

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 REGION

13 November 2003

Appeal No. 01.51/2003

Appeal Target: CHF 4,027,067 revised to CHF 3,059,754 (USD 2,264,807 or EUR 1,982,990)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: 1 May to 30 August 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

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In Brief

Appeal coverage: 81.7%; See attached Contributions List for details.

Outstanding needs: CHF 581,353

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Argentina: Social Crisis (Appeal 08/2002); Argentina: Floods in Santa Fé Province (Appeal 10/2003)

Programme Summary: Due to lack of donor support, programme objectives for the South America annual appeal were revised and the appeal budget was revised downwards accordingly. Priorities were determined for each core programme in order to focus on the most urgent projects and activities.

The Federation supported the Argentine Red Cross in its response to severe flooding in the Santa Fé province, and launched an emergency appeal to assist 8,000 beneficiaries. Implementation of the social crisis operation was also ongoing during the reporting period and the time frame of the operation was extended to 30 November, given the occurrence of flooding in Santa Fé and the need to ensure provision of relief. The National Societies in the region also responded effectively to several small scale disasters which affected vulnerable communities in the region. In Peru, the Peruvian Red Cross responded to an extreme cold wave that affected the Andean population in the southern region of the country. The cold wave killed cattle, destroyed crops and infrastructure in the area and caused severe respiratory infections and deaths, mostly among children and elderly persons. The chronic drought which has plagued the Chaco communities in Paraguay has been aggravated in recent months, and the National Society is currently working to relieve affected persons. In addition, several countries in the region are experiencing social crises that pose a threat to political and economic stability, particularly Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador. The underlying problems of inequality of access to resources in these countries have been boosted by the ongoing economic recession and are likely to worsen in the future.

An evaluation and review of the Amazónico and Camalote programmes respectively were initiated during the reporting period, and recommendations will be studied and implemented in future community integrated programming. Change processes continued in the National Societies of Argentina, Brazil and Peru. The Brazilian Red Cross adopted new Statutes in an extraordinary General Assembly on 25 June and in Argentina, the National Development Plan was approved by the General Assembly on 30 August.

Operational developments

According to the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the number of Latin Americans living in poverty reached 220 million, representing 43.4 per cent of the total population of the region in 2002. Of this figure, 95 million, or 18.8 per cent, are living in extreme poverty. ECLAC's projections for 2003 indicate that living conditions in the region will remain stagnant in most countries, with the exception of Venezuela, where poverty is expected to increase and in Argentina, where economic reactivation could reduce the number of people living in poverty.

Today, 54.7% of the population in Argentina is living below the poverty line with less than USD 2 a day. The floods in Santa Fé Province no longer represent an emergency situation, but damage to infrastructure, production and agriculture are severe and reconstruction efforts could take years. The Argentine Red Cross is continuing its relief and rehabilitation programme in the area; the period of the emergency appeal will come to a close in November 2003.

In Bolivia, strikes and demonstrations started towards the end of August in response to the government's plans to export natural gas through Chile. The National Society has revised its contingency plans in order to provide the humanitarian assistance that may be needed as a result of these events.

In war-torn Colombia, kidnappings (more than 1,000 this year), bomb explosions and armed conflicts have made the news almost on a daily basis. The Colombian Red Cross is continuing its humanitarian assistance to victims of internal conflict. It drafted a new version of its National Development Plan (NDP) in June, improving on the earlier drafts drawn up in late 2002.

Chile has been the most stable country on the continent in recent months. Floods hit the southern provinces of the country in recent months, but the National Society was able to manage the disaster effectively. Ecuador has experienced environmental and political instability in recent months as heavy rains flooded the province of Esmeralda and social tension escalated when workers and representatives from different sectors demonstrated against government policies. The country has also been on constant alert due to the activity of Volcano Tungurahua, which has been polluting nearby communities with ash. The planning process of the National Society has continued, and drafts of institutional policies were revised for submission to the next General Assembly.

In Peru, unrest and public demonstrations prompted a 30 day state of emergency at the end of May. Transportation workers took to the streets demanding higher wages, teachers went on strike, calling for salary increases and regional governments requested more investment. Coca farmers demanded subsidies from the governments, while at the same time rejecting the eradication of their crops that is required for the Peruvian government to receive aid from the United States. The protests and demonstrations continued until the state of emergency was lifted. Shortly after the end of the state of emergency, the government resigned en masse. A new cabinet of ministers, including Peru's first woman Prime Minister, took office. In July, rural areas of southern Peru were hit by a cold wave which caused deaths and illnesses, and affected infrastructure, cattle herds and harvests. In a coordinated effort, the Peruvian Red Cross successfully carried out the campaign "*Let's keep a brother from the South warm*" with the support of the national media. The National Society collected more than 50 tonnes of relief aid, which was delivered to remote Andean communities with financial support from the Federation. Relief activities were hampered by difficult weather conditions and a lack of facilities and resources.

Together with six other National Societies in the region, the Venezuelan Red Cross has been developing activities to support vulnerable communities in the Amazon region through the Amazónico programme, which is currently being evaluated. It is expected that the evaluation process will contribute to the creation of an effective intervention model that other National Societies in the region can adopt for their integrated community programmes.

On 8 May, the National Societies in the region celebrated World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day with various activities addressing health and humanitarian values, with a particular focus on the HIV/AIDS campaign, *The truth about AIDS. Pass it on.*

Health and care

Goal: The National Societies in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation's Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity to diminish vulnerability due to disease.

Progress/Achievements

Project 1: Strengthening of National Societies' capacity to implement community programmes.

The plan of action of the Inter American Conference sets out key goals in relation to the regional health strategy and the issue of equity in health, ensuring synergy between community health and disaster preparedness initiatives.

During the reporting period, priority was granted to the re-launching of the health network. Together with the Central America and Caribbean Regional Delegation, continued support has been given to focal points within the National Societies on specific issues, according to capacities. The network will play a key role in promoting effective implementation of the Plan of Action of the Inter American Conference.

The National Societies of Colombia, Ecuador and Peru will begin to draft their health Plans of Action with support from the Federation. The Red Cross Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela have drafted plans of action in the area of health which will require some readjustments to bring them fully in line with the regional strategy.

On 4 June, the ten National Societies in the region celebrated the International Day for Blood Donation with activities promoting voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation. In addition, the guide *Making the Difference*, a tool created by the Federation and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to train promoters of blood donations, was distributed. Blood donation promotion programmes are being implemented in Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela in collaboration with the respective Ministries of Health (MoH). Training workshops for blood donation promoters were held in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. In addition, the Ecuadorian and Colombian Red Cross Societies, with support from the Regional Delegation and in cooperation with PAHO, began defining the terms of reference for an assessment of the risks involved in processing blood.

