

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central America: Hurricane Felix

Emergency appeal n° MDR43002
Glide No. TC- 2007-000157
Operations update n° 7
29 December 2008

Period covered by this operations update: 29 May 2008 to 22 December 2008.

Appeal target (current): CHF 1,371,000 (USD 1,240,725 or EUR 856,875);
Appeal coverage: 100%

[<Click here to go to the interim financial report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 200,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the Red Cross Societies of Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua to respond to the immediate needs.
- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 6 September 2007 for CHF 992,673 (USD 825,165 or EUR 601,620) for nine months to assist 23,250 beneficiaries.
- On 25 September 2007 the budget was revised to CHF 1,105,000 (USD 918,537 or EUR 672,141).
- On 30 October 2007 the budget was revised to CHF 1,147,000 (USD 979,505 or EUR 690,964) for nine months to assist 30,208 beneficiaries (5,370 families)
- On 18 March 2008 the budget was revised to CHF 1,371,000 (USD 1,240,725 or EUR 856,875) for nine months to assist 31,658 beneficiaries (5,660 families)
- On 22 July 2008, the Appeal was revised for an additional six months to assist the three National Societies in increasing the capacity of three communities as well as their own institutional capacity in face of future emergencies and the structural food crisis affecting the region



Training in food conservation in the community of El Tule. Source: Honduran Red Cross.

Summary:

The relief phase has been completed and approximately 5,660 families in the affected countries of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua have been provided with relief items such as hygiene kits, kitchen kits, blankets and food parcels. These families therefore saw their immediate needs met after the losses and damages caused by Hurricane Felix.

In March 2008, the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) handed the pending activities over to the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico while livelihood rehabilitation activities were still being implemented in Honduras.

Thanks to generous contributions to this Emergency Appeal, the Regional Representation took the opportunity to develop three projects in three communities of the affected countries. The innovative programme promotes

an integrated approach involving better trained and prepared volunteers to adequately respond to the needs of the targeted communities, which were initially affected by the hurricane. The programme encompasses three main and broad areas: a) micro projects on food security; 2) interventions in psychosocial support; and 3) strengthening of the volunteer network within the local Red Cross branches by integrating new volunteers from the three communities to sustain Red Cross actions. These projects are reaching 1,182 direct beneficiaries (256 in Guatemala, 252 in Honduras and 674 in Nicaragua) and 196 Red Cross volunteers and permanent staff trained in psychosocial support, Humanitarian and Principles Values and volunteer network management.

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 31 December 2008; a Final Report will be made available by 31 March 2009 (three months after the end of the operation).

Conversations with donors are ongoing in order to implement follow up and systematization activities as well as gender actions in the next three months.

The situation

Hurricane Felix was categorized on 4 September as the second hurricane of the 2007 Atlantic season making landfall in north-eastern Nicaragua as a category five hurricane. It moved inland over north-eastern Honduras and Nicaragua and downgraded to a tropical depression, but still managed to severely affect thousands of families in **Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua** with heavy rainfall and flooding.

As Hurricane Felix gravely affected people's lives and livelihoods, the governments and National Societies of the affected countries worked arduously to assess the needs and damages and provide support as well as relief assistance to approximately 40,887 families.

Right after the emergency phase, a programme of agricultural rehabilitation got started in Honduras in March 2008 as part of the recovery phase.

However, despite the fact that the relief and early recovery phase has already been implemented, communities remain highly vulnerable taking into account the chronic vulnerability (roughly 17 million Central Americans live below the poverty line) they face and the new challenges they deal with such as the structural food crisis that will worsen the consequence of any natural hazard that could affect the region.

Following International Development Bank studies, the global food prices had seen an increase of 68 percent in the first three months of 2008, the price of rice had doubled, corn was up 128 percent and wheat jumped 163 percent. Not all of these higher prices have been passed through to the consumer, but in Central America and

other poor regions nearly all family income is spent on food. For example, in Honduras, 84 percent of the family budget is spent on food. Thus, higher prices literally mean the consumption of less food and a higher vulnerability.



