 families were seriously affected by flooding. The Department of Bas-Artbonite in the north of the country was affected by floods caused by the overflowing of the Artbonite River after heavy rains throughout early October. The district of Dessalines and the 5th section of Saint Marc, where approximately 40,000 people live, were especially hard hit. In the district of Dessalines, 70 percent of the commune of Grande Saline was flooded and village of Rossignol was completely flooded. Other affected communities in Dessalines were Chevreau Lombard, Théart, La Porte, La Tapie, Le Droin, Dauphine and Lanneu. Several roads in the affected areas were completely wiped out and in some cases towns were only accessible by boat. A number of houses and heads of cattle were swept away by the waters. In addition, people were threatened by water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea, malaria, and parasitic or bacterial diseases. In addition to the flooding in the north of the country, several areas in the West Department, near Port-au-Prince were affected, particularly the areas around Barbako and Kokye. In the communes of Balam and Ganthier, 754 people were affected. It is estimated that 45 percent of livestock and 65 percent of crops were also destroyed. Also seriously affected was the area of Pétion Ville where the overflowing Sous Madam River caused flooding in the town of Lakou Mouton Pernier.

Honduras

In Honduras the passage of the storm caused constant, heavy rainfall beginning on 28 September, affecting 2,869 people and causing 6 deaths. At the height of the emergency there were some 700 people staying in 9 shelters that were set up in the affected areas in the north and south of the country, with several communities seriously affected by the flooding, damaging both homes and crops. The capital city was affected with 15 landslides occurring on major roads, whilst in the East of the country over 100 families were evacuated as a preventive measure. In addition, a number of major roads were blocked by landslides. It is estimated that damage to crops affected over 4,000 families.

Nicaragua

Nicaraguan authorities confirmed that three people died in total, with 1,576 families affected following the heavy rains brought on by Hurricane Stan. The most affected area was the municipality of San Sebastian de Yaliin, in the department of Jinotega. In this area, 50 percent of the population in 9 communities was affected. Other seriously affected departments were Chinandega, Leon and Granada. In Leon and Chinandega, 14 communities were affected. Some 973 people stayed in 13 shelters that were set up in the affected areas. At least 13 homes were destroyed, 50 seriously damaged, 167 houses were flooded and heavy damages to grass pastures and crops, including beans, rice and sorghum.

Mexico

Hurricane Stan made landfall in Mexico as a category one storm and was quickly downgraded to a tropical storm as it moved over land. However, the storm system brought with it strong winds of up to 130 km/h and heavy rains. The most affected states in Mexico were Chiapas, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Hidalgo and Puebla. At least 36 people died as a result of the floods and mudslides and, according to the Mexican Red Cross, some 1,296,000 were affected in 2,956 communities.

In the initial days following the floods, some 331,000 people were evacuated and, at the height of the emergency some 296,000 were staying in the 1,233 temporary shelters which had been set up. Throughout Mexico, at least 173,000 houses have been affected, of which some 2,254 have been completely destroyed. In addition, 364 roads have been damaged, as well as 121 bridges. Given the levels of flooding, there were also health concerns in the

affected area and medical brigades were sent to the area. Some 69 hospitals experienced significant damages, 20 of which were completely destroyed.

Operational developments

Emergency operations have now been completed in Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Mexico.

Guatemala

The emergency operation in Guatemala has been a coordinated effort that has included the Guatemalan government, public institutions and non-governmental organizations. The Federation and the Guatemalan Red Cross have been working closely with the German, Netherlands and Spanish Red Cross Societies to coordinate relief operations in the country, and the Federation's emergency appeal has received significant support from the Spanish Red Cross as well as from ECHO. The Spanish Red Cross provided funding for food and non-food distributions for 1,200 beneficiaries in the Departments of Quetzaltenango, San Marcos and Sololá. The ICRC is also providing vital support for family linking activities and for the provision of psychosocial support to affected communities as well as to GRC volunteers. In addition, the GRC and Federation are liaising with international and national organizations including CARE and Intervida.

Today, two shelters are in operation, housing families which have not been able to return to their homes or find refuge with family members. One shelter is located in the area of Las Delicias of Tecún Umán, accommodating approximately 350 families in make-shift housing made of plastic sheeting, donated principally by OFDA/USAID. Conditions are precarious since the shelter is situated close to the river bank in a high-risk area; the shelter is crowded and there is no running water, electricity or sanitation. The Guatemalan Red Cross has provided three water tankers to cover basic needs for drinking water. The National Society is also carrying out health visits given the risk of the outbreak of disease.

