

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

CENTRAL AMERICA, MEXICO AND HAITI: FLOODS FROM HURRICANE STAN

**Appeal No. 05EA021
03 August 2007**

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Final Report; Period covered: 26 October to 31 December, 2006; Final appeal coverage: 89.2%.

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

Appeal history:

- Launched on 7 October 2005 for CHF 1,568,000 (USD 1,230,694 or EUR 1,012,648) for 6 months to assist 10,250 families.
- 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 for 6 months.
- A revised plan of action for the Guatemalan Red Cross was issued in April 2006, and the timeframe of the operation extended until 31 December 2006.
- Rehabilitation activities ended on 31 December 2006, the final timeframe was extended until April 2007 to finalize all operational activities.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 280,000

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: El Salvador: Floods and Volcanic Activity (Appeal 05EA020); Bahamas, Cuba and Mexico: Hurricane Wilma (Appeal 05EA024); Central America: Annual Appeal (Appeal MAA43001); Pan American Disaster Response Unit: Annual Appeal (Appeal MAA42001)

Operational Summary:

Relief operations carried out by the Red Cross Societies of Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua closed

in July 2006. Balances from the emergency operation in Nicaragua were used to implement rehabilitation projects in four communities of the Municipality of Chinandega. This phase included community disaster preparedness, disaster preparedness capacity building and water and sanitation activities aimed at improving disaster preparedness at the community level in Mexico and Nicaragua.

Following the receipt of additional funding, the relief operation in Mexico was extended formally until November 2006 and activities consisted of providing kitchen sets, hygiene kits and food items to beneficiaries in the most affected areas of the country - which included the States of Oaxaca, Chiapas and Yucatán.

Due to the complexity and scope of the operation in Guatemala, the implementation period for this country was extended until 31 December 2006 and the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) implemented rehabilitation activities in the areas of: community health and HIV and AIDS, psychosocial support, water and sanitation and disaster preparedness.

Beneficiary selection criteria for the appeal was focused on the vulnerability of those severely affected by hurricane Stan, both by the immediate impact of the flooding and the damage it wreaked on housing and crops. In the case of rehabilitation projects, benefited communities were selected based on the fact that Red Cross programmes were already being developed in the area prior to the emergency, and where significant health, sanitation and disaster preparedness issues were already being addressed.

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For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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

Background and Summary

Hurricane Stan was the eighteenth named tropical storm and eleventh hurricane of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season. It was also the sixth of seven tropical cyclones (three hurricanes - two of them major - three tropical storms and one tropical depression) to make landfall in Mexico. Stan was a relatively weak storm that only briefly reached hurricane status. It was embedded in a larger non-tropical system of rainstorms that dropped torrential rains in the Central American countries of Guatemala and El Salvador and in southern Mexico, causing flooding and mudslides that led to possibly up to 2,000 deaths.

A tropical wave, which moved off the African coast on 17 September, formed a low pressure area when it reached the western Caribbean Sea and formed a tropical depression on 1 October. Off the coast of the Yucatán Peninsula, it strengthened into Tropical Storm Stan on 2 October. Stan made landfall on the Peninsula and weakened again to a tropical depression, but regained tropical storm strength upon reemerging into the Bay of Campeche. By 4 October, it had sufficiently strengthened to be given hurricane status. Stan made landfall later in the east-central coast of Mexico, south of Veracruz, as a Category 1 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson hurricane scale, then weakened to a tropical storm early that afternoon.

Costa Rica

Heavy rains in Costa Rica caused overflowing of major rivers as well as landslides. The media informed of 15 areas which were left inaccessible. 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. More than 600 houses were damaged, water and electricity supply was affected in some areas, 48 bridges, four dikes and 28 sewerage systems were damaged, over 100 roads were waterlogged and there was major damage to crops.

Guatemala

The damages caused by hurricane Stan in Guatemala are 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 resulted from hurricane Stan, while 268 deaths were reported with hurricane Mitch. The rains from 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. The Mayan villages of Panabaj and Tzanchaj, on the shores of Lake Atitlán, an area popular with Western tourists, were particularly hard hit. A total of 1,400 people were confirmed missing and are presumed dead. In addition, crops of sugar cane in the coastal areas and corn and beans were wiped out or damaged, putting livelihoods at risk.

Haiti

Although the only hurricane that made landfall on Hispaniola in 2005 was hurricane Alpha on 23 October, the rains caused by hurricane Stan resulted in floods and landslides and caused loss of lives and homes, damages to property, livestock and crops throughout most of the country. Its effects were felt in the Departments of Ouest, Artibonite, Nord, Nord-Est, Nord-Ouest, Sud-Est, Sud, Nippes and Grande-Anse. Flooding occurred in Grande Saline and the 5th commune of the town of Saint Marc in the Department of Artibonite. At least one person died and around 2,000 families were seriously affected by flooding. Several roads in the affected areas were completely wiped out and in some cases towns were only accessible by boat. It is estimated that 45 percent of livestock and 65 percent of crops in these areas were destroyed.

Honduras

In Honduras the storm affected 2,869 people and caused six deaths. In addition, a number of major roads were blocked by landslides. It is estimated that damage to crops affected over 4,000 families.

Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, three people died in total, with 1,576 families having been affected following the heavy rains brought on by hurricane Stan. The most affected areas were the municipality of San Sebastián de Yalí, in the department of Jinotega, and the departments of Chinandega, León and Granada. At least 13 homes were

destroyed, 50 seriously damaged, 167 houses were flooded and crops were seriously affected - especially beans, rice, corn, and grass pasture. The Ministry of Farming reported losses in an area equivalent to 3,439 blocks of houses.

Mexico

In Mexico, 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. Throughout Mexico, at least 173,000 houses suffered damages, of which some 2,254 were completely destroyed. In addition, 364 roads were damaged, as well as 121 bridges. Some 69 hospitals - 20 of which were completely destroyed - experienced significant damages.



Affected community in Mexico. In addition to destroying houses, floods and mudslides damaged the water system and roads. Source: International Federation.

Coordination

Federation personnel worked from the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) headquarters providing support to the GRC Plan of Action (PoA). The implementation of this PoA was coordinated with the various components of the Movement represented in Guatemala. In general, coordination between headquarters and branches was positive and effective.

Partner National Societies (PNS) working in Guatemala ensured that projects implemented on a bilateral basis fall under the framework of the overall rehabilitation plan.

