

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central America: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDR43004
Glide No. FL-2008-000198-HND, NIC,
CRI, SLV, BLZ, GTM
Operations Update n° 2
30 December 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update:
31 October to 30 December 2008.

Appeal target: CHF 1,513,927 CHF (USD 1,388,924 or EUR 970,466).

Appeal coverage: 85%;

[<Click here to view the interim financial report or here to view contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 24 October, 2008 for 1,110,911 CHF (USD 1,015,550 or EUR 707,586); for nine months to assist 30,000 beneficiaries.
- CHF 271,000 (USD 247,715 or EUR 172,611) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 20 October 2008 to support the National Societies.
- CHF 119,300 (USD 109,049 or EUR 75,987) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 28 October to support the National Society of Belize in delivering immediate assistance to some 2,000 beneficiaries.
- On 31 October, 2008 the budget was revised to **CHF 1,513,927 CHF (USD 1,388,924 or EUR 970,466)** for nine months to reach 32,000 beneficiaries.



A Honduran Red Cross volunteer performing assessments in the department of Cortes.
Source: Honduran Red Cross

Summary: Throughout the months of October, November and December, 2008, heavy rainfall has affected Central America, especially **Belize, Guatemala, Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, causing extensive flooding. Approximately 330,000 people were affected in these countries. Houses and public infrastructure were damaged and crops were lost. This Operations Update no.2 reflects updated information on the relief activities accomplished by the National Societies of these countries. Belize, which was included in this appeal on 31 October, had by then received DREF funds in order to jump start relief distributions. The main focus of the National Societies of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua is to support a timely and appropriate response, through the delivery of essential emergency relief items, and complete damage and needs assessments for early recovery activities (shelter, water and sanitation and other sectors).

This operation is expected to be implemented over 9 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 July, 2009; a Final Report will be made available by 30 October 2009 (three months after the end of the operation).

The situation

The countries of Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador were affected by heavy rains as a result of Tropical Depression number 16 starting on 16 October 2008.

Tropical Depression 16 (TD16) soaked **Belize** with constant rain, overflowing several rivers and affecting many villages in Cayo, Orange Walk, Stann Creek, Belize and Corozal districts. Several of these districts (Orange Walk and Corozal) had already suffered floods due to Tropical Storm Arthur 4 months earlier in June 2008. Several sections of Cayo district have been declared disaster area. Approximately 24 communities were severely impacted affecting some 38,000 people. Temporary emergency shelters were opened, housing 400 evacuated people. Livelihoods in farming, commerce and tourism have been affected by flooding, but mainly due to interruptions in transportation. Many of the people affected are farmers whose main livelihood is agriculture. Due to the floods farmers have lost their corn, rice, beans and papaya crops among others. They may thus require food assistance. The Emergency Committees in the rest of the affected districts have been responding to the emergency by evacuating people and distributing emergency relief items.



Destroyed plantain crops in the department of Cortes, Honduras.
Source: Honduran Red Cross

In **Honduras**, torrential rains across the entire territory, especially in the departments of Choluteca, Valle, and Cortés, caused flash floods and mudslides, damaging or destroying bridges, roads, crops and forcing people out of their homes. TD16 caused rivers to overflow flooding communities settled along the rivers including the municipalities of Potrerillos, Pimienta and Villanueva in the department of Cortés and El Progreso in the department of Yoro. Similar conditions were experienced when hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998.

Additional floods were generated by the programmed discharges of water in the main dam in the department of Cortés. A national red alert was declared by the Permanent Contingency Commission (Comision Permanente de Contingencias -

COPECO) for the municipalities of Corquín and Cucuyagua in the Copán province, Belén, Gualcho in Ocotepeque and the province of Cortés.

Over 279,972 people were affected by the floods. In addition, 12,429 houses sustained damages while 250 were completely destroyed in the department of Cortés. 1,660 hectares including maize, palm tree, plantain, and sugar cane crops in the agricultural sector were affected. Latest data indicated 34 people died and 16 remain missing.

In **Guatemala**, the government declared a state of emergency in 27 municipalities in El Petén and Quiché located along rivers and lowlands of the country. The floods claimed the lives of four people and affected over 24,332 people. According to the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres - CONRED) the heavy rain affected approximately 183 communities in the northern and north-eastern territories in the departments of Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Chimaltenango, Izabal, Petén, Quiché and El Progreso.