The other shelter, accommodating some 700 to 800 families, is located in Panabaj, the area on the shores of Lake Atitlán, where landslides engulfed entire communities. The shelter is made of concrete blocks and several latrines have been installed. The Red Cross is no longer providing assistance in this shelter given the resistance of the population which demonstrated anger since it was not possible for the National Society to provide relief items to everyone being housed in the shelter. At present, there is no solution envisaged for those still living in shelters, as the government needs to allocate land on which the families can re-build houses, together with the necessary materials. Significant efforts were made by the Guatemalan Red Cross to ensure that the most vulnerable beneficiaries were selected to receive assistance. In addition to surveys of beneficiaries in shelters, house to house surveys were carried out to determine those most in need of relief. Red Cross volunteers working in the framework of the Guatemalan Red Cross IMCI project, who know the communities well, carried out these surveys which facilitated the identification of beneficiaries.

In the coming weeks, the Government of Guatemala, with the support of international organizations, is set to commence the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase in the most affected communities and municipalities. The National Coordination for the Reduction of Disasters (CONRED) in Guatemala has set up an operations centre to be used for charting the operation's overall progress by all organizations working in the disaster zones. Guatemalan Red Cross and Federation representatives met in February 2006 in Guatemala to discuss plans for the rehabilitation phase. The plan was approved by the Guatemalan Red Cross in March and implementation of the plan is scheduled to begin shortly.

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

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 10,050 families (50,250 beneficiaries) affected by the floods (200 families in Costa Rica, 6,400 families in Guatemala, 280 families in Honduras, 460 families in Nicaragua, 2,000 families in Mexico and 710 families in Haiti) will have benefited from the distribution of food and non-food relief items in order to help them to recover from the effects of the floods.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Distributions of relief items have now been completed in Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. The Red Cross Societies in these countries, working in coordination with the Federation and governmental and non-governmental organizations, were able to provide much needed relief items to families affected by Hurricane Stan. For final distribution figures in Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua please see Operations Update no. 3.

In Haiti, the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) is organizing additional non-food item distributions in Grande Anse for 600 families and in Thomazeau for 50 families with the support of the Federation. It is planned to distribute 1,000 blankets, 800 mosquito nets, 150 hygiene kits and 150 kitchen sets to needy families. This distribution is planned to take place by the end of April. In addition, it is anticipated that funding allocated for the emergency in Haiti will be utilized to ensure refresher training for volunteer relief teams in the areas affected by Hurricane Stan. Funding is also being used to rehabilitate the main HNRCS warehouse in Dekini, Port-au-Prince.

The Mexican Red Cross dispatched 345 tonnes of aid to the State of Veracruz, 3,084 tonnes of aid to the State of Chiapas, 3 tonnes of aid to Guerrero and 31 tonnes to Puebla following the impact of Hurricane Stan. Funding received from the Federation was utilized for the purchase and distribution of kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

Guatemala

The families affected by Hurricane Stan received humanitarian assistance as outlined in the GRC plan of action and the distributions were carried out by the GRC branches and their volunteers. The majority of the relief distributions were completed by mid February, and the rehabilitation phase is now beginning. Each of the beneficiary families targeted received food parcels, hygiene kits, a kitchen set, blankets and mosquito nets. The transportation of the humanitarian assistance to the affected families was made possible with support from the Costa Rican Red Cross, working with the GRC. In addition, private sector companies made possible food and non food item distributions in the departments of Quetzaltenango and San Marcos.

Spanish Red Cross bilateral funding

Distributions were provided for affected families in 54 communities in the departments of San Marcos, Quetzaltenango, Totonicapán and Sololá through bilateral Spanish Red Cross funding. In total, 2,034 beneficiary families received food and non food items, including hygiene kits, kitchen kits, food kits, blankets and plastic sheeting. In addition, some 4,000 water containers were distributed.

Department	Municipality	Community	No. Families	Food Kits	Hygiene Kits	Kitchen Sets	Blankets	Plastic Sheeting	Water Containers	
San Marcos	Tejutla	Campach,,n	50	190	140	40	250	40	120	
		El Horizonte	50	91	91	41	250	41	123	
		Chacojom	43	171	128	42	215	42	126	
		Colven	41	153	112	30	205	30	90	
		Shalanshac	65	65	65	65		65	195	
		Tojuchoc	39	145	106	29	190	29	87	
		Nueva Esperanza	17	61	44	10	85	10	30	
		California	28	105	77	22	135	22	66	
		El Bosque/Quipambe	19	68	49	11	95	11	33	
		Tejutla	55	175	120	30	175	30	90	
		Villa Flores	28	56	28	0	0	0	0	
		Various	80	0	0	0	0	80	0	
		Sub Total			515	1,280	960	320	1,600	400
	Tajumulco	Boxonc,,n		54	108	108	54	270	54	162
		Tola I y Tola II		31	62	62	31	155	31	93
		Sub Total		85	170	170	85	425	85	255
	Comitancillo	TuilelĪn y El EdĪn		28	118	87	28	140	28	84
		Sub Total		28	118	87	28	140	28	84
	San Marcos	San Antonio Serchil		109	334	225	57	295	57	171
		Ixcamal		40	80	40	0	0	0	0