- **Belgian Red Cross** donated 1,800 roof packages (zinc sheets, wood and nails) towards the departments of Tecún Umán, Retalhuleu, Coatepeque and Guatemala.
- The **German Red Cross** distributed 2200 water containers and 1200 food packages in the departments of Tecún Umán, Retalhuleu, Coatepeque and Guatemala.
- The **Norwegian Red Cross** worked bilaterally with the GRC and funded rehabilitation projects in the departments of San Marcos, Quetzaltenango, Suchitepéquez and Retalhuleu; these projects focused on water and sanitation aimed to construct latrines and ensure the provision of water. The Norwegian Red Cross also carried out medical days to assist children and is working in the HIV and AIDS area, in anti-discrimination and anti-stigma, as well as supporting psychosocial support activities for those affected by hurricane Stan.
- The **Spanish Red Cross**, also working with the GRC on a bilateral basis, reached 3,245 families with food items distributed in San Marcos, Sololá and Quetzaltenango actively working with volunteers from

the GRC during the response operations. The Spanish Red Cross (SRC) funded rehabilitation of water supply systems in areas affected by hurricane Stan; the project covered thirteen communities: six in Tejutla (San Marcos) and seven in Santa Catarina Ixtahuatán (Sololá). In addition, the SRC funded the construction and rehabilitation of school premises in San Marcos and the extension of another educational facility in Quetzaltenango. With a view to improving health conditions, the SRC set up washable latrines complemented with training on hygiene norms for the beneficiary communities. In addition, this PNS is currently implementing a micro-irrigation programme with a component on nutrition, where the community receives training on how to improve agriculture and grow alternative products, alternatives on use and consumption of their products, and better commercialization of these.

- The **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** financed activities related to Restoring Family Links (RFL) in Panabaj de Santiago de Atitlán, canton of Cuá and municipality of Tacaná San Marcos. In these locations, in coordination with the GRC and the Forensic Anthropology team, the ICRC also helped with the exhumation of bodies and the purchasing of a portion of the coffins for those bodies that were buried at the site where the landslides occurred. The rest of the coffins will be donated by the Spanish Red Cross. To do follow up of these activities, the Guatemalan Red Cross will provide psychosocial support to those whose relatives died.

Valuable contributions from National Societies and other donors around the world directly to this appeal made it possible to successfully complete this operation and bring relief to the thousands of families affected. American, Andorra, British, Canadian, Danish, Finnish, French, Japanese, Monaco, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norwegian, Swedish and Swiss Red Cross Societies generously participated, as well as the Irish Government, ECHO, the World Health Organization and private donors from Liechtenstein, Switzerland and the United States.

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements, 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)

All emergency relief distributions were completed as detailed in previous reports. (Please go to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/appeals/allappeals.asp> for further details)

Nevertheless, the Mexican Red Cross (MRC) continued emergency distributions in September last year in three states because of the high level of needs of the population, as well as to ensure that individuals who could not benefit from the initial emergency relief phase received adequate humanitarian assistance. The support team from the Tapachula branch, which had previously supported the response operations, was in charge of organizing and distributing relief items.



Food relief distributions being carried out and led by Red Cross volunteers. Source: Mexican Red Cross.

An aerial bridge was set up with four strategic logistic points where the affected communities could receive the donations. The first was in Tuxtla Gutiérrez to supply the most affected surrounding areas; the second in Tapachula, which covered the areas that were isolated because of the floods. The third in Motozintla which due to its geographic location, destroyed roads and lack of airport had to be accessed by helicopter; and the fourth was Huixtla. The Tapachula branch provided medical attention

and food relief to those in shelters in the affected areas of Tapachula, in coordination with the branches of Hermosa (Tabasco) – Ocosingo, San Cristóbal de las Casas and Tuxtla Gutiérrez.

The first distribution consisting of 2,000 food packages, 1,000 kitchen kits and 1,000 hygiene kits took place in the municipality of Tixkokob, Mérida, state of Yucatán in September. The second distribution was carried out in October in the states of Guerrero and Chiapas and consisted of 500 food packages, 500 hygiene kits and 1,350 first aid kits. The third distribution was carried out in November in the state of Veracruz (municipalities of Boca del Río, Coatzacoalcos, Minatitlán, Acayucán, Cosamaloapán and Catemaco). These beneficiaries received 1,500 hygiene kits, 2,000 kitchen kits and 2,000 food packages.

Total figures for these operations are shown below:

- A total of 3,204 tonnes of humanitarian assistance distributed from the MRC headquarters as follows:
 - Chiapas received 2,825 tonnes of humanitarian assistance
 - Veracruz received 345 tonnes of humanitarian assistance
 - Guerrero received 3 tonnes of humanitarian assistance
 - Puebla received 31 tonnes of humanitarian assistance
- A total of more than 1,800 volunteers worked in the operations throughout all the Mexican Republic. Thanks to their active participation and leadership in the operations, 130 volunteers, are now specialized in distribution.
- 26 damage Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) carried out. The VCAs served the dual purpose of diagnosing risks as well as training MRC volunteers to enable them to organize further VCAs, 2 courses were carried out in Chiapas, the most affected state.
- 864,872.00 Mexican pesos (approximately USD 79,208) coming from public donations were used for the response operations.
- 3,000 humanitarian relief packages were distributed; the content of each package was 1 hygiene kit, 1 kitchen kit and 2 food packages.
- 3,000 leaflets were distributed to communities with information on First Aid. Additionally, 1,350 First Aid kits were distributed.
- 1,000 Community education manuals (Module 1) and the corresponding 1,000 workbooks were distributed; part of this material is now available for any National Society that needs it.

All relief packages for the Stan Operation of the Mexican Red Cross were purchased and prepared in Mexico by MRC volunteers. All purchases were done after receiving three quotations, supervising the quality of the products at all times, and making sure the delivery and prices were adequate.

Rehabilitation Phase

The following section was drawn up in accordance with the objectives making up the Plan of Action for the rehabilitation phase of the Hurricane Stan Operation in Guatemala, developed by the Guatemalan Red Cross. This operation targeted communities in the five municipalities in south-western Guatemala that were affected by the floods from hurricane Stan: Coatepeque, El Palmar, Mazatenango, Retalhuleu and Tecún Umán in the departments of Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu and San Marcos and included the following components: Community Health, HIV and AIDS, Psychosocial Support, Water and Sanitation, and Disaster Preparedness. These five municipalities were selected by the GRC after an assessment of the relief phase of the Hurricane Stan operation.

The rehabilitation phase of the relief operation aimed to strengthen the communities' capacities to respond to natural disasters. This was achieved through the creation of a network of local agencies, training of disaster response coordinators, volunteers and community leaders, and the implementation of early warning systems and small disaster mitigation projects. The rehabilitation phase also aimed to improve the health and sanitation conditions in the affected areas through increased community awareness of basic health and sanitation practices, rehabilitation of water systems, installation of basic water and sanitation equipment, and provision of basic equipment to monitor the growth rates of children.

Objectives and activities

Health

Objective 1: 5,000 families in Guatemala affected by hurricane Stan will have improved basic health practices through the IMCI methodology.

Targeted mothers acquired and strengthened key practices to prevent childhood illness. Although the goal was to provide 5,000 mothers with training in Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI), during the 4 months of October, November and December 10,001 mothers participated in 331 educational talks on community health as detailed below.

In order to help mothers acquire and enhance the knowledge that will enable them to identify and prevent illness in their children, branch IMCI coordinators and trained GRC volunteers delivered *educational talks* on subjects in line with the IMCI methodology. Educational material used in these talks included flashcards containing “16 key practices for the good physical and mental growth and development of boys and girls” and others that contain health advice for families with children under two years of age and pregnant women. The material delivered in these sessions seeks to enable parents (participants mostly mothers) to detect early signs of respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses and dehydration in their children.

