

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Caribbean: Tropical Storm Noel

Emergency appeal n° MDR49002
GLIDE no. TC-000198-
BHS/CUB/DOM/HTI;
Operations update n° 2
27 February 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update: 14 December to 29 January 2008.

Previous appeal target: CHF 1,462,103 (USD 1,261,521 or EUR 873,941).

Revised budget: CHF 1,725,000 (USD 1,543,586 or EUR 1,045,897) for 6 months to assist 52,995 beneficiaries. [<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget>](#)

Appeal coverage: 98%¹. [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 1 November 2007 for CHF 785,000 (USD 677,308 or EUR 469,217) for 6 months to assist 15,000 beneficiaries.
- A total of CHF 480,000 (USD 414,150 or EUR 286,909) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the operation (CHF 230,000 for the Dominican Republic, CHF 150,000 for Haiti and CHF 100,000 for the Bahamas).
- The appeal was revised on 7 November to CHF 1,462,103 (USD 1,261,521 or EUR 873,941) for 6 months to assist 52,995 beneficiaries (10,599 families). Included here is an increase of an additional 2,000 families affected by tropical storm Olga in the Dominican Republic which has been facilitated by bilateral contributions.
- This Operations Update features a *second revised budget* to CHF 1,725,000 (USD 1,543,586 or EUR 1,045,897).



Distribution activities in the community of Gakimeyer, south of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Source: International Federation

Summary:

Substantial progress has been made during the reporting period in ensuring that emergency assistance

¹ The financial report reflects the initial DREF allocation as income, therefore yielding a higher coverage than actually reached so far.

reaches those most affected by tropical storm Noel which struck the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Bahamas and Cuba from 29 October to 2 November 2007. The National Societies of the countries concerned in coordination with the Pan American Disaster Response Unit of the International Federation, have worked together to assess, procure and, in most cases, deliver emergency relief items to those most in need.

Under this appeal, 7,176 families have received emergency relief items, including hygiene kits, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and tarpaulins, as well as additional vital support including food parcels, buckets, jerry cans and blankets. In health, 16,116,550 litres of clean drinking water has been distributed benefiting 14,124 families and 959 people have received medical assistance.

Whilst progress towards meeting the appeal's objectives is clearly solid, there are naturally variations in the level of response provided in each country given each country's particular needs and structural factors. Distributions have been completed successfully in the Bahamas and in Haiti, and are underway in the Dominican Republic with additional assistance in the pipeline. The operation in Cuba, however, has experienced some delays, given limitations in local markets to supply all of the required relief items, however, it is foreseen that distributions will commence shortly.

Advances in recovery are also now visible in the affected countries, with rehabilitation and clearing work having commenced in varying degrees. However, it is clear that much remains to be done to ensure that local affected populations recover from the ravaging effects of Noel, as well as being supported in their preparedness for future emergencies.

The situation

Tropical storm Noel, the 14th named storm of the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season, caused severe damages as it struck the countries of the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Bahamas and the northern coast of Cuba from 28-30 October. Heavy floods and mudslides caused extensive damage to infrastructure, crops and homes in all countries and leaving local populations in distress.



Unloading of the third plane sent by PADRU to the Dominican Republic. Source: International Federation

Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic experienced intense rainfall caused by a tropical depression from 27 October, and by 28 October, this phenomenon rapidly transformed into a tropical storm which hit the island of Hispaniola on 29 October. The geographical location of the country and its particular socio-economic characteristics have exacerbated the impact of the storm. Although heavy rainfall and ensuing floods affected the entire country, 40 percent of the country was deeply affected, of which the most affected regions included: San Cristobal, Bani, San Jose de Ocoa, Barahona, Azua, Bahoruco and Duberge in the Southern region; Villa Altagracia, Bonao, Duarte, Arenoso, la Vega, Sanchez Ramirez, Montecristi, Santiago and Puerto Plata in the Northern region. The province of Santo Domingo and the Eastern regions were also affected.

In total, an estimated 78,752 people were affected by the storm, whilst 87 deaths have been reported and 42 people are still missing. Damage to homes, infrastructure and agriculture was equally devastating: 15,505 houses were damaged and 3,185 were completely destroyed; 46 bridges, and approximately 40 percent of roads were damaged; an estimated USD 77.7 million of damage was caused in the agricultural sector, particularly affecting small farmers producing rice, plantain and yucca (cassava). The storm caused the collapse of the water supply system, contamination of drinking water and problems in the disposal of wastes. In health, diseases spread by vectors have been compounded by the poor sanitary conditions after the storm itself and have increased the toll

on the country. An outbreak of leptospirosis has caused the deaths of 35 people, whilst 40 people have died from dengue fever.

On 12 December, tropical storm Olga hit the country affecting the eastern, northern, north-eastern and south-eastern regions of the island whilst emergency activities were still underway in the wake of Noel. Heavy rains caused similar damage as Noel including floods and landslides mostly in the provinces of Hato Mayor, el Seibo, Samaná, María Trinidad Sánchez, Espaillat, Duarte, Salcedo, Puerto Plata, Santiago, Azua and Peruvia. As a consequence of increased rainfall, the Yaque del Norte and Yuna rivers overflowed causing damage to agriculture and infrastructure. Revised reports indicate that 33 people died, over 61,000 people were displaced, 12,321 houses were damaged and 190 communities were completely cut-off due to damages to roads and bridges. Estimates released by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL in Spanish) indicate that the cost of damages sustained and losses amounted for both tropical storms now amounts to some USD 420 million.