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		Sub Total	149	414	265	57	295	57	171	
	Ayutla	Las Delicias	20	0	20	20	0	20	80	
		Sub Total	20	0	20	20	0	20	80	
		San Sebasti,,n	10	18	18	10	40	10	30	
		Sub Total	10	18	18	10	40	10	30	
Quetzaltenango	Olintepeque	La Cumbre	4	12	12	4	20	4	12	
		Barrio Nuevo	2	6	6	2	10	2	6	
		Paraje Las Flores	1	3	3	1	5	1	3	
		Sector Calvario	11	33	33	11	55	11	33	
		Tierra Blanca	10	30	30	10	50	10	30	
		Justo R. Barrios	8	24	24	8	40	8	24	
		Caja de Agua	3	9	9	3	15	3	9	
		San Isidro	13	39	39	13	65	13	39	
		San Antonio Pajoc	6	18	18	6	30	6	18	
		Vista Hermosa	6	18	18	6	30	6	18	
		Pie de cerro	4	12	12	4	20	4	12	
		Sector Centro	26	78	78	26	130	26	78	
		Sector Reforma	13	39	39	13	65	13	39	
		Barrio Pila Vieja	24	72	72	24	120	24	72	
		Barrio Cementerio	57	171	171	57	285	57	171	
			Sub Total	188	564	564	188	940	188	564
		Quetzaltenango	Las Majadas I	27	81	81	27	135	27	81
			Las Majadas II	53	53	53	0	0	0	0
			La Ciñnaga	52	104	104	0	260	52	156
			Albergue Xela	6	6	6	0	30	0	0
			Sub Total	138	244	244	27	425	79	237
		Chiquirichapa	Various	148	592	444	148	740	148	444
			Sub Total	148	592	444	148	740	148	444
			Various	87	348	261	87	435	87	261
			Sub Total	87	348	261	87	435	87	261
		San Bartolo	San Bartolo A Calientes	70	140	140	70	350	70	210
			Sub Total	70	140	140	70	350	70	210
	Toto	Toto	70	70	70	0	0	0	0	
		Sub Total	70	70	70	0	0	0	0	
Santa Catarina		Santa Catarina	57	108	108	57	255	61	171	
		Paximbal	71	284	213	71	355	71	213	
		N.Xetinamit	56	108	56	55				
		Pacutama II	25	25	25	25	125	28	3	
		Xolj,,	29	29	29	29	145	29	29	
		Chuicutam,,	25	25	25	25	125		25	
		Pacutama I	24	24	24	24	120		24	
		Pacorral II	55	55	55	55	275	55	55	
		Tzanjuyub	111	111	111	111	555	111	111	
		Chajuab	36	36	36	36	180	36	36	
		Nuevo Chuataras y Nuevo Xolja	37	37	37	37	185	37	37	
	Sub Total	526	842	719	525	2,320	428	704		
TOTAL			2,034	4,800	3,962	1,565	7,710	1,600	4,000	

ECHO funding/multilateral funding

2,000 families received ECHO-funded distributions in the departments of Quetzaltenango, Escuintla, San Marcos, Retalhuleu and Suchitepequez. Distributions through the Federation appeal were coordinated by the Guatemalan

Red Cross and benefited an additional 2,400 families in the departments of Chimaltenango, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Mazatenango, Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu San Marcos and Sololá. The table below includes distributions carried out with ECHO funding and multilateral contributions to the Federation Emergency Appeal; each of the beneficiary families received food and non food items, including a kitchen kit, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, blankets and food parcels, as below.



Relief items funded by ECHO and the Federation are distributed in Guatemala

Department	Community	RELIEF GOODS DISTRIBUTED				
		Food Parcels	Hygiene Kits	Kitchen Sets	Blankets	Mosquito Nets
Chimaltenango	Pachut	80	80	80	400	
	Pachimulin	31				
	El Sitio	200	200	300		
	Pamazana	259	129	129	645	
	Sub Total	570	409	509	1045	
Sololá	Santiago Atitlan	419	419	219	1080	648
	San Marcos	360	360	81	395	237
Chiquimula	Madre Vieja	54	54	27	135	81
	El Dormido	60	60	30	150	90
	Sub Total	893	893	357	1760	1056
Quetzaltenango	El Pomal	221	147	74	222	222
	El Troje	124	124	62	186	186
	El Carrizal	527	351	175	525	525
	El Reparó	278	278	139	417	417

