

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

BAHAMAS, CUBA AND MEXICO: HURRICANE WILMA

Appeal No. 05EA024
9 August 2006

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Operations Update no. 2; Period covered: 28 January to 31 July, 2006; Appeal target: CHF 1,918,000 (USD 1,498,000 or EUR 1,237,000); Appeal coverage: 76.26%;

Outstanding needs: CHF 455,313 as per the Appeal target. However, due to the receipt of a number of bilateral contributions and donations in-kind, the Federation is no longer seeking funds for this Appeal. [\(click here to go directly to the attached Interim financial report, also available on the website\).](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 26 October, 2005 for CHF 1,918,000 (USD 1,498,000 or EUR 1,237,000) in cash, kind or services to assist 14,000 families (70,000 beneficiaries) for 6 months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 220,000 (USD 170,276 or EUR 142,497).
- The Appeal period was initially extended by 3 months, until 26 July 2006, for the Cuban Red Cross in order to complete the implementation of relief assistance.
- The appeal period has now been extended to 31 December 2006 for the Cuban and Mexican Red Cross Societies in order to complete the implementation of activities. A Final Report is therefore due on 31 March 2007.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: El Salvador: Floods and Volcanic Activity (Appeal 05EA020); Central America, Mexico and Haiti: Floods from Hurricane Stan (Appeal 05EA021)

Operational Summary: Immediately following the emergency and in view of the devastation caused by Hurricane Wilma, the Bahamas, Cuban and Mexican Red Cross Societies worked arduously to respond to the needs of the most affected families, providing assistance to over 21,490 families (107,450 beneficiaries) – of which over 13,000 families (65,000 people) were assisted directly through Appeal funds. The reduction by 1,000 in beneficiary families from the original Appeal objectives is due to the limited Appeal coverage, and by price increases on local markets, which have particularly affected operations in Cuba. Distributions of food and non food items were concluded for the most part by January 2006 and most activities under the emergency phase of the operation declared completed by March 2006. In Cuba, procurement and distribution of household items and zinc sheeting for the repair of roofing is underway.

Activities during the reporting period have primarily concentrated on post-emergency assessments and on capacity building activities, aimed at reinforcing the disaster response capabilities of branches in the most affected areas, as well as raising awareness in disaster preparedness at community level. In addition, the Appeal has afforded National Societies the opportunity to acquire much needed communications and search

and rescue equipment.

The International Federation's Pan-American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has continued to work closely with the Cuban and Mexican Red Cross Societies in finalizing procurement of goods for rehabilitation activities, as well as in organizing a number of training sessions and workshops to build capacity in disaster response. Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members have been deployed to Cuba and Mexico for in-country disaster preparedness activities.

Following receipt of additional funds towards the close of the emergency phase of the operation, the Mexican Red Cross is currently carrying out further assessments in view of distributions of relief items to more families in need of assistance in the State of Quintana Roo.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background

Hurricane Wilma, the 12th hurricane of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season, battered Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, Cuba, the state of Florida in the United States, and the Bahamas between 20 and 24 October, causing widespread destruction. The slow-moving category four storm, bringing winds of up to 225 km/h (140 mph), caused widespread flooding in Mexico, Cuba and the Bahamas.

The storm and subsequent flooding resulted in extensive damage to homes in the most affected regions, virtually decimating the Mexican resort town of Cancun and the island of Cozumel. Although Cuba was spared a direct hit, Wilma lashed the capital city of Havana and storm surges forced the evacuation of almost 800,000 people from high risk areas in seven provinces: Granma, Santiago, Guantanamo, Camaguey, Cienfuegos, Pinar del Rio and Sancti Spiritus.

The storm was a category 3 hurricane when it struck the islands of the Bahamas on 24 October, with maximum sustained winds of 120 miles per hour, and a surge of about 10-15 feet. Grand Bahama and Bimini received the brunt of the hurricane – at a time when the population of Grand Bahama was still recovering from the impact of hurricanes

Bahamas, Cuba and Mexico: Hurricane Wilma; Appeal no. 05EA024; Operations Update no. 02

Frances and Jeanne (September 2004), and therefore particularly vulnerable. Large scale flooding as a result of the sea surges washed away a number of homes and caused serious damage.

