

OPERATIONS 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

EL SALVADOR: EARTHQUAKE

7 January 2004

Appeal No. 02/2001; Operations Update no. 22

Appeal launched on 14 January 2001 for CHF 1,112,360 for 1 month. Revised on 24 January 2001 CHF 5,422,147 for 154,000 beneficiaries for 14 months. Budget revised on June 4 2001 to CHF 9,385,698 and operation extended until 31 December 2002; further extension of the operation until 31 December 2003.

Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

Period covered: 1 May to 30 September 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.
For more information: www.ifrc.org*

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 112.1%; See the attached Contributions List for details.

Outstanding needs: None

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Central America Annual Appeal (Appeal 01.50/2003)

Operational Summary: During the period covered by this update, the Salvadorean Red Cross Society (SRC) was faced with providing emergency and long term care to persons affected by a large increase in the number of pneumonia cases in the country. The SRC was able to respond to this situation thanks to its improved organizational structure and successful health programmes. In addition, the Federation and the Salvadorean Red Cross Society have continued to review the national disaster plan, which provides the SRC with disaster and emergency guidelines, including modules for community based disaster preparedness. The SRC has made considerable advances in the area of disaster preparedness, including developing three training workshops for national intervention teams (NITs) with representatives from departmental branches and affiliated organizations throughout the country. The number of skilled volunteers within the SRC has significantly increased during the reporting period, through community and school brigades and through volunteer training workshops. These volunteers are working to make the branches of the SRC financially self-sustainable and towards reducing the vulnerability of their communities to health risks and disasters. The creation of a public relations and communications office within the National Society has improved Red Cross visibility in the region. As the end of the period of the appeal coverage approaches, certain projects related to the emergency appeal are now coming to a close, including the school brigade project and the integrated health project in Juayua, both of which have proved successful.

Operational developments

The unexpected increase in the number of pneumonia cases in the country prompted the Salvadoran government to declare a 30-day state of emergency on 24 July. According to the statistics from the Ministry of Health, during the first half of the year more than 300 people died from pneumonia, 60 per cent of whom were persons over 60 years of age and 27 per cent of whom were persons under 9 years of age. In July and August, during the height of the

epidemic, the network of national hospitals admitted 1,277 patients with pneumonia, the majority of which were children. There were several reasons for the rapid increase in the number of pneumonia cases, including biological and nutritional factors, environmental pollution, climate change and an inability to recognize the warning signs of severe respiratory infections. However, by the beginning of September, the epidemic was under control.

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society's response to the pneumonia crisis was managed from the SRC headquarters. This office, in coordination with the Federation, set up a strategy to respond to the epidemic that was based on the capacity of the National Society and on three projects that are currently being carried out. The first project facilitated the further development of communities already involved in community health projects. This project involved going door to door in these communities to increase awareness of the necessity of sanitary practices in order to prevent the spread of illnesses. The second area focused on providing logistical support in transporting patients from outlying branches to hospitals and the third area involved improving the level of services provided by the SRC through its clinic at the National Society headquarters.

In September, the National Society completed the final training of the technical health personnel that are working on projects to promote early detection and effective treatment of pneumonia.

The Federation is continuing its capacity building activities to improve the Salvadorean Red Cross Society's ability to respond to disasters. During the period covered by this update, the SRC made considerable advances in the area of disaster preparedness, including developing three training workshops for national intervention teams (NITs) with representatives from departmental branches and affiliated organizations throughout the country.

The national disaster plan is being updated, and significant progress has been made towards finalizing the theoretical framework of the 3000 Series of the national disaster plan. The National Society is now beginning to take the necessary steps in order to update the procedures and operational guidelines that the SRC will follow in cases of disaster or emergency.

During the reporting period, two projects were completed: the integrated health project in Juayua and the emergency school brigade project. Both projects achieved the objectives set out in the appeal whereby Red Cross efforts worked towards the reduction of vulnerability in the communities involved.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress, impact

Health and Care

Objective 1: To improve directly and indirectly the health care for approximately 115,000 people living in the rural areas of three departments: Sonsonate, La Libertad and Santa Ana, by constructing or rehabilitating a total of 14 health posts and one Red Cross branch clinic.

Progress/Achievements

This objective was achieved through the construction and organization of 14 health posts and one nutritional clinic and the implementation of activities. The health posts promote preventative health practices within the community by encouraging positive behaviour with regard to environmental sanitation, and mother and child health. Several health posts in the department of Sonsonate were monitored by the National Society to ensure that the posts are functioning well. Two preventative health brigades are being developed each month within communities in Sonsonate.

The sustainability of these posts has been secured by a contract signed by the SRC, the Federation and the Ministry of Health that ensures that the Ministry of Health will act as a health promoter in order to assist the population in these areas.

Impact

The creation of health posts is positively impacting people living in 15 communities throughout the country. People living in these areas now have access to health care, and are also receiving training and education in

preventative health measures. The creation of health brigades within these communities demonstrates that these projects are empowering residents to take ownership of their own health care.