Recovery in the wake of these two storms has proceeded with varying results in different sectors. Shelters are closing and efforts are being made to relocate families vulnerable to natural phenomena. In the southern region of Barahona, people have returned to their homes while in the region of Azua only one shelter remains open. In total, three shelters remain operational. The government's National Recovery Plan elaborated in the aftermath of Noel, aims to build some 2,400 houses in San Cristóbal, Villa Altigracia, La Vega, Cotuí, Bonai and Manoguayabo, as well as pre-fabricated houses in the areas of Villa Riva and Arenoso.

The Office of Public Works has elaborated a plan to repair damaged infrastructure, and whilst major roads are clear, access remains difficult in much of the affected areas, particularly in remote villages. The National Water and Drainage Institute (INAPA in Spanish) has informed that the 211 aqueducts damaged during the storms have now been repaired, restoring water supply to some 3.8 million people. Access to clean drinking water, however, remains problematic in many affected areas. The State Department for Public Health and Social Support (SESPAS) continues monitoring against the spread of disease, including dengue, malaria and dermatitis amongst others.



Floods caused by tropical storm Olga in the province of Santiago in the Dominican Republic. Source: Dominican Red Cross

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Haiti

Noel struck Haiti on 29 October, moving through the provinces of Sud-Est, Sud, Grand Anse, Nippes, Ouest, Centre and Artibonite, followed by the provinces of Nord-Est, Nord and Nord-Ouest, with the provinces of Ouest, Artibonite, Sud, Sud Est, Grande Anse and Nippes suffering the greatest damages following the storm. The losses and damages sustained were significant and compound pre-existing vulnerabilities due to the socio-economic conditions of local affected populations, as well as limited public infrastructure and historically weak governance. The effects of the Noel were particularly acute, given the fact that many affected areas also suffered from heavy rains earlier in the same month, with the National Civil Defence (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC) reporting 14,807 families affected by flooding in Sud, Ouest and Artibonite during the month of October prior to Noel.

Figures released by the DPC indicate that 73 people died, 17 have been reported missing and 133 sustained injuries, whilst a reported 21,726 families were affected in total by Noel. 3,852 houses were completely destroyed and another 17,865 houses were damaged. Floods also caused widespread damages to agriculture and public and private infrastructure. The government has allocated USD 3 million towards the its initial response to the storm and has pledged an additional USD 3 million to finance the recovery plan being finalised by the DPC and the Permanent Secretariat for Disaster Risk Management (Secrétariat Permanent de Gestion des Risques et des Désastres – SPGRD) covering reconstruction and risk reduction activities in areas affected by flooding.

Cuba

Noel reached Cuba on 29 October, severely affecting the provinces of Guantanamo, Granma, Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, Las Tunas and Camaguey. Heavy rains and flooding compounded existing problems caused by earlier heavy rainfall in the country since the end of September. Reports indicate that 79,452 people were evacuated, of which 27,493 people were housed in 203 shelters and 51,959 with friends and family. No deaths or serious injuries have been reported. Figures indicate that 21,987 houses were damaged, of which 1,137 were totally destroyed affecting some 192,488 people.

Damages to agriculture and infrastructure are significant. Total damages have been reported by the government at USD 500 million; of which USD 305 million are in the agricultural sector, including thousands of hectares of sugar cane in eastern and central Cuba, as well as in eastern Santiago de Cuba, Granma Camaguey and Ciego de Avila provinces and the loss of 10 percent of the country's coffee crops. 13,169 km of roads were damaged, in addition to extensive damage sustained on bridges, railways, sewage systems, electrical systems and telephone lines.

Bahamas

Tropical storm Noel crossed the Bahamas on 30 October, depositing massive rainfalls and causing flooding on several of the islands. By 2 November, tropical storm Noel transformed into a category 1 hurricane whilst crossing the northwest of the islands, with Exuma, Cat Island, Long Island and Eleuthera among the islands most affected. With extensive rainfalls during the month of October in the Central Islands, Long Island was particularly affected suffering with floods up to 5 feet and affecting approximately 3,500 people. Around 2,000 people were affected in Cat Island and a further 1,500 in Exuma. One death has been reported on the island of Exuma. Hurricane shelters were opened in New Providence, Long Island, Cat Island, Exuma and around the Family Islands, however, these were occupied for a short period as people relocated to stay with friends and family. The government reports that assistance will be required to re-house families whose homes have been significantly damaged by flood waters, especially in Long Island and Exuma.

Other islands, including Acklins, Rum Cay, Long Cay and San Salvador were affected by the storm but to a lesser extent and experienced localized flooding in low-lying areas. Notably, Grand Bahama which had suffered major damages in recent hurricanes was not significantly hit by Noel.