Due to the extensive damage sustained by an estimated 15,000 homes in Cuba, rehabilitation activities are still underway, with the distribution of zinc sheeting for roofing purposes. In addition, authorities in Mexico are in the process of re-locating residents from areas considered to be at high risk; the Mexican Red Cross (MRC) is monitoring the on-going needs of the most vulnerable in these communities. In most instances, residents were able to move back to their homes once the flooding had subsided and immediate emergency response operations in all three countries were completed early in 2006.

Operational developments

The National Societies in the three countries responded immediately to the disaster, in close coordination with national and regional authorities, to deliver essential food and non-food relief goods to the affected communities. The International Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) provided support to the operations in the Bahamas, Cuba and Mexico with the immediate deployment of Disaster Management Delegates to both the Bahamas and Mexico, the dispatch of relief goods to supplement National Society stocks in all three countries – in particular hygiene kits and kitchen sets, as well as plastic sheeting and other non-food relief items from pre-positioned stocks at the PADRU warehouse in Panama.

Relief activities were concluded for the most part by early 2006 and the emergency phase of the operation declared completed by mid-March. In response to the need for assistance in rehabilitation and reconstruction in Cuba - specifically for roof reconstruction with zinc sheeting and related materials – the receipt of procured goods and related distribution activities are expected to be concluded by the end of September.

In order to prepare for the 2006 hurricane season, the Mexican Red Cross is ensuring constant monitoring and communication with both the state and federal authorities in the area of civil protection; a programme for preparation and training in damage assessment, temporary shelter management and the management of collection and distribution centres has been set up for the staff of branches in the states which are susceptible to hurricane disasters.

With the completion of relief operations, the Mexican and Cuban Red Cross Societies have been focusing their activities on capacity building. Additional details are presented in the relevant section below.

The table below provides an overview of the impact of hurricane Wilma and response activities undertaken as part of the current Appeal:

| Hurricane Wilma Overview | The Bahamas | Cuba | Mexico |
|---|---|--|---|
| Impact of Hurricane Wilma | | | |
| Affected Population Families (people) | 3,500 (17,500) | 160,000 (800,000) | 72,000 (360,000) |
| Number evacuated - in shelters | 1,000 (5,000) - 360 (1,800) | 138,600 (693,000) - 14,000 (70,000) | 27,384 (136,920) |
| Infrastructure damage | 1,000 homes damaged and utilities down in Grand Bahamas and Bimini. | 15,000 homes damaged | 60% of Cozumel affected. Cancun airport shut down. Damage to roads and infrastructure |
| Summary of Red Cross Response | | | |
| Relief distribution – Families (beneficiaries) | Appeal Response: 1,000 (5,000) | CRC Response: 3,490 (17,459) of which: | MRC Response: 17,000 (85,000) of which: Appeal Response: 10,000 |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | | Appeal Response: 2,000 (10,000) | (50,000) 3,700 tonnes of humanitarian aid (food and non-food) |
| Goods dispatched from PADRU ¹ | 5,000 blankets 1,000 hygiene kits 1,000 pieces plastic sheeting 1,000 jerry cans | 500 kitchen sets 300 jerry cans 35,000 zinc sheets* 1,400 kg nails* NIT equipment (2 teams x 30 people) Search and rescue equipment | 5,880 hygiene kits 1,397 kitchen sets 2,000 pieces plastic sheeting 1,500 mosquito nets 4,000 blankets 2 generators |
| Deployment | BRCS volunteers and staff PADRU DM Delegate NIT (3) | 5,500 CRC volunteers DM RIT (2) | Over 100 MRC volunteers PADRU DM Delegates (2) DM RIT |
| Capacity building activities | - Relief Coordinator had just completed Logistics RIT training. - Training of 10 branch volunteers in damage and needs assessment (DANA). - Implementation of standard Federation warehouse procedures. | DM Training workshop (48 participants) Community-based disaster preparedness – Training of disseminators (98 trainers) | Disaster preparedness training being planned. |
| | | | |

*these items have been purchased and the invoice is pending payment; hence the large variance under the shelter heading of the financial report.

