

Programme Update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Latin Caribbean

Appeal No. MAA49002

16 December 2009

This report covers the period 01/January/2009 to 30/June/2009.



Volunteers from the Cuban Red Cross and the Dominican Red Cross participate in the workshop for the use of the Branch Development tool. **International Federation**

In brief

Programme purpose: The Latin Caribbean Regional Representation reflects the strategy outlined in the Federation of the Future and supports the three National Societies of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic in the region to work towards the goals of the Federation's Global Agenda through scaling-up programmes, increasing Red Cross capacity and strengthening its role in civil society.

Programme(s) summary:

During the first six months of 2009, the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation has continuously focused on the prominence of the Red Cross as a leader in disaster management at the national and regional levels, paying particular attention to the preparedness of communities and the work to address the impact of the HIV and AIDS pandemic in the region. In addition, the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation focuses on providing a high level of organizational development support that will enable the three National Societies to provide tailored development strategies including branch and volunteer development, resource mobilization and accountability performance.

In the case of Haiti, the secretariat has made an effort to ensure the continuity of the coordination process with the different actors present in country. However the conditions for an Operational Alliance of the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) on disaster management are still not in place. Nevertheless the combined efforts of Movement partners around the National Society's strategic plan to coordinate the investments are in place. The second part of 2009 will focus on updating the strategic plan and defining priorities for the next years. A decision has been made to keep a minimum presence of the secretariat after the phase out of the emergency teams still working in Haiti. This programme management office will be in a better position to support a planning and reporting mechanism and improve the National Society's organizational development skills with a focus on regional committees and local branches. The Federation in Haiti will continue to work

towards creating an adequate working environment and conditions for strategic discussion to take place among HNRCS Movement partners.

The transition of emergency operations to the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation has allowed the secretariat to maintain an adequate long term focus on recovery activities. At the same time the workload required for the operations significantly affected the capacity to implement regular programming for the Haitian and Cuban National Societies. Particularly in the case of Haiti, a large recovery programme is underway, however this is in the final stages and some normalcy will be restored to the National Society's operations.

Financial situation: The total revised 2009 budget is CHF 2,009,622 (USD 1,985,557 or EUR 1,330,867), of which CHF 1,670,748 (83 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 839,424 (41 per cent) of the budget.

When first planned in 2008, the 2009 budget did not include the operational impact of the two major disasters that have hit Haiti and Cuba; as a result some of the forecasted activities have been revised to make sure that it was still achievable for the National Societies to complete their engagements in that regards. Funding for Disaster Management activities in disaster risk reduction has been less than expected but partially covered by the influx due to recovery programme of the Emergency Appeals. Funding for running costs of the Latin Caribbean Office has been below what was expected and this has had a direct impact on the quantity and quality for the monitoring and reporting of all National Societies' activities.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

See also Hurricane Appeal reports: the emergency operations in [Cuba](#) and [Haiti](#).

No. of people we have reached: The Regional Representation focuses on building the capacities of the National Societies of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Consequently, direct beneficiaries of the Regional Representation's programmes are the National Societies including their staff at headquarters and branch level, governance bodies and volunteers. In effect, the Regional Representation's indirect beneficiaries belong to civil society since it is through the strengthening of the National Societies' capacities and the technical support offered, that methodologies, initiatives and activities as a whole can be carried out and implemented accordingly.

Our partners: Include a summary of the partnerships inside the Movement, as well as total number of partnerships with community-based, national, government-based, international organizations, UN, developmental agencies and partners outside the Movement.

In Haiti, five Partner National Societies (PNS) have a permanent presence in the country and are offering bilateral support — the American Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, the French Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the German Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross. The Dominican Red Cross continues to work with the Spanish Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross, which are their programmatic partners. On the other hand, in Cuba the Norwegian Red Cross has one delegate focusing on bilateral activities with the Cuban Red Cross on disaster preparedness and community risk reduction. The following tables shows Movement Partners per country:

Country	Red Cross Movement Partners
Cuba	Norwegian Red Cross
Dominican Republic	Spanish Red Cross
Haiti	American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, ICRC.

Context

Covering the countries of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation is one of the two Federation offices which provide **core membership services and programmatic support services** to National Societies of the Caribbean region.

Economically the region is very fragile with limited resource bases and stagnant economies, heavily reliant on fragile sectors such as tourism and the production of primary products. The financial events of 2008 have only increased this vulnerability. Poverty is expected to increase due to these conditions and an economic downturn in the formal sector could very likely contribute to the growing illegal drug and weapons trade, money laundering and human trafficking. With regards to the issue of migration, the region experiences continuous movement from the rural communities, intra-regional illegal migration of unskilled persons and extra-regional migration of skilled persons to North America and Europe, generating stress on the family structure.