Constraints

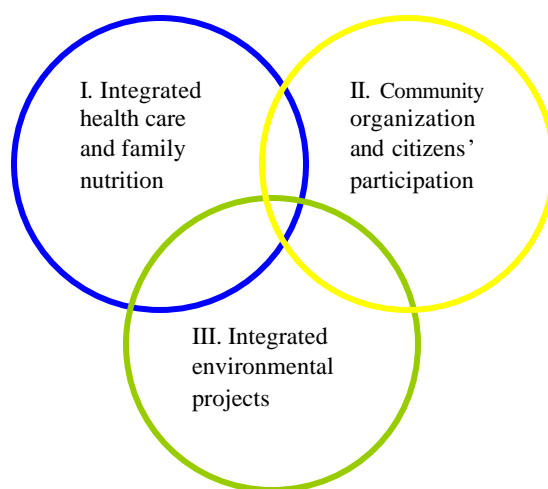
This campaign has proceeded without problems, meeting beneficiaries' needs.

Objective 2: To improve the well being of the most vulnerable population of the country through the establishment and strengthening of the Salvadorean Red Cross Society's community health office at the national level in accordance with a five-year plan and five-year theoretical framework 2002 - 2006.

Progress/Achievements

The National Society has now cemented its role as the coordinator of community health projects in El Salvador and, with the support of the Federation, has defined the basic elements of health projects, which consist of three components. With these basic elements, the SRC is attempting to move its community health projects towards a standardized model of integrated health care.

Basic Elements of Community Health



I.	Integrated health care and family nutrition
	a) Mother and child health integrated care programme
	1. Reproductive health care for women
	2. IMCI (Integrated management of childhood illnesses)
	b) Family health promotion and education programme
	c) Community mental health programme
	d) Integrated nutrition programme
II.	Community organization and citizens' participation
III.	Integrated environmental projects

During the reporting period, the National Society supported and monitored the health projects funded by PNSs. The Spanish Red Cross is promoting education and preventative health practices in the community through the El Carmen Health House Project. The Spanish Red Cross is also promoting the training and strengthening of health committees by recruiting volunteers from five communities in the department of Ahuachapan.

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society and the American Red Cross, together with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), are working on the methodology, strategy and implementation of the integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI) programme in the municipalities of Nejapa, Panchimalco and Santiago

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Texacoangos. These three municipalities are participating in mother and child care activities. These groups are currently putting together presentations of the results of this programme.

The delegation of the French Red Cross (FRC) completed its mission in June having developed a project within the national development plan, supporting the Red Cross branch in Ciudad Arce by strengthening the branch's capacity to provide social assistance and integrated health care, including both preventative health and mental health care. The FRC project also worked to strengthen the disaster preparedness and prevention capacity of the branches in Ciudad Arce and La Libertad, both in the department of La Libertad. The disaster preparedness component of this project is benefiting a total of 867 people, 18 percent of whom are also benefiting from the mother and child care component of the project. In addition, community health committees have been formed in the communities of Los Mangos, Las Acostas, Las Cruces and El Ensayo, all of which now have the capacity to promote preventative health care throughout their respective communities.

As a follow up to these projects, the French Red Cross made an agreement with the Salvadorean and Spanish Red Cross Societies. The agreement states that these two National Societies will continue monitoring the technical and financial aspects of these projects. Equipment and furniture has been donated by the FRC to the Salvadorean Red Cross Society to be used in monitoring these projects.

The Empress Shoken Fund health project was started during this period with the participation of community members. The project had to be reformulated since it originally only included the health promotion component of the three basic elements of community health projects. In addition, the budget for this project had to be adjusted to correspond to the funding available. In order to guarantee the sustainability of the project throughout its expansion, the scope of the project was reduced from two branches to one. In addition, a technical coordinator for the project was hired. The National Society was supported in this process by the Federation.

The Federation was contacted by the European Union's Regional Programme for the Reconstruction of Central America (PRRAC) to help carry out a project for strengthening health care services. The project includes creating systems to provide potable water and improving environmental health in El Salvador. A total of 900 latrines are to be constructed in the western part of the country and educational health material addressing the environment will be distributed.

The management capacity of the National Society's community health office has been strengthened by the addition of a new community health director who had previously been the health officer for the Federation. This office has taken steps to raise funding for its programmes and is currently seeking funds through project proposal presentations to various groups, such as the Inter American Development Bank and the European Union. The National Society also recently began a dialogue with the Spanish International Cooperation Agency to analyze funding possibilities for health projects.

HIV/AIDS Programme

On 8 May, the SRC presented its appeal for the campaign to reduce discrimination and stigma faced by people living with HIV/AIDS. The presentation was made to the Salvadoran public, representatives of international organizations and PNSs, and members of the media.

At the same time as this appeal was launched, members of Red Cross youth presented the results of their HIV/AIDS prevention project, which was developed in the municipalities of San Salvador, Apopa, Puerto de la Libertad, Juayua, Nahuizalco and Quezaltepeque. The project is promoting preventative behaviour and healthy lifestyles among young people, with the hope that they will spread this knowledge to of their respective communities.

