

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

CARIBBEAN: Tropical Storm Noel

Emergency appeal n° MDR49002
GLIDE no. TC-000198-
BHS/CUB/DOM/HTI;
Operations update n° 3
31 October 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update: Period covered: 27 February to 28 October 2008.

Previous appeal target and timeframe: CHF 1,725,000 (USD 1,543,586 or EUR 1,045,897) for 6 months to assist 52,995 beneficiaries.

Revised budget: CHF 1,750,541 (EUR 1,199,000 or USD 1,528,857)

Appeal coverage: 100%.

[<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget, interim financial report or here to go to contact details >](#)

An Interim Financial report will be published shortly.

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 1 November 2007 for CHF 785,000 (USD 677,308 or EUR 469,217) for six months to assist 15,000 beneficiaries.
- A total of CHF 480,000 (USD 414,150 or EUR 286,909) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support this operation (CHF 230,000 for the Dominican Republic, CHF 150,000 for Haiti and CHF 100,000 for the Bahamas).
- The appeal was revised on 7 November 2007 to CHF 1,462,103 (USD 1,261,521 or EUR 873,941) for 6 months to assist 52,995 beneficiaries (10,599 families) **in the Bahamas, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti**. Included is an increase of an additional 2,000 families affected by tropical storm Olga in the Dominican Republic which was made possible by bilateral contributions.
- On 27 February 2008, an Operations Update no.2 featured a *second revised budget*, increasing the budget to CHF 1,725,000 (USD 1,543,586 or EUR 1,045,897).
- **This Operations Update features a Revised Appeal budget for CHF 1,750,541 (EUR 1,199,000 or USD 1,528,857) and the timeframe of the operation is hereby extended for an additional ten months (until 28 February 2009) to scale up the response capacities of the Cuban Red Cross (CRC) and the Dominican Red Cross (DRC).**

Summary:

The countries of the Bahamas, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti were seriously affected by tropical storm Noel from 29 October to 2 November 2007. The National Societies of the affected countries in coordination with the International Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) worked together to assess the needs, damages, purchase and distribution of relief items to those most affected by the floods and damages caused by tropical storm Noel.

A total of 76,674 families were affected by the storm; under this appeal a total of 8,929 families received emergency relief items, including hygiene kits, kitchen kits, mosquito nets and tarpaulins, as well as additional



Aid delivered in the municipality of Moca in the province of Espaillat in Dominican Republic. Source: International Federation.

support including food parcels, jerry cans and blankets. In emergency health, 959 people received proper medical care and 14,124 families received clean drinking water. In total, approximately 23,245 families in the four affected countries received humanitarian assistance.

The operation is now being handed over to the Regional Representation Office for Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti and this operations update reflects the information on the activities undertaken up to date. The countries affected by Noel were also substantially affected by the 2008 hurricane season and have had to direct their efforts towards new relief operations. This operation has been extended to include additional strengthening preparedness activities for response since this has been identified as a priority by the affected National Societies.

The Situation

The 14th named storm of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season, tropical storm Noel, caused severe damages in the countries of the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti from 28 to 29 October. Floods and mudslides damaged infrastructure, crops and houses in all countries leaving thousands of families in anguish.

Dominican Republic

On 27 and 28 October the Dominican Republic experienced intense rainfall caused by a tropical depression. This phenomenon rapidly transformed into a tropical storm which hit the island of Hispaniola (shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic) on 29 October. The geographical location of the country and its particular socioeconomic characteristics exacerbated the impact of the storm. 40 percent of the country was severely affected; the most affected regions included: San Cristobal, Bani, San Jose de Ocoa, Barahona, Azua, Bahoruco and Duberge in the Southern region; Villa Altagracia, Bonao, Duarte, Arenoso, la Vega, Sanchez Ramirez, Montecristi, Santiago and Puerto Plata in the northern region. The province of Santo Domingo and the regions in the east were also affected.

