

Mid-Year report



Bolivia

Appeal No. MAABO001

6 October 2011

This report covers the period 01 January 2011 to 30 June 2011.

In brief

Programme outcome: The IFRC's regional representation for Andean countries provides support to the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC) to work towards the three strategic aims of *Strategy 2020*:

1. *Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises;*
2. *Enable healthy and safe living; and*
3. *Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace*

The regional representation supports the National Society in the key areas of disaster management, health and care, organizational development and principles and values.

Programmes summary:

The IFRC disaster risk management programme at the regional representation does not have a dedicated person since the first quarter of 2011, and limited funding has been secured for the first half of the year. Therefore, little progress has been achieved in the reporting period.

Nevertheless, within disaster risk management, support has been provided through the Federation's Emergency Appeal issued on 8 March 2011 to assist initially 2,500 families. This Emergency Appeal seeks to respond to the landslides and floods situation and the appeal for emergency response of the Bolivian government. The Emergency Appeal also seeks to build capacities within the National Society to better respond to present and future events.

The health and care programme has focused on supporting HIV and AIDS, community health and health in emergencies programming. Furthermore, the BRC requested support from the IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the dengue outbreaks that occurred in the Riberalta municipality in the department of Beni. The operation focuses on vector control to limit transmission, including nets distribution and cleaning campaigns.

The IFRC is for the most part supporting the Bolivian Red Cross in organizational development through two projects: the project *student brigades*¹ supported by the Finnish Red Cross and the initiative *community projects* supported by the Swedish Red Cross.

Financial situation: The total 2011 revised budget is 361,561 Swiss francs, of which 150,999 Swiss francs (42 per cent) has been covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was 22,455 Swiss francs. The budget has been revised from 234,959 Swiss francs to 361,561 Swiss francs.

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

See also: [Bolivia: Floods and landslide \(MDRBO006\)](#) and [Peru and Bolivia: Dengue Outbreak \(MDR46001\)](#).

No. of people we have reached: The main beneficiary of the secretariat's support is the Bolivian Red Cross itself as a result of organizational development support and its volunteers through training. During this reporting period most of the National Society's beneficiaries have been reached as a result of the response to emergencies and dengue outbreaks:

- More than 2,500 families are being supported through the landslide and flood operation (MDRBO006).
- Through the operation in response to the dengue outbreak (MDR46001) 245 students, 61 Red Cross volunteers and governmental health staff were trained; and the National Society reached approximately 77,000 beneficiaries with cleaning and fumigation campaigns and distributed 500 mosquito nets in Bolivia alone.

Our partners:

The BRC received financial support from the following partners during this period – the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), the Finnish Red Cross and the Finnish government, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Swedish Red Cross and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Furthermore, the BRC receives technical and financial support bilaterally from the Spanish Red Cross and the Chinese Red Cross.

Within the emergency operation (MDRBO006), the BRC continues to attend the meetings held by the government institutions, including the departmental emergency operation centres (EOCs), as well as meetings held by the United Nations agencies in the clusters of water and sanitation, shelter, health, nutrition, early recovery, protection and education. In an effort to provide a coordinated response to the shelter needs in La Paz, the municipal office has held several meetings to discuss agreements, and to identify appropriate land. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is continues to take on the leadership of all shelter actors, including those under the Fundación para el Desarrollo Participativo Comunitario (FUNDEPCO) consortium.

Context

Country-wide, the first six months of 2011 have been marked by several weather-related events and health emergencies. Due to the La Niña weather phenomenon, the weather pattern in Bolivia was disrupted. The country experienced droughts in early 2011, and many days of intense and constant rainfall throughout February. These weeks of severe rainfall caused in turn flooding and mudslides in 9 departments of the country, affecting some 14,000 families and causing 56 deaths. During the last six months, seismic activity has increased, with a total record of 107 seismic movements of an average measurement of 4 on

¹ In Spanish: Brigadas Estudiantiles.

the Richter scale. Late in June 2011, a cold wave was starting to affect the Potosí department.

Bolivia has taken on the Presidency of the Andean parliament for the period 2011–2012; among its priorities are the creation of protection mechanisms to support Andean migrants.