Activities took place as follows:

Branch	Community	Number of educational talks October	Number of mothers	Number of educational talks November	Number of mothers	Number of educational talks December	Number of mothers	Number of educational talks - total	Number of mothers - total
Mazatenango	Los Tiestos	10	585	11	260	02	21	23	866
	Venecia	02	134	-		-		02	134
	Japón B	13	398	07	289	03	67	23	754
	Japón A	09	177	07	144	02	34	18	355
	Willy Wood	09	410	12	443	02	47	23	900
	Nueva Victoria	07	275	07	140	02	34	16	449
	Mons. Romero	05	141	06	154	01	09	12	304
	Conrado de la Cruz	07	205	08	443	02	70	17	718
	San Mauricio	07	256	06	201	02	27	15	484
	El Jardín	05	114	05	84	02	38	12	236
	El Martillo	02	50	06	111	01	13	09	174
Bolivia	-		-		-		-		
El Palmar	Santa Rita	01	44	08	126	-		09	170
	Furlán Cámara	05	120	10	121	-		15	241
	Sn. Pedrito	05	216	06	79	-		11	295
	La Estancia	-	204	07	138	-		07	342
	Las Flores	05	74	08	141	-		13	215
Coatepeque	Los Encuentros	08	130	06	301	-		14	431
	Chiquirines	06	165	07	419	-		13	584
	Carrizales	06	150	08	440	-		14	590
	El Izotal	01	130	03	78	-		04	208
Retalhuleu	San. José La Gloria II	02	42	02	22	01	12	05	76
	Las Brisas	03	29	03	54	01	28	07	111
	La Gomera	01	17	02	34	01	31	04	82
	San, José La Gloria I	-	42	02	48	02	64	04	154
	El Retiro	-	65	02	62	-		02	127
	Biloma								
	La Guitarra	-	100	06	165	-		06	265
Las Maduras	-	23	01	41	01	32	02	96	

	Col. 20 de Octubre	-	62	02	63	03	63	05	188
	Perú Sinai	03		-		01	32	04	32
	San Juan El Húmedo	02		-		01	27	03	27
	Granada	02		-		01	20	03	20
	Sta. Rosa	01		-		01	22	02	22
	La Tortuga	01	34	03	70	01	26	05	130
	El Pljuy	-		-		01	22	01	22
	El Triunfo	-		-		01	20	01	20
	Sta. Isabel	-		-		01	19	01	19
	Chicales					01	28	01	28
Tecún Umán	El Tiesto	05	132	-		-		05	132
Total		133	4,524	161	4,671	37	806	331	10,001

Distribution of micro nutrients for expectant mothers

As planned, Medical brigade visits reached the communities in the municipalities targeted. The goal was to reach expectant mothers and infants. As a result, 42 pregnant women from seven communities in Retalhuleu consulted skilled health workers and received supplements consisting of pre-natal vitamins, folic acid and iron.

Retalhuleu	La tortuga	08
	20 de Octubre	05
	Las Maduras	05
	La Gomera	04
	El Triunfo	14
	Granada	04
	El Húmedo	02
	Total	42

Medical brigade visits

Also according to the Plan of Action, 30 locations were to be carried out by medical brigades affected by hurricane Stan. In October and November, a total of 671 home visits were achieved.

Branch	Community	Number of visits OCTOBER	Number of visits NOVEMBER
Mazatenango	Venecia	02	-
	Japón A	31	17
	Japón B	28	65
	Willy Wood	19	-
	Nueva Victoria	19	05
	Mons. Romero	24	10
	Conrado de la Cruz	13	10
	San Mauricio	23	45
	El Martillo	09	02
	El Jardín	08	17
	Los Tiestos	04	26
	Retalhuleu	Las Brisas	-
La Guitarra		06	-
San José La Gloria 2		-	17
La Tortuga		-	23
El Palmar	Furlán Cambara	19	20
	Sta. Rita	30	43
	San Pedrito	-	14
	Las Flores	-	39

	La Estancia	-	42
Coatepeque	Los Encuentros	-	20
Total		235	436

Growth and development monitoring of children under 2 years of age

Growth and development monitoring of 1,880 children in 21 communities were implemented in October, November and December. As a result, the communities have developed capacities to prevent health risks and mothers in the communities are now actively participating in monitoring the growth and development of children. They also received training on how to recognize warning signs for respiratory infections and gastrointestinal illnesses.

Branch	Community	Number of Children under growth and development monitoring OCTOBER	Number of Children under growth and development monitoring NOVEMBER	Number of Children under growth and development monitoring DECEMBER
Mazatenango	Los Tiestos	35	46	-
	Venecia	10	-	-
	Japón B	46	54	-
	Japón A			-
	Willy Wood	72	75	-
	Nueva Victoria	11	08	16
	Mons. Romero	31	36	-
	Conrado de la Cruz	20	47	63
	San Mauricio	20	41	-
	El Jardín	09	02	-
	El Martillo	09	04	-
El Palmar	Santa Rita	13	13	-
	Furlán Cámbara	30	33	-
	Sn. Pedrito	62	54	-
	La Estancia	52	41	-
	Las Flores	13	16	-
Coatepeque	Los Encuentros	20	16	-
	Chiquirines	56	53	-
	Carrizales	33	27	-
	El Izotal	-	10	-
Retalhuleu	Sn. Josè La Gloria II	09	13	07
	Las Brisas	10	09	12
	La Gomera	06	15	16
	Sn, José La Gloria I	39	43	36
	El Retiro	-	29	34
	Biloma	-	-	-
	La Guitarra	42	55	-
	Las Maduras	24	-	27
	Col. 20 de Octubre	36	36	32
	La Tortuga	-	29	28
	Sta. Isabel	-	-	26
	El Pijuy	-	-	26
	Chicales	-	-	28
El Humedo	-	-	16	
Total		708	805	367

Basic health care

1,997 people received consultation by skilled health workers in 12 medical brigade visits. 3,492 treatments were provided during these activities.

Mother and child receiving medical attention in a temporary shelter. All health activities were coordinated with the Ministry of Health. Source: Guatemalan Red Cross.



Date	Community	Branch	Number of people	Number of treatments	Personnel
2 Nov	El Jardín	Mazatenango	240	408	2 physicians 1 nurses 6 volunteers
3 Nov	Conrado de la Cruz		260	325	2 physicians 1 nurses 6 volunteers
04 Nov	Sta. Rita	El Palmar	122	195	6 physicians 4 Cuban physicians 6 volunteers
08 Nov	El Reparó	Coatepeque	135	210	2 physicians 6 volunteers
15 Nov	El Troje		162	255	2 physicians 6 volunteers
09 Nov	El Pomal		145	225	3 physicians 6 volunteers
02 Dec	Colón		160	245	2 physicians 6 volunteers
15 Dec	San Agustín		167	530	1 physician 6 volunteer
03 Dec	El Tiesto	Tecún Umán	165	245	1 Physician 1 nurse 7 volunteers
17 Dec	El Jardín		133	331	2 physicians 4 volunteers
	San José El Húmedo and Granada	Retalhuleu	308	523	2 physicians 4 volunteers
	TOTAL		1997	3492	

Follow up, monitoring, assessment and evaluation meetings were carried out during this reporting period by GRC volunteers. These meetings took place during community visits. Institutional coordination meetings were held with the Ministry of Health towards the coordinated development of activities in seven branches.

