

PROGRAMME UPDATE



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

13 August 2002

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Appeal No. 01.22/2002

Appeal Target: CHF 4,619,036

Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: 1 April - 30 June 2002; last Programme Update (No. 1) issued 21 May 2002

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 47.2%

Related Appeals: 01.18/2002: Pan American Disaster Response Unit

Outstanding needs: 2,439,777

Summary: Heavy rains and flooding occurred in Chile and Colombia in May and June; the response actions carried out by the Chilean Red Cross enhanced relations with the governmental national emergency office. The Argentine Red Cross is implementing the social crisis operation which has also boosted the change process taking place within the National Society. During the reporting period, funding was secured to continue the Andean community based disaster preparedness project in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. Ten community micro projects were identified within the Camalote programme aimed at reducing vulnerability, and micro projects were also formulated in the framework of the Amazonico programme which promotes improved health conditions in vulnerable communities; identification of organizational development projects to take place in parallel at branch level also took place. An information officer was recruited during the reporting period and, as a result, information and advocacy initiatives are being promoted, including the successful launch of the World Disaster Report. The regional disaster preparedness delegate is now based in Buenos Aires and candidates are urgently sought for the position of organizational development delegate, given the assignment of the former delegate as liaison delegate in Brazil.

Operational Developments w

Over the reporting period, there were a number of natural disasters including heavy rain and flooding in Chile and Colombia, whilst in Argentina the social crisis deepened and political instability continued to grow in Venezuela.

In Chile, in early June, continuous rain over three days affected almost 200,000 people: some 50,000 people lost their homes and all their belongings. In May and June, Bogotá confronted a winter emergency due to incessant rain. The resulting floods, landslides and deteriorating sanitary conditions affected 500,000 people in different areas of the city. In addition, three Colombian provinces were badly hit by the heavy rains affecting more than 670 families.

At the same time, the Federation office in Cartagena reported the displacement of 575 persons in the Bolivar province due to actions by armed groups. These families received emergency assistance from government institutions and the ICRC.

In Venezuela, a state of emergency was declared on 11 April. An indefinite general strike was announced with the aim of forcing President Chávez to leave office. Violence erupted around Miraflores Palace, the Presidential offices, with gun fire and confrontation between supporters of President Chávez and the opposition: between 12 and 24 people died and 110 were wounded. However, on Sunday 14 April, deposed president Chávez returned to Miraflores Palace to reassume his post.

The Venezuelan Red Cross (VRC) assisted the injured and took them to the hospitals. The disaster response unit declared a state of alert and its main activity was the provision of first aid assistance. VRC ambulances were placed at the Miraflores area and assistance was also provided to Vargas hospital given the large number of injured.

The social situation in Argentina continues to deteriorate. In the greater Buenos Aires area, as well as in northern Argentina and along the River Plate basin, the highest concentrations of vulnerable populations are found. The current situation has left communities which for years have suffered from high levels of poverty, with minimum access to food and sanitation. The rhythm of economic and social collapse has paralysed all systems of production resulting in the shortage of many basic goods. Furthermore, the health sector in Argentina is unable to address the increasing demand due to a lack of infrastructure, financial and human resources. Statistics confirm that currently 47% of Argentines are living below the poverty line, and that the unemployment rate is above 20% of the population.

Disaster Response w

Chile: Floods

Heavy rains, 500% more than normal for the time of year, hit Chile between 2 and 5 June causing extensive flooding in both urban and rural areas. Roads throughout the affected areas were cut off and many communities were left without electricity and water. The Chilean Red Cross (CRC) opened fund raising telephone lines to receive donations and Red Cross activities received major media publicity. This helped to raise the profile of the National Society in the country.

Table 1 details the number of people impacted by the disaster.