In relation to the country's economy, the 5.6 per cent increase in the external debt during the first semester of 2011 has affected the economic growth of the country, which has not surpassed an average of 4 per cent.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impacts of disasters.
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To respond to the landslides and floods situation and the national emergency situation declared by the government, an Emergency Appeal was launched in March to assist 2,500 families for six months. The emergency appeal includes National Society capacity building elements in order to allow the National Society to better respond to present and future events

Programme component 1: Institutional capacity-building for community risk reduction
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Component Outcome 1: Bolivian Red Cross is encouraged and receives support for strengthening capacities to work with communities to be better prepared and organized to reduce, respond and recover from disaster impacts, contributing to building safer and more resilient communities.
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Due to limitations in the funding received to continue to support the National Society to strengthen its institutional capacities to work with communities on risk reduction issues, no particular achievement for this programme component was made during this period. However, the continental disaster risk management programme is providing support and it is expected that the Bolivian Red Cross will benefit from initiatives organized at the regional and zone levels taking place during the second semester of the year.

Programme component 2: Institutional capacity building for disaster preparedness

Component Outcome 1: The secretariat encourages and supports the strengthening of the Bolivian Red Cross capacities to effectively support communities to plan, prepare, respond to and recover from emergencies.
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As with the planned first programme component, the above stated challenges have hindered the implementation of activities for component 2. Institutional capacity building for disaster preparedness has been carried out in the reporting period through the Floods and Landslide operation supported by the IFRC.

Through the Emergency Appeal the National Society capacities in emergency health and water and sanitation have been strengthened. BRC volunteers participated in a workshop to increase their knowledge in shelter solutions. This workshop was conducted in the La Paz branch in the third week of April 2011 with approximately 25 participants, including technical

staff of the BRC headquarters and volunteers from La Paz city branch. In addition, staff members of the National Society were trained in the standard IFRC requirements for local procurement. Furthermore, the communication unit of the BRC has increased the visibility of the activities carried out by National Society in response to this emergency. The BRC's web site was updated and press releases distributed to several national media outlets, including the newspapers Los Tiempos, La Prensa and El Deber.

Programme component 3: Disaster risk reduction coordination and advocacy

Component Outcome 1: The participation and coordination processes between Bolivian Red Cross and the local and national authorities; other national and local organizations and regional platforms to develop disaster risk reduction, response and recovery initiatives have resulted in key partnership and strategic alliances.

As well part of the Emergency Appeal process the National Society is trying to increase the number of partnerships with governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Health and care

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

The objective is to support National Societies to increase health activities and mobilize volunteers, civil society and local government in order to achieve greater equity in health and have a greater impact on public health issues. The health and care programme has focused on supporting work in HIV and AIDS, community health and health in emergencies.

During the past months of 2011, the Bolivian Red Cross did not have a health director. However, the implementation of a nutrition project carried out by the Canadian Red Cross has recently enabled the BRC to have a programme director.

Programme component 2: Public Health in the Community

Component Outcome 1: Bolivian Red Cross has strengthened its management capacities and scaled up actions related to Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA), Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donation (VNRBD), and HIV within an integrated community health strategy.

In late 2010, it was possible to integrate health-related concerns with the revision of the secretariat support plan for the Bolivian Red Cross for 2011, which was not previously an area of interest for the National Society as there was no health director. This marks the stepping stone to move further in the strengthening of BRC capacities and scaling up of actions related to Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) in particular.

The Strategic Operational Framework for health is promoted across the region in a strategic manner to support National Societies in empowering communities, volunteers and branches. The National Societies are integrating this methodology —including the Bolivian Red Cross— as a platform for action and resource mobilization.

The BRC has participated in the regional workshop on Community-Based Health and First Aid. Through this workshop, virtual training for this topic was initiated, enabling 75 volunteers from different branches to have access to these resources for community work.

To date, initiatives in HIV and AIDS work, psychosocial support and Club 25 have yet to be resumed. These activities were added when the country plan was updated in June 2010; however, lack of funding in 2011 has hindered progress towards the planned activities.

Programme component 3: Public Health in Emergencies

Component Outcome 1: The National Society has strengthened its capacities to prepare, respond and recover from health emergencies related to epidemics/pandemics and disasters.

The need to respond to public health emergencies in Bolivia during the reporting period has enabled training of BRC volunteers in vector control and community intervention for health management. A DREF operation was launched in coordination with the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) to provide support to the BRC in response to the dengue outbreaks that occurred in the Riberalta municipality (Beni department). The operation helped train 245 students, 61 Red Cross volunteers and governmental health staff; the National Society reached approximately 77,000 beneficiaries with cleaning and fumigation campaigns, and distributed 500 mosquito nets.

The Bolivian Red Cross has therefore strengthened its capacities as a result of training National Intervention Teams specialized in health in emergencies with the Epidemic Control Toolkit for volunteers in the response to the dengue outbreak training volunteers, high school students, teachers and health staff on epidemic control and community health education. The Bolivian Red Cross also completed the training by conducting a communications campaign using recreational materials such as “Dengueland”.