Objective 2: Families affected by hurricane Stan in Guatemala will have increased awareness of prevention of HIV and AIDS and sexual violence.

The HIV and AIDS project implemented by the Guatemalan Red Cross was already being carried out before the passage of hurricane Stan. After the storm, and taking into account the history indicating that the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV tends to rise in disaster situations due to the decrease in safer sex practices, it was considered necessary to include awareness-raising and prevention activities in the Plan of Action.

Towards the sustainability of the awareness, volunteers and community leaders participated in a replica of the course on HIV and Sexual Violence in Disaster Situations which was given in several of the branches and carried out in the context of a strategic alliance with the Centre for Investigation, Training and Support for Women (Centro para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo a la Mujer - CICAM). This course geared mainly towards volunteers who work in HIV and AIDS and STI related activities in the targeted communities.

The project objective was to strengthen volunteers' learning/teaching capacity regarding these subjects, especially considering the social context in which they would be working. This course was divided into four modules and addressed subjects such as Dissemination and Construction of a Gender Identity, Human Sexuality, Definition of Violence, Origin and Causes of Violence, Domestic Violence, Myths of Violence, Sexual Violence, Profile of the Offender, Sequels of Domestic and Sexual Violence.

In order to coordinate and promote the participation of the community, visits to the community were carried out as illustrated below:

NOVEMBER	Branch	Number of persons visited	Purpose of the visit	Target Group	Conclusions
2 to 22	Mazatenango	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue coordination with the Regional and local coordinators and the community leaders towards the continuity of the replica of the "Prevention of sexual violence and of HIV and AIDS in disaster situations" diploma. To continue coordination with the directors of the educational centres for the activities of "Together we can", "Juntos Sí Podemos" To thank the Regional, local coordinators, community leaders and directors for the support given to the GRC towards the fulfilment of the intervention in HIV and AIDS in their communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional, local coordinators and community leaders (COCODES) Directors of the educational centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make a coordinated and effective intervention of the "Together we can" diploma replica. It is important to continue with the support of the branches involved.
	El Palmar	2			
	Retalhuleu	3			
	Tecún Umán	3			
	Coatepeque	3			
27 to 29	Headquarters	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination meeting for administrative matters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local coordinators, regional coordination assistant and national coordinator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assertive and close inter-institutional as well as institutional communication is important for the achievement of goals.

The "Prevention of sexual violence and HIV in disaster situations" course focused on promoting the active participation of volunteers sharing their own experiences. This empowered the participants to impede domestic violence and HIV and to promote and support get-together and communication areas for the young and adult population and make them accessible. The participants were also trained on contraceptive methods and protocols in emergency situations in order to prevent HIV from spreading.

The course led to significant results. For example, during the Dissemination and Construction of a Gender Identity both men and women got to understand that women should be decision makers with respect to their health. They should not have to wait for their husbands' approval to make an appointment or visit the doctor. This result was achieved because the participants reflected on their personal experiences; they shared these experiences

and tried to find ways to improve their lives and situation. The course had an important impact on men as well: about 25 percent was impacted which is a high percentage in comparison to other experiences.

Finally, topics as Human Sexuality, Sexual Violence, Profile of the Offender, and Sequels of Domestic and Sexual Violence facilitated discussion and open communication on those subjects. The course was replicated in the following branches.

Date	Branch	Community	Topic	Target group	Number of participants		Total
					F	M	
November			Disasters and their relation to sexual violence and HIV and AIDS.	Affected families by the hurricane Stan.			
2-12	Tecún Umán	Las Delicias			33	13	46
		La Independencia			52	23	75
4	Coatepeque	El Pomal			17	16	33
2-8	Retalhuleu	Chicales			25	04	29
		Las Maduras			26	15	41
2-14	Mazatenango	Los Tiestos			40	20	60
		El Jardín			35	05	40
		Nueva Venecia			40	10	50
		San Mauricio			55	05	60
	El Palmar	Las Marías			33	09	42
		San Marcos			11	05	16
		Calahuaché			27	02	29
Total					394	127	521

Another activity towards the accomplishment of this objective was the development of tools and methodologies on topics such as: From Individual Development to Social development, Domestic Violence Prevention, Sexual Violence and HIV in Disaster Situations, which were used to address themes on HIV and AIDS and sexual violence.

Dates	Number of tools / produced methodologies	Tools / Methodologies	Target Group	Branch	Quantities distributed
August – November	4 Modules 2nd phase	From individual development to Social development. Diploma Domestic Violence Prevention, sexual violence and HIV in disaster situations	Volunteers, Coordinators (the selected participants were the ones who supported the Stan operations)	Tecún Umán	5
				Coatepeque	6
				Retalhuleu	11
				Mazatenango	10
				El Palmar	12
				Headquarter	2
Total					46

Theatre and HIV and AIDS

The theatre presentations aimed at using a new and unusual methodology – theatre – to sensitize people on the subject of HIV and AIDS. Although the original objective was to carry out nine presentations, a total of 11 programmed theatre presentations with key messages to increase HIV prevention awareness were carried out with support of Norwegian Red Cross. In addition, educational talks on the subject of HIV prevention and sexual violence were given to affected families. More information on these activities can be found on Operations Update no.6. <http://www.ifrc.org/where/appeals/allappeals.asp>.

Design and procurement of stands

Educational stands on the subject of HIV prevention and sexual violence were installed in the communities of Zanjón and San Lorenzo, Tecún Umán branch, in October. Around 100 people of all ages and both genders came by, met and participated in talks about the subject. Educational material on sexuality and HIV and AIDS was developed and distributed to them. The purpose of these stands was to reinforce the key messages sent during the theatre presentations.

Production and distribution of educational and visibility material

The work detailed in the table below started in October and November and validated, reproduced and distributed materials on topics such as: eradication law and prevention of violence inside the family, education and communication about women’s human rights, domestic violence, prevention of HIV, anti-stigma and discrimination.

Date	Quantity of produced material	Name of material produced	Target group	Branch	Community
November	500	Pamphlets of the eradication law and prevention of violence inside the family	Population in general	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tecún Umán • Coatepeque • Retalhuleu • Mazatenango • El Palmar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Las Delicias • La Independencia • El Pomal • El Troje • Las Maduras • Chicales • Los Tiestos • El Jardín • Las Marías • San Marcos
	500	Scripts on education and communication about women’s human rights			
	500	Filing cards on documents that families should have to report violence inside the family			
	1,500	T-shirts with key messages on prevention of HIV and AIDS anti-stigma and discrimination			
	500	Bumper stickers with the ‘Come closer “ACERCATE” campaign’ under the community contexts.			
	1,000	500 three-panel brochures on prevention and 500 on anti-stigma			
	100	Briefcases to carry materials used in the intervention with communities	Volunteers and coordinators		
Total	4,600		500		

Coordination meetings with strategic allies

The fact that the GRC invited all NGOs and governmental and international organizations to join efforts in the coordination of actions towards the optimization of resources allocated to the response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic in Guatemala, contributed significantly to the success of the operation. The meetings shown below correspond to November only as a sample of the ones held on a regular basis.