Damages were substantial to both residential and business properties, as well as to agriculture (crops and livestock) and fishing vessels, in particular on Long Island, Cat Island, Eleuthera and Exuma as a result of the heavy rainfall and flooding. In general, public buildings withstood the storm, although roads in Exuma, Long Island, San Salvador and Acklins were particularly affected by standing water and will require extensive repairs. Public utilities were interrupted for varying lengths of time, but have now been restored throughout the country.

Coordination and partnerships

The Federation mobilized its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) at the outset of the emergency to coordinate the Red Cross response and to provide valuable technical assistance to the National Societies of the countries affected. The National Societies in the Bahamas, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti have taken lead of the operations within their own country, and coordinate activities with all actors concerned, including authorities responsible for emergency response at national level. PADRU remains in close contact with the Federation's Caribbean Regional Representation in Port of Spain, the Federation's Representation in Santo Domingo and Partner National Societies (PNS) from France, Norway, Spain and the United States. Coordination meetings have taken place between the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Federation, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the PNS present in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The Risk Emergency and Disaster for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC) group and OCHA have held coordination meetings in order to coordinate the regional efforts and the sharing of information.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office as well as the Emergency Operations Centre (COE) in the Dominican Republic were supported by the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC). UNDAC has now left the country, although other agencies continue to support the relief effort, including the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNICEF. USAID has supported relief activities by providing USD 600,000 in order to locally purchase and transport of drinking water, shelter materials and other emergency relief supplies.

PNS continue to support the DRC's response operation. The Netherlands Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross (SRC) remain in-country working with the Dominican Red Cross (DRC). The Swiss Red Cross has formulated a complimentary Humanitarian Aid Project linked to the DRC's Plan of Action and in coordination with the DRC, the

International Federation and the other PNS present in the country. The German government has donated EUR 80,000 to the German Red Cross (GRC) to provide in-kind donations for distribution by the DRC, including, food parcels, buckets, water and blankets. The GRC also contributed to the operation in Haiti with EUR 110,000 to support the distributions of relief items to 1,500 families in the southern region and south-eastern regions. This donation was also provided by the German government, with items provided including food parcels, buckets, blankets and water filters. The SRC has applied for funding (EUR 900,000) from the European Commission for Humanitarian Aid to contribute to the DRC Plan of Action to cover water and sanitation activities and the distribution of non-food items for 4,000 families. The Italian Cooperation as well as the Japanese, Singapore, Netherlands, Norwegian, Turkish and Canadian Red Cross Societies have also contributed generously to this appeal.

The Haitian Red Cross, who has deployed first aid workers and medical personnel to several big shelters, is coordinating with the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) and the Ministry of Health to evaluate the health situation and the sanitary conditions of big shelters throughout the country. The NS has also been supported by several PNS, including the Norwegian, Netherlands, Spanish, French, Canadian and American Red Cross Societies, some of whom have longer term presence in the country, and other who have mobilised support for this emergency.

National Society Capacity Building

In general, the National Societies affected by tropical storm Noel have broad experience in disaster response, in part due to lessons learnt from past operations, although there are naturally variations in individual response capacity. The NS are well prepared with pre and post emergency coordination mechanisms, pre-positioned stocks, telecommunications equipment, trained managerial and operative personnel. All the National Societies involved in this operation are positioned in their countries National Emergency Operations Centre and have specific roles within their country's National Disaster Plan.

A regional contingency plan was developed during the pre-hurricane meeting in Panama during May 2007, by the NS prone to hurricanes in the Americas including contributions from the four countries affected by Noel. The meeting reviewed existing capacities in the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, as well as the use of disaster preparedness tools. The meeting not only produced a contingency plan for the region but also provided valuable practical training.

The NS management and response structures, as well as volunteer capacities, have clearly have been strengthened through the provision of humanitarian assistance during these relief operations. This experience has had a positive impact on the participating branches in all four countries, and in the case of the DRC and the CRC, specific objectives have been set to build capacity, including the provision of vital equipment and training in disaster preparedness. The DRC is also developing a film to document its experience in responding to both Noel and Olga, which will invaluable in training volunteers for future emergencies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

This operation seeks to support the response activities of the National Societies in the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti, and focuses on providing food and non-food items and support in shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation and logistics.

Since the onset of the emergency, the **Dominican Red Cross (DRC)** activated their search and rescue teams and their National Intervention Teams (NIT) to perform rescue activities and assess the needs and damages, as well as 2,000 volunteers to assist with relief activities. The DRC initially focused on the distribution of relief items to the affected population with an emphasis on the temporary shelters set up in the aftermath of the storm.

The DRC has a Plan of Action for 10,000 families, of which this appeal covers 4,000 families including 2,000 families affected by Olga. To date, 6,134 families have received non-food items consisting of one hygiene kit, one kitchen kit and mosquito nets through assistance provided by the DRC, of these, 4,381 families have received assistance under this appeal. 7,508 jerry cans have been distributed in shelters and affected communities. Families identified with particular needs have been given 1,102 tarpaulins, 656 children kits for children up to two years old and 1,029 children kits from children in the ages of 3 to 5 years. In addition, 5,049 food parcels, 11,637 fortified biscuits and 5,190 litres of milk have also been distributed.

