

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## The Caribbean and Mexico: Hurricane Dean

Emergency appeal n° MDR49001  
Glide no: TC-2007-000135  
Operations update n° 5  
06 July 2008

Period covered by this Ops Update: 14 December 2007 to 31 May 2008; Appeal target (current): CHF 2,927,000 (USD 3,073,350 or EUR 1,445,584).

[<click here to view the interim financial report>](#)

Appeal coverage: 99.5%;

[<click here to link to contact details >](#)

### Appeal history:

- A Preliminary Appeal was launched on 22 August 2007 for CHF 1,591,000 (USD 1,321,429 or EUR 964,942) for 6 months to assist 35,000 beneficiaries (7,000 families).
- Appeal revised on 30 August 2007 to CHF 2,399,670 (USD 2,049,249 or EUR 1,445,584) for 9 months to assist 108,550 beneficiaries (21,710 families)
- Revised Appeal with revised budget for CHF 2,927,000 was launched on 21 April;
- The Operation extended until 30 June, 2008; a final report is therefore due on 30 September, 2008.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 150,000 (USD 124,585 or EUR 90,909)



Hurricane Dean left a path of destruction: destroyed house in St. Lucia. Source: International Federation.

**Summary:** This Operations Update consolidates information gathered from 21 December 2007 to 31 May 2008. With the completion of the relief phase of the Dean response, the main focus of this reporting period was working with the five Dean affected NS to develop a recovery work plan aligned with the four objectives of the appeal (1) Relief, (2) Early Recovery, (3) Health and (4) Capacity Building; and to commence implementation of the planned activities. A consultant was hired from the American Red Cross, to do a review of the remaining needs in close collaboration with the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU), the Americas health team and the regional representations in Haiti and Panama.

Needed relief supplies, telecommunication equipment and Tropical Mobile Storage Units (TMSU) were requisitioned and emergency container retrofitting and the construction and retrofitting of houses in the most impacted communities planned and mechanisms put in place for completion by the end of the operational period. A calendar of training activities was developed and training commenced for psychosocial support, using the "Helping to Heal" methodology, volunteer management, water and sanitation, emergency relief supply management and Telecommunication Regional Intervention Team members (RITS). Health education messages on safe water practises and environmental hygiene have been printed and have been distributed with complementary community based activities.

A regional workshop for all NS, the Federation and external partners, was held in Trinidad and Tobago. The workshop had two objectives, to raise awareness on “what is recovery” and its place within the Federations overall disaster response and to share experiences, lessons learnt and best practices to establish a collective understanding for hurricane season 2008. This was aided by the production of case studies, accompanied by film footage focussing on examples of recovery from the Bahamas, Grenada and Jamaica. An Evaluation Exercise will be held at the end of the Operation to assess the planning, management and coordination of the Federation’s response with a key focus on coordination internally between International Federation and the affected NS, the PNS and other Federation partners and to make recommendations on improvements so as to be better placed to assist the most vulnerable in a timely and effective manner.

## The situation

Hurricane Dean was the first hurricane of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season. It affected the countries of Belize, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico and Saint Lucia. There were approximately 77,918 families affected by the strong winds, massive floods and landslides. Dean entered the Caribbean through the **St. Lucia** Channel (between St. Lucia and Martinique) on August 17, while still a Category two hurricane. The storm damaged houses and buildings throughout the island chain and devastated the agricultural economies of Dominica, Martinique, and St. Lucia. Although the toll in terms of loss of life was limited, there was a considerable impact on livelihoods and on the islands’ fragile economies.

The island of **Dominica** was not directly hit by the hurricane but its heavy winds and torrential rains caused extensive damage to agriculture, housing and infrastructure. The agricultural sector suffered a loss of almost 70 percent of damages (Source: Food and Agricultural Organization). Reports from the Office of Disaster Management in Dominica reported that 771 houses were damaged, while 43 houses were completely destroyed as well as significant damage to infrastructure, roads and bridges as a result of landslides, fallen trees and mass debris.

Dean did not directly hit the island of **Haiti**, but it brought heavy squalls and wind gusts causing damage in the country mostly in the coastal departments of Sud, Sud-est, Grande Anse, Nippes and Ouest. There were 1,858 affected families, 73 houses completely destroyed and 33 houses lost their roofs.

In **Jamaica**, the devastating winds caused by Dean left 3,272 houses destroyed, 16,650 houses with major damages, and 18,053 houses with minor damages. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) and other members of the National Disaster Committee, which includes the Red Cross, assisted the people affected. ODPEM reported 160,000 people were affected and four people died due to the hurricane.

