

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

HAITI: FLOODS

Appeal No. MDRHT002
Operations Update 2
16 February 2007

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Operations Update no. 2; Period covered: 22 December 2006 to 4 February 2007; Revised Appeal target: CHF 418,500 (USD 342,444 or EUR 261,125); Appeal coverage: 96.2%; Outstanding needs: CHF 15,750 (USD 12,748 or EUR 9,703)

[\(click here to go directly to the attached Interim Financial Report\).](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 4 December 2006 for CHF 624,500 (USD 522,799 or EUR 392,633) for 4 months to assist 17,500 beneficiaries (3,500 beneficiary families).
- Appeal and corresponding budget revised on 21 December 2006 seeking CHF 418,500 (USD 342,444 or EUR 261,125) to assist 11,845 beneficiaries (2,369 beneficiary families) for 4 months; final report is therefore due on 4 July 2007
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 80,000 (USD 64,000 or EUR 50,315).

Operational Summary: At the end of November 2006, Grande-Anse, Nippes as well as the Southern, Western and North-Western regions of Haiti experienced severe flooding affecting some 4,040 families, destroying at least 317 homes and damaging a further 617. The Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS), supported by the Federation, is carrying out response activities, focusing on the distribution of essential non-food relief goods and implementation of water and sanitation activities. To date, the 2,369 target beneficiaries have received family kits, mosquito nets, blankets, jerry cans, buckets, mattresses and soap which are helping them to resume normal patterns of living. In addition, the HNRCS is supplying blankets, mosquito nets and cleaning products to two hospitals in Port-de-Paix and Jérémie which were damaged by the floods; conditions remain difficult for patients at these hospitals and needs are significant. The floods response operation is now focusing on water and sanitation activities in 39 of the worst-affected neighbourhoods in the North West and Grande Anse Departments. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has mobilized a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member specialized in water and sanitation to work with the HNRCS teams in the field; activities began at the end of January and will continue until early March. Although water has now mostly receded in the flooded areas, problems with sanitation are acute as gutters remain blocked with garbage and stagnant water still stands in some areas, heightening the risk of vector-borne disease. Water and sanitation activities will concentrate on clean-up initiatives and awareness-raising amongst the population. The HNRCS/Federation are working closely with the ICRC, Partner National Societies, the Civil Protection Department, UN agencies, in particular OCHA and UNICEF as well as with international NGOs working in Haiti including World Vision.

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

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- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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Background

As of 23 November 2006 Haiti experienced extreme weather in the regions of Grande-Anse and Nippes as well as in the Southern, Western and North-Western regions of the country. Particularly heavy rainfall fell between 23 and 28 November causing serious flooding in Grande-Anse, Nippes and the North West region, affecting some 4,040 families of which 325 families were displaced and obliged to move to temporary shelters in Jérémie, Bonbon, Abricots and Chansolme. The following areas were identified as the most affected by the floods:

- Grande-Anse: Jérémie, Abricots, Bonbon, Anse-du-Clerc, Moron, Roseau, Corail, Pestel, Beaumont.
- Nippes: Miragôane, Baradères, Arnaud, Anse-à-Veau, Plaisance.
- North West: Port-de-Paix, Jean-Rabel, Bord-de-Mer de Jean-Rabel, Mare Rouge, Môle Saint-Nicolas, Baie de Henne, Chansolme, Anse-à-Foleur.

The overall effects of the floods, as of 7 December, are as follows:

	Grande Anse	Nippes	North West	Total
Deaths	3	0	4	7
Missing persons	3	0	1	4
Injured persons	4	0	6	10
Affected families	2,000	240	1,800	4,040
Destroyed homes	142	0	175	317
Damaged homes	515	40	62	617
Damaged hospitals	1	0	1	2
Damaged water systems	4	0	4	8
Damaged schools	6	0	4	10

Source: OCHA SIT Report 12/12/2006

River levels have now returned to normal and, as a result, most affected families were able to return to their homes during the month of December. Nevertheless, damage to housing is considerable and it is estimated that 2,500 families (12,500 people) have suffered significant losses as a result of the floods. Stagnant waters have now mostly receded and the situation for those affected by the floods has improved considerably.