Main actions of the operation:

- Cleaning and fumigation campaigns in the municipal district of Riberalta were programmed by the Health Network No. 7 and volunteers from the BRC local branch participated. House visits were conducted, in addition to training sessions organized with the Health Network No. 7 and the personnel from the vector-borne diseases programme in order to have a team capable of disseminating key messages to affected populations.
- Training workshops were held for health personnel and volunteers in five municipalities on the study of outbreaks.
- For the communication campaign, the BRC used the slogan “*United against dengue*” to promote vector-control actions with all sectors of the communities. The communications strategy aimed to complement the distribution of materials such as leaflets and calendar-like posters that were printed with the support of the IFRC.

The National Society, outside of the DREF, also conducted actions in other affected areas by the outbreak such as Santa Cruz. Furthermore, to better address the needs of the population and increase the reach of the activities implemented through the DREF, the IFRC in coordination with PAHO, also worked on a proposal that was presented to ECHO. The roll-out of the new CBHFA *in Action* methodology in the Bolivian Red Cross as a framework for health in emergencies community-based preparedness and response will be carried out through this project in coordination with PAHO. A national CBHFA workshop to be developed next August will train 18 different volunteers; five of them as trainers of trainers; four as facilitators and nine as participants.

In addition, the BRC participated in a regional emergency health workshop “*Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in the Americas: Lessons Learnt and innovative approaches*” in April 2011 organized by the IFRC emergency health coordinator. The objective of this workshop was to share the different experiences of emergencies caused by epidemic diseases in the Americas in reference to the community-based approach and integrating prevention and preparedness activities.

Organizational Development / Capacity Building

Programme component 1: National Society capacity development in organizational development.
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Component outcome 1: A renewed, representative and diverse leadership in the Bolivian Red Cross.

The functioning of the organization falls into few hands and participatory mechanisms are still needed. There is a clear lack of leaders and there is a need for the renewal of governance structures and training for leaders. Limited progress has been made on this topic as the relationship with the National Society to improve leadership within the governing board is in its initial phase.

Nevertheless, the leadership training process between the BRC volunteers is running through the *virtual classrooms*² project. This project is proving to be successful and the IFRC will support its continued implementation. So far, during 2011, 9,352 visits have been registered in the virtual class rooms in courses related to institutional training, DRR, voluntary blood donation, IHL, epidemiology, leadership and planning.

Component outcome 2

Increased, renewed and diverse volunteering in Bolivian Red Cross.

The Bolivian Red Cross is still unattractive to new volunteers due to the lack of flexible and up to date volunteer management systems. Retaining volunteers also remains a challenge; however, in this first half of 2011 the Bolivian Red Cross has partially focused its efforts on supporting the adoption of clear volunteering policies. The National Society has aligned its national volunteering policy within the framework of the Global Volunteering Policy. In addition, the Volunteer Rules manual has been published. The IFRC expects to support the dissemination of these documents in future meetings. Copies have been distributed to the branches.

For the second half of the year, the IFRC will be supporting the Bolivian Red Cross towards implementing innovative youth development projects. The regional representation, with Finnish Red Cross funds, is supporting the BRC youth department with the school brigades project. This is the first phase of the project and half of the branches will intervene in this project and it is expected that next year, the remaining ones will take part. A manual is being developed for use in trainings and for volunteers. The “*community projects*” initiative is being supported by the Swedish Red Cross. The volunteer management cycle still needs to be extended to communities where the BRC takes action.

Component outcome 3

The Bolivian Red Cross has reduced its integrity risks

² In Spanish: proyecto Aulas Virtuales.

The National Society has decided to carry out a mid-term evaluation of its Strategic Plan during second part of the year. This process will be supported by the IFRC. The IFRC will provide technical assistance during the process of the evaluation. In September the IFRC will give a workshop on S2020 and will take the chance to initiate discussions on how to undertake the Mid Term evaluation, and define the level of harmonization of the BRC Strategic Plan with S2020.

The separation between governance and management is still a significant challenge within the National Society; limited progress has been achieved thus far on this issue as currently the decision taken by the BRC governance is to work on the basis of a joint management team formed by the programme coordinators and the president.

Component outcome 4

A standard planning, monitoring and evaluation system is in place in the Bolivian Red Cross.

The National Society faces challenges related to the growth of the institution, where the focus is still placed on increasing the number of projects. The long term strategic vision is still in the process of being defined.

Some progress has been achieved in the effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, and partially in improving the accounting process of the National Society, with the IFRC support. The IFRC will work with DFID funds, the technical support of the PMER unit in Panama, and with the Finnish Red Cross in order to improve financial systems, as well as planning, monitoring and reporting systems, tools and procedures.