Date	Agenda	Number of meetings	Branch	Organization	Number of participants
November	Coordination and organization towards the commemoration of the World AIDS Day and monthly meeting of the South Western network	3	Headquarters	Lidera Proyecto Vida from Coatepeque	6
		2	Tecún Umán		14
		2	Coatepeque		
		2	Retalhuleu		
		2	Mazatenango		
		2	El Palmar		
	Periodical meetings of the ACSLCS executive board	3	Headquarter	Proyecto Vida. Marco Antonio foundation, GRC, PASMO, IDEL, ASI and PLAN INTERNACIONAL	7
ACSLCS Ordinary assembly	1	GRC conference room	Member organizations	30	
Press conference for the commemoration of the World AIDS Day	1	Radisson Hotel	HIV and AIDS national programme, governmental organizations and non governmental organizations and cooperation agencies	35	
Total		18			92

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

The psychosocial support component of the Hurricane Stan operation was an important component, given that the loss of human lives and material belongings had a significant psychological and emotional impact on the affected population. Emotional assistance to reduce psychosocial stress was provided to the communities described below between August and November, and facilitated with the support of the GRC Crisis Intervention Technicians (CIT) formed at the National Society before.

Branch	Community	Adults				Children			
		Ago	Sept	Oct	Total	Ago	Sept	Oct	Total
Mazatenango	San José Los Tiestos	50	40	100	190	60	100	250	410
Tecún Umán	Albergue "Las Delicias"	100	15	50	165	50		150	200
Retalhuleu	Chicales	45	-	-	45	45	15	-	60
	Village "La Independencia"	40	-	-	40	45	15	-	60

	TOTAL	235	55	150	440	200	130	400	670
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A sense of comfort was provided to the affected population through the arrival of the psychosocial support team in the communities. People are now able to talk about how the storm affected them. The project team worked closely with the IMCI medical brigades, as there were findings of psychosomatic ailments in some communities as a result of the loss experienced.

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.

In order to help GRC volunteers recover from the psychological impact the disaster had during and after it happened, workshops on psychosocial support were carried out for a total of 148 GRC volunteers; 58 from Tejutla, 81 from Serchil and nine from San Marcos. The topics were: individual drawing, relief sessions and relaxation techniques. Moreover, the workshop “In search of emotional recovery after a disaster” had the participation of 7 volunteers from Serchil, 3 from San Marcos and 8 from Tejutla. Topics were: Stress management, Psychological First Aid and relaxation techniques.

Water and Sanitation

Objective 5: The technical and operating capacity of the communities affected by hurricane Stan in the area of management, maintenance and sustainability of water and sanitation projects is strengthened and the ability to provide efficient water and sanitation assistance in the event of disaster is improved.

Families who benefited from activities within this objective received a total of 472 *composting latrines*. These latrines use solar energy to convert human solid waste – mixed with ashes or lime - into fertilizer that can be used in agriculture. This is an innovative system that involves the entire family unit. The training that was required to ensure appropriate use of latrines was provided by trained GRC volunteers.

In October and November, 167 composting latrines were installed in the Monseñor Romero community (85), El Jardín (29) El Martillo, (21) and Nueva Venecia (32) located in the area of action of the Mazatenango branch in the department of Suchitepequez. In addition, 223 latrines were built and are now being used in El Reparó (101), El Pomal (58) and Santa Fe (64) communities in the area of action of the Coatepeque branch.

Finally, in the department of Retalhuleu 82 families received latrines, 26 in Las Brisas, 56 in San Juan El Húmedo, which are areas of the Retalhuleu branch. Follow up and technical assistance visits were carried out in these communities. Unfortunately some complementary workshops to these activities were cancelled due to lack of funds even though the material for the presentations had already been produced.

In August training for members of the communities of El Reparó, El Pomal and Santa Fe were carried out, using the PHAST (Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation) method. Topics covered were: prevention of illness, good hygiene habits and how to avoid contamination. See table below for the specific information:

Community	Branch	Participants
El Reparó	Coatepeque	70 adults
El Pomal	Coatepeque	28 adults and 103 children
Santa Fe	Coatepeque	34 adults and 112 children

A second workshop on community management included the following topics: Water in emergencies, SODIS (Solar Water Disinfection System) and community organization; how to efficiently form board and delegate responsibilities, hand washing, school sanitation and correct use of latrines. 28 people, among them 6 women and 22 men, participated in this workshop.

Community-Based Disaster Preparedness

Objective 6: Community and institutional capacities are strengthened and support is provided to vulnerable people through disaster preparedness and prevention activities.

The main components of this project were VCA (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, used to draw up Prepared Community and Prepared Family Plans and to ensure appropriate identification of micro projects), NIT training, Community First Aid workshops and mitigation micro projects (small scale infrastructure for disaster preparedness) in 30 communities within the five targeted municipalities.

Using the VCA analysis, members of the community together with GRC volunteers were able to determine high priority needs and the viability of projects. Three last community diagnostics were carried out in October in the following communities: Las Marías (municipality of El Palmar, department of Quetzaltenango), El Tiesto (municipality of Tecún Umán, department of San Marcos) and Las Delicias temporary shelter in Tecún Umán (which was replaced by the community of San Antonio Los Tiestos). The 30 programmed community diagnostics were completed as shown below.



Communities in action. The VCA was done in order to draw up Prepared Community and Prepared Family Plans and to ensure appropriate identification of micro projects. Source: Guatemalan Red Cross.

Number	Branch	Communities	Beneficiary families
1	Mazatenango	Chicales	40
2		Churirin	150
3		Chiquistepeque	68
4		El Cristo	125
5		San Francisco Los Encuentros	40
6		Mangales	115
7	Tecún Umán	Mercedes	60
8		Margaritas	165
9		Olvido	190
10		El Triunfo	700
11		El Tiesto	95
12		San Antonio Los Angeles	572
13	Coatepeque	Carrizal	166
14		El Pomal	74
15		El Reparó	150
16		Los Encuentros	700
17		Santa Fe	200
18		El Troje	500
19	Retalhuleu	Las Maduras	82
20		Gomera	54
21		El Pijuy	138
22		San Juan el Húmedo	56
23		Chicales	41
24		Granada	146
25	El Palmar	El Tineco	539
26		Santa Rita	35
27		San Marcos	634

28		Horizonte	199
29		Calahuaché	550
30		Las Marías	381
		6,965	

The implementation of the 30 programmed community First Aid workshops was completed in September and 30 community “Prepared Family” workshops held in October and November, with the production of 68 family plans in the communities of Calahuaché and Las Marías respectively, surpassing the overall quantitative objective by 3.4 percent. The objective of this programme was achieved as the beneficiary families are now aware of the importance of prevention and can respond to natural disasters in an organized way.