The region has seen the impact of the regular Atlantic hurricane season, leading to severe damage over the last few years. Floods are also a common occurrence, leading to housing damage, business disruption and displacement of coastal communities. The region also remains vulnerable to other natural disasters including earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The effects of climate change are having a real and visible impact on some of the fragile ecosystems in the island states.

During the second half of 2008, the countries of Cuba and Haiti were severely affected by the passage of Hurricane Gustav, tropical storm Hanna and Hurricane Ike. Last year in Haiti, the tropical storms caused losses estimated at USD 1 billion in damage, and aggravating chronic malnutrition in several areas of the country. According to statistics from the Civil Protection Department (Département de la Protection Civile - DPC), 793 people lost their lives, 310 were declared missing and 548 were injured. The damage to homes and infrastructure was unprecedented affecting 165,337 families. It is estimated that 22,702 families' homes were completely destroyed and 84,625 families' homes were damaged (DPC). This year at least 11 people have died as of May, as heavy rains flood towns that are still recovering from last year's hurricanes.

The 2008 hurricane season had a severe impact on the island of Cuba, with cumulative damages proving the highest in many years. Total damages are now estimated in the region of USD 10 billion representing almost 20 per cent of the country's GDP. More than 500,000 homes were affected by the storms, including partial or total loss of roofs as well as 63,249 homes that were completely destroyed. Official figures indicate that more than 2 million people's homes were thus affected, 18 per cent of the total Cuban population. Damages to agriculture have been acute with 113,000 hectares of crops which were damaged leading to the loss of an estimated 53,000 tonnes of food vital to the population's daily food intake, including sugar cane, rice, beans and other essential basic items. In addition to crops cultivated and distributed by the Ministry of Agricultural Development. Revised figures released in early 2009, indicate that in the province of Pinar del Rio alone more than 900 schools were damaged, of which 400 were partially damaged, whilst 567 totally collapsed, and a similar number of health centres were affected. National authorities estimate that rehabilitation efforts, including the building of houses to replace those destroyed by the storms, will continue through initiatives in this area over the next ten years.

Since the beginning of the emergencies, the International Federation's Latin Caribbean Regional Representation and the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit were in constant communication with the National Societies of the affected countries. The International Federation responded to the needs of the most vulnerable populations in Cuba and Haiti through the launch of emergency appeals for each country. After the completion of the relief phase, the operations were handed over to the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation to complete actions focused on water and sanitation, hygiene promotion, shelter, disaster preparedness, risk reduction and capacity-building.

The transition of the emergency operations to the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation has allowed the Federation's secretariat to maintain an adequate long-term focus on recovery activities. At the same time the workload required for those operations significantly affected the capacity to implement regular

programming for the Haitian and Cuban National Societies. Particularly in the case of Haiti, a massive recovery programme was underway, however after the final stages and some normalcy will be restored to the National Society's operations.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 1: To reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Programme component 1: Disaster Management Planning
Outcome 1 National Societies disaster preparedness and response plans are established or updated in line with the National Societies strategic plan and national disaster plans.

The National Societies of Cuba and Haiti have been mostly involved in recovery operations from the 2008 hurricane season. The Dominican Red Cross has been the only National Society able to fully give attention to preparation for the 2009 hurricane season; however, the influx of resources at the Haitian and Cuban Red Cross branches have allowed for the update and review of plans at the local levels.

The Dominican Red Cross has had the opportunity to test preparedness levels through simulation exercises combined as part of the disaster preparedness activities funded by the Spanish Red Cross.

As part of the DFID-supported project, four HNRCS branches situated on the border (Nord-Est, le Sud-Est, le Haut- Plateau et le Bas-Plateau) have revised and updated contingency plans.

Constraints or challenges

There is still a need for qualified resources at the headquarters level in the Haitian National Red Cross Society to correctly monitor disaster preparedness capacity development. The Well Prepared National Society (WPNS) is not used systematically as a baseline and special effort needs to be made by the National Society and actors to involve all levels of the National Society in such activities.

Outcome 2 National Societies form partnerships with key Movement and non-Movement actors and participate in strategic alliances for disaster risk reduction and response.
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During the past six months, the Dominican Red Cross has participated at the national level in high level forums promoting a risk reduction culture in communities. The Dominican Red Cross has also advocated on a number of issues such as the dredging of riverbeds in areas prone to flooding. This proved to be highly successful as the President declared it a national concern and was a successful action in areas prone to flooding. Thus, the National Society managed to raise awareness on the issue, and a commissioner body to address the problem was formed of which the National Society is part of.