Table 1: Number of People and Homes Affected

Persons Affected	Persons who lost their Homes	Persons in Temporary Shelters	Houses with Minor Damage	Houses with Major Damage	Houses Destroyed
199.511	49.310	7.685	24.197	3.134	237

CRC rescue teams reacted immediately, evacuating people isolated by the flood waters. Five medical teams, each made up of 7 doctors, provided health services throughout the capital, Santiago, addressing the increased risk of respiratory and diarrhoeal diseases. The Federation Secretariat made a DREF allocation of CHF 60,000 to support the CRC operation. Cash and in-kind donations were made by the Taiwanese and United States Embassies, as well as several national companies. Support was also provided from the Armed Forces in the form of transportation and personnel.

The regional disaster response/disaster preparedness (DR/DP) delegate traveled to Chile to support the operation, working with the National Society in the development of the plan of action and ensuring training in operational systems. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) maintained contact with the DR/DP delegate and was prepared to support the operation if the need arose. The Chilean Red Cross has close ties with the National Emergency Office (ONEMI): the two institutions work closely together, with the CRC taking on much of the responsibility of collecting and distributing food donations to the temporary shelters set up by the municipal governments.

ONEMI requested assistance from the CRC to work in the community of Batuco in the municipality of Lampa, an isolated area located approximately 80 km from Santiago and with a beneficiary population of approximately 1,000 subsistence farming families. As a consequence of the flooding, the land lost much of its productive quality and already marginalized families will find it increasingly difficult to meet their basic food needs.

The National Society received large amounts of in-kind donations in the form of clothes, food, blankets and mattresses and distributed over 26 tons of relief goods including food packages, family hygiene kits and blankets at 58 distribution points within communities and temporary shelters. In the metropolitan area of Santiago, 4,500 people received goods and in total, more than 12,000 people in the country received support from over 2,500 volunteers from 89 participating branches, many of whom had also been affected by the flooding.

Argentina: Social Crisis

Utilising bilateral donations received from the Spanish Red Cross, the national headquarters of the Argentine Red Cross (ARC) and the 21 participating branches distributed humanitarian aid to victims of the socio-economic crisis. To date, distributions of food parcels has taken place to 2,230 children and 1,401 senior citizens.

The ARC, with support from the regional delegation, has made significant changes in order to respond to the social crisis. Modern financial procedures are being developed as well as a purchasing system. Financial procedures, approved by the executive board, are being implemented in participating branches with plans to extend the process to all branches.

In order to improve the capacity of the ARC to respond in cases of social unrest, an initial intervention unit within the ARC is being put into place to address health, first aid and initial analysis during cases of social unrest such as protests and marches. With support from the ICRC, this unit has been set up to react to these events as they occur in the city of Buenos Aires and the greater Buenos Aires area and will be backed up by the branches' relief teams.

A staff member from the Buenos Aires regional delegation has been loaned to the Argentine Red Cross since the beginning of the operation and has been involved in supporting the ARC throughout the planning process, and has provided advice on the creation of relevant systems, structures and procedures. The ARC participates in ongoing inter-institutional coordination meetings with the Civil Defence and NGOs including CARITAS and MSF.

Disaster Preparedness w

Objective 1: To strengthen regional and national society capacity in disaster response.

Progress took place in the region during the reporting period, particularly in relation to agreements made at the disaster response strategy meeting held in March, gathering all regional DP delegates together with staff from the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit.

- Draft Pan American disaster response protocols were developed and distributed to stakeholders for comments. This process was undertaken jointly by PADRU and the regional delegation;
- Systems relating to the selection, training and mobilization of regional intervention team (RIT)s members were revised. In addition, new training curricula were developed and implemented. This was undertaken jointly by PADRU and the regional delegation.
- Two Pan American regional intervention team training courses were held: one in Spanish took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, from 22 to 26 April, organized by the delegation for South America and one in English held between 27 and 31 May in Antigua at which the regional DP delegate provided facilitation.
- A process for standardizing risk maps is underway and will be shared with all national societies in the forthcoming quarter. By the end of 2002 all risk mapping should be completed.

- Work was carried out during the quarter to improve communication between the regional delegations and PADRU.