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

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

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 14,000 families (70,000 people) affected by the floods will have benefited from the distribution of food and non-food relief items (1,000 families in the Bahamas with food and non-food items, and 3,000 families in Cuba and 10,000 families in Mexico with non-food items) in order to help them to recover from the effects of the floods.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The overall objective has been met, with Red Cross National Society relief distribution of food and non-food items reaching over 21,490 families (107,450 beneficiaries) – of which over 13,000 families (65,000 people) were assisted directly through Appeal funds. The reduction by some 1,000 families in relation to the original Appeal objective is due to a shortfall of funds in response to the Appeal, exacerbated by price increases in key markets, which has particularly affected the local purchase of non-food relief items in Cuba. The International Federation, through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit in Panama, provided assistance to the three National Society emergency relief operations, through the immediate deployment of Disaster Management Delegates to assist with the early stages of relief operations in-country (in the Bahamas and Mexico), and the rapid dispatch of relief items from pre-positioned stocks. In addition, PADRU assisted with overall coordination of response activities and in the procurement of additional relief items in-country or through in-kind donations linked to the Appeal.

Bahamas

The islands of Grand Bahama and Bimini were the most affected by hurricane Wilma, with extensive damage to homes and utility services. More than 1,800 people were evacuated to shelters.

Members and volunteers from the Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS) travelled to the affected areas as soon as hurricane wind forces subsided, to carry out a preliminary damage assessment. Of the estimated 3,500 affected families in the Bahamas, BRCS undertook to cover the needs of 1,000 families (5,000 beneficiaries). The main

¹ This does not include goods procured locally through Appeal funding or goods-in-kind donated as part of the Appeal.

relief effort targeted districts in the west and south of Grand Bahama Island – worst hit by storms and sea surges. Minor assistance was also provided to people on Abaco and Bimini Islands.

A network of BRCS volunteers carried out rapid assessments to identify the neediest households in the worst affected areas, following up with immediate distribution of food and non-food relief items, purchased locally through Appeal funds and local fund-raising. Essential relief supplies were immediately dispatched from BRCS headquarters by container to Grand Bahama, and received on 31 October. In addition, a requisition was submitted on 31 October and dispatched by PADRU on 10 November for 5,000 blankets, 1,000 hygiene kits, 1,000 pieces of plastic sheeting, and 1,000 jerry cans. An additional 2,372 comfort kits were received as an in-kind donation from the American Red Cross.

A full-time Relief Coordinator, who had just completed the Logistics Regional Intervention Team (RIT) training organized by PADRU, was appointed by BRCS to manage the response operation. PADRU also deployed a Disaster Management delegate to support the National Society during the relief operation. Two volunteers and one staff member – all National Intervention Team (NIT) trained – were made available for the emergency response activities.

The BRCS used fifteen distribution points established by the Port Authority of Grand Bahama, with local National Society volunteers supervising the distribution of relief goods. The Grand Bahama Branch sourced a warehouse in Freeport, to act as central distribution point.

No final distribution figures have been received from the Bahamas Red Cross Society at this time.

Impact

The most affected families were helped to recover from the effects of the Hurricane through the provision of relief assistance.

Constraints

The limited resources in response to the Federation's Appeal affected the timeliness and amount of distributions that were made by the BRCS.

Detailed reporting on final distributions has not been provided by the National Society at this time. Changes in staffing within BRCS have caused delays in the reporting of relief distributions.

Cuba

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Wilma, Cuban Red Cross (CRC) Disaster Response Teams – working in close coordination with local authorities and other relevant institutions – assisted in search and rescue and emergency evacuation operations. Some 5,500 CRC volunteers were mobilized to assist with evacuations. It has been estimated that 693,102 people were evacuated – of which 70,300 were accommodated in temporary shelters.