Red Cross youth used the methodology of peer discussions and debates to carry out this project. Some 3,682 young people from 38 youth groups, both school and non-school groups, participated in the debates. To assist in these debates, 20 volunteers from different branches of the SRC participated as facilitators.

During the period covered by this update, the HIV/AIDS prevention programme was developed through awareness discussions during 13 workshops for 1,775 volunteers from 20 branches. In addition, in July, the American Red

Cross, through the Philadelphia chapter, developed a workshop to train new instructors who are working on HIV/AIDS projects in El Salvador.



SRC youth volunteers apply the peer education methodology to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS



SRC volunteers visit homes for young people which care for children living with HIV/AIDS.

An HIV/AIDS technical team has been created by the National Society, made up of members of the community health office, Red Cross youth, PNSs and the Federation. This team was created to monitor activities in relation to the objectives of the HIV/AIDS intervention programmes. The team will also assist in the review of Red Cross proposals for submission to the Global Fund. These proposals will be focused on a strategy of working with associations of persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWAs) and are being developed in coordination with the José Simeón Cañas Central American University (UCA), the NGO Calma and Help in Action. Within this proposal process, the National Society is seeking support from UNAIDS and UNICEF in order to identify priorities that line up with the proposals of the Global Fund in order to maximize opportunities to access funds.

The SRC has applied to be part of both the technical committee and the thematic group of the Salvadoran National HIV/AIDS programme. The National Society has made this project a priority and is currently waiting to learn if it will be included.

Finally, the National Society has produced a brochure entitled "Help Stop AIDS" in coordination with the Ministry of Health, PAHO and the Federation. The brochure is being used as a tool in the educational campaign to increase awareness among school-aged children. The brochure explains what AIDS is, how it is contracted and how it can be prevented, and has been used by Red Cross youth during awareness discussions.

Through the HIV/AIDS programmes, the National Society is strengthening ties with UNAIDS, the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, as well as with support groups such as the Zacamil Hospital Support Group and the Foundation for the Development of Guadalupe (FundGuadalupe).

National Blood Programme

Since the SRC's national blood programme is being sponsored by the Federation in order to promote safe blood through voluntary, non remunerated blood donations, the National Society submitted the plan of action (PoA) for the programme to the Secretariat in May. Included in the PoA is close coordination with PAHO on projects addressing safe blood issues. The National Society has been meeting with PAHO in order to organize campaigns to promote non-remunerated blood donations and to reactivate the regional safe blood networks.

The SRC celebrated National Non-remunerated Blood Donation Day on 12 July with the support of the Federation. A public event was organized during this day to recognize regular blood donors, specifically those who had donated 110, 90 and 75 times. The event recognized around 200 blood donors and their families.



SRC Honorary President, don Baltasar Yort, presents an award to a voluntary blood donor in recognition of her having made over 100 donations.

The National Society analyzed the proposal to improve the blood centre's information software during the period covered by this update. The National Society is seeking to establish an integrated information system that would be shared between the blood centre, the health clinic and the National Society. The system would contain relevant information to be used in decision-making and would allow for improved monitoring of health activities.

First Aid

The SRC celebrated World First Aid Day in September. The celebration included a first aid simulation in one of the schools where a school brigade, including a first aid team, was created as part of the disaster management school brigade project. The celebration was organized with the support of the Federation as a means of strengthening the disaster response capacity of communities and education centres in the country.

During the celebration of World First Aid Day, the National Society promoted the practice of first aid and the connection between the communities and the SRC. The celebrations were attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and members of the media.

Impact

The National Society has standardized its community health projects in accordance with the basic elements of community health programmes. This model has been accepted by the PNSs operating in this field so that it can also be applied to PNS-funded projects. The use of the basic elements promotes the integration of different areas as well as the individual components. The community health office is considering the inclusion of organizational development as one of the essential components in order to promote the strengthening of branches and volunteers as a means of supporting community health projects.

Constraints

Despite a high degree of coordination between Red Cross actors in the country, the National Society has not always managed to comply with the objectives of projects that include the participation of more than one group. For example, it has been difficult to reach a consensus on the expansion of the SRC's strategic plan in the area of HIV/AIDS. In addition, the SRC has had difficulty in organizing blood donation activities with PAHO.

Objective 3: To improve the health conditions of more than 4,000 people (692 families) of the vulnerable population in two departments: Sonsonate and La Libertad through the development and implementation of community based primary health care.

This project is made up of two components, integrated community health and disaster preparedness, and is carried out through branch strengthening activities.

The National Society participated in the nutritional evaluation campaign in communities in the department of Juayua. The campaign was developed by the SRC and the Federation, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, the World Food Programme and UNICEF. According to the information contained in the final presentation of the evaluation at the end of June, the intervention by the National Society and other organizations helped to reduce severe to moderate malnutrition by 90 per cent. At the beginning of the project, 86 cases of severe malnutrition were identified, and by June 2003 there were only 2 remaining cases among the original group. The moderate cases of malnutrition that were identified at the beginning of the project were eliminated completely.

