

Mid-Year report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Dominican Republic

Appeal No. MAADO001

23 September 2011

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



Dominican Red Cross volunteers work within the community carrying out cholera prevention activities. Source: Dominican Red Cross.

In brief

This report updates the progress taken to implement the 2011 support plan for the Dominican Red Cross (DRC).

The Dominican Red Cross work is guided by the Guayaquil Inter-American Plan and Strategy 2020, which puts forward three strategic aims:

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.*

Financial situation: The total revised 2011 budget is 477,610 Swiss francs, of which 24,339 Swiss francs (5 per cent) were covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Additional income has been posted within the July and August period which increases considerably the coverage of this appeal; however this additional income is not reflected in the attached financial report which covers up to the end of June 2011. Overall expenditure during the reporting period was 25,825 Swiss francs (5 per cent) of the budget.

One of the reasons for the lack of coverage is that the Dominican Red Cross (DRC) has received contributions for the operation focusing on response to the cholera outbreak (MDR49007) that shared several of the budget lines of the country plan, together with the lack of a clear, defined resource mobilization strategy.

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

See also [Dominican Republic: Cholera outbreak \(MDR49007\)](#)

No. of people we have reached: The regional representation focuses on building the capacities of the Dominican Red Cross. Consequently, direct beneficiaries of regional representation programmes are the members of the National Society, including its staff at headquarters and branch level, governance bodies and volunteers. Indirect beneficiaries belong to civil society, since it is through the strengthening of the National Society capacities and the technical support offered that methodologies, initiatives and activities can be carried out and implemented accordingly.

Our partners: There are two Partner National Societies carrying out projects together with the Dominican Red Cross: the German Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross, which are their programmatic partners.

There is a large number of United Nations agencies present in the Dominican Republic which all enjoy good cooperation with the National Society.

Moreover, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) at the regional level has been a reliable partner for emergency operations.

Context

The Dominican Red Cross operates within a complex disaster risk setting, which involves constant hurricane threats, floods and, over the past few years, seismic related land movements such as the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. The main disaster-related regulatory framework of the Dominican Red Cross is the Constitution of the Dominican Republic together with Law 147-02 on Risk Management, which established a national disaster risk management policy and created the National Council of Prevention, Mitigation, and Response to Disasters (abbreviated in Spanish as CNPMR), the National Commission for Emergencies and the Emergency Operations Centre, of which the Dominican Red Cross Society is a member.

At the moment, the core set of activities of the DRC are centered in disaster risk management, where it develops consistent, highly recognized initiatives at both national and community level, as well as health related activities with programmes such as prevention of epidemics, voluntary blood donation, pre-hospital care, and water sanitation. These programmes are directed towards those most vulnerable, with a strong community focus. The humanitarian challenges that Haitian migration poses to the Dominican Republic have been the subject of a recent case study, and the recommendations of the study are under discussion and review.

The Dominican Red Cross has established 12 coordination centres, more than 100 strategic centres and a National Training Centre to prepare and respond to the different range of disasters it faces. It also has a roster of 150 people trained in their National Intervention Teams, and 7 in the Regional Intervention Teams. VCA methodology is strongly applied by its branches that have carried out VCA analysis in more than 200 communities. However key issues such knowledge-sharing and coordination with certain external partners and National Societies in the region are yet to be reinforced.

Some of the key challenges the Dominican Red Cross has faced during the first half of 2011 are the lack of a concrete resource mobilization strategy, which is reflected in the extremely low budget coverage and affects all programmatic areas. The election process which took place in July and August also delayed the strategic planning process of the National Society.

Disaster Management

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of death, injuries and impact from disasters

Programme component 1: Community Preparedness / Disaster Risk Management

Component outcome 1: Increased use of community-based disaster risk management programming in the major urban areas integrating the issue of climate change, seismic risks and precarious collective and individual shelter.

Comprehensive research on urban risk in the Dominican Republic and possible operational implications for further programmes in view of the DRC country support plan on urban risk has been developed with the aid of the regional DRR delegate.

The Dominican Red Cross participated in a Climate Change workshop with the National Council for Sustainable Development of the Dominican Republic President's Office, which provided a good opportunity to dialogue with high level government actors and advocate for the Red Cross to take up more engaged commitment with future DRR programmes related to climate change trends in the Dominican Republic.

With support of the Canadian Red Cross, the Dominican Red Cross is participating in the First Response Initiative project. Staff from the DRC are providing support with planning, volunteering in emergencies and are also participating in the team that develops the simulations needed for the project.

Component outcome 2: Improved capacity of the National Society to be better integrated in the regional Disaster Management system, focusing on an enhanced cooperation strategy with the Haitian National Red Cross Society at local and national level.

A joint Haitian Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross working session was conducted in April 2011 to update contingency planning with PADRU and the Centre of Reference. It is expected that a joint agreement is issued by both National Societies to reinforce their cooperation mechanism and political commitment.