The regional delegation followed up on the better programming initiative (BPI) and the training of trainers workshop organized in March in Quito. An information session was held in the Amazonico and Camalote planning and evaluation meeting held in Lima in May (see below) where national society representatives expressed the view that the methodology is valid in a non post conflict context. The regional delegation intends to integrate the methodology in the community development projects in the Colombian and Ecuadorian Red Cross Societies funded by the Capacity Building Fund. The Argentine Red Cross has also showed interest in the methodology and one of the branches which is participating in the Camalote programme has requested training.

Objective 2: To further develop community and municipal disaster preparedness and response capacity.

Fortunately, during the present reporting period funding was secured from several sources in order to continue the community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) project in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. In the case of Colombia and Ecuador, resources from the Federation Capacity Building Fund were provided. The availability of these funds not only allows the delegation to continue work already initiated, but also offers the possibility of focusing on branch capacity building in addition to community preparation. In Venezuela, funds remaining from the 1999 floods operation were reallocated to various programmes including community based disaster preparedness.. In addition, the Finnish Red Cross has provided timely and much needed funding to ensure the sustainability of CBDP initiatives.

The delegation has contracted an Andean project coordinator, who is currently working with the three national societies to implement the projects. As part of the ongoing process of improving the CBDP programme, methodologies continue to be refined, designed ensure implementation and measure qualitative impact. In all cases, CBDP and community health have been integrated into a single project broadening the impact and optimizing limited financial and human resources.

The delegation is training staff of various national societies in the region which are implementing bilateral CBDP projects. Furthermore, in conjunction with the regional health delegate, a regional workshop on health in disasters has been planned for the end of July. A two day disaster management planning course was carried out in June with representatives from the headquarters and all branches of the Uruguayan Red Cross. A detailed training programme will be designed once the Uruguayan Red Cross has completed the planning process. Over the quarter, support was provided to the Argentine Red Cross disaster response department as it carried out restructuring.

Objective 3: To extend and strengthen the Camalote programme.

During the reporting period, the formulation of this year's micro projects in the communities was finalized after a process of revision and feedback from the regional delegation to the national societies. Thanks to additional funding from the Embassy of New Zealand in Buenos Aires, it has been possible to allocate funds for additional projects in Argentina and Paraguay. In total, 10 micro projects have been approved. Projects have also been presented to companies in Argentina but, to date, there has been no response. A strategy to relaunch the programme in Uruguay was designed.

In May, the annual planning and evaluation meeting was organized in Lima. As last year, the meeting included staff from both the Amazonico and Camalote programmes. This year, the group was extended to include two representatives from the Golfo de Fonseca project in El Salvador.

In the meeting, the national coordinator from the Argentine Red Cross shared a case showing how the Camalote experience has proven valid in relation to strengthening the capacity of the branches. During the Argentine social crisis operation, these branches have proved to have better capacity to formulate and manage projects. The national coordinator of Camalote is also working as a "process monitor", a new role in the national society, introduced thanks to the Capacity Building Fund, using skills acquired through the programme to manage projects and analyze progress.

Objective 4: To strengthen regional and national strategic 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.

International and regional partnerships between the Red Cross and international and national disaster organizations continue to be strengthened. At the international level, the global agreement developed with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) will help to coordinate work at the regional and individual national society levels. Relations with OCHA/UNDAC are being developed in order to better coordinate work in the event of disaster response. Representatives from PAHO and OCHA attended the RITs training courses mentioned above.

In Chile the relationship between the Chilean Red Cross and the National Emergency Office (ONEMI) is now formalized as a result of cooperation between the two institutions during the recent floods.

Relations between government ministries, NGOs and the Red Cross continue to be formalized in Argentina, Peru and Bolivia.

Humanitarian Values w

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

No activities took place as no funding is available to date.

Health and Care w

Objective 1: To promote birth control, family planning and the implementation of childhood care in the vulnerable communities of the region in order to reduce mother and child mortality rates.

Three national societies within the region: Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru have begun implementation of integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI) activities in close cooperation with the Ministries of Health and PAHO, with support from the American Red Cross. The integration of IMCI was promoted in the national societies where Amazonico, Camalote and community health projects are being carried out.