The National Societies of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela have been planning to increase their activities in the area of Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) in an effort to reduce childhood diseases. A particular focus is being given to implementing projects related to reproductive health, vaccination, health of women and children and water and sanitation. With the support of the American Red Cross, the National Societies of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru are starting the second phase of the IMCI programme by increasing the number of communities and beneficiaries.

During the period covered by this update, the National Societies of Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela published First Aid manuals that focus on communities.

In Argentina, health components were incorporated into the relief operation following the floods in Santa Fé province. In Santa Fé, volunteers organized campaigns promoting vaccinations against hepatitis and chicken pox, provided medicine for persons infected with leptospirosis and ensured distribution of other medical supplies to local authorities. Volunteers also offered psycho-social assistance to victims, with a special focus on the elderly and disabled persons. The Argentine Red Cross worked with other humanitarian organizations throughout the operation; in coordination with OXFAM, the Federation ensured water and sanitation facilities, with UNICEF female hygiene kits were distributed and with PAHO the SUMA humanitarian supply management system was implemented. In addition, the ARC worked with the local Ministry of Health to conduct a survey of prevalent infectious diseases during the first few days of the emergency.

The Bolivian Red Cross began a DfID-funded project called *Hacia una comunidad segura y saludable* (Towards a Healthy and Safe Community), which is intended to develop community-based initiatives by integrating components of health and disaster preparedness. The project aims to reduce vulnerability in the communities of Cotahuma and Las Lomas in the municipal district of La Paz. The health component of the project includes IMCI activities and health programmes for emergencies.

During the week of 2 to 8 June, National Societies from the region participated in the South American Week for Vaccination, a regional health initiative that was organized in cooperation with national Ministries of Health and PAHO. In Venezuela, volunteers from the National Society headquarters in Caracas and six branch offices operated a mobile clinic that provided vaccinations. In Colombia, volunteers participated in vaccination campaigns in isolated border regions and conflict zones. In Bolivia, the National Society implemented vaccination campaigns in the communities that are already benefiting from IMCI projects. In Peru, vaccination stands were set up on the streets of Lima. The Paraguayan Red Cross offered vaccinations in the Queen Sofia Hospital in Asunción. Finally, in Uruguay, nursing students and volunteers helped with the vaccination campaign in public health centres. After the campaign, a regional evaluation meeting was held, and all the participants involved stressed the importance of continuing with such initiatives. The importance of the Federation's role in this field was recognized by participants, and Ministries of Health expressed their intention to work closely with National Societies in this area in the future.



The Peruvian Red Cross held workshops to celebrate World First Aid Day

Project 2: HIV/AIDS

UNAIDS estimates that the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in South America in 2003 is 0.6% (UNAID/WHO, 2002), meaning that more than one million people in the region are living with HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is a main issue in the Federation's regional strategy. Federation activities include projects in prevention, reduction of the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, and care for those living with the disease. The Federation is working on these projects with strategic partners in the region that are also focused on this issue, such as organizations of People Living with AIDS (PLWA), as is reflected in the agreement between the Federation and the Latin America Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (REDLA).

On 8 May, the National Societies across the region highlighted the Federation's anti-stigma campaign *The truth about AIDS. Pass it on*, launched last year. The campaign is currently being implemented region-wide by youth departments of the National Societies through various promotional and educational activities. Several branches of the Bolivian Red Cross organized public events promoting the anti-stigma campaign, including a Red Cross youth workshop addressing peer education and prevention. Ecuadorian Red Cross youth also organized awareness activities within communities across the country along with the anti-stigma campaign. Under the theme "Fight HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination", 22 branches of the Peruvian Red Cross participated in local activities, which included distributing condoms and prevention information, as well as street art and discussion forums. In Uruguay, Red Cross youth organized a radio programme on the anti-stigma campaign and participated in a

candlelight memorial ceremony with the local chapter of the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW). The Venezuelan Red Cross youth conducted workshops in schools in Caracas as part of the HIV/AIDS anti-stigma campaign. Other National Societies, such as the Paraguayan Red Cross and the Chilean Red Cross, also organized HIV/AIDS anti-stigma activities.

A regional meeting of health and youth directors was held in Lima during the month of August in order to better coordinate activities and strengthen Red Cross HIV/AIDS programmes in the region. It was at this meeting that the Regional Health Network was re-launched. In addition, the regional plan of action for HIV/AIDS 2002-2004 was updated and revised, and the ten National Societies in the region received information on working with UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria.

The Chilean Red Cross signed a memorandum of understanding with a local PLWA organization, Vivo Positivo, and is running awareness and educational activities in schools and colleges.

The Argentine Red Cross has reached an agreement with the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria that will provide the National Society with funding for four years. The agreement will allow the National Society to implement a national strategy against HIV/AIDS, focusing its intervention on prevention, anti-stigma campaigns and providing medical care to PLWA. HIV/AIDS awareness has also been included in volunteer training sessions and in community assistance projects related to the social crisis and Santa Fé floods appeals.

The Global Fund project for Colombia was recently approved, and the National Society is working in close relation with the Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) in its HIV/AIDS programmes. The National Society is also cooperating with the International Organization for Migration in a pilot project for the prevention and promotion on HIV/AIDS among internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The Bolivian government's proposal for assistance from the Global Fund is currently under review. The Bolivian Red Cross is also implementing HIV/AIDS assistance and prevention projects, including providing psychological support and visiting prisoners in jail to promote HIV/AIDS awareness.

In Paraguay, the National Society is implementing a DfID-funded educational project focused on fighting discrimination and stigmatization of PLWA in local communities. The project, named *HIV/AIDS prevention and fight against stigmatization*, includes components of preventive health, work with PLWA, and organizing support groups. The project focuses on educating the public about the rights of children and youth with regard to HIV/AIDS in the rural Chaco communities affected by drought.

With the support of a private alliance, youth and health departments of National Societies are also running an HIV/AIDS campaign promoting blood tests among young people.

Negotiations between Latin American Ministries of Health and pharmaceutical industry representatives on the price of antiretroviral drugs used to fight HIV/AIDS were held in Lima, Peru, on 5-6 June. An agreement on a general reduction in bulk prices of antiretroviral drugs in South America and Mexico was reached. This was the first meeting in the world to achieve a reduction in prices of equipment and laboratory fees. The Federation participated as an observer, giving support to the Network of Persons Living with AIDS (PLWA).

Project 3: Amazonico Programme

The Amazónico programme focuses on improving living conditions, reducing vulnerability and increasing awareness in local communities through the implementation of integrated micro projects and capacity building of local institutions. The six National Societies of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela are implementing this programme, which has been running since 1997 and is currently undergoing an external evaluation.

