

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Cuba: Hurricane Season 2008

Emergency appeal n° MDRCU0001
GLIDE No. TC-2008-000143
Operations update n° 4
20 July 2009

Period covered by this Ops Update: 1 February to 30 June 2009.

Appeal target (as of 30 October 2008): CHF 9,604,366 (USD 8,811,345 or EUR 6,156,645).

Appeal coverage: 64% of the revised Appeal budget of 30 October has been covered.

Revised budget (current): CHF 6,412,000 (USD 5,929,461 or EUR 4,222,032). The appeal reflects 96 per cent coverage in relation to the reduced revised budget attached.

[<Click here to view the revised budget, the interim financial report or here to view contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- CHF 150,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in Cuba in starting early damage and needs assessments following Hurricane Gustav.
- The Emergency Appeal was launched on a preliminary basis on 8 September 2008 for CHF **6,417,524 (USD 5,834,112 or EUR 3,973,699)** to assist 40,000 people for a period of nine months.
- Given levels of affectation and the impact of subsequent hurricanes, the Emergency Appeal was increased on 25 September 2008 to CHF **10,106,348 (USD 9,187,600 or EUR 6,257,800)** to assist 60,000 beneficiaries for nine months.
- The Appeal budget was revised on 30 October 2008 to CHF **9,604,366 (USD 8,811,345 or EUR 6,156,645)** with a reduction in the quantity of relief items and the same number of beneficiaries.
- With Appeal coverage standing at 64 per cent, the operational activities have been revised in line with the publication of this update including a reduced budget of CHF **6,412,000 (USD 5,929,461 or EUR 4,222,032)** to assist 35,000 people (7,000 families) over a period of twelve months.

Summary:

On 31 August 2008, Hurricane Gustav made landfall in Cuba with strong winds and heavy rains causing widespread flooding and damage throughout the island. Gustav left thousands of people affected nationwide and is considered to be the worst storm to strike the country in the last 50 years. Gustav was swiftly followed by Ike, a category three storm which struck Cuba on 7 September and crossed the island as a category one hurricane causing additional widespread damage.

The Emergency Appeal was launched on 8 September to mobilize resources to finance the Cuban Red Cross (CRC) plan of action designed to provide rapid and effective response to meet the needs of the most affected



A repaired roof in the Morrillo community of the Bahia Honda municipality. Source: Cuban Red Cross.

families. This report covers progress in Appeal objectives aimed at delivering emergency relief and shelter materials to assist affected families to repair damaged or destroyed roofs, as well as longer term activities to assist families in their recovery from the effects of the emergencies. This report also reflects challenges in the sourcing of shelter materials at regional level, and customs procedures at national level which have led to delays in distributions.

In line with revisions to the Appeal budget and objectives, the implementation period of the operation has been extended and the operation will be completed by 8 September 2009. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (8 December 2009).

The situation

The 2008 hurricane season had a severe impact on the island of Cuba, with cumulative damages proving the highest in many years. Between 16 August and 10 September 2008, Cuba was affected both directly and indirectly by four severe meteorological events. Tropical Storm Fay struck the island on 18 August causing severe flooding. Later on 31 August, Hurricane Gustav made landfall leaving thousands of families affected across the island. Tropical Storm Hanna did not strike the island directly, however the indirect effects caused heavy rains and severe flooding in the eastern zone of the country. Finally Hurricane Ike struck the island on 7 September affecting also the entire country and many communities which were still struggling to recover from the earlier events.

Swift and effective preventative measures taken by the Cuban authorities, led by the Cuban Civil Defence Command ensured that, remarkably, no lives were lost during the emergencies. Approximately 28 per cent of the population (three million people) were evacuated from areas at risk, with around 77 per cent from the city of Havana, the province of Pinar del Rio, and the municipality of Isla de Juventud (Isle of Youth). Although the storms affected the entire national territory, and many areas were affected more than once, the most affected areas are Pinar del Rio and the Isle of Youth where Ike's heavy rains and strong winds added to the vast destruction already caused by Gustav. The provinces of Holguín, Las Tunas and Camaguey were also severely affected, although to a lesser extent, by the cumulative impact of the storms.

