

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

CARIBBEAN: HURRICANE IVAN

14 October 2004

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 181 countries.

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Appeal No. 21/2004; Operations Update no. 09; Period covered: 29 September - 11 October, 2004; Appeal coverage: 74.3 %; ([click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website](#)).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 10 September 2004 for CHF 1,752,697 (USD 1,389,560 or EUR 1,137,899) for 6 months to assist 10,000 beneficiaries (2,000 families).
- Revised on 15 September 2004 for CHF 6,033,000 (USD 4,764,410 or EUR 3,910,502) for 6 months to assist 85,000 beneficiaries (17,000 families) in Grenada, Jamaica, the Cayman Islands and Cuba.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 300,000.

Given the developing nature of this disaster, the preliminary revised appeal will be readjusted to respond to the needs from the passage of Hurricane Ivan in the Caribbean, in accordance with the results of on-going assessments. The Federation's approach to this operation and the strategy outlined in the appeal are intended to be flexible; donors are encouraged to provide timely support, with minimum earmarking.

Outstanding needs : CHF 1,552,752

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Caribbean Annual Appeal (Appeal 01.52/2004), Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) Annual Appeal (Appeal 01.51/2004)

Operational Summary: The relief operation in Grenada is proceeding according to the plan of action and focuses on emergency relief distribution and water and sanitation. Two-thirds of the country's population (11,000 families in 5 parishes) have been reached through the emergency operation and have been provided with food, water and plastic sheeting. Two water bladders were provided to the National Water and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA), which are supplying water to 3,000 people. Distributions of food and non-food items are coming to an end, and the next phase of the operation, which will include the provision of roofing materials to identified communities, will start following the implementation of logistics procedures for assessment, purchasing and distribution. Psychosocial support to communities will be based on an integrated approach agreed upon with all relevant stakeholders, including the government, the UN and local NGOs. In Jamaica, the operation is being carried out according to plan and is targeting the most affected communities with ongoing food and non food distributions, water purification activities and preventive health campaigns. These operations are being carried out by the network of Red Cross volunteers, with the support of Federation personnel from the region and Geneva. Distributions of tarpaulins and plastic sheeting are also underway, which are enabling people to return to their homes and are protecting beneficiaries and their homes from rains. The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross has finalized the distribution of relief items and is anticipating further activities to provide galvanized roofing to 1,000 of the most vulnerable families and individuals in the country. These beneficiaries will be selected based on assessments being carried out by the Department of Children and Family Services.

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Background

Hurricane Ivan, the most powerful hurricane to hit the Caribbean in ten years, moved through the region for more than a week, damaging homes, buildings and infrastructure, and causing at least 30 deaths thus far. The storm originated in the south eastern Caribbean where it gradually gathered in strength before moving towards populated land. Ivan was a category 3 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale when it passed by **Barbados**, **St. Lucia**, **St. Vincent and the Grenadines**, and **Trinidad and Tobago** on Tuesday, 7 September, killing one person in Tobago and one in Barbados. In the Grenadines, the islands of Carriacou, Palm Island and Petit Martinique experienced widespread damage. Populations in low lying coastal areas of Tobago were evacuated to shelters and over 560 people were accommodated in seven shelters on the island on Tuesday, 7 September; most schools and businesses were closed on both Trinidad and Tobago. The storm also damaged hundreds of homes and cut off utilities.

Ivan then strengthened into a category 4 hurricane as it hit **Grenada** on Tuesday evening, bringing sustained winds of 220 kilometres per hour. Several hundred people from low-lying areas of Saint George's, the Grenadian capital, were evacuated in anticipation of potential flooding. At least 39 people died and approximately 90 percent of the country's homes sustained damage. Water, electricity and telephone services were all cut off. Approximately 60,000 people are in need of assistance and there are approximately 5 thousand people accommodated in 145 official and ad hoc shelters. The hurricane caused structural damage to nearly every major building in the Grenadian capital of Saint George's, including the island's emergency operations centre, prime minister's residence, several schools, the main hospital and a nearby prison. Also among the damaged buildings was the Grenada Red Cross Society headquarters. Given the situation of chaos following the hurricane strike, were major problems of looting. In response, a dusk-to-dawn curfew was put into effect and the Regional Security System was brought in to support local law enforcement authorities.

