

Report 2006-2007



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

South America

Appeal No. MAA46001

This report covers the period of 01/01/2006 to 31/12/2006 of a two-year planning and appeal process.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



Communities affected by floods in Bolivia, registering to receive relief items with the National Society, International Federation.

In brief

Programme Summary:

In a region where economic growth does not seem to tackle the root problems of inequity and poverty, the Regional Delegation, in line with the Plan of Action of the XVII Inter-American Conference, has been focusing its support to the ten member National Societies on setting the basis for programme scale-up in the core areas of Health, Disaster Response, Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Principles and Values, in line with the goals of the Global Agenda. Baselines in programme areas have been planned, and scale up is taking place in specific programmes such as Voluntary Blood Donation, HIV and AIDS prevention and Disaster Risk Reduction in selected countries.

Disaster response capacity has increased, and the first emergency appeal after some years was launched in Ecuador alongside several DREF fund allocations. All 10 National Societies have been taking part in the contingency planning process against Pandemic Influenza.

Innovative approaches have been undertaken in risk reduction. Within the framework of the Safer Communities initiative, the pilot scheme to develop community disaster preparedness indicators is leading towards a more comprehensive community preparedness index. The mainstreaming of an integrated community approach into all programmes has continued throughout the year, and will count on a learning platform to promote improved knowledge sharing by 2007.

Leadership training using distance-learning methodology has continued for health professionals and has started for youth leaders. This initiative is managed by the Lima Regional Delegation in coordination with an academic institution. Ongoing support to existing networks has continued, and for the first time all the networks met in parallel at the Meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminars in Rio de Janeiro.

In Brazil and Colombia, the presence of Federation Representatives has contributed to improved

analysis of the risk factors that seriously limit these National Societies' performance, and has allowed for much better coordination of the Movement partners. Integrity issues have been tackled during 2006, but despite the generous commitment by our Governance at regional and continental levels, the case of the Peruvian Red Cross remains to be solved. In 2007 a major effort will be placed on solving this case.

During 2006 the preparation process for the XVIII Inter-American Conference has started under the slogan "Safer and Healthier Communities"; with direct involvement of the Regional team in both the organizational and the thematic facilitation processes. During the first half of 2007 the process will include the preparation of the new Inter-American Plan for the period 2007 – 2011. The Conference will be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador on 4 - 7 June.

Goal: The National Societies in the region are implementing efficient, responsive and focused programmes which contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable people.

Needs: Total 2006-2007 budget CHF 6,436,577 (USD 5,363,814 or EUR 4,291,051) of which 89.6% is covered. Revised Appeal target for 2006: CHF 3,018,911 (USD 2,472,092 or EUR 1,884,240), of which 97.3% is covered. **Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.**

The Regional Delegation seeks the full coverage of its appeal, and invites partners to support the *most urgent uncovered needs* quantified in CHF 600,000 for the Federation's presence in Colombia, the area of Communications, and additional support to Health, Organizational Development, Volunteering, Humanitarian Principles and Values, and Coordination and Cooperation.

No. of people we help:

The Lima Regional Delegation works towards developing the capacities of National Societies in South America. The direct beneficiaries of the Regional Delegation's programmes are the National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, their governance, staff at headquarters and branch levels, and volunteers.

The people reached during the emergency response operations during this reporting period with external support (one international appeal and small- to medium-scale emergencies) were 47,970 (or 9,594 families) in six countries.

Our Partners:

Partnerships have been developed with a number of different actors besides Movement members, such as: academic institutions, organizations, donors and United Nations agencies.

Movement coordination includes the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) four Regional Delegations, and Partner National Societies that cooperate with the 10 National Societies of our region, such as American Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, French Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross.

The Regional Delegation has been strengthening its partnerships with other organizations such as: Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales - Latin American School of Social Sciences (FLACSO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the ProVention Consortium, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/CEPAL), the Organization of American States (OAS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and OXFAM.

Current context

General elections were held in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, leading to a number of centre-left governments in the region. Although democracy is by now clearly the political system of the region, the tensions between representative democracy and participative or even direct democracy persist. In a study published in 2006, the UNDP warns that “the proportion of Latin Americans who would be willing to sacrifice a democratic government in exchange for real social and economic progress now exceeds 50 percent”¹.

The regional economic context saw sustained growth in 2006 after ‘lagging growth and persistent poverty and inequality’ during the last decades², but this is still insufficient to tackle the intertwined elements of inequity and poverty. It has to be noted that Latin America has the highest measures of inequity of the world (Gini coefficient). Access to basic services such as health and education is not widespread, and although civil society participation is on the increase, the protection of human rights is still limited, the freedom of expression and of press has been limited or directly attacked in a few countries, and widespread corruption (even of the judiciary power) is far from solved. Social violence in all its manifestations (youth violence, gender-based violence, domestic violence, social disturbances, political unrest, and criminality) represents a clear challenge to social development. If benefits from sustained economic growth are not channelled towards a more equitable and sustainable development, the disaffection of large marginalized groups could well take, once more, the shape of violent political confrontation and increasing violence and instability.