On 21 August, Dean hit **Belize**, affecting 2,500 families in the districts of Corozal and Orange Walk and the islands of Ambergris Caye and Caye Caulker. At least 400 homes were completely destroyed, while another 1,500 houses lost their roofs or received serious damages. Livelihoods were greatly affected as a result of the storm; in particular the yields of cash crops (papaya and sugar cane plantations) were affected. Some 35,000 acres of sugar cane alone have been rendered unfit for harvesting, with subsistence farmers facing extensive loss of their crops.

On 22 August Dean made landfall on **Mexico’s** Yucatan Peninsula as a strong category five storm. Homes were severely damaged and tens of thousands of people including many tourists were forced into shelters on the Yucatan Peninsula. The hurricane caused flooding and landslides across Central Mexico as it passed over the Sierra Madre Oriental range. 207,800 people were affected in the states of Quintana Roo, Campeche, Veracruz, Hidalgo, Puebla and Tabasco. Five deaths were recorded in Puebla and at least 50,000 houses were damaged and many crops destroyed.

## Coordination and Partnerships

The coordination of this operation was handed over from PADRU to the Federation’s Caribbean Regional Representation Office in Trinidad and Tobago in November of 2007. In January, a consultant was hired from the American Red Cross; to do a review of the remaining needs in the Dean affected countries, in close collaboration with PADRU, the Regional Logistics Unit, the Americas health team and the regional

representations in Haiti and Panama. Close collaboration and follow up has continued with the bilateral programmes of the French RC working in Jamaica and with the Norwegian RC in Belize.

## National Society Capacity Building

In general, the National Societies affected by hurricane Dean were well prepared with pre-positioned stocks, radio networks both within county and between National Societies in the region, trained personnel and pre and post emergency coordination meetings. All the National Societies have a place in the National Emergency Operations Centre and have specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

During the pre-hurricane meeting that took place in Panama from 14 to 17 May 2007, National Societies from countries prone to hurricanes in the Americas participated actively in the development of a Contingency Plan for the Region. The development of the Regional Contingency plan helped explore disaster preparedness tools, available capacities within the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, which provided participants with hands-on practice.

In January a monitoring mission was carried out by a consultant, from the American Red Cross, to undertake an assessment of the activities National Societies were still undertaking in response to hurricane Dean, in order to assess the remaining needs in the communities and National Societies and work with the NS and the Federation's Caribbean Regional Representation Office to finalize the Recovery Plan of Action.

The timeframe for the monitoring mission was 14 January to 2 February following this schedule:

Date of Visit	Location
14-17 Jan	Caribbean RRO
17-20 Jan	Haiti RC
20-24 Jan	Jamaica RC
24 – 27 Jan	Belize RC
28- 31 Jan	St Lucia RC
31-02 Feb	Dominica RC

A strong emphasis was placed on capacity building for the five NS and the communities impacted by Hurricane Dean, to ensure the NS and communities are better prepared for the hurricane season 2008 and the likelihood of impact in years to come. The focus was on pre-positioned secure storage and stocks, proven highly effective in Dean, training in water testing, PSP following the *Helping to Heal* methodology and newly developed by the Federation along with the TWC Regional Faculty, SPHERE standards and the early preparation and management of volunteers in emergencies. It was however not possible to fit the SPHERE Standards Training of Trainers within the activity packed timeframe as the ten day course would have involved the Dean programme managers who were already stretched.

General Objectives of the recovery phase of the operation was:

- To continue to contribute to the restoration and wherever possible improvement of the basic living conditions of the affected population in the aftermath of Hurricane DEAN;
- To allow National Societies to fulfil their mandate;
- To complete the activities by 30 June.



**Volunteer Management Training in Belize: Simulation of a shelter situation. Source: International federation**

# Red Cross Red Crescent action

## Overview

Following the passage of Hurricane Dean, the **Dominican Red Cross Society (DRCS)** immediately distributed their pre-positioned stocks. Assessments identified the need for support to an additional 175 families not identified in the initial stage of response. A request for distribution of mattresses and kitchen sets was placed and a total of 75 kitchen kits were dispatched from PADRU to support in this response. Following the emergency relief phase, DRCS was busy with distributing roofing materials for those who lost them during the passage of Dean.

In response to the urgent needs resulting from the effects of hurricane Dean, **Saint Lucia Red Cross (SLRC)** immediately distributed their pre-positioned stocks to 110 affected families. Emergency assessments conducted by the SLRC indicated a need for mosquito nets as a result of increased cases of dengue. As dengue is traditionally contracted by day, the need was identified to support those families with babies and infants who sleep during the daylight hours. The overall families reached by the distribution of non-food emergency relief items increased to 960 with the distribution. St Lucia Red Cross has since been involved in supporting the retro fitting of damaged houses.