Some communities were isolated, while more than 5,000 houses and 114 roads were destroyed or damaged. The most affected department is El Petén. However, Alta Verapaz is reporting the highest number of affected persons (13,400), followed by Izabal (some 13,000 affected). Statistics obtained by CONRED describe the following damages:

Department	Affected communities	Type of event
Alta Verapaz	13	Floods
Baja Verapaz	1	Landslide
Chimaltenango	2	Landslide
Izabal	70	Floods
Petén	90	Floods
Quiché	6	Landslides and floods
El Progreso	1	Landslide
TOTAL	183	

A large number of crops were lost. CONRED mobilized immediate response teams into various affected municipalities and was in charge of coordinating the response. The President of the country allocated USD 3,000,000 for the mayors and governors of the affected areas. 35 temporary shelters were opened and are being managed by local authorities in coordination with the Guatemalan Red Cross local branches in Petén, Puerto Barrios, Santo Tomás de Castilla and Estor.

In **Nicaragua**, the intense rain left four people dead and 10,633 people affected in eight departments, including Chinandega, Madriz, Estelí, León, Managua, Granada and Rivas. 22 emergency shelters were opened, housing approximately 1,500 people, while the rest are staying with friends and family. The department of Chinandega, where 95% of its income comes from agricultural activities, lost all its crops due to the floods. The members of the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Attention (Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres - SINAPRED) are coordinating all rehabilitation activities in their region.

Coordination and partnerships

The International Federation is regularly coordinating relief activities through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), the Regional Representations for Central America and Mexico in Panama and the Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago with its teams present in all the affected countries at the beginning of the emergency. The National Societies also coordinated relief activities in their respective countries with governmental and non-governmental organizations and Partner National Societies (PNS).

The **Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS)** is working closely with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), the Ministry of Human Development and Partner National Societies (PNS) present in the field (Norwegian Red Cross). The United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) made contact with the Belize Red Cross to offer support.

In Honduras, COPECO and the Municipality Emergency Committee (Comite de Desarrollo Municipal - CODEM) were coordinating relief actions with the **Honduran Red Cross (HRC)**. PNS including the Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross, as well as other humanitarian agencies were cooperating with the HRC. The Japanese Red Cross provided hygiene kits for 1,000 families. The HRC, in cooperation with the Swiss Red Cross, delivered humanitarian aid to 1,600 families. Thanks to the bilateral contributions of the German Red Cross and the United National Development Program (UNDP), 1,000 families will receive kitchen and hygiene kits. Medical Global financially supported the HRC's plan of action and is operating 13 water purification plants to assist the people in the departments of Yoro and Colon. Additionally, the governments of Italy, Spain and the United States of America have generously cooperated to this operation. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) sent a United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team to the country. The International Federation and HRC participated in the UN cooperation meeting, ECHO partner meeting and international NGO meeting. An International Federation shelter delegate is currently in the country participating in the shelter sector cluster.

In Guatemala, CONRED along with other humanitarian actors coordinated initial relief actions and evaluated the needs with the **Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC)**, the Ministry of National Defense, the Armed Forces Humanitarian Rescue Unit, the National Police, and municipal fire department among other governmental agencies. The Norwegian Red Cross provided financial support for the mobilization of National Intervention Team (NIT) members. American Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross provided technical and financial support to initial relief actions. The government of France provided funds to be used by United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) in the implementation of a water, sanitation and hygiene program to provide safe water to the communities most affected by the floods. The government of Italy provided financial

assistance in the procurement of food items. Once the emergency concludes, CONRED will manage the water purification plants. The World Food Programme (WFP) distributed 68.7 metric tons of food to 18,000 affected people for ten days.

The **Nicaraguan Red Cross** continues to work with PNS present in the country including Canadian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. The government of Italy, American Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross also provided financial assistance in the procurement of food items. NRC is also working in coordination with SINAPRED and other humanitarian agencies present in the field, including UNICEF.

National Society Capacity Building

A pre-hurricane meeting took place in Panama in May of 2007, where countries prone to hurricanes – including Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua – participated actively in the development of a Contingency Plan for the region. This helped in exploring and further developing available disaster preparedness tools and response strategies to strengthen the region in order to rapidly respond when disaster strikes. In the pre-hurricane meeting that took place in Panama in May of 2008 the lessons learnt from the emergencies encountered were discussed and adapted accordingly in the Contingency Plan for the Region.