Total damages are now estimated in the region of USD 10 billion representing almost 20 per cent of the country's GDP. More than 500,000 homes were affected by the storms, including partial or total loss of roofs as well as 63,249 homes that were completely destroyed. Official figures indicate that more than 2 million people's homes were thus affected, 18 per cent of the total Cuban population. Damages to agriculture have been acute with 113,000 hectares of crops which were damaged leading to the loss of an estimated 53,000 tonnes of food vital to the population's daily food intake, including sugar cane, rice, beans and other essential basic items, including crops cultivated and distributed by the Ministry of Agricultural Development. The damages to the agricultural sector have raised concerns regarding national food security following the emergencies. Widespread damage to the country's infrastructure has also been considerable, including damages to the electrical power system, transmission towers, water systems, as well as significant damages to facilities in schools and health centres. Revised figures released in early 2009, indicate that in the province of Pinar del Rio alone more than 900 schools were damaged, of which 400 were partially damaged, whilst 567 totally collapsed, and a similar number of health centres were affected.

The national authorities have responded quickly and effectively to address these severe levels of affectation supported by contributions from the international donor community. Work commenced immediately to find solutions for families relocated to temporary shelters or housed with family and friends. The Institute of Housing has noted that 26 per cent of the affected houses have been repaired, with current estimates indicating that approximately 32 per cent of damaged houses have been rehabilitated in the most affected province of Pinar del Rio, followed by approximately 50 per cent in the Isle of Youth, with efforts continuing in this area. All official shelters have been closed and evacuated families have either returned home where possible or have been relocated to temporary facilities, including small, temporary wooden houses built to relocate families whose homes were completely destroyed. A number of families remain with relatives and friends until alternative solutions have been found.

Reconstruction of health and educational centres as well as other damaged infrastructure is underway. Government strategies focusing on the cultivation of 'quick-harvest' crops, including basic vegetables and legumes have also helped to strengthen national food security, which was weakened following the emergencies,

by reactivating local agriculture for national consumption. Immediate needs and subsequent efforts continue to focus on the housing sector with recognition that much remains to be done in this area. However, national authorities estimate that rehabilitation efforts, including the building of houses to replace those destroyed by the storms, will continue through initiatives in this area over the next ten years.

Coordination and partnerships

Since the onset of the emergencies, Red Cross actors at the national, regional and international levels have been coordinating actions to respond to the needs of affected families. The International Federation, through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) based in Panama, and its Regional Representation for the Latin Caribbean countries (Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic) based in Santo Domingo has been in regular contact with the Cuban Red Cross whilst providing technical and financial assistance to support the national plan of action. To date, the Federation has deployed a regional shelter advisor and a disaster management delegate to assist the CRC in the design of the Emergency Appeal and emergency response operation. In addition, a specialist in early recovery was deployed to Cuba to assess initial recovery activities, and to assist in the design of a detailed plan of action in this area. A Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member has been deployed to the field since February to support reporting and monitoring functions, as well as to provide assistance in general project management functions.

At the regional level, the Federation has maintained regular contact with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Panama regarding operational and contextual developments. The United Nations System contributed USD 8.7 million to the response effort from agency emergency funds and OCHA's Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). As of mid-March 2009, the UN had mobilized USD 5,231,859 funding towards its USD 30 million post-hurricane Plan of Action to fund sector specific projects in the immediate response and recovery phases of the relief effort, financing initiatives including the provision of food aid (WFP), support in health (WHO-PAHO), as well as work in shelter and risk reduction (UNDP).

At the national level, the CRC continues to coordinate its emergency relief activities with local and national authorities, participating in regular meetings of the central commission for reconstruction, bringing together government actors working in rehabilitation efforts, including the Cuban Civil Defence, the Institute of Housing, the Ministry of Health, amongst other key national agencies. At local level, all operational activities are coordinated with the provincial, municipal and local (community) level authorities, with direct support provided by the government in the transportation of relief and shelter items from their arrival in the port in the capital city of Habana, through to transportation at local level.