Objective 2: To favour the adoption of secure attitudes and behaviours that lead to a healthy lifestyle and decrease HIV transmission rates among young people in South America. To provide support to the national societies carrying out programmes to assist people living with HIV/AIDS.

The regional HIV/AIDS team consisting of the regional health delegate, the youth officer and the regional OD delegate continues to give technical support to the national societies in the drawing up of their national programmes and plans. There was a special emphasis on the Bolivian, Ecuadorian, Paraguayan, Peruvian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies during the first six months of the year.

The Bolivian and Paraguayan Red Cross Societies have drawn up country plans which include prevention activities as well as activities with people living with HIV/AIDS and which focus on anti discrimination. The implementation of these plans will start in the third quarter.

There is an evidence that thanks to the integrated HIV/AIDS plan including the health and youth departments of the national societies, coordination and team work within the national societies have been reinforced. As mentioned below in the communications project within the organizational development (OD) programme, the regional delegation has also worked with the communication directors of the national societies. This will further strengthen the work national societies are carrying out in the area of public information and advocacy.

The youth officer undertook missions to the Ecuadorian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies to provide support in the implementation of youth peer education programmes.

The regional delegation maintains cooperation with REDLA+. The majority of national societies in the region are now working closely with their national REDLA+ networks.

Objective 3: To contribute to a decrease in mortality caused by water-borne and vector-borne diseases promoting access to potable water enhancing draining and basic sanitation systems in the vulnerable communities of the region, prioritizing those communities involved in the Camalote and Amazonico programmes.

A new community health project was designed in the Venezuelan Red Cross in which water and sanitation activities will be integrated. The implementation of this project will start in the third quarter.

Objective 4: To continue the Amazonico programme, promoting integrated development and improving health conditions in 24 communities of the 20 participating Red Cross branches in the Amazon Basin.

During the reporting period, the formulation of this year's micro projects in the communities and the organizational development projects in the branches was finished after a process of revision and feedback from the regional delegation to the national societies. Thanks to additional funding from the Tetra Pak company for the Amazonico programme, it has been possible to allocate specific funds for organizational development projects in the branches. Proposals for thematic workshops to reinforce the programme at national level have also been received and revised. This is a follow up to last year's national meetings to launch the second phase of the programme and the resulting commitments. There is a clear improvement in the quality of project proposals submitted by the national coordinators. Detailed plans of actions and budgets were approved. All national societies are now ready to start implementing the projects as of the second half of the year. Despite various difficulties in starting the implementation of activities in the targeted community in Venezuela, the national society has begun work.

Objective 5: To develop and implement a regional project for health in emergencies, such as epidemics and disasters, in co-operation with the Pan American Disaster Response Unit.

During this quarter the regional health in emergencies workshop to be held in the end of July, was planned and prepared in conjunction with the regional DP delegate. This will be organized in close cooperation with PAHO and PADRU.

Objective 6: To enhance the sharing of experiences and mutual support among national societies in order to establish intervention priorities and joint action through the strengthening of the national societies' health departments and the regional health network.

During the second quarter the regional health delegate undertook missions to Ecuador and Peru where meetings were held with the national societies' health departments with the aim to design work plans with a view to their strengthening.

The regional health delegate met representatives of PAHO and the Ministry of Health during his missions in order to reinforce communication with the national societies.

The health bulletin produced in the Americas and issued by the Secretariat, *Health in the Americas*, was distributed to all national societies every two weeks.

Objective 7: To increase voluntary, altruistic and unpaid blood donation in the region through the inter-American network of Red Cross blood programmes.

The regional health delegate, together with representatives from the Bolivian Red Cross health department, participated in meetings with the national coordinator of the blood programme within the Ministry of Health and with PAHO in order to design a project promoting voluntary, altruistic and unpaid blood donations.

The Ecuadorian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies have been identified for the organization of national campaigns on the promotion of voluntary blood donation.

Objective 8: To promote the integration of first aid in community activities as a transversal action in different health projects, in the regional community development programmes, and in the community work of the national societies.