Following the annual evaluation and planning workshop for South America that was held in Bolivia in March 2003, three working groups were formed to create tools and strategies for regional community programmes. These working groups have achieved the following results:

- Development of training materials: new training tools were developed and tested by the Colombian Red Cross during the training of 18 participative planning facilitators for displaced communities.
- Creation of an exit strategy using the better programming initiative (BPI) for those communities which have completed local development plans (LDPs): the Ecuadorian Red Cross is using the Amazónico based strategy in the implementation of its assistance project to displaced people.

In Venezuela, a new micro project based on the Amazónico strategy started in June in the community of Caño de Tigre focusing on improving living conditions through water and sanitation activities. In the same period, the community of Apure started the assessment process for developing an LPD, whilst LDPs in the communities of Puerto Ayacucho and Babilla de Pintao have been completed. Future activities in the areas of nutrition and health have been identified in Babilla de Pintao. In Brazil, the Red Cross branch in Belem started an LDP in the community of Cotijuba which is focused on recycling.

In Peru, where the National Society is currently selecting a new coordinator for the programme, the Federation is assisting the National Society in the evaluation of the Amazónico project in the community in Nauta, which is expected to be concluded within the year.



Members of the Babilla de Pintao community learn to build latrines as part of the Amazonico project.

The preparatory work for the planned evaluation of the Amazónico programme continued during the months of July and August. The evaluation team was selected and will start work during the month of September. Along with the results of the review of the Camalote programme, this evaluation will provide an important methodological tool for National Societies to use in community integrated programmes. The two evaluations will be examined along with the “Lessons Learned” document which examines the experiences of the five regional programmes in Central and South America: Amazonico, Camalote, Andino, Gente Fuerte and Golfo de Fonseca. The “Lessons Learned” document was prepared by an external consultant in coordination with Federation programme coordinators.

Project 4: Internally Displaced People (IDPs) – Health and disaster preparedness

No funds were available for this project. For its part, the Federation will provide support to the National Society by recruiting a new Federation Representative for Colombia who will be in post by the beginning of November 2003. However, due to the gravity of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Colombia, it is imperative to underline the importance of future support to this critical programme, and to focus attention on the outstanding needs in this area.

Impact

- Red Cross involvement in IMCI has proven effective: the consensus of health authorities and PAHO on the importance of the Red Cross role in this programme area has resulted in increased involvement by the National Societies in projects to reduce childhood illnesses. The American Red Cross is currently working

with the Federation in this area in an effort to develop a system for monitoring and evaluation that can be used to measure impact in targeted communities.

- The role of the Red Cross in HIV/AIDS prevention and care in the region has been strengthened with the approval of the Argentine Red Cross proposal to the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria. This example will lead the way for other National Societies in the region to follow.
- The establishment of monitoring and evaluation committees for the Amazónico programme facilitated the formation of social networks which are being developed with local authorities and NGOs. The community based approach and processes of this programme are now being used by National Societies elsewhere. The external evaluation is expected to be completed in November 2003 and will allow the Federation and National Societies to examine the impact of the Amazónico programme in the region.

Constraints

- Social crises and internal problems are affecting the development of certain Amazónico projects, especially in Venezuela and Colombia.
- Lack of appropriate technical staff is slowing down the Amazónico programme in some National Societies.
- Lack of funds for health activities and Local Development Plans in Colombia has hampered achievement of objectives.

Coordination

- In the field of community health, partnerships with PAHO, Ministries of Health, local institutions and NGOs are proving effective. The Federation's Regional Delegation participated in the meeting to review the guidelines for health-related damage and needs assessments in disaster situations held in Quito, Ecuador, with the participation of PADRU and the National Societies of Ecuador and Peru.
- The Federation participated as an observer in negotiations between Latin American Ministries of Health and pharmaceutical industry representatives on the price of antiretroviral drugs used to fight HIV/AIDS. An agreement on a general reduction in bulk prices of antiretroviral drugs in South America and Mexico was reached, a huge step forward for people living with the disease.
- In July, the regional delegation was represented at an interagency meeting organized in Ecuador by PAHO, with the participation of the American Red Cross, the United Nations Foundation, Ministries of Health, USAID-Basics and the Johns Hopkins University. The purpose of the meeting was to share experiences and lessons learned in the field of communications and health. The experiences and lessons will be used to identify communication strategies to help reduce infant mortality rates and the most common diseases in the Americas. As a follow up to this initiative, a regional meeting on communication in health will be held by National Societies in November, with the support of the Federation and the participation of PAHO and USAID-Basics.
- In the field of HIV/AIDS, health and youth networks are establishing and strengthening important alliances with Ministries of Health, PLWA associations, PAHO, the Andean Regional Health Organization, NGOs and PNSs operating in the region.

Disaster Management

Goal: The National Societies in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation's Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity to work cooperatively with communities, local authorities and disaster management institutions in the development of integrated disaster preparedness and emergency response strategies, structures, systems, plans and activities with the aim of reducing the vulnerability of communities impacted by natural disasters.

Progress/Achievements

Project 1: Disaster Preparedness and Response Capacity

During the reporting period, there were a number of disasters in South America, the most serious of which were the floods in the Santa Fé province of Argentina and the extreme cold wave that affected the Andean communities of Southern Peru. In addition to the relief efforts associated with these and other minor disasters, disaster

management projects have been ongoing in the region. Despite limited funding, disaster management activities proposed in the original appeal have remained unaltered, with the exception of a project in Colombia aimed at working with branches and communities that have been isolated by the internal armed conflict.



Children were the most seriously affected by the cold wave that hit southern Peru in July



Relief efforts are ongoing after the worst flooding in the history of the Santa Fe region

A regional meeting of disaster management directors organized by the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) was held in Panama in August where the first steps were taken to form a regional disaster relief network. Focal points for this network were chosen in each region: Costa Rica in Central America, Cuba in the Caribbean and Bolivia in South America.

Another important disaster preparedness coordination meeting was held in August in Bogotá, Colombia, with national Ministries of Health from the region and representatives of PAHO. At this meeting, the guidelines for a common agenda among National Societies in disaster preparedness were drawn up, and the importance of being sensitive to gender issues during times of disaster was stressed.

As a result of the floods in the province of Santa Fé and the subsequent operation, the Argentine Red Cross has made major improvements in its internal emergency and relief procedures. More than 4,000 volunteers across the country participated in the collection of public donations for the victims of the floods, with more than 1,000 volunteers operating in the worst affected areas. A national emergency plan has been drafted and is currently being reviewed by the branches. A new department of disaster prevention, management and preparedness was created by the National Society and various training activities have been carried out for volunteers, personnel and beneficiaries. A National Intervention Team (NIT) course took place in Buenos Aires at the end of the month of July, with the participation of representatives from the Chilean and Uruguayan National Societies.