In response to Dean, the **Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)** worked with the Federation and other partners to target 900 families to receive non-food emergency relief supplies through the International Federation's Hurricane Dean Appeal in the areas of Sud, Sud-Est, Grand Anse and Nippes. After further evaluation and assessment of needs, the number of beneficiaries increased to 950 families. Distributions were completed in November. PADRU shipped items for 900 families to Haiti to reposition relief items for future emergency response.

Prior to the passage of tropical storm Dean, the **Jamaican Red Cross (JRC)** pre-positioned non-food emergency relief items throughout the country for immediate distribution. Emergency assessments and distributions took place simultaneously to determine the level of damage and immediate needs of those affected. As a result of needs assessments there was an additional request for relief items from the JRC and PADRU supported with various shipments of goods via air and sea. The JRC completed its relief distributions before November 2007.

Jamaica has been working with the French Red Cross on an ECHO supported programme to rebuild destroyed houses. At the time of transition from relief to recovery, 16 houses had been completed with an additional two in progress. 19 new houses were also constructed and 29 repaired with funds provided by IDB. In November livelihood support activities started to support agricultural tools to farmers who lost them during Dean. Since the beginning of the relief operation, 296 vouchers of J\$10,000 each were delivered for livelihoods. There are just over 50 persons who were determined to be qualified for that assistance who have not yet been reached.

Three **Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS)** teams, accompanied by a Disaster Management delegate from PADRU, conducted needs assessments in the northern districts along with branch volunteers. Based on these assessments, the most affected persons (predominantly the most economically vulnerable) were in urgent need of food, potable water, hygiene kits, buckets, tarpaulins and blankets. With the support of ECHO, through the Norwegian Red Cross, BRCS supported 400 families in the Corozal District and 100 families in the Orange Walk District.

A further donation to Belize Red Cross from the OAK Foundation enabled the BRCS to provide relief items and support to an additional 445 families in the Copper Bank, Chunox and Sarteneja areas in the Corozal district. Local donations also allowed the BRCS to provide and distribute an additional 800 food packages to affected families. The BRCS also installed a water purifying system, providing water to the affected village of Patchacan and several others.

All BRCS activities are linked to the on-going Community Based Risk Reduction programme. The BRCS also printed Health Awareness and Hygiene Promotion posters targeting families in the affected areas in order to prevent the propagation of diseases.

## Progress towards objectives

**Objective 1:** In a previous Operational Update it was reported that the relief phase had been completed with over 22,706 families being reached with relief items (more than 6,537 families in Dominica, Jamaica, Haiti and Saint Lucia and another 500 in Belize working with the Norwegian Red Cross bringing the total in the Caribbean to 7,035). Since then the focus has been on restocking of the depleted relief supplies in preparation for the 2008 hurricane season.

Indicator for emergency relief:

- National Societies have adequate stocks of relief items to provide emergency support to affected families.
- Each National Society has knowledge of the basic needs of the population in their communities.
- The National Society is able to manage its stocks of the Standard Family Relief Supply Basket if need be.

Most of the National Society emergency relief non-food Item stock had been distributed and was depleted as a consequence. The stocks were therefore replenished to prepare the National Society for Hurricane Season 2008 and any other natural disasters including floods, earthquakes and landslides. Storing the supplies was also identified as inadequate and this was addressed by the provision of additional emergency container storage.

### Progress:

Storage facility for the relief supplies was improved in all five NS through the use of emergency containers as outlined below:

Belize	1	TMSU situated in Belmopan: a receiving area for nation wide evacuation
Dominica	1	TMSU situated in Roseau to boost HQ storage of supplies
Haiti	3	TMSU one each in Miragaone, Artibonit, Jeremie all impacted by Hurricane Dean
Jamaica	6	40 ft containers purchased and retrofitted in country and located in St. Thomas (2), St. Catherine (1), St. Mary (1), Westmoreland (1) and Hanover (1)
Saint Lucia	1	TMSU situated in the highly vulnerable area of Soufriere

A TMSU is a Tropical climate adapted Mobile Storage Unit or container purchased and shipped from PADRU stocked with the relief items ordered by the NS

These containers were then stocked with the relief supplies identified and ordered by each NS based on an assessment of the community needs in the areas they regularly respond to.

**In Belize,** Norwegian Red Cross with ECHO funding supplied stocks for 200 Families. This stock has been complimented by the Federation as indicated below, to reach a total of 500 Families.