A mother is looking at the devastation brought on by Hurricane Felix. Source: International Federation

Subsequently, the National Societies of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua and the Federation's Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico are currently implementing a food security programme. The remainder of the funds will aid to develop resilience at community level and capacity building of National Societies ensuring better preparedness for the hurricane season and the structural food crisis. Capacity building within the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC), Honduran Red Cross (HRC) and Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) is aimed to tackling the thematic of food insecurity as a consequence of natural disasters but as well as a consequence of a deeper structural crisis taking into account the chronic food insecurity situation.

Coordination and partnerships

The Hurricane Felix operation was handed over from PADRU to the Regional Representation Office for Central America and Mexico in March 2008. A consultant was hired to carry out an assessment of the remaining needs and to elaborate a plan of action in close coordination with the National Societies of the affected countries, the Regional Representation, PADRU and the Regional Representation's programmes team. The Plan of Action (PoA) was a result of a close coordination between all the stakeholders of the region.

Moreover, National Societies have developed alliances with key partners such as: the Honduran Ministry of Health, the Guatemalan and Nicaraguan Ministry of Agriculture and other local institutions. Both ministries have provided technical support to the ongoing activities on health and food security and would be able to sustain support to the communities.

In addition, the three National Societies have received support from Red Cross partners, including the American Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

As the income to the Appeal amounted to CHF 1,371,000 which was more than the original CHF 992,673 appealed for, a revised work plan and budget formed the basis of the revised Appeal, published on 23 July. The revised appeal emphasized a community-level approach in providing longer-term support to the communities affected by the hurricane, and in building the capacities of the three National Societies, mainly at branch level, to increase resilience of the communities.

The work plan focuses on three communities (one per country) affected by Felix, that face food insecurity. The three communities are benefiting from community-based programmes and are being supported by the three local branches, which consequently benefit from the planned activities. The three identified communities are: Quetzalito in the Izabal province (Guatemala), El Tule in the Potrerillos province (Honduras) and Truhlaya in the region of Puerto Cabezas (Nicaragua),

One of the challenges in this initiative was to keep the project design simple and with sustainable support given the short period for implementation (six months) and to ensure that sufficient means were available for beneficiaries' needs and for capacity building activities within the National Society branches.

The main objective of the interventions is to enhance and enable the community to invest in its own food security by providing sustainable capacity, strengthening coping strategies and identifying exit strategies. The results of the participatory and multi-disciplinary assessments confirmed the main objectives of the projects:

- Increasing households' access to food, education and health services as an integral support and enhancing their financial resources;
- Strengthening their ability to assist others, leading to positive social implications with promotion of Red Cross volunteering vocation and constant community participatory approach;
- Reducing communities vulnerability to disaster through diversification of income and source of alimentation
- Promoting resilience through personal and community coping strategies;
- Enhancing support capacity of the Red Cross branch to alleviate sufferings of people:
- Sustaining the support through local alliances with permanent actors involved in the sectors of interventions (Ministries, local authorities, community committees) and guarantee access to local expertise and assistance in technical issues.

The expected results and activities envisaged in the Revised Appeal were elaborated taking into account the general objectives of the new Plan of Action. Subsequently, after the assessments were carried out in each community, outcomes and activities were adapted to the local content and capacity of each community and Red Cross branch.