National media coverage at the time of the floods mainly focused on the local elections, whilst international headlines were dominated by major disasters in other geographical areas. As a result, there has been reduced media coverage for this emergency, which can be considered a *hidden disaster*. Nevertheless, a local newspaper, “Le Matin”, published an article on HNRCS distributions carried out in Grande Anse.

The drainage systems in the town of Port-de-Paix have been severely damaged by the floods

Operational developments

In the initial days of the emergency, the regional relief directors of the Haitian National Red Cross Society conducted needs assessments within the affected communities and coordinated joint activities with other humanitarian organizations and local authorities present in the affected area.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society intervened immediately to ensure urgent assistance to those affected by the floods including: first aid; transport of those wounded to hospitals; evacuation of families to shelters; assessment of needs.

Regional branches ensured continuous coordination of assessment activities in collaboration with the decentralized structures of the Civil Protection Department (DPC – Direction de la Protection Civile). Local and regional branches were able to dispatch reports to the disaster management department of the National Society headquarters in spite of communication constraints. In addition, branches took the following actions:

- Community awareness (with megaphones) in flooded areas promoting the consumption of boiled water.
- Evacuation and assistance of 325 people in the Gospel Church in Jérémie and 27 people in Abricots in close cooperation with the DPC.
- Follow up of the situation of patients in some hospitals (Jérémie)
- Support for cleaning activities in damaged hospitals, mainly the Saint Antoine Hospital
- Participation in all coordination meetings.

Over 30 “Relais Communautaires” (community volunteers trained by the National Society), eight National Intervention Teams (NITs) consisting of 14 members, as well as 20 members of local staff from the National Society – were mobilized to the North West and Grand-Anse regions to support the damage and needs assessments and relief activities. Beneficiary families have been selected based on the level of damage their property has sustained, paying particular attention to the elderly, single mothers, children, persons with disabilities, losses of belongings and/or the degree of difficulty for families to cope with and recover from the situation.

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

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

Objective 1: 2,369 of the most affected families (approximately 11,845 people) receive non-food items which help them recover rapidly from the effects of the floods

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

An initial distribution of non-food items took place between 10 and 14 December in the North West region with the participation of ten Red Cross volunteers. As a result, 309 families in Port-de-Paix, Saint Louis du Nord, Bassin Bleu, Anse-à-Foleur and Baie des Moustiques received non-food items consisting of family kits, blankets, mosquito nets, 15 litre buckets and jerry cans, in mid December 2006 (see table below).

Date	Place	Beneficiaries	Relief Items distributed
10.12.2006	Port-de-Paix	192 families	192 family kits 384 blankets 384 mosquito nets 192 15 litre buckets 92 jerry cans
13.12.2006	St Louis du Nord	30 families	30 family kits 60 blankets 60 mosquito nets 30 15 litre buckets 30 jerry cans
13.12.2006	Bassin Bleu	30 families	30 family kits 60 blankets 60 mosquito nets 30 15 litre buckets 30 jerry cans
14.12.2006	Anse à Foleur	30 families	30 family kits 60 blankets 60 mosquito nets 30 15 litre buckets 30 jerry cans
14.12.2006	Baie Moustiques	27 families	27 family kits 54 blankets 54 mosquito nets 27 15 litre buckets 27 jerry cans

Family kits are made up of the following items:

Articles	Quantity
Plates	5
Knives	5
Soup spoons	5
Tea spoons	5
Glasses	5
Buckets	1
Jerry cans	1
Box of Aquatabs	1
Sachet of soap powder	2

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Bar of washing soap	12
Toilet soap	5
Ladle	1
Kitchen knife	1

With regard to Grande-Anse, priority needs are for blankets, mosquito nets, mattresses and soap. These items were purchased and transported by sea in three separate shipments on 22 and 29 December and on 18 January. Distribution took place between 22 and 26 January 2007, as follows:

Date	Place	Beneficiaries	Distribution Point	Relief Items Distributed
22.01.2007	Jérémie	1,500 families	Jérémie : Local Red Cross branch	3,000 blankets 3,000 mosquito nets 500 mattresses 170 boxes of soap
24.01.2007	Abricots	300 families	Abricots Branch coordinators' premises	600 blankets 600 mosquito nets 100 mattresses 35 boxes of soap
25.01.2007	Bonbon	200 families	Bonbon Branch coordinators' premises	400 blankets 400 mosquito nets 80 mattresses 20 boxes of soap
26.01.07	Les Basses	60 families	Les Basses Community leader's premises	120 blankets 120 mosquito nets 20 mattresses 5 boxes of soap
Total		2,060		

Beneficiary families who received mattresses are those whose houses were seriously damaged or totally destroyed. Each family received 5 bars of soap for washing clothes.