The project to reduce malnutrition also helped to reduce cases of prevalent childhood illnesses. There was a significant drop in incidences of pneumonia, diarrhoea, parasitic illnesses, severe malnutrition and viral infections in comparison with the number of cases recorded at the beginning of the project in September 2002.

Illnesses	Sept. 2002	June 2003
Pneumonia	38	4
Diarrhoea	32	4
Parasitic illnesses	67	1
Severe Malnutrition	86	2
Viral infections	47	4



One of the factors that made the health project successful was the coordination between the SRC and the communities.

In June, the Federation prepared to hand over the projects in the Juayua branch to the Canadian Red Cross. The Federation's information officer worked together with the National Society to document the situation and developments in Juayua during the Federation's intervention. This document was presented during the models of community health workshop held in Nicaragua in August.

The intervention in the project on the part of the Federation's delegation in El Salvador achieved good results based on the planned objective of promoting community health in Juayua and Nahuizalco, with the active participation of the Juayua branch of the SRC. A major component of this project was strengthening communities, and the Federation supported community organization and participated actively in the decision-making process for branch projects. The number of volunteers has increased in these branches and community members have been empowered to participate in improving their own state of health.

From the outset, this project incorporated new elements that are focused on ensuring the continuation of Red Cross intervention, such as branch strengthening and promoting coordination between branches, communities and other actors in the area. Coordination between the Ministry of Health, the community and the Red Cross has been key to the success of this project.

One of the additions to this project was the incorporation of health micro-projects in the communities. Micro-projects were developed in response to the severe food insecurity created by a crisis surrounding the price of

coffee, which severely affected the economy of the region. At the beginning of the project several cases of severe to moderate malnutrition were identified among children of less than five years of age and a micro-project to diversify productive labour was undertaken for 40 mothers of children with symptoms of malnutrition. The project provided the participants with courses in haircutting, baking, flower arranging and making piñatas as a means of finding other ways to generate income and reducing the dependency on coffee crops.



Members of the community work on a sociogram applying IMCI techniques, during the closing ceremony of the Juayua project.

Impact

The incidences of prevalent childhood illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhoea, parasitic illnesses, malnutrition and viral infections have been considerably reduced in comparison with the number of recorded cases at the outset of the project.

The project was well received in the community, with the participation of a large number of community members and leaders. As a result of community empowerment, there has been an increase in volunteers. These new volunteers were supported by volunteers from the local branches of the SRC and the project's technical personnel.

Constraints

This campaign has proceeded without problems, meeting beneficiaries' needs.

Objective 4: To improve the quality of life of vulnerable earthquake stricken communities through projects including provision of clean water, promotion of hygiene practices and sanitation.

This project was completed in 2002. However, volunteers have remained active and are working on the basis of the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) methodology. In addition, Red Cross members are continuing to promote basic community sanitation and manage the potable water project. These persons are being considered as a special intervention unit for disasters and emergencies as part of the revision of the 3000 Series of the national disaster plan.

Disaster Management

Objective 1: To strengthen the capacity of the SRC relief department in the areas of disaster preparedness, disaster mitigation and disaster response.

Progress/Achievements

National Disaster Plan

The Federation office in El Salvador is working to strengthen the capacity of the Salvadorean Red Cross Society by supporting the process of updating the national disaster plan and by efficiently managing disasters and emergencies. The Federation is currently compiling disaster management reference information and will begin developing new materials to be incorporated into the plan. Thus far, the Federation has completed the finalization

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of the following components of the national disaster plan: fundamental principles, legal framework and possible risk scenarios for El Salvador and the National Society.

The Federation and the National Society have agreed that, in so far as it is possible, the National Society will take the lead in updating the national disaster plan. The National Society has already consulted with the various branches of the SRC that will play key roles in the disaster relief programme as part of this process.

The proposal for updating the national development plan contains six components:

- Management and monitoring of operations
- Search for missing persons and family reunification
- Public information
- Emergency services
- Health and sanitation
- Logistics.

Technical meetings were held during September with the key actors in the updating process to discuss and develop these six components.



Members of a working group make an analysis during the work to up-date the 3000 series.

To increase the capacity of the National Society to respond to disasters, a national intervention team (NIT) workshop was held from 20 to 25 June with 29 volunteers representing Red Cross branches and affiliated organizations throughout the country. The participants were selected to participate in the workshop based upon their experience in disaster management and preparedness. Members of the Federation office participated as facilitators during discussions regarding the management of information in times of disaster, the Federation's response systems, *Strategy 2010* and the drawing up of appeals and budgets. The NITs are considered as a valuable resource which can be drawn up in the context of the national disaster plan.

Impact

With the training of a new group of volunteers, the capacity of the National Society to respond to emergencies and disasters has improved significantly. In addition, the development of the national disaster plan is helping to coordinate resources throughout the country.

Constraints

The National Society has faced some difficulties in delegating responsibilities to the various actors participating in the national disaster plan. Despite attempts at coordination, all of the actors involved this programme are not yet integrated, which is slowing down the process of updating the national disaster plan.