The **Spanish Red Cross**, has made in-kind donations to the Appeal including, the contribution of kitchen sets, jerry cans and zinc sheets and nails for the repair of damaged or destroyed roofs. The **Finnish Red Cross** has also supported the appeal with in-kind donations of mosquito nets, jerry cans and kitchen sets. The **Norwegian Red Cross** has supported the Emergency Appeal directly, and has also distributed pre-positioned stocks to families in Santa Cruz del Sur affected by Paloma, the last hurricane of the 2008 season, as part of its long term cooperation with the Cuban Red Cross via its Preparing Communities (PRECO) disaster risk reduction project.

Additional contributions to the Emergency Appeal include donations from sister Red Cross Societies, including the American Red Cross, the Australian Red Cross (Australian government), the British Red Cross (British government), the Canadian Red Cross (Canadian Red Cross and government), the Danish Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Monaco Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross (Norwegian Government) and the Swedish Red Cross (Swedish Government). Additional funds donated directly by governments, include funds from the Irish and Italian governments, as well as funding from the European Community's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' Fund for International Development and Western Union.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Cuban Red Cross actively responded to the emergencies in the phases before, during and after the storms took place. Prior to the first storm, the Cuban Civil Defence activated procedures in place to alert the population of the forthcoming events. The Cuban Red Cross supported the Civil Defence in the evacuation of families living in high risk areas to temporary shelters and to the homes of families and friends. Following the impact of the events, the CRC mobilized 5,381 volunteers from the affected areas, as well as its specialized search and rescue teams to carry out evacuations, assist families and support the authorities in the running of temporary shelters. In addition, the CRC volunteers provided psychosocial support to children and adults suffering from stress related to

the effects of the storms and for some, in their relocation to temporary shelters. Additional support was provided by the National Society in establishing communication amongst those displaced with concerned relatives living abroad. Currently, 278 Cuban Red Cross volunteers, including many new volunteers recruited from the affected communities themselves, continue to work in the response operation in diverse tasks relating to the distribution and monitoring of relief items.

All provinces were affected by the impact of the hurricanes during 2008 with the most affected areas including the Pinar del Rio province and the Isla de Juventud municipality. Given the vast levels of affectation, the Red Cross assistance targets the 14 municipalities of the Pinar del Rio province in line with, and in coordination with, government relief and recovery plans.

The International Federation through PADRU sent a cargo plane with emergency relief items for 3,300 families from the most affected communities located in the municipality of Los Palacios in the province of Pinar del Rio in the immediate aftermath of the emergencies. Support has also been provided by in-country delegates in the design of the operation and the mobilization of funds under this Appeal, in the general coordination of relief activities, and in the procurement and shipment of relief and shelter items.

Progress towards objectives

Activities are aimed at providing both immediate and longer term relief to the affected families. Initial actions are concentrated on providing immediate emergency assistance to those in need including the distribution of kitchen sets, mosquito nets and jerry cans, followed by the distribution of tool kits, shelter kits, zinc sheets, nails and galvanized steel beams for the repair of destroyed or partially destroyed roofs. Following the repair of roofs, further assistance has included the distribution of sheets, towels and mattresses, as well as water filters. Additional actions have been included to assist families in their recovery from the storms, including micro-projects designed to assist in the reactivation of local livelihoods.

The CRC plan of action has been revised in line with Appeal financing and the following objectives reflect changes in beneficiary numbers and planned assistance.

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Objective: 7,000 families (35,000 people) affected by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike will benefit from the distribution of non-food items.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Approximately 7,000 families in the affected areas will receive essential non-food items (see detailed kit below).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Progress to date:

Emergency relief items have been obtained from existing stocks at the Regional Logistics Unit of the International Federation, or procured at the regional level. Beneficiaries have been identified in close coordination with local authorities, with CRC volunteers working alongside social workers, community organizations and local formal and informal leaders in the assessment of needs and in the prioritization of families.