The **Belize Red Cross (BRC)**, **Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC)**, the **Honduran Red Cross (HRC)** and the **Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC)** have ample experience in disaster response, as hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural hazards often affect these countries. NIT trainings in Guatemala and Honduras have increased in number and have come to strengthen the capacities of the National Societies, especially those of their volunteers. The GRC has offered several risk reduction workshops for its volunteers as well as for those affected. The experience has had a positive impact on the participating branches in all three countries and their volunteers.

All National Societies affected by TD16 were well prepared with pre-positioned stocks, radio networks both within country and between National Societies in the region, trained personnel and pre and post emergency coordination meetings. All National Societies are part of the National Emergency Operations Centres in their countries and are assigned specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

The Plan of Action will seek to strengthen this response capacity of the four National Societies. As a consequence, activities such as the participation of the four National Societies in the 2008 pre-hurricane meeting organized by PADRU, and in Regional Logistic Intervention Team trainings will be funded with funds that are available through the appeal. In addition, a programme to restore the storage capacity of the NRC will be implemented.

Furthermore, in the long run the Plan of Action will improve the capacity of the National Societies to respond to the needs of affected communities concerning their livelihoods.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The **Belize Red Cross Society (BRCS)** conducted damage and needs assessments since the beginning of the emergency in all the affected areas of the country. BRCS also provided hot meals for people in shelters. National Intervention Team (NIT) members specialized in Water and Sanitation and first aid responded swiftly to the emergency to attend injured people. The NIT members also installed one emergency water plant and relocated one portable water unit to Cayo from Belize City. This portable water unit will be providing water for smaller villages not reached by the emergency water plant. Volunteers in southern Belize, including NITs and CDRTs assisted with evacuations from affected areas. More than 30 NIT members were deployed to the Cayo area to perform initial assessments and deliver supplies.

BRCS elaborated a preliminary plan of action for 400 families that includes distribution of food and non food items.

In the beginning of the emergency the **Honduran Red Cross (HRC)** activated its NIT members. Volunteers provided 5,600 families with blankets and food items to the people housed in temporary shelters thanks to a television network that conducted a nation-wide relief campaign. The HRC activated regional warehouses and mobilized food items to distribution points. The HRC elaborated a plan of action that included the distribution of food and non-food items and early recovery and capacity building activities for more than 14,000 families. The mission of the International Federation is to assist 3,000 families with food and non-food items. Through the Management Office for Disasters and Emergencies (Oficina para la Administración de Desastres y Emergencias - OPADE), the HRC conducted initial assessments and identified the most affected communities, and the number of targeted beneficiary families. These assessments concluded that the housing sector in the department of Cortés was deeply affected. The Federation's PADRU deployed two disaster management delegates, and a

Regional Intervention Team (RIT) specialized in Information to assist in carrying out initial assessments, the elaboration of a plan of action and the distributions of relief items. Partner National Societies (PNS) that were in the country have ended their mission. The HRC has a detailed proposal on early recovery activities, shelter, water and sanitation and rehabilitation of livelihoods that will be reviewed by the International Federation.

The **Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC)** with the support of the Norwegian Red Cross activated its NIT since the beginning of the emergency and performed evacuation activities and damage and need assessments in the affected areas. The GRC provided first aid care, managed temporary shelters by performing census and need assessments. NIT members specialized in water and sanitation, along with equipment were deployed to the areas in most need (department of Petén and Izabal). GRC volunteers from several local branches in the affected areas have distributed 1,500 family kits supplied by the National Disaster Secretary. A preliminary plan of action will aim to deliver food and non-food assistance to 2,000 families. Six Damage and Need Assessments (DANA) teams were deployed to the department of Quiché to perform damage evaluations in 14 communities. One general RIT was deployed by PADRU from 24 October to 7 November to Guatemala, and provided assistance to the operation.

The **Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC)** conducted and finished the assessments in the affected areas in coordination with members of SINAPRED. NRC provided an initial plan of action (PoA) that included provisions of food items and non-food items for 1,000 families. A water and sanitation officer finished the mission in the country to assist the National Society in implementing cleaning activities for 250 wells.

Progress towards objectives

This operations update shows relief distribution items sent by the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) to some of the affected countries and distribution activities performed to date.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 6,701 families (3,000 families in Honduras, 2,000 families in Guatemala, 1,000 families in Nicaragua and 701 families in Belize) will benefit from the provision of essential food items and non-food items to recover from the effects of the emergency. Procurement will also replenish HRC, GRC and BRCS relief stocks (see table below), therefore strengthening and re-establishing their response capacity for future relief operations.	
Expected results	Activities planned
6,400 families will receive essential relief items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with public institutions. • Verification and census of the most affected population. • Purchase of food items. • Purchase of non-food items by Regional Logistics Unit (RLU). • Transport, customs and logistics arranged by RLU. • Distribution of food and non-food items. • Monitoring and evaluation.