Progress towards objectives

Community Risk Reduction	
Objective: Prepare communities to face long term food insecurity and help communities to become more resilient by developing community based food security programmes	
Expected results	Activities Planned
Food security interventions are based on outcomes from participatory and multi-disciplinary assessments among communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments on the food security situation within the communities carried out by well trained National Society staff. The assessment team will consist of a representative of each programme in order to ensure an overall assessment and multidisciplinary approach.
<p>Community based projects related to long term food security are implemented (projects to be defined within the communities).</p> <p>Sense of ownership of the projects amongst the communities is promoted through the adaptation of specific needs at personal, family and community level and implying active participation of beneficiaries.</p> <p>PSP interventions have alleviated sufferings within the communities.</p> <p>A better prepared and strengthened volunteering network is promoted within the communities encouraging a better sense of unity.</p> <p>Local branches of National Societies are strengthened to ensure better community support of National Societies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on assessments, cross-cutting community based micro projects are implemented in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk reduction: Evaluation of food security followed by community based projects. These can include sustainable farming, building warehouses for storage, and cash for work. Psychosocial support: communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist the community members with recovering from the effects of the hurricane and overall difficulties they are facing. Capacity building: Strengthening of the volunteer network through the dissemination of the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Principles and Values (HPV). Some volunteers, members of the community, will be trained in HPV methodology to ensure a constant support within the community. Final evaluation of the projects carried out within the communities. The evaluation team consists of a representative of each programme.
Coordination is enhanced with present PNS to increase resilience and reach more beneficiaries.	

Progress towards objective

In August 2008, **three multidisciplinary assessments** took place in each of the three branches and three communities identified by their National Society with common criteria: they were branches and communities part of the region affected by Felix, communities with high level of vulnerability in food security, and branches previously involved in the emergency phase.

The objectives of the assessment were to produce **three diagnoses**: an **institutional diagnosis** at branch level, an **emotional diagnosis** at volunteers' and communities' level and a **nutritional diagnosis** at community level in order to develop complementary food and non food security interventions. The interventions aimed to identify how the communities and branches can address the main causes of food insecurity and vulnerability at the local level. After the assessments were carried out a clearer picture was formed to develop

The food security and non-food security interventions conducted in each community resulted in a series of outcomes per country and area.

In Honduras: The underlying causes of food insecurity include lack of available land, land with low productivity levels, lack of capacity to generate enough funds to tackle food shortages, lack of storage capacity and lack of basic sanitation infrastructure. The food security intervention helped to expand on the specific needs of the community, resulting in the following outcomes regarding the area of risk reduction:

- Dependence on a single crop is decreased, as nutritional value of family diets were diversified and enhanced and additional sources of income were provided.
- Livestock activities allow optimising the use of land and are viable means of reducing vulnerability.
- A better storage capacity for the harvest is created, which facilitates the selling of the crops for a better market price or/and long term storage in order to cope with food shortage.

Up to date, the HRC distributed food parcels for 30 days during the emergency phase. An intervention based on livestock capacity is being promoted. 100 chicks and 25 pigs in the community of El Tule were introduced and an agronomist is providing technical assistance in management of livestock. A vaccination campaign for all livestock living in the community was as well carried out. The National Society is promoting hygiene and cleanliness as well as the creation of a health committee within the community.

The National Society provided 22 silos to 22 families that have no storage capacity. A Red Cross volunteer from the local branch trained 20 people from the community on food preservations techniques.

In Nicaragua: The community severely affected by the hurricane has lost its capacity to recover from the disaster or to develop coping strategies. Families in Truhlaya have lost all the seeds and livestock. In addition, the savings some families had were lost. The Nicaraguan Red Cross intervention helped to assess specific needs of the community, resulting in the following outcomes regarding the area of risk reduction:

- Agriculture skills are enhanced and harvest capacity is restored with technical assistance applying good environmental practices (auto production of botanic pesticides and organic fertilizers).
- Communal gardens are created allowing for diversification of the daily diet, generating new incomes and promoting a better social organisation.
- Technical assistance is provided in the construction of ecological fogones (ovens) reducing gas emission and respiratory problem of children.
- Alliances have been set up and allow for better access to technical assistance and sustainability of the support to the community.

In October, in cooperation with the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Attention to Disaster (Secretaria Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres – SINAPRED), immediate food security needs were met through the distributions of food. These were carried out as a food-for-work activity during which community members cleaned land for cultivation purposes.

Soils were diagnosed in the community and after taking into account cultural patterns and after negotiations with community members, beans were chosen as the crop of the micro-project. Consequently, 104 head of families were trained in the cultivation of bean crops. Beans are well suited for the soil of the region, and require little soil preparation in comparison to other crops such as rice.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has set up an alliance with the Municipality of Puerto Cabeza, the Ministry of Agriculture and SINAPRED to receive support, technical assistance and follow up during the post phase of the project.