Logistics support for the Haiti earthquake response operation from the Dominican Republic has been continued through the recruitment of a local logistics procurement officer. More than 180,000 Swiss francs' worth of items have been procured and forwarded to Haiti, including shelter items, water and sanitation equipment, office items as well as medical supplies for the Colombian Red Cross team working in Haiti.

Programme component 2: Disaster Risk Reduction institutional dissemination

Component outcome 1: Improved understanding of the existing national legal framework by local RC branches and local and national institutions.

A legal study on Disaster Risk Reduction was carried out by the IFRC with the key stakeholders in the Dominican Red Cross; this study will give an accurate and detailed mapping of the existing laws concerning DRR and the different challenges presented at local levels in the Dominican Republic. The content of the study is currently under revision.

Programme component 3: International Disaster Response Law

Component outcome 1: Policy-makers understand and make use of the IDRL Guidelines to strengthen legal and policy frameworks for disaster response

A case study on migration was developed as part of the review of the Fundamental Principles; this is entitled "Red Cross and Red Crescent Work and Haitian Migration in Dominican Republic". The report was issued in late June, roll out and a potential project proposal will take place during the second half of the year.

In conjunction with the Dominican Red Cross, the IDRL programme at the continental level is developing a new technical assistance project for the Dominican Republic to be undertaken in the second half of 2011. It will involve a detailed study of national laws, consultation with domestic and

international actors and the development of detailed findings and recommendations for the strengthening of national legal frameworks.

Health and Care

Programme purpose:

Reduce deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies
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Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS
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Component outcome 1: Dominican Red Cross intends to be part of the Global Alliance on HIV and is able to address HIV issues nationwide and at community level.

Due to human resources and institutional constraints, in addition to the cholera outbreaks during the reporting period, little progress has been made in supporting the National Society on HIV programme development and implementation.

A visit to the national society will be scheduled for second semester to discuss the potential for future HIV programming in the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV with the staff and management. At this meeting, the National Society will be introduced to the Federation's HIV guidelines, policies and standards for their future implementation.

Programme component 2: Public Health in emergencies
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Component outcome: 1 Contribute to the health in emergencies particularly dengue fever preparedness and response with community health promotion campaigns and institutional preparedness.

The cholera response operation in Haiti and the Dominican Republic has mobilized both National Societies in responding through an Emergency Appeal. The Dominican Red Cross has strengthened its coordination with the Federation's disaster response system and technical support programmes. The proposed emergency health outcome in the Appeal: reducing cholera-related morbidity and mortality through a comprehensive health approach, is being reached through activities such as: distribution of 2,500 cholera supply kits to cholera patients, distribution of oral re-hydration solution (ORS) to 10,000 families to start early treatment of cholera at home (complementing preventive health and hygiene promotion talks), conducting psychosocial support activities in health centres and communities in order to enhance awareness campaigns and address stigma and fears surrounding cholera, and supporting health authorities with supplies including stretchers, ORS and tents for cholera treatment facilities as required.

The DRC has worked within the national disaster management system, promoting the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategy and messages agreed with the Ministries of Health and Education as well as the Humanitarian Working Group in country that includes UNICEF, OCHA, UNDP, AECID and ECHO. The National Society capacity in "health in emergencies" has been strengthened through this process.

The secretariat facilitated joint contingency planning for the island of Hispaniola with representatives from the Dominican and Haitian Red Cross Societies. The planning had a particular focus on the 2011 rainy season and the ongoing cholera situation affecting both countries. The secretariat emergency health and water and sanitation focal points supported the disaster response team in this process.

The DRC continues gathering information from the activities in the branches and reported a total of 16,286 people trained in epidemic control (cholera) and hygiene promotion. There is an overall report of the operation's first phase in progress which will be available in the following weeks. The DRC has appointed a new coordinator, who will lead the second phase of the project including cascade training of volunteers and communities.

Component outcome: 2 Understanding of the Road Safety context is improved
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No progress has been made during the reporting period due to lack funds to support this line of action.

Constraints and challenges:

The health programme budget has been reduced to reflect the lack of available funds.

Staffing of the health department has continued to be a key challenge during the reporting period and will inevitably affect the implementation of funding provided.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

Programme purpose:

To increase local community, civil society and Red Cross/Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability
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Programme component 1 : Volunteering Development

Component outcome 1: Ensure the development of volunteering in the Dominican Red Cross

The development and roll-out of a volunteer database is being considered through the planning of the First Response Initiative (FRI) that the Dominican Red Cross is developing with the support of the Canadian Red Cross.

Since May 2011 the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation Office has a volunteering delegate who supports volunteering development throughout the region.

Programme component 2: Branch Development
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Component outcome 1: Empowered branches implement their development plan

Workshops designed to strengthen the branches will be developed in the second half of 2011 through the PPD-Sur Project, supported by the Spanish Red Cross.

Once the XIX Inter-American Conference has taken place in March 2012, the DRC plans to align its strategic plan taking into account the commitments that come forth from the conference as well as S2020. Most planning activities have been postponed for the second half of 2011, mainly due to the Cholera Outbreak Operation and the National Society elections in July and August.