The Peruvian Red Cross launched the campaign *Let's keep a brother from the south warm* in response to the cold wave that hit the highlands of the southern provinces of the country in late July. Some 50 tonnes of humanitarian aid were collected and delivered between 28 and 30 August to the departments of Arequipa and Puno, benefiting 5,660 families. The Federation assisted the Peruvian Red Cross in the implementation of the relief operations and supported the National Society by providing transportation and financing educational disaster preparedness workshops in affected communities.

In May, the drought operation in Paraguay was concluded with the holding of a regional intervention team (RIT) training course, and a workshop assessing the vulnerability and capacity of the National Society. The workshop also looked at creating disaster management projects in the branches of the Paraguayan Red Cross.

During the period covered by this update, the Chilean Red Cross appointed a new director of the Disaster Management Department. The National Society responded to floods in the southern region, successfully assisting 3,600 beneficiaries.

The Regional Delegation and the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) have continued to promote the use and strengthening of tools and processes for disaster preparedness in the National Societies in the region, such as:

- Refresher courses for regional intervention teams (RITs)
- Risk mapping
- Data base of regional human resources
- Contingency plans (particularly in relation to the El Niño phenomenon).

Project 2: Community Based Disaster Preparedness

In Argentina, community education workshops in disaster preparedness were planned for communities living in emergency shelters after the Santa Fé floods. Basic awareness campaign activities were carried out by volunteers in evacuation centres; however, the impact of these activities was affected by overcrowding in the centres and subsequent major fluctuations in population numbers.

In Bolivia, the National Society is beginning to implement a DfID-funded community project called *Hacia una comunidad segura y saludable* (Towards a Healthy and Safe Community). This project seeks to reduce the vulnerability of developing communities such as Cotahuma and Las Lomas in the municipal district of La Paz by integrating components of health and disaster preparedness. The disaster preparedness component of the project includes community risk mapping and strengthening of municipal and local capacities. The Bolivian Red Cross is working on this project with the local Ministry of Health and Sports.

In Colombia, the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) project in the Bajo Upia community is currently on hold due to the ongoing conflict in the targeted area. It is hoped that the situation will improve and the National Society is currently looking at the possibility of working in nearby communities.

In Ecuador, the CBDP component of the National Society's Capacity Building Fund programme is now coming to a close. One of the main projects was the building of a community house in Pacha-Cuenca, which was carried out in cooperation with the church and a neighbourhood association. Proposals for micro projects for risk reduction and health improvement in communities are now being evaluated and will be inaugurated in October. Other micro projects in Ecuador include supporting the renovation of the health centre in Cotopaxi, and providing equipment and medical supplies to the communities of Boliche and Cañar. In Boliche, two disaster management teams have been created. These communities have both drawn up Local Development Plans that can be further developed when the Red Cross leaves these areas.

In Paraguay, the National Society is implementing a CBDP project in the Boquerón community. The project is currently in the community risk mapping phase. The Federation is assisting the National Society in its efforts to strengthen the disaster management component of its programmes, and is also monitoring the drought in the province of Chaco. In addition, hygiene and sanitation activities are being implemented in 55 communities in Chaco.

In Venezuela, the disaster preparedness programme in the communities of Greater Caracas and Yaracuy is scheduled to end in October. The Federation is assisting the National Society in planning a follow up project and identifying possibilities for extending the programme and a proposal has been presented to the British Red Cross.

The National Societies of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela are carrying out CBDP programmes through the assistance of the Federation. The Red Cross Societies of Ecuador and Venezuela are also benefiting from the support of Participating National Societies and DIPECHO funds.

In Peru, the National Society is implementing a CBDP programme with its own funding, and with support from governmental and external agencies. The National Society has effectively incorporated the participative methodology learned from CBDP projects and is now working with municipalities on workshops to train trainers.

The Federation guide *Es Mejor Prevenir* was reviewed during the reporting period by the National Societies of Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela, as an initiative of the Central and South American Regional Delegations. The guide is designed to help strengthen the capacity of National Societies and communities to respond effectively to disasters. This will be a useful tool both for National Societies and partners involved in disaster management activities in the region.

Project 3: Reduction of Social Vulnerability

The Camalote regional programme is being implemented by the National Societies of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay among vulnerable and marginalized communities of the River Plata basin. According to the methodology developed in workshops and training sessions, the Federation is providing the National Societies with the tools to strengthen their capacity to identify, implement and manage community based micro projects. In this way, the Federation is promoting socio-economic development and disaster preparedness and prevention. Supported by the Federation, National Societies work together with participating communities, assisting them in identifying their own needs. The National Societies and the communities are then able to develop concrete projects designed to reduce vulnerability and improve living standards, in cooperation with civil associations and public institutions.

During the reporting period, the following activities have been carried out:

- Under the leadership of a consultant, the formal review of the Camalote programme was carried out. Along with the results of the evaluation of the Amazónico regional programme, this initiative will provide a series of recommendations for National Societies to integrate in their work in community integrated programmes. The final report on the Camalote programme is due in October.
- The Federation continued providing technical assistance to the National Societies involved in the Camalote programme. Two workshops offering technical assistance were held in Uruguay, and one in Paraguay which included the Participatory Planning Process (PPP) methodology. In Argentina, this methodology has been introduced in the modernization process of the National Society.
- All the communities involved in the Camalote programme are currently undergoing assessments. These are being carried out using a participatory methodology that examines beneficiary associations, volunteers and local institutions. The purpose of the review is to update plans of action and to determine the status of past projects.
- In Argentina, where the National Society appointed a new Camalote coordinator, projects are being implemented by the branches of Concordia, Resistencia, Corrientes and Concepcion del Uruguay. Activities carried out by ARC volunteers include conducting community workshops on running bakeries as small businesses in Corrientes and Concepcion del Uruguay, and creating a multi-purpose centre in the indigenous Mapiç neighbourhood of Resistencia. The Federation Camalote coordinator assisted the National Society during the Santa Fé Floods operation, and helped apply the Camalote participatory methodology to the process of identifying needs.
- The Uruguayan Red Cross is implementing the Camalote programme in the municipalities of Artigas and Melo. A Participatory Planning Process workshop was held in July with 45 participants, including volunteers, and representatives from beneficiary associations and local institutions. A project aimed at creating vegetable gardens was started in Melo, where Camalote activities are focused on environmental sanitation, while disaster management workshops were held in Artigas. Further workshops addressing the participatory planning process and the programme methodology are scheduled for the future in these communities.
- The National Society of Paraguay is implementing the Camalote programme in the branches of Pilar, Alto Parana, San Pedro and Itapua. Participatory Planning Process workshops have also been carried out in Encarnacion.