Description	Quantity	Location	Purpose
Kitchen sets, International Federation	300	TMSU	Preparedness
Hygiene sets, International Federation	300	TMSU	Preparedness
10 liter buckets	1000	TMSU	Preparedness
Mosquito nets	1000	TMSU	Preparedness
Blankets, IFRC medium weight	400	TMSU	Preparedness

**Dominica Red Cross Society** reached 350 families with relief items following the passage of Dean. The two 20ft. containers donated by the Japanese Red Cross were at full capacity during the response with local donations. Although the preferred choice for additional storage was a warehouse, the timeframe and cost ultimately meant that a TMSU was the only option. An initial request for emergency relief items will be complimented with additional relief stock. On receipt of the additional relief supplies the NS will have:

Description	Quantity	Location	Purpose
Kitchen sets	300	TMSU	preparedness
Hygiene kits	300	TMSU	preparedness
10 liter collapsible jerry cans	400	TMSU	preparedness
10 liter buckets	400	TMSU	preparedness
Blankets light weight	400	TMSU	preparedness
Generator Honda Petrol 3kva 110/210V	1	TMSU	preparedness
Shelter Kits	100	TMSU	preparedness
Family tents	4	TMSU	preparedness
Switch for Generator	1	TMSU	preparedness
Tarpaulin	150	TMSU	preparedness

The **Haitian National Red Cross Society** jointly with other organizations distributed emergency non food items for 950 families in the affected areas of Jeremie, Artibonit and Miragaone after hurricane Dean.

The National Society depleted its disaster preparedness stocks and in order to fulfil its mandate in line with the 2007 HNRCS Contingency Plan, a re-stocking of pre-positioned decentralized supplies was required.

The three sites identified, besides the existing warehouse in Les Cayes, are:

1. TMSU in Miragaone
2. TMSU in Artibonit
3. TMSU in Jeremie

Description	Quantity	Location	Purpose
Kitchen sets	1000	TMSU	preparedness
Hygiene kits	1000	TMSU	preparedness
10 liter collapsible jerry cans	2000	TMSU	preparedness
10 liter buckets	2000	TMSU	preparedness
Blankets medium weight	2000	TMSU	preparedness
Mosquito Nets	2000	TMSU	preparedness

The **Jamaican Red Cross** mobilized over 800 volunteers during the course of the response to Hurricane Dean delivering assistance to 5,112 families in the relief phase.

As all the Jamaica Red Cross stocks were depleted a buffer stock base for 2000 Families will allow for decentralisation, using the additional six containers, of stocks in hard to reach areas.

Description	Quantity	Location	Purpose
Kitchen sets	1,500	TMSU	preparedness
Hygiene kits	650	TMSU	preparedness
Blankets medium weight	500	TMSU	preparedness
Tarps 4 by 6m	250	TMSU	preparedness

**Saint Lucia Red Cross (SLRC)** reached 125 families with relief supplies, with a further 875 benefiting from the provisions of mosquito nets. SLRC stocks were not sufficient to respond to a disaster at Dean's magnitude. The supplies in stock were quickly used creating the need to replenish stocks with enough items, as listed below, to support 250 families.

Description	Quantity	Location	Purpose
Kitchen sets	250	TMSU	preparedness
Hygiene kits	250	TMSU	preparedness
10 Litre Collapsible Jerry Cans	500	TMSU	preparedness
Blankets medium weight	500	TMSU	preparedness
10 Liter Buckets	500	TMSU	preparedness

Using the TMSU the SLRC has pre-positioned stocks in La Soufriere, considered very vulnerable due to its location and the current pattern of hurricanes.

Complimentary to the re-stocking of relief items and improving emergency storage capacity, has been emergency stock management and logistics training conducted by a RIT logistics delegate from the Venezuela Red Cross deployed from PADRU. In May the training was conducted in three countries with 22 participants in Saint Lucia, ten in Dominica and 18 in Belize, using the NSs pre-positioned containers for the practical, "on hands" training. 21 volunteers in Haiti received the same training facilitated by a staff member of PADRU.

In order to rapidly dispatch SLRC volunteers to affected locations or to the SLRC headquarters, a Toyota Hiace RLU fleet van has been purchased – a vehicle suitable for the terrain. SLRC does not have transportation capability and an efficient organized public transportation system does not exist in St Lucia. The vehicle has been purchased through the Federation's Fleet Unit in Dubai. Expected date of arrival in Saint Lucia is the last week of June.

### Impact

The relief phase was carried out quickly, mainly as a result of having pre-positioned stocks available and the support of extra goods flown in from PADRU. The relief phase was concluded at the end of November 2007 and has reached a total of 7, 035 families.

The JRC and BRCS completed their beneficiary surveys based on a methodology developed by PADRU to assess the impact of the relief phase. Jamaica Red Cross used a consultancy firm to do a fully external assessment while the other NS have used community volunteers. This information will be reported on in the final operational update.

In the case of Jamaica the relief items came into the country in time for their response to a period of severe flooding in the Saint Ann's and the Ocho Rios Areas in April 2008.