The regional delegate continues to promote the integration of first aid in the community through various community health projects.

Organizational Development w

During this quarter one of the two regional organizational development delegates became Federation liaison delegate in Brazil. The main focus of the mission is organizational development and capacity building, providing Federation support for the process of renewal within the Brazilian Red Cross. The vacant regional OD position has not yet been filled, limiting the implementation of activities, achievement of results and creating delays. In addition, there are additional activities to be supported and monitored this year as a result of support to the Argentine and Bolivian Red Cross Societies from the Federation Capacity Building Fund. The Brazilian Red Cross renewal process is also partly financed by this fund.

During the first semester, the OD delegates and programme officers undertook missions to the national societies of Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay and almost all of these national societies were visited twice. Brazilian and Colombian Red Cross Societies were covered by their respective liaison delegates. The Argentine Red Cross also received considerable support. Missions to the Bolivian and Venezuelan Red Cross Societies are planned for the second semester.

In May, a tripartite letter of intent regarding organizational development involving issues such as the updating of Statutes, the national development plan and volunteering was signed between the Peruvian Red Cross, the Federation regional delegation and the ICRC delegation in Peru. This allows the three parties to engage on a structured OD process ensuring that efforts towards strengthening the capacities of the Peruvian Red Cross are coordinated and maximized. The agreement has been shared with all bilateral PNS present in Peru. This initiative is part of the Federation-ICRC harmonization process and it is hoped that this model of coordination can be put into practice with more national societies.

The regional delegation linked the self assessment exercises of this year to the ongoing OD processes in the Argentine and Peruvian Red Cross Societies.

The OD delegate participated in the annual global OD Forum in Geneva in May. In conjunction with this meeting, discussions took place between the regional OD delegates in the Americas in order to reinforce cooperation between the teams of the three regions. Issues broached during the planning meeting for the Americas held in Panama in March were followed up; for instance, discussions took place with the monitoring and evaluation division of the Secretariat regarding national self assessments.

Objective 1: To provide training in the identification, planning, management and evaluation of plans, programmes and projects in at least two national societies in 2002 and one in 2003.

The delegation provided support to the Argentine Red Cross and Brazilian Red Cross which are drawing up national development plans within the respective projects under the Capacity Building Fund. The delegation also supported the planning process in the Ecuadorian Red Cross where a final draft of the national development plan is to be approved by the branches of the national society during the second semester. The approval of the plan is closely linked to the CAS process which was initiated at the end of 2001 with active participation from the ICRC. The regional delegation plans to reinforce the CAS process, although certain national societies which were identified for possible CAS processes do not yet fulfill the required conditions, as is the case in Peru where the new Statutes first need to be approved. The Colombian Red Cross plans to begin the process of drawing up a national development plan. In total, five national societies are in various

stages of their national development planning and all receive support in varying degrees from the regional delegation. The remainder of the region's national societies have plans which are being implemented, with the exception of the Venezuelan Red Cross.

Objective 2: To strengthen financial resource development in at least five national societies in the region, improving the financial capacity of at least three in 2002 and the rest in 2003.

Financial resource development is part of the capacity building project in the Argentine Red Cross. The project started during this quarter; a resource development officer has been hired and has begun activities. However, at this stage it is too early to see concrete results from this project.

Due to the departure of one of the two regional OD delegates, it has not been possible to focus on this area of work.

Objective 3: To provide leadership and governance training for members of the governing and management bodies of at least three national societies in 2002 and two in 2003.

In June, the third module of the leadership development course, decentralized from the Secretariat in Geneva, was organized in the Spanish International Cooperation Agency, AECI, training centre in Antigua Guatemala, in close cooperation with the Guatemala regional delegation: 22 participants from 17 national societies were trained. More detailed information on this pilot project is available upon request.

Leadership training is another component of the project in the Argentine Red Cross financed by the Capacity Building Fund. Support has been provided in the design of the course contents and the coordinators have been encouraged to use the knowledge acquired by the Argentine Red Cross participants in the leadership development course.