Impact

- In the framework of the Santa Fé Floods operation, a NITs course was given, during which 23 national team members were trained. These teams know and are able to use the Federation's systems in times of disaster. Representatives from the Chilean and Uruguayan National Societies also participated in the course.

- As a result of Camalote initiatives, several communities have developed neighbourhood associations in order to address their own needs. This is a direct result of the process of empowering communities through the integral approach which the Federation is promoting.
- The use of Local Development Plans is an indicator that communities are taking ownership of their own disaster preparedness projects since LDPs are based on priorities identified by the communities themselves. The Amazónico-Camalote methodology that is presently being evaluated will be part of the proposed integrated community programming methodology to be applied in the region.

Constraints

- Continuing military activities in the Upia region of Colombia resulted in insecure conditions and did not allow the community based disaster preparedness activities to develop as planned.
- A lack of continuity of financial and human resources together with a lack of effective internal coordination continue to hamper the work of certain National Societies within the Camalote programme.
- Many national, governmental emergency plans in the region do not include the Red Cross and in certain cases in which the Red Cross is included, the National Societies' roles in these plans are not clearly defined.

Coordination

- As a result of an interagency meeting held in Lima at the beginning of August, important steps were taken towards improving coordination between National Societies in the region, PAHO, Ministries of Health and the countries that have been designated as "focal points" for emergency programmes.
- The ten National Societies in the region are in permanent contact with PAHO. At the regional level a common agenda for disaster management has been created, thus transforming the framework partnership agreement into effective operation opportunities.
- The National Societies of Colombia and Venezuela are implementing CBDP projects in coordination with local authorities, such as the Civil Defence. Other institutions, such as schools, municipalities and private companies, have also been involved in the programmes.
- An important achievement in regional coordination has been reached in the area of disaster management with the consolidation of coordination mechanisms and protocols between National Societies and PADRU. The training of national and regional intervention teams composed of personnel from the National Societies is another example of the coordination of resources from the region.
- The Camalote programme has allowed National Societies to form stronger relations with Participating National Societies, local communities and institutions.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: The National Societies in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation's Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region will have promoted the understanding of Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian values and values of non violence, especially among young people.

The promotion of Humanitarian Principles and Values is a multifaceted programme incorporated in all the working areas of the Federation. Its goal is to promote permanent and sustainable behavioural changes. Unfortunately, this core programme area has received little support from donors with the exception of the Norwegian Red Cross contribution.

In South America the Red Cross Youth Network has been leading the way in activities addressing Humanitarian Values. Although the youth departments of the National Societies have few financial resources, they are well organized. The departments are currently implementing the *Plan Sur Joven* which aims to accomplish the goals set out in *Strategy 2010* among youth through:

- Promotion of non-violence
- Sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention
- Gender issues.

Each National Society is implementing the plan in accordance with its priorities, capacities and particular needs. Activities such as workshops, lectures and other training events are organized by volunteer trainers. Children living in vulnerable areas, school children and young volunteers are all benefiting from this programme.

Progress/Achievements

The fifth Regional Assembly of the Red Cross Youth Network, currently coordinated by the Chilean Red Cross, took place in Lima during the month of August. The meeting gave the Federation the opportunity to evaluate the progress of the *Plan Sur Joven*, and to define the strategic plan for 2003-2006 and the operational plan for 2004. To date, there has been a regional focus on HIV/AIDS programmes, an effective sharing of tools and experiences throughout the region and an increase in government support to the network.

With regard to the promotion of non-violence, the Federation is supporting National Societies in the *Education for Peace* programme. The National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru are developing programmes for children aimed at training students in Red Cross principles, humanitarian values and international humanitarian law by carrying out different activities, such as workshops, courses and recreational programmes. Targeted institutions range from primary schools to universities. Particularly important in this field are the activities carried out by the Colombian Red Cross which is implementing programmes targeted at children and teenagers, with a focus on internally displaced people, street children and marginal urban communities. The programmes are also focusing on preventing family violence. The Chilean Red Cross web page contains an *Education for Peace* section, as a guide for volunteers.



Programmes to reduce youth violence are targeting children

The Federation is supporting National Societies in the promotion of gender awareness both internally and at the level of project identification and implementation. A workshop on gender was held during the meeting of disaster management departments which took place in Panama, while the theme of gender in disasters has been the subject of interagency meetings. The Federation is creating a proposal as to how to further develop this theme. Special projects aimed at creating a culture that is opposed to violence against women are currently being carried out by the Bolivian, Argentine and Paraguayan National Societies.

Activities in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness are being carried out in cooperation with the Federation's health department. A regional HIV/AIDS plan focused on prevention, awareness and support to People Living with AIDS (PLWA) was drawn up during the joint health and youth directors' meeting held in Lima in August. It has also been decided that emphasis will be placed on strengthening cooperation among departments and networks.

Within the framework of the *Values in Action* plan, the Argentine Red Cross distributed informative material on the Red Cross Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values to local branches. This programme is now in a phase of revision.

On 8 May, the Youth Departments across the region celebrated World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day by carrying out several awareness activities targeted at youth in the areas of HIV/AIDS, the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values.

Impact

- Although it is difficult to measure impact in terms of reduction of violence and increasing gender awareness, a degree of impact can be seen within the National Societies as they become more committed to programmes in Humanitarian Values.
- The National Societies in the region have pledged to participate in World AIDS Day on 1 December to promote humanitarian values.

- Gender issues are now increasingly included in Red Cross policies.

Constraints

- Despite a growing number of cases and the fact that more than a million people in the region are infected with the disease, there is reluctance on the part of society to accept that HIV/AIDS is a major problem for South America.
- There is certain lack of coordination between health and youth departments at the National Society level.
- The continued lack of adequate funding has reduced the scope and effectiveness of planned activities.

Coordination

- Within the framework of the Global Strategic Alliance with PLWA and UNAIDS, the Youth Network has maintained close ties to the Latin American Network of People Living with AIDS (REDLA).
- Strategic alliances with other organizations in the region are being strengthened; as an example, representatives of PAHO participated in the regional health and youth directors' meeting in Lima.

Organizational Development

Goal: The National Societies in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation's Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity in service delivery to vulnerable people.

The original appeal included six organizational development projects, but a lack of funds has made it impossible to carry out some of these. Specifically, the project aimed at strengthening volunteer management has been put on hold until funding becomes available. The Regional Delegation has given priority to revising National Society Statutes and improving National Development Plans (NDP). These projects are carried out within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) processes promoted by the Federation.