**Constraints:** Time and budgetary constraints meant the Dominica Red Cross Society was unable to proceed with a warehouse, their preferred storage choice. However, the DRCS did benefit from a TMSU, additional top up of their relief supplies and will be able to improve security for the container and contents by the construction of a fence around the HQ where the container is located. The lack of a secure fence had been a security concern for a while.

In-country costs of moving the TMSU from the port to the final locations proved more expensive than originally anticipated in most countries, and will be considerably more expensive in Haiti because of the terrain it will have to travel through.

NS have reported challenges in implementing all activities within the timeframe because of limited human resources. As a result, better trained, equipped and managed volunteers has been identified as one way of addressing this along with improved recovery planning in the early stages of the response. This will place better trained and better managed volunteers at the disposal of the National Society to enable a scale up in capacity in emergencies and ensure the most affected are appropriately assisted as quickly as possible.

## Early Recovery

**Objective 1: Early recovery and rehabilitation activities are assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.**

During the initial assessments, the immediate recovery needs were identified by the National Societies, and focussed predominantly on damage to houses, as well as in some instances on damage to livelihoods. Work started on these activities in November, but there was a need for a review in January of where these activities were and what further support was required. Although NS have conducted recovery/livelihood activities, there was a perceived need to look at how collectively the Red Cross Movement in the Caribbean plans and programmes for recovery.



Construction of a new house in St. Lucia. Source: International Federation.

To this end, a Recovery Workshop was held in April to strengthen the capacity of Red Cross/Red Crescent (RCRC) partners to plan and implement effective post-disaster recovery programs in the Caribbean. The workshop had two main objectives, firstly, to raise awareness on “what is recovery” and its place within the regions overall disaster response mechanism, and secondly, to share experiences, lessons learnt and best

practices for recovery (shelter, livelihoods, etc), between the National Societies providing assistance in the Caribbean region. Timing was optimal as it provided the opportunity to discuss the recent RCRC recovery response to Hurricanes Dean and Noel over 2007 to 2008, and supported initiatives to better plan for and coordinate preparedness for the 2008 hurricane season. Co-funding from the Canadian Red Cross allowed the workshop to have regional reach, particularly important in multi-country impact situations when NS are all working within the same response plan.

**Belize:** The Belize Red Cross Society has been supported through the Norwegian Red Cross with ECHO funds focussing on emergency water and sanitation needs. Well cleaning activities and the availability of potable water to the villages has impacted positively on the daily activities of the villagers. A 4000 litre per hour water purification plant was temporarily installed in Patchakan Village and is being monitored by Belize Red Cross Society personnel. Water is being transported to neighbouring villages.

Belize Red Cross Society with support from Canada Fund for Local Initiatives completed and handed over 23 houses to affected families and retrofitted 13 roofs in the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts. No further houses were constructed or retrofitted in the recovery phase of the operation.

**Dominica:** While the original plan was for 500 homes, initial indications of funding support meant this was reduced in the first phase, cutting the numbers down to 166 households. This programme worked exceedingly well building on the Dominica Red Cross Society’s experience in managing voucher system distributions. The government of Dominica received considerable funds for retrofitting and construction of homes; as a consequence the DRCS did not see this as a priority activity for the NS in the recovery phase.

**Jamaica:** Once the relief phase was concluded, the livelihoods component was implemented. Similar to the Dominica Red Cross Society, this support was provided by the use of a voucher system. The JRC issued 218 vouchers of USD 10,000 each to the fisher folk. Poultry farmers who had lost their chickens were also assisted. In total 239 families were helped to start up again. This was done with local funding. JRC also made small financial contributions to six families to complement the stock for their small subsistence sidewalk vending business. This allowed families to purchase items lost in the hurricane and recommence activities that would support their families. Complimentary to this the JRC through partnering with local businesses was able to provide training on small scale financial management for these vendors and organized sessions on alternative

skills for those that had temporarily or permanently lost their livelihoods. These included photography and hairdressing.

Additionally, JRC is working with the French Red Cross to assist families who have partially or completely lost their homes with repairing of roofs, the rehabilitation of damaged homes and the construction of new homes throughout Jamaica, with a stronger focus on the most affected areas. In the recovery phase of the operation the plan has been to construct 35 homes with French RC technical support. Construction remains underway. With funds from the IDB, 9 new houses were already constructed and 29 repaired.



#### **Saint Lucia**

The Saint Lucia Red Cross has, with Federation funds, repaired and/or replaced 40 roofs and with Canadian funds, four complete houses were built. For the recovery phase the SLRC have been retrofitting 150 roofs.

In St. Lucia, a house without a roof is covered with a tarpaulin, as part of the early recovery activities. Source: International Federation.

**Constraints:** Construction of houses has been delayed at times by a lack of availability of building supplies in country and the subsequent need to wait for them to be brought into the country. Another challenge has been the identification of houses for roof repairs. In many cases, roof replacement or repair has not been practical because of dangerously compromised house structures.