36 families were trained and participated in the construction of ecological fogones (ovens) helping to reduce respiratory problems in children as fumes are not contained within the house, 100 percent of the beneficiaries were trained in the production of botanic pesticides and organic fertilizers.



Pigs distributed to the community in Honduras. Source: Honduran Red Cross

Also, 100 percent of the women in the community are participating in the garden activities and received training on gardening skills and how to sustain the crop by replication of seeds. Moreover, 15 communal gardens and three individual gardens are under progress and are receiving permanent technical assistance.

In order to ensure the maintenance and proper control of the communal gardens, female committees have been established within each sub community. An official document was created explaining the management of the gardens and role; this document was recognized by the group of elders of the community as well.

In Guatemala: The community relies on income from daily work in an extensive multinational company. Consequently, the community of Quetzalito is also extremely vulnerable to the fluctuation of food prices of the local market. In addition, Subsistence agriculture is not well developed in the community. The intervention helped to expand on the specific needs of the community, resulting in the following outcome regarding risk reduction:

- Backyard gardens are used for home-consumption production. Additionally, the gardens are used to provide a surplus for sale helping the community supplement their diet and their incomes.
- Food for work activities were developed following severe floods occurred during the implementation of the project allowing for the construction of latrines in the school. Foods items are distributed within the community to the families involved in the construction.

The Guatemalan Red Cross has developed an alliance with Ministry of Agriculture, and received technical support on livestock from an agronomy expert from the Ministry. In addition, 47 families (100 percent of families) are actively participating in production of backyard gardens. Up to date, 39 people were trained in gardening techniques and maintenance of gardens.

The severe floods affected the gardens and only eight of them were saved. As a result, new distributions of seeds were organized and nowadays 47 families have the capacity to produce crops in the gardens.

Capacity Building and Organizational Development

Objective: Strengthen National Societies capacity in disaster and crisis preparedness and response	
Expected results	Activities Planned
Food security programme activities to strengthen the capacities of the National Society are scaled up.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of Trainers on carrying out assessments at community level, including in-field training in an affected zone using the Federation's Food Security Evaluation Guidelines. The training will be facilitated by a specialist on Food Security from the Federation's Secretariat and an expert on livelihood from Spanish Red Cross
The three National Societies scaled up their capacity to implement integrated community based food security projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting and reconstruction of the affected Red Cross branches. • Purchase of IT equipment and office tools enabling local branches to support their communities. • Institutional strengthening of the capacities of the organizational development branch team in each country. • Awareness-raising session on Food Security during the meeting of the Presidents of the National Societies. • Signing of a common statement that outlines the involvement of the National Societies in order to tackle the food security problem.
The three National Societies are promoting multilateral support and are working with other agencies in their countries.	
The two Regional Centres of Reference are better equipped to sustain the knowledge and practices on food security and to support National Societies with the integration of food security in their National Contingency Plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two regional Centres of Reference participate in the Training of Trainers to strengthen their skills and knowledge to help the communities.

Progress towards objective

In 20 - 21 June 2008 all the Red Cross members of the Region gathered order to raise awareness within the Movement on the food security issues and to build up strong internal political basis. A joint statement was signed by all the National Societies of the region, the Regional Representation Office and the Zone Office.

In July 2008, a Food Security Assessment regional training was held in San Pedro Sula capacitating 31 staff members and volunteers from National Societies, Partner National Societies active in the Region and staff from the Regional Representation. The training was facilitated by expert on food security from the Secretariat in Geneva thanks to the support of the Spanish Red Cross. The participants were trained in the use of the Food Security Evaluation guidelines translated and printed in Spanish with DIPECHO funding.