In total, an estimated 78,752 people were affected by the storm: 87 deaths and 42 missing people were reported. There was extensive damage to homes, infrastructure and agriculture: 15,505 houses suffered damages and another 3,185 were completely destroyed; 46 bridges, and approximately 40 percent of roads in the affected areas were damaged. In addition, an estimated USD 77.7 million was reported as losses in the agricultural sector, particularly affecting small farmers producing rice, plantain and yucca (cassava). The storm caused the collapse of the water supply system, contamination of drinking water and problems in waste disposal. In terms of health, vector-spread diseases were compounded by worsened sanitary conditions after the storm and increased the toll on the country. An outbreak of leptospirosis caused the deaths of 35 people, while 40 people died from dengue fever.

In addition, tropical storm Olga hit the country on 12 December, affecting the eastern, northern, north-eastern and south-eastern regions of the island while emergency activities were still underway in the wake of Noel. Heavy rains caused floods and landslides mostly in the provinces of Hato Mayor, el Seibo, Samana, Maria Trinidad Sánchez, Espaillat, Duarte, Salcedo, Puerto Plata, Santiago, Azua and Peruvia. The overflowed Yaque del Norte and Yuna rivers caused damage to agriculture and infrastructure. Revised reports indicated that 33 people died, over 61,000 people were displaced, 12,321 houses were damaged and 190 communities were completely cut-off due to damages to roads and bridges. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Comision Economica para America Latina y el Caribe – CEPAL) estimated that the cost of damages sustained and losses amounted for both tropical storms amounted to USD 420 million.

The Office of Public Works elaborated a plan to repair damaged infrastructure, particularly in remote villages. The 211 damaged aqueducts were restored by the National Water and Drainage Institute (Instituto Nacional de Aguas Potables y Alcantarillados - INAPA), restoring water supply to approximately 3.8 million people. The State Secretariat for Public Health and Social Support (Secretaria del Estado de Salud Publica y Asistencia Social - SESPAS) was closely monitoring the spread of diseases, including dengue, malaria and dermatitis.

Haiti

Noel struck Haiti on 29 October, moving through the provinces of Sud-Est, Sud, Grand Anse, Nippes, Ouest, Centre and Artibonite, followed by the provinces of Nord-Est, Nord and Nord-Ouest. The provinces of Ouest, Artibonite, Sud, Sud Est, Grande Anse and Nippes suffered the greatest damages following the storm. The losses and damages sustained were significant and compound pre-existing vulnerabilities due to the socioeconomic conditions of local affected populations, as well as limited public infrastructure and historically weak governance. The effects of Noel were particularly acute, given the fact that many affected areas also suffered from heavy rains earlier in the same month. During the month of October prior to Noel, the National Civil Defence (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC) had reported 14,807 families affected by flooding in Sud, Ouest and Artibonite.

Figures released by the DPC indicate that 73 people died, 17 were reported missing and 133 sustained injuries, whilst 21,726 families in total were affected by Noel. Moreover, 3,852 houses were completely destroyed and another 17,865 houses were damaged. Floods caused widespread damages to agriculture and public and private infrastructure. The government allocated USD 3 million towards its initial response to the storm and pledged an additional USD 3 million to finance the recovery plan being finalised by the DPC and the Permanent Secretariat for Disaster Risk Management (Secrétariat Permanent de Gestion des Risques et des Désastres – SPGRD) covering reconstruction and risk reduction activities in areas affected by the floods.

Cuba

Noel reached Cuba on 29 October, severely affecting the provinces of Guantanamo, Granma, Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, Las Tunas and Camaguey. Heavy rains and flooding compounded existing problems caused by earlier heavy rainfall in the country since the end of September. Reports indicated 79,452 people were evacuated, of which 27,493 people were housed in 203 shelters and 51,959 with friends and family. No deaths or serious injuries were reported. Figures indicate that 21,987 houses were damaged, of which 1,137 were totally destroyed affecting some 192,488 people.

Damages to agriculture and infrastructure were significant. The government reported damages totalling USD 500 million; of which USD 305 million were in the agricultural sector, including thousands of hectares of sugar cane in eastern and central Cuba, as well as in the provinces of Santiago de Cuba, Granma, Camaguey and Ciego de Avila, as well as the loss of ten percent of the country's coffee crops. 13,169 km of roads were damaged, in addition to extensive damage sustained on bridges, railways, sewage systems, electrical systems and telephone lines.