	Los Encuentros	792	792	396		
	Caserio El Troje	307	307	154		
	El Horizonte	33	33	33	99	99
	Nueva Santa Rita	33	39	39	117	117
	El Palmar (ciudad)	38	41	41	123	123
	Aldea Belen y Santa Rita	32	37	37	111	111
	Subtotal	2385	2149	1150	1800	1800
San Marcos	Aldea Ixquihiula	136	136	68	204	204
	San Antonio Piedra del Fuego	102	102	51	153	153
	Piedra Grande	120	120	60	180	180
	Ojo de Agua	70	70	35	105	105
	Quetzali	136	124	56	198	201
	Caserio El Cedro	36	36	18	54	54
	Sub Total	600	588	288	894	897
San Marcos	La Independencia	238	238	119	357	357
	Las Mercedes	132	132	66	198	198
	Las Margaritas	334	336	168	504	504
	Caserio San Antonio	43				
	Caserio Esquipulas	70				
	Escuela Justo Rufino Barrios	54	54	27	135	
	Sala Evangelica	40	40	20	100	
	Albergue Santiago Nazareno	16	16	8	24	24
	El Triunfo	104	104	104		
	Las Delicias	68	68	34	102	102
	Albergue S.ta Maria del Camino	8	8	4		
	Escuela La Verde	28	28	14	42	42
	Centro de Salud	18	18	9	27	27
	Sector 1 Colonia 4 de Marzo	264	264	132	105	108
Sector 2 Colonia 4 de Marzo	263	264	92			

	Sector 3 Colonia 4 de Marzo	201	201	98		
	Albergue Escuela Paz Andrade	66	66	33	99	99
	Sector 1 Colonia La Verde	159	159	71	103	
	Sub Total	2106	1996	999	1796	1461
Retalhuleu	El Pijui	389	258	129	387	387
	Las Maduras	234	156	78	234	234
	Chicales	123	82	41	123	123
	San Jose' La Gloria Dos	94	59	27	96	96
	Vuelta al Niño	52	30	18	60	60
	Poligono Siete	95	66	33	99	99
	El Coco	53	34	17	51	51
	Santa Isabel	285	190	95		285
	S. Juan El Humedo	164	110	55	90	165
	Barrio El Palmo	169	112	56		168
	Aldea Granada	357	236	118		354
	Valle Lirio	561	380	190		570
	Santa Ines	70	48	24	120	72
	Comunidad La Gomera	165	110	61		122
	Los Piedrineros	53	53	53		60
	Retalhuleu Sinai El Peru	133	70			
	Retalhuleu Gasolinera Vieja	6	6			
	Sub Total	3003	2000	995	1260	2846
Mazatenango	Albergue Catedral S. Bartolome'				300	
	Los Tiestos	620	360	180	543	543
	Caserio Mangales	379	240	126	360	357
	El Martillo	120	74	37	111	111
	El Jardin	156	100	50	150	150
	San Jose' Churirin	464	296	147	111	441
	Nueva Venecia	208	128	64	192	192
	Japon Nacional	55				
	Mazatenango caserio Chicales	43				
	Sub Total	2045	1198	604	1767	1794

Escuintla	Iztapa	548	548	258	1290	774
	La Democracia	85				
	Las Morenas	103				
	El Chile II	41	41			
	El Chile I	67	19			
	Atitan	133	24			
	El Conacastillo	46	23			
	La Palma	19				
	Monte Alegre	2				
	Tres Ceibas	13	7			
	Wiscoyol	80	30			
	Shotil	12	6			
	Sub Total	1149	698	258	1290	774
	GRAND TOTAL	12751	9931	5160	11612	10628



Distributions take place in Coatepeque

In addition to the above, the Guatemalan Red Cross was able to distribute an additional 1,637 food parcels with funds raised nationally through the “Fondo Unido”, as below:

Department	Community	Food parcels
Quetzaltenango	El Troje	215
	El Reparó	139
	Aldea Los Encuentros	396
San Marcos	Aldea Las Mercedes	66
	Aldea Las Margaritas	172
	Caserío el Olvido	167
	Aldea El Triunfo	482

With the support of the Belgian and German Red Cross Societies, water filters were distributed with the support of the Tecún Umán branch of the National Society to beneficiary families in the Department of San Marcos, as follows:

Water Filters	
Community	No. of beneficiary families
Caserío La Independencia	250
Rivera del Rio	500
El Triunfo	30
Las Delicias	25
Las Mercedes	65
Las Margaritas	150
El Olvido	170
TOTAL	1,190

Impact

At least 6,434 families received food and non-food assistance through the GRC/Federation and GRC/Spanish Red Cross distributions, providing much needed relief to the affected families; the beneficiaries expressed their thankfulness to the GRC.