In Haiti, the promotion and dissemination of information throughout the Red Cross networks has increased the understanding of Red Cross activities on community disaster preparedness and the importance of risk reduction. After the 2008 Hurricane season, the most affected communities in Gonaïves have been relocated to higher and safer grounds as a result of Red Cross Red Crescent actions.

Programme component 2: Organizational Preparedness
Outcome 1 Red Cross capacity in risk reduction, preparedness and response is strengthened.

During the early months of 2009, it was extremely challenging for the National Societies of Cuba and Haiti to focus on updating tools or policies due to the extent of the workload for the emergency recovery

operations. Nevertheless lessons learnt exercises were carried out in both countries. Furthermore in Haiti the response plan of the Movement was updated by a Disaster Management delegate in July and shared with the external partners in preparation of the 2010 Hurricane season.

It is expected that by early 2010, both Haiti and Dominican Republic would have had reviewed and disseminated preparedness tools especially focusing on work being done in border branches.

Some progress has been made in the area of shelter management in the Haitian National Red Cross Society and the component is better reflected in the National Society's disaster response plans. In addition, coordination has been established between the National Societies of Haiti and Dominican Republic and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) regarding shelter coordination in disasters.

Programme component 3: Community Preparedness

Outcome 1: Communities are better prepared and more organized to respond to/recover from the effects of natural hazards and recognize potential risk reduction measures and actions to be taken.

A number of capacity-building trainings have been conducted in the three National Societies targeting community-based disaster response and preparedness including early warning with volunteers and disaster response teams. In Cuba, 30 volunteers were trained thanks to the support of the Norwegian Red Cross. In Haiti, approximately 400 volunteers from the National Society participated in 8 trainings supported by the Federation through the emergency appeal for this country in response to the hurricanes season last year.

The role of the Federation's secretariat in this area is not to necessarily implement programmes but to ensure collaboration with Red Cross Red Crescent partners and the use of agreed methodology developed by the International Federation.

Tools to develop community-based disaster preparedness programmes aimed at high-risk populations have been used in each country. Five new Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) have been formed, trained and equipped to prepare and respond to emergencies in Haiti.

All of the border branches in the Dominican Republic and Haitian National Societies have established plans related to disaster risk reduction programmes targeting vulnerable communities.

Outcome 2 Communities lead and implement mitigation, early warning actions in coordination with the Red Cross and other local actors.

In August in Haiti, "*Kouri di Vwazin*" started within the framework of the Emergency Appeal in response of the Hurricane Season in 2008. In Creole it means "Run and tell your neighbour" and it is rooted in the oral traditions of Haiti. The objective of the project is to alert and sensitize vulnerable communities on potential hazards, such as hurricanes.

As part of the project, a total of 150 Haitian National Red Cross Society volunteers have been trained to alert the population and sensitize them in what they have to do if a disaster strikes their community. They are called 'relais communitaires' and they are part of the community where they live and work. Aimed at reducing the impact of disasters, 500 wind-up and solar powered radios have been distributed in high risk communities in the six provinces where the project is being implemented. The use of these radios will enable more people to have access to key information in real time.

Partnerships with community and local radio stations have been established and key messages on disaster preparedness have been distributed to key radio stations.

Programme component 4: Recovery

Outcome 1 Communities and individuals are better able to recover and reduce further risks following disasters.

No progress towards this outcome has been able to be achieved during the reporting period. Actions taking place in the second semester of 2009, will be reported at the Annual Report.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society has carried out some recovery actions through the Federation Emergency Appeal for this emergency, focusing on the construction of 400 shelters in Gonaives. For additional information, see the latest *Operations Update*.

Programme component 5: Disaster Response
Outcome 1 Ensure strong coordination with PADRU for efficient and effective Disaster Response in the region

In the past six months, the International Federation's Pan-American Disaster Response Unit has been on several support missions in the Latin Caribbean countries.

In Haiti, the regional fleet coordinator has been reviewing the needs of the HNRCS and the PNS concerning vehicles. The Regional Logistic Unit (RLU) has been supporting the procurement department of the HNRCS in procedures and regulations. PADRU's Disaster Management department has been supporting the Movement initiative in developing a contingency and response plan. A security assessment mission and good practices in shelter mission were also carried out in the first half of 2009.