Ivan flooded parts of northern **Venezuela** as it moved northwest through the Caribbean Sea, killing at least one person. In addition, there are reports that four youths in the **Dominican Republic** were swept away by a giant wave Thursday, although the storm was still around 300 kilometres away at the time. In **Haiti**, temporary shelters were set up in Nippes and ten houses were damaged in the North West Department. In the South Department, 830 people were evacuated as a result of flooding from rivers in spate and temporary shelters set up for 1,600 persons in five communes. The Haitian National Red Cross Society distributed hygiene kits to those evacuated.

Jamaica also sustained serious damages on Saturday, 11 September as a result of Hurricane Ivan, although the storm did not make direct landfall. The country was pounded with winds nearing 250 kilometres per hour, heavy rains and tidal surges, and at least 15 people were killed. There was extensive damage to roofs and roads, and

downed trees and utility poles made several roads impassable. There were also reports of numerous landslides across the country. Electricity and water services were shut off pending further evaluations of the damages. Officials had urged 500,000 people to evacuate high-risk areas, but many residents chose to stay because of fears of looting.

The hurricane strengthened into a category 5 storm as it moved away from Jamaica, but then weakened again slightly to a category 4 storm before it began battering the *Cayman Islands* on Sunday, causing one death. The eye of the storm did not make direct landfall in the islands, but brought winds of 240 kilometres per hour. Heavy rains and winds continued throughout the day on Sunday and into the night, flooding parts of low-lying Grand Cayman Island. Most residents and visitors in high-risk areas had been evacuated or relocated to shelters. The Bodden Town Civic Centre, a designated shelter, collapsed at the height of the hurricane and the shelter occupants were evacuated in 155 mph winds. Some 90 per cent of the West Bay area of Grand Cayman suffered damage. The sewage system collapsed and the Eastern District was cut off.

Once again a category 5 storm, Hurricane Ivan moved towards western *Cuba* and the Yucatan Channel on Monday, 13 September. The Cuban Red Cross (CRC) kept the population constantly informed through a television spot entitled "What to do in case of a Hurricane". Eight provinces: Pinar del Río, Habana, Ciudad Habana, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus and the Municipality of Isla de la Juventud were on hurricane alert. The storm passed the western tip of the country on Monday night, bringing heavy rain and storm surges, with waves of up to three metres. The Federation's assistance and support to the Cuban Red Cross and the affected population in Cuba, in response to Hurricane Ivan, is separate and distinct from that reflected and planned in the response to Hurricane Charley (refer to the Federation Request for Assistance no. 20/2004 launched on 8 September, 2004).

In *Mexico*, hundreds of people abandoned fishing villages within the hurricane's projected path; some 5,000 people were ordered to evacuate islands and coastal areas along the peninsula, and 239 shelters were set up in Cancun to house residents and tourists. Fortunately, Hurricane Ivan's kept it far enough away from peninsula to avoid causing any major damage.

After moving north through the Gulf of Mexico, Ivan made landfall in the southern *United States* during the early morning of Thursday, 16 September, where it caused at least 20 deaths before weakening to a tropical storm as it moved further inland. The worst damages were in the state of Florida, where Ivan created at least 12 tornadoes and storm surges of 10 to 16 feet. The storm caused several billion dollars in damages in the affected areas of the United States.