Bahamas

Tropical storm Noel crossed the Bahamas on 30 October, causing intense rainfall and flooding in several of the islands. By 2 November, tropical storm Noel transformed into a category 1 hurricane while crossing the northwest of the islands, with Exuma, Cat Island, Long Island and Eleuthera among the islands most affected. With extensive rainfalls during the month of October in the Central Islands, Long Island was particularly affected with floods up to five feet affecting approximately 3,500 people. Around 2,000 people were affected in Cat Island and an additional 1,500 in Exuma. One death was reported on the island of Exuma. Hurricane shelters were opened in New Providence, Long Island, Cat Island, Exuma and around the Family Islands; however, these were occupied for a short period as people relocated to stay with friends and family.

Other islands, including Acklins, Rum Cay, Long Cay and San Salvador were affected by the storm but to a lesser extent and experienced localized flooding in low-lying areas. Notably, Grand Bahama which suffered major damages in recent hurricanes was not significantly hit by Noel.

Damages were substantial to both residential and business properties, as well as to agriculture (crops and livestock) and fishing vessels, in particular on Long Island, Cat Island, Eleuthera and Exuma as a result of the heavy rainfall and flooding. In general, public buildings withstood the storm, although roads in Exuma, Long Island, San Salvador and Acklins were particularly affected by standing water and will require extensive repairs. Public utilities were interrupted for varying lengths of time, but were restored throughout the country.

Coordination and partnerships

At the onset of the emergency the International Federation mobilized its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) to coordinate the initial response and provide valuable technical assistance to the National Societies of the affected countries. The National Societies in the Bahamas, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti took lead of the operations within their own country, and coordinated activities with all actors concerned, including authorities responsible for emergency response at national level. PADRU maintained close contact with the Federation's Caribbean Regional Representation in Port of Spain, the Federation's Regional Representation in Santo Domingo and Partner National Societies (PNS) from France, Norway, Spain and the United States. Coordination meetings took place between the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Federation, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the PNS present in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The Risk Emergency and Disaster for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC) group and OCHA held coordination meetings in order to synchronize the regional efforts and the sharing of information.

The United Nations' Resident Coordinator's Office as well as the Emergency Operations Centre (Centro de Operaciones de Emergencia - COE) in the Dominican Republic were supported by the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team. When UNDAC left the country, other agencies continued providing relief assistance, including the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNICEF. The WFP conducted several capacity strengthening workshops in food security, logistics and warehouse management. The United States

Agency for International Development (USAID) had supported relief activities by providing USD 600,000 in order to locally purchase and transport drinking water, shelter materials and other emergency relief supplies.

Moreover, several PNS supported the Dominican Red Cross' (DRC's) response operation. The Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) worked with the Dominican Red Cross in projects like water and sanitation. The Swiss Red Cross formulated a complimentary Humanitarian Aid Project linked to the DRC's Plan of Action and in coordination with the DRC, the International Federation and the other PNS present in the country. The German government donated to the German Red Cross (GRC) in order to provide the DRC with food parcels, buckets, water and blankets. The GRC also contributed to the operation in Haiti with relief items to 1,500 families in the southern region and south-eastern regions. This donation was also provided by the German government, with items provided including food parcels, buckets, blankets and water filters. The Spanish Red Cross applied for funding (EUR 900,000) from ECHO to contribute to the DRC Plan of Action to cover water and sanitation activities and the distribution of non-food items for 4,000 families. The Italian Cooperation as well as the Canadian, Japanese, Netherlands, Norwegian and Singapore Red Cross Societies as well as the Turkish Red Crescent Society also contributed generously to this appeal.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRC), who deployed first aid workers and medical personnel to several big shelters, coordinated with the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) and the Ministry of Health in the evaluation of the health situation and the sanitary conditions of big shelters throughout the country. The HNRC was also supported by several PNS, including the Norwegian, Netherlands, Spanish, French, Canadian and American Red Cross Societies.

National Society Capacity Building

In general, the National Societies affected by tropical storm Noel have broad experience in disaster response, mainly due to lessons learnt from past operations, although each National Society has different response capacity levels. The National Societies are well prepared with pre and post emergency coordination mechanisms, pre-positioned stocks, telecommunications equipment, trained managerial and operative personnel. All the National Societies involved in this operation are positioned in their countries National Emergency Operations Centre and have specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

A regional contingency plan was developed during the pre-hurricane meeting in Panama during May 2007, by the National Societies' prone to hurricanes in the Americas including contributions from the four countries affected by Noel. The meeting reviewed existing capacities in the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, as well as the use of disaster preparedness tools. The meeting not only produced a contingency plan for the region but also provided valuable practical training.