The internal conflict underway in Colombia does not seem to be near an end. The radicalized positions of the different armed actors does not hint at a rapid solution of the humanitarian situation of large numbers of refugees in neighbouring countries and of Internally Displaced Population within Colombia; despite this, as mentioned by the President of the Federation during his visit to this country, the Red Cross Movement must be ready to play a major role in the humanitarian situation the day the conflict will eventually finish.

Bolivia and Ecuador were once more exposed to internal disturbances, although on a lesser scale than in previous years. The scale of continuous urban violence in Brazil has reached unprecedented levels during 2006, resulting in a strong reaction of the civil society in search of a peaceful coexistence. The situation in those countries is closely monitored together with the ICRC.

The region continues to be exposed to several hazards: floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The emergencies that affected hundreds of thousands of people in 2006 saw a very active role for the National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. In the case of Ecuador, the International Federation appeal launched to support the Ecuadorian Red Cross was fully covered.

The Regional Delegation during 2006 has consolidated a team approach to programme support to the 10 member National Societies. This takes place through close coordination among programme areas such as Health, Disaster Response, Risk Reduction, Humanitarian Principles and Values, and Communications, which all share a common focus on capacity building, guided by the tailored support in Organizational Development to each National Society.

Progress towards objectives

Health and Care

Objective: The National Societies are increasing health-related activities and are mobilizing volunteers, civil society and governments in order to achieve greater equity in health and have a greater impact on public health issues.

The Health programme is developing activities within six main areas of work:

¹ Democracy in Latin America, towards a citizens' democracy, PRODDAL / UNDP, 2006

² Latin America, virtuous and vicious circles, the World Bank, 2005

- strengthening National Societies' health departments
- integrating First Aid into the community
- recruiting voluntary non-remunerated blood donors
- promoting mother and child health
- reducing stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV and AIDS
- public health in emergencies

Increased donor support has allowed for an overall scale up of activities in the Health programme in 2006. By working effectively with other programme areas such as Community Risk Reduction, Communications and Organizational Development, the development of activities along the six main lines of work has contributed to significant progress being made against the two-year programme objective.

During 2006, the investment on upgrading the capacities of National Society health departments continued as 19 members of the region's NS completed the second round of the Diploma in Health Policies and Management. The course was developed in alliance with FLACSO (Latin American School of Social Sciences) and was supported by the Federation's Capacity Building Fund.

The integration of First Aid at the community level continued in 2006. The harmonization of First Aid practices and techniques was promoted through the handbook "International Harmonization of First Aid", which was widely disseminated amongst National Societies. The Argentine Red Cross successfully applied and validated the handbook in 2006, which will facilitate its dissemination and use by other National Societies in the region.

The *X International Colloquium on the Recruitment of Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donors (VNRBD)* was held in Chile, for the first time in the Americas, with participants from 66 countries and 46 National Societies. The event served as an ideal platform to launch the Federation's Club 25 strategy. As a result, several Club 25 initiatives have started around the region (Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador), while three more countries have started preparing their activities, aimed at promoting regular blood donation among young people linked to healthy lifestyles. The initiative is supported by the Finnish Red Cross.

National Societies in the region have improved their management capacities and ensured sustainability in running Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) mother and child health projects with a community approach. During 2006 new IMCI projects continued in the National Societies of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, with support from the American Red Cross and in coordination with the Ministries of Health and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

Scale up in HIV and AIDS, reducing stigma and discrimination, is a priority for 2006 - 07. While some National Societies have developed articulated programmes on HIV and AIDS within their countries, with the adoption of the Together We Can peer methodology all National Societies share a common approach towards scaling up promotion and awareness-raising of the issues related to STI's/HIV and AIDS.



Participants of a Together We Can workshop in 2006. International Federation.

Contributions were made to the improvement of public health actions in emergencies through the training of National Society members in Health in Emergencies Regional Intervention Team (RIT). Also during 2006, a Health Policies and Disasters module was opened to National Societies in the region, in partnership with FLACSO and PAHO/World Health Organisation (WHO). The Continental Contingency Plan for Pandemic Influenza was validated at the end of 2006, with direct involvement of other international organizations.

Challenges ahead include supporting the process towards the definition of the priorities for the continent for the next four years, which will be shown in the next Inter-American plan. Scaling up of programmes in the health programme will need sustained investment for the next period, in order to consolidate the strengthening of capacities of the 10 National Societies, pre-conditioned to promote national and regional access to increased local and regional funding sources, necessary to reach more communities in a sustainable way.