Operational developments

Grenada

The situation one month after the disaster struck is not yet stable, although there are signs of improvement. In the capital of St. George's, shops reopened with no signs of food shortage; however, in Greenville, the second largest city on the island, shops and businesses are still closed because of physical damages to buildings, water-damage to food, shortages of food and other goods, and destruction caused by looting. There have also been reports of robbery, looting and murder in the country in recent weeks. The state price control inspection agency has warned wholesale and retail businesses against illegally raising food prices.

Because the magnitude of this disaster exceeds the government's capacity to provide urgent response and lead the coordination of international assistance, the Grenadian government is seeking external assistance. The prime minister attended a donor conference in Washington to raise support for the country and is reported to be satisfied with outcome. The UN has launched an appeal for USD 27.6 million, and the secretary of state of the United States pledged USD 100 million. In addition, many local, regional and external donations have been received, making it possible to provide assistance to the affected population. Although assessments and pledges are being made targeting longer term reconstruction and development, a growing need for food and shelter has been reported.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is providing medical supplies to respond to reported cases of diarrhoea, fever and rash in 140 emergency shelters in the country. UNICEF has finalized its psychosocial support

programme, which supported 400 children ages 6 to 14 for one month. The programme will be followed up by local non-governmental organizations (NGO).

The Federation team has relocated to an office near the Federation warehouse and is working to set up access to telephones, internet and electricity. The team now includes a Field Assessment and Coordination (FACT) team leader, a logistics delegate and relief personnel. The British logistics Emergency Response Unit (ERU) completed its mission at the end of last week. The team in Grenada is focusing on selecting beneficiaries for the transition phase. A support team for the Hurricane Ivan operation is also being assembled in the Federation's Port of Spain Sub Regional Office, including an operations manager, and reporting, logistics, finance and administrative personnel.

In *Jamaica*, 3,000 farmers worst hit by Ivan started receiving government assistance in the form of vouchers for the purchase of seeds and fertilizers. For the majority of these beneficiaries who grow cash crops, this will mean the restoration of their source of income before the end of the year. The ongoing food and non-food distributions by the Jamaica Red Cross (JRC) targets many of these same beneficiaries, which will therefore continue to alleviate these families' economic constraints until this first crop is harvested.

In the *Cayman Islands*, a National Recovery Fund has been established to raise funds for reconstruction work in the country. The Department of Children and Family Services will carry out an assessment to determine the most vulnerable members of the population to benefit from the reconstruction work, according to selected criteria. The assessment's is prioritizing persons without insurance, children under five years of age and elderly persons. This part of the project will be implemented in cooperation with Department of Public Works, which is the state department in charge of construction and will be providing roofing repair services to the target beneficiaries.

No information has been provided by the Cuban Red Cross on the progress of the operation in the country during this reporting period.

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

Emergency relief (food and non-food)

Objective: 17,000 vulnerable families, or 85,000 persons (10,000 families in Grenada, 3,000 families in Jamaica, 1,000 families in the Cayman Islands, and 3,000 families in Cuba), will have benefited from the provision of food and non-food items to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Grenada

In Grenada, the emergency relief distribution was planned to provide emergency assistance to 10,000 families with food parcels, and hygiene kits. This phase of the relief operation was finalized on 8 October, after having reached a total of 13,403 families. Affected communities in all six parishes have received assistance at an average of 1,000 families per day. A total of 11,540 food parcels, and 7,065 hygiene kits were distributed. In addition, over 18,000 tarpaulins have been distributed.

Distribution of relief items

Parish	No. families	No. food parcels	No. hygiene kits
St. Georges	4,097	3,774	1,970
St. Patrick	1,575	1,325	625
St. David	2,166	2,006	1,150
St. Johns	2,430	1,750	1,450
St. Marks	530	530	550
St. Andrews	2,605	2,155	1,320
TOTAL	13,403	11,540	7,065

The following charts illustrate the contents of the food parcels and hygiene kits that were distributed to beneficiaries:

Food Parcels	
Rice	5.0 kg
Sugar	0.5 kg
Flour	1.0 kg
Pulses	0.5 kg
Oil	2.0 litres
Meat	4 tins
Fish	2 tins

Additional items based on supply

Hygiene Kits	
Toilet paper	2 rolls
Soap	1 bar
Toothbrush	1 unit
Toothpaste	1 unit
Shampoo	1 unit

Additional relief items received have been handed over to the National Society to be placed in their contingency stocks. The National Society has also continued targeted food distributions to the island's most vulnerable populations with goods received outside the Emergency Appeal. These donations provided an additional 3,000 families with items including food parcels, hygiene items, and clothes during the week ending 8 October.