Objective 2: To reinforce the capacity of at least 5 branches: Morazán, San Miguel, La Libertad, Santa Ana and Sonsonate and 50 communities with a view to reducing vulnerability and exposure to hazards through community disaster preparedness projects.

Community Based Disaster Preparedness

The community brigades organized by the National Society and the Federation are helping to strengthen the disaster preparedness and response capacity of the communities involved in this project. Members of these communities are actively participating in projects to change and improve their own situation. As part of this project, 26 facilitators from these communities were trained, 12 of which began organizing community brigades in May. In total, 23 brigades in 40 communities were organized in the departments of San Vicente, Sonsonate and Ahuachapan. In addition, community evaluations took place with the participation of the community members themselves so that the risks and potential problems could be identified. With the support of the American Red Cross, the national community education coordinator was trained to implement the findings of the community evaluation.

In July the process of drawing up work plans for the branch offices involved in the community brigade project began. The National Society and the Federation coordinated efforts with the local boards of directors in San Vicente, Guazapa, Ahuachapan and Juayua for this project. The process included workshops during which four modules for the CBDP model “Es mejor prevenir” were reviewed. Modules for community organization, shelter management, healthy homes and first aid were created in order to reduce risk and improve disaster response. In total, 200 people participated in these workshops that ran until September. Once the work plans were completed, they were presented to the communities so that they could continue with the process of signing a promissory letter for the community brigade project with the National Society and the Federation.

A community first aid facilitators’ training workshop was held for 30 volunteers from community brigades in the branches of Ahuachapan, Ciudad Arce, San Vicente, Guazapa and Tamanique. These communities now have members that are trained to provide first aid in disasters and emergencies. In addition, 12 communities have been trained in community first aid. These communities were able to organize disaster simulations so that they could practise the skills they had learned.



Members of the community take part in first aid training, practising moving the injured.

Another component of the community brigade project is the creation of the 11-metre radio communication network. Work on this project began during the period covered by this report with the support of Red Cross personnel. The role of the network will be to mitigate risk by having an active early warning system within all of the communities involved.

The Federation has supported this community based disaster preparedness project by purchasing equipment and supplies for the community brigades. Each brigade now has a first aid kit and other basic response equipment, including a stretcher, vests, gloves, a megaphone, a radio, bandages and helmets.

School Brigades

The Federation-supported project to create school brigades was completed in June. This project was another method of strengthening community disaster response capacities. The project was developed by Red Cross youth in 63 schools in the departments of San Miguel, La Unión, San Salvador, La Libertad, Chalatenango, Sonsonate and San Vicente with the support of 12 branch offices.

This project was coordinated by Red Cross youth with the support of the relief director of the SRC. The brigades trained children and youth in disaster prevention and mitigation. The 63 school brigades are made up of 1,391 people, including teachers, family members and students. Each brigade includes teams for first aid, security, evacuation, and fire prevention and control. The creation of these brigades is directly benefiting 43,949 people. The school brigades are being monitored by 150 Red Cross youth volunteers to ensure that the brigades update their emergency plans and carry out disaster simulations as part of their training.

Manuals for the facilitators of the school brigades, as well as manuals for students, were created for this project. Some 300 facilitator manuals and 2,000 student manuals were printed. The National Society coordinated activities with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the National Civil Police in creating these manuals.

Representatives from the branch offices in Aguijares, Juayua, Quezaltepeque, Nueva Concepción, Guazapa, San Salvador, San Miguel and Santa Rosa de Lima participated in an evaluation of the school brigade project. The evaluation included examining the methodology, facilitators, manuals, themes and coordination of the project. Members of Red Cross youth are currently working on the final report for this project.

Impact

The school and communities brigades are now well trained and well equipped, as was demonstrated during disaster simulations. These brigades have made community volunteers more effective and better prepared to respond in disaster and emergency situations.

Constraints

One of the important factors that contributed to the success of this project was the involvement of youth volunteers in the monitoring process. It is hoped that the continued involvement of these volunteers will ensure that the brigades are sustained now that the project has ended.

Organizational Development

Objective 1: To promote the practice of planning within the Salvadorean Red Cross Society by reactivating the national development office, providing technical support and promoting the use of planning tools.

During the reporting period, work was carried out on the SRC's national development plan (NDP) and strategic plan. The regional organizational development delegate visited the SRC in June to assist in this process. At the same time, the process of developing the NDP was introduced to the departmental branches and, during May, the process and importance of organizational development was presented and explained to the branch offices in Santa Ana and Santa Miguel.

In June, the operational plans for the organizational units of the National Society were examined and the units' progress towards achieving the objectives of this project was evaluated.

In September, the first steps were taken towards organizing a NDP and strategic planning workshop with the support of the Federation.

Impact

The process of creating a national development plan and a strategic plan is ongoing. The National Society, SRC branches and the Federation are all participating in this process, thereby strengthening their capacities individually while, at the same time, strengthening the coordination between all actors.