Objective 4: To support the region's national societies in strengthening their internal and external communications and to promote a more active involvement of the national societies in advocacy according to Strategy 2010.

A new information officer was hired in the month of April making it possible to focus once again on capacity building in the area of communications and providing support to the national societies' communications departments.

In May, the Inter American Communications and Resource Development Forum took place in the AECI training centre in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. There were 30 participants including representatives of 14 national societies, the Federation, the ICRC and the Spanish Red Cross. The Forum initiated the elaboration of a communications strategy for the region 2003-2007 and a committee was appointed to conclude the drafting of the strategy prior to presentation to Inter American Regional Committee (CORI). The Forum dedicated considerable time to the HIV/AIDS campaign, "The Truth About Aids, Pass It On" and worked in sub regional groups regarding the possibilities of work on the campaign in each country. The communicators from the national societies of South America agreed to work closely with the health and youth teams already established in all national societies since last year's HIV/AIDS workshop, and will use the regional HIV/AIDS plan as a basis for their action. The Bolivian representative of the Latin American network of people living with HIV/AIDS, REDLA+, participated in the Forum and made a very much appreciated presentation which raised awareness within the group. There was a special focus on the responsibility of Red Cross communicators when it comes to communicating non discriminatory messages.

The distance education programme was initiated in Argentine and Bolivian Red Cross Societies, again part of the capacity building process. It was planned that two national societies were to implement this programme in 2002, but a third national society, Venezuelan Red Cross, is also ready to start implementation during the second semester. This will be the most important initiative in 2002 towards the strengthening of the communications departments.

During this quarter the Federation Secretariat confirmed that there is funding available to translate the Federation communicators' guide into Spanish: the regional delegation is managing the project and it is expected that this long-awaited tool will be available to the national societies during the last quarter of 2002.

The publication of the magazine *Noticias de America Latina* was delayed as funding for the OD programme was not secured until the end of the second quarter. The drafting of a first issue started and it is expected that it will be published in August.

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

The youth and gender officer continued to give continuous support to the the youth departments. She also carried out missions to the Ecuadorian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies integrating support to the youth departments with gender training in relation to HIV/AIDS activities. In Ecuador, the new youth department, established in 2001, received support. In total the youth officer has visited four of the ten national societies in the first semester. Argentine Red Cross youth also received considerable support.

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

Gender issues were promoted in the activities of the youth departments. As mentioned above, the youth and gender officer visited the Ecuadorian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies where a total of 55 volunteers participated in gender awareness workshops.

A second edition of the gender training manual was printed and is being distributed to the national societies of the Americas. The OD delegate shared the experience of the sub region with Central America and the Caribbean and has received positive feedback from both regional delegations.

In the area of disaster preparedness, gender issues were taken into account in the regional intervention team training mentioned above. In the selection process of RITs members gender equity is now one of the key components of the selection criteria.

Objective 7: To support National Societies in strengthening their volunteer base.

Volunteering and volunteer management form part of the Capacity Building Fund projects of the Argentine and Bolivian Red Cross Societies. The regional delegation has been providing support in this area through technical advice.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Fundamental Principles and Initiatives

- *The fundamental principles form part of training initiatives within the region and are therefore constantly promoted.*
- *A youth and gender officer holds a post within the regional delegation and is working with the national societies to ensure gender sensitive national society projects; the RITs training course curriculum now incorporates a gender awareness session and diversity issues are an integral part of the Amazonico programme;*
- *A regional team focusing on HIV/AIDS issues has been established. The drawing up of an integrated HIV/AIDS plan including the health and youth departments of the national societies has improved coordination and team work within the national societies of the region. The regional delegation maintains cooperation with the Latin American network of people living with HIV/AIDS: REDLA+ and the majority of national societies in the region are now working closely with their national REDLA+ networks.*

Regional Cooperation w

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

The regional delegation is supporting the Chilean Red Cross in the preparation of next year's Inter American Conference. Support is also provided to the President of the Inter American Regional Committee.