The following items have been distributed to the affected families from nine affected municipalities in the province of Pinar del Rio under the emergency appeal:

Municipality	N° of jerry cans (10l)	N° of families	N° of jerry cans (20l)	N° of families	N° of kitchen sets	N° of families	N° of mosquito nets	N° of families
Los Palacios	6,600	3,300			3,300	3,300	7,970	3,985
Minas	-	-			100	100	300	150
La Palma	1,520	639	2,295	2,295	2,095	2,095	1,360	680
Bahía Honda	1,030	611	1,520	1,520	-	-	1,360	680

Candelaria	-	-			97	100	490	245
San Cristobal	-	-			100	100	1,360	680
Consolación del Sur	3,000	1,500			100	100	1,360	680
Viñales	-	-			-	-	800	400
Pinar del Rio	-	-			3	-	300	150
Total	12,150	6,050	3,815	3,815	5,795	5,795	15,300	7,650

Relief items have also been sent to communities from the Provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Granma which were also severely affected by the hurricane season, including 8,700 mosquito nets, 5,600 jerry cans (10l) and 500 kitchen sets. The final report will provide further details of these distributions.

Following initial distributions of emergency relief items, priority was placed on the purchase and distribution of zinc sheets and construction materials to provide adequate housing to the most affected families. The remaining relief items (sheets, blankets and mattresses) have been distributed to families whose roofs have been repaired in the following municipalities:

Municipality	N° of sheet sets	N° of towel sets	N° of mattresses	N° of families
Minas	499	500	272	500
La Palma	499	500	700	700
Bahía Honda	499	500	500	500
Consolación del Sur	499	500	800	800
Pinar del Río	499	500	228	500
Total	2,495	2,500	2,500	3,000

* A total of 2,500 sheets were originally purchased, however 5 sheets were not received in-country.

The CRC and the International Federation are monitoring the use of relief items through visits to the field applying a survey with beneficiary families to assess the impact of the use of the items and overall coherence of the assistance strategy.

As mentioned above, distributions take place in line with assessed vulnerability, indicating that families do not necessarily receive a standard kit of relief items, but that items are distributed according to individual family need. Notably, upon receiving the kitchen sets, towel sets and sheet sets, many families have distributed items amongst community members indicating that a greater number of families have actually received assistance under this Appeal. The final report will provide further detail on families reached given the particular nature of the Cuban context.

Additional assistance provided by the Cuban Red Cross includes the distribution 1,000 mosquito nets and 200 mattresses to the affected families from Santa Cruz del Sur from in-country pre-positioned stocks donated by the Norwegian Red Cross.

Shelter

Objective: To provide adequate shelter for 7,000 families.	
Expected results	Activities planned
6,000 families will receive materials for roofing and 1,000 families will receive shelter kits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of communities and specific beneficiaries coordinating with local government authorities. • Procurement of materials (zinc sheeting, nails and wood) for the reconstruction of damaged roofs. • Supervision in the repairing of the damaged houses by CRC staff and volunteers.

Progress to date:

Shelter materials in compliance with national specifications have been procured through the International Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit in Panama and sent by sea freight to Cuba. Transportation has been provided by the national authorities, with the CRC working in close coordination with community actors to prioritize vulnerable families. Zinc sheets, nails and galvanized steel beams are being distributed to families with partially or totally destroyed roofs, salvaging existing materials from the affected homes. Families whose homes were completely destroyed have been relocated or are living in temporary accommodation units (small, temporary homes built on their own land).

A total of 500 shelter kits were distributed to families in 14 different municipalities of the Pinar del Rio province between October and November 2008. Tools are used within communities to repair damaged roofs, whilst tarpaulins are used to provide temporary shelter before roofs are fixed. The shelter kits have been distributed as follows:

Municipality	N° of shelter kits
Los Palacios	60
Minas	35
Viñales	35
La Palma	35
Bahía Honda	35
Candelaria	25
San Cristóbal	55
Consolación Sur	65
Pinar del Río	65
Sandino	20
San Luis	20
San Juan	20
Mantua	20
Guane	20
Total	500

A further 500 shelter kits are being distributed to the affected communities in the eastern region of the island, including the provinces of Ciego de Ávila, Sancti Espíritus, Las Tunas, Holguín, Villa Clara, Granma and Santiago de Cuba to assist families in the reconstruction efforts.