Constraints

Progress in the field of organizational development takes time; however, the National Society is working towards the development of key tools: the strategic plan and the national development plan.

Objective 2: To strengthen the capacity of 6 departmental branches and the 17 local branches covered by the branches of Morazán, San Miguel, La Libertad and Santa Ana, as well as to implement a pilot project focusing on organizational and community development.

Branch Capacity Building

The branches of Ahuachapan, Sonsonate, Santa Tecla, Santa Ana, Morazán and San Miguel participated in the branch capacity building process. The process is being facilitated by two promoters, one from administration and finance and the other from organizational development. These promoters are assisting the branches in carrying out their operational plans and are monitoring their progress. They are also actively promoting the application of effective administrative and financial processes within the branches with the help of accounting and operational and financial procedures manuals. In addition, the promoters are developing and presenting financial reports. The branch capacity building project is being financed by the Federation and the Canadian and Spanish Red Cross Societies.

The self-sustainability of the branches is another aspect that the National Society is trying to promote through this process. The National Society is seeking to reactivate clinics in branches in which these had been permanently closed. In July, an agreement was signed for the collaboration between the SRC and the Mano Amiga (Helping Hand) Association in the local clinic of the Ahuachapan branch. In August, the Sonsonate branch clinic was opened with the support of the organizational development promoter. The promoter and the volunteers also carried out activities to provide medical donations in this branch. In addition, the branch in Sonsonate has developed the necessary tools to conduct a self-assessment and diagnosis, and is developing two workshops to address this process with the participation of 24 volunteers.

The promoters have also developed activities to manage resources. On a monthly basis, the promoters are monitoring a database of Red Cross members and businesses that work with the Red Cross. Through monitoring of the donations of these businesses and members, it is hoped that the branches will become self-sustaining.

The development office of San Miguel was closed in June due to management issues between the promoter and the new board of directors. The board of directors of the Morazán branch also requested to work with a different promoter because of differences in management methods. For this reason, the promoter previously assigned to these delegations was relocated to Ahuachapan in September.

Impact

The branches are becoming more aware of the importance of maintaining updated and organized accounting and financial systems. During the period covered by this report, at least two branches began to update their accounting books. In addition, fundraising activities initiated by the promoters in coordination with branches have demonstrated that the branches have the capacity to obtain some funding to finance their activities.

Constraints

Branch organizational development offices depend largely on coordinating work with their respective boards of directors. For this reason, the ability of these development offices to organize and run programmes is subject to the stability of the board. This interdependence has hampered the organizational development efforts in areas where there is no strong board of directors.

Federation coordination

The Federation played a principal role in organizing the response of the National Society and local PNSs to the pneumonia epidemic in the country. Once the Federation had developed a strategic plan to provide care in that situation, the Federation supported the SRC in developing its own response plan. In this way, the Federation and the National Society ensured that the National Society plan would be integrated into the national response plan of

the Ministry of Health. These steps repositioned the National Society as one of the primary aid agencies working to assist the public during outbreaks of disease.

With the participation of the National Society management and the leadership of the organizational units of the National Society, an open consultation was held to help in drawing up the inputs relating to El Salvador for the 2004 regional appeal. The opinions shared during this consultation were taken into consideration when the appeal was being drafted. With this kind of participation, it is hoped that a forum for sharing perspectives and needs between the National Society and the Federation will be created.

The Federation representative in El Salvador is continuing to hold regular meetings with PNSs and the management of the SRC in order to maintain the coordination between these three groups.

Regional Support

The Federation's health delegate in El Salvador was in contact with the health departments of the Guatemalan, Honduran and Nicaraguan National Societies. Through these visits, the delegate identified the assistance and monitoring that will be needed to develop these departments. For this reason, it is possible that the health delegate's role within the sub-region will be redefined.

The Federation office in El Salvador facilitated the organization and development of a community health workshop that took place in Managua, Nicaragua in August. Representatives of the National Societies of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama participated in the meeting, together with Federation representatives in Central America. During the workshop, participants identified the necessity of constructing community health models that can be used according to the needs and context of each country. Other needs identified included creating a means of recording and sharing experiences and lessons learned within the National Society.

The Federation El Salvador office and the SRC provided logistical support and coordination to the Canadian Red Cross volunteer who was responsible for gathering information regarding the intervention of the Red Cross in programmes that provide psycho-social assistance and care to persons affected by disasters. For this project, the volunteer visited the communities of Tacuba and Ausales in Ahuachapan, and San Alfonso and Tamanique in La Libertad to interview residents.

With the goal of maximizing available human resources in the region, the El Salvador office continued to support the Federation delegation in Honduras and the Honduran Red Cross with regard to communications and reporting. With the help of the El Salvador office, the first communicators' workshop was held with volunteers from the north eastern region of Honduras.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Staff for the new public relations and communications office were hired in May. In coordination with the new office, the Federation office reorganized its activities in order to comply with programme objectives, giving priority to the reactivation of the network of volunteer communication promoters. The office of public relations and communications is also working to strengthen internal communication and the network of reporters, and to promote the awareness campaigns run by the Federation.