Disaster Response and Risk Reduction

In 2006, the Disaster Response and Risk Reduction programme was developed under two main programme objectives for disaster response and community risk reduction.

Objective 1: A well functioning Americas disaster response system is strengthened and providing support to the National Societies in the provision of assistance to those affected by disasters.

During the period, there was a significant increase in response to small and medium size emergencies by six of the ten National Societies in the region. Direct assistance was provided to 9,594 families (approximately 47,970 beneficiaries) in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, through an Emergency Appeal (in Ecuador and 100 percent covered) and the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF). A total of CHF 1,345,064 was mobilized, and local funds have increased in percentage in the overall total. Technical support was provided to PNS in order to access international funds (ECHO and Governmental agencies). This was complemented by direct support through Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members, technical support in Water and Sanitation to Bolivia and Ecuador, and logistics and procurement to Chile, Ecuador and Peru. Timely and accurate information posted on the Disaster Management Information System (DMIS), DREF reports, bulletins and operations updates show consistent improvements, which have facilitated decision making processes.



The Ecuadorian Red Cross assisting communities after the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano. International Federation.

Response and preparedness capacities in National Societies were strengthened in 2006. Planning for response and contingency planning has improved during the period. The afore mentioned contingency planning process for Pandemic Influenza is a clear demonstration of joint efforts of the Health and Disaster Response and Risk Reduction programmes, working with other organizations. The revision of the contingency plans for El Niño as well as the inclusion of two National Societies in the contingency planning for the hurricane season complement this effort. In Ecuador a national response plan and contingency plans were developed

and the National Society in Brazil prepared its first ever Disaster Management plan.

Challenges ahead include the establishment of tripartite (National Society – ICRC – Federation) pre-agreements, the revision of National Disaster Management plans to include specific contingency plans, and improved capacities for non-traditional emergencies (e.g. health emergencies).

Objective 2: The capacities and skills of the National Societies and their branches to better design, implement and evaluate community-based disaster risk reduction activities and to work with local organizations in a close and coordinated way are improved.

Taking stock of the extensive experience of community risk reduction activities with an integrated approach developed through regional programmes (Community Integrated Programmes {CIP}: Amazonico, Camalote) in recent years, the Safer Communities initiative was developed in 2006, aimed at increasing local risk reduction capacities to address the most urgent situations of community vulnerability. The wider community risk reduction framework includes a specific and articulated disaster risk reduction element

based on the Hyogo framework, but is open to other sorts of community risks such as socio-economic ones. The proposal from South America is being integrated into the new Community Risk Reduction strategy as an input to the next Inter-American Conference of Guayaquil 2007.

With support from DiPECHO, the Lima Regional Delegation has promoted an inter-agency effort to develop a series of simple community disaster preparedness indicators. The preliminary results show an interesting and promising insight into this area that could well develop into a wider effort to define a community and local Disaster Preparedness index.

Sharing good practices increased with the facilitation of two networks (disaster network, and community work network), the launching of the Latin American Disaster Management Bulletin (ReDes), the Community Risk Reduction and Disaster Response web site and preliminary case studies that will develop into a virtual learning platform for exchanging information and resources among network members.

Climate change is gradually being included within the regional risk reduction agenda. The National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia and Colombia presented project proposals to the Red Cross/Red Crescent Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness (The Hague).

Links between response, early recovery and community development were evidenced by the inclusion of community-based activities within response plans of actions in Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The challenges for the next period include increased support to three National Societies to improve their capacities in Disaster Risk Reduction (support from DFID), improved coordinated access to community DRR projects within the next round of DiPECHO projects (DiPECHO 5), and establishing a solid basis for accessing local and regional funds in order to scale-up outreach of vulnerable communities. The preliminary contacts with some key actors and the existing initiatives like ProVention indicate real opportunities for an increased Red Cross presence in the region.

During the revision of 2006-2007 plans at the end of 2006, the programme objectives were revised and merged into a single one. The programme has been receiving generous ongoing support from the Finnish Red Cross, in addition to DiPECHO and DFID funding.

Organizational Development

Objective: The ten National Societies in the region are increasingly adhering to the criteria of a 'Well Functioning National Society', and are improving their capacity to work with vulnerable communities

Organizational Development is a key area of work for the Regional Delegation in support of its 10 National Societies. The aim is to support the changes needed in order for the 10 National Societies to be able to comply with their mission and scale up their programme outreach to vulnerable communities.