The DRC has worked since the beginning of the emergency in the distribution and treatment of clean water, in collaboration with Water and Sanitation experts from the Spanish Red Cross. A total of 16,116,550 litres of water have been distributed in the affected regions to date benefiting 14,124 families. In health, medical attention has been provided to 959 people. The Health Department of the DRC local branch in Santiago has also provided the people affected by Olga with bottled water, basic food items as well as basic medical care.

The **Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)** participated in pre-alert activities together with the Directorate for Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC) carrying out evacuation activities and distributing food items to temporary shelters. Damage and needs assessments were carried out and identified the immediate needs for relief operations. Over 150 volunteers were working early on in the emergency, with many focusing efforts in the temporary shelters. Initially, the HNRCS supplied the shelters with 492 blankets, 200 sheets, 400 units of soap and laundry soap as well as with cleaning kits.

The HNRCS developed a Plan of Action that initially aimed to provide 1,000 families with basic non-food items in the most affected areas. As later information became available from the government regarding the number of affected families, the HNRCS expanded its plan to reach a total of 2,500 families. Along with the IFRC's standard kit, the additional 1,500 families benefit from assistance provided by the GRC, and the French Red Cross (FRC) including water filters, buckets, blankets and supplemental food assistance.

To date, the HNRCS has distributed non-food relief items to 2,301 families in the Ouest, Sud and Nippes provinces, including hygiene kits and kitchen sets, as well as mosquito nets, buckets and jerry cans. Partner National Societies (PNS), the ICRC and the International Federation have supplied technical expertise such as Water and Sanitation and Logistics personnel, vehicles and fuel. The HNRCS has also been responding to the Hurricane Dean operation with support from the Federation through the same appeal.

Cuba's National Coordinating Committee for Disasters was activated before Noel struck the country at central, provincial and municipal levels, especially in the eastern regions where Noel first hit. Volunteers were dispatched to various Civil Defence branches and fire stations mobilizing a total of 2,949 volunteers who participated in the evacuation of people in high risk areas to safer areas with a priority on families living in low lying areas. The **Cuban Red Cross (CRC)** was in charge of all the temporary shelters opened in the different areas distributing food items, providing first aid care, psychological support and special care for pregnant women, children, elderly and disabled people. The CRC also enabled the family link system in the most affected area of Granma to enable families to locate each other following the emergency.

The CRC has been involved in early recovery activities since the beginning of the emergency and its operation has been supported by 1,582 volunteers. In the area of environmental sanitation, activities have included the clearing of debris and human waste from the roads and sewers. In health, the NS has organised educational workshops in temporary shelters for the prevention of disease. The CRC initially developed a Plan of Action that will benefit 4,800 families, but this has now been decreased to 3,600 families to reflect the results of final needs assessments of affected populations.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS)** actively responded to the crisis caused by the tropical storm/hurricane. Volunteers supported relief activities in shelters, evacuated people in the affected regions and performed initial assessments. Volunteers and members of the Disaster Preparedness Committee assisted in the ten shelters in New Providence with first aid stations and other requested support. Ground officers and assessment teams were deployed to conduct preliminary assessments in New Providence as well. Radio contact was established with Long Island, Eleuthera and San Salvador. In the first days following storm, the BRCS dispatched relief items from their warehouse to Long Island including 100 blankets, 192 hygiene kits and supplementary one week food kits for approximately 50 families. Based upon assessments, the BRCS developed a Plan of Action to provide immediate support to 425 families with food parcels, water and hygiene kits following assessment of needs following the emergency, and a cash distribution programme organised with the American Red Cross to benefit a further 69 families.

The **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in coordination with PADRU** has sent a total of five airplanes with humanitarian aid to the Dominican Republic, including non-food relief items such as jerry cans, buckets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and hygiene kits. An additional three containers will be shipped in the coming period containing hygiene kits, kitchen sets and mosquito nets to be distributed to a further 2,000 families. To date, five sea containers with relief items have been sent to Haiti to assist 2,500 families. Four containers were dispatched to Cuba on 26 January with non-food relief items including mattresses, bed-sheets, towels and mosquito nets, as

well as vital equipment for volunteers (rubber boots and overalls). Finally, an additional shipment will be made to Cuba during the coming weeks.

PADRU continues to support the overall coordination of the operation and has established and maintains High Frequency (HF) radio contact with the NS involved to ensure frequent and accurate communications, information sharing, and to monitor the situation. Following the departure of two Disaster Management (DM) delegates, one Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member continued to accompany the DRC in distributions coordination until 23 January. The HNRCS was accompanied by two DM delegates, one of whom remained until 22 December to support the revision of the Plan of Action and the repositioning of relief supplies for future emergencies.

Progress towards objectives

This operation seeks to support the response activities of the National Societies in the Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti, and focuses on providing food and non-food items and support in shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation and logistics.