The National Societies management and response structures, as well as volunteer capacities were strengthened through the provision of humanitarian assistance during these relief operations. This experience had a positive impact on the participating branches in all four countries, and in the case of the DRC and the CRC, specific objectives were set to build capacity, including the provision of vital equipment and training in disaster preparedness.



DRC volunteer delivering a kitchen kit to a beneficiary in Dominican Republic. Source: International Federation.

In addition DRC and the CRC will see their response stock scaled up with the purchasing of NFI (mosquito nets, family kits, hygiene kits, and tents), vehicles and IT & telecom equipments.

The DRC developed a film documenting the entire response experience to both Noel and Olga, which will be invaluable in training volunteers for future emergencies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

This operation supported the response activities of the National Societies in the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti, and focused on providing food and non-food items (NFI) and support in shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation and logistics.

On the onset of the emergency, the **Dominican Red Cross (DRC)** activated their search and rescue teams and their National Intervention Teams (NIT) to perform rescue activities and assess the needs and damages, as well as 2,000 volunteers to assist with relief activities. The DRC initially focused on the distribution of relief items to the affected population with an emphasis on the temporary shelters set up in the aftermath of the storm.

The DRC's Plan of Action included 10,000 families, of which this appeal covers 4,000 families including 2,000 families affected by Olga. More than 6,134 families received non-food items consisting of one hygiene kit, one kitchen kit and mosquito nets through assistance provided by the DRC, of these, 4,381 families have received assistance under this appeal. 7,508 jerry cans were distributed in shelters and affected communities. Families identified with particular needs were given 1,102 tarpaulins, 656 children kits for children up to two years old and 1,029 children kits from children in the ages of three to five years. In addition, 5,049 food parcels, 11,637 fortified biscuits and 5,190 litres of milk were also distributed.

The DRC distributed and treated clean water, in collaboration with Water and Sanitation experts from the Spanish Red Cross. A total of 16,116,550 litres of water were distributed in the affected regions benefiting 14,124 families. In health, medical attention was provided to 959 people. The health department of the DRC local branch in Santiago also provided the people affected by Olga with bottled water; basic food items as well as basic medical care.

The **Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)** along with the Directorate for Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC) participated in pre-alert activities as well as carrying out evacuation activities and distributing food items to temporary shelters. Damage and needs assessments were carried out and identified the immediate needs for relief operations. More than 150 volunteers worked early on in the emergency, many focusing efforts in the temporary shelters. Initially, the HNRCS supplied the shelters with 492 blankets, 200 sheets, 400 units of soap and laundry soap as well as with cleaning kits.

The HNRCS elaborated a Plan of Action that initially aimed to provide 1,000 families with basic non-food items in the most affected areas. As more information became available from the government regarding the number of affected families, the HNRCS expanded its plan to reach a total of 2,500 families. The additional 1,500 families received water filters, buckets, blankets and supplemental food assistance provided by the French Red Cross (FRC).

The HNRCS distributed non-food relief items to 2,301 families in the Ouest, Sud and Nippes provinces, including hygiene kits and kitchen sets, as well as mosquito nets, buckets and jerry cans. Partner National Societies (PNS), the ICRC and the International Federation supplied technical expertise such as Water and Sanitation and Logistics personnel, vehicles and fuel. The HNRCS was also responding to the Hurricane Dean operation at the time with support from the Federation through the same appeal.

Cuba's National Coordinating Committee for Disasters was activated before Noel struck the country at central, provincial and municipal levels, especially in the eastern regions where Noel first hit. Volunteers were dispatched to various Civil Defence branches and fire stations mobilizing a total of 2,949 volunteers who assisted in the evacuation of people in high risk areas to safer areas with a priority on families living in low lying areas. The **Cuban Red Cross (CRC)** was in charge of all the temporary shelters opened in the different areas distributing food items, providing first aid care, psychological support and special care for pregnant women, children, elderly and disabled people. The CRC also enabled the family link system in the most affected area of Granma to enable families to locate each other following the emergency.