CRC provided first aid assistance, psycho-social support and distribution of food items to people in shelters - with special care afforded to the aged, handicapped, pregnant and children. Immediate relief assistance was provided to 17,459 people throughout the affected provinces, with some 525 volunteers from CRC assisting with surveys and distribution of goods. In addition, CRC Youth organized activities for children in the shelters.

It has been estimated that 15,976 homes were damaged, 3% totally destroyed, 13% partially damaged – and 25% had lost their roofs, with another 35% indicating partial loss of roofs. In addition, many homes – although structurally unaffected – suffered a loss of household belongings (mattresses, clothing and domestic appliances) due to the sea surges.

Following needs assessments, in coordination with governmental authorities and support from a PADRU disaster management RIT member, CRC has focused its activities on assisting 2,000 families in 10 municipalities in 6 provinces with roof reconstruction and replenishment of basic household goods. Latrines have been installed in 100 homes in three of the provinces, with the assistance of CRC construction teams.

PADRU has procured and shipped 500 kitchen sets, 300 jerry cans and 35,000 zinc sheets along with 1,400 kg of nails to the CRC. In addition, the Appeal-funded distribution plan includes local procurement of 400 sets of bed sheets and 2,000 mattresses; this has subsequently been revised down to 372 sets of bed sheets and 1,600 mattresses, due to price increases in the local market.

Due to delays in shipment, distribution of the zinc sheeting is now expected to be completed by the end of September 2006, assuming no delays due to the onset of the 2006 hurricane season. All surveys and beneficiary identification have been completed in close coordination with local authorities, with beneficiary lists up-dated regularly, pending final distribution, to ensure that assistance is provided to those who remain most in need.

The overall target of all distributions is to assist 2,000 families with non-food relief items. This represents a reduction from the original target of 3,000 families due to limited Appeal funds and price fluctuations on the local markets, which have affected the CRC's purchasing power. The zinc sheeting is to assist 700 of the most vulnerable households in the reconstruction of roofing, damaged by the hurricane.



Roofing needs in Cuba

Impact

The most affected families were helped to recover from the effects of Hurricane Wilma through the provision of food and non-food relief goods. The most vulnerable families are being assisted with the rebuilding of their homes and restoring basic necessities for their households. Response capacity and awareness among CRC provincial chapters and local branches has been enhanced.

Constraints

Delays due to procedural constraints in both procurement and customs clearance have affected the timely provision of household goods and zinc sheeting for the rebuilding of homes. The shipment of zinc sheeting is expected to arrive in Cuba in early August, with distribution expected to be completed by the end of September 2006.

Mexico

The Mexican Red Cross (MRC) mobilized its assessment and relief teams in the immediate aftermath of the Hurricane, to provide emergency food and non-food relief assistance to affected communities in the hardest hit areas in the State of Quintana Roo – from distribution centres set up in Cancun, Puerto Morales, Isla Mujeres, Playa del Carmen and Cozumel. Additional assessments carried out a week after the hurricane (on 2 November), brought to light widespread flooding in the areas bordering the States of Quintana Roo and Yucatan – caused by run-off from the storm. Relief activities were subsequently undertaken in these areas as well.

According to the final statistics provided by the Mexican Civil Defence authorities, the overall effects of Hurricane Wilma are summarized below:

| Hurricane Wilma – Impact | Yucatan | Quintana Roo | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| Affected Population | 113,730 | 246,500 | 360,230 |
| Evacuated Population | 71,690 | 65,230 | 136,920 |
| Number of shelters | 93 | 100 | 193 |
| Deaths | - | 3 | 3 |
| Population in shelters | 20,241 | 17,604 | 37,845 |
| Municipalities in state of emergency | 142 | 76 | 218 |

Two disaster management delegates from PADRU arrived in Mexico on 21 October, to support MRC and take part in the damage and needs assessments. The following non-food relief items were dispatched to Mexico by air freight from PADRU on 25 and 27 October: 5,880 hygiene kits; 1,397 kitchen sets; 2,000 plastic sheets; and 2 generators for Playa del Carmen. Other food² and non-food relief items were procured locally or through in-kind donations as part of the overall International Federation Appeal, to complement governmental relief efforts. Distribution of relief goods took place between 2 November and 20 December. The emergency phase and distribution of humanitarian aid to communities in the States of Quintana Roo and Yucatan was completed by mid-March.