The CRC has distributed a total of 164,419 laminated zinc sheets to date, including in-kind contributions by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo - AECID) and autonomous and provincial branches of Soria, Aragón and Castilla - La Mancha as well as the city councils of Gran Canaria, Barañain, Murcia, Laguna de Duero and La Llagosta via the Spanish Red Cross.

The procurement of shelter materials has been carried out in accordance with the specifications defined by the Cuban Red Cross in close coordination with the Cuban Institute of Housing to comply with national requirements. To date, zinc sheets have been distributed and installed by community brigades composed of members of affected families with support from CRC volunteers as follows:

Municipality	No. of zinc sheets distributed	No. of families reached
Consolación del Sur	37,674	933
San Cristobal	26,725	717
Los Palacios	19,072	399
Pinar del Río	15,649	593
Bahía Honda	12,664	341
Candelaria	12,518	382
La Palma	10,571	300
Viñales	9,903	201
Minas	7,085	327
Sandino	4,048	107

San Luis	5,510	176
San Juan	1,000	51
Mantua	2,000	53
Total	164,419	4,580

A total of 29,900 galvanized steel beams, nails and 176 tonnes of cement are also being distributed to the affected families to complement the distribution of zinc sheets. The beams are used to replace damaged or destroyed local materials, and the cement has been used to provide a secure finish to the recently installed roofs, as well as to repair damaged walls and floors. 30,000 steel beams were originally purchased; however, two boxes of 50 steel beams each were not received in-country.

To date, each family has received on average 36 zinc sheets, taking into consideration the needs, level of affection and size of each house. Technical support has been provided to the beneficiaries in order to ensure the appropriate use of materials and to ensure better roof repair. This support has been provided by experienced CRC volunteers who have participated in past operations such as Wilma in 2005 and Noel in 2007, which also included the repair of roof tops using zinc sheets. The CRC staff have monitored the installation of roofs, and the additional monitoring of beneficiaries is underway in nine municipalities by CRC and Federation officials to assess beneficiary satisfaction, existing and outstanding needs as well as to monitor the quality of the assistance provided.

An additional 75,000 sheets have been purchased at regional level with distributions in progress from the end of June. The Spanish Red Cross is supporting the appeal with an additional in-kind donation of laminate sheets, and the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama is finalizing the last shipment of zinc sheets (approximately 75,000 zinc sheets) to support the Cuban Red Cross operation.

Challenges:

Some delays have occurred during the procurement process at the regional level, given limited availability of zinc sheets in the quantity and type required to comply with government regulations. Additional delays have occurred at the national level in customs clearance. However, despite initial delays, the CRC continues with distributions, and with the installation and monitoring of all items.

Water and Sanitation

Objective: 1,000 families in the affected communities receive a specialized water filter.	
Expected Results	Activities planned
Specialized water filters are provided to the most affected communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of communities and specific beneficiaries coordinating with local government authorities. • Procurement of materials (Brazil) • Distribution of water filter and supervision of their installation • Instruction for the population

Progress:

Specialized water filters have been purchased and shipped by the International Federation's Regional Logistics Unit to Cuba for distribution to families with limited or no access to clean drinking water following the emergencies, prioritizing specific social cases, including the chronically or terminally ill. The filters have been of particular value given that they reduce the need to boil water for drinking purposes which is a daily task for Cuban families from rural areas.

A total of 990 families from the municipalities of Los Palacios (170 families), La Palma (175), Bahía Honda (100), Consolación del Sur (171), Candelaria (100), San Cristóbal (175) and Viñales (99) have received one filter per family. Unfortunately, 10 filters were damaged during the transportation and distribution processes.



Beneficiary from the community of Tronque Herradura using a water filter in the municipality of Consolación Sur. Source: International Federation.

An additional 1,000 water filters and chlorine tablets have been distributed in Santa Cruz del Sur from pre-positioned stocks made available by the Norwegian Red Cross.