World Vision donated non-food items, as follows, to the Haitian National Red Cross Society which were distributed by the National Society to 100 of the most affected vulnerable families.

Kitchen kits	100
Plastic sheeting	25 sheets
Woollen blankets	100
Jerry cans	250
Sheets	60
Purified water	300 bottles
Aquatab tablets	100 packets of 10
Trousers	1 box
Tennis shoes	4 boxes
T-shirts	3 boxes
Vests	1 box
Toilet paper	2 boxes
Sanitary towels	40 boxes

Impact:

Beneficiaries much appreciated the relief items received and each of the beneficiary families was much in need of the assistance provided. The distributions have helped beneficiaries to recover from the effects of the floods and to resume their daily lives. Each beneficiary family had also hoped to receive a mattress, however, further

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beneficiary selection took place based on families having lost mattresses together with other household belongings in the flood waters.

Constraints:

Distributions by HNRCS branches in Grande-Anse took place in January as a result of the delay in receiving funding for the Appeal, together with the need to ship goods by sea in three separate consignments given the volume and the weight of the goods dispatched.



In Port-de-Paix this home was abandoned because of the floods

Objective 2: Two hospitals affected by flooding, one in Jérémie and one in Port-de-Paix, benefit from non-food items which help them resume their activities by replenishing lost items and restoring appropriate sanitary conditions that were affected by the floods.

The Immaculée Conception Hospital in Port-de-Paix will be provided with 200 blankets, 200 mosquito nets, 12 mops, 12 brooms, 1 mop bucket and 16 gallons of disinfectant; these goods are currently warehoused in Port-au-Prince and will be transported shortly. The Saint Antoine Hospital in Jérémie was provided with 200 blankets, 200 mosquito nets and cleaning equipment and products: 12 mops, 12 brooms, 1 mop bucket and 16 gallons of disinfectant.

Impact:

During field visits, difficult conditions in the Immaculée Conception and Saint Antoine hospitals were reported with patients lying on the floor without mattresses or blankets. The Haitian National Red Cross Society has therefore assisted with the provision of some relief items to help patients in the hospitals.

Constraints:

The hospitals are in need of more relief items in order to ensure appropriate care of patients.

Water and Sanitation

More in-depth assessments carried out in the flooded regions indicate that sanitation activities are essential. The informal, marginalized and chaotic neighbourhoods that were affected lack basic sanitation planning and structure. In this insalubrious environment, homes, roads and gutters fill with mud and garbage. Today, water has now mostly receded in the affected areas and the majority of those affected have been able to clean their houses. Nevertheless, a number of houses have been abandoned after the floods and since they have not been cleaned, water remains standing. This represents a risk since it provides a breeding ground for mosquitoes. In addition, the gutters in front of houses remain full of garbage and stagnant water has gathered at the most low-lying points.

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Objective 1: The population of the departments of North West and Grande-Anse benefit from a basic sanitation programme consisting of the provision of cleaning materials and a hygiene promotion campaign in 39 affected neighbourhoods.

Once cleaning equipment consisting of wheelbarrows, spades, picks, forks, masks, gloves and boots has been dispatched to the flood-affected regions, the regional branches and a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member from the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) who is a water and sanitation expert will work in close collaboration with the communities, the authorities and local organizations in order to carry out sanitation activities. These will take place with the support of a number of volunteers who are being selected and trained; visits to the local authorities will be carried out and coordination ensured with the Ministry of Public Health and Population and public transportation authorities. Activities are taking place between the end of January and the beginning of March 2007.

Federation Coordination

Since the onset of the disaster, the Haiti Country Delegation has been in constant communication with the Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit and has received support in the definition of the intervention. A Disaster Management Delegate from PADRU was also mobilized to Haiti in the emergency phase of the operation, particularly with a view to contributing towards the revision of the initial Plan of Action.

The HNRCS continues to coordinate activities with the other actors involved in relief actions; in particular, the HNRCS and the Federation ensure constant close liaison with both Partner National Societies and the ICRC which, as the lead agency, holds responsibility for security issues.