Since the beginning of the emergency the CRC participated in early recovery activities with the support of 1,582 volunteers. In the area of environmental sanitation, activities included the clearing of debris and human waste from the roads and sewers. In health, the National Society organised educational workshops in temporary shelters for the prevention of diseases. The CRC initially developed a Plan of Action that would benefit 4,800 families, but it was later decreased to 3,600 families, reflecting the results of final needs assessments of affected populations

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS)** volunteers' supported relief activities in shelters, evacuated people in the affected regions and performed initial assessments in the Bahamas. Volunteers and members of the Disaster Preparedness Committee assisted in the ten shelters in New Providence with first aid stations and other requested support. Ground officers and assessment teams were deployed to conduct preliminary assessments in New Providence as well. Radio contact was established with Long Island, Eleuthera and San Salvador. In the first days following the storm, the BRCS dispatched relief items from their warehouse to Long Island including 100 blankets, 192 hygiene kits and supplementary one week food kits for approximately 50 families. Based upon assessments, the BRCS developed a Plan of Action to provide immediate support to 425 families with food

parcels, water and hygiene kits following assessment of needs following the emergency, and a cash distribution programme organised with the American Red Cross to benefit 69 additional families.

The **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in coordination with PADRU** sent a total of five airplanes and four sea containers with humanitarian aid to the **Dominican Republic**, including non-food relief items such as jerry cans, buckets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and hygiene kits. On 23 April 2008, the DRC received 2,000 hygiene kits, 1,645 kitchen kits and 4,000 mosquito nets from PADRU in coordination with the RLU, in order to replenish their emergency contingency stock. The DRC received an additional 10,000 mosquito nets on 26 June, 2008. Three sea containers with relief items in total were sent to **Haiti** to assist 2,500 families.¹ A total of 13 sea containers were dispatched to **Cuba** with non-food relief items including mattresses, bed-sheets, towels and mosquito nets, as well as vital equipment for volunteers such as rubber boots and overalls.

PADRU supported the overall coordination of the operation and established High Frequency (HF) radio contact with the National Societies involved to ensure frequent and accurate communications, information sharing, and to monitor the situation. Two Disaster Management (DM) delegates and one Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member were supporting the emergency in the Dominican Republic until 23 January. The HNRCS was accompanied by two DM delegates, one of whom remained until 22 December to support the revision of the Plan of Action and the repositioning of relief supplies for future emergencies.

Progress towards objectives

This operation aims to support response activities in the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti, and focuses on providing food and non food items, shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation and logistics.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective: The affected population will benefit from the provision of relief items to recover from the effects of recent floods and effects from tropical storm Noel.	
Expected results	Activities planned
10,599 families (some 52,995 beneficiaries) (494 families in the Bahamas, 3,600 families in Cuba, 4,000 families in Dominican Republic and 2,500 in Haiti) receive relief items and recover from the effects of the floods.	Activities planned to reach this objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and registration of the most vulnerable families with special emphasis on gender inequities and disability conditions. • Coordination with national, regional, provincial and local authorities. • Warehousing, procurement, dispatch and transportation of relief items from local headquarters to the final destinations. • Regular detailed reporting on the distribution. • Monitoring and evaluation.

Bahamas: The 425 families on New Providence, Cat Island, Exuma, and Long Island benefited from the provision of non-food and food relief items to recover from the effects of the floods. A cash distribution programme will benefit the other 69 families.

Progress: As reported in the previous operations update, the BRCS completed the distribution of one food parcel and one hygiene kit to 425 families from the most vulnerable populations on the islands on 23 November. All items were procured locally following the Federation's procurement standards.

The cash distribution programme, which was developed in coordination with the American Red Cross was completed, distributing a total of USD 20,700 to 69 targeted families, and bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 494 families in Exuma, Cat Island and Long Island.

Challenges: No further challenges were identified as the operation in the Bahamas was completed successfully.

Cuba: 3,600 families will receive zinc roofing to rebuild their roof tops for their houses and relief items composed of sheets, towels, mattresses and mosquito nets.