National Society Capacity Building	
Objective 1: The capacity of the Cuban Red Cross in disaster response and preparedness will have been strengthened.	
Expected Results	Activities planned
The Cuban Red Cross local branches' volunteers will be adequately identified and prepared for this and future emergencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of visibility materials (T-shirts, caps), computers, office equipment • Disaster preparedness workshop for volunteers • Procurement of 20 tents • Procurement of a laptop • Procurement of two Toyota land cruisers and three motorcycles

Progress:

Support in institutional capacity-building has been revised in line with Appeal coverage and National Society priorities. Equipment to support the CRC relief operation teams has been purchased at the regional level by the RLU with items including baseball caps, waterproof ponchos and flags to increase volunteer visibility during operational activities, as well as key equipment for search and rescue operations, including stretchers and first aid equipment. An additional three units of specialized rescue equipment have been purchased to equip the National Society's specialized relief operations teams to be better prepared to respond to future emergencies, as well as 20 tents for future emergencies.

Two Toyota Land Cruisers have been purchased at the regional level with funds from the emergency response operation following Hurricane Noel, whilst an additional three motorcycles have been purchased and will be used to mobilize CRC staff and volunteers working on the current emergency response. These vehicles will be of particular value to support distributions and monitoring processes given challenges at the local level with limited transportation facilities.

A Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member specialized in reporting has been deployed to Cuba since 9 February 2009 to support the CRC in the implementation of remaining activities, as well as to support the monitoring and reporting functions of the operation at the local and national levels. A workshop on reporting in emergency situations was organized for 15 Secretaries General and directors of operations at the regional branches involved in the operation in the province of Pinar del Rio on 4 March to build capacity in reporting, as well as to review existing information management processes within the National Society. An additional meeting to support the systematization of the operation in reviewing operational progress and lessons learnt was organized on 29 June for the Provincial Secretaries General in preparation for the 2009 hurricane season.

Early Recovery	
Objective 1: Improve living conditions of the most affected communities by providing better opportunities for the families to have an alternative to grow and process food for sale and self consumption.	
Expected Results	Activities planned
Approximately, 20,700 people will be able to produce their own food complementing the basic food basket.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs evaluation and analysis mission in Early Recovery • Provide tools and equipments for the livestock and fishing production at a community and family level. • Monitor and follow up by the CRC volunteers.

Progress:

A continuum strategy has been prepared with national agricultural experts and national authorities to address food security as part of the recovery efforts. The strategy consists of improving the living conditions of the most affected communities by supporting community agricultural and fishing activities as well as providing alternative methods to grow and process food for sale and self-consumption.

Nine micro-projects have been designed by community members with the support of a Federation delegate specialized in early recovery in the municipalities of Camagüey, Habana, Pinar del Rio and Sancti Espiritus, including two small-scale community agricultural cooperatives, five institutional cooperatives supporting community social services and two small-scale community fishing cooperatives. National authorities assist the communities with the provision of livestock, vaccines, fertilizer and seeds; therefore, activities planned cover the purchase and distribution of additional vital equipment.

The projects include the purchase of vital equipment to protect workers, as well as the distribution of agricultural tools, irrigation equipment and fishing equipment, and the purchase of spare parts to repair existing equipment and vehicles.

Work has commenced in the purchase and distribution of materials at the local level, with monitoring activities planned up to the end of the operation.



Workers received essential protective work gear and agricultural tools, Municipal Market Garden, Sancti Espiritus. Source: Cuban Red Cross.

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 and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability and transparency.

The communications activities outlined in this appeal are aimed at supporting the National Society to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support effective operations. These activities are closely coordinated between the Cuban Red Cross and the Federation communications team in the Americas and Geneva.

Support has been provided to the Cuban Red Cross to increase the visibility of their humanitarian actions for this operation. During the operation, the International Federation through PADRU, has deployed two information delegates to Cuba to provide support in setting up media interviews and increasing visibility of the Red Cross in the field, as well as supporting the design of a communications plan of action and an additional visibility plan.