In Dominican Republic an evaluation was carried out in May on the shelter study. Recommendations were issued around:

- Reinforce the shelter thematic in the Development and Strategic Plans of the National Society by: defining its policies, role at the country level, responsibilities as auxiliary body and as provider; incorporating the thematic of shelter in the functional structure of the National Society through the development of a new department or strengthening the competences of an existing department.
- Draft an institutional contingency plan on shelter. Considering the existing expertise in the thematic, consider the possibility of assuming the lead at the national level in the establishment of a response mechanism directed to shelter needs.
- Disseminate the Humanitarian Reform and the MoU between the International Federation and OCHA at the headquarter and branch levels. This action will focus on sharing the meaning of the Humanitarian Reform and its implications for the work of the Dominican Red Cross, its approach in each sector of the institution.

Health and Care

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 2: Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies

Programme component: HIV and AIDS
Outcome 1 Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment, and support and reducing stigma and discrimination – Global Alliance National Society of Haiti.
Outcome 2 National Societies expand programmes to promote behaviour change to prevent further HIV infection.
Outcome 3 Red Cross capacities in HIV and AIDS are strengthened to provide treatment, care and support.
Outcome 4 Programmes established and strengthened in their focus on stigma and discrimination reduction.
Outcome 5 Strengthening National Society, community, national and regional capacities to deliver and sustain scaled up programmes.

Achievements

The Latin Caribbean Regional Representation Office with the support of the Caribbean Office in Port of Spain has provided technical support to formulate the Global Alliance on HIV work plan and a narrative document. The Haitian National Red Cross Society will scale up its actions in prevention, treatment, care and support, reduction of HIV and AIDS-related stigma and discrimination and strengthening its capacities to respond to the impact of HIV.

During this reporting period, the “*Scaling Up Together We Can*” HIV prevention youth project has been the only component of HNRCS’s HIV programme. For this reason, programme achievements have only occurred within Output 1 of the Global Alliance on HIV: Preventing Further HIV Infection. To date, 43 per cent of the target objective for peer education and community mobilization has been reached.

From January to June 2009, over 76,000 adolescents between 10 to 24 years old have benefited from HIV prevention key messages through the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funded “*scaling up Together We Can*” project in partnership with the American Red Cross. Among those adolescents, 5,996 benefited from a 15-hour curriculum adapted from the Together We Can methodology. The curriculum is composed of capacity-building exercises that are delivered through peer-to-peer education. The exercises are designed to give beneficiaries the aptitude to assess unsafe situations along with the skills to negotiate safer sex. This project targets the departments of Ouest (areas of Petion-Ville, Cite Soleil and Petit Goave), Nord (Cap Haitien), Nord-Est (Fort Liberté, Ouanaminthe), Sud-Est (Anse-a-Pitre, Cayes Jacmel and Marigot), Grand-Anse (Jeremie), Sud (Les Cayes), Nippes (Anse-a-Veau), Nord-Ouest (Port-de-Paix), Artibonite (urban and rural sites) and Plateau Central (urban and Rural sites).

The Netherlands Red Cross funded a similar project within the Haitian National Red Cross Society Global Alliance on HIV. This project; which ended in December of 2008, also reached out to people living with HIV (PLVIH) along with OVCs by providing network and economic support. Since this projects closeout, the HNRCS has not found the needed resources to continue its outreach to this vulnerable group.

Constraints and Challenges

Support will be provided to the Cuban and Dominican National Societies (which are not yet part of the Global Alliance on HIV) for the improvement of the Together We Can (TWC) programme. The Cuban Red Cross has been unable to implement the programme due to the workload for the recovery operations. The health department of the Dominican Red Cross has been restructured and very few decisions were made to roll out a new plan for 2009. The funding period for the HIV and AIDS programme from the Netherlands Red Cross has expired and this poses a challenge for the improvement of monitoring and evaluation for the Dominican Red Cross. It is the hope that the National Society can be brought on board with the Global Alliance on HIV by the end of 2010.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society HIV prevention youth project funded by PEPFAR through the American Red Cross is expected to close out in June 2010. The National Society’s challenge will be to find other sources of funding to sustain its existing HIV prevention outreach and expand its programme into other Global Alliance on HIV outputs.

Programme component: Community Health and First Aid
Outcome 1: National Societies with capacity to develop voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation using Club 25 as a strategy, and engage in a strategic alliance with private sector.

The Haitian National Red Cross Society continues working in the initiative thanks to the bilateral support of the Global Fund. While the Dominican Red Cross has developed the Club 25 approach through its own sources of funding.

Outcome 2: National Societies with capacity to give psychosocial support to reduce mental health morbidity, disability and social problems.
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Within the emergency appeal in response to the Hurricane Season 2008 in Haiti, PSP was provided to HNRCS volunteers and to the staff of the Hospital de Secours des Gonaïves who have been doubly affected by their own stories plus their exposure to human distress during the emergencies. The psychological support programme focused on improving their psychological status to enable them to respond and support others in a more sustainable way. The workshops on psychosocial support took place in Gonaïves with 400 HNRCS volunteers and hospital staff from the hospital "Hopital de la Providence". The workshops were conducted by IDEO (Institut de Développement Personnel et Organisationnel) and the Institute specialized in psychology. For additional information, see the latest Operations Update for this operation. See the latest *Operations Update* for additional information.