Progress/Achievements

Project 1: Well functioning National Societies

During the reporting period, much of work was carried out to revise National Society Statutes, including the following:

- Argentina: A commission was created to write a new draft of the National Society Statutes. The commission's work has progressed and the document is currently being discussed with the branches through regional workshops. Upon completion, the document will be presented to the General Assembly and then to the Federation-ICRC Joint Commission. However, given the large number of branches that need to examine the text, the process is not expected to finish before the first trimester of 2004.
- Brazil: The Brazilian Red Cross adopted new Statutes in an extraordinary General Assembly on 25 June, which was attended by the ICRC and the Federation.
- Ecuador: Along with developing new Statutes, the National Society is revising other legal documents, such as those addressing the internal procedures and national policies that are being implemented in order to bring the National Society in line with Federation guidelines. The new Statutes were not ratified because the Ecuadorian government objected to the elimination of a clause that would have limited the National Society governing body's terms of reference.
- Peru: The creation of new Statutes is proceeding through workshops open to representatives of all the branches. As the adoption of the new document involves important structural changes, the approval process is taking more time than had originally been expected.

In accordance with *Strategy 2010*, several National Societies throughout the region have also been working on their National Development Plans, including the following:

- In Argentina, the National Development Plan, which is one of the components of ARC restructuring process, was approved by the General Assembly on 30 August. The National Society is also creating local operative plans (LOP) in the six major branches of the country. These plans will allow the National Society to adopt the NDP at the field level.
- The Bolivian Red Cross finalized its 2002 Capacity Building Fund project *Bolivia: Development of Branches*, which was designed to strengthen the branches of the National Society. The National Society also prepared a new proposal for the 2003 Capacity Building Fund that would allow this project to continue; however, given the recent political crisis, National Society programmes are at a standstill in this area.
- The Colombian Red Cross drew up a draft of its National Development Plan which will allow the National Society to implement the broader goals of the plan in a shorter period of time.
- In Ecuador, the National Society concluded its NDP and reinitiated the Cooperation Agreement Strategy process. Representatives from the Federation and the ICRC attended an orientation meeting with the National Society in Quito in May where a work agenda for the coming period was created.
- In Peru, the creation of the NDP is a core part of the restructuring process that is the result of the 2002 agreement between the Peruvian Red Cross, the ICRC and the Federation. In August, all the branches of the Peruvian Red Cross participated in a national workshop during which mission, vision and strategic objectives of the NDP were drafted.

The National Societies of Colombia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela have completed the self-assessment process. The self-assessment document has been translated into Portuguese, and national and municipal branches of the Brazilian Red Cross will begin the process in October.

Project 2: Argentine Red Cross

In July, an internal monitoring and review exercise on the two ongoing emergency operations, the Social Crisis and the Santa Fé Floods, was carried out with the participation of the sub regional office, the head of the Regional Delegation, the disaster management delegate, and a PADRU and FACT representative.

Project 3: Brazilian Red Cross

In June, an agreement was signed by the Brazilian Red Cross, the Federation and the ICRC relating to the restructuring of the National Society management, which will allow the Brazilian Red Cross to achieve the following goals through a one year Capacity Building Fund project:

- A financial recovery plan for the BRC will be created in order to reduce the current debts of the National Society, to increase income and to manage running costs in such a way that the BRC can be self-sustaining in the future.
- An assessment and evaluation of the National Society will be conducted through a participative process, utilizing the National Society's self-assessment as a tool.
- A strategic planning process will be launched that is aimed at bringing the National Society's actions in line with current Movement strategies and plans.
- Branch managers will be trained in project management.

As was previously mentioned, the National Society's General Assembly approved new Statutes in June.

Project 4: Peruvian Red Cross

During the reporting period, the agreement relating to the restructuring of the PRC signed by the National Society, the Federation and the ICRC began implementation.

- An external consultant is facilitating the process of formulating the NDP, which is based on the participative planning approach. The first draft was adopted in August during a national planning workshop which defined the main areas of intervention. This draft will be revised according to regional priorities and conditions during a series of regional workshops planned for the coming quarter. The final draft of the NDP is expected to be completed by the end of this year.
- The draft of the new Statutes was drawn up by an ad hoc commission and is currently being revised by all the branches, which are providing the commission with feedback.
- An evaluation process of the National Society was carried out at the end of August through a series of interviews and meetings. Feedback on this exercise will be available during the coming period.

Project 5: Communications

Project objective: The capacity of the ten National Societies in the area of communications and advocacy according to Strategy 2010 will have been increased.

The Federation's web page for Latin America, www.cruzroja.org is being regularly updated with news and other information from the field. The management of the website was transferred from the Regional Delegation for Central America and the Caribbean to the Regional Delegation for South America in Lima and new features, such as picture galleries, have now been added or reactivated. E-mail accounts using "@cruzroja.org" have also been created.

All National Societies in Central and South America have websites that can be accessed from the Federation's Latin American website. The following is a list of National Societies the websites of which are hosted by the Federation's domain:

National Society	URL Address	Status
Guatemala	http://www.guatemala.cruzroja.org/	Active
Honduras	http://www.honduras.cruzroja.org/	Active
El Salvador	http://www.elsalvador.cruzroja.org/	Active
Nicaragua	http://www.nicaragua.cruzroja.org/	Active
Panama	http://www.panama.cruzroja.org/	Active
Uruguay	http://www.uruguay.cruzroja.org/	Active

Few National Societies in the Caribbean currently have active websites.

A well structured internet communication mechanism is an important tool for the National Societies operating in the region. The Federation's objective in this area is to consolidate internet tools in the future in order to provide new services to National Societies and their partners, to facilitate communication among National Societies and to promote the Red Cross image.

During the period covered by this update, the following news appeared on the Federation's website:

- Argentina: Social Crisis (2 articles)
- Secretary General's visit to Argentina and Uruguay
- Peru: Cold Wave (2 articles)
- Venezuela: disaster management and health developments

The Long Distance Education Programme for Communicators (LDEP) is currently being implemented in Argentina, Bolivia and Venezuela. The goal of the programme is to improve National Societies' communication skills during and after emergencies, as well as in non-crisis situations. A special focus is being placed on improving branch capacities. The programme includes creating communication contingency plans for emergencies, increasing visibility and media action, improving internal and external communications, and providing effective tools for National Society communicators.

- In Argentina, the programme was reactivated at the beginning of August with 20 ARC volunteers attending regional orientation meetings. The course was interrupted for six months due to the emergencies the National Society was facing with the Social Crisis and the Santa Fé Floods. At the end of August, communicators participated in a workshop that included a simulation of an emergency situation.
- In Bolivia, where 22 volunteers are participating in the programme, the training course is being implemented online, through an e-learning process. The National Society is currently improving its teaching materials.
- In Venezuela, 25 volunteers participated in the programme. The programme was re-launched at the beginning of June after a six month delay due to growing violence in the country. The programme was resumed with a workshop facilitated by the communications assistant from the Red Cross Society of Panama who shared past experiences. As a result of the workshop, a national network of communicators was created for mobilization during disasters.