Information on the emergency has been published on the www.cruzroja.org, www.ifrc.cruzroja.org and www.ifrc.org websites, including press releases, articles and photographs from the field. There have been 45 interviews, two press releases, three media advisories and four humanitarian stories published in the web. An information bulletin for donors was translated to Spanish, English and Arabic, and the Cuban Red Cross has also produced and disseminated three information bulletins for the national media (radio and press), with forthcoming editions planned for the months of June and September. The Cuban Red Cross has produced a TV spot on hurricane preparedness which is currently being aired prime-time on national and local television channels as part of its wider disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness programme. In addition, posters have been designed and disseminated at the community level to raise awareness on disaster preparedness initiatives prior to the next hurricane season.

The International Federation is supporting the Cuban Red Cross to assist the most vulnerable people affected by the 2008 hurricane season. Activities carried out in this operation are based upon the principle of humanity. Beneficiary selection is based on the level of vulnerability of those affected, respecting culture, diversity and ensuring gender sensitivity.

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:

- **In Cuba:** Dr. Luis Foyo Ceballos, Secretary General of the Cuban Red Cross; phone: (537) 306-1055; email: crsn@infomed.sld.cu
- **In Dominican Republic:** Alexandre Claudon, Regional Representative for the Latin Caribbean countries; phone: (1 829) 970 9020; e-mail: alexandre.claudon@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** Ariel Kestens, Head of Pan American Disaster Response Unit; phone (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; email: ariel.kestens@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** Ilir Caushaj, PADRU, Regional Logistics Coordinator phone: (507) 316-1001; fax: (507) 316-1347; mobile: (507) 6679 5355; email: ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org.
- **In Panama:** Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41 22) 730 42 74; fax: (41 22) 733 03 95; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org

[<Revised budget and Interim financial report below; or click here to return to the title page>](#)

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 1

Cuba Hurricane Season 2008

MDRCU001

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter	5,689,000	4,410,484	1,278,516
Construction Materials	1,504,000		1,504,000
Clothing & Textiles	609,000	279,953	329,047
Food			0
Seeds & Plants			0
Water & Sanitation	33,000	43,560	-10,560
Medical & First Aid	6,600		6,600
Teaching Materials			0
Utensils & Tools	540,000	331,341	208,659
Other Supplies & Services		206,980	-206,980
Total Relief Needs	8,381,600	5,272,318	3,109,282
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings			0
Vehicles Purchase	67,260	4,880	62,380
Computers & Telecom Equipment	10,500	6,300	4,200
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.			0
Medical Equipment			0
Other Machinery & Equipment		40,000	-40,000
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse		31,928	-31,928
Distribution & Monitoring	326,200	111,019	215,181
Transport & Vehicles Costs	15,000	43,406	-28,406
Service Fee & Recovery	450,000	163,783	286,217
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	9,000	98,526	-89,526
Regionally Deployed Staff	35,100	54,744	-19,644
National Staff	12,000	10,038	1,962
National Society Staff	25,000		25,000
Consultants		15,000	-15,000
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	22,000	7,072	14,928
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	18,375	33,286	-14,911
Information & Public Relations	25,000	58,464	-33,464
Office running costs	13,500	21,423	-7,923
Communication Costs	22,500	30,087	-7,587
Professional Fees			0
Financial Charges	6,000		6,000
Other General Expenses	10,400	-7,054	17,454
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	656,913	416,780	240,133
Total Operational Needs	1,724,748	1,139,682	585,066
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	10,106,348	6,412,000	3,694,348
Available Ressources		6,137,885	
Net Request	10,106,348	274,115	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCU001 - Cuba - Hurricane Season 2008