Constraints

There were no significant constraints to report under this activity.

The following section reporting on the objectives in relation to rehabilitation of housing and schools, community health, HIV/AIDS awareness, psychosocial support, water and sanitation, disaster preparedness and capacity building relate specifically to the operation in Guatemala.

Shelter

Objective 1: Vulnerable beneficiary families' houses and schools damaged in the floods will have been rehabilitated through the provision of 5,000 construction kits.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The activities under this objective were supported by the Belgian and German Red Cross Societies, in collaboration with the Guatemalan Red Cross volunteers from the corresponding branches and relief posts. The first distributions were carried out on 16 January and consisted of food and roofing kits for 1,862 beneficiary families living in communities in the departments of Retalhuleu, San Marcos, Tecún Umán, Santa Rosa, Escuintla and Chimaltenango.

Departments	Communities	Food and Roof Kits
Retalhuleu	Santa Isabel	19
	Chicales	41
	Polígono 7	34
	El Coco	17
	Piedrineros Garita V.	7
	Aldea Nueva Candelaria	32
San Marcos	Cua Tacana	16
	El Quetzali	19
	San Pablo	4
	Ixquihiula	4
	Piedra Grande	34
	Ojo de Agua	21
	San Marcos	2
Tecún Umán	Various communities	1,094

Santa Rosa	Mañanitas	20
Escuintla	Atitan	87
	Tres Ceibas	7
	Hostil	6
	El Chile	41
	Las Canastas	40
	Wiscoyol II	30
	Las Morenas	26
Chimaltenango	Pachut	20
	La Pila	17
	Chipiactal	75
	Sepatan	71
	Panimaquin	24
	Chuagenum	17
	Panivaj	37
TOTAL		1,862

Impact

The distribution of food and roof kits had a positive impact on the families displaced from their homes by Hurricane Stan and who were staying in shelters.

Constraints

There were no significant constraints to report under this activity.

Health

Objective 1: 6,400 families in Guatemala affected by Hurricane Stan will have improved basic health practices through the IMCI methodology.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Since the beginning of the relief operation, 41 medical visits have been coordinated with community leaders and carried out by GRC doctors, nurses and volunteers in the Municipalities of Coatepeque, Tecún Umán and Retalhuleu. In total, the GRC checked 377 children's growth and development in the communities of Santa Isabel and El Triunfo (Municipality of Retalhuleu) and from El Pomal, El Troje, San Agustín, Colon and La Felicidad (Municipality of Coatepeque). The GRC is promoting hygiene through healthy practices, such as the washing of hands and the treatment of water for human consumption. The GRC is also sharing information on the prevention of diseases, namely acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, dengue and malaria, and is promoting the importance of breast feeding, nutrition, use of latrines, appropriate use of mosquito nets and the need for fumigation.

Department	Municipalities	Communities	Beneficiary Families	Topics	No. of visits
Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	Colon	82	Prevention of diarrheic diseases and symptoms of pneumonia.	8
		El Pomal	58		
		San Agustín	60		
		La Felicidad	65		
		El Troje	70		
		Sub Total	335		
San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Margaritas	54	Importance of breast feeding, nutrition for children under 5, latrines, hygiene, mosquito nets and fumigation.	30
		Las Mercedes	60		
		La Montañita	51		
		El Jardín	45		
		El Tiesto	55		
		San Antonio	48		
		Tzanjón	70		
Sub Total	383				
Retalhuleu	Retalhuleu	Santa Isabel	35	hygiene, health	3

		El Triunfo	39	and pregnancies.	
		San José La Gloria	37		
		Nueva Candelaria	19		
		Chicales	32		
		Sub Total	162		
Total			880		41

With the support of some 28 GRC volunteers involved in the IMCI project, a total of 131 educational talks have been given in affected communities with the participation of 2,854 mothers. As a result, 24 activities focused on growth and development have taken place, and 529 children were treated. A total of 102 house visits were conducted, benefiting 118 families and 41 medical trips took place.



Medical visits were carried out in affected communities

Impact

Mothers who attended educational talks are now better informed about community health issues and have increased their knowledge of healthy practices; growth and development of children are being addressed and children are being treated. There has been a reduction in gastrointestinal and respiratory problems in the affected communities.

Constraints

There were no constraints to report under this objective.

Objective 2: 500 families affected by Hurricane Stan in Guatemala will have increased awareness of prevention of HIV/AIDS/STI's.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

In October, the GRC visited 232 affected families housed in three shelters in the Municipality of Tecún Umán, Department of San Marcos. Moreover, 20 GRC volunteers and the Ministry of Health distributed reading material on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, the correct use of condoms, and the prevention of sexual violence in the communities of Las Mercedes, Margaritas and La Independencia. These activities took place in conjunction with the medical visits that the GRC also carried out in the south eastern region of Guatemala. A total of 2,500 condoms were distributed to the affected families.