The Organizational Development (OD) programme works towards this objective in support of the 10 National Societies in the region through the following areas of work:

- alignment of strategic plans with the Plan of Action of the Inter American Conference
- ensuring accountability and integrity within National Societies
- improving capacities in resource mobilization
- developing new volunteer and youth leaders and a volunteer and youth regional agenda
- sharing good OD practices in South America

The OD programme focused during 2006 on priority areas to support National Societies in improving their capacities to work with vulnerable communities. This integrated approach has been essential in responding to the diverse organizational needs of National Societies. During the same period, an investment was made in the development of a highly integrated OD team, focused on providing close support to National Societies in the priority areas of work.

The accompaniment to National Society strategic planning processes continued in 2006: now, nine National Societies have proper strategic plans - although not all of the same quality -and one is still in progress. This support will continue in 2007 when the design of the new plan of the Inter American Conference will provide the opportunity for further alignment. Several National Societies (Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, and Paraguay) have started using annual operational planning processes (both at programme and branch level) to implement their strategic plans and others have started the process. Strategic planning is gradually permeating the organizational priorities of all 10 National Societies; the future will require increased attention to the Monitoring and Evaluation processes to measure impact, thus contributing to the overall performance management system agreed upon in the Framework for Action.

The management of the integrity issues in the region required a continuous investment from the Head of Regional Delegation and the larger team: In Peru, the judicial intervention of the Peruvian Red Cross continued throughout 2006. Four Presidents took part in two high-level commissions that included ICRC and Federation Secretariat to support the search for a sustainable solution, but with no success due to the resistance of the suing party. Innovative ways to solve the crisis have been presented and it is foreseen that 2007 will be the year of solution of the crisis. In Ecuador, the National Society with joint support from the ICRC and the Federation managed to mitigate the risk of internal fracture, creating a new branch in the capital city, and inserting clear articles in the statutes revision that limit the risk of interference of political party representatives in a highly volatile institutional environment. The revision of statutes has taken place in Argentina and Ecuador, whilst a similar process is underway in Colombia and Venezuela, and is scheduled to take place in Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay in 2007.



Youth activities carried out by the Argentine Red Cross during World First Aid Day. International Federation.

The need to mobilize resources in an innovative and systematic way was identified by National Societies in the region. This was possible thanks to results of the baseline survey that was carried out on Resource Mobilization and Development (RMD) organized by the Regional Delegation in nine of ten National Societies, which was presented at the first Continental Forum on RMD.

A consultancy to identify strengths and weaknesses within the region with regard to Knowledge and Learning was carried out with support from DFID's Global Learning Fund. This exercise presented useful recommendations to increase National Societies' capacities and the impact of their actions through increased knowledge sharing and learning.

The area of Youth and Volunteering within the OD programme was strengthened in 2006, which contributed to the placement of these topics on the regional agenda. In 2006, National Societies recognized the need to strengthen the area of volunteering which is in need of particular support. The project to build capacities of Red Cross volunteers in Uruguay and Venezuela, supported by CBF, contributed to the creation of a new vision of the incorporation of base volunteers.

Support to the National Societies in Brazil and Colombia played an important part in OD activities in 2006. Despite being widely respected within the country, the National Society in Colombia currently faces organizational challenges that have been identified through a process of risk assessment. The Federation Representative is working with the OD team in Lima to ensure that the Colombian Red Cross accesses the Intensified Capacity Building fund in 2007.

During 2006 the Federation Representative in Brazil provided much needed support to the National Society, and was further supported by the presence of the Organizational Development delegate made

available by the Spanish Red Cross. Despite the paralyzing financial crisis this National Society is facing, positive advances have been noted contributing to more sustainable institutional strengthening. The Brazil National Society is one of the 10 chosen worldwide to pilot Operational Alliances.

The OD programme has received generous continuous support from the Swedish Red Cross and the Capacity Building Fund. The lack of financial support for the presence of a Federation Representative in Colombia was a challenge during 2006 at a crucial time of support to the National Society and will be a priority for 2007.

Humanitarian Principles and Values

Objective: The National Societies are contributing to building more tolerant and peaceful communities in compliance with the Federation Pledge at the 28th International Conference and the Plan of Action of the Inter American Conference.

During 2006 support activities to the National Societies in the area of Humanitarian Principles and Values continued to be limited to ad-hoc support to gender violence activities in the north of Argentina and specific initiatives. This was due to the need for a more focused approach in carrying out activities. As a first step, by the end 2006 the recruitment process of a focal point for Humanitarian Principles and Values within the Regional Delegation began, and by now a professional with extensive experience in the Human Rights domain is part of the team.

The project carried out by Argentine Red Cross (ARC) in Rosario de la Frontera, which ended in 2006, showed a significant impact on social and gender relations and that the lives of women affected by violence in this community were changed positively. The Regional Delegation accompanied the ARC throughout the project and considers the experience a valuable example for other National Societies in the region, hence steps made towards the systematization of this experience, which will be replicated in three branches in 2007.