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/8-2009/06
Budget Timeframe	2008/8-2009/09
Appeal	MDRCU001
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	6,412,000					6,412,000
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	1,136,971					1,136,971
<i>Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)</i>	313,400					313,400
<i>British Red Cross (from DFID - British Government)</i>	482,843					482,843
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	78,000					78,000
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>	208,000					208,000
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	2,789					2,789
<i>ECHO</i>	503,067					503,067
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	12,241					12,241
<i>Great Britain - Private Donors</i>	1,356					1,356
<i>Irish Government</i>	230,800					230,800
<i>Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund</i>	53,833					53,833
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	209,800					209,800
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	29,931					29,931
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>	471,000					471,000
<i>Nicaraguan Red Cross</i>	1,662					1,662
<i>Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)</i>	602,960					602,960
<i>On Line donations</i>	9,482					9,482
<i>OPEC Fund For Int-l Development</i>	237,312					237,312
<i>Spanish Government</i>	19,081					19,081
<i>Spanish Red Cross</i>	19,135					19,135
<i>Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	563,150					563,150
<i>Switzerland - Private Donors</i>	500					500
<i>United Arab Emirates Red Crescent</i>	11,687					11,687
<i>Venezuela - Private Donors</i>	1,094					1,094
C1. Cash contributions	5,200,093					5,200,093
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	2,601					2,601
<i>ECHO</i>	124,924					124,924
<i>New York Office (from United States - Private Donors)</i>	33					33
<i>New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)</i>	27,097					27,097
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	154,655					154,655
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	195,205					195,205
<i>Spanish Government</i>	293,546					293,546
<i>Spanish Red Cross</i>	294,387					294,387
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport	783,138					783,138
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	6,137,885					6,137,885
D. Total Funding = B + C	6,137,885					6,137,885
Appeal Coverage	96%					96%

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCU001 - Cuba - Hurricane Season 2008

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/8-2009/06
Budget Timeframe	2008/8-2009/09
Appeal	MDRCU001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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	6,137,885					6,137,885
E. Expenditure	-4,828,311					-4,828,311
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,309,575					1,309,575

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCU001 - Cuba - Hurricane Season 2008

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/8-2009/06
Budget Timeframe	2008/8-2009/09
Appeal	MDRCU001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		6,412,000					6,412,000	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	4,410,484	2,510,877				2,510,877	1,899,607	
Construction Materials		911,011				911,011	-911,011	
Clothing & textiles	279,953	261,815				261,815	18,138	
Water & Sanitation	43,560	29,559				29,559	14,001	
Utensils & Tools	331,342	414,837				414,837	-83,496	
Other Supplies & Services	206,980						206,980	
Total Supplies	5,272,319	4,128,100				4,128,100	1,144,219	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	4,881	4,881				4,881	0	
Computers & Telecom	6,300	1,345				1,345	4,955	
Others Machinery & Equipment	40,000						40,000	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	51,181	6,226				6,226	44,955	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	31,929	15,504				15,504	16,425	
Distribution & Monitoring	111,019	104,539				104,539	6,480	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	43,407	16,466				16,466	26,940	
Total Transport & Storage	186,355	136,509				136,509	49,846	
Personnel								
International Staff	98,526	14,887				14,887	83,639	
Regionally Deployed Staff	54,744	5,534				5,534	49,210	
National Staff	10,039	9,339				9,339	700	
National Society Staff		5				5	-5	
Consultants	15,000						15,000	
Total Personnel	178,309	29,765				29,765	148,544	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	7,072	72				72	7,000	
Total Workshops & Training	7,072	72				72	7,000	
General Expenditure								
Travel	33,287	21,607				21,607	11,679	
Information & Public Relation	58,465	34,541				34,541	23,924	
Office Costs	21,424	6,741				6,741	14,683	
Communications	30,080	27,770				27,770	2,310	
Financial Charges	-7,054	-45,921				-45,921	38,867	
Total General Expenditure	136,201	44,738				44,738	91,463	
Programme Support								
Program Support	416,780	330,062				330,062	86,718	
Total Programme Support	416,780	330,062				330,062	86,718	
Services								
Services & Recoveries	163,783	79,410				79,410	84,374	
Total Services	163,783	79,410				79,410	84,374	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		73,429				73,429	-73,429	
Total Operational Provisions		73,429				73,429	-73,429	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	6,412,000	4,828,311				4,828,311	1,583,689	
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,583,689				1,583,689		