All three National Societies expressed their desire to increase the number of participants in the LDEP in future.

Different workshops and regional meetings were organized addressing communication. A workshop on communication in crisis situations was organized by the Venezuelan Red Cross in the month of June. Due to the political situation in the country and the participation of several journalists, the workshop was an important step in the public debate on the role of communication. An ICRC representative also participated in the meeting.

The tools to create a communication contingency plan were presented by the Regional Delegation's information delegate at an international meeting for the 2003 hurricane season. The meeting, which was held in the Dominican Republic, was organized by PADRU. National Societies from Central America and Caribbean attended this meeting, as well as eight Participating National Societies and representatives of international organizations. At the end of the meeting, the National Societies drafted a contingency plan for the hurricane season.

On 17 July, the Federation's World Disaster Report was presented by the National Societies of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru at the same time as it was presented at the Secretariat in Geneva.

During the reporting period, the Federation published two issues of "Noticias de America" (News from America), which is distributed by mail to Embassies and other interested institutions.

Impact

The impact of organizational development processes can be assessed only in the long term. Nevertheless, the following progress has been made:

- Change processes are taking place and strategic planning has become part of the organizational culture of five National Societies in the region.
- Revision of Statutes is underway in four National Societies.
- The visibility and image of the Red Cross is improving, taking advantage of new information technology to promote the integration of National Societies in the region.

Constraints

- The decision was made that the Brazilian Red Cross headquarters will remain in Rio de Janeiro which could slow down cooperation between the Red Cross and national institutions and bodies.
- There is a lack of financial resources for IT facilities at the National Society and branch level. Several branches do not have access to the internet, while others have unreliable connections. The low level of connectivity could be more serious in the event of a serious disaster in the region.
- A planned meeting for communicators from National Societies in the region that was scheduled for the reporting period was cancelled given a lack of funding.

Coordination

- An agreement with PAHO regarding shared communication tools is currently being studied.
- In Colombia, there has been regular contact with the ICRC delegation, promoting the exchange of information and sharing of objectives and activities. There have also been meetings with representatives of Participating National Societies.
- In Ecuador, the CAS process is being coordinated with the ICRC delegation. The National Society is maintaining contact with the American Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and other PNS present in the country.

Federation Coordination

Goal: The Red Cross in South America, as a collective entity, contributes effectively and efficiently to capacity building related to service delivery to the vulnerable in all four core areas of Strategy 2010.

Objective: The Federation Secretariat contributes to improve effectiveness and efficiency through increased cooperation and coherence.

Progress/Achievements

Close cooperation continues between the Federation regional delegation, the sub regional office and the National Societies of the region regarding the initiation, promotion and further advancement of new and ongoing Cooperation Agreement Strategies. It has been concluded that the CAS process for Argentina needs to be put on hold until the two emergency operations have been concluded at the end of this year or in early 2004. A joint ICRC/Federation mission to Ecuador was carried out in order to coordinate efforts to support the Ecuadorian Red Cross CAS process. In June, the Federation stressed the need to reinstate the CAS process in Bolivia. This will be a priority for the new programme coordinator who will carry certain regional organizational development responsibilities. The CAS process for Colombia will begin with the integration of the Federation Representative.

Coordination issues in the field have been regularly discussed with ICRC counterparts on different occasions, such as meetings and joint missions with the National Societies of Brazil, Ecuador and Peru. This will continue to be a priority. A joint meeting to assess the status of the coordination process was held in Lima at the end of May, with the participation of an ICRC representative from Geneva, the ICRC Head of Delegation and the cooperation officer from the ICRC Peru delegation, which as of June 2003, also covers Bolivia. The Regional Delegation is negotiating with the ICRC regarding the possible financing of NITs and a vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) workshop with the Peruvian Red Cross later in the year.

Close contacts are being maintained with the Participating National Societies present in the region, including the German and Spanish Red Cross Societies which have offices in Lima and in La Paz, as well as with the American, Canadian, French, Netherlands and Spanish Red Cross Societies that are operating in Colombia. In order to increase regional coordination, representatives of PNSs and the ICRC will be invited to join the quarterly regional planning meetings of the regional delegation in the future.

Uruguay has been selected to host the next Meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminars in South America to be held in April 2004 in Montevideo. The agenda of the meeting was drafted with the support of the Buenos Aires Sub Regional Office. Three working commissions have been set up and a tentative date for the meeting agreed. In order to better prepare for the meeting, the President of the Uruguayan Red Cross requested the support of the Presidents of the National Societies of Bolivia, Chile and Peru, together with the Regional Delegation. A coordination meeting is planned for the first half of September.

Impact

Internal procedures and relations with National Societies in the region have improved substantially since the new Federation structure was completed.

Constraints

The CAS processes have proceeded slowly, and need to be strengthened at the regional level. The Regional Delegation will continue to promote these processes as well as regional and sub-regional partnership meetings with the goal of identifying regional needs and facilitating coordination in the Federation's efforts to support National Societies.

International Representation

Goal: The National Societies in the region will have formed effective partnerships and alliances to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, promote their interests at the national, regional and international levels with coordination and technical support from the Federation's Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The Federation will have achieved heightened awareness of its aims, and will have mobilized support for Red Cross activities at national and regional level in core areas of *Strategy 2010*.

Progress/Achievements

During this quarter, the Regional Delegation continued to strengthen its contacts and links with UN agencies in Peru and throughout the region. Contacts with UN agencies in Argentina through the Federation's Sub Regional Office have been enhanced as the result of the ongoing emergency operations in response to the Social Crisis and Santa Fé Floods.

A meeting was organized in Ecuador in May as a part of the ongoing DIPECHO evaluation. The Federation, the Spanish and German Red Cross Societies and representatives of agencies working in South America: Medicos del Mundo, the Italian NGO International Committee for the Development of People (CISP), Movimiento por la Paz and Medicus Mundi-Navarra participated in the event. The exercise also served to promote closer cooperation between the Federation and ECHO partners in future planning.

The period since the XVII Inter American Conference has served as a good opportunity to advocate and publicize the strategies and commitments adopted in Chile. After the Conference, the Federation President and Secretary General both visited Bolivia, Argentina and Uruguay. During their visits, meetings were held with local authorities, donors and international actors in these countries. Red Cross values and principles and National Society activities in the region were promoted on these occasions.

On World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, education and awareness activities were carried out throughout the region by National Societies in cooperation with the Federation's Regional Delegation and the Sub Regional Office in Buenos Aires.