Impact

The impact of the emergency distribution of food and non-food items will be assessed shortly to identify lessons learned for future GRCS response operations. Food and non-food relief distribution are clearly relevant as these items have provided much needed assistance to the affected population.

Constraints

Security restrictions and customs regulations have caused delays at the international airport; however port authorities continue to provide full access, good cooperation and assistance in receiving goods.

Jamaica

In Jamaica, the emergency phase of the operation is being finalized. Logistics procedures have been established for receiving and dispatching of goods, and a joint JRC/Federation effort to receive and clear the balance of donated goods at the airport is underway. These goods are being transported to the Red Cross warehouse in the country. To date the Red Cross has received 70.3 tonnes of non-food assistance and is expecting a 9.5-tonne cargo from the Canadian Red Cross, 2,500 hygiene kits from Panama, 2 vehicles and 2 generator sets. As soon as these items are received and distributed, the emergency phase of the operation will be completed. The table below indicates the number of beneficiary families that have received food and non-food items as part of this emergency relief operation:

Name of parish	Number of beneficiary families
Kingston	863
St. Thomas	760
Clarendon	1,908
St. Elizabeth	550
Hanover	237
Manchester	634
St. Ann	340
St. James	300
St. Mary	150
Trelawny	800
Westmoreland	335

Portland	201
Total	7,078

Impact

JRC provided food and non-food items to people directly affected by the Hurricane, and also to individuals whose livelihoods were seriously affected. Assistance provided through the JRC, including tarpaulins, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, food items, is contributing to the recovery process of those affected. Additionally, the JRC provided more than 7,700 bottles of water to individuals, which diminished the consumption of contaminated water, thereby mitigating the risk of water-borne diseases. The majority of this water was distributed in the most affected parishes of Clarendon and St. Elizabeth in the southern coastal region.

Constraints

The most serious constraint facing the operation is access to specific information from JRC branches regarding outstanding needs in the most affected parishes, due to limited communications. A needs assessment has been finalized to address the situation. Lack of electricity in many of rural areas has also prevented the resumption of water delivery services. In addition, many smaller roads in the countryside are not completely clear of debris, limiting the possible size of trucks that can be used to transport relief into isolated areas. This constraint affects the transportation of potable water, which is among the most important ongoing needs.

Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands Overseas Branch finalized its emergency relief phase during the previous reporting period. However, it continues receiving local donations of clothing, furniture and other items to assist people who lost their belongings in the aftermath of the disaster.

Shelter

Objective: 17,000 vulnerable families (10,000 families in Grenada, 3,000 families in Jamaica, 1,000 families in the Cayman Islands, and 3,000 families in Cuba) have been able to return home as a result of the provision of temporary shelter materials.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Grenada

In Grenada, the appeal targeted 10,000 families with distributions of tarpaulins in order to enable people return home and to protect their homes from the rains until the major reconstruction efforts start. The emergency distribution of tarpaulins was completed on 8 October with more than 18,000 tarpaulins distributed. The next component of the appeal objective will be the provision of zinc sheeting to 800 of the most vulnerable families. Tarpaulin distributions focused on the three most affected districts within St. David, St. Andrew and St. George parishes. Within these districts, beneficiaries were identified based on a house-to-house assessment, information from participating organizations, and requests from the local communities. An additional 3,000 beneficiary families, above and beyond the planned 10,000 families, received tarpaulins through these distributions.