After assessments, it has been determined that a total of **6,701 families** will benefit from the distributions of food and non-food items.

Progress:

Belize

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) sent by truck the following items:

- 810 Light blankets
- 400 Hygiene kits
- 900 Jerry cans
- 1,490 Mosquito nets

Once the assessments were completed by the BRCS, the number of beneficiary families was increased from 400 to 701 families. The beneficiaries received the relief items sent by the RLU (listed above) as well as buckets and food parcels in Cayo district, Belize River Valley and Orange Walk. This objective has therefore been completed and a total of 701 families have benefited from the distribution of food parcels and non-food items.

Honduras

The Regional Logistics Unit is ready to dispatch the last truck with humanitarian aid with non-food-items (NFI) for 1,000 families (1 hygiene kit, 1 kitchen kit, 2 mosquito nets and 2 jerry cans per family).

The Honduran Red Cross will receive 3,000 NFI and has begun the procedures for the procurement of 3,000 complimentary food parcels. To date, 1,000 families have received complimentary food parcels and 2,000 families have received NFI. The following chart demonstrates the departments and quantities distributed:

Department	Food Parcels	Kitchen Kits	Hygiene kits
Choluteca	980	980	980
Valle	20	20	20
Cortés		600	600
El Paraiso		400	400
Total	1,000	2,000	2,000

Guatemala

Each of the 2,000 families in Guatemala will receive a food parcel, a hygiene kit, three mosquito nets and two jerry cans. Initially, one kitchen kit was also going to be distributed per family; however, the GRC with the advice of the International Federation delegate decided not to distribute kitchen kits and instead use those funds for early recovery due to low appeal coverage. To date, the GRC has identified and selected the beneficiary families and has distributed 1,500 hygiene kits in the department of Petén, Itzabal and Quiché.

Food parcels will contain:

Food Parcel	
Item	Quantities
Corn flour	30 lbs.
Beans	30 lbs.
Rice	20 lbs.
Cooking Oil	1 gallon
Salt	2 lbs.
Sugar	5 lbs.
Maize and cottonseed flour	5 lbs.
* Food parcel for a family of 5 members for 30 days	

Hygiene kits will contain the following items:

Hygiene kit*	
Item	Quantities
Bath soap, 125 grams	5 units
Adult shampoo, 250 ml.	2 units
Toothbrush	5 units
Tooth paste, 130 grams	5 units
Toilet paper, double sheet, roll	12 units
Feminine pads, 10 units box	3 units
Cotton towels 70x30 Cms.	5 units
Disposable razors	5 units
Deodorant	2 units
Comb for women	2 units
Comb for men	1 unit
*Kit for a family of 5 members for 30 days	

Nicaragua

Each of the 1,000 families in Nicaragua will receive a food parcel (contents including rice, beans, cooking oil, corn, salt), three blankets and two plastic buckets.

The Nicaraguan Red Cross has finished the procurement of 1,000 complimentary food parcels, 3,000 blankets and 2,000 plastic buckets. In the department of Chinandega, the first 500 families have received the food and non-food items. The distribution for the remaining 500 families is scheduled for the upcoming weeks.

The following table shows the relief items distributed up to date to 500 families in the communities in the department of **Chinandega**:

Communities	Food Parcels	Plastic buckets	Blankets
Mata Palo	42	84	126
Cepas	30	60	90
Huertas	32	64	96
Birmania	19	38	57
Aquezpal apa	82	164	246
Jicote	113	226	339
Platanal	97	194	291
El Porvenir	85	170	255
Total	500	1,000	1,500

Water and Sanitation

Objective: The water and sanitation needs of the target population identified in the assessments are met with an appropriate planned programme. This plan may include an initial provision of clean drinking water to address emergency needs (e.g. ensure safe water supply by cleaning wells in Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras) and support for hygiene promotion and improved sanitation. This will be finalised following the findings of the current assessment.