Significant progress has been made in the delivery of emergency assistance to the affected countries during the reporting period. Advances in reaching each of the appeal's objectives are listed below, on a per country basis:

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective: The affected population will benefit from the provision of relief items to recover from the effects of recent floods and effects from tropical storm Noel	
Expected results	Activities planned
10,599 families (some 52,995 beneficiaries) (494 families in the Bahamas, 3,600 families in Cuba, 4,000 families in Dominican Republic and 2,500 in Haiti) receive relief items and recover from the effects of the floods	Activities planned to reach this objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and registration of the most vulnerable families with special emphasis on gender inequities and disability conditions. • Coordination with national, regional, provincial and local authorities. • Warehousing, procurement, dispatch and transportation of relief items from local headquarters to the final destinations. • Regular detailed reporting on the distribution. • Monitoring and evaluation.

Bahamas: The 425 families on New Providence, Cat Island, Exuma, and Long Island benefit from the provision of non-food and food relief items to recover from the effects of the floods. A cash distribution programme will benefit an additional 69 families.

Progress: On 23 November, the BRCS has completed the distribution of one food parcel and one hygiene kit to 425 families from the most vulnerable populations on the islands. All items were procured locally and purchased according to the Federation's procurement standards.

The cash distribution programme developed in coordination with the American Red Cross has been completed reaching distributing a total of USD 20,700 to the projected 69 families, and bringing the total number of beneficiaries that have received assistance under this operation to 494 families. This pilot cash transfer programme conducted detailed assessments and targeted the most vulnerable families from Exuma, Cat Island and Long Island who had experienced the most damage to their homes and property, and who have limited personal means to recover. Those benefiting from the programme included the elderly, single-parent families and large families with limited economic means.

Challenges: No further challenges have been identified as the operation has been completed successfully.

Cuba: 3,600 families will receive zinc roofing to rebuild their roof tops for their houses and relief items composed of sheets, towels, mattresses and mosquito nets.

Progress: To date, procurement is taking place for the following materials in order to rehabilitate the affected family's homes:

Items	# of Families
Zinc sheeting	500
Nails for sheeting	
Nails for wood	
Sinks and toilets	100

The following non-food items have been procured and sent by sea to Cuba to be distributed on arrival:

Items	# of Families
Mattresses	1,500
Bed sheets	1,500
Towels	3,000
Mosquito nets	3,000

Items for an additional 1,200 families will be procured and then distributed over the coming period.

Challenges: To date, distributions of relief items have not taken place. Although sinks and toilets are being procured locally, the additional items are not available in country and have been sourced elsewhere, causing delays in the distributions. National procedures to authorize the entry of humanitarian aid has also been an important additional factor in the progress of the operation to date.

Dominican Republic: The DRC Plan of Action will provide 10,000 affected families with relief items, of these 4,000 are covered by this appeal, including an additional 2,000 families affected by tropical storm Olga who will receive hygiene and kitchen kits.

Progress: PADRU has supplied food parcels, hygiene kits, kitchen kits (one per family), jerry cans, mosquito nets and tarpaulins (two per family) in coordination with the RLU. The DRC immediately distributed items to the 2,000 families as originally planned. On 19 December, PADRU dispatched additional relief items from Panama, including, 3,200 hygiene kits, 1,200 kitchen kits and 3,000 mosquito nets. Some of these items have been distributed immediately in the areas affected by Olga.

To date, a total of 6,134 families have received non-food relief items, including 4,381 hygiene kits, 1,435 kitchen sets, 5,000 mosquito nets, and 1,102 tarpaulins from the DRC operation. Of this assistance, 4,381 families have benefited from support from the appeal.

Additional items distributed by the DRC include jerry cans, blankets, children sets, as well as food parcels, biscuits and milk. The World Food Programme (WFP), PNS and the DRC have reached an agreement on the provision of food parcels, therefore the distribution of food items will no longer be part of this appeal.

Challenges: Given the extent of the storm damage which has struck a large part of the island, the operation covers the whole country. This has caused logistical problems due to the distances between communities and the availability of vehicles to transport relief items to the identified distribution points. Further complications have arisen due to the number of blocked roads and isolated communities which has caused complications in gaining access to distribute relief.

Haiti: Following the assessment of needs, the HNRCS revised its Plan of Action to reach a new target of 2,500 families.

Progress: The relief items that were initially sent by the RLU in Panama to replenish HNRCS stocks for 1,000 families have been distributed by the HNRCS to meet the revised number of beneficiaries. A second series of distributions from 9 to 13 January has completed the delivery of non-food relief items, and distributions planned under this operation.

The table below shows the total number of families who have received relief items to date:

Province	# of Families
Petite Rivière de Nippes	1,390
Anse à Veau	
Petit Trou de Nippes	
Fonds Des Nègres	
L'Azile	
Arnault	
Ka-Toussaint	
Plaisance du Sud	
Belle-Rivière	
Baradères	
Cité Soleil	221
Croix des Bouquets	138
Tabarre	120
Carrefour	28
Ganthier	15
Arcahaie	50
Cabaret	101
Cayes	100
Les Orangers	138
TOTAL	2,301

The relief items distributed included buckets, jerry cans, blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

Relief items will be sent to replenish HNRCS stocks for 1,000 families in the coming period.

Challenges: No further challenges have been identified as the operation has been completed successfully.