At present, The National Society has a planning unit with a person in charge; however, there is a need to increase and strengthen capacities within the unit in order to improve the internal planning processes of the BRC. During the next semester of the year, the regional representation will begin actions to work towards this fourth outcome, which is further explained above.

Constraints or Challenges

- As mentioned above, the lack of a DRM delegate within the regional representation has affected the activities in this area during the first semester of the year.
- The successful integration of regional health plans and actions are dependent on the establishment of a continental framework and a comprehensive approach on health issues.
- The BRC not only needs to have a permanent person in charge of health programming, but also a work team and a plan of action for health in accordance with the country's needs and S2020.
- The BRC needs to be able to guarantee that its activities in health will continue since there is a risk of losing the initial investment made in this area.
- The organizational structure within the National Society remains a challenge. There is a strong need to create a positive environment towards change and modernization.
- The capacities of the National Society staff need to be improved, training in different sectors and programme areas will be essential in the framework of the Country Support Plan 2012-2015.

Working in partnership

- It is expected that the planning unit within the National Society will become more active in order that the Strategic Plan and operational activities are better harmonized.

- Between the Movement partners including the Finnish Red Cross (through the IFRC) will support the OD Coordinator with financing so that progress can be monitored and reported on.
- Information-sharing meetings have been organized with all components of the Movement present in the country

Contributing to longer-term impact

- Increased participation in coordination and planning meetings will be assumed by the IFRC, ensuring mechanisms for sharing of information on regular basis.
- The IFRC will focus on enhancing the capacity and skills of management and governance structures of the BRC and improving its administrative, planning and reporting processes.

Looking ahead

- The mid-term evaluation process of the National Strategic Plan provides an opportunity to define an improved cooperation scenario and opens the possibility to align the Bolivian Red Cross Strategic Plan for the next period to S2020.
- The BRC, supported by the IFRC, will continue to assess the situation of the most vulnerable people living in Bolivia.

How we work	
<p><i>All 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.</i></p>	
<p>The IFRC's vision is to:</p> <p>Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.</p>	<p>The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises. 2. Enable healthy and safe living. 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
Contact information	
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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABO001 - Bolivia

MID YEAR REPORT 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/01-2011/06
Budget Timeframe	2011/01-2011/12
Appeal	MAABO001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	151,171	74,565	135,826			361,561
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0			0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	753		2,159			2,912
<i>Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)</i>	4,266		12,237			16,503
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>			55,860			55,860
<i>PAHO (Pan American Health Organisation)</i>		71,684				71,684
C1. Cash contributions	5,019	71,684	70,256			146,959
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Balance Reallocation</i>			4,040			4,040
C4. Other Income			4,040			4,040
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	5,019	71,684	74,295			150,999
D. Total Funding = B + C	5,019	71,684	74,295			150,999
Appeal Coverage	3%	96%	55%			42%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0			0
C. Income	5,019	71,684	74,295			150,999
E. Expenditure	-1,950	0	-20,505			-22,455
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	3,070	71,684	53,791			128,544

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABO001 - Bolivia

MID YEAR REPORT 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/01-2011/06
Budget Timeframe	2011/01-2011/12
Appeal	MAABO001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		151,171	74,565	135,826			361,561	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Other Supplies & Services	21,078							21,078
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	21,078							21,078
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,100							5,100
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,100							5,100
Personnel								
National Staff	17,652	-92					-92	17,743
National Society Staff	8,670							8,670
Total Personnel	26,322	-92					-92	26,413
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Professional Fees		1,411					1,411	-1,411
Total Consultants & Professional Fees		1,411					1,411	-1,411
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	208,143			6,141			6,141	202,001
Total Workshops & Training	208,143			6,141			6,141	202,001
General Expenditure								
Travel	26,188	269		73			342	25,846
Information & Public Relations	3,408			8			8	3,400
Office Costs	7,376			39			39	7,336
Communications	827			101			101	726
Financial Charges	4,948	153		288			441	4,507
Shared Office and Services Costs	35,100			3,318			3,318	31,782
Total General Expenditure	77,846	422		3,827			4,250	73,597
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-99		9,154			9,055	-9,055
Total Operational Provisions		-99		9,154			9,055	-9,055
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	22,394	107		1,243			1,350	21,045
Total Indirect Costs	22,394	107		1,243			1,350	21,045
Pledge Specific Costs								
Pledge Earmarking Fee	678			139			139	539
Pledge Reporting Fees		200					200	-200
Total Pledge Specific Costs	678	200		139			339	339
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	361,561	1,950		20,505			22,455	339,107
VARIANCE (C - D)		149,221	74,565	115,321			339,107	