Parish	Quantity
St. Georges	8,228
St. Patrick	960
St. David	3,700
St. Johns	1980
St. Andrews	3,247
TOTAL	18,115

House-to-house assessments are now beginning for the roofing project, which is targeting 800 houses, based on vulnerability, structural damage, ability to absorb assistance, and home ownership criteria.

Impact

Distributed tarpaulins provided a temporary solution for affected families, protected them from the ongoing rains. Further action will provide roof repairs to 800 families whose roofs were blown away or destroyed by the

hurricane. This will allow survivors to return home and will reduce their vulnerabilities towards future severe weather conditions.

Constraints

Planning for distributions of zinc sheeting requires taking into account many aspects in addition to the vulnerability of the families affected; land ownership, the physical conditions of the house and construction regulations must be considered, which requires technical expertise, data processing, time and human resources.

Jamaica

Distributions of tarpaulins and plastic sheets are underway, and planning for activities to repair roofing has started. A total of 34,000 houses in Jamaica have been severely damaged and around 5 percent of them have been totally destroyed. All activities related to repairing roofing will be coordinated with the Office of National Reconstruction (ONR) and, as required, the Ministry of Labour and Social Services (MLSS).

Impact

Essential shelter assistance provided through the JRC has expedited the recovery process of those affected.

Constraints

The Jamaican government is trying to provide safer areas for the reconstruction of houses to prevent residents from rebuilding in high-risk areas. This is an additional step that requires time and resources.

Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands Overseas Branch has completed the emergency distribution phase and has provided 1,900 tarpaulins during two distributions. The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch is now preparing for the next phase, which will be a project to repair damaged roofing. Galvanised roofing materials required for this activity will need to be stored, and identifying a warehouse is a priority.

Water and Sanitation

Objective: The water and sanitation needs for 17,000 vulnerable families (10,000 families in Grenada, 3,000 families in Jamaica, 1,000 families in the Cayman Islands, and 3,000 families in Cuba) have been assessed, and a plan has been developed to deliver the planned assistance in this sector.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Grenada

Rehabilitation of water distribution systems is being coordinated by the National Water and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA). The Federation has provided NAWASA with two 10,000-litre water bladders, which are supplying water to approximately 3,000 people. The Federation is also supplying 1,000 jerry cans to affected areas. The first bladder is now operating in St. David parish, where the water supply system is the worst affected. An additional tap stand will be set up in the area in order to facilitate the supply to the beneficiaries.

In addition, the Federation has provided a generator to a local company that is assisting the relief effort by distributing its existing stocks, such as sterilized water, to health and service organizations. The generator is now allowing this company to run at its pre-disaster capacity.

Impact

Of 24 water treatment plants, 20 were operational within five days following the hurricane, each providing chlorinated water in line with the World Health Organization's requirements. The only parish that is still experiencing difficulties in water distribution is St. David, where one-third of population does not have access to a clean water source. Positioning of a generator and two bladders in this area has provided access to safe water to 3,000 people.

Jamaica

The National Water Commission (NWC), in cooperation with supporting agencies, continues to provide water through the restoration of water systems and increased trucking service to meet the needs of the majority of the population affected by the hurricanes. However, the northern parish of St. Ann and the southern parish of

Clarendon, which were the most severely affected by the hurricane, remain isolated by flooding and are still in need of an adequate and safe water supply. In addition, longstanding flood waters cause an increased number of mosquitoes, raising the concern of water-borne illnesses.

To address the needs identified during the assessment and provide safe and adequate water, the Red Cross has begun procuring disinfectant to supply 3,000 families with drinking water. To prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases, the Jamaica Red Cross and member of the FACT team have initiated health promotion activities through training Red Cross volunteers to work with communities. This is being done with support from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). During the reporting period, community health workers also trained 25 Red Cross volunteers in St. Ann parish in water treatment, personal hygiene, prevention of vector-borne diseases and use of oral re-hydration salts.