Emergency health

Objective: The affected communities will benefit from basic medical care provided by Dominican Red Cross medical brigades.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The affected people receive proper medical care in order to relieve their suffering caused by the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of activities with the National Secretary of Public Health (Secretaria de Estado de Salud Publica y Asistencia Social – SESPAS). • Identification of shelters on where to perform medical assistance. • Prioritization and identification of beneficiaries (children, women, elderly). • Organization and support to SESPAS medical brigades.

Progress: The DRC Health Department has provided medical assistance to a total of 959 people. Common diseases continue to include anaemia, dermatitis, gastrointestinal problems, diarrhoea and respiratory problems. The DRC has also distributed basic medicines such as acetaminophen, and dehydration salts.

Challenges: There is a lack of medical personnel as the DRC Health Department only has two doctors; however, the DRC has closely coordinated its work in collaboration with the government's own medical staff.

Emergency Health

Objective: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist them in recovering from the effects of the hurricane.	
Expected results	Activities planned

The DRC provides psychosocial support to the affected communities due to the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams will perform evaluations • Identification of the most affected areas • Assistance in shelters
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Progress: The DRC mobilized its psychosocial support team to the most affected areas in order to provide assistance especially to women and children who have been affected, psychologically, as well as physically, by the floods. The team firstly evaluated the needs of the affected population to identify the exact requirements of the activities to be developed, before providing assistance in the shelters through the development of psychosocial activities.

Challenges: No challenges have been identified within this objective.

Emergency Health

Objective: The affected communities and people in shelters in the Dominican Republic will have access to potable water for consumption and will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.

Expected results	Activities planned
All the affected population receive and have access to potable water and also receive key health messages in order to control water borne diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs and damage assessments including basic sanitation activities. • Mobilization of six water and sanitation teams. • Identification of communities most affected and shelters available. • Identification of beneficiaries in coordination with SESPAS and the National Institute of Potable Water (INAPA). • Agreements with local authorities for water supply. • Water and sanitation activities. • Training workshops in water sanitation for all DRC volunteers. • Storing and distribution of drinking water to shelters and affected communities. • Health awareness campaigns

Progress: To date, some 16,116,550 litres of water has been supplied to 14,124 families in affected communities in the Dominican Republic as follows:

Province	# of Families	# Litres
Barahona	2,598	8,483,700
San Cristóbal	2,804	1,107,410
San Juan de la Maguana	625	1,137,000
Monseñor Nouel	1,000	481,452
San José de Ocoa	3,957	3,354,805
Valverde Mao	585	260,256
Ázua	2,481	1,291,927
La Vega	74	-
TOTAL	14,124	16,116,550

ECHO and the SRC have agreed to fund a water and sanitation project which will assist 25,000 beneficiaries as part of DRC Plan of Action. The SRC is also supporting the areas affected by Olga and increasing the number of beneficiaries. Given that this area is now sufficiently supported, the objective will no longer be part of this appeal and will not be reported on in future updates.

Challenges: No challenges have been identified within this objective.

Emergency shelter

Objective: The Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) will provide support for the displaced people housed in shelters.

Expected results	Activities planned
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Affected people receive proper care in shelters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide non food items to people in shelters • Provide health support
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Progress: The HNRCS has provided the affected population in shelters with non-food items in coordination with the Directorate of Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile – DPC). As of mid-December 2007, the NS had distributed 492 blankets, 200 sheets, 400 units of soap and laundry soap as well as cleaning kits.

Challenges: Due to a lack of personnel with experience in shelter management, the HNRCS has not been able to take on a more prominent function in the coordination and management of the shelters as initially proposed.

Strengthening of Capacities

Objective: The capacity of the Cuban Red Cross and the Dominican Red Cross and their local branches will be strengthened.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The Cuban Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross and their local branches will be better prepared for future disaster response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will receive visibility equipment according to established standards (shirts, caps, flags, id's) • Procurement of office equipment for the disaster response office • Workshops to support the development of a disaster preparedness program in all local branches in the affected provinces

Cuba

Progress: The CRC is in the process of procuring and distributing equipment that will enable its staff and volunteers to adequately respond to the emergency. The following equipment is being procured to ensure that volunteers are adequately prepared and protected in their work during this and future emergency operations:

Items	Units
1 Computer and paper	1
Caps, shirts, flags and id cards	1
Disaster response guides	1,000
Rubber boots for volunteers	300
Rescue overalls	300

Challenges: Most items can be procured locally, including the caps, shirts, flags and ID cards; however, the rubber boots and overalls have been procured and shipped from the RLU in Panama. This may cause some delays in their distribution to those working in affected areas.

Dominican Republic

Progress: The DRC has purchased vests and jackets for 200 volunteers working in the affected areas, and is currently in the process of purchasing life-saving aquatic equipment, helmets and vertical rescue equipment.

Challenges: Given that the equipment is being procured locally in Dominican Republic, no problems are foreseen in completing this objective.