The results of the study carried out on gender perspective in National Societies in South America, organized by the Regional Delegation, showed that National Societies in the region have yet to make changes to show greater consideration for gender in their internal structures.

In 2007, based on the strategic document that will be approved by the *XVIII Inter-American Conference*, it is foreseen that great emphasis will be given to this area. The programme has been receiving seed funds from the Swedish Red Cross in the past, and will need additional funding sources in order to develop incisive support to membership.

Communications

Due to an increasing demand of work on the area of Communications, both from National Societies and the Regional Delegation, it was decided that the area of Communications would not be considered within the Organizational Development programme but as an area in its own right. This was responded to positively by all programmes and was reflected during the planning process for 2007.

Objective: National Societies are strengthened in the communications and advocacy area and work in favour of the most vulnerable in accordance with the Plan of Action of the Inter American Conference.

Communications has proven to be a successful vehicle to increase the impact of Red Cross actions. The area has worked along five clear lines of action:

- inclusion of communication actions in National Society plans and budgets
- support to the Inter American Communications Network
- improving National Society public image

- dissemination of the principles of the Movement
- creation of the conditions for National Societies to take advantage of internal and public electronic tools

National Societies have made significant steps towards including (internal and external) communication actions in strategic and operational plans and budgets. This reflects the increasing recognition of communications within planning processes, which is the first step to ensuring that communications departments within National Societies have the resources to implement actions. This was confirmed at the Meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminars, where members of NS Government and management showed commitment to strengthening communications.

In 2006, the Inter American Communications network celebrated ten years of uninterrupted work. The network evaluated the Communications Plan for the Americas and laid out lessons learned, best practices and technical recommendations for all National Societies to consider in the preparation process of the next Inter-American Conference.

Promoting Movement messages on key dates, maintaining permanent contact with media, jointly working with international agencies, organizing international fora as well as having representation at international and regional events, have all contributed to maintaining a well-positioned Red Cross in the region.



The Red Cross working with the community in Venezuela. International Federation.

The area of Communications was dedicated throughout 2006 to the promotion of electronic tools amongst National Societies across the continent. In 2006 the website www.cruzroja.org for Latin America showed a notable increase in visits compared to previous years, reaching over 300,000 in 2006. This reflects the increased use by National Societies and the general public of the website as a regional source of information for the Red Cross in Latin America.

Throughout 2006, FedNet was increasingly seen as a useful tool, although it has yet to be fully explored by National Societies. Priority needs remain in the reorganization of services, taking into account information needs of potential users, and further resources being available in Spanish.

The dual role carried out by Communications, working with both National Societies and programme areas, is unique within the Regional Delegation and has proven to be an essential area to ensuring an increase in the impact of Red Cross actions. Despite achieving significant advances in 2006, one of the major constraints in 2006 has been the lack of financial support for this crucial area.

Cooperation, Coordination and Strategic Partnerships

Objective: Strengthened, improved cooperation, coordination and support mechanisms are promoted to facilitate collaboration amongst members and strategic partners

Please see below under Working in Partnership.

International Representation and Advocacy

Objective: The Regional Delegation provides effective representation and advocacy for the Federation and National Societies, focusing on Global and Regional priorities in line with the Global Agenda and the framework for action.

In 2006, Federation and National Society representation was possible, amongst others, at three key events, the World Social Forum, the annual meeting of Governors of the Inter American Development Bank and the Inter American Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) organized by the Inter American Development Bank. These events provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information with international and local humanitarian organizations, regional members of networks, the private sector and the media. At the CSR Conference, community disaster risk reduction was the focus used by the Vice President of the Federation to present Red Cross work within the framework of the Global Agenda to a wide range of personalities of the private sector.

Visits to partner agencies and organizations in the United States was another good example of representing Federation and National Society and promoting the Global Agenda amongst organizations such as the Organization of American States, UNDP and other UN agencies, World Bank, IDB, and the International Strategy on Disaster Reduction.

Regional meetings with ECHO and other EU bodies led to interest in advocating for minor emergencies and small-scale forgotten disasters. In Colombia, interests of the Movement have been promoted by the Federation Representative through close working relationships with ECHO and the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the active participation in in-country coordination and advisory committees. Advocacy within the Regional Delegation is considered an area to be further developed to ensure greater contributions towards the fulfilment of the Global Agenda.

Governance Support

Objective: Effective support is provided to governance in South America in response to requests.

The Lima Regional Delegation has provided timely support to the two members of the Federation's Governing Board from South American National Societies, as well as the three members of the Health, Disaster and Development Commissions.