On 21 November, the “Solidarity, a National Emergency” walk took place to promote solidarity and hope for people living with HIV/AIDS. The walk began in Tecún Umán and continued on through Coatepeque,

Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu Mazatenango, Escuintla, Antigua Guatemala, Chimaltenango, San Lucas Sacatepéquez, Mixto and on to Guatemala City.

In December, the GRC provided support for additional activities which took place in Tecún Umán, Coatepeque, Retalhuleu, Mazatenango and Guatemala City, including another awareness walk, information booths, a street theatre, workshops and the distribution of 2,500 T-shirts from the Federation's worldwide "Get Closer" campaign. The GRC is planning to carry out further awareness activities in the months to come, during the rehabilitation phase of this operation.

Impact

These activities have helped to strengthen strategic alliances were between the GRC, the Ministry of Health and other governmental entities. The El Palmar branch will now be including training sessions on HIV/AIDS during 2006.

Constraints

There were no constraints reported under this objective.

Objective 3: 250 families affected by Hurricane Stan in Guatemala will have benefited from the provision of Psychosocial Support

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The GRC and its psychosocial support coordinator have identified and prioritized the needs of the most affected communities. Each GRC branch will be training its volunteers to provide psychosocial first aid to families affected by Stan in the municipalities of Tecún Umán, Coatepeque, El Palmar, Mazatenango and Retalhuleu.

An initial training session on providing psychosocial first aid took place during the first week of April 2006 for volunteers from various GRC branches. The GRC hopes to train four volunteers from each GRC branch from the south eastern region. The volunteers will coordinate with local and international organizations to visit the affected communities. The training aims to strengthen the GRC branches in the south eastern region and to provide them with the technical skills to improve provision of emotional support for families affected by disasters. Visits to the affected families are scheduled to begin at the end of April.

Re-establishing Family Links

In the towns of Cua and Piedra Grande, located in the Municipality of Tacana in the Department of San Marcos, Hurricane Stan left 47 people dead; 27 bodies were recovered shortly after the storm and 20 were reported missing. In December 2005, excavation plans were developed to retrieve the missing bodies, with the Coatepeque branch of the GRC providing computer equipment for the GRC re-establishment of family links (RFL) office. It was not until early March 2006 that the 20 bodies were finally exhumed, with support from the Anthropological Foundation of Forensic Physicians. The GRC branch in San Marcos maintained communication with relatives of the missing and coordinated the transportation of the excavation equipment, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provided support to the Tecún Umán and San Marcos branches in December with stipends and fuel for GRC volunteers, 3 prepaid telephones, a cell phone, a landline telephone, computers, equipment and paper. A small altar in memory of 5 deceased families in Piedra Grande was also provided.

Impact

This step has proved to be important in providing support for the affected communities. The training in psychosocial support will benefit the affected families who have not yet received support and improve the abilities of the GRC volunteers in working with vulnerable communities.

Constraints

There are a limited number of volunteers taking part in this training.

Objective 4: 250 Guatemalan Red Cross volunteers who are participating in the relief effort in the wake of Hurricane Stan will have benefited from access to psychosocial support.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Activities under this objective are aimed at providing support to minimize the mental and emotional challenges volunteers face during and after an emergency disaster operation. In January 2006, activities under this objective began with the Guatemalan Red Cross selecting a psychosocial support coordinator and meeting with the GRC branches of Tecún Umán, El Palmar, Retalhuleu, Coatepeque and Mazatenango. In addition, the GRC representatives met with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), UNICEF and the Guatemalan Ministry of Health and Social Assistance to assess and coordinate the training needs for the five GRC branch volunteers located in the south eastern region, working in the Municipalities of Tecún Umán, Coatepeque, El Palmar, Mazatenango and Retalhuleu.

In February 2006, Crisis Intervention Technician (TICs) volunteers involved in the emergency operations provided psychosocial support to GRC volunteers. These volunteers will soon receive training in psychosocial first so that they, in turn, will be able to provide additional support for the affected communities. During February and March 2006, 17 psychosocial support sessions were held, benefiting 104 volunteers from the GRC branches in Coatepeque, Tecún Umán, El Palmar, Retalhuleu, Mazatenango, Tecún Umán and El Palmar. Additional psychosocial support sessions are planned to continue at the branches in order to reach 250 volunteers.

GRC Branch	No. of sessions	No. of volunteers
February		
Coatepeque	2	22
Tecún Umán	4	23
El Palmar	3	15
March		
Retalhuleu	4	20
Mazatenango	2	11
Tecún Umán	1	4
El Palmar	1	9
TOTAL	17	104

Impact

Volunteers from the GRC received the psychosocial support they needed after emergency operations and were provided with additional training to better assist affected communities.