Early Recovery

Objective: Early recovery activities are assessed, planned and implemented together with the affected communities and key local, national and international stakeholders.	
Expected results	Activities planned

The National Societies of the affected countries will recover after the recovery activities are completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform relief assessments to identify recovery needs • Obtain feedback from affected communities
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Progress: The DRC will elaborate a recovery plan to support the rehabilitation of those affected. A forthcoming mission will assist the NS to assess the early recovery activities to be implemented within this operation.

Challenges: There are no major challenges identified in this objective.

Details of the bilateral support provided by the Red Cross Movement can be found in the following table:

DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM RED CROSS MOVEMENT		
COMPONENT - DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL CURRENCY	APPROX. VALUE CHF
AMERICAN RED CROSS		378,000.00
Financial support for Mexican Red Cross earmarked for 7,000 cleaning kits, 21,000 school kits, and operational costs	350,000.00 USD	378,000.00
SWISS RED CROSS		152,496.00
2000 cleaning kits	54,000.00 USD	58,320.00
3000 school kits	79,200.00 USD	85,5376.00
Equipment and supplies for Mexican Red Cross Delegation	8,000 USD	8,640.00

In following operations updates, more information will be provided on the bilateral support received from other PNS, such as the German Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross and the Turkish Red Cross, as well as from the Colombian Red Cross.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross, 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. Support has been provided to the NS involved to increase the visibility of their actions by PADRU, the Caribbean Regional Representation Office in Trinidad, the Federation Representation for Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti in Santa Domingo and the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva.

Regular situation reports have been issued by Red Cross National Societies through the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) on the global International Federation website: https://wwwsecure.ifrc.org/dmis/prepare/view_report.asp?ReportID=3375, and media pieces are also available on the Federation's public website. Several short articles have been issued in order to develop a better understanding of the mission of the International Federation of the Red Cross and the activities the organization undertakes in serving affected communities. In the same line, local and international media were provided with interviews directly from the involved National Societies, including a visit by CNN to review DRC activities and affected areas in the Dominican Republic. As mentioned above, the DRC is also in the process of developing a short film to document the work of the NS during tropical storms Noel and Olga to be used for training as well as to increase visibility of the institution's work during these emergencies.

More information on this emergency is available at: <http://www.cruzroja.org/> or <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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: Dario Alvarez, Acting Head of PADRU; e-mail Dario.Alvarez@ifrc.org; phone (507) 316 1001; Fax (507) 316 1082.
- In Trinidad and Tobago: Tanya Wood, Representative of the Caribbean Regional Representation, Port of Spain; email Tanya.wood@ifrc.org; phone (868)624 1557; fax (868)627 9627.
- In Dominican Republic: Rafael Olaya, Federation Representative for Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti; e-mail: Rafael.olaya@ifrc.org
- In Panama: Maria Alcazar; Zone Relationship Management Coordinator; email Maria.Alcazar@ifrc.org; phone (507) 317 1300; fax (507)317 1304.
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator Americas Zone; email pablo.medina@ifrc.org; phone (41 22) 730 42 74; Fax (41 22) 733 03 95.

[<Updated donor response report, revised budget and financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY**MDR49002****TROPICAL STORM NOEL**

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter	55,957	46,563	-9,394
Construction Materials	33,032	202,514	169,482
Clothing & Textiles	233,817	230,320	-3,497
Food	145,310	63,429	-81,880
Seeds & Plants			0
Water & Sanitation	46,360	0	-46,360
Medical & First Aid	69,540	33,702	-35,838
Teaching Materials			0
Utensils & Tools	170,776	174,358	3,582
Other Supplies & Services	179,072	214,435	35,364
Total Relief Needs	933,862	965,321	31,459
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings			0
Vehicles Purchase			0
Computers & Telecom Equipment			0
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.			0
Medical Equipment			0
Other Machinery & Equipment			0
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse	107,082	29,356	-77,726
Distribution & Monitoring	96,777	219,190	122,413
Transport & Vehicles Costs		65,398	65,398
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	47,640	50,900	3,261
Regionally Deployed Staff	8,171	21,932	13,761
National Staff	31,988	42,616	10,628
National Society Staff	36,509	50,818	14,310
Consultants		7,745	7,745
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	11,590	39,258	27,668
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	27,652	42,500	14,848
Information & Public Relations	20,827	12,415	-8,413
Office running costs	44,969	21,826	-23,143
Communication Costs		21,867	21,867
Professional Fees		2,342	2,342
Financial Charges		1,462	1,462
Other General Expenses		8,287	8,287
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	95,036	111,455	16,418
Services & Recoveries		10,314	10,314
Total Operational Needs	528,241	759,679	231,437
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	1,462,103	1,725,000	262,897

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR49002 - Caribbean - Tropical Storm Noel