Outcome 3: National Societies with capacity to disseminate good practices in first aid through the promotion of the community-based first aid.

Apart from the day to day normal business of training for the National Societies no progresses were made on this outcome during the reporting period.

Outcome 4: National Societies have developed public health in emergency activities to control emerging diseases and epidemics (avian flu, dengue etc) and have shared experiences and support process for harmonized tools and methodologies for epidemic control

The Regional Representation for the Latin Caribbean actively participated in the Dominican Red Cross's crisis room after the outbreak of the Influenza A(H1N1). The regional representation supported the preparation of the DRC contingency plan, in alignment with the International Federation's Influenza contingency plan.

During the reporting period, the Regional Representation provided follow-up and information-exchange with the three National Societies about the progress and actions taking place in relation to the Influenza A(H1N1).

In addition, the Regional Representation participated in two meetings in Santo Domingo led by PAHO with health authorities on the progress of the Influenza A(H1N1) in the continent and its imminent arrival to the Dominican Republic. The International Federation also held a meeting with the State's Public Health Secretariat (Secretaría de Estado de Salud Pública) on the same topic.

With support from DG ECHO, the Dominican Red Cross is currently implementing the Regional Epidemic Control project with other National Societies from the Americas. The project aims to enhance the National Societies' response capacities to epidemic outbreaks of malaria, dengue fever, dengue hemorrhagic fever, leptospirosis and yellow fever.

As part of the regional activities, two meetings were held to develop a training module for Epidemic Control for Volunteers using secretariat global material as a reference. These meetings were held thanks to the support from ECHO and technical assistance from the Regional Centre for Disaster Preparedness and the direct technical support from National Society focal points of Bolivia, Colombia, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic as well as the Regional Representation for the Andean Countries.

Following these meetings, the Validation for Epidemic Control for Volunteers workshop, with support from DG ECHO, the American Red Cross, and the Regional Centre of Reference for Disaster



In June, Red Cross volunteers from the Dominican Red Cross and other National Societies were trained on the use of personal protection equipment during the Epidemic Control for Volunteers workshop held in Lima. **International Federation.**

Preparedness, took place in June. A total of 19 representatives from the Dominican Red Cross and other National Societies from South America participated in the workshop.

Outcome 5: National Societies have developed a strategy on road safety, promoted road safety campaigns and promoted adherence to road risk reducing guides in coordination with other actors.

Two workshops on road safety will be conducted in the Americas before the end of 2009. Project support will be provided to National Societies implementing Road Safety projects. The Dominican Red Cross is currently establishing a working group responsible for the development of road safety policies and it is very keen to develop Road Safety programmes by 2010. The National Society already has a fitting network to work with as the DRC is in charge of road rescue in the major highway of the country.

Organizational Development / Capacity-Building

Programme Purpose

Global Agenda Goal 3: Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability

Actions towards this Global Agenda Goal during the first half of the year are reflected under the different support activities carried out with the National Societies of the region.

The 2009 plan for this programmatic area reflects one modification, the programme component 3 and related outcomes will be removed as implementation towards these outcomes will not be possible to achieve during this year.

Programme component 1: National Society Leadership Capacities improvement

Outcome 1: National Societies have improved their system of governance and management.

Outcome 2: National Societies are promoting effective and empowered leaders

Achievements

In June, the regional Organizational Development programme started drafting a proposal for a leadership and management skills training promoted by the Organizational Development Zone Coordinator. This proposal covers all National Societies in Latin America, including the Dominican Republic and Cuba, and seeks to promote institutional learning through a virtual platform. The piloting of this proposal is expected to take place 2010 in the Latin Caribbean region.

The regional programme will prioritize the roll-out of the Branch Development Game in the National Societies of Cuba and the Dominican Republic during the second semester of the year. During the coming year the programme will work on translating this tool into Creole for its use in Haiti.

Constraints or Challenges

The Regional Representation will work to promote the interest and participation of the National Societies of Cuba and the Dominican Republic in this line of training. If achieved, the National Societies can complete the cycle of training modules by 2010.

Programme component 2: National Society systems, procedures an staff sustainability

Outcome 1 The National Societies of Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti are using results-based planning and performance management systems with clear quality standards.

Achievements

The Regional Representation Organizational Development programme provided support to the Haitian National Red Cross Society in the drafting and updating of its plan DFID IS III 2009.