Important steps were made in 2006 for the preparation of the *XVIII Inter-American Conference* to be hosted in Jun 2007 by the National Society in Ecuador. The Regional Delegation has provided two pillars of support in this process, to the Inter American Regional Committee (Comité Regional Interamericano - CORI) and to the hosting National Society, the Ecuadorian Red Cross. In addition, evaluations of the previous Inter-American Conference Plan of Action and the promotion of ideas for the new plan were thoroughly promoted amongst National Societies by the Regional Delegation as a whole.

For the first time, the Presidents of the National Societies of South America developed a common Governance agenda for 2007 at the biannual meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminars. This agenda will be jointly monitored during the annual meeting of Presidents.

Federation Management

Objective: The Regional Delegation is working efficiently, ensuring good management of resources and complying with Federation procedures and standards.

The year has closed without deficit for South America, except for a small deficit in Colombia. The budget was increased through a mid-year revision to CHF 3,018,911, reflecting an increase in activities. The main funding sources were the British Government's DFID, the Federation's Capacity Building Fund, DiPECHO, American Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. The implementation rate was above 90 percent throughout the year, despite a few delays in obtaining the funding agreements.

The Regional Delegation has participated in the definition of the transition plan for the consolidation process, which will lead to the setting up of one zone office for the Americas. All ten National Societies will continue to be supported by the regional office in Lima, with a direct presence in Brazil and Colombia.

During 2006, the sub-regional office of Buenos Aires was closed. The Regional Delegation has followed the recommendations of consultants by opting for local or regional human resources in substitution of expatriate positions. Timely and effective narrative and financial reporting has been carried out by the Regional Delegation, ensuring accountability to donors, National Societies and communities.

In 2006, programme areas within the Regional Delegation showed increased coordination, ensuring that by working together integrated support is provided to the ten National Societies in South America.

For 2007, management targets are 100 percentage coverage of the appeal, zero deficit, 100 percent expenditure during the period and full compliance with Federation financial and reporting standards.

Working in partnership

The Lima Regional Delegation is increasingly recognized by partners as a facilitator for improved cooperation with National Societies. Two cooperation meetings were held during the year, one in Geneva and one in Lima, with participation of the desk officers and programme managers of the PNS working bilaterally or multilaterally in our region, and our colleagues of the ICRC. The coordination of work with the ICRC has increased and improved, and the tripartite agreements are increasingly recognized as an effective way to promote better coordination in support to National Societies.

The presence of a Federation Representative in Brazil and Colombia has greatly improved coordination of Movement partners: in Brazil with the launching of the Operational Alliance, which intends to channel support from the ICRC and American, Finnish, Spanish and Swedish PNS. The focus on the Club 25 within the Operational Alliance received further support from PAHO for the initiative. The Federation Representative in Colombia has developed with the National Society, the ICRC and PNS a cooperation platform mechanism in support of the Colombian Red Cross. The CAS process in Colombia has progressed, and will be completed in 2007.

The venue for the bi-annual meeting of Presidents and Technical Seminars, which was initially to Buenos Aires, Argentina at the end of September, was changed shortly before the meeting to Rio de Janeiro. The Regional Delegation supported the big effort of the Brazilian Red Cross, which managed to grant a regular and useful meeting. Due to the difference in costs, a deficit of USD 11,000 was generated, which needs to be covered.

The Regional Delegation has actively supported the preparation process towards the upcoming *XVIII Inter-American Conference* throughout 2006. Since the preliminary meetings in early 2006, to the establishment of the coordination mechanism and the thematic commission with its thematic working groups, the communications activities and through direct support to the Ecuador Red Cross both in Quito and Guayaquil, the team of the Regional Delegation has directly contributed to the different phases of this important process. The Head of Regional Delegation is part of the thematic commission, the organizing commission, the committee charged responsible for drafting the Inter-American plan, and linking the methodology and the organization.

Close coordination with Movement actors during the emergency appeal, to respond to the eruption of the Tungurahua Volcano in Ecuador, led to full coverage of the emergency appeal in support of the National Society's operation to assist affected families.

During 2006, a number of initiatives were also made to strengthen the position, credibility and visibility of National Societies in South America and the Federation through external alliances and strategic partnerships with academic institutions, donors and humanitarian organizations.

Partnerships through the Health Programme were developed with FLACSO, PAHO, Latin American Network of People living with HIV and AIDS (REDLA) and through the Disaster Response and Risk

Reduction programme before, during and after emergencies with PAHO, DFID, Oxfam GB, ECHO, REDLAC and OCHA. The Regional Delegation also facilitated the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Response (ISDR) 2006-2007 campaign within the National Societies. The Communications programme developed technical partnerships with key actors in the regional context, such as with the Latin American Association of Radio Education (Asociación Latinoamericana de Educación Radial - ALER) and the International Centre of Superior Studies for Communication in Latin America (Centro Internacional de Estudios Superiores de Comunicación para América Latina - CIESPAL). In addition, common initiatives with the Panama Regional Delegation were identified and promoted, such as ProVention, DFID and Sphere projects.

