

# ANNUAL REPORT



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## SOUTH AMERICA

May 2002

*This Annual Report is intended for reporting on the Federation's Annual Appeals only.*

*Appeal No. 01.30/2001*

*Appeal Target: CHF 3,939,655 (USD 2.4m / EUR 2.7m)*

### "At a Glance"

*Appeal coverage: 51.8%*

*Related Appeals: 01.31/2001; Venezuela; 5/2001 Bolivia - Floods; 18/2001 Peru - Earthquake; 01.22/2002 South America*

*Summary/Update: The South America region was affected by a significant number of disasters during 2001 including the devastating earthquake which hit Peru in June, which impacted on the activities of the regional delegation. Progress was made in the Andino, Amazonico and Camalote projects promoting integrated community disaster preparedness and health education and reduction of vulnerability. In the area of organizational development, limited funding made it essential to prioritize support in relation to national society needs. In August, the position of regional health delegate was filled and attention was focused during the remaining months of the year on HIV/AIDS programming within the national societies. Within the delegation, emphasis was placed on the creation of strategic alliances, initiatives to seek funding from new sources and improved financial management.*

## **Operational Developments**

In 2001, most of the countries in the region were affected by natural disasters. The most significant was a major earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale according to the Geophysical Institute of Peru and 7.9 according to the United States' Geological Survey, and lasting 75 seconds, which struck southern Peru on 23 June at 15.33 hours local time. More than 200,000 people were affected and the Peruvian Red Cross/Federation undertook a major relief operation hours after the disaster. This disaster dramatically changed the priorities both of the Peruvian Red Cross and the regional delegation.

From December 2000 onwards, Bolivia experienced exceptionally heavy rains, the worst in 58 years, causing floods and landslides in various regions of the country. Seven of nine departments were affected, and the government declared a state of national emergency in four: La Paz, Oruro, Beni and

Cochabamba. In response to a request for aid by the Bolivian Red Cross, the Federation launched an international appeal.

During the first six months of the year, there were continuing floods in Puno in south eastern Peru, along the border with Bolivia, further complicated by snowfalls and hail in the mountain areas, an uncommon occurrence at this time of year. At the end of May and the beginning of June, northern Uruguay was also affected by heavy rains and floods. Some 5,000 people were affected and 250 houses were destroyed. Ecuador was hit by heavy rains in June which were followed by landslides. Figures from the Civil Defense and the Ecuadorian Red Cross indicated that 39 people were killed, six went missing and 400 homes were destroyed, with 700 people affected by the storms nationwide. In June, provinces of northern Colombia were affected by severe storms and continued to be hit by strong winds, lightning, flooding and avalanches.

An earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale hit northern Chile at 01.30 hours on 24 July. The epicentre was 110 km east of the city of Iquique and affected the cities of Arica, Iquique, Pisagua and Putre. The hardest hit areas were the communities of Huara and Mamiña. One person died and 30 homes in the rural areas surrounding the city of Arica were affected. Ecuador's Tungurahua volcano, 180 km south of Quito, has been erupting intermittently since 1999. In August 2001, it became particularly active. Volcano ash rains directly affected three provinces, home to a total of more than 7,200 families.

In December the state of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was affected by heavy rains causing flooding and landslides. The most affected areas were the slums and shanty towns in Petrópolis, Duque de Caxais and Paracambi.

In Colombia, the peace process with the two main guerilla groups, FARC and ELN, initiated by President Andrés Pastrana when he took up office in August 1998, showed few tangible results and on several occasions was interrupted. The talks with ELN broke down in mid August. The armed conflict intensified with more attacks on isolated villages, massacres of defenseless "campesinos" and indigenous people, and kidnappings even in urban centres.

The more than 40 years of internal conflict has caused the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. It is difficult to assess the exact numbers of IDPs in Colombia; however, trends reflect a progressive increase in the numbers and geographical expansion of the displacement phenomenon. The year 2001 saw a sizeable increase in displacement; a complex mixture of large-scale group displacement and individual displacement took place with over 70% being women and children.

A wave of urban bombings towards the end of the year shook Colombians. Strikes also took place all over the country. The government has not been able to halt the deteriorating economic situation and growth remains slow while unemployment continues to rise. Prospects in early 2002 are not favourable, as guerilla members kidnapped a candidate for the forthcoming Presidential elections as a bargaining chip in order to negotiate release of rebels.

During 2001 the economic and social situation in Argentina steadily deteriorated leading to social unrest and escalating into violent clashes between demonstrators, the army and police forces in December. Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela also continue to be affected by social problems which impact most particularly on the most vulnerable.

## ***Objectives, Achievements and Constraints***

### ***Disaster Response***

#### **Floods: Bolivia (Appeal 5/2001)**

In Bolivia, exceptionally heavy rain fell continually throughout December 2000 and January 2001 causing floods and landslides throughout the entire country, affecting more than 100,000 people. The Federation launched an international appeal for CHF 1,503,575 in order to assist 36,200 beneficiaries. Several distributions were carried out providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, blankets, kitchen and hygiene kits, water containers and purification tablets as well as agricultural tools. The operation was especially successful in terms of coordination of initiatives between the Bolivian Red Cross, PNS, government agencies and non-governmental organizations. The number of beneficiaries receiving attention exceeded the target set forth in the appeal, and a total of 10,881 families were reached.

See the appeal issued on 1 February 2001 and situation reports 1 to 3 on the Federation web site).

#### **Floods: Puno, Peru**

Between December and early May, heavy rainfall caused severe flooding throughout the department of Puno in Peru. The combined effect of flooding, snow and hail caused damage to 39,063 hectares of farmland, severely impacting the economy of the area, and a total of 7,538 families were affected. The Federation issued an information bulletin on 15 May, requesting donor support for reimbursement of the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency fund (DREF) funds issued to assist the Peruvian Red Cross in initiating a relief operation. DREF funds, together with bilateral contributions from the American and Chinese Red Cross Societies, enabled the Peruvian Red Cross, through its branches in Puno and San Antonio de Putina, to carry out distributions of food and other relief items to 2,200 families.