Number	Department	Municipality	Branch	Community	Families according to survey	Existing family Plans
1	Quetzaltenango	El Palmar	El Palmar	San Marcos	634	25
2				El Tineco	539	41
3				Santa Rita	35	24
4				Horizonte	199	18
5				Calahuaché	381	34
6				Las Marías	550	34
7	Suchitepéquez	Mazatenango	Mazatenango	San José Chirín	160	58
8				Chicales	40	26
9				Chiquistepeque	82	50
10				El Cristo	125	60
11				Mangales	115	45
12				San Francisco Los Encuentros	40	42
13	Retalhuleu	Champerico	Retalhuleu	La Gomera	54	54
14				Chicales	41	19
15				Las Maduras	82	35
16				Granada	146	50
17				El Pijuy	138	44
18				San Juan el Húmedo	56	32
19	Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	Coatepeque	El Troje	500	55
20				El Carrizal	166	80
21				El Reparo	150	80
22				El Pomal	74	30
23				Los Encuentros	700	236
24				Santa Fe	200	23
25	San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Tecún Umán	Las Mercedes	62	45
26				Las Margaritas	100	39
27				El Tiesto	95	31
28				El Triunfo	700	127

29				El Olvido	190	84
30				San Antonio Los Ángeles	72	30
TOTAL					6,426	1,551
PROGRESS IN PERCENTAGE					214.20	103.4

In October and November, 30 pre-selected disaster mitigation micro projects were carried out. This initiative used a participative methodology, in that the selected communities were required to contribute to their particular project through labour, materials or both. This approach allowed the increased ownership by the community members.

Number	Branch	Community	Type of micro project	Community contribution	Benefited families	Estimated progress
1	Mazatenango	Chicales	Community kitchen	Block, cement, Wood and y labour force	40	100%
2		San Francisco Los Encuentros	Disaster response equipment	Community cleaning campaign	40	100%
3		Chiquistepeque	Community kitchen and stockroom	Sand, thin sheets, non qualified labour force, Word	82	100%
4		El Cristo	Community kitchen	Sand, thin sheets, non qualified labour force, Word	125	100%
5		San José Churirin	Response equipment	Community cleaning campaign	160	100%
6		Mangales	Disaster response equipment	Community cleaning campaign	115	100%
7	El Palmar	San Marcos	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning,	634	100%
8		Nueva Santa Rita	Rain water drainage	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning, and Labour force.	35	100%
9		Caserío El Horizonte	Pedestrian bridge	Labour force, stones, wood. Community participation.	199	100%
10		El Tineco	Community room	Installation of human barrier in school area.	539	100%
11		Calahuaché	Improvement of community room	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning, and Labour force.	550	100%
12		Las Marías	Improvement of convergence centre	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning, and Labour force.	381	100%
13	Retalhuleu	Chicales Retalhuleu	Community shelter	Sand, non qualified labour force, wood, hardware material, community participation.	41	100%
14		Aldea Granada	Community shelter	Sand, non qualified labour force, wood, hardware material, community participation.	146	100%
15		Aldea La Nueva Gomera Champerico	Community shelter	Sand, non qualified labour force, wood, hardware material, community participation.	54	100%
16		Las Maduras Naranjales Champerico	Community kitchen	Sand, non qualified labour force, wood, hardware material, community participation.	82	100%
17		El Rosario El Pijuy Sector	Pedestrian bridge	Sand, non qualified labour force, wood, hardware material, community participation.	138	100%
18		San Juan El Húmedo	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes,	56	100%

				community cleaning.		
19	Coatepeque	Carrizales	Improvement of pedestrian bridge and rescue boat	Motor purchase for boat.	166	105%
20		El Reparó Las Palmas	retaining walls for a school	sand, non qualified labour force, 150 chairs for community room.	150	100%
21		Los Encuentros	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning.	700	100%
22		El Pomal	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning.	74	100%
23		Santa Fe	Community shelter	Documented land and local materials.	200	100%
24		El Troje	Community kitchen	Necessary blocks for construction and labour force.	500	100%
25	Tecún Umán	Agrarian community Las Mercedes	Improvement of converging centre	Blocks and cement. Labour force.	62	100%
26		Aldea Margaritas	Community kitchen	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning, sand and labour force.	100	100%
27		Aldea El Olvido	Community kitchen	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning, sand and labour force.	190	100%
28		Aldea Sanjón El Tiesto	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning.	95	100%
29		Aldea El Triunfo	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning.	700	100%
30		Colonia San Antonio Los Ángeles	Response equipping	Participation in training of other GRC programmes, community cleaning.	72	100%
TOTAL					6,426	100%

Each one of the micro projects was developed with the participation of community members who had earlier received training on the particularities of the project being carried out. The community also provided labour force and some additional material needed, according to each project. Moreover, each community grew to be committed to look after the work done and the equipment received and keep it up to date and level.

Implementation of early warning systems

In order to improve the conditions in the vulnerable areas towards a better response, the improvement process includes the incorporation of “early warning systems” especially at the shore of large rivers. These systems allow the measuring of water levels and especially the expansion of riverbeds in order to alert the communities of possible floods and start evacuation or take other caution measures.

To implement these systems, a workshop on “Management of community early warning systems” was carried out and was attended by 18 community leaders from Suchiate, Ocos, Sis and Ican. The communities of El Cristo (Mazatenango), El Pomal (Coatepeque) and Las Mercedes (Tecún Umán) - also participating in the project - were provided with equipment to monitor the water levels in each region. Representatives of the CONRED from the southwest region and fire fighters from Tecún Umán, San Marcos, also provided support towards community and institutional coordination. During the reporting period the following were some of the most important activities:

- Personnel training in community disaster preparedness.
- Strengthening of the community organization which provides better community organizational structure to inform and train the population at risk as well as basic rescue equipment.

- An archive which lists the members of the community committees was generated; it has also been copied to CONRED.
- Each early warning community system was installed at a practical distance from the responsible community. A total of 5 measuring systems now help establish and monitor the increasing water levels in the areas below:

Department	Municipality	Community	River
Suchitepéquez	Mazatenango	El Cristo	Icán
Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	El Pomal	Pacayá, Ocosito
San Marcos	Tecún Uman	Las Mercedes	Cabuz y Suchiate

The equipments installed in the communities mentioned above include:

- 5100 Motorola Radios with 64 channels with 25 - watt screens in VHF 136-174 MHz which include microphone, cables and bracket.
- 2 Hustler antennae model G-7-1 VHF.
- 2 power fountains 20 ampere RS-20BB
- 6 tensors
- 3 tubes to place the antennae.
- 30 metres of coaxial cable.
- 2 Connectors model PL-259 for RG-8
- 2 PL-259 cables for Motorola base
- 2 connectors for RG-8
- 2 Acedelco batteries 12 volts, 105 ampere
- 2 HVD-LVD charge controllers
- 2 lamps type PL 9 watts
- 2 installation materials.
- 40 metres of AWG 2*10 TSJ cable
- 3 river level measure units

Thanks to this equipment, the communities can communicate with each other and with the emergency organizations. As mentioned above, the systems will help the community prevent and be alert to possible floods in order to initiate evacuation and other actions to prevent disasters.