Constraints and challenges:

Lack of funding has slowed down the process of reproducing the volunteering development tools and introducing volunteers to them through workshops.

Programme component 3: Development of Systems, Procedures and Staff Sustainability / Capacity Building

Component outcome 1: Support is provided for Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
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Component outcome 2: Support is provided to improve Communication.

Component outcome 3: The National Society has improved capacity in mobilizing resources.

One person from the DRC participated in the project/programme planning training organized by the Americas zone PMER unit in the first quarter of 2011. Another workshop focused in project/programme management will be held in October 2011 for staff that has direct responsibility in project management.

The Dominican Red Cross is planning to restructure its communications department, including hiring new staff, and developing and implementing a communications strategy.

Constraints and challenges:

A much needed consultancy for the development of a resource mobilization strategy is still pending because of lack of funding. Resource mobilization is one of the main concerns and priorities of the National Society and the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation Office.

Working in partnership

Dominican Republic hosts the IFRC Latin Caribbean Regional Representation Office, as well as the regional office of the German Red Cross, both of which are in constant communication with the Dominican Red Cross. Other PNSs, such as the Canadian Red Cross, also collaborate with the DRC. The ICRC carries out coordination with the DRC through its office in Port-au-Prince.

The Haitian Red Cross remains a key partner of the Dominican Red Cross, with which it maintains a bilateral cooperation agreement.

The Dominican Red Cross is well integrated into the National Civil Defence System and has a seat on all government forums focused on development and cooperation related to its humanitarian mandate. It also participates in the humanitarian country team of the UN, along with the IFRC, and maintains excellent technical relations with aid agencies in the country such as Oxfam, Plan.

Moreover, the DRC holds constant meetings amongst these actors, especially in times of crisis and disasters. It is expected that this coordination will eventually expand to areas such as development and strengthening of the organizational capacities of the DRC.

Contributing to longer-term impact

- Dissemination of Strategy 2020 at all National Society levels using available discussion opportunities such as meetings, presentations, events and workshops held in the Dominican Republic is being carried out.
- Promoting the knowledge and use of the International Federation Learning Platform by staff and volunteers in order to strengthen and build capacity through the online courses is taking place.

Looking ahead

The country support plan is being re directed to more developmental activities for long term planning with the Dominican Red Cross.

Before the end of the year, it is fundamental that the DRC aims at improving its capacity in strategic services: especially communication and resource mobilization.

The DRC will make a special effort to update its website and use it as a vector of communication, enhancing its capacity to mobilize new energies around the use of new IT technologies (social networks and alliances with the private sector).

The secretariat will continue to support the Dominican Red Cross with technical advice, tools and methodologies in health to strengthen its capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters, and to strengthen the health and resilience of vulnerable communities. In the next six months this will include support in epidemic control, HIV, road safety, community health, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

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

MAADO001 - Dominican Republic

Mid Year Report 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/6
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MAADO001
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	228,570	0	234,212	0	14,828	477,610
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>			5,097			5,097
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>	19,174					19,174
C1. Cash contributions	19,174		5,097			24,271
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Balance Reallocation</i>			68			68
C4. Other Income			68			68
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	19,174	0	5,165	0	0	24,339
D. Total Funding = B + C	19,174	0	5,165	0	0	24,339
Appeal Coverage	8%	#DIV/0	2%	#DIV/0	0%	5%

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	0	0
C. Income	19,174	0	5,165	0	0	24,339
E. Expenditure	-22,999		0		-2,827	-25,825
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	-3,825	0	5,165	0	-2,827	-1,487

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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)		228,570	0	234,212	0	14,828	477,610	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,147	122					122	1,025
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	1,147	122					122	1,025
Personnel								
International Staff	165,449	7,999					7,999	157,450
National Staff	8,800					2,654	2,654	6,146
National Society Staff	8,608	2,193					2,193	6,415
Total Personnel	182,857	10,192				2,654	12,846	170,011
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	79,005							79,005
Total Consultants & Professional Fe	79,005							79,005
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	137,952	3,860					3,860	134,093
Total Workshops & Training	137,952	3,860					3,860	134,093
General Expenditure								
Travel	22,734							22,734
Information & Public Relation	22,298	6,453					6,453	15,845
Office Costs	612	124					124	488
Communications	4,650	150					150	4,500
Financial Charges	455	483					483	-28
Other General Expenses	11	10					10	0
Shared Support Services	1,864							1,864
Total General Expenditure	52,625	7,221					7,221	45,404
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Service Support	24,024	1,391				173	1,563	22,461
Total Indirect Costs	24,024	1,391				173	1,563	22,461
Pledge Specific Costs								
Earmarking Fee		214					214	-214
Total Pledge Specific Costs		214					214	-214
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	477,610	22,999				2,827	25,825	451,784
VARIANCE (C - D)		205,572	0	234,212	0	12,001	451,784	