See information bulletins nos 1 and 2 of 15.5.01 and 19.2.02 on the Federation web site for further details.

#### **Earthquake: Southern Peru (Appeal 18/2001)**

A strong earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale and lasting one minute and fifteen seconds struck southern Peru on 23 June at 15.33 hours local time affecting the departments of Arequipa, Tacna, Moquegua and Ayacucho as well as the north of Chile and the north west of Bolivia. The Federation launched an international appeal for CHF 4,970,787 to bring assistance to 55,000 beneficiaries, most affected by the disaster. For further information, please see the appeal documents and operations updates on the Peru earthquake operation on the Federation web site.

#### **Volcanic Eruption: Ecuador**

In August Ecuador's Tungurahua volcano, situated 180 km south of Quito, emitted volcano ash rains directly affecting three provinces and more than 7,200 families. CHF 75,000 was allocated from the DREF fund to be used in the health and community-awareness components of the Ecuadorian Red Cross disaster response operation which focused on improving health and hygiene conditions of the affected population through the creation of four medical brigades, the provision of protective material to those affected and to relief volunteers, and the carrying out of a disaster preparedness campaign in order to diminish the impact of potential future volcanic eruptions. See information bulletin no. 1 issued on 20.8.01.

#### **Severe Storms: Colombia**

In June, provinces of northern Colombia were affected by severe storms. The Colombian Red Cross Society received CHF 408,000 from the DREF fund to implement a relief operation to assist 4,223 persons most affected by the storms. Please see information bulletins nos 1 and 2 issued on 7.6.01 and 27.8.01 respectively.

Further information on all operations carried out by the region's national societies with the support of the Federation, can be found in the relevant reports on the web.

## ***Disaster Preparedness***

### **Objective 1: To strengthen national society capacity in disaster response.**

#### **Achievements**

The process of strengthening the national society disaster response capacity in the region moved forward substantially during 2001. The second regional disaster relief meeting for all national societies in South America was held between 13 and 17 August in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Two representatives from each of the nine participating national societies attended, together with regional delegation staff and a representative from the American Red Cross.

The objectives of the meeting were to evaluate the current situation on a regional basis, and of each national society's department of disaster relief, with a view to identifying key components of an effective and efficient strategy per national society and on a regional basis, in disaster preparedness, prevention and response including an overall two-year strategy and a one year detailed plan of action.

A detailed SWOT analysis was conducted which identified both positive aspects that needed to be strengthened, and areas of weakness in the disaster response network. Much of the meeting was spent on the development of regional and national strategic and operational plans and areas of cooperation. The meeting addressed all areas of disaster preparedness, prevention and response as well as how to best use the existing resources throughout the region.

All but one national society have subsequently submitted strategic plans and associated operational plans. In addition, an initial regional delegation strategy was identified involving the following broad areas and activities:

- Implementation of a systematized and permanent regional and national society strategic planning process;
- Development of regional systems which facilitate the exchange of information;
- Improvement of the quality of national society financial and administrative management;
- Strengthened provision of knowledge and practical support to national societies regarding Federation disaster response and preparedness (DR/DP) standards;
- Training of 50 national society staff/or volunteers (at the regional level) as members of regional intervention teams and establishing one national intervention team in each national society over a two year period; and
- Provision of support to national societies in the design of relevant DR/DP projects including the acquisition of funding for selected projects.

These results form the basis of the disaster preparedness and response strategy and are reflected in the 2002-2003 appeal. The strategies and plans developed will be integrated into those of the other regional delegations in the Americas and PADRU in a process of defining a Pan-American DP/DR strategy.

During the course of the 2001, specific strategies were developed to work with the Bolivian and Peruvian Red Cross in improving their capacity to respond to disasters. Building on the humanitarian operations carried out in 2001, a systematic process of analysis and planning was initiated in order to meet this objective.

An example is the first annual "Urban Disaster and Emergency Symposium and Simulation" held on 14 December 2001 in La Paz, Bolivia. The event was organized by the Bolivian Red Cross and the regional DP trainee delegate. The overall objectives of the event were to improve the capacity of the

Bolivian Red Cross, and in particular the La Paz branch, in responding to urban disasters and to improve inter-institutional coordination between the Red Cross and local disaster response bodies.

38 branch volunteers received 20 hours of training in urban disaster management, communication and first aid. In addition, relations with local emergency disaster service providers was formalized. A further event is planned during 2002 and a similar exercise is being planned for Peru during 2002.

In July the regional DR/DP programme was strengthened by the addition of a regional DPP trainee delegate through funding from the Spanish Red Cross. This support to the regional delegation will improve the quality and quantity of the work with national societies. One of the key problems faced during the last year was that daily activity of the regional DP/DR delegate was put on hold each time a disaster occurred. The arrival of the new delegate has a clear positive impact on the work carried out in the region.

### **Constraints**

A more integrated regional disaster response system was strengthened during the course of several disaster operations which occurred during the year. Systems and relations were refined with the newly created PADRU. This helped the Federation to respond more quickly and efficiently. These systems, however, need further improvement and as such, joint planning has already been implemented. The setting up of regional and national intervention teams (RITS/NITS) also requires additional work. Systems and protocols are weak and need modification. Many national societies remain weak in disaster response. While there is much motivation and dedication, there is, in some cases, a lack of clear planning. More time needs to be spent working with the national societies in the preparation of realistic plans and the implementation of an overall training programme.

### **Objective 2: To strengthen and extend the community education programme.**

#### **Achievements**

##### ***Andino Programme***

2001 saw the implementation of the DIPECHO funded community education for disaster preparedness and prevention project in Andean Countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

The project directly trained 465 community leaders as facilitators in the four countries who, in turn, trained 6,784 community members through the 296 workshops implemented. Working in 129 communities in the most vulnerable areas of the four countries, the programme aimed to improve the ability of vulnerable communities to respond to natural disasters through strengthening community organization. Specifically, the objectives of the project were:

- To strengthen the basic response capacity of communities in emergencies and disasters;
- To support the institutional development of the Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadorian and Venezuelan Red Cross Societies so that they can implement programmes and specific projects to improve response capacity in disasters.