Progress: The Cuban Red Cross (CRC) received mattresses, bed sheets, towels, mosquito nets and zinc sheeting and distributed these to the projected 3,600 families in the most vulnerable areas of the island. The procurement of the items was completed by PADRU.

¹ Operations Update no. 2 erroneously stated that five sea containers were sent to Haiti. After verification, it is confirmed that three containers were in fact sent.

Challenges: Procurement of the relief items had to be made outside of the country, which delayed the distribution process. Nevertheless, relief items were procured and shipped by PADRU and consequently distributed by the CRC completing the objective of 3,600 families.

Dominican Republic: The DRC's Plan of Action aimed to provide relief items to a total of 10,000 affected families, of which 4,000 are covered by this appeal. This includes an additional 2,000 families affected by tropical storm Olga who received hygiene and kitchen kits. The other 6,000 affected families received relief assistance through bilateral contributions to this appeal.

Progress: PADRU in coordination with the RLU dispatched food parcels, hygiene kits, kitchen kits (one per family), jerry cans, mosquito nets and tarpaulins (two per family). The DRC immediately distributed items to the 2,000 families as originally planned. On 19 December, PADRU dispatched additional relief items from Panama, including, 3,200 hygiene kits, 1,200 kitchen kits and 3,000 mosquito nets. Some of these items were distributed immediately in the areas affected by Olga.

To date, a total of 6,134 families received non-food relief items, including 4,381 hygiene kits, 1,435 kitchen kits, 5,000 mosquito nets, and 1,102 tarpaulins from the DRC operation. Of this assistance, 4,381 families were benefited from support from the appeal.

Challenges: At the beginning of the emergency there were some logistical problems since most of the island sustained damages and it was difficult to transport the humanitarian aid. Additionally, roads were blocked and communities were isolated causing complications in the distributions.

Haiti: Following the need assessments, the HNRCS revised its plan of action to reach a new target of 2,500 families.

Progress: The items sent by the RLU to replenish the HNRCS stocks for 1,000 families were distributed to the most affected families. A second distribution took place from 9 to 13 January 2008 and completed the delivery of non-food relief items, and other distributions planned under this operation. A total of 2,301 families received relief items including buckets, jerry cans, blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen kits and hygiene kits. In addition, the RLU sent relief items for 1,000 families in order to replenish HNRCS stocks.

Challenges: No further challenges have been identified as the operation has been completed successfully.

Emergency health

Objective: The affected communities will benefit from basic medical care provided by Dominican Red Cross medical brigades.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The affected people receive proper medical care in order to relieve their suffering caused by the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of activities with the National Secretariat of Public Health (Secretaria de Estado de Salud Publica y Asistencia Social, SESPAS). • Identification of shelters where to perform medical assistance. • Prioritization and identification of beneficiaries (children, women, elderly). • Organization and support to SESPAS' medical brigades.

Progress:

Since the last operations update posted on 27 February 2008, the DRC completed the objective of providing the most affected with proper basic medical care. The DRC Health Department provided medical assistance and basic medicines to 959 people suffering common diseases including anaemia, dermatitis, gastrointestinal problems and diarrhoea.

Emergency Health

Objective: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The DRC provides psychosocial support to the affected communities due to the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams will perform evaluations • Identification of the most affected areas • Assistance in shelters

Progress:

As mentioned in the previous operations update, the DRC completed this objective by providing psychosocial support in the most affected areas, especially to women and children.

The DRC's psychosocial support team firstly evaluated the needs of the affected population to identify the exact requirements of the activities to be developed, before providing assistance in the shelters through the development of psychosocial activities.

Emergency health	
Objective: The affected communities and people in shelters in the Dominican Republic will have access to potable water for consumption and will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.	
Expected results	Activities planned
All the affected population will receive and have access to potable water and also receive key health messages in order to control water borne diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need and damage assessments including basic sanitation activities. • Mobilization of six water and sanitation teams. • Identification of communities most affected and shelters available. • Identification of beneficiaries in coordination with SESPAS and the National Institute of Potable Water (Instituto Nacional de Agua Potable, INAPA). • Agreements with local authorities for water supply. • Water and sanitation activities. • Training workshops in water sanitation for all DRC volunteers. • Storing and distribution of drinking water to shelters and affected communities. • Health awareness campaigns

Progress:

The DRC supplied 16,116,550 litres of water in total to 14,124 families in 18 affected provinces.