Through the help of the public relations office, the Federation launched its campaign to reduce HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination together with the SRC. For this event, a press conference was organized for the media and an awareness day was organized for volunteers and administrators.

In July, the Federation supported the SRC in the celebration of the national day for non-remunerated blood donation. This day, along with the launching of the World Disaster Report in August, made the Federation highly visible to the media, embassies and international organizations.

In September, the Federation celebrated World First Aid Day in coordination with the National Society's offices for health, capacity building, first aid and youth. As part of this celebration, the Federation organized a disaster simulation in one of the schools that is taking part in the school brigade project.

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For further information please contact:

- *Salvadorean Red Cross, email: crsalvador@vianet.com.sv; phone: (503) 219-2200; fax: (503)222-7758*
- *Luis Luna, Federation Regional Officer, email: luis.luna@ifrc.org; phone: (41) 22 730 4274; fax: (41) 22 733 0395*

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>

Central America / El Salvador, earthquake

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PLEDGES RECEIVED

18.02.2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				9,385,698	TOTAL COVERAGE 112.1%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONORS				8,626	24.01.01	
AMERICAN - 2 PRIVATE DONORS				2,688	02.02.01.	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONORS				14,169	27.09.2001	
AMERICAN - RC				41,402	20.08.2001	INV. SRI 2551/A
ANDORRAN - RC				31,976	02.02.01	
JAPANESE - RC	81,602,463		JPY	1,042,472	20.12.2001	HEALTH & REHABILITATION
ARGENTINIAN - RC	1,896		ARS	3,087	16.03.01	
AUSTRIAN - RC	1,000,000		ATS	111,799	15.01.01	
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT	100,000		AUD	91,330	23.01.01	FOOD, MEDICINES, SHELTER MATERIALS AND BLANKETS
AUSTRALIAN - RC	65,000		AUD	58,429	14.02.01	
AUSTRALIAN - RC	33,595		AUD	30,199	06.04.01	
AUSTRALIAN - RC	45,377		AUD	40,726	02.08.2001	ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BARBADOS - RC				3,262	01.06.2001	
BELGIUM - GOVT/RC	5,437,402		BEF	207,355	22.01.01	PURCHASE OF 7'172 HYGIENE KITS
BELIZE - RC	500		USD	885	18.07.2001	
BRITISH - GOVT (DFID)	98,039		GBP	242,156	16.01.01	EARMARKING TO BE SPECIFIED
BRITISH - RC				170,000	12.02.01	REIMBURSEMENT DREF
BRITISH - GOVT (DFID)	55,792		GBP	134,459	19.02.01	2X WATER TANKERS (MAX. 6 MONTHS)
BRITISH - RC	90,000		GBP	216,900	02.03.01	
BRITISH - RC	374		GBP	920	27.02.2001	PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT & CONTROL
BRITISH - PRIVATE DONORS				100,000	15.03.01	
BRITISH - PRIVATE DONORS DONOR				126	29.01.01	
BRITISH - RC				123,237	13.09.2001	COSTS FOR DELEGATE
CANADIAN - RC	70,000		CAD	77,112	16.01.01	
CANADIAN - GOVT	150,000		CAD	165,240	17.01.01	CANNOT BE USED FOR PURCHASE OF FOOD ITEMS
CANADIAN - RC	150,000		CAD	162,375	02.02.01	WATER & SANITATION TRAINING & DP
CANADIAN - RC	150,000		CAD	162,375	16.02.01	HEALTH CLINICS & WATER SANITATION
CANADIAN - RC	300,000		CAD	324,750	19.02.01	CANNOT BE USED FOR PURCHASE OF FOOD ITEMS
CANADIAN - RC	200,000		CAD	216,500	19.02.01	HEALTH & CAPACITY BUILDING
CHILEAN - RC	11,000		USD	17,908	20.02.01	
CHILEAN - RC				3,797	31.03.2001	
CYPRUS - RC				5,270	14.02.01	
DANISH - RC	92,500		DKK	18,657	19.01.01	
DANISH -RC	185,000		DKK	38,110	15.02.01	
DANISH -RC	34,123		DKK	6,930	03.08.2001	
DANISH -RC	16,527		DKK	3,302	07.08.2001	