In total, the MRC relief distribution has benefited some 17,000 families (85,000 individuals) with 10,000 families assisted through the Federation's appeal. The relief operation involved a total of 3,700 tonnes of humanitarian aid provided by MRC, and additional donations raised in-country.



PADRU provides relief goods to the Mexican Red Cross which are subsequently distributed to families in need of assistance.

² Food distribution consisted of the following items: rice, beans and canned beans, sugar, salt, pasta soup, powdered milk, chilli, coffee, tuna, sardines, sweets or chocolate, oil, biscuits. Plus water or juice.

Final distribution figures are presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3 - Mexico Distribution Figures

| Hurricane Wilma Non-food Distribution | Beneficiary Families | Kitchen Sets | Hygiene Kits | Plastic sheeting | Mosquito Nets | Hammocks | Blankets |
|--|---|---|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| Goods Received | | | | | | | |
| Federation – PADRU direct | | 1,397 | 5,880 | 2,000 | 1,500 | - | - |
| Appeal funds – incl. local purchase and in-kind donations | | 3,900 | | - | 1,000 | 6,000 | 8,000 |
| Total | | 5,297 | 5,880 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 6,000 | 8,000 |
| Goods Distributed | | | | | | | |
| Quintana Roo | | | | | | | |
| Playa del Carmen | | 500 | 1,000 | 1,400 | | | |
| Isla Mujeres | | | 350 | | | | |
| Puerto Morales | | | 1,500 | 300 | | | |
| Isla Cozumel | | 397 | 2,030 | 300 | 750 | | |
| Cancun | | 500 | 1,000 | - | 750 | | |
| Yucatan | | | | | | | |
| Lazaro Cardenas | | 1,000 | | | 500 | 3,000 | |
| Tizimin | | 2,000 | | | 500 | 3,000 | |
| Other | | | | | | | |
| Chiapas | | 900 | | | | | 4,000 |
| TOTAL | 10,000 | 5,297 | 5,880 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 6,000 | 4,000 |
| Comments | Over 10,000 families received aid – with the majority in the State of Quintana Roo living in communities ranging in size from 30 to 350 families. | Tizimin acted as a distribution base for communities in both Quintana Roo and Yucatan | | | | | Additional 4,000 blankets distributed to meet winter relief needs ³ . |

The situation has normalized in most of the affected communities. State authorities are pursuing reconstruction activities and are re-locating families in areas which remain most at risk. MRC staff members from the Yucatan and Quintana Roo Branches have been undertaking evaluations in the areas where distributions took place, in order to assess on-going needs.

With the balance of funding available to the Mexican Red Cross from a donation made by the Czechoslovakian government, additional relief distributions are anticipated in the State of Quintana Roo. At present, surveys are being carried out to assess current needs and numbers of families most in need of assistance. The next operations update will present more information with regard to these distributions.

Impact

The most affected families were helped to recover from the effects of Hurricane Wilma through the provision of food and non-food relief goods.

³ In the States of Mexico, Zacatecas, San Luis Potosi, Chihuahua, Oaxaca and Durango.

Constraints

Initial access to remote communities was difficult, due to lack of infrastructure and/or deterioration of the same. In some instances, emergency teams were only able to reach the affected areas a few days after the hurricane.

Psychosocial support

Objective 1: Vulnerable families in the Bahamas, Cuba and Mexico who have been adversely affected by the hurricane will have benefited from the provision of psychosocial support in order to help them return to their normal patterns of life.

Bahamas

Psychological support has been provided for the affected families by the Bahamas Red Cross Society and its volunteers involved in disaster relief operations.

Impact

The most affected families have been able to cope better with the displacement from their own homes.