The regional programme also carried out follow-up in the receipt of narrative and financial reports, specifically with the Haitian National Red Cross Society for the DFID-funded programme.

The regional Organizational Development programme will provide support to the Dominican Republic in the preparation of its proposal for the Global Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Constraints or Challenges

Further support is still required for the Dominican Red Cross and the Haitian National Red Cross Society to strengthen their systems and procedures on planning, budgeting, accountability and reporting. To date, there are still delays to receive reports and financial records.

Programme component 3: National Society financial sustainability

Outcome 1 The National Societies have developed a more effective financial management

Constraints or Challenges

The Regional Representation has made efforts on this priority; however, enhancing the National Societies' capacities on financial management still remains a challenge. For 2010, this thematic is still a priority therefore actions towards it have been included in the regional plan 2010—2011 for the Latin Caribbean.

Programme component 4: National Society grassroots and service development

Outcome 1 Red Cross youth initiatives are promoted and supported by the National Societies of Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti ensuring effective participation of young people in the institutional life of the National Society

Outcome 2: Communities have increased their capacity to organize themselves and create change through the promotion of volunteers

Achievements

During the first half of the year, the Haitian National Red Cross Society with support from the International Federation completed the process of ensuring 1,770 of its volunteers against accidents.

The regional Organizational Development programme conducted a 15-day mission to the Cuban Red Cross to offer and promote the support of the Regional Representation to the volunteering activities of this National Society. A total of two provincial branches were selected (Santiago and Villa Clara, where the Regional Representation carried out visits as well as talks with volunteers in the municipal branches of San Luis, Palma Soriano and Songo-La Maya (in Santiago), Placetas and Remedios (in Villa Clara) and the CRC's headquarters in La Habana.

In addition, the regional programme has worked on the preparation process of the project to establish and apply a volunteer database in the Cuban Red Cross. This project is based in the database used by the Bolivian Red Cross to register its volunteers. By the end of the year, the Cuban Red Cross aims to have the database implemented up to 50 per cent. For the coming year, the process will be initiative with the Dominican Red Cross.

The Branch Development Tool has been promoted through visits to different branches of the DRC. For the second semester of 2009, trainings of trainers targeting at least 30 people on the use of the game will be carried out first in the Dominican Republic in September and in Cuba during December.

With regards to the promotion of youth activities, it is expected that at least one National Society participates in the Regional Caribbean Youth Forum during the second semester of the year, which is organized by the Regional Youth Network.

Programme component 5: National Society programme development and management

Outcome 1: Caribbean technical networks are supporting the development of the Caribbean National Societies

Achievements

For the second semester of the year the regional programme will provide support the inclusion of at least one National Society in the Global Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction by the end of 2009, as mentioned above the regional programme is supporting the National Society of the Dominican Republic to prepare its proposal.

In addition, the three National Societies of the Latin Caribbean are part of the Caribbean Disaster Management Network.

Moreover, follow-up to the drafting of a Plan of Action for the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic has been provided by the Regional Representation, which participated in the bi-national meeting with both National Societies. The objective of this plan of action is to harmonize the actions taking place in the Red Cross branches along the border and promote the joint planning to address vulnerability in this area. The border area between in the Dominican Republic and Haiti is characterized for its high levels of vulnerability. Disasters such as floods or health-related emergencies that occur in one side of the border tend to affect the other side as well. The Plan of Action also takes into consideration support mechanism between Red Cross branches along the border in emergency situations, because braches in one side of the brooder can provide support faster to the other branch as it closer than other branches of the National Societies.

Outcome 2: National Societies have increased significantly their participation in public initiatives with the authorities, the private sector and civil society

The regional Organizational Development programme provided support to the National Societies for the preparation of events prior to the 150 Anniversary in Solferino. Also, participation in the launch of the global Red Cross campaign *Our World, Your Move* through support provided to the Dominican Red Cross in carrying out the launch at the national level.

The regional Organizational Development programme provided support to the Regional Representation in preparing the documents and Memorandum of Understanding with the Dominican Red Cross for the Epidemics Control project funded by DG ECHO.

Moreover, the regional programme supported the drafting of the General Migration Situation in the Latin Caribbean report. This action took place in view of the International Federation Migration Policy and its possible application in the context of this region's countries.

Working in partnership

At the start of 2009 some changes have been observed for the PNS working via bilateral agreements in the Latin Caribbean. The **Norwegian Red Cross** has strengthened its presence in Cuba and has established a plan to provided support for an extended period. Norwegian Red Cross collaborates with the Cuban Red Cross on three objectives under the community risk reduction context.