After consultations with the Presidents of the national societies of the region, it was decided that the presidents and technical seminars' meeting, planned to take place in Uruguay this year, will be canceled in order to focus efforts and resources towards the Inter American Conference of 2003.

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

The lists of Federation open positions were distributed to all national societies. A telecommunications delegate from Colombia was deployed to Pakistan in May. It is possible that adequate funding may not be available to organize a basic training course (BTC) in the Americas during the second half of the year, as planned.

Regional Coordination and Management w

Objective 1: To improve the efficiency of Red Cross programmes through better programme management and increased resource mobilization.

The introduction of the project planning process (PPP) methodology (the Federation's project management tool) has been delayed since the material is not yet available in Spanish.

As mentioned above under DP/Camalote and Health/Amazonico, a regional meeting on community development was organized in Lima. It was planned that the DP/Zona Andina programme would also be represented, but as no funding was available, this was not possible. Two representatives from the Golfo de Fonseca programme took part, reinforcing the exchange of experience between the regions, which was much appreciated by the participants. During this meeting and due to the fact that the regionally recruited delegate in charge of Zona Andina last year is now working with the delegation to reinforce the community development work, the delegation has progressed as regards the unification of criteria, procedures and methodologies. The BPI initiative, under the disaster preparedness programme, is also contributing to better planning both at delegation and national society level.

Objective 2: To reinforce partnerships inside the Red Cross Movement and with external partners.

In May the annual partnership meeting took place in Quito, Ecuador: the focus of the meeting was on the Americas, not only the South America region. PNS and ICRC representatives both from headquarters and the field took part, as well as representatives of five national societies in the Americas, namely the Barbados Red Cross Society, the Brazilian Red Cross, the Colombian Red Cross Society, the Cuban Red Cross and the Ecuadorian Red Cross. The regional delegation was responsible for all logistical aspects of the meeting and worked together with the Ecuadorian Red Cross. The Federation's Secretary General participated in part of the meeting which coincided with his visits to the Colombian, Ecuadorian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies. During his visits to these national societies, he met with government representatives in the different countries.

In Argentina, the regional delegation initiated contacts with both Embassies and private companies in order to seek support for the emergency appeal for Argentina, Social Crisis. The regional delegation also put the Argentine Red Cross in contact with private companies. The delegation initiated cooperation with the Embassy of New Zealand in Buenos Aires, resulting in support to the Camalote programme both in Argentina and Paraguay. The delegation organized a field trip to Paraguay for a representative of this Embassy.

The Amazonico programme received funding from Tetra Pak thanks to efforts at the level of the Secretariat. The delegation initiated contacts with Tetra Pak in Lima, Peru, and a representative participated in sections of the regional community development programmes meeting.

During the reporting period, the delegation held meetings or organized field trips with the Finnish, German, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish Red Cross Societies and close contacts are maintained with all PNS delegates in the region.

The delegation also maintains periodical contacts or meetings with the five corresponding ICRC delegations; the regional delegations in Buenos Aires and Caracas and the country delegations in Brazil, Colombia and Peru. In Peru, a tripartite letter of intent on organizational development was signed between the Peruvian Red Cross, the Federation and the ICRC which is in line with the harmonization process.

The CAS process in Ecuador is somewhat delayed due to internal deliberations in the Ecuadorian Red Cross. However, during the partnership meeting in Quito the dialogue with the PNSs was initiated and there was a clear interest in participation.

Objective 3: To improve the delegation's management activities.

The delegation maintains a good working relationship with the regional finance unit and the regional reporting unit, ensuring improved quality in financial management and reporting.

During this reporting period, one of the regional organizational development delegates became liaison delegate in Brazil and opened the Federation liaison office at the Brazilian Red Cross headquarters in Rio de Janeiro. In order to reinforce the regional delegation in Buenos Aires, where the head of regional delegation and one organizational development delegate remained, the regional disaster preparedness delegate moved from the La Paz office. However, this office has been maintained through the presence of the regional health delegate. In June, the liaison delegate in Colombia finished her mission and this post is being transformed, while the proposal on the Federation presence in Colombia is under review and a new delegate is being identified.