Utilizing a participatory methodology, the project focused on reducing the conditions of vulnerability in communities and implementing healthy life styles through improved hygiene practices, educational presentations and the detection of risks and threats. Community and Red Cross branch disaster emergency plans were developed, community emergency brigades were formed, and emergency disaster units within Red Cross branches were strengthened.

## •KEY QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

Country - Number of Branches	Training Facilitators Trained	Facilitators Trained	Number of Communities Involved//# of community emergency plans	Micro Projects	Number of Workshops Carried out	Participants			Community Disaster Brigades Formed	Community First Aid Kits Distributed
						M	F	T		
Colombia (3)	15	200	100/100	29	133	623	605	1228	91	100
Venezuela (7)	21		7/7	9	61	374	918	1292		28
Ecuador (5)	20	96	10/10	5	70	1556	1560	3116	7	32
Bolivia (4)	20	93	12/12	12	32	691	457	1148	11	85 kits/85 splints
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>129/129</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>3244</b>	<b>3540</b>	<b>6784</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>245</b>

The project also focused on qualitative results. The following list highlights key results:

### *Community*

- Increased sense of commitment and solidarity amongst community members;
- Creation of a “culture of prevention”;
- Improved community organization and participation around analysis and solutions of common problems;
- Improved leadership skills;
- Increased participation by women including roles of responsibility;
- Improved project planning and management skills.

### *National societies*

- Integration of the project as part of ongoing activities in the branches;
- Increased awareness among community members of Red Cross principles, programmes and activities;
- Improved volunteer capacity in community work, participatory methods and community based disaster prevention education;
- Increase in the number of volunteers;
- Improved project planning and management skills including administration and financial control systems;
- Implementation of the project in other geographic areas;
- Improved cultural sensitivity reflected in community practices.

### *Facilitators and Participants*

- High levels of motivation;
- Appreciation and application of new knowledge and skills; improved leadership skills;
- Community solidarity;
- Increased awareness of community problems the development of potential solutions;
- Increased ability to work with institutions and inter-institutionally.

The implementation of micro projects supported these processes. Communities were able, with minimum supervision, to work with government authorities and NGOs to implement small projects identified, designed and managed by community members. 57 community-managed micro projects were implemented in the 4 countries.

It is important to note that the project methodology and educational material is being used in other national societies in the region as well as PNS such and the French and Spanish Red Cross. This helps to ensure a common regional approach allowing opportunities for sharing and for improvement. In

addition, Guide No. 1 “Prevention of Disasters” was translated into Quechua in Bolivia which facilitated project activities and led to more meaningful results.

Through funding from DFID, the Chilean Red Cross implemented a disaster preparedness community education project, producing similar results as the Andean project. Federation resources and materials were modified for the specific country situation. One of the key obstacles faced is acquiring sufficient funds to sustain what has been achieved and expand the project. As is the case with Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, Chile is not a priority country of donor governments or many international NGOs. A strategy needs to be devised to optimize opportunities for such initiatives to receive the required funds.

### **Constraints**

In some cases, branch volunteers were over-stretched and activities had to be rescheduled. This was remedied through better planning. Similarly, communities have their own rhythms and activities had to be postponed. For this same reason, delays were experienced in the implementation of certain micro projects. However, it must be noted that community members were aware of these issues and made every effort to compensate for time lost. As a result, all projects were finished on time. During the course of the project a process was initiated of developing tools to better measure the impact of the project in the community, specifically in the areas of community organization, participation by all sectors of the community (with a focus on women), cultural sensitivity, analytical and problem solving skills and the capacity of community members to articulate needs.

Much more work needs to be done in developing these tools. While the project attempted to measure qualitative impact, the process was weak and energy needs to be dedicated in finding means to undertake this task in an manner appropriate to branch skills and capacity.

Community education, while an integral part of disaster preparedness, is one component of an effective integrated disaster prevention, preparedness and response strategy. Community education needs to be combined with strengthening local disaster emergency institutions and local and municipal governments in the development of coherent disaster preparedness and response strategies and action plans. This facilitates a coordinated effort in preparing for, and responding to, potential catastrophe and solidifies relations amongst those responsible for responding to disasters. In addition, Red Cross branches need to strengthen their skills in programme planning, implementation and evaluation, community processes and disaster response, and also benefit from the provision of basic disaster emergency equipment.

**Objective 3: To extend and strengthen the Camalote project. The project will aim to reduce the vulnerability of 14 depressed urban districts in the Plata river basin in 2001, and 18 in 2002, by improving their disaster preparedness capacities and promoting health, sanitation and community development activities.**

### **Achievements**

During 2001, nine Camalote micro projects were implemented in nine branches in Argentina and Paraguay with funds provided by the Swedish Red Cross. A total of 1,456 families benefited from the programme.

During the third quarter, a meeting for all branches and the national coordinators was organized with the aim of reinforcing the disaster preparedness aspects of the projects. The workshop was facilitated by the coordinator of the Andino disaster preparedness project and experience from this project was shared. Concrete proposals on DP activities were elaborated and will be implemented during 2002 in all Camalote branches.

The Camalote bulletin which aims to share information about the Plata basin and the project was

revised to improve the quality of information exchange.

### **Constraints**

There was not sufficient funding to carry out the programme in 14 branches, as planned. The Uruguayan Red Cross did not implement projects in 2001, while assessments regarding the possibility of future participation took place.

**Objective 4: To establish strategic regional and national partnerships. Coordination with United Nations agencies (UNDP, OCHA, WHO/PAHO), national governments, local authorities and private sponsors will be strengthened to promote the exchange of knowledge and information.**

### **Achievements and Constraints**

Building upon the work carried out during the disaster operations in Bolivia and Peru, significant steps were taken to solidify national partnerships between the national societies and international and national disaster organizations. In both countries, the Red Cross is a member of the national disaster preparedness and response bodies as dictated by state law. In addition, as a result of recent disasters in both countries, the Red Cross continues to maintain close contact with United Nations organizations such as UNDP, OCHA, WHO/PAHO and other international and national humanitarian organizations.