- To strengthen community capacity in dealing with disasters and the proper use of water and sanitation for health maintenance.
- To increase the level of disaster response and relief operations with groups at different levels.
- To develop capacity of the Cuban Red Cross in disaster risk reduction.

The Norwegian Red Cross supported the Cuban Red Cross Disaster Risk Reduction programme with special focus on water and sanitation. Awareness-raising activities were conducted in 32 communities in 6 provinces (reaching approx. 10,544 families). Assistance was also provided to improve response in search and rescue teams in 12 Cuban municipalities and specialized groups in 3 provinces. The Cuban Red Cross has reported an increase in its volunteer base in communities and municipalities in which the Norwegian funded Disaster Risk Reduction programme was conducted. Improved visibility for the

Cuban Red Cross has also occurred through initiatives via television and radio reports, newspaper articles, community presence in projects and trainings and through collaboration with authorities and organizations.

In Dominican Republic, the Netherlands Red Cross has concluded their HIV and AIDS programme and has closed their representation for the time being. While, the Netherlands and Norwegian Red Cross Societies have closed offices and the German Red Cross is opening an office in Port Au Prince, Haiti.

In Haiti, the **Canadian Red Cross** is currently working on community health in the department of Les Nippes (Anse-A-Veau and Petit-Trou-De-Nippes). Community participation and mobilization are key aspects of the project. Using the PHAST methodology, project communities identified the construction of latrines as their priority to improve sanitary conditions. The project benefits 15,000 people from 29 towns. The main interventions includes community mobilization, awareness and training sessions on hygiene, sanitation and prevention of malaria, micro-projects in hygiene and sanitation, and the distribution of mosquito nets. This is a multi-year programme with a current end date of September 2012. The Canadian Red Cross and the Haitian National Red Cross Society will continue to develop responsive programming initiatives in coordination with the International Federation and other PNS.



The Canadian Red Cross carried out a latrine construction project in the department of Les Nippes. **Canadian Red Cross.**

The **American Red Cross** has been working on Malaria prevention and community-based health in north-eastern Haiti reaching 5,000 direct beneficiaries. Since its onset, 5,282 LLINs (Long lasting insecticide-treated nets) have been distributed to pregnant women and children under 5 years old in 5 communes in Haiti. Recently, a new system was put in place in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in order to identify newly pregnant women through prenatal care visits at the health centre. As a result, 213 newly pregnant women were identified and received LLINs through two health centres.

Another key programme of American Red Cross is Youth HIV and AIDS prevention reaching 70,000. ARC's Together We Can (TWC) programme in Haiti is a longstanding programme of 6+ years aimed at reaching youth ages 10 to 24 with HIV and AIDS prevention messages through an adapted curriculum, peer-to-peer outreach, "edutainment," and mass media-based messages. To date, since its initiation in 2003, 1,603 youth have been trained as peer educators, and over one million youth have been reached with interpersonal outreach, and many more through general diffusion events and mass media.

In recent months in Haiti, new opportunities for outreach have been designed to increase intensity and dosage, such as "follow-up interventions" which take place three to six, and nine to twelve months after curriculum-based sessions, and an enhanced peer-to-peer outreach methodology whereby programme beneficiaries share key prevention messages and self-efficacy building activities with the same ten peers on multiple occasions. In addition, free condom distribution has begun in most sites where appropriate.

The **French Red Cross**, through a DIPECHO project and additional follow-up project, has supported the HNRCS in the strengthening of local disaster preparedness and response structures in the communes of Saint Marc, Verrette, La Chapelle, Dessalines, Petite Rivière, Grand Saline and Desdunes (Arbonite department). Actions included the establishment of operational disaster local committees and provision of response equipment, training of managerial staff of 48 schools in disaster preparedness, a radio awareness-raising campaign, micro-projects and provision of disaster mitigation toolkits reaching approximately 6,074 direct beneficiaries and 555,773 indirect beneficiaries, and building the capacity of the HNRCS Saint Marc branch.

Moreover, the French Red Cross continues working on the Water Facility project with the main objective to provide safe drinking water in a healthy environment by improving water facilities and management, and promoting hygiene. The project takes place in the Anse-Rouge commune in the Arbonite department reaching 4,400 direct beneficiaries and 20,000 indirect beneficiaries. To date the main achievement of the project has been the rehabilitation of the water network and public drinking

fountains, awareness-raising on hygiene at schools and water fountains as well as the establishment of water management committees.