Expected results	Activities planned
<p>250 families will benefit from increased hygiene promotion and improved sanitation.</p> <p>250 families will benefit from the supply of safe water, through well-cleaning activities in all three countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Cleaning and rehabilitating of 250 family wells, conducted by team consists of people specialized in water and sanitation and will use special equipment and chemical products. • Delivery of potable water to the affected families using cisterns. • Distribute relief supplies (jerry cans and mosquito's nets) and control supply movements • Conduct information sessions on best hygiene practices to beneficiary families. • Conduct a workshop for Red Cross volunteers focusing on the training of water well restoration after a flood emergency and dealing with safe water.

Progress

Honduras

Thanks to international support, the HRC is carrying out water and sanitation activities in the department of Yoro, and Colon not included in this objective. Please refer to the Coordination and Partnership section above for further information.

Guatemala

Water and sanitation activities in Guatemala are being covered by other partners in country.

On November 2008, the GRC volunteers specializing in water and sanitation started to clean 200 wells in the departments of Izabal, Petén and Quiché thanks to the technical and financial support of the Norwegian Red Cross.

Nicaragua

A Nicaraguan Red Cross technician has begun the cleaning and rehabilitation of 250 family wells in the department of Chinandega. The procurement of mosquito nets was cancelled, since the latest assessments in the field concluded that the land had dried out and there is no longer risk of water borne diseases. However, hygiene information activities will be carried out shortly.

Shelter

Objective: The shelter needs of the target population in Belize, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras identified in the assessments are met with an appropriate planned programme. This plan may include an initial distribution of shelter kits to address emergency needs and a more tailored response to address medium and longer-term needs. Pre positioning of shelter kits for HRC relief stocks may be considered to increase their response capacity for future shelter operations

Expected results	Activities planned
400 families (Belize) will have adequate shelter assisting them to return to their daily lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Identification of communities and specific beneficiaries coordinating with local government authorities. • Procurement of materials (tarpaulins) for repairing of damaged houses and setting up of temporary shelters. • Distribute supplies and control supply movements.

Progress

Assessments have been completed in **Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua** and **Guatemala** and the activities planned within this objective will no longer be necessary. Since the damages sustained in these countries were not severe the governments were able to provide assistance.

Early Recovery

Objective: Early recovery needs will be assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.

Livelihoods of most of the affected families were damaged or destroyed. These include damage to orchards, family livestock and small-scale family businesses. This will lead to increased needs in the short and medium-term.

Progress:

Belize: The Belize Red Cross Society has focused its efforts on providing relief to the most affected families. After early recovery needs assessments are complete, implementation of activities for this objective will begin in January 2009.

Honduras.

A group of experts including a RIT member, a food security expert, a psychosocial support expert, a Damage and Needs Assessment (DANA) expert with experience in shelter, a Water and Sanitation specialist and experienced volunteers evaluated the communities in the departments of Cortés and Yoro. During the relief phase the group evaluated the municipalities of Potrerillos, Pimienta and Villanueva in Cortés and the municipality of El Progreso in the department of Yoro and completed a report identifying the needs in the affected areas: livelihoods (farm animals and orchards), psychosocial support and water and sanitation.

Guatemala

Many families in the affected communities lost their livelihoods. Agricultural micro-projects will be identified between the trained personnel in the local branches in Puerto Barrios, El Estor, Santo Tomas (department of Izabal), Cobán (department of Alta Verapaz) and Petén.

Nicaragua

Families in the affected areas lost their orchards and livestock. Once, the relief objective is completed, activities involved within this objective aimed at restoring people's livelihoods will be carried out in January 2009.

National Society Capacity Building	
Objective: The capacity of the National Red Cross Societies and their local branches will be strengthened.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The National Red Cross Societies and their local branches will be better prepared for future disaster response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will receive visibility and relief equipment according to established standards. • Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office • Procurement materials for repairing of damaged vehicle. • Procurement motor boat for relief activities (Guatemala and Honduras) • Conducting a workshop for Red Cross volunteers focusing on the training of disaster preparedness, food security, livelihoods and risk reduction.

Progress

Nicaragua

Procurement for visibility material, relief equipment, materials for repairing a damaged vehicle and radio antenna has begun. Also, in February 2009 the NRC has scheduled training for at least 20 NRC volunteers in food security.

Honduras

The HRC has scheduled a workshop for at least 20 HRC volunteers in food security and risk reduction activities in the next months. The procurement process for visibility materials and relief equipment for volunteers has also begun.

Guatemala

The local branches in Puerto Barrios, El Estor, Santo Tomas en Izabal, Petén and Cobán in Alta Verapaz will be fully equipped with volunteer equipment, office equipment and repairing materials for buildings and vehicles. The local branch in Petén will receive a motor boat to be used in future rescue operations.