Constraints

It has been difficult to obtain details from the National Society following the close of the operations.

Cuba

Psychological support has been provided for the affected families by the Cuban Red Cross to the most affected families by volunteers involved in the relief operations.

Impact

This support has had a positive effect on the most affected families.

Constraints

No constraints to report.

Mexico

During the relief operation, volunteers from various MRC branches provided psychosocial support to 780 individuals in a temporary shelter in Cozumel Island over a 17 day period, meeting and talking with those who in some cases had lost all of their personal belongings.

Impact

These actions had a positive impact on the most affected families allowing them to talk and express their feelings about the devastation. The MRC relief operations team recommended for the most affected families to seek additional counselling.

Constraints

No constraints to report.

Federation Coordination

PADRU, along with the International Federation's Panama Regional Delegation maintained contact with the National Societies affected by Hurricane Wilma. Two Disaster Management Delegates were deployed to Mexico, as well as one to the Bahamas, to assist with initial assessments and development of plans of action for relief assistance, in support of National Society operations. PADRU was in contact with the delegates of several Partner National Societies - including the French Red Cross Regional Response Platform for the Caribbean (PIRAC) - to coordinate response initiatives. PADRU also maintained contact with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the region.

The Mexican Red Cross worked and collaborated with the governmental authorities including the civil protection with regard to the relief efforts. The Cuban Red Cross liaised with governmental authorities in the evacuation of those at risk and in the undertaking of assessments. The Bahamas Red Cross worked closely with the National

Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Ministry of Social Development and identified needs to ensure that assistance was provided in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – Principles and priorities

- Relief activities being carried out are based on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Beneficiary selection criteria focus on the vulnerability of those affected.
- Relief operations are conducted with respect for the culture of the beneficiaries, ensuring gender sensitivity and prioritizing assistance to children and the elderly.
- Activities are based on the SPHERE Project humanitarian charter and the code of conduct for emergency response.
- Transparency is ensured through the production of regular reports and news bulletins.
- All objectives put forward in the Appeal are in line with Strategy 2010, as well as the Strategy for the Movement and the Principles and Rules of the Movement.
- Lessons learned during the hurricane operations carried out in 2004 are being taken into account in the implementation of the response to Hurricane Wilma.

National Society Capacity Building

The Cuban, Bahaman and Mexican Red Cross Societies and their volunteers' capacities have been strengthened through their participation in providing humanitarian assistance during these relief operations. This experience has had a positive impact on the participating branches in all three countries and their volunteers.

In addition, Branch and Chapter capacity has been enhanced in Cuba and Mexico through on-going disaster response and community-based training, as well as the provision of equipment for National Intervention Team members in Cuba. Specifically, the Appeal has enabled National Societies to reinforce their capacity in the following areas:

Cuba

- Communications networks are being reinforced, with the purchase of HF radio equipment, 1VHF set and 2 portable radio transmitters for two Operations and Relief Teams in the provinces of Granma and Santiago de Cuba. This activity is pending, due to limited local availability of equipment and price fluctuations.
- NITs equipment⁴ has been procured by PADRU for two teams of 30 volunteers each, in Granma and Santiago de Cuba Provinces.
- Equipment for search and rescue teams were procured by PADRU and shipped to Cuba.
- Training in Disaster Management techniques and methodology was carried out in March 2006 for 48 participants, including all Heads of Rescue Services from CRC branches. This was organized by a RIT member from the Mexican Red Cross and included demonstration of Federation disaster response systems, as well as response strategies during the first hours of emergency operations (based on experiences gained during the Mexican earthquake of 1985). Activities focused on organization and preparation for disaster response.
- Community-based Disaster Preparedness: Training of 98 trainers was completed in 4 provinces (Granma, Santiago de Cuba, La Habana, Camaguey). CRC now benefits from 115 trained facilitators, in all provinces. Fifty communities in 26 municipalities and six provinces were selected (Habana, Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus, Camaguey, Granma and Santiago de Cuba) for local awareness-raising and distribution of disaster preparedness material to 2,000 families. Due to the interest expressed by other provincial chapters following this activity, the programme is being extended to three additional provinces (Holgun, Las Tunas and Matanzas).