Constraints

There were no constraints to report for this activity.

Water and Sanitation

Objective 1: 5,000 vulnerable families affected by Hurricane Stan in Guatemala have access to clean drinking water, thereby preventing gastrointestinal illnesses, and are disposing appropriately of solid waste.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

In October 2005, the GRC, with support from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), identified and registered families in the affected communities whose water source had been seriously affected. These families were treated for drinking contaminated well water resulting from the flooding of wells and latrines. They also received educational talks on water purification and water management and received personal hygiene and water purification kits. In the following three months, well disinfection and cleaning activities, as well as water treatment and chlorination was carried out by the GRC branches and coordinated with the Guatemalan Ministry of Public Health. With the support of the Federation, these activities were carried out by the GRC branches in Coatepeque, Retalhuleu and Tecún Umán. Brigades formed in the Guatemala City branch also carried out activities in the municipalities of Taxisco, Santa Rosa and Puerto Iztapa with the support from the branches in Retalhuleu and Coatepeque. Between November 2005 and January 2006 these brigades cleaned and disinfected 1,011 wells,

chlorinated 243 wells in the Department of Retalhuleu and installed six mobile water tanks in the departments of San Marcos and Escuintla. In total, these activities have benefited 5,548 families.

Cleaning and Disinfection of Wells				
Department	GRC Branch	Community	Wells	Beneficiary Families
Retalhuleu	Retalhuleu	Pijuy	97	145
		Maduras	46	78
		Chicales	23	41
Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	Santa Fe	15	80
		Pomal	45	79
		Los Encuentros	272	574
San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Carrisales	158	275
Escuintla	Puerto Iztapa	Atitancito	42	76
		Madre Vieja	112	185
Santa Rosa	Taxisco and Santa Rosa	El Gariton	92	140
		Sunzo	24	50
		El Banco	40	75
		Las Kechas	45	82
Total		13	1,011	1,880

Chlorination of Wells				
Department	GRC Branch	Community	Wells	Beneficiary families
Retalhuleu	Retalhuleu	San Juan el húmedo	42	55
		Nueva gomera	4	60
		San José la gloria 2	11	32
		Santa Isabel	51	95
		Candelaria sector II	90	200
		Nueva Candelaria Yautía sector	45	86
Total		6	243	528

Installation of Mobile Water Tanks				
Department	GRC Branch	Location	No. of tanks	Beneficiary families
San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Branch headquarters	1	290
		Municipality of Ocos	1	350
		Casa del Migrante	1	300
Escuintla	Pto Iztapa, Escuintla	Comunidad Las Morenas	1	1,000
		El Chile community	1	600
		El Wiscoyol community	1	600
Total			6	3,140

Impact

The activities under this objective have helped to reduce water-borne diseases and identify environmental contamination points. These activities have also helped improve the GRC's institutional presence in hard to reach access areas, thus improving the GRC image, capacity building and the collaboration of GRC branches and various institutions working in health in the area.

Constraints

The availability of volunteers at each GRC branch, as well as a limited number of participants for training sessions at the branches, proved to be a constraint.



Many communities were without access to clean drinking water



The GRC water and sanitation teams at work to rehabilitate wells

Community-Based Disaster Preparedness

Objective 1: 50 hazard-prone communities in the south west and the highlands “Altiplano” region of Guatemala affected by Hurricane Stan have strengthened capacities in disaster preparedness.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The GRC plans to carry out disaster preparedness activities upon completion of the relief phase of the operation.

Strengthening of Capacities

Objective 1: The headquarters and ten Red Cross branches of the Guatemalan Red Cross are benefiting from strengthened disaster management capacities.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The volunteers from the Tecún Umán, Retalhuleu and Coatepeque branches participated in various medical visits, and educational, growth and development talks. The GRC branches in Guatemala, Mazatenango, Retalhuleu, Coatepeque, Tecún Umán, El Palmar, Concepción, Chiquirichapa, Quetzaltenango and San Marcos also received logistical support for the emergency. Two relief posts in Tejutla and Serchil received office supplies, paint, basic hygiene kits and emergency vests. A total of 80 uniforms and boots were provided for rapid response and emergency operations volunteers from the nine GRC branches and two relief posts. In addition, telecommunications equipment was provided for the branches involved in the relief operations, as were four

vehicles for water and sanitation activities for the Tecún Umán, Retalhuleu and Coatepeque branches, and the GRC headquarters in Guatemala City.

Impact

The support provided to the branches has made a positive impact on the GRC branches by ensuring that the National Society is able to carry out vital relief activities in response to Hurricane Stan, and by ensuring that the National Society is prepared to respond to future disasters.