Belize

To date, Belize Red Cross Society has conducted Psychosocial Support (PSP) camps in Calla Creek, Cayo (100 children) Orange Walk (20 children in shelters). BRCS volunteers trained in PSP conducted the camps, consisting of social activities with children such as games, readings and drawings. Similar camps are being planned to be carried out in Douglas, Orange Walk with at least 100 children) and in Belize River Valley with 150 children.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for advocacy, maintaining the profile of the emergency operation and for fundraising. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promoting greater quality, accountability, and transparency. The communications activities covered by this appeal are aimed at supporting the National Societies to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support effective operations. These activities will include training, capacity building, as well as material support and are closely coordinated with the Communications Department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

To date, there have already been over 15 publications in several different kinds of media, including television, radio and newspaper and the National Societies will work to maintain a media focus on this emergency response. The Honduran Red Cross conducted a nationwide press conference jointly with the International Federation and PADRU trained volunteers in information management.

How we work

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

(NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Panama:** Ariel Kestens, Head of PADRU; email: ariel.kestens@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082.
- **In Panama:** Michele Detomaso, Program Liaison Coordinator, Pan American Disaster Response Unit; email: michele.detomaso@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082.
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- **In Trinidad and Tobago:** Thorfida Charles-Rampersad, Acting Representative of the Regional Representation Office; email thorfida.charlesrampersad@ifrc.org; phone (868) 789 9493; fax: (868) 627 9627.
- **In Panama:** Jorge Asprilla, Acting Representative of the Regional Representation Office; email: jorge.asprilla@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1811.
- **In Panama:** Maria Alcazar or Jane Grimshaw, Resource Mobilization Unit, Americas Zone; e-mail: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org or jane.grimshaw@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0254; fax: (507) 317 1304, mobile: (507) 6674 1582.
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; e-mail: pablo.medina@ifrc.org; phone: (41) 22 730 4300.

[<Interim financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43004 - Central American- Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/10-2008/11
Budget Timeframe	2008/10-2009/07
Appeal	MDR43004
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,513,927					1,513,927
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	115,929					115,929
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	48,403					48,403
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	44,444					44,444
<i>Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund</i>	314,000					314,000
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>	150,761					150,761
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	75,004					75,004
C1. Cash contributions	748,541					748,541
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	92,713					92,713
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	48,771					48,771
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	141,484					141,484
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	390,300					390,300
C5. Other Income	390,300					390,300
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	1,280,325					1,280,325
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,280,325					1,280,325
Appeal Coverage	85%					85%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	1,280,325					1,280,325
E. Expenditure	-293,946					-293,946
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	986,379					986,379

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR43004 - Central American- Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/10-2008/11
Budget Timeframe	2008/10-2009/07
Appeal	MDR43004
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		1,513,927					1,513,927	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	6,000							6,000
Clothing & textiles	103,860							103,860
Food	423,680							423,680
Water & Sanitation	16,500							16,500
Utensils & Tools	240,550							240,550
Other Supplies & Services	188,700							188,700
Total Supplies	979,290							979,290
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	6,600							6,600
Others Machinery & Equipment	24,000							24,000
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	30,600							30,600
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,500							1,500
Distribution & Monitoring	36,000	9,282				9,282		26,718
Transport & Vehicle Costs	55,000	61				61		54,939
Total Transport & Storage	92,500	9,343				9,343		83,157
Personnel								
International Staff	27,000							27,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	19,800	3,077				3,077		16,723
National Society Staff	59,400	324				324		59,076
Consultants	12,000							12,000
Total Personnel	118,200	3,401				3,401		114,799
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	65,002							65,002
Total Workshops & Training	65,002							65,002
General Expenditure								
Travel	36,500	8,943				8,943		27,557
Information & Public Relation	13,000	2				2		12,998
Office Costs	15,300							15,300
Communications	27,900	18				18		27,882
Financial Charges	11,880	-9,495				-9,495		21,375
Other General Expenses	5,850							5,850
Total General Expenditure	110,430	-531				-531		110,961
Programme Support								
Program Support	98,405	19,038				19,038		79,368
Total Programme Support	98,405	19,038				19,038		79,368
Services								
Services & Recoveries	19,500	1,060				1,060		18,440
Total Services	19,500	1,060				1,060		18,440
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		261,635				261,635		-261,635
Total Operational Provisions		261,635				261,635		-261,635
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,513,927	293,946				293,946		1,219,981
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,219,981				1,219,981		