In the next period, innovative approaches to partnership need to be explored, in order to grant sustainability to the scale-up in programme areas, manage the financial exposure of some key National Societies and reduce the dependency on few traditional sources for programme funding. The use of simple tools and mechanisms for coordination of cooperation (such as the tripartite agreements among a National Societies, the ICRC and the Federation, that can be expanded to include PNS), the finalization of the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) processes where appropriate, and the fostering of the pilot initiative of the Operational Alliance will need to combine with an effort to expand the concept of partnership to non-traditional allies, such as the private sector, the more socially responsible private companies, and the development of financial institutions (such as the World Bank, the IDB and the CAF (Corporación Andina de Fomento)).

Contributing to longer-term impact

There are several contributions from the National Societies of South America to the wider longer-term impact of our Federation that deserve being mentioned.

The extensive experience gained by most of the National Societies in community work for the last 12 years has both served as a motive to reassess the strategic focus in the region and the continent, and as an input in the wider debate of the overall strategic focus. The ongoing mainstreaming of the community work focus (that has taken form through the Community Integrated Programmes approach in recent years) into the strategic vision of the National Societies has at the same time contributed to the wider identification of community empowerment as a key element of the new Vision of our Federation and of the Global Agenda, Goal 3.

The focus on communities has been radically modifying both the strategic vision and the organizational setup of at least two National Societies in the region (Argentina and Ecuador).

The recent integrity issues in Peru and, to a much lesser and quite different extent, in Ecuador clearly indicated the need to develop a proper tool to manage the integrity risk. The extensive experience in other domains (like financial risks, insurance risks, or disaster risks) indicate that a set of indicators can be developed to measure and monitor the exposure, vulnerability and capacity to face an integrity risk, allowing for corrective measures to reduce, mitigate or accept the risk. The case in Peru, with its new legal aspects, represents an additional challenge to the way we face such risks. The Regional Delegation has started gathering and systematizing the lessons learned from the process of such a case, thus allowing for appropriate institutional learning; at the same time, a first attempt at developing an integrity risk management tool is underway.

Advocacy in present times takes the shape, in our region, of new opportunities. The growing attention given by the private sector to Corporate Social Responsibility seems a perfect matching for the privileged positioning that the Federation has in humanitarian issues – the only organization that is present worldwide and at grass-root level. This in turn is an opportunity for our Federation to influence the behaviour of the more committed private companies. The experiences from within the region are encouraging.

The very same positioning of our Federation is an asset for the development of advocacy opportunities with donor agencies in non-traditional domains. Such is the case of the relationship that is being developed with the Economic Community for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for the inclusion of the perspective of the vulnerable communities in post-disaster rapid economic assessment.

Learning and knowledge sharing represent an additional challenge for our region. While the Knowledge Management study (carried out by INTRAC) has helped in identifying the gaps and opportunities in this domain, with support from the Finnish Red Cross the Regional Delegation is developing a learning platform that will initially focus on community work and disaster risk reduction, and will evolve into a wider learning platform in the future.

Looking Ahead

The main challenges for 2007 include support to the preparation and the holding of the next *Inter-American Conference* to be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, as well as the support to the membership for the appropriate adherence to the new strategic focus contained in the next Inter-American Plan.

While the consolidation process will imply several changes at the continental level (setup of the Zone structure), no changes will affect our region, and the technical team of motivated professionals will be able to focus on obtaining measurable results in our support to the member National Societies.

A few critical factors still limit the achievement of the common goals contained in the Global Agenda. The financial exposure of many National Societies, the weak leadership at national and branch levels in some National Societies, the high dependency on few institutional donors and weak organizational structures and volunteering represent serious limitations to the commitment to do more and better in favour of the vulnerable communities. This is where we shall focus our attention in the next period in order to support the gradual scale-up in programme activities of our 10 National Societies.

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**To support or find out more about the Federation's programmes or operations,
click on www.ifrc.org**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA46001 - SOUTH AMERICA