Nevertheless, results were minimal in relation to this objective. There is much work to be done at the regional level and with the other national societies in the region. Many of the regional offices of the UN and other international organizations are located outside of South America necessitating a Pan-American strategy in the building of long-term relationships with other humanitarian bodies. A coordinated effort between the three regional delegations and PADRU is in the process of being developed and will be implemented in the forthcoming year.

Many national societies do not have a clearly defined role within a their corresponding national disaster response plans. There is a need to work with the national societies and governments to define these roles and support the Red Cross developing plans and in undergoing training.

### **Health and Care**

In mid August the regional health delegate began his mission. At that time, the position had then been vacant since January 2001, with serious implications on the implementation of the health and care programme. The health delegate is based in La Paz, Bolivia, together with the DP/DR delegate and DP/DR trainee delegate; as a result, to date, there has been a particular focus on the Bolivian Red Cross. Contacts were initiated with the representative of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and, in addition, coordination was ensured with the regional Spanish Red Cross delegate, also based in La Paz.

Given that this programme did not benefit from a delegate over a period of eight months, programme implementation was limited. Therefore, only those objectives towards the achievement of which activities were undertaken are reported on below. The delegation considers that the remaining objectives constitute priorities and these are therefore reflected in the appeal 2002-2003.

**Objective 2: To continue to strengthen the education of young people and teenagers in the region in the prevention of HIV/AIDS.**

### **Achievements**

In 2001, the delegation put much effort into revising the youth HIV/AIDS programme to ensure better quality and impact of activities. The material used by national societies was revised and the Federation Youth Peer Education manual was introduced as a new tool.

In the second semester of the year, the regional delegation started to work closely with the Latin American branch of the Global Network of People living with HIV/AIDS, REDLAT. In the regional delegation, an HIV/AIDS team was established consisting of the regional health delegate, an organizational development (OD) delegate, the youth officer and the coordinator for REDLAT, also based in Buenos Aires. The first joint activity was a regional HIV/AIDS workshop for youth directors and HIV/AIDS coordinators within each of the national societies, which took place in Colombia in October.

Preparations for the workshop included analysis by the national societies of the youth peer education manual from their national perspectives with the aim of adapting the methodology. Furthermore, a joint proposal on HIV/AIDS was drawn up with a view to accessing global HIV/AIDS funds. The joint proposal was based upon this objective and focuses on three countries: Bolivia, Paraguay and Peru. After the regional workshop a regional plan of action was approved and close cooperation with REDLAT was initiated at a country level. In drafting country plans, the delegation focused on two National Societies for 2002; the Bolivian and Paraguayan Red Cross Societies. The country plans include prevention, care for people living with HIV/AIDS and activities to fight stigma, and will be implemented during 2002. In addition, the Peruvian Red Cross received support from the Norwegian Red Cross in the area of prevention. As the pledge arrived late in the year activities will take place during the first quarter of 2002.

On 1 December the international coordinator of the Global Network of People living with AIDS (GNP) travelled to Buenos Aires to participate in a conference entitled "Facing the Stigma and HIV/AIDS discrimination" which was jointly coordinated with the regional delegation for South America and the Argentine Red Cross. All South American National Societies organized activities with the Latin American Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS. Brochures, condoms, pins and stickers were distributed in public places and advocacy workshops, conferences and activities were held all over the country. The Federation video "*Living with...*" was distributed to all national societies. Additionally, representatives from several national societies within South America participated in a Red Cross and Red Crescent women's international workshop on prevention, care and stigma reduction in the field of HIV/AIDS hosted by the Norwegian Red Cross.

The regional youth officer, the regional health delegate and the youth director of the Bolivian Red Cross participated in REDLAT's annual planning meeting in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in December to further reinforce cooperation. The youth officer also conducted a gender awareness session.

### **Constraints**

Due to funding limitations it was not possible to implement HIV/AIDS projects in five national societies. However, as a result of initiatives taken to agree on a joint approach and joint criteria for implementation and follow up, the national societies will be in a much better position to carry out qualitative activities in 2002.

**Objective 4: To continue the Amazonico programme, promoting integrated development and improving health, nutrition and education conditions in 15 communities in the Amazon basin.**

### **Achievements**

Five of the six micro projects financed through the Federation with funds from the Finnish Red Cross were implemented. In Venezuela, the project was delayed; however, local strategic alliances have been achieved and full implication of the National Society's project office was ensured. The project will be implemented in 2002. The total number of beneficiaries was 3,963 persons. In addition to the micro projects for 2001, four branches finalized projects relating to the year 2000. The seven branches

in which the micro projects were implemented in the first phase of the programme continue to work with the same communities. In the majority of cases, the branches managed to raise funds from new sources for the projects in local development.

Through the introduction of the Amazonico programme in the Guainia branch, Colombia, and the inclusion by the Peruvian Red Cross of the community of Islandia in the programme through its own initiative and with its own funds, the programme will have reached a total of 18 branches - three more than targeted. In Peru, the regional delegation participated in the participatory planning workshop in October and provided technical input as regards programme management.

The annual evaluation and planning meeting was organized in March. In this meeting the regional delegation brought together national and local coordinators as well as donors to both the Amazonico and Camalote programmes in order to share experience regarding community development and to plan jointly for 2001. A separate meeting report is available upon request.

The national meetings on the second phase of the programme were organized in the Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadorian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies during the four last months of the year. During these meetings, both operational and organizational development issues were tackled to ensure the quality of the projects and the strengthening of the capacities of the National Societies both at headquarters and at local level. These meetings also facilitated the implication of other technical areas in the programme which in many cases had not been taken into account in the coordination of the Amazonico project. In order to transfer methodologies and experience, a number of branches which are not involved in the Amazonico project were invited. Efforts were made to involve the branches where the Federation is supporting other activities, mainly through the Andino disaster preparedness programme. In these meetings participants came both from headquarters and branches and included representatives of PNSs and of the ICRC. In Venezuela, the meeting will take place in 2002 given delays in programme implementation.