Formulation of 20 Community Response plans

In order to complement the process, during October and November, community plans for emergency and disaster response were formulated in the communities of Calahuaché and Las Marías in the municipality of El Palmar Quetzaltenango, reaching 100 percent of the expectations:

Number	Department	Municipality	Branch	Community	Existing community plans
1	Quetzaltenango	El Palmar	El Palmar	San Marcos	1
2				El Tineco	1
3				Santa Rita	1
4				Horizonte	1
5				Calahuaché	1
6				Las Marías	1

7	Suchitepéquez	Mazatenango	Mazatenango	San José Chirín	1
8				Chicales	1
9				Chiquistepeque	1
10				El Cristo	1
11				Mangales	1
12				San Francisco Los Encuentros	1
13	Retalhuleu	Champerico	Retalhuleu	La Gomera	1
14				Chicales	1
15				Las Maduras	1
16				Granada	1
17				El Pijuy	1
18				San Juan el Húmedo	1
19	Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	Coatepeque	El Troje	1
20				El Carrizal	1
21				El Reparó	1
22				El Pomal	1
23				Los Encuentros	1
24				Santa Fe	1
25	San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Tecún Umán	Las Mercedes	1
26				Las Margaritas	1
27				El Tiesto	1
28				El Triunfo	1
29				El Olvido	1
30				San Antonio Los Ángeles	1
TOTAL					30
PROGRESS IN PERCENTAGE					100%

Organization of 20 community response committees

These disaster response committees were organized in community assemblies based on the structure recommended by the Seconred (Executive Secretariat of the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction). They will be the focal points towards the implementation of specific activities according to their roles. The structure used for the formation of local coordinators for disaster reduction is composed of the following teams: decision-making, planning, emergency response, first aid, damage and needs assessment, food provision, search and rescue, safety, transportation, shelter and evacuation. During October and November more than 50 percent was completed in the organization of the community disaster response committees called Local Coordinators for Disaster Reduction (Colred) in the following departments:

Number	Department	Municipality	Branch	Colredes formed
1	Quetzaltenango	El Palmar	El Palmar	01
2				01
3				01
4				01
5				01
6				01
7	Suchitepéquez	Mazatenango	Mazatenango	01
8				01
9				01
10				01
11				01
12				01
13	Retalhuleu	Champerico	Retalhuleu	01
14				01
15				01
16				01
17				01
18				01
19	Quetzaltenango	Coatepeque	Coatepeque	01
20				01
21				01
22				01
23				01
24				01
25	San Marcos	Tecún Umán	Tecún Umán	01
26				01
27				01
28				01
29				01
30				01
Total				30
PROGRESS IN PERCENTAGE				100%

Implementation of training for public education teachers in the “Protected School” module at 30 schools.

The schools selected for this module are always prone to disasters like volcanoes, earthquakes and floods; hence it is crucial that teachers as well as students know how to proceed in these situations whether they are at home, school or any other environment. By November, all “Protected School” Module plans had been completed through 12 training sessions at the following schools: Granada, Champerico Retalhuleu; El Tiesto, El Triunfo Matutina, El Triunfo Vespertina, El Olvido, San Antonio Los Angeles and Las Delicias. The content of the course included: risk diagnosis at school level: threats, vulnerabilities and capacities; school plan for risk reduction; emergency response plan, stress in school emergencies, and organization of response commissions: composition

and tasks, simulations and drills in practical and theoretical contents, formulation of emergency response school plans.

Installation of the GRC national radio communication system.

The purchases for the implementation of this communication system were done after several quotations were carried out and the right installation of the equipment was ensured. VHF frequency was assigned by the Telecommunications Office for the implementation of this project. 13 radio repeaters and 198 radios were installed. The GRC now has a communication system that covers 100 percent of its locations, vehicles and personnel and 90 percent of the Guatemalan national territory.

- A training model has been produced and shared with a delegate from the Federation. Training on the correct use of the equipments was provided in each beneficiary Branch.
- 10 electrical generators were purchased for the GRC branches in Quetzaltenango, El Palmar, San Marcos, Tejutla, Concepción Chiquirichapa, Serchil, Retalhuleu, Mazatenango, Coatepeque and Tecún Umán. This activity had not been included in the operational plan, but was made possible through the reallocation of some remaining funds as the equipment to strengthen the capacities of the branches to respond in emergency situations was considered important.

Impact

- Some 50,250 people affected by floods benefited from the distribution of food and non-food relief items that helped them recover from the effects of the floods.
- The VCA (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment) methodology was implemented as part of the work with communities.
- All operations were carried out using local capacities; deployment of Federation staff was kept to a minimum, which allowed for the experience gained in operation management to stay with the National Society. As an example, all relief items were distributed by volunteers.
- Communities have benefited from restored water systems. Moreover, people are now aware of the importance of the proper use of water.
- Community participation in decision making when working in micro-projects and strategies towards risk reduction has been enhanced. The communities are more interested now in producing proposals with a new focus on risk reduction.
- Communities that benefited by this Appeal have become more participative; for instance, they contributed with materials and resources to facilitate the complementation of materials acquired through the Appeal for the implementation of the projects.
- The participation of men has been constantly promoted in the approach towards prevention of intra-family violence, sexual violence and HIV and AIDS in the targeted communities.
- There was an important increase in the participation of young people from the beneficiary communities. For instance, Community Development Committees (COCODES – Comité Comunitario de Desarrollo) have a strong and active participation of youth.
- The goals that his Appeal set out to accomplish were reached and surpassed, which translates into basic needs having been met for the target communities. Furthermore, the rehabilitation activities helped communities by providing them with tools and knowledge that will help them be better prepared for future disasters.



Distribution of relief items to affected families in Costa Rica. Source: Costa Rican Red Cross.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The activities carried out by the different National Societies captured the attention of the media and were widely broadcast. This served to enhance the image of the Movement, and specifically of the GRC. In addition the GRC

organized publications by the end of November 2006 in order to announce not only the rehabilitation process but also the prevention and risk reduction programmes in the communities. A memory volume was published by the GRC in April 2007.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Beneficiary selection criteria were focused on the vulnerability of those affected.
- The relief operation prioritized assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities were based on the SPHERE Project Humanitarian Charter and the Code of Conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency was ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal were 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 operation in Guatemala has helped to further build the capacities of the National Society headquarters and branches as it also did with the rest of National Societies. Further emphasis was placed on strengthening the branches, and disaster preparedness and mitigation work in vulnerable communities.

Monitoring and evaluation

- All National Societies have had systems which allowed the measurement of the operational development and make the necessary adjustments to respect the plan of action and the objectives there stated.
- In addition, all National Societies included assessment and evaluation meetings during and at the end of the respective operations. As a complement to this, the Federation has commissioned an external evaluation for this operation which is being finalized and will be available to the public soon.
- The GRC as a National Society is strong in disaster prevention, thereby ensuring an effective monitoring and evaluation system.