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/12
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA46001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,196,821	1,391,369	144,652	2,843,310	860,424	6,436,577
B. Opening Balance	98,423	62,680	20,259	289,074	10,210	480,646
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	284,437					284,437
British Red Cross	0	0	0	19,168		19,168
Capacity Building Fund	38,485			129,500		167,985
DFID Partnership	75,042	124,773		119,177	10,172	329,164
ECHO		0				0
European Commission		250,400				250,400
Finnish Red Cross	17,025	86,260		66,965	11,350	181,600
Italian Red Cross					6,630	6,630
Spanish Red Cross				5,454		5,454
Swedish Red Cross	296,931	101,805	25,451	319,184	80,793	824,164
C1. Cash contributions	711,920	563,238	25,451	659,449	108,944	2,069,002
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
American Red Cross	-27,164					-27,164
ECHO		64,300				64,300
ICRC				3,659		3,659
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-27,164	64,300		3,659		40,795
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
British Red Cross		0	-7,030	7,030		0
Capacity Building Fund				0		0
DFID Partnership		-17,462		60,000		42,538
Finnish Red Cross	-1,892	-6,558		4,666	3,784	0
Irish Red Cross Society				0		0
Monaco Red Cross				0		0
New Zealand Red Cross				0		0
On Line donations					27,000	27,000
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or	-1,892	-24,020	-7,030	71,696	30,784	69,538
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Italian Red Cross					102,000	102,000
Spanish Red Cross				83,700		83,700
Swedish Red Cross				81,033		81,033
C5. Inkind Personnel				164,733	102,000	266,733
<u>Other Income</u>						
Miscellaneous Income				4,216		4,216
Service Agreements				6,465		6,465
C6. Other Income				10,681		10,681
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	682,865	603,518	18,421	910,216	241,728	2,456,749
D. Total Funding = B + C	781,287	666,198	38,681	1,199,291	251,938	2,937,395

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Interim Financial Report

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Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA46001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	98,423	62,680	20,259	289,074	10,210	480,646
C. Income	682,865	603,518	18,421	910,216	241,728	2,456,749
E. Expenditure	-638,059	-396,997	-11,544	-919,669	-267,534	-2,233,803
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	143,229	269,201	27,136	279,621	-15,596	703,592

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA46001 - SOUTH AMERICA

Interim Financial Report

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Budget	APPEAL

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		1,196,821	1,391,369	144,652	2,843,310	860,424	6,436,577	
Supplies								
Construction - Facilities/Infrastruc					6,697		6,697	-6,697
Construction Materials					4,578		4,578	-4,578
Medical & First Aid		2,028					2,028	-2,028
Other Supplies & Services					898		898	-898
Total Supplies		2,028			12,173		14,200	-14,200
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	9,250	1,555			7,926	2,194	11,675	-2,425
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	9,250	1,555			7,926	2,194	11,675	-2,425
Transport & Storage								
Storage		1,236	12,962		36	96	14,330	-14,330
Distribution & Monitoring		1,480			248		1,727	-1,727
Transport & Vehicle Costs	32,280	474	1,432	16	664		2,586	29,694
Total Transport & Storage	32,280	3,190	14,395	16	948	96	18,644	13,636
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	994,106	71,906	60,844		1,075	82,286	216,112	777,994
Delegate Benefits	303,400	37,772	42,476		235,910	110,663	426,821	-123,421
Regionally Deployed Staff	84,904		4,688		3,284		7,971	76,933
National Staff	936,868	53,989	26,161		168,817		248,967	687,901
National Society Staff	151,500	14,576	3,415	3,322	53,739		75,052	76,448
Consultants	445,162		15,788	4,217	71,625	193	91,823	353,339
Total Personnel Expenditures	2,915,940	178,243	153,373	7,539	534,450	193,142	1,066,747	1,849,193
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	2,047,643	205,794	92,812	1,108	124,952	16,484	441,151	1,606,492
Total Workshops & Training	2,047,643	205,794	92,812	1,108	124,952	16,484	441,151	1,606,492
General Expenditure								
Travel	537,780	60,967	22,907	637	90,210	21,578	196,298	341,482
Information & Public Relation	169,949	18,377	24,917	530	16,078	1,966	61,868	108,081
Office Costs	79,017	8,687	3,880	1,022	18,266	985	32,840	46,177
Communications	108,561	14,294	7,911	599	18,513	3,180	44,497	64,064
Professional Fees	1,000	195		158	8,501	415	9,268	-8,268
Financial Charges	15,129	13,059	5,597	954	21,689	2,246	43,545	-28,416
Other General Expenses	101,650	314			1,466	-4,012	-2,232	103,882
Total General Expenditure	1,013,087	115,894	65,211	3,900	174,723	26,358	386,085	627,001
Program Support								
Program Support	418,378	41,478	25,805	750	59,083	16,959	144,074	274,303
Total Program Support	418,378	41,478	25,805	750	59,083	16,959	144,074	274,303
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		89,878	45,401	-1,769	5,416	12,301	151,227	-151,227
Total Operational Provisions		89,878	45,401	-1,769	5,416	12,301	151,227	-151,227
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	6,436,577	638,059	396,997	11,544	919,669	267,534	2,233,803	4,202,774
VARIANCE (C - D)		558,763	994,373	133,108	1,923,641	592,890	4,202,774	