Impact

The Federation's representation and image in South America are gradually beginning to benefit from the revised, more effective field structure and a better definition of the role of the Federation in the region.

Constraints

The Federation Legal Status Agreement with the Peruvian government has yet to be ratified, hampering the Regional Delegation's ability to work efficiently as a recognized, international entity in the country and region.

Coordination

- The strategies adopted in Santiago de Chile have contributed to better coordination in the region, and the Federation's activities in coordination and joint planning increased substantially during the reporting period.
- The partnership agreement with PAHO/WHO signed in May 2002 is being implemented in the region through several joint health and disaster projects. As a result of this agreement, representatives of National Societies and the Federation were invited to the Andean Workshop on emergency assessments for the health sector, held in Quito in June 2003. In addition, a PAHO consultant was based in the Regional Delegation to strengthen cooperation and to coordinate two important meetings in August 2003. The first meeting was held in Colombia with Ministries of health and the health directors of the ten South American National Societies. The second was held in Panama with the disaster management directors of National Societies from throughout the Americas. In addition, the Argentine and Venezuelan Red Cross Societies have adopted PAHO's SUMA system for cataloguing, stocking and delivering humanitarian aid.
- The DIPECHO evaluation meeting was a useful knowledge sharing exercise for the Red Cross in the region. The meeting served to strengthen cooperation and coordination between DIPECHO partners, facilitating the Federation's coordination with partnerships in the region.
- Contact has been established with DFID representatives in Peru, with OXFAM in Colombia and with UN organizations throughout the region. More strategic partnerships will need to be strengthened in the future with the other organizations which participated in the XVII Inter American Conference in Santiago de Chile.

Field Management

Goal: The Federation assists the National Societies of the region effectively in achieving their institutional and programmatic goals, in line with *Strategy 2010*.

Objective: The Federation's new structure, management and programmes successfully meet three key priorities: building National Society capacities, raising the international profile and resource base, and working together effectively.

Progress/Achievements

The new Secretariat field structure for South America was completed during the reporting period and all regional delegation positions have now been filled. The new Federation Representative in Colombia is expected to take up his role in November. The regional organizational development delegate moved to Buenos Aires in June to take up the position of Coordinator of the Sub Regional Office based in Argentina. At the beginning of September, a new programme coordinator/OD focal point took up his post at the Lima Regional Delegation. With these changes taking place in a relatively short period of time, the Head of the Regional Delegation and the Head of the Sub Regional Office visited some of the National Societies covered by the sub regional office in order to ensure a clear understanding of the new Federation structure in the region.

A second regional planning meeting was held in Lima in May with the participation of all the members of the Regional Delegation team, including the Lima delegation, the Buenos Aires sub regional office, members of the Regional Finance Unit in Panama and the regional officer for South America. A third meeting was held in Buenos Aires in August with the participation of the Buenos Aires sub regional office, the Lima regional delegation, and the head of the Regional Reporting Unit in Panama. These meetings served to assess ongoing activities and to discuss plans for the coming period, as well as to discuss the Federation's 2003-2007 Plan of Action. The meeting held in Buenos Aires was also an opportunity to strengthen the link between the Federation and the ICRC representative in Argentina, who presented the ICRC's structure and explained ICRC activities in the region.

For further information please contact:

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

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

BUDGET 2003

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 01.51/2003

Name: South America regional programmes

PROGRAMME:	Organisational Development	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Federation Coordination	International Representation	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	14,000	0	0	0	14,000
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	8,680	0	0	0	0	0	8,680
Utensils & tools	2,040	0	0	0	0	0	2,040
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	10,720	0	14,000	0	0	0	24,720
Land & Buildings	25,200	0	0	0	0	0	25,200
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	35,561	8,550	2,950	0	0	0	47,061
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	60,761	8,550	2,950	0	0	0	72,261
Warehouse & Distribution	1,526	0	0	0	0	0	1,526
Transport & Vehicules	0	0	9,772	0	1,512	1,512	12,796
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	1,526	0	9,772	0	1,512	1,512	14,322
Program Support Recharges	71,817	40,753	34,396	3,947	27,246	9,381	187,538
PSR	71,817	40,753	34,396	3,947	27,246	9,381	187,538
Personnel-delegates	290,952	126,000	108,000	0	181,540	86,400	792,892
Personnel-national staff	168,627	5,280	56,042	16,744	18,253	17,447	282,393
Consultants	88,090	99,320	0	0	0	0	187,410
PERSONNEL	547,669	230,600	164,042	16,744	199,793	103,847	1,262,695
W/shops & Training	276,373	68,623	70,397	8,412	46,637	13,491	483,932
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	276,373	68,623	70,397	8,412	46,637	13,491	483,932
Travel & related expenses	78,486	22,662	48,770	10,080	25,440	0	185,437
Information	60,278	10,444	0	0	4,350	0	75,072
Other General costs	103,036	245,339	253,588	21,538	114,188	16,088	753,775
GENERAL EXPENSES	241,800	278,445	302,358	31,618	143,978	16,088	1,014,284
TOTAL BUDGET:	1,210,666	626,971	597,915	60,721	419,166	144,319	3,059,754

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				3,059,754	TOTAL COVERAGE 81.7%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				873,538		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (2003)				106,500	24.02.03	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (2003)				77,000	24.02.03	COMMUNITY HEALTH & EDUCATION
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (2003)				70,000	24.02.03	INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (2003)				71,500	24.02.03	PERU, CAPACITY BUILDING
BRITISH - RC		244	GBP	524	07.03.03	PERU, CAPACITY BUILDING
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		103,459	EUR	156,327	30.04.03	HEALTH AND CARE
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		88,595	EUR	133,867	30.04.03	AMAZONAS
NORWEGIAN - RC		680,000	NOK	131,580	04.06.03	HEALTH, DISASTER MGT, COMMUNICATION, INTERNAT. REPRESENTATION, COORDINATION & MGT
NORWEGIAN - RC		320,000	NOK	61,920	04.06.03	HIV/AIDS & ANTIVIOLENCE
SWEDISH - GOVT		700,000	SEK	117,600	16.05.03	HEALTH & CARE
SWEDISH - GOVT		700,000	SEK	117,600	16.05.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SWEDISH - GOVT		250,000	SEK	42,000	16.05.03	DISASTER MANAGEMENT DELEGATE
SWEDISH - GOVT		550,000	SEK	92,400	16.05.03	DISASTER MANAGEMENT CAMALOTE
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				115,000	30/04/2003	ARGENTINA - PAR002
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				145,000	30/04/2003	BOLIVIA - PBO001
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				45,000	29/08/2003	BRAZIL
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2,357,356	CHF	77.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SPAIN	DELEGATE(S)			141,272		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				141,272	CHF	4.6%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	