The programme was monitored closely by the team in the regional delegation. Technical input was provided for the formulation of the micro projects. The team maintains continuous contact with the national Amazonico coordinators. As there was no health delegate during the first semester, the delegation's Amazonico activities were confined to programme management and technical input on community development. In August, the health delegate was included in the Amazonico team which will facilitate the integration of the programme in the national societies' health departments since in most national societies, programme coordination is based outside the health department. Monitoring visits of the health delegate to the micro projects are being planned to strengthen the technical aspects of the programme. In 2001, staff of the regional delegation made three monitoring visits to the Amazonico branches and the delegation issued four Amazonico bulletins.

### *Constraints*

The major constraint was the delay in the implementation of Amazonico in Venezuela. In addition, the slow financial reporting by national societies created delays. In the year to come, solutions need to be found in order to speed up the administrative procedures.

### ***Promotion of Humanitarian Values***

**Objective 1: To support the dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and the Movement's humanitarian values through the youth network, promoting amongst children and young people attitudes of non-violence, tolerance, reciprocal respect and equality of opportunities among men and women.**

### **Achievements**

In spite of limited funding, some progress was achieved; the youth departments of the national societies continued to include promotion of attitudes of non-violence, tolerance, reciprocal respect and equality of opportunities among men and women in their work in school centres, inspired by the workshop held in November last year during the annual youth assembly. The issue of equality of opportunities among men and women is also included in the organizational development programme. During the second semester, funding was made available for activities in Peru, but activities will be implemented during the first quarter of 2002.

#### **Constraints**

The major constraint was a lack of funding for the programme.

**Objective 2: To promote volunteering in the region, increasing the participation and commitment of the population in social welfare issues through its collaboration with the Red Cross.**

#### **Achievements**

All national societies within the region participated in the national commissions on the international year of the volunteer. In each country, activities were carried out to celebrate the day of the volunteer on 5 December. Features on volunteering were included in the latest edition of the magazine *Noticias de America Latina*. More information on activities related to volunteering can be found in the organizational development section below.

#### **Constraints**

Again, the lack of funding was the major constraint for carrying out further activities.

### ***Organizational and Resource Development***

The regional delegation provided tailored support to specific needs or events in the national societies in line with the global and regional organizational development (OD) strategy and Secretariat priorities. The two OD delegates visited all national societies during the year, and many of them were visited several times. The Peruvian Red Cross was visited on various occasions as a result of the earthquake operation and several OD issues were addressed in close coordination with the ICRC country delegation. Argentine Red Cross also received considerable support. Furthermore, representatives of the regional delegation were present as observers in the general assemblies of the Bolivian, Colombian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies. Over 400 volunteers and staff of the national societies represent the approximate total of direct beneficiaries of the OD programme. The regional delegation worked not only with the national headquarters but also with the branches. In the majority of national societies, the delegation's activities reached more than 50% of the branches. However, the major constraint affecting all areas of ID/RD was the difficult funding situation. Activities suffered from this as planning was dependent on incoming pledges during the year. The problems mentioned throughout the report relate to lack of resources in the delegation, given its vast geography and ten national societies with many needs in this area. As a result, the delegation focused on specific national societies in order to ensure positive results.

**Objective 1: To provide training in the identification, planning, management and evaluation of plans, programmes and projects in at least five national societies during 2001, and in at least four in 2002.**

#### **Achievements**

In 2001, support was provided for the national development planning processes of the Argentine Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadorian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies.

In the regional management workshop organized in May in Cartagena, Colombia, the project management cycle was one item on the agenda. National training sessions on the project management cycle were also held in the Venezuelan Red Cross in May in which 75% of branches participated. In the Venezuelan Red Cross there was a clear achievement as the National Society now benefits from a functioning project office.

In the national leadership and management training which was organized with the Bolivian Red Cross in August, sessions on planning were included. This also applies to the pilot leadership development course decentralized from Geneva and organized in Colombia in December.

The change process within the Brazilian Red Cross was the responsibility of the “Asunción commission” with representatives from a national society of the region, a PNS and the Americas department of the Secretariat. At the end of the year, the National Society organized its general assembly.

### **Constraints**

It was clearly over-ambitious to plan training in project planning and management for five national societies in 2001, given the difficult funding situation for this region and in this specific area.

**Objective 2: To strengthen financial resource development in at least eight national societies in the region to improve the financial capacity of at least five of them in 2001 and the rest in 2002.**

### **Achievements**

Financial resource development was one of the issues on the agenda of the fifth Inter-American Communication and Resource Development Forum in Panama. Financial resource development was integrated as a component of governance and management training, as the success of this issue depends upon the commitment of the leadership in each national society. Therefore, no separate regional seminar was organized on resource development, but the issue was integrated into regional events focusing on governance and management.

At the regional management workshop mentioned above, financial resource development was also on the agenda. The session focused on how to draw up a resource development plan based on experiences shared by the Spanish Red Cross and the Mexican Red Cross, whose resource development director participated in the workshop. As the Mexican Red Cross is also the coordinator of the Inter-American Communication and Resource Development Forum, the director made a presentation of the recommendations of the fifth Forum celebrated in Panama in February 2001. The Chilean Red Cross which is member of the commission on resource development of the Forum agreed to develop a resource development network.

Support to the implementation of resource development programmes was given to the Argentine and Chilean Red Cross and, to some extent to the Bolivian and Ecuadorian Red Cross Societies, following initiatives which started in 1999-2000.

In the national leadership and management training which was organized with the Bolivian Red Cross in August, sessions on financial resource development were also included.

The Chilean Red Cross shared experience on resource development with the region in information sent to all national societies. In the last communication a mapping of all agreements and strategic alliances of the national societies was included.