Members of the community of Truhlaya during the soil diagnosis. Source: Nicaraguan Red Cross

Training sessions on Volunteering Management in accordance with the International Federation directives took place in the GRC, HRC and NRC during September and October 2008. Two key staffs of each National Society and a total of 88 volunteers (in charge of Youth, of women group...) from branches are now capable of strengthening the existing volunteer's network and to provide further support to develop and integrate new volunteers from the communities.

Financial assistance was also provided to the National Societies to ensure effective financial monitoring supported by the local project coordinators hired in each of the three branches.

In Honduras, training in Relief Food distributions methodology will be done end of November 2008 for at least 15 volunteers from the branch due to the prone disaster context of the region.

Moreover, the institutional diagnosis of capacities branch level permitted to design tailored support and capacity building strategies to each branch. This allows the branches and volunteer's networks to endorse the project and provide better support to the community. A constant involvement of the volunteers trained in the implementation of the project is promoted in the three branches.

As mentioned before, the interventions conducted in each community resulted in a series of outcomes per country and area. The main outcome regarding the area of capacity building in the local branches for Honduras and Nicaragua was:

- New community Red Cross volunteers are identified and in charge of consolidating social cohesion, diffusing humanitarian principles amongst the population and carrying on the relationship with the Red Cross branch.

In Honduras, ten new community volunteers have been identified and are now integrated to the volunteer network of the branch, which is supporting the ongoing operation. As well in Nicaragua, 20 volunteers were identified and trained. Moreover two trainings were carried out by the volunteers on humanitarian values and principles with the participation of women and men from the Truhlaya community.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Objective: Promote the role of the National Societies as auxiliary to their Government by elaborating a contingency plan at national and local level, integrating the support from inter-agencies, national authorities and Partner National Societies.

Expected results	Planned Activities
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Food security programmes are included in the national and local disaster and contingency plans based on the context analysis on food security per country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of a contingency plan focused on Food Security. • Participation of the central and local branches of the National Societies and partners in the elaboration of the contingency plan to ensure a well integrated Red Cross response in the national response system.
National Societies are prepared for and can respond to the next hurricane season and the food security crisis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of National Societies at the regional pre-hurricane meeting aiming to strengthen National Societies' capacities in prevention and response activities.

Progress towards objective

In order to strengthen the National Society capacities to cope with the seasonal tropical storms and hurricane that affect the region each year, the Guatemalan Red Cross actively participated during the 2008 pre-hurricane meeting held in Panama.

In Honduras, the first draft of the contingency plan has already been elaborated and shared with the National Society to gather further feedback. In Guatemala and Nicaragua, the contingency plans are being elaborated. These contingency plans will have a special focus on food security and are based in on the evaluations carried out at community level.

Health and Care

Objective: Build the capacity of National Societies in the response to the Food Security Crisis through a PSP programme

Expected Results	
National Societies are able to address the psychosocial needs of vulnerable populations (affected by HIV, and other public health issues such as food insecurity).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of trainers with professional background in Health or Psychology and the volunteers with experience with the subject and favourable personal abilities. • Training of trainers and volunteers on PSP using the 'Helping to Heal' methodology. • Ensure community involvement in needs assessments through participation of the PSP focal point in the community assessments. • Carry out ten community based interventions per country in target groups that are to be identified through the assessments in the regions affected by Felix

Progress towards objective

In total, 71 volunteers from the three National Societies were trained in psychosocial support at community level. Trained volunteers are now able to help people cope with different situations and ensure that their own psychological needs are recognised and met. Also, the aim of these trainings is to enhance capacity building within the branches and ensure the sustainability of the PSP support for the communities.

Country	N° of Red Cross branches	N° of volunteers trained
Guatemala	15	31
Honduras	3	20
Nicaragua	10	20
Total	28	71

Community psychosocial support (PSP) interventions:

This support endeavours to help the affected person strengthen his or her personal coping capacities and reinforce support from family members and friends. The goal is to empower communities to be responsible for their own caring and healing.

Trained volunteers are providing active listening, information and referral, and helping beneficiaries meet their basic needs. Support groups composed of identified beneficiaries are established to help solve common problems, improve communication skills, develop social networks, and build trust, empathy, and understanding.