Constraints

There are no constraints to report for this objective.

Objective 2: Affected branches are benefiting from the necessary support in order to promote well functioning branches, as well as to alleviate the suffering of Red Cross volunteers directly affected by the disaster.

Progress/ Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The GRC plans to carry out disaster preparedness activities during the rehabilitation phase of this operation.

Federation Coordination

In *Guatemala*, Federation representatives continue operating out of the Guatemalan Red Cross offices for this relief operation and continue providing support for the GRC plan of action. The implementation of this plan of action has been coordinated through the various components of the Movement, primarily the Norwegian Red Cross, the German Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The GRC and volunteers from the nine GRC branches and two relief posts involved in this operation have also received support from the Honduran and Costa Rican Red Cross Societies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the vulnerability of those affected.
- The relief operation is prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project Humanitarian Charter and the Code of Conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal are in line with Strategy 2020, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.

National Society Capacity Building

The ongoing relief operation has helped to further build the capacities of the National Society headquarters and branches. As the relief phase has now been completed, further emphasis will now be placed on the strengthening of branches, and disaster preparedness and mitigation work in vulnerable communities, in particular in Guatemala.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

As the initial emergency phase of this operation has now been completed, the announcement of the rehabilitation phase, which is set to begin in April, will be channelled through to the media. The Federation continues to work with the media through interviews, press releases and news articles, some of which have been placed on the Federation website. The National Societies involved in this operation continue to provide information relayed from branches in the affected areas, and continue to report on the progress of all objectives and activities. In Guatemala, the Saatchi & Saatchi Company has continued providing support for all media relations. The use of pictures and video coverage of the relief operation has contributed towards greater visibility of the GRC. The operation has provided an opportunity to promote the Red Cross and to reach large numbers of people, thus presenting the possibility of mobilizing and recruiting new volunteers, and familiarizing vulnerable groups with Red Cross services.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

Central America, Mexico, Haiti - Hurricane Stan

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA021

PLEDGES RECEIVED

25/04/2006

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				6,175,760	TOTAL COVERAGE 85.2%	
AMERICAN - RC		25,000	USD	32,350	11.10.05	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONORS				941	18.11.05	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONORS				297	03.03.06	
BRITISH - RC		100,000	GBP	227,800	10.10.05	
CANADIAN - CIDA/HAPS		100,000	CAD	110,450	07.10.05	
CANADIAN - RC		50,000	CAD	55,225	07.10.05	
CANADIAN - CIDA/HAPS		544,500	CAD	592,525	20.10.05	
CANADIAN - RC		100,000	CAD	108,820	20.10.05	COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, MEXICO, NICARAGUA: SHELTER, WATER, FOOD, SANITATION & HEALTH
CANADIAN - RC		137,756	CAD	180,736	10.01.06	GUATEMALA
DANISH - GOVT/RC				156,763	04.11.05	PROCUREMENT OF RELIEF ITEMS
ECHO (01004)		350,000	EUR	544,950	08.10.05	
FINNISH - RC		50,000	EUR	77,850	07.10.05	
FINNISH - GOVT		85,482	EUR	132,284	16.12.05	
FRANCE - CONSEIL GEN. HAUTS DE SEINE		30,000	EUR	46,950	15.02.06	
IRISH - GOVT		400,000	EUR	622,800	12.10.05	
JAPANESE - RC		40,600	USD	52,536	14.10.05	
JAPANESE - RC		117,200	USD	151,657	25.10.05	
LICHTENSTEIN - PRIVATE DONOR				150,000	28.10.05	
MONACO - RC		10,000	EUR	15,455	25.10.05	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		20,627	EUR	32,116	14.10.05	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		748,663	EUR	1,158,556	02.12.05	GUATEMALA RELIEF ITEMS, PADRU STOCK REPLENISHMENT
NEW ZEALAND - RC		10,000	NZD	8,960	13.10.05	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		2,000,000	NOK	395,000	31.10.05	GUATEMALA, PADRU
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		539,000	NOK	106,453	31.10.05	HAITI & OPERATIONAL COSTS
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE				16,992	17.11.05	
PRIVATE DONORS				58	09.02.06	
SWEDISH - GOVT		750,000	SEK	125,250	07.10.05	
SWEDISH - RC		250,000	SEK	41,750	07.10.05	
SWISS - RC				100,000	06.12.05	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS				9,267	20.10.05	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONOR				850	26.10.05	GUATEMALA
VERF/WHO				5,035	10.11.05	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				5,260,676	CHF	85.2%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT

Central America, Mexico, Haiti - Hurricane Stan

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA021

PLEDGES RECEIVED

25/04/2006

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	