Impact

Ongoing assessments identified both needs and recommended activities. Isolated communities are continuing to suffer from a shortage of safe drinking water, but the Federation team in Jamaica is looking at the possibility of providing affected communities with water purification tables. It is also planned to carry out health promotion activities in the areas not covered by the National Water Commission. In addition, it is expected that joint trainings will facilitate a consistent preventive health approach both by Red Cross and community health trainers in order to reduce the risk of water-borne diseases.

Constraints

The lack of reliable and updated information within parishes has resulted in an increased reliance on assessments carried out by the Federation team in the field. In addition, given the existence of a National Water Commission, which addresses many of the country's water needs, it has been determined that there is little need for a long-term water sanitation project beyond the short-term water safety and proposed health promotion interventions. It is planned that these activities will be carried out using existing National Society staff, infrastructure and systems.

Cayman Islands

The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch is focusing its water and sanitation activities on health and safety initiatives, which includes educational sessions in affected communities that address health prevention and hurricane safety tips to raise awareness of health and disaster preparedness issues.

Family linking

Objective: In Grenada, Jamaica and the Cayman Islands people with missing family members will have received assistance from the Grenada Red Cross Society, the Jamaica Red Cross, and the Cayman Islands branch of the British Red Cross.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Grenada

The GRCS has encountered difficulties in its family linking efforts due to the fact that telephones have not been working regularly. The GRCS is working with the telephone company in order to expedite their work to repair the telephone systems. Two volunteers are also operating with access to a local radio station. The GRCS has received 100 tracing requests, 25 of which were addressed directly by the GRCS, and 75 of which were addressed with the assistance of the telephone company.

Constraints

The lack of telephone lines and power has made it impossible to provide direct linking assistance; however the Red Cross was able to address tracing needs through working with the telephone company operational in the country.

Jamaica

The JRC has not received any requests for family linking during the reporting period related to hurricane Ivan.

Cayman Islands

The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch did not receive many requests for family linking services as one of the three cellular phone companies in the country was operational throughout the disaster. As the majority of the country's residents have access to cellular phones, there were few difficulties in maintaining communication.

Psychosocial support

Objective: vulnerable families will have benefited from psychosocial support to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)***Grenada***

The Plan of Action was drafted to address the psychosocial support needs of the entire population of Grenada, who are all to a different extent affected by the hurricane. The underlying concept of the planned intervention is to ensure that those suffering from normal post-traumatic stress are not diagnosed with more serious psychiatric disorders. The planned programme has a short-term and long-term objective. The short term objective is to raise awareness about shock and stress reactions with the public, to train Red Cross volunteers, and to promote knowledge of basic psychosocial first aid. The long term objective aims to train Red Cross volunteers in community-based psychosocial support programme work, set up a network among sister National Societies in the region to strengthen and consolidate the programme in Grenada, and integrate psychosocial first aid into the Red Cross disaster preparedness plan. The programme will also work to integrate the psychosocial support programme approach into the National Society's other community-based activities.

St George's University provided two two-hour psychosocial support sessions for 45 Red Cross volunteers working in relief distribution and plans to carry out two more sessions in the coming weeks. The university will also provide training for 10 volunteers to enable them provide outreach psychosocial support to targeted communities. These trainings are being provided by the university free of charge. The focus of the outreach psychosocial support services will be on existing groups working in schools in the country, such as parent-teacher associations, in the parishes of St. Andrew, St. George and St. David.

Other psychosocial support activities are scheduled to start on 22 October, including two workshops for ten Red Cross volunteers and one-day workshop for Red Cross staff. These workshops will be carried out by the Jamaica Red Cross, which has extensive experience in the area of psychosocial support. The Grenada Red Cross Society is working closely in this area with social development and health care authorities.