In the same commune, the French Red Cross also carries out actions to improve hygiene and health conditions. Efforts have reached 9,000 direct beneficiaries and 15,000 indirect beneficiaries through the construction of latrines and awareness-raising on good hygiene practices with families and at schools.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The Latin Caribbean Regional Representation Office is working towards trying to integrate National Society programmes between them at two distinctive levels according to geographical and language realities for the Cuban Red Cross with the Dominican Red Cross and for strategic reasons between the Haitian National Red Cross Society and the Dominican Red Cross. In this regard, advocacy has been carried out with partners and government in order to mirror a percentage of our operational budget from one country to the other one.

Looking ahead

The need for a direct support to Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic has been acknowledged by the Movement partners in those three countries. Still, low funding for the Santo Domingo office makes this situation quite unstable and it is difficult to project support for the next planning round. Haiti, due to the particular context still requires special support. A decision has been made to keep a minimum presence of the secretariat after the phase out of the emergency teams that worked in Haiti. This permanent secretariat presence in the country will be in a better position to improve the National Society's organizational development skills.

How we work	
<p>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".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Regional Representation for the Latin Caribbean: Alexandre Claudon de Vernisy, Regional Representative for the Latin Caribbean, Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic; email: alex.claudon@ifrc.org; phone: (1 809) 334 4545. • In the Americas Zone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xavier Castellanos, Head of Zone; email: xavier.castellanos@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0250; and fax: (507) 317 1304. - María Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator in the Zone; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0250; and fax: (507) 317 1304. 	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA49002 - Latin Caribbean region

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/6
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAA49002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	223,868	1,711,240	74,515	0	0	2,009,622
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross		3,915				3,915
DFID Partnership grant	58,501					58,501
ECHO		47,312				47,312
European Commission, Europe Aid		1,018,915				1,018,915
Japanese Red Cross	87,790					87,790
Norwegian Red Cross		7,123				7,123
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	20,000	64,110				84,110
Other	12,743					12,743
Spanish Red Cross			70,073			70,073
C1. Cash contributions	179,033	1,141,375	70,073			1,390,481
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
DFID Partnership grant	62,483					62,483
ECHO		12,160				12,160
European Commission, Europe Aid		205,624				205,624
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	62,483	217,784				280,267
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	241,516	1,359,159	70,073	0	0	1,670,748
D. Total Funding = B + C	241,516	1,359,159	70,073	0	0	1,670,748
Appeal Coverage	108%	79%	94%	#DIV/0	#DIV/0	83%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Income	241,516	1,359,159	70,073	0	0	1,670,748
E. Expenditure	-51,791	-1,096,426	-23,309		1,328	-1,170,197
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	189,725	262,734	46,764	0	1,328	500,550

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA49002 - Latin Caribbean region

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
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Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAA49002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		223,868	1,711,240	74,515	0	0	2,009,622	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	30,353							30,353
Food	17,400							17,400
Utensils & Tools	12,375							12,375
Other Supplies & Services	10,760							10,760
Total Supplies	70,888							70,888
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	4,600							4,600
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	4,600							4,600
Transport & Storage								
Storage	15,300							15,300
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,827	465		32		122	618	1,208
Total Transport & Storage	17,127	465		32		122	618	16,508
Personnel								
International Staff	48,131	84	24,555			224	24,864	23,267
National Staff	18,429	375					375	18,054
National Society Staff	71,014	9,115					9,115	61,899
Total Personnel	137,574	9,575	24,555			224	34,355	103,219
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	98,091	3,716					3,716	94,374
Total Workshops & Training	98,091	3,716					3,716	94,374
General Expenditure								
Travel	16,362	1,723	856	2,708		963	6,251	10,112
Information & Public Relation	8,706							8,706
Office Costs	33,050	1,622		122			1,744	31,306
Communications	23,229	2,601				289	2,890	20,340
Professional Fees	11,000							11,000
Financial Charges	352	3,690	-25,812	1,642		-2,840	-23,320	23,673
Other General Expenses	360		80				80	280
Total General Expenditure	93,060	9,637	-24,875	4,471		-1,588	-12,355	105,415
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies	1,447,952							1,447,952
Cash Transfers Others			1,040,808				1,040,808	-1,040,808
Total Contributions & Transfers	1,447,952		1,040,808				1,040,808	407,144
Programme Support								
Program Support	130,625	3,366	3,615	1,515		-86	8,410	122,215
Total Programme Support	130,625	3,366	3,615	1,515		-86	8,410	122,215
Services								
Services & Recoveries	6,705							6,705
Total Services	6,705							6,705
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions	3,000	25,032	52,323	17,290			94,645	-91,645
Total Operational Provisions	3,000	25,032	52,323	17,290			94,645	-91,645
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,009,622	51,791	1,096,426	23,309		-1,328	1,170,197	839,424
VARIANCE (C - D)		172,077	614,814	51,206		1,328	839,424	