### **Constraints**

This area was affected by a lack of commitment on the part of the national societies. For instance, the recommendations relating to resource development from the forum were not followed up and the resource development network did not become active.

**Objective 3: To provide leadership and governance training for members of the governing and management bodies of at least five national societies in 2001 and five in 2002.**

**Achievements**

A national leadership and management training session was organized with the Bolivian Red Cross in August. All presidents of the branches, the National Society president, as well as representatives of headquarters staff, took part and an agreement between the headquarters and the branches was signed at the end of the event. This was an important step in the change and decentralization process of the Bolivian Red Cross.

The pilot leadership development programme developed by the organizational development department of the Secretariat was held in Colombia over two weeks in December: 21 participants from 15 national societies from Latin America attended the two first modules of the new leadership course. The first module included fundamental themes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and was carried out in cooperation with the ICRC. The second module focused on planning and leadership and was carried out in cooperation with external consultants from Colombia. The third and final module will take place in Guatemala in June 2002. A specific report is available upon request.

The regional delegation provided support to the Argentine Red Cross in the preparation of its national meeting for all branches which will focus on the revision of the National Society's Statutes.

**Constraints**

It was clearly over ambitious to plan for governance and leadership training in five national societies in 2001, given the difficult funding situation for this region and in this specific area. However this remains a priority as there is much demand for assistance from national societies.

**Objective 4: To support the region's national societies in strengthening their internal and external communications.**

**Achievements**

In February, 15 national societies, including five national societies from the sub-region, the Federation and the ICRC, and participating national societies met for the fifth Inter-American Communication and Resource Development Forum in Panama. The forum adopted a number of recommendations to be implemented at national society level in internal communications, dissemination, communications in disasters and resource development. A report on the forum is available upon request. During the year, the recommendations and documents were implemented and used in the national societies. The degree of implementation will be evaluated in the forum to take place in 2002. Follow up on the communication and resource development forum was ongoing involving contacts with national societies, the Federation's regional delegation in Guatemala and the ICRC communication support centre located in the ICRC regional delegation in Buenos Aires.

The information officer was deployed to the Bolivian floods in early February and to the Peru earthquake operation days after the disaster, undertaking a mission of a duration of 20 days. She carried out media activities in close cooperation with the Bolivian Red Cross and the Peruvian Red Cross and capacity building took place. She also provided information for the Federation web page and the Federation web page for Latin America; among the contributions she made, photos from the affected area were published in the photo gallery.

Issue number 23 of *Noticias de America Latina* was published and distributed to all Spanish speaking national societies of the Americas as well as to all the regional delegation's stakeholders.

Meetings with representatives of the media were held during the year. Media kits concerning World Aids Day and the International Year of Volunteering 2001 were sent to the national media and the South American national societies' communications departments.

### **Constraints**

Due to lack of funding it was not possible to implement the distance education programme in the Bolivian Red Cross. This priority has been included in the appeal for 2002-2003.

### **Objective 5: To strengthen the structure of the regional youth network and promote its development.**

#### **Achievements**

The youth network gathered for six chat sessions in 2001. After each chat session, minutes were distributed to the national societies. Six issues of the youth bulletin were drawn up and sent to the national societies' youth departments. The regional youth assembly took place in Colombia in October. Following the assembly, a workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention was held in conjunction with this event involving those responsible for HIV/AIDS activities within the national societies. The workshop was facilitated by the regional coordinator of the Latin American branch of the global network of people living with HIV/AIDS, REDLAT; the Colombian REDLAT representative also took part. Special emphasis was given to the HIV/AIDS project within the regional youth plan, *Plan Sur Joven*. Further details are available under the health and care programme of this report.

The youth officer participated in the annual youth meetings of the Paraguayan and Argentine Red Cross Societies. Support was given for the drawing up of the Uruguayan Red Cross national youth plan. Furthermore, meetings with the Argentine Red Cross member of the youth commission are held regularly to discuss various youth issues in the region.

### **Constraints**

During the evaluation session of the regional youth assembly in October it became clear that is difficult for the National Societies to implement regional youth plans, given limited funding.

### **Objective 6: To promote the incorporation of a gender perspective in national society structures, amongst staff and volunteers, as well as in their programmes, projects and activities.**

#### **Achievements**

During the first quarter, the gender objectives and activities under the appeal 2001-2002 were revised. The strategy changed to integrate gender activities fully into regional programming and regional events, such as the regional Amazonico and Camalote meeting. A workshop on gender and volunteering was organized in September 2001 and a separate report is available upon request. The integration of gender into core areas focused on DP/DR in 2001. A special report on the regional delegation's gender project was produced in order to share the experience of the sub-region with the rest of the Americas. The report is also available upon request.

The gender training manual was printed and distributed to national societies and relevant organizations. At the end of 2001, the first edition was exhausted following major demand from national societies and NGOs. A gender awareness module was also distributed. According to information received from the national societies, both the manual and the module have been widely used.

In November, the regional DP and one of the regional OD delegates carried out a case study on the earthquake operation in Peru relating to gender sensitive vulnerability and capacity assessments. The report will be available in 2002 and will be used to promote gender analysis in DP/DR.

The gender officer participated in the “Fifth International Seminar on Gender and Universities of the Andean sub region” to share the regional delegation’s work under the title “the gender perspective in the development processes of the Red Cross in South America”. The presentation was well received and there was positive feedback on the work carried out by the Federation and national societies in this area.

In December, the OD delegate responsible for gender participated in the meeting of the Federation community of gender practitioners in Stockholm hosted by the Swedish Red Cross to share the experience of the sub region and to learn from other regions.

### **Constraints**

The gender issue has gained considerable acceptance in the national societies after awareness raising and training activities. However, gender is still not integrated into programming and there is still a need for both awareness raising, training and some practical tools for gender analysis.