Advocacy/Public Information w

The regional delegation encouraged national societies to commemorate Red Cross day on 8 May and to organize an official launch of the HIV/AIDS campaign. Bolivian, Peruvian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies undertook an official celebration of 8 May. The regional delegation carried out the launch in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, where the Inter American Communications and Resource Development Forum took place.

This year, commemorating the tenth edition of the *World Disasters Report* which argues that risk reduction is an essential condition for sustainable development, and examines preparedness and mitigation initiatives from disaster-prone countries across the globe, the regional delegation, decided to carry out the launch in Lima, Peru, as the date coincided with the first anniversary of the earthquake that hit the country in June 2001. In addition, the report dedicates a chapter to the earthquake in Peru.

The launch gave the Peruvian Red Cross an important boost, and has provided a catalyst for media relations and regional cooperation on disasters. Five television stations, major newspapers, news agencies and three radio stations covered the event which was attended by government authorities and the diplomatic corps. The Bolivian and Ecuadorian Red Cross Societies also carried out a launch ceremony for the report.

During the reporting period the regional delegation issued four press releases and provided a number of news stories for the Federation web site and the Latin American web site.

Outstanding needs

During this quarter, the regional delegation received most of the anticipated pledges. However, there are still major outstanding needs particularly for the disaster preparedness and humanitarian values programmes in order to carry out planned activities. The urgent need to fill the open regional organizational development delegate remains a priority in order assist national societies efficiently and to monitor OD projects under implementation.

For further details please contact: Luis Luna, Phone : 41 22 730 42 74; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: luna@ifrc.org

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 web site at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Americas Department

South America regional						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.22/2002						PLEDGES RECEIVED
						12.08.2002
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				4'619'036		TOTAL COVERAGE 47.2%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				71'218		
Programme support				363'920		
AMERICAN - RC		10'000	USD	17'028	05.03.2002	
AUSTRIAN - RC		6'756	EUR	10'014	22.02.2002	BRAZILIAN RC RECOVERY
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				120'000	19.02.2002	OD, DP, COMMUNITY HEALTH
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				120'000	07.08.2002	OD, DP, COMMUNITY HEALTH
CANADIAN - RC		7'500	CAD	8'028	14.02.2002	BRAZILIAN RC RECOVERY
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		148'000	EUR	218'877	15.02.2002	AMAZONAS PROGRAMME
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		58'865	EUR	86'102	03.05.2002	HEALTH & CARE
FINNISH - RC		16'819	EUR	24'766	10.07.2002	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
NEW ZEALAND - GOVT		7'628	USD	12'294	28.05.2002	DPP RIO PLATA,
NORWEGIAN - RC		200'000	NOK	39'792	21.06.2002	HIV/AIDS & ANTI VIOLENCE
NORWEGIAN - RC		100'000	NOK	19'896	21.06.2002	COMMUNITY BASED HEALTH & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
PORTUGUESE - RC		13'467	EUR	19'712	25.02.2002	
SPANISH - RC				101'400	22.02.2002	DELEGATE COSTS
SWEDISH - RC		110'000	SEK	17'875	23.04.2002	
SWEDISH - GOVT		450'000	SEK	71'145	30.05.2002	CAMALOTE
SWEDISH - GOVT		600'000	SEK	96'600	30.05.2002	HEALTH, INCL. COST FOR HEALTH DELEGATE
SWEDISH - GOVT		800'000	SEK	128'800	30.05.2002	COORDINATION & MGT, ORGANISATIONAL DEV, INCL. COSTS FOR DELEGATES
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		10'000	AED	4'388	15.05.2002	OD
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				195'300		ARGENTINA - PAR002
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				98'600		BOLIVIA - PBO001
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				50'000		PBR001
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				90'500		PCO160
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				90'500		PEC160
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2'076'755	CHF	45.0%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SPAIN	DELEGATE(S)			52'566		
SWEDEN	DELEGATE(S)			49'938		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				102'504	CHF	2.2%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	