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DANISH - RC		4,204	DKK	858	12.09.2001	
FINNISH - RC		43,729	EUR	65,773	15.01.01	
FINNISH GOVT		159,778	EUR	245,802	02.03.01	
FRENCH - RC		11,171	EUR	16,524	21.02.2001	PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT & CONTROL
HONG KONG - RC				57,631	26.02.01	
ICELANDIC - RC		1,000,000	ISK	19,411	15.01.01	
IRANIAN - RC		20,000	USD	34,264	17.04.01	
IRISH - RC		20,000	IEP	38,190	16.01.01	
IRISH - GOVT		200,000	IEP	381,900	15.01.01	
IRISH - RC				136,710	20.03.01	
IRISH - RC				38,700	29.05.2001	
IRISH - PRIVATE DONORS		25,395	EUR	39,133	09.05.2001	
ITALIAN - RC		100,000,000	ITL	77,700	18.01.01	EMERGENCY SHELTER MATERIALS & FOOD
ITALIAN - PRIVATE DONORS				335	02.02.01	
JAPANESE - RC				37,000	16.01.01	
JAPANESE - GOVT		498,870	USD	812,160	16.02.01	TEMPORARY DWELLINGS (2'500 KITS)
JAPANESE - RC				142,000	16.02.01	COSTS OF DELEGATE TO BE CHARGED
JAPANESE - RC		347,933	USD	566,435	16.02.01	MOBILE COMMUNITY HEALTH BRIGADES PROGRAMME (3 BRIGADES/3 MONTHS)
KOREA, REPUBLIC - RC				30,000	17.01.01	
KUWAIT - RC		50,000	USD	83,950	28.02.01	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC				53,150	13.02.01	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC				42,650	17.04.01	HEALTH AND WATER
LIECHTENSTEIN - PRIVATE DONORS				15,000	27.02.01	
MALTESE - RC				29,725	16.02.01	
MALTESE - RC				7,682	18.05.2001	
MALTESE - RC				6,180	08.01.2002	
MONACO - RC		200,000	FRF	46,900	14.01.01	
MONACO - RC		78,715	FRF	18,309	23.07.2001	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		566,843	NLG	389,592	01.02.01	FOR PURCHASE OF HYGIENE KITS, INDUSTRIAL KITCHENS, BED KITS, MANAGEMENT / OPERATION SUPPORT
NETHERLANDS - GOVT/RC		75,056	NLG	51,586	01.03.01	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT/RC		20,556	NLG	13,797	16.01.2001	PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT & CONTROL
NETHERLANDS - RC		463,650	EUR	683,791	20.11.2001	
NEW ZEALAND - GOVT		100,000	NZD	71,770	16.01.01	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		36,439	NZD	25,285	12.04.2001	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		8,621	NZD	6,277	28.05.2001	
NORWEGIAN - RC		250,000	NOK	46,350	18.01.01	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT		2,060,000	NOK	385,410	24.01.01	
OPEC		200,000	USD	335,000	18.01.01	EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES
PHARMACIA & UPJOHN FOUNDATION		25,000	USD	40,700	29.01.01	RELIEF ITEMS
SHELL INTERNATIONAL		25,000	USD	40,700	24.01.01	
SINGAPORE - RC				23,000	22.01.01	
SINGAPORE - RC				2,918	14.02.01	

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DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SPANISH - PRIVATE DONORS				1,000	27.02.01	
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		600,000	SEK	104,580	15.01.01	
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		1,045,000	SEK	181,517	21.02.01	
SWEDISH - RC		502,895	SEK	87,353	19.04.01	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS				200	16.01.01	
SWISS - 10 PRIVATE DONORS				2,765	14.02.01	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS				300	26.02.01	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS				2,500	05.03.01	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS		679	USD	1,180	23.03.01	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONORS				1,500	15.02.2001	
TUNISIAN - RC		1,977	USD	3,338	19.04.2001	
TURKISH - RC				50,000	17.01.01	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES		10,000	AED	4,433	05.02.01	
UNHCR STAFF				4,248	19.02.01	
VENEZUELA - PRIVATE DONORS		36,518,000	VEB	85,087	15.02.01	
WHO STAFF				2,000	22.01.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS		415	USD	687	30.01.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS				5,315	22.02.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS				11,865	26.02.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS				5,928	08.03.01	
SUNDRY INCOME - PRIVATE DONORS				188	27.02.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS				2,318	20.03.01	
ONLINE DONATIONS				7,641	10.04.01	
PRIVATE DONORS		3,000	USD	4,974	13.03.001	
PRIVATE DONORS				2,059	23.05.2001	
WESTERN UNION CO.				41,400	27.09.2001	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				9,653,153	CHF	102.8%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
BRITISH - RC		7,487	GBP	18,044	27.02.01	MDPE PIPE, PUMPS, TAPS, SUCTION HOSE, TRANSPORTATION
ERICSSON		36,506	USD	59,432	15.01.01	SEE PMN FOR DETAILS
FINNISH - RC		6,500	EUR	10,000	15.01.01	FACT TEAM MEMBER COSTS
FRENCH - RC		223,430	EUR	343,725	21.02.01	160 TENTS 27 M2, 600 FAMILY TENTS 12M2
NETHERLANDS - GOVT/RC		411,122	NLG	286,997	16.01.01	EMERGENCY HEALTH KITS, GENERATORS, DISPENSARY TENTS, FAMILY TENTS, REINF. PLASTIC SHEETING, JERRY CANS, KITCHEN SETS
Australia	Delegate(s)			33,511		OB re TP
Canada	Delegate(s)			14,620		
Great Britain	Delegate(s)			24,641		
Finland	Delegate(s)			24,312		

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DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Spain	Delegate(s)			52,074		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				867,356	CHF	9.2%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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