### **Objective 7: To support national societies in strengthening their volunteer base**

#### **Achievements**

A regional workshop on volunteering was held in September in AECI’s training centre in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. At the same time, the delegation organized a workshop on gender mentioned above. The participants at the two workshops met in some joint sessions to share information and experience in these two transversal issues. During this workshop, national societies reported on their commitments and activities since the previous year. A regional plan for 2002 was drawn up and national societies started to work on their plans for 2002. Various issues on volunteering were raised and the volunteering network was evaluated. The director of volunteering of the Spanish Red Cross participated to share the National Society’s experience.

During 2002 four bulletins on volunteering were published facilitating exchange of information and experience between national societies. It is clear that national societies have benefited from this exchange, for instance in concrete issues such as insurance of volunteers.

Support was given to the Peruvian Red Cross which organized a national volunteering meeting in October and in which a delegate from the Peru earthquake operation participated.

### ***Regional Cooperation***

#### **Objective 1: To support the reinforcement of regional exchange, cooperation and networking.**

#### **Achievements**

The regional delegation offered technical support to the Inter American Regional Committee (CORI) during 2001. The head of the regional delegation and one of the OD delegates participated in the two planning meetings at the Chilean Red Cross regarding the Inter American Conference to be held in Chile in 2003. A draft proposal on the conference and its contents was prepared and presented by the President of the Chilean Red Cross to the meeting of the CORI at its gathering in September in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The topic was further discussed in the CORI meeting held in November in connection with the Federation’s General Assembly. The regional delegation was included in the commission working on the plan of action relating to recommendations put forward during the previous Inter American Conference, which was presented in the CORI meeting in November in Geneva.

#### **Constraints**

Support from the regional delegation was limited. However, in the CORI meeting held in November, elections were held; the new Committee has shown strong commitment and this will facilitate increased support to CORI on the part of the regional delegation.

## **Objective 2: To strengthen the regional delegate recruitment programme in South America**

### **Achievements**

The regional delegation sent the lists of open positions to all national societies throughout the year. In the El Salvador earthquake operation one delegate from the Colombian Red Cross was deployed. In the Peru earthquake operation, delegates from the region - three from Colombian Red Cross and one from Ecuadorian Red Cross - were deployed. Three candidates from the region participated in the BTCs held by the Spanish Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross.

The liaison delegate in Colombia put much effort into the regional delegate programme: three national society staff who participated in a BTC in 2001 were accepted for missions overseas: one in Latin America and two in Asia, while others participated in short term missions in the region. Although benefits of the programme to the Colombian Red Cross are clear, it has yet to become institutionalized.

### **Constraints**

The BTC planned in the region for this year was postponed to 2002 due to lack of funding.

## ***Coordination and Management***

### **Objective 1: To improve the efficiency of the Red Cross programmes through better planning and increased resource mobilization.**

#### **Achievements**

The 2001 appeal was distributed to a number of Embassies, agencies, NGOs and the private sector. A joint evaluation and planning meeting for the Camalote and Amazonico programmes was organized in March and a mapping exercise on where the regional delegation works in the area of community development was made. This served as a basis for discussions on further integration between regional community development programmes (Amazonico, Camalote and Zona Andino) and possibilities for maximizing capacity building initiatives with national societies in 2003.

Several meetings with PADRU took place to improve management activities in the area of DP/DR

#### **Constraints**

No training materials in this area were developed due to lack of resources. The regional delegation started to develop a CD rom on the project cycle, gathering information on tools currently used in national societies.

### **Objective 2: To reinforce partnerships inside the Movement, and with external partners.**

#### **Achievements**

The implementation of the cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) began in Bolivia. At the end of 2001, the CAS process started in Ecuador.

The harmonization process with the ICRC gathered momentum during the year. In the planning process for 2002, each institution's plans were exchanged and taken into consideration and certain joint proposals were developed: for example in organizational development in Peru and in the implementation of the national development plan and the CAS in Bolivia. Monthly meetings took place between the head of the regional delegation and the head of the ICRC regional delegation in Buenos Aires. Cooperation increased in Peru as a result of the earthquake operation, both for operational and institutional reasons. In Colombia, cooperation in the area of programming was enhanced through a joint field visits to Putumayo, the ICRC's participation in the Amazonico meeting

and the ICRC's participation in the leadership development course. Coordination also took place with the ICRC delegations in Brazil and Venezuela.

A PNS meeting on South America was organized in January 2001 hosted by the Spanish Red Cross in Madrid. During the year, all PNSs involved in the region visited either the regional delegation or a national society or operation in the region. The regional delegation facilitated these visits.

Regular contacts were held with all donors. Contacts with bilateral delegates in the region were continuous and resulted in joint activities and plans of action, as in the case of the Bolivia floods operation.

Contacts were ongoing with UN agencies and NGOs both at a regional and national level.

### **Constraints**

Even though coordination with the ICRC took place on a regular basis there were some constraints due to the difference in geographic coverage of the respective organizations' delegations. The ICRC delegations are in charge of different thematic areas and coordination needs to be adapted to this. This also applies to contacts with the UN system which has a different map as regards presence in the region.

### **Objective 3: To improve the delegation management activities**

#### **Achievements**

During the year, cooperation started with the pan American reporting delegate based in the regional delegation in Guatemala. All reports according to the Federation minimum reporting standards were published on a timely basis. Efforts to improve the quality of reporting were made and one of the OD delegates was appointed as the focal point for reporting. Efforts were also made to improve ECHO reporting: the delegation's administrator participated in Federation-organized training in Belize.

In October 2001, the regional delegation started to work with the regional finance unit in Guatemala. The regional delegation made progress regarding outstanding working advances going back to 1997-1998. In addition, through close financial monitoring, deficits were avoided this year.

In October all Federation delegates in South America participated in a three days' planning meeting in Colombia.

During the third quarter, the Caracas delegation was closed and the Venezuelan Red Cross is now receiving support from the regional delegation. Several missions by delegates and staff were undertaken in the process of the closure of the delegation.