Lessons learned

As mentioned in the previous section, a final evaluation was commissioned to a consultant group at the end of the Hurricane Stan Operation. Two of the main purposes of this study were 1) to obtain beneficiary feedback as a way of evaluating the services provided by the Movement and 2) to compile lessons learned from the experience, as it involved many actors within and outside of the Movement. The study revealed that by having completed all the activities planned at the community level, there was a sense of satisfaction amongst beneficiaries that lasted after the operation ended, which translates into a positive impact. At an institutional level, the National Societies involved in the operation were able to learn from the experience in many ways, but especially in terms of the efficiency in managing post-disaster operations. If there were to be an action in response to a disaster, the ownership of the recommendations and lessons learned of the study would put any of the National Societies in the region in a better position to respond.

The study will soon be available in English and Spanish on the Panama Regional Representation's website at <http://www.cruzroja.org>.

Lessons learned internally after finalizing the operation include:

- It is necessary to recognize the limited capacities of the National Society to appropriately manage the donations provided in case of emergency; there should be a more adequate financial control. The National Societies have financial systems that allow controlling in a transparent way, but it is still highly advisable that each NS revises its systems to improve these processes, especially when preparing immediate financial reports.

- In order to better identify priority areas, risk mapping around the country should be constantly updated.
- Internal communication should be constantly improved among the participating agents; especially during the operation of coordinated actions.
- Relief items should be in stock and ready to be sent to the field, especially during the disaster season; in addition, agreements with important suppliers in order to have ready-to-distribute relief goods, should be made.
- Efforts should be made in order to improve the quality of initial damage assessments; these should be documented in order to improve monitoring in the final evaluations. This would also help to better organize the process and control the food distributions, based on previous census.
- It would be advisable to pre-stock kits for infants and children in preparation for future emergencies.
- Psychosocial support should be provided for volunteers and staff during every operation similar to this one. Materials used for this purpose should be improved; operation evaluation meetings can be used as an opportunity for such interventions.
- The Finance departments should be part of the team that prepares the plans of action so that constant follow up is provided in support of the operations team.
- Some National Societies have improved and systematized their procedures; these processes should be sustained and reinforced.
- The Hurricane Stan Operation has been very valuable for the analysis of capacities. In spite of some internal problems, the response and rehabilitation phases of the operation were well received.
- It is important for each National Society to define clear roles among the management and government personnel.
- There are no national policies that support a sustainable rehabilitation process and that simultaneously go along with the projects initiated and carried out by the Red Cross.
- One of the main critiques on the government was the delay in the decision-making process because of political reasons; the lack of social and technical criteria; and the fact that it prioritized infrastructural restoration over social rehabilitation. Because of this criticism, the government provided the National Secretariat with a response team on risk reduction later in the process.

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
M05EA021 - CENTRAL AMERICA - FLOODS FROM HURRICANE STAN
Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2005/1-2007/05
Budget Timeframe	2005/1-2007/05
Appeal	M05EA021
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		6,175,760				6,175,760
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		240,735				240,735
Andorra Red Cross		30,246				30,246
British Red Cross		227,800				227,800
Canadian Red Cross		1,021,520				1,021,520
Danish Red Cross		156,763				156,763
ECHO		545,279				545,279
Finnish Red Cross		210,134				210,134
French Red Cross		46,634				46,634
Irish Government		622,800				622,800
Japanese Red Cross		202,611				202,611
Lichtenstein - Private Donors		150,000				150,000
Monaco Red Cross		15,455				15,455
Netherlands Red Cross		1,188,018				1,188,018
New Zealand Red Cross		8,916				8,916
Norwegian Red Cross		484,802				484,802
On Line donations		16,988				16,988
Swedish Red Cross		167,000				167,000
Swiss Red Cross		100,000				100,000
Switzerland - Private Donors		15,883				15,883
United States - Private Donors		1,579				1,579
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief		1,035				1,035
C1. Cash contributions		5,454,196				5,454,196
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
Netherlands Red Cross		80,294				80,294
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		80,294				80,294
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
Canadian Red Cross		-0				-0
ECHO		0				0
Finnish Red Cross		0				0
Irish Government		0				0
Irish Red Cross		0				0
Japanese Red Cross		0				0
On Line donations		0				0
Swedish Red Cross		0				0
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		-0				-0
<u>Other Income</u>						
Miscellaneous Income		3,254				3,254
C6. Other Income		3,254				3,254
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		5,537,744				5,537,744
D. Total Funding = B +C		5,537,744				5,537,744

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II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		5,537,744				5,537,744
E. Expenditure		-5,443,913				-5,443,913
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		93,832				93,832

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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)		6,175,760					6,175,760	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	743,280		32,565				32,565	710,714
Construction Materials			47,003				47,003	-47,003
Clothing & textiles	190,555		226,303				226,303	-35,749
Food	1,014,272		1,015,864				1,015,864	-1,591
Water & Sanitation	383,915		333,520				333,520	50,395
Medical & First Aid	107,509		48,946				48,946	58,563
Teaching Materials	15,151		4,452				4,452	10,699
Utensils & Tools	636,575		535,780				535,780	100,796
Other Supplies & Services	451,570		490,628				490,628	-39,058
Total Supplies	3,542,827		2,735,062				2,735,062	807,765
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings	143,922		15,588				15,588	128,334
Vehicles			44,561				44,561	-44,561
Computers & Telecom	14,679		224,036				224,036	-209,357
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.			5,714				5,714	-5,714
Medical Equipment			8,894				8,894	-8,894
Others Machinery & Equipment			20,402				20,402	-20,402
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	158,601		319,196				319,196	-160,596
Transport & Storage								
Storage	217,113		29,976				29,976	187,137
Distribution & Monitoring			236,702				236,702	-236,702
Transport & Vehicle Costs	200,028		199,943				199,943	84
Total Transport & Storage	417,141		466,621				466,621	-49,480
Personnel Expenditures								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	75,123		118,897				118,897	-43,774
Delegate Benefits	4,012							4,012
Regionally Deployed Staff	689,875		120,446				120,446	569,429
National Staff			319,977				319,977	-319,977
National Society Staff			334,536				334,536	-334,536
Consultants	53,328		33,009				33,009	20,320
Total Personnel Expenditures	822,338		926,864				926,864	-104,526
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	305,386		120,292				120,292	185,094
Total Workshops & Training	305,386		120,292				120,292	185,094
General Expenditure								
Travel	163,688		156,232				156,232	7,455
Information & Public Relation	139,148		125,447				125,447	13,701
Office Costs	143,193		127,804				127,804	15,389
Communications	46,217		63,195				63,195	-16,978
Professional Fees	7,741		38,107				38,107	-30,365
Financial Charges	26,352		-2,204				-2,204	28,555
Other General Expenses	1,704		7,304				7,304	-5,600
Total General Expenditure	528,043		515,886				515,886	12,157
Program Support								
Program Support	401,424		353,854				353,854	47,570
Total Program Support	401,424		353,854				353,854	47,570
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			6,138				6,138	-6,138
Total Operational Provisions			6,138				6,138	-6,138
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	6,175,760		5,443,913				5,443,913	731,847

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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)			6,175,760				6,175,760	
VARIANCE (C - D)			731,847				731,847	