As previously mentioned, the interventions conducted in each community resulted in a series of outcomes per country and area. Regarding the specific area of PSP as well as basic community health the outcomes obtained are:

In Honduras:

- Increased household's access to education and health services through a sanitation campaign with construction of latrines and the creation of a community health committee embedded by the Ministry of Health.
- The needs of psychosocial support of 20 children are addressed and now they are better vector of divulgation of better social relationship and solidarity and hygiene and nutritional practices

Ten volunteers were trained during a PSP workshop and participated actively in the community PSP interventions. Up to date, four out of ten interventions have been carried out with 20 children in need of psychosocial support. The Honduran Red Cross has also shared key health messages at community level through the PSP interventions carried out in El Tule.

A Community Health Committee was created, empowered and trained thanks to the support of the Honduran Ministry of Health. The Committee is in charge of monitoring the health situation in the community and providing first aid care when needed, The National Society also delivered materials for latrines to 49 families with technical assistance from the Ministry of Health and technicians.

In Nicaragua:

- Communities are empowered to be responsible for their own caring and healing strengthening their personal and collective coping strategies.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has carried out up to date four out of ten PSP interventions with groups of women, men and children. The PSP interventions are focused on self-esteem, communication, stress management of stress, lost and suffering.

Within the branch of Puerto Cabeza in Nicaragua, a special training in psychological first aid and 250 hours of rescue training are on going for at least 15 volunteers. This branch is located in a highly natural disaster prone region of Nicaragua.

In Guatemala:

- The community has improved its health and sanitary condition through the construction of latrines and sharing of best practices in personal hygiene and water and sanitation (storage of water).
- The needs of psychosocial support of 20 children are addressed and now they are better vector of divulgation of better social relationship and solidarity and hygiene and nutritional practices.

Up to date, 39 people were trained in good hygienic practices and school sessions were carried out on personal hygiene for children. Information on child and mother nutrition was shared during the sessions.

Trainings on water and sanitation have been carried out for the community of Quetzalito. The GRC is carrying out the construction of latrines in the school by three of the highest vulnerable families identified by the community through a cash for work activity in coordination with PADRU.

Constrains and challenges

During October in Guatemala, heavy rains caused flooding in the region of Izabal. The 47 families of the community of Quetzalito were evacuated to a communal shelter and as mentioned before some gardens were devastated. After the severe rains, the PSP team trained was able to provide first psychological support to the community. Quetzalito now has better psychological coping resources.



Intervention of PSP support with women from the community of Truhlaya (Nicaragua). Source: International Federation.

Few days later when families returned to their homes, the project coordinator in close coordination with the GRC and the International Federation put in place a new plan of action.

Moreover, it is important to identify the most suitable exit strategy and complementary food and non food interventions which will promote and restore coping strategies in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Logistics

Objective 1: Improve regional logistic capacity of the three National Societies with a well trained network of Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members, specialized in logistics.

Objective 2: Restore the capacity of storage and management of goods of the Nicaraguan Red Cross.

Expected results	Activities Planned
The three National Societies are part of the Regional Intervention Teams, with members specialized in logistics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in Logistic Standards of Operation of the Federation conducted by the RIT specialized in logistics.
The Nicaraguan Red Cross is able to face the potential needs of logistic mobilization in emergency situations with a restored capacity of storage and management of stocks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid capacity and situation assessments of the storage system in the Nicaraguan Red Cross and restoration of capacity with support from the American and Spanish Red Cross.