In line with the CRC's National Development Plan, these capacity building initiatives have increased the operational capacity of the National Society in disaster management, consolidated local development and promoted growth in an orderly manner – whilst ensuring the fulfilment of the National Society's auxiliary role. The local population has been interested in and receptive to disaster preparedness awareness-raising. CRC now

⁴ NIT equipment provided for 60 people including the following: helmets, whistles, overalls, pullovers, canteens (1L), work gloves, work boots, water boots, back packs, raincoats, flashlights, fixed individual first aid kits (to assist 8-12 people).

benefits from a complete network of trained facilitators. Provincial chapters are motivated to extend community-based awareness raising activities.



Cuban Red Cross
volunteers

Mexico

As part of the follow-up activities to Hurricane Wilma, the Quintana Roo Branch staff and volunteers have been receiving training in the areas of: damage assessment and needs analysis, as well as temporary shelter and warehouse management.

MRC has developed a Plan of Action for additional capacity building in the affected communities of Yucatan and Quintana Roo focusing on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA), as well as training in community awareness-raising in disaster preparedness, and strengthening of branches with the provision of disaster preparedness and disaster response equipment.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Through continued public and media relations it is hoped that the public will develop a better understanding of the mission of the National Societies in the affected countries and the activities the Red Cross undertakes in serving humanity. As members of the International Federation, the Bahamas Red Cross Society, the Cuban Red Cross and the Mexican Red Cross seek to promote the Fundamental Principles in all activities and subsequently facilitate additional visibility of the Movement as a whole.

In Cuba, the “Friends of the Red Cross” network of journalists that works with the Cuban Red Cross, as well as all Red Cross volunteers, who were trained through the long distance learning course in communications, are assisting with visibility. All team members were outfitted with Red Cross T-shirt to ensure proper visibility during emergency operations.

The National Societies and the Federation are ensuring coverage of the emergency operations and a number of articles have appeared on the Federation’s web page www.ifrc.org regarding the relief efforts.

[Interim Financial Report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

M05EA024 - BAHAMAS, CUBA & MEXICO: HURRICANE WILMA

Interim financial report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2005/10-2006/6 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2005/10-2006/12 |
| Appeal | M05EA024 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

| | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Organisational Development | Coordination & Implementation | TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| A. Budget | | 1'918'000 | | | | 1'918'000 |
| B. Opening Balance | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| Cash contributions | | | | | | |
| Canadian Red Cross Society | | 169'684 | | | | 169'684 |
| Czech Government | | 268'401 | | | | 268'401 |
| Japanese Red Cross Society | | 64'813 | | | | 64'813 |
| Monaco Red Cross | | 15'565 | | | | 15'565 |
| Netherlands Red Cross | | 466'950 | | | | 466'950 |
| On Line donations | | 119 | | | | 119 |
| Swedish Red Cross | | 81'250 | | | | 81'250 |
| C1. Cash contributions | | 1'066'782 | | | | 1'066'782 |
| Outstanding pledges (Revalued) | | | | | | |
| American Government | | 363'390 | | | | 363'390 |
| Netherlands Red Cross | | 32'515 | | | | 32'515 |
| C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued) | | 395'904 | | | | 395'904 |
| C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6) | | 1'462'687 | | | | 1'462'687 |
| D. Total Funding = B + C | | 1'462'687 | | | | 1'462'687 |

II. Balance of Funds

| | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Organisational Development | Coordination & Implementation | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| B. Opening Balance | | 0 | | | | 0 |
| C. Income | | 1'462'687 | | | | 1'462'687 |
| E. Expenditure | | -847'891 | | | | -847'891 |
| F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E) | | 614'796 | | | | 614'796 |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