Impact

The anticipated impact of this component of the appeal is to prevent psychosocial disorders among people that lost relatives, homes and belongings. The GRCS will also gain important skills that will allow them to provide psychosocial support through planned training for volunteers.

Constraints

The National Society's capacity to provide psychosocial support is still somewhat limited. To address this challenge, the National Society is working closely with social development and health care authorities to undertake joint activities and with psychologists from St. George's University to provide training.

Jamaica

The Jamaica Red Cross mental health care team is preparing to visit the Grenada Red Cross Society within the framework of the plan of action to train Red Cross volunteers to provide outreach psychosocial support to the affected communities. The JRC team will also provide counselling to Red Cross volunteers working in the emergency phase.

Impact

Psychosocial support provided by the mental health team is being well accepted and is perceived as an important preventive measure against psychological disorders. It is also clear that psychosocial support may be more readily accepted if it is accompanied by tangible benefits that meet the needs of affected communities.

Cayman Islands

According to the plan of action, the psychosocial support team from the Jamaica Red Cross will carry out counselling sessions for Red Cross staff and volunteers in the Cayman Islands to assist in recovery from the effects of disaster.

Strengthening of preparedness and response

Objective: The capacity of the Grenada Red Cross Society, the Jamaica Red Cross, the Cayman Islands branch of the British Red Cross, and the Cuban Red Cross and vulnerable communities in disaster response and preparedness will have been strengthened.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

A plan of action has been drawn up with a focus on resource development and software and hardware components. The plan includes assisting the National Society in reconstruction of their headquarters, which has been affected by the disaster, to enhance the Red Cross's ability to carry out humanitarian programmes. The plan also aims to strengthen National Society's presence in the country and to enable Red Cross to provide wider coverage through the development of a GRCS branch in Greenville, the second largest city on the island.

In addition to resource development, this component of the operation will focus on increasing the Red Cross disaster preparedness capacities and raising awareness of disasters mitigation and preparedness at the community level. Activities to strengthen the National Society's capacities will focus on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA), revision of existing contingency plans and disaster preparedness and response plans, training in needs assessments and data collection for assessments.

Telecommunication equipment will also be provided and trainings will be held in the use of this equipment. The National Society's disaster management capacities will also be enhanced by the provision of one prefabricated warehouse, as well as tents, three generators and spare parts, 10,000-litre water bladders with pump and accessories, 250 pickaxes, and VHF radios and HF equipment. The National Society has already received VHF radios and HF equipment, which is improving its communication capacities and ensuring a more effective operation.

Impact

In the long run, the GRCS will be able to increase its presence in the country by establishing an additional office, and will enhance its capacities in disaster management through the provision of communication equipment and other required materials. Communication equipment has been particularly important as communication capacities within the country remain limited.

Constraints

Capacity building activities have not been a priority during the emergency relief phase, but will now be at the forefront of the operation as relief activities are finalized.

Jamaica

Over the past week, the capacity of the JRC has been strengthened with the implementation of various administrative logistic forms that are being used in receiving and dispatching goods, and in all matters relating to warehouse management. However, as there is a need for further training on logistic issues and warehousing operations, additional training sessions are being planned.

Constraints

There are currently large quantities of unsolicited food and non-food donations in the National Society's warehouse that need to be sorted. Additional National Society staff and volunteers will be involved in managing these additional items.

Cayman Islands

Activities in the Cayman Islands are continuing to focus on the planned replenishment of the Red Cross' emergency relief stocks, based on the needs that arose from this disaster.

Federation Coordination

In *Grenada*, UN Habitat has deployed experts in the field to carry out an extended survey of the needs for rehabilitation and reconstruction phase. It is planned that the Federation will coordinate closely with UN Habitat in this area. The Federation has also been invited to participate in the first meeting organized by the prime minister to develop a joint strategy between stakeholders from both the private and public sectors involved in Grenada's reconstruction. GRCS will coordinate their activities with the Agency for Reconstruction and Development, in particular in the area of social recovery, and will look into future opportunities in the development of agriculture and small businesses. In addition, the Federation team is participating in interagency meetings every second day during the week, sharing information with other agencies present in the country.