Progress towards objective

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has completed a throughout cleaning of its warehouse at headquarter level disposing of garbage and re-arranging items. Also, the NRC developed a database to keep better track of their warehouses.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Since the beginning of the emergency, the Regional Representation Office for Central America and Mexico and the Communications Department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva have been in close coordination and supporting the operation. It is very important to maintain accurate information between the fields, either by delegates sent to the field and with the National Societies. Communication between the populations and the Red Cross, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency

The communication and public information in order to raise awareness among the communities and to ensure the visibility of the donors remain one of the priorities of the Regional Representation. Press releases, the production and diffusion of videos for National Societies within the region, for the population and the agencies that are involved in the activities. Additionally, the integration of human interest stories on the regional and global websites will ensure a correct communication and public information. The Regional Representation has published an article in the regional Red Cross website (www.cruzroja.org) to share points of view and developments of this operation.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<Interim financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43002 - Central America - Hurricane Felix

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/06-2008/11
Budget Timeframe	2007/06-2008/12
Appeal	MDR43002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,371,000					1,371,000
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
Cash contributions						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	142,270					142,270
<i>Australian Government</i>	31,101					31,101
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	152,269					152,269
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>	117,000					117,000
<i>Hong Kong Red Cross</i>	30,963					30,963
<i>Icelandic Red Cross</i>	74,724					74,724
<i>Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund</i>	329,600					329,600
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	31,851					31,851
<i>Luxembourg Red Cross</i>	-403					-403
<i>Luxembourg Red Cross (from Luxembourg Government)</i>	50,771					50,771
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	8,365					8,365
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>	325,543					325,543
<i>On Line donations</i>	1,826					1,826
<i>Swiss Government</i>	15,000					15,000
C1. Cash contributions	1,310,881					1,310,881
Inkind Goods & Transport						
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	59,215					59,215
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport	59,215					59,215
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	1,370,096					1,370,096
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,370,096					1,370,096
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	1,370,096					1,370,096
E. Expenditure	-1,272,038					-1,272,038
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	98,058					98,058

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43002 - Central America - Hurricane Felix

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Budget Timeframe	2007/06-2008/12
Appeal	MDR43002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)	1,371,000						1,371,000	
Supplies								
Construction Materials	102,533	3,993				3,993	98,540	
Clothing & textiles	96,015	96,012				96,012	3	
Food	265,004	265,010				265,010	-6	
Seeds, Plants	80,000	78,647				78,647	1,353	
Water & Sanitation	127	127				127	0	
Medical & First Aid	2,051	2,051				2,051	0	
Utensils & Tools	79,284	60,377				60,377	18,907	
Other Supplies & Services	90,671	90,671				90,671	0	
Total Supplies	715,685	596,888				596,888	118,796	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	7,398						7,398	
Computers & Telecom	20,943	13,270				13,270	7,672	
Others Machinery & Equipment		11,900				11,900	-11,900	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	28,341	25,170				25,170	3,171	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	19,796	9,996				9,996	9,800	
Distribution & Monitoring	66,508	55,468				55,468	11,040	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	65,155	67,580				67,580	-2,425	
Total Transport & Storage	151,458	133,043				133,043	18,415	
Personnel								
International Staff	1,125	1,216				1,216	-91	
Regionally Deployed Staff	7,848	9,590				9,590	-1,743	
National Staff	9,894	22,652				22,652	-12,758	
National Society Staff	47,204	35,849				35,849	11,355	
Consultants	33,952	16,326				16,326	17,627	
Total Personnel	100,023	85,633				85,633	14,390	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	132,423	95,572				95,572	36,851	
Total Workshops & Training	132,423	95,572				95,572	36,851	
General Expenditure								
Travel	32,289	39,141				39,141	-6,852	
Information & Public Relation	13,643	11,400				11,400	2,242	
Office Costs	16,142	9,910				9,910	6,232	
Communications	9,112	8,204				8,204	908	
Professional Fees	12,105	6,141				6,141	5,964	
Financial Charges	59,257	491				491	58,766	
Other General Expenses	3,890	54				54	3,836	
Total General Expenditure	146,437	75,341				75,341	71,096	
Programme Support								
Program Support	96,633	81,858				81,858	14,775	
Total Programme Support	96,633	81,858				81,858	14,775	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		8,833				8,833	-8,833	
Total Services		8,833				8,833	-8,833	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		169,699				169,699	-169,699	
Total Operational Provisions		169,699				169,699	-169,699	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,371,000	1,272,038				1,272,038	98,962	
VARIANCE (C - D)		98,962				98,962		