The Civil Protection is ensuring coordination of the various Ministries and regularly shares information. The Ministry of the Interior has mobilized 1,300,000 gourdes (approximately CHF 34,120) from the governmental emergency funds to assist the affected population.

The OCHA office in Haiti is sharing information and ensuring the coordination of humanitarian interventions in support of the national Risk and Disaster Management System. Meetings with OCHA, the United Nations Development Programme and the Ministry of the Interior are taking place on a regular basis. As a result, the initial and revised HNRCS plans of action are based on information provided through these meetings in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Organizations involved in response to the floods emergency are the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, OCHA, the Haitian Department of Civil Protection, Initiative au Développement, CARE, OXFAM and Caritas. UNICEF has made an in-kind donation to the Federation's Appeal of hygiene kits, kitchen kits, blankets, jerry cans and aquatabs. In addition, World Vision has made an in-kind donation with an estimated value of USD 40,000.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Relief activities are being carried out based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the level of vulnerability of those affected with particular attention paid to the elderly, single mothers, children, persons with disabilities, those who sustained losses of belongings and/or the degree of difficulty for families to cope with and recover from the situation.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.

National Society Capacity Building

Red Cross staff and volunteers continue to gain experience in damage and needs assessment and in the organization of distributions. The Water and Sanitation Regional Intervention team member deployed to Haiti will work in cooperation with Red Cross volunteers from the local branches involved in the response activities and, in particular, with the disaster management coordinator. Contacts will be ensured with civil society, local organizations and communities in order to put in place a strategy for water and sanitation activities and a plan of action. Work will take place over 3 days in each of the targeted areas. The logistics department and volunteers from Headquarters will ensure the purchase and transport of sanitation equipment to the affected areas.

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Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The Federation is issuing regular reports on the operation on its web site www.ifrc.org.

An article was published in the « Le Matin » newspaper focusing on the HNRCS distributions in Grande-Anse. The HNRCS/Federation are seeking to boost media interest in the response to the floods.

[Interim Financial Report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Appeal	MDRHT002
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		418,500				418,500
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief</i>		1,000				1,000
C1. Cash contributions		1,000				1,000
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>Italian DREF</i>		243,000				243,000
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		14,125				14,125
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>		16,200				16,200
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>		64,800				64,800
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>		44,875				44,875
<i>United Arab Emirates Red Crescent So</i>		18,750				18,750
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		401,750				401,750
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		402,750				402,750
D. Total Funding = B + C		402,750				402,750

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		402,750				402,750
E. Expenditure		-115,278				-115,278
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		287,472				287,472

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Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Appeal	MDRHT002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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)		418,500					418,500	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	107,000		92,589			92,589	14,411	
Water & Sanitation	56,000						56,000	
Utensils & Tools	35,000						35,000	
Other Supplies & Services	31,500		3,590			3,590	27,910	
Total Supplies	229,500		96,179			96,179	133,321	
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	15,500						15,500	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	13,000		547			547	12,453	
Total Transport & Storage	28,500		547			547	27,953	
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	44,000						44,000	
Delegate Benefits			825			825	-825	
Regionally Deployed Staff	4,500						4,500	
National Staff	4,000		4,016			4,016	-16	
National Society Staff	30,500		1,909			1,909	28,591	
Total Personnel Expenditures	83,000		6,750			6,750	76,250	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	8,000						8,000	
Total Workshops & Training	8,000						8,000	
General Expenditure								
Travel	17,000		5,915			5,915	11,085	
Information & Public Relation	15,500		22			22	15,478	
Office Costs	6,298		1,463			1,463	4,834	
Communications	3,500						3,500	
Total General Expenditure	42,298		7,400			7,400	34,897	
Program Support								
Program Support	27,203		4,401			4,401	22,801	
Total Program Support	27,203		4,401			4,401	22,801	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	418,500		115,278			115,278	303,222	
VARIANCE (C - D)			303,222			303,222		

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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Appeal	MDRHT002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Project Details

Project	Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Budget	Variance
		A	B	C	A + B + C	D	D - C
Disaster Management							
PHT009	Floods GranordOuest	0	402,750	-115,278	287,472	418,500	303,222
Sub-Total Disaster Management		0	402,750	-115,278	287,472	418,500	303,222
Total	HAITI - FLOODS	0	402,750	-115,278	287,472	418,500	303,222