#### **Emergency Health**

**Objective 1: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane**

#### **Progress**

The Jamaica Red Cross is a leading National Society in the region in developing PSP support. The Jamaican PSP teams that worked in the aftermath of hurricane Dean visited several parishes, supporting 424 people. PSP is conducted in group sessions as well as individual interventions. The timeframe of the sessions varies depending on the size of the group and the needs of the beneficiaries. Both formal and informal sessions were held. Examples of informal sessions included community tours with “on the spot” talks.

The methodology the Jamaica RC has developed, which has been packaged into a training toolkit called “Helping to Heal” has been recently piloted and tested. The training modular kit was printed in English and conducted in Saint Lucia on 24-26 April, Dominica on 13–15 May and Belize on 22-24 May, facilitated by the Jamaica Red Cross and a representative of the Federation’s Health Team in Trinidad. The training kit will be translated into French to benefit Haiti and training conducted at a later date. For this a French Speaking facilitator will be contracted.

#### **Emergency Health**

**Objective 2: Vulnerable families will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.**

#### **Progress:**

With the passage of Dean, water levels in the affected countries increased considerably. Based on this situation and the fact that some of these countries have a history of dengue and malaria, the threat of an outbreak of waterborne diseases was real.

The CRRO in Trinidad and Tobago printed 4,000 water hygiene and 4,000 environmental hygiene posters (see below) and distributed them to Saint Lucia, Jamaica and the Dominica Red Cross. DRC has created activities and training along with the distribution.



Belize Red Cross Society had already printed the posters and distribution has been ongoing, depleting stocks. BRCS printed an additional 1000 posters in English and 1000 in Spanish and have complimented the distribution with activities for children, BRCS also produced and distributed leaflets on Dengue in partnership with the Ministry of Health. BRC volunteers have been trained in Vector Control along with Ministry of Health staff.

HNRCS is translating the posters into Creole and printing them locally for distribution.

JRC had key messages and disaster preparedness reminders printed on the plastic bag used for distribution and has partnered with the Ministry of Health and PAHO for Dengue and Malaria messages.

**Water testing kit** training was conducted in SLRC on 8-10 April with a trainer from the Jamaica Red Cross who is a RIT specialized in Water and Sanitation. This training was well received by the NS and as a result the SLRC has identified a professional volunteer who will roll out the training in country. Belize requested additional chemicals for their water testing kit since their stock was depleted. Dominica, Belize and Haiti all have volunteers who have participated in previous Water and Sanitation trainings organized by PADRU.

### National Society Capacity Building

**Objective 1: The capacity of the National Societies in disaster response and preparedness will have been strengthened.**

#### Telecommunications:

**Jamaica Red Cross** identified a gap in the reach of its radio system and an urgent need to increase its capacity to better coordinate its disaster response. As a result, base and hand-held radios and antennae have been ordered to improve their communication capability and provide country wide coverage in preparation for the Hurricane Season 2008.

**Belize Red Cross Society** also identified a need to increase its ability to communicate with the northern districts of Corozal and Orange Walk. This has been addressed with the purchase of three base radios for the communities of Chunux, Sarteneja and Copper Bank in the Corozal District, all severely impacted by the hurricane and highly vulnerable to future storms and floods; five hand held radios; and the installation of an antenna at the Headquarters building, to replace the one broken during hurricane Dean.

**Dominica Red Cross Society** had two VHF radio antennas knocked off during hurricane Dean. The antennas will be replaced and hand held radios purchased to re-establish radio communication.

#### **Telecom Refresher Training - Regional Intervention Team (RITS)**

Haiti and Jamaica Red Cross attended the RIT training focused on Telecom, held in Panama on the 15 to 24 May.

#### **Lessons Learned**

The Haitian National Red Cross Society felt it would be beneficial to conduct lessons learned meetings with their branch volunteers to allow the volunteers to de-brief on their experiences and to evaluate and put the needed changes for being better prepared for the upcoming hurricane season in place. Three meetings were conducted – 10 March in Nippes, 11 March in Les Cayes and 8 May in Nord Ouest. The meetings proved very useful and the outcomes will be shared at the Pre-Hurricane Meeting in Panama during which all NS review the last season, update on new tools and strategies and meet with partners. The Haitian National Red Cross Society is planning to conduct further lessons learnt meetings in June.