Emergency shelter	
Objective: The Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) will provide support for the displaced people housed in shelters.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Affected people receive proper care in shelters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide non food items to people in shelters • Provide health support

Progress:

As reported in the last operations update, the HNRCS provided the affected people housed in temporary shelters with non-food items in coordination with the Directorate of Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC). The challenge identified was the lack of HNRCS personnel with experience in shelter management. Due to this challenge the HNRCS could not assist more affected people in the temporary shelters. This objective is considered as completed.

Strengthening of Capacities	
Objective: The capacity of the Cuban Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross and their local branches will be strengthened.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The Cuban Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross and their local branches are better prepared for future disaster response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will receive visibility equipment according to established standards (shirts, caps, flags, id's) • Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office • Workshops to support the development of a disaster preparedness in all local branches in the affected provinces

Cuba

The CRC procured most of the equipment for their locally; this will enable them to respond adequately to future emergencies.

Progress: The items such as the rubber boots and overalls were procured by the Regional Logistics Unit in Panama and were shipped to Cuba.

As part of the objective to strengthen the capacity of the CRC at the local branch level, this National Society will acquire through this appeal two Toyota Land Cruisers with emergency kits and spare parts kits. These vehicles will ensure greater mobility at times of disaster for the staff and volunteers of the CRC, as well as

CRC will also acquire two laptops and VHF radio and repeater to be used in the affected provinces.

Dominican Republic

Progress: The DRC purchased vests, jackets and life-saving aquatic equipment for 200 volunteers. The Deputy Head of the Reference Centre for Disaster Preparedness located in El Salvador, Central America carried out two workshops for the presidents of 10 branches of the Dominican Red Cross and 10 Strategic Centres of the Dominican Red Cross. There were 29 participants in the Contingency Plan workshop held between 23 and 27 June, 2008 held and later on a Guide for emergency evaluation workshop was completed. During these workshops the DRC updated the National Disaster Response Plan and was approved by the authorities.

DRC will also purchase as part of the replenishment of their response stocks, non-food items to assist 300 families.

Early Recovery

Objective: Early recovery activities are assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The National Societies of the affected countries recover after the recovery activities are completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform relief assessments to identify recovery needs • Obtain feedback from affected communities

Progress:

The countries affected by Noel were yet again affected by a series of hurricanes and tropical storms during the 2008 hurricane season. Early recovery activities are being integrated into the on-going 2008 hurricane operations, therefore this objective under this appeal can be considered closed.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promoting greater quality, accountability, and transparency. There has been close coordination and support to the NS to increase the visibility of their actions in regards to the communication through the Federation's PADRU, the Americas Zone Office, the Caribbean Regional Representation Office in Trinidad and the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

Regular situation reports were issued by Red Cross National Societies through the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) on the global International Federation website: https://www-secure.ifrc.org/dmis/prepare/view_report.asp?ReportID=3375, and media pieces are also available on the Federation's public website. Several short articles have been issued in order to 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 involved National Societies. For more information on this emergency please visit: <http://www.cruzroja.org/>.

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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*<Revised Appeal Budget and interim financial report attached below;
[click here to return to the title page](#)>*

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Noel Tropical Storm

MDR49002

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter	46,563	30,400	-16,163
Construction Materials	202,514	205,149	2,635
Clothing & Textiles	230,320	237,307	6,987
Food	63,429	10,537	-52,892
Seeds & Plants		0	0
Water & Sanitation		0	0
Medical & First Aid	33,702	0	-33,702
Teaching Materials		0	0
Utensils & Tools	174,358	199,519	25,161
Other Supplies & Services	214,435	245,582	31,147
Total Relief Needs	965,321	928,494	-36,827
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings		0	0
Vehicles Purchase		61,222	61,222
Computers & Telecom Equipment		20,034	20,034
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.		0	0
Medical Equipment		0	0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0	0
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse	29,356	12,423	-16,933
Distribution & Monitoring	219,190	204,005	-15,185
Transport & Vehicles Costs	65,398	35,811	-29,587
Service fee & Recovery	10,314	57,756	47,442
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	50,900	52,251	1,351
Regionally Deployed Staff	21,932	8,711	-13,221
National Staff	42,616	18,689	-23,927
National Society Staff	50,818	9,493	-41,325
Consultants	7,745	0	-7,745
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	39,258	132,302	93,044
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	42,500	48,541	6,041
Information & Public Relations	12,415	14,009	1,594
Office running costs	21,826	6,435	-15,391
Communication Costs	21,867	16,495	-5,372
Professional Fees	2,342	0	-2,342
Financial Charges	1,462	6,511	5,049
Other General Expenses	8,287	3,574	-4,713
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	111,455	113,785	2,330
Total Operational Needs	759,679	822,047	62,366
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	1,725,000	1,750,541	25,539
Available Ressources		1,750,817	
Net Request	1,725,000	-276	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR49002 - Carribean - Tropical Storm Noel