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2008/01
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2008/12
Appeal	MDR49002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		1,725,000				1,725,000
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		132,962				132,962
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)		121,500				121,500
Finnish Red Cross		83,650				83,650
Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund		417,250				417,250
Japanese Red Cross		44,273				44,273
Netherlands Red Cross		83,876				83,876
Norwegian Red Cross		243,960				243,960
On Line donations		1,505				1,505
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)		11,228				11,228
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		140,560				140,560
Swiss Red Cross (from Swiss Government)		118,713				118,713
United States - Private Donors		17				17
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief		1,500				1,500
C1. Cash contributions		1,400,995				1,400,995
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
American Red Cross		56,160				56,160
Luxembourg Government		64,400				64,400
New York Office (from Alcatel Lucent)		10,800				10,800
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)		54,000				54,000
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)		27,000				27,000
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		212,360				212,360
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
American Red Cross		95,392				95,392
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport		95,392				95,392
<u>Other Income</u>						
DREF Allocations		480,000				480,000
C5. Other Income		480,000				480,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		2,188,746				2,188,746
D. Total Funding = B + C		2,188,746				2,188,746
Appeal Coverage		127%				127%

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		2,188,746				2,188,746
E. Expenditure		-804,496				-804,496
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		1,384,251				1,384,251

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR49002 - Caribbean - Tropical Storm Noel

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2008/01
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2008/12
Appeal	MDR49002
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)		1,725,000					1,725,000	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	46,563		46,563				46,563	0
Construction Materials	202,514							202,514
Clothing & textiles	230,320		127,378				127,378	102,941
Food	63,429							63,429
Medical & First Aid	33,702							33,702
Utensils & Tools	174,358		107,373				107,373	66,984
Other Supplies & Services	214,435		78,290				78,290	136,145
Total Supplies	965,320		359,605				359,605	605,716
Transport & Storage								
Storage	29,355		30				30	29,325
Distribution & Monitoring	219,190		139,417				139,417	79,773
Transport & Vehicle Costs	65,398		26,294				26,294	39,105
Total Transport & Storage	313,943		165,740				165,740	148,203
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	50,902		20,915				20,915	29,986
Regionally Deployed Staff	21,932		4,347				4,347	17,585
National Staff	42,616		9,873				9,873	32,743
National Society Staff	50,818		8,340				8,340	42,479
Consultants	7,745							7,745
Total Personnel	174,014		43,476				43,476	130,538
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	39,258							39,258
Total Workshops & Training	39,258							39,258
General Expenditure								
Travel	42,498		29,196				29,196	13,303
Information & Public Relation	12,414		1,084				1,084	11,330
Office Costs	21,827		1,578				1,578	20,250
Communications	21,867		8,998				8,998	12,869
Professional Fees	2,342							2,342
Financial Charges	1,462		26,037				26,037	-24,575
Other General Expenses	8,285							8,285
Total General Expenditure	110,696		66,892				66,892	43,804
Programme Support								
Program Support	121,769		48,897				48,897	72,871
Total Programme Support	121,769		48,897				48,897	72,871
Services								
Services & Recoveries			20,019				20,019	-20,019
Total Services			20,019				20,019	-20,019
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			99,867				99,867	-99,867
Total Operational Provisions			99,867				99,867	-99,867
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,725,000		804,496				804,496	920,504
VARIANCE (C - D)			920,504				920,504	

Donor response to MDR49002 - Carribean - Tropical Storm Noel

TIMEFRAME: 29 Oct 07 to 30 Apr 08

LOCATION: Carribean

TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT:	1,725,000
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE:	1,690,971
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	98%

Updated on: 27 Feb 2008

Currency	Amount	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Total
		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
BUDGET			1,725,000				1,725,000

FUNDING
Opening Balance
Income
Cash contributions (received and pledged)

American Red Cross	USD	170,790		189,122			189,122
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	CAD	100,000		121,500			121,500
Finnish Red Cross	EUR	50,000		83,650			83,650
Italian Govt Bilateral Emergency Fund	EUR	250,000		417,250			417,250
Japanese Red Cross	USD	39,600		44,273			44,273
Luxembourg Government	EUR	40,000		64,400			64,400
Netherlands Red Cross	EUR	40,000		66,000			66,000
Netherlands Red Cross	USD	15,750		17,876			17,876
New York Office (from Alcatel Lucent)	USD	10,000		10,800			10,800
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)	USD	50,000		54,000			54,000
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)	USD	25,000		27,000			27,000
Norwegian Red Cross	NOK	1,200,000		243,960			243,960
On Line donations	CHF	1,505		1,505			1,505
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	SGD	14,483		11,228			11,228
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	SEK	800,000		140,560			140,560
Swiss Red Cross (from Swiss Government)	CHF	118,713		118,713			118,713
United States - Private Donors	USD	15		17			17
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	CHF	1,500		1,500			1,500
Total Cash contributions				1,613,355			1,613,355

Inkind Goods & Transport (pledged)

American Red Cross	USD	66,968		77,616			77,616
Total Inkind Goods & Transport				77,616			77,616

Other Income

DREF Allocations	CHF						
Total Other Income							



Currency	Amount	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Total
		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
BUDGET			1,725,000				1,725,000
FUNDING							
<u>Opening Balance</u>							
<u>Income</u>							
Total Income			1,690,971				1,690,971
TOTAL FUNDING		0	1,690,971	0	0	0	1,690,971
COVERAGE			98%				98%

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OPERATION (based on information received from partners)

Currency	Amount	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Total
		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Bilateral Contributions							
Spanish Red Cross	USD	380,337	445,374				445,374
Total Bilateral Contributions			445,374				445,374