M05EA024 - BAHAMAS, CUBA & MEXICO: HURRICANE WILMA

Interim financial report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2005/10-2006/6 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2005/10-2006/12 |
| Appeal | M05EA024 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

| Account Groups | Budget | Expenditure | | | | | TOTAL | Variance |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Organisational Development | Coordination & Implementation | | |
| A | | | | | | | B | A - B |
| BUDGET (C) | | 1'918'000 | | | | | 1'918'000 | |
| Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| Shelter - Relief | 416'000 | | 46'201 | | | | 46'201 | 369'799 |
| Construction Materials | | | 9'840 | | | | 9'840 | -9'840 |
| Clothing & textiles | 59'000 | | 86'663 | | | | 86'663 | -27'663 |
| Food | 300'000 | | 15'209 | | | | 15'209 | 284'791 |
| Water & Sanitation | | | 1'066 | | | | 1'066 | -1'066 |
| Medical & First Aid | | | 3'593 | | | | 3'593 | -3'593 |
| Teaching Materials | | | 7'402 | | | | 7'402 | -7'402 |
| Utensils & Tools | 277'001 | | 124'453 | | | | 124'453 | 152'548 |
| Other Supplies & Services | 398'001 | | 35'000 | | | | 35'000 | 363'001 |
| Total Supplies | 1'450'002 | | 329'427 | | | | 329'427 | 1'120'575 |
| Land, vehicles & equipment | | | | | | | | |
| Computers & Telecom | 6'000 | | 8'722 | | | | 8'722 | -2'722 |
| Office/Household Furniture & Equipment | | | 2'499 | | | | 2'499 | -2'499 |
| Total Land, vehicles & equipment | 6'000 | | 11'220 | | | | 11'220 | -5'220 |
| Transport & Storage | | | | | | | | |
| Storage | 77'000 | | 5'156 | | | | 5'156 | 71'844 |
| Distribution & Monitoring | | | 170'433 | | | | 170'433 | -170'433 |
| Transport & Vehicle Costs | 158'000 | | 12'560 | | | | 12'560 | 145'440 |
| Total Transport & Storage | 235'000 | | 188'149 | | | | 188'149 | 46'851 |
| Personnel Expenditures | | | | | | | | |
| Delegates Payroll | 15'000 | | | | | | | 15'000 |
| Delegate Benefits | | | 9'277 | | | | 9'277 | -9'277 |
| Regionally Deployed Staff | 45'000 | | 3'963 | | | | 3'963 | 41'037 |
| National Staff | | | 28'817 | | | | 28'817 | -28'817 |
| National Society Staff | | | 8'887 | | | | 8'887 | -8'887 |
| Total Personnel Expenditures | 60'000 | | 50'945 | | | | 50'945 | 9'056 |
| Workshops & Training | | | | | | | | |
| Workshops & Training | | | 5'114 | | | | 5'114 | -5'114 |
| Total Workshops & Training | | | 5'114 | | | | 5'114 | -5'114 |
| General Expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Travel | 14'000 | | 22'691 | | | | 22'691 | -8'691 |
| Information & Public Relation | 4'327 | | 5'398 | | | | 5'398 | -1'070 |
| Office Costs | 24'000 | | 3'492 | | | | 3'492 | 20'509 |
| Communications | | | 10'599 | | | | 10'599 | -10'599 |
| Professional Fees | | | 11'268 | | | | 11'268 | -11'268 |
| Financial Charges | | | 45'600 | | | | 45'600 | -45'600 |
| Other General Expenses | | | 80 | | | | 80 | -80 |
| Total General Expenditure | 42'328 | | 99'127 | | | | 99'127 | -56'799 |
| Program Support | | | | | | | | |
| Program Support | 124'670 | | 55'113 | | | | 55'113 | 69'557 |
| Total Program Support | 124'670 | | 55'113 | | | | 55'113 | 69'557 |
| Operational Provisions | | | | | | | | |
| Operational Provisions | | | 108'796 | | | | 108'796 | -108'796 |
| Total Operational Provisions | | | 108'796 | | | | 108'796 | -108'796 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D) | 1'918'000 | | 847'891 | | | | 847'891 | 1'070'109 |
| VARIANCE (C - D) | | | 1'070'109 | | | | 1'070'109 | |