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/10-2008/10
Budget Timeframe	2007/10-2009/3
Appeal	MDR49002
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	1,750,541					1,750,541
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	187,061					187,061
Canadian Red Cross	34,160					34,160
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	121,500					121,500
Finnish Red Cross	83,650					83,650
Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund	417,250					417,250
Japanese Red Cross	44,273					44,273
Luxembourg Government	64,000					64,000
Netherlands Red Cross	83,876					83,876
New York Office (from Alcatel Lucent)	10,800					10,800
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)	54,000					54,000
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)	27,000					27,000
Norwegian Red Cross	244,690					244,690
On Line donations	1,505					1,505
Other	201					201
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	11,027					11,027
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	140,560					140,560
Swiss Red Cross (from Swiss Government)	118,713					118,713
Switzerland - Private Donors	1,622					1,622
Unidentified donor	-730					-730
United States - Private Donors	34					34
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	1,500					1,500
C1. Cash contributions	1,646,692					1,646,692
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
American Red Cross	104,125					104,125
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport	104,125					104,125
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	1,750,817					1,750,817
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,750,817					1,750,817
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	1,750,817					1,750,817
E. Expenditure	-1,655,066					-1,655,066
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	95,750					95,750

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)		1,750,541					1,750,541	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	30,400	47,029					47,029	-16,629
Construction - Housing		25,707					25,707	-25,707
Construction Materials	205,149	179,442					179,442	25,707
Clothing & textiles	237,308	232,667					232,667	4,641
Food	10,537	10,537					10,537	0
Utensils & Tools	199,518	189,079					189,079	10,440
Other Supplies & Services	245,582	192,175					192,175	53,407
Total Supplies	928,494	876,635					876,635	51,859
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	61,222							61,222
Computers & Telecom	20,034	4,034					4,034	16,000
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	81,256	4,034					4,034	77,222
Transport & Storage								
Storage	12,423	12,423					12,423	-0
Distribution & Monitoring	204,005	178,517					178,517	25,488
Transport & Vehicle Costs	35,811	35,811					35,811	-0
Total Transport & Storage	252,239	226,752					226,752	25,487
Personnel								
International Staff	52,251	125,766					125,766	-73,515
Regionally Deployed Staff	8,711	8,711					8,711	-0
National Staff	18,689	18,689					18,689	-0
National Society Staff	9,493	9,493					9,493	0
Total Personnel	89,144	162,659					162,659	-73,515
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	132,300	33,699					33,699	98,601
Total Workshops & Training	132,300	33,699					33,699	98,601
General Expenditure								
Travel	48,541	48,541					48,541	0
Information & Public Relation	14,009	14,009					14,009	0
Office Costs	6,435	6,435					6,435	-0
Communications	16,495	16,495					16,495	-0
Financial Charges	6,512	1,947					1,947	4,565
Other General Expenses	3,574							3,574
Total General Expenditure	95,566	87,427					87,427	8,139
Programme Support								
Program Support	113,785	101,361					101,361	12,424
Total Programme Support	113,785	101,361					101,361	12,424
Services								
Services & Recoveries	57,757	55,758					55,758	1,999
Total Services	57,757	55,758					55,758	1,999
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		106,742					106,742	-106,742
Total Operational Provisions		106,742					106,742	-106,742
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,750,541	1,655,066					1,655,066	95,475
VARIANCE (C - D)		95,475					95,475	