The Federation liaison office in Colombia supported programmes such as the last phase of the rehabilitation projects relating to the earthquake appeal of 1999, the Amazonico programme, and other emergency response projects that received funding through the Federation and have been implemented directly by the Colombian Red Cross Society; these have been monitored and followed closely. Through the regional delegation and the Secretariat, the liaison office has kept donors informed of project progress through accurate narrative and financial reporting.

The liaison office supported the Colombian Red Cross Society in its first considerations regarding the creation of a planning department. It has continuously encouraged the drawing up of a national development plan.

The strike which paralyzed the Colombian Red Cross headquarters for two months at the beginning of the year, has had repercussions throughout the year. The strike and the unsolved conflict have delayed

the termination of various programmes and projects and postponed the implementation of any changes to the coming year.

In order to maximize the impact of Federation work and programmes in Colombia, it is important to continue to work in the provinces and to provide support to the branches, where the Federation is already present through well-rooted programmes and projects.

### **Constraints**

In the area of management, financial reporting and outstanding working advances have been an area of much concern, complicating new transfers and causing delays in some programmes. These problems have now been overcome through the adoption of a new approach with the national societies.

### **Conclusions**

The region was struck by many natural disasters which impacted on the work of the regional delegation. A number of successful disaster response operations were implemented, reaching tens of thousands of vulnerable beneficiaries. 2001 was a pivotal year in disaster preparedness, prevention and response in the region. For much of the year 2000, the region was without a regional DP/DR delegate and as a result much of momentum of previous years' work was lost. However, through systematized analysis and planning, new initiatives were implemented, producing clear results. Significant progress was achieved in all programme areas, including health and care, despite the fact that the regional health delegate position was filled only in August. Constraints referred to throughout the report are compounded by a lack of resources in the delegation, given the vast geography of the region. As a result, difficult decisions were made such as focusing on specific countries, in order to best utilise available resources and ensure positive results.

Planning was clearly over-ambitious considering the difficult funding situation in the region. However, the regional delegation took the initiative to seek access to global funds and to new donors during 2001, and it is hoped that this will bear fruit in 2002.

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*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

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**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES**

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

**Appeal No & title: 01.30/2001 South America regional programmes**

**Period: year 2001**

**Project(s): CO001, 46002, 46025, 46162, 46164, 46165, 46401, 46903, 46905, 46907, 46908, 46925, 230450**

**Currency: CHF**

**I - CONSOLIDATED INCOME 2001, CASH, KIND, SERVICES**

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Reallocations	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	3,939,655				
less					
Cash brought forward	380,162				
<b>TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT</b>	<b>3,559,492</b>				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
Programme support 2001	473,395				473,395
American Red Cross (DNUS)	25,050				25,050
Canadian Red Cross (DNCA)	33,155				33,155
DFID - British Government (DFID)	159,265				159,265
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	27,138				27,138
Finnish Govt.via Finnish Red Cross	208,950				208,950
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	154,207				154,207
German Red Cross (DNDE)	38,897				38,897
New Zealand Red Cross (DNNZ)	360				360
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cross	38,586				38,586
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	116,337				116,337
Spanish Red Cross (DNES)	171,953				171,953
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross	151,162				151,162
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	118,173				118,173
Tetra Pack (DPS017)	100,000				100,000
Spain				128,788	128,788
Canada				59,959	59,959
Denmark				59,959	59,959
Sweden				59,959	59,959
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,816,629</b>			<b>308,665</b>	<b>2,125,294</b>

**II - Balance of funds**

Opening balance	380,162
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	1,816,629
CASH EXPENDITURE	-2,125,396
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<b>CASH BALANCE (1)</b>	<b>71,395</b>

(1) Regional delegation core costs, proj 230450, are covered by programme support

## Appeal No & title: 01.30/2001 South America regional programmes

Period: year 2001

Project(s): CO001, 46002, 46025, 46162, 46164, 46165, 46401, 46903, 46905, 46907, 46908, 46925, 230450

Currency: CHF

### III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction		81,510			81,510	-81,510
Clothing & Textiles		11,512			11,512	-11,512
Food/Seeds		14,144			14,144	-14,144
Water	1,185	271			271	914
Medical & First Aid	14,756	77,952			77,952	-63,197
Teaching materials		5,826			5,826	-5,826
Utensils & Tools		5,079			5,079	-5,079
Other relief supplies		271			271	-271
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>15,941</b>	<b>196,564</b>			<b>196,564</b>	<b>-180,624</b>
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles	16,395					16,395
Computers & Telecom equip.	25,511	24,567			24,567	943
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	12,296	23,450			23,450	-11,154
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>54,202</b>	<b>48,017</b>			<b>48,017</b>	<b>6,185</b>
<u>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</u>	31,839	21,284			21,284	10,555
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>31,839</b>	<b>21,284</b>			<b>21,284</b>	<b>10,555</b>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	1,033,858	491,192		308,665	799,857	234,001
Personnel (local staff)	511,510	443,582			443,582	67,928
Training						
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,545,368</b>	<b>934,774</b>		<b>308,665</b>	<b>1,243,439</b>	<b>301,929</b>
<u>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	86,142	92,117			92,117	-5,975
Travel & related expenses	214,760	217,056			217,056	-2,296
Information expenses	342,244	86,148			86,148	256,096
Administrative expenses	836,820	269,732			269,732	567,088
External workshops & Seminars	491,368	65,569			65,569	425,800
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,971,334</b>	<b>730,622</b>			<b>730,622</b>	<b>1,240,712</b>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	196,755	85,947			85,947	110,809
Technical services	58,898	25,733			25,733	33,165
Professional services	65,318	28,546			28,546	36,772
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>320,971</b>	<b>140,225</b>			<b>140,225</b>	<b>180,746</b>
Operational provisions		53,910			53,910	-53,910
Transfers to National Societies						
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>3,939,655</b>	<b>2,125,396</b>		<b>308,665</b>	<b>2,434,061</b>	<b>1,505,594</b>

**Consumption rate:** Expenditures versus income 147%  
Expenditures versus budget 62%