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Coordinating Office

Appeal

Guatemala

Emergency Relief to Hurricane "Iris" victims- LAGU12 Appeal Target: US\$ 246,239

Geneva, 18 October 2001

On 8 October Hurricane Iris reached Guatemalan territory, after causing major destruction and loss of life in Belize. As it struck the mainland its destructive force diminished considerably, but the damages caused to the South of Petén department, specifically in the municipalities of Poptún, San Luis and Sayaxche, were disastrous. Hurricane Iris seriously damaged houses, communal infrastructure and crops as well as cutting