In *Jamaica*, the Federation team is participating in weekly interagency coordination meetings lead by the UNDP in order to keep updated on the latest developments in the country.

In the *Cayman Islands*, the Cayman Islands Overseas Branch is working in close cooperation with social and construction agencies to identify beneficiaries for the roofing project.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

- Relief activities being carried out are based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the vulnerability of those affected.
- Relief operations are being conducted with respect for the culture of the beneficiaries, ensuring gender sensitivity and prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is being ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the appeal are in line with Strategy 2010, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

A video on the Grenada Red Cross Society and International Federation's relief efforts has been produced. A video tape has also been prepared, documenting the first general distributions, including interviews with international and regional delegates and the Regional Intervention Team. This video will be made available to Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies and regional offices. In addition, delegates, regional offices and national Red Cross staff have given interviews to local, national and international media. An interview with the FACT team leader, entitled "IFRC and GRCS working together to assist Ivan's affected people," was published in the "Informer", the first newspaper to be restarted in the country following the disaster. An interview was also published in a local newspaper in Fort Lauderdale, in the United States.

A communications plan to provide visibility for the Jamaica Red Cross's relief operations and to raise the National Society's profile both nationally and internationally has been drafted. The plan includes the design of an information contingency plan based on the experiences gained and lessons learned from the response to Hurricane Ivan. Some basic internal communications issues have also been discussed, which, when implemented, will improve the National Society's exchange of information. In addition, reporting procedures are being put in place for both Federation and National Society staff, and interviews have been given to the BBC, among others.

In the Cayman Islands, the Red Cross has been using the government's radio station to communicate with the residents of the Cayman Islands, alerting them to the times and locations of relief distributions. The Director of the Cayman Islands Overseas Branch has been giving interviews detailing the work of the Red Cross in response to Hurricane Ivan, which have been featured in the country's two major newspapers. In addition, the plan of action that has been drawn up includes activities that will ensure that the Cayman Islands Overseas Branch is more active in working with the local media. The Cayman Islands Overseas Branch is also looking at the possibility of putting together a brochure highlighting the activities implemented by the Red Cross in response to the hurricane.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

Caribbean - hurricane Ivan

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 21/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

24/09/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				6,033,000	TOTAL COVERAGE 74.3%	
BRITISH - RC		50,000	GBP	114,300	21.09.04	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA		495,000	CAD	464,310	10.09.04	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA		50,000	CAD	46,900	10.09.04	DREF REPLENISHMENT
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA		346,500	CAD	325,017	10.09.04	
IRISH - GOVT		200,000	EUR	308,200	14.09.04	
SWEDISH - RC		800,000	SEK	134,000	15.09.04	
SWISS - RC				100,000	15.09.04	GRENADE
BRITISH - RC/DFID		500,000	GBP	1,145,000	24.09.04	
VODAFONE Group		50,000	GBP	114,650	15.09.04	
ECHO		842,000	EUR	1,288,260	23.09.04	GRENADE
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				4,040,637	CHF	67.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
BRITISH - RC		45,245	GBP	103,430	15.09.04	ERU LOGISTICS, EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL
SWISS - RC				8,800	17.09.04	LOGISTICS DELEGATE
AMERICAN - RC		49,269	USD	63,064	21.09.04	PRE-POSITIONED STOCK PADRU
NORWEGIAN - RC		1,000,000	NOK	184,000	24.09.04	
CANADIAN - RC		85,444	CAD	80,317	20.09.04	NON-FOOD RELIEF ITEMS (INCLUDING WATSAN) GRENADE
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				439,611	CHF	7.3%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT

Caribbean - hurricane Ivan

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 21/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

24/09/2004

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