#### **Volunteer Management:**

Training has been conducted, using the Volunteer Management Toolkit developed in the Caribbean, to better retain volunteers attracted to the Red Cross during the Dean response and to improve the management and recognition of long standing volunteers especially those who responded from the Branches and the Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) members. Training was conducted in 13-15 February in Jamaica, attended by 25 volunteers, staff and members of the governing board. Training in Belize was conducted on 19 – 21 February, attended by 28 participants, including volunteer leaders, six members of staff, one delegate and board members. Training in Saint Lucia was conducted on 12 – 14 March for 17 volunteers and on 7 and 8 April in Dominica for ten volunteers; in both countries representatives of volunteer leaders, staff and governance were present. With the better management and preparation of volunteers, the National Societies' response in emergencies will be more timely, organized and equitable.



**Volunteer Management Training in Jamaica, 13-15 February. Source: International Federation.**

It is of importance to note that in Jamaica 142 CDRTs, trained through the DIPECHO Projects responded in their communities to Hurricane Dean. Before the storm these volunteers were mobilized and were in contact with the NS throughout the operation. In one community a CDRT, using the pre-positioned CDRT Response Kit stored in the community, was able to access rope, headlamps, tools and storm gear, enabling him to evacuate an elderly lady from her house, rapidly being submerged by flood waters. The volunteers remained working with the NS well into the recovery phase of the project.

The Volunteer Management Toolkit will be translated into French and training will be conducted in Haiti in the near future.

The planned **SPHERE training workshop was cancelled** due to the unavailability of facilitators to conduct this training within the timeframe of the operation and the inability of the Disaster Managers to commit to 10 days of training during the continued response.

The **Disaster Management Network** met on 6 and 7 March to evaluate the response to hurricane Dean and coordinate preparations for the Recovery Workshop. The network will meet again on 6 June following the Pre-Hurricane meeting in Panama. At this meeting the plans for the Dean Evaluation Exercise will be finalized.

#### **Finance Support:**

To assist the NS with Dean final financial reporting, to conduct assessments of the NS financial systems and give advice and/or training based on the results, the Federation's finance staff will visit all five countries in June.

#### **DEAN Evaluation Exercise**

It is the International Federation's policy to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of its disaster response and generate lessons learned to improve future performance, build on past experience and, contribute to knowledge sharing within the Federation and international humanitarian community.

To this end an evaluation is planned on completion of the Dean Operation to assess the planning, management and coordination of the Federation's response with a key focus on coordination internally between the International Federation and the affected NS as well as the PNS and other Federation partners and to make recommendations on improvements that will better place the region to assist the most vulnerable in a timely and effective manner.

The evaluation will be a team approach comprising a lead external consultant, two persons from the regional NS and a member of the Federation. The review will start on June 28 and will take 20 days.

Timing for the Review exercise will be as follows:

Day 1	CRRO
Day 2	CRRO
Day 3	PADRU
Day 4	PADRU
Day 5	Zone
Day 6	Zone
Day 7	Belize
Day 8	Belize
Day 9	Jamaica
Day 10	Jamaica
Day 11	Jamaica
Day 12	Haiti
Day 13	Haiti
Day 14	CRRO
Day 15	CRRO
Day 16 -20	Finalize Write up

#### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

There has been close coordination and support to the NS to increase the visibility of their actions in regards to the communication through PADRU, the Regional Representation Offices and the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva. Regular situation reports were issued by Red Cross National Societies and through the Federation on the Federation's website: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org). Several articles about Dean were posted on the website of the International Federation <http://www.ifrc.org/Docs/News/pr07/4807.asp>. Press releases have been issued by the Jamaica Red Cross, Belize Red Cross Society and Mexican Red Cross in order to raise funds and develop a better understanding of the mission of International Federation of the Red Cross and the activities the organization undertakes in serving affected communities. In the same line, local and international media were provided with interviews directly from the affected National Societies. Belize Red Cross Society has produced a report combining activities conducted with international and national funds.

Activities of the Jamaica Red Cross have been featured in the Caribbean Red Cross e-newsletter on [www.caribbeanredcross.org](http://www.caribbeanredcross.org)

The Communications Officer for the Jamaica Red Cross attended a Communications Forum in Washington DC in May to strengthen the capacity of the NS in managing the media and to better inform the public with accurate and timely situation updates. Use of the Federations Disaster Management Information System, DMIS, was also strengthened. She has been rolling out the training in the thirteen branches of the Jamaica RC.

### Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- In Trinidad and Tobago: Tanya Wood, Regional representative for the Caribbean, email: [tanya.wood@ifrc.org](mailto:tanya.wood@ifrc.org); phone (868) 624 1557; fax: (868) 627 9627
- In Panama: Fabricio Lopez, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico: email: [fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org](mailto:fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org); phone: (507) 380 0267; fax: (507) 317 1304
- In Panama: Maria Alcazar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; email: [maria.alcazar@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.alcazar@ifrc.org); phone: (507) 317 1300; fax: (507) 317 1304
- In Geneva: Linda Stops, Acting Operations Coordinator for the Americas; email: [linda.stops@ifrc.org](mailto:linda.stops@ifrc.org); phone: (41 79) 730 4300

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

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR49001 - Caribbean - Hurricane Dean

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/08-2008/05
Budget Timeframe	2007/08-2008/06
Appeal	MDR49001
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
<b>A. Budget</b>		<b>2,927,000</b>				<b>2,927,000</b>
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Cash contributions</b>						
American Red Cross		3,190				3,190
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)		583,197				583,197
British Red Cross (from DFID - British Government)		155,479				155,479
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)		122,061				122,061
ECHO		730,400				730,400
Great Britain - Private Donors		335				335
Japanese Red Cross		75,428				75,428
Monaco Red Cross		10,038				10,038
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)		28,975				28,975
Norwegian Red Cross		4,014				4,014
Norwegian Red Cross (from ECHO)		84,485				84,485
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)		368,560				368,560
On Line donations		434				434
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		175,200				175,200
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent		5,837				5,837
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>		<b>2,347,634</b>				<b>2,347,634</b>
<b>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>						
ECHO		178,970				178,970
Norwegian Red Cross (from ECHO)		28,630				28,630
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)		70,108				70,108
<b>C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>		<b>277,708</b>				<b>277,708</b>
<b>Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>						
American Red Cross		51,152				51,152
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)		128,632				128,632
Norwegian Red Cross		109,046				109,046
<b>C3. Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>		<b>288,829</b>				<b>288,829</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>		<b>2,914,171</b>				<b>2,914,171</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		<b>2,914,171</b>				<b>2,914,171</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>		<b>100%</b>				<b>100%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>C. Income</b>		<b>2,914,171</b>				<b>2,914,171</b>
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		<b>-2,376,166</b>				<b>-2,376,166</b>
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		<b>538,005</b>				<b>538,005</b>

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDR49001 - Caribbean - Hurricane Dean

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
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Budget Timeframe	2007/08-2008/06
Appeal	MDR49001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>2,927,000</b>					<b>2,927,000</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	181,670		176,717				176,717	4,953
Construction Materials	388,962		236,194				236,194	152,768
Clothing & textiles	198,468		157,306				157,306	41,162
Food	96,742		97,330				97,330	-588
Water & Sanitation	5,458		5,096				5,096	362
Medical & First Aid			90				90	-90
Utensils & Tools	316,920		294,298				294,298	22,622
Other Supplies & Services	251,169		259,443				259,443	-8,274
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>1,439,388</b>		<b>1,226,475</b>				<b>1,226,475</b>	<b>212,914</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Land & Buildings	286,479		16,477				16,477	270,002
Vehicles	25,000							25,000
Computers & Telecom	44,571		371				371	44,200
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	4,658		4,409				4,409	249
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>360,708</b>		<b>21,257</b>				<b>21,257</b>	<b>339,451</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	12,172		4,543				4,543	7,629
Distribution & Monitoring	220,385		172,262				172,262	48,123
Transport & Vehicle Costs	20,351		27,994				27,994	-7,643
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>252,908</b>		<b>204,798</b>				<b>204,798</b>	<b>48,110</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	18,840		6,178				6,178	12,662
Regionally Deployed Staff	20,951		34,794				34,794	-13,843
National Staff	37,636		27,998				27,998	9,638
National Society Staff	62,634		120,307				120,307	-57,673
Consultants	3,534		20,976				20,976	-17,442
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>143,595</b>		<b>210,253</b>				<b>210,253</b>	<b>-66,658</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	334,945		77,699				77,699	257,246
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>334,945</b>		<b>77,699</b>				<b>77,699</b>	<b>257,246</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	56,411		47,127				47,127	9,284
Information & Public Relation	47,970		16,774				16,774	31,196
Office Costs	16,520		25,788				25,788	-9,268
Communications	19,912		20,874				20,874	-962
Professional Fees			7,801				7,801	-7,801
Financial Charges	20,606		46,235				46,235	-25,629
Other General Expenses	4,534		1,270				1,270	3,264
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>165,953</b>		<b>165,869</b>				<b>165,869</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	229,503		148,251				148,251	81,252
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>229,503</b>		<b>148,251</b>				<b>148,251</b>	<b>81,252</b>
<b>Services</b>								
Services & Recoveries			30,444				30,444	-30,444
<b>Total Services</b>			<b>30,444</b>				<b>30,444</b>	<b>-30,444</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions			291,121				291,121	-291,121
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>			<b>291,121</b>				<b>291,121</b>	<b>-291,121</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>2,927,000</b>		<b>2,376,166</b>				<b>2,376,166</b>	<b>550,834</b>

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

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Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		2,927,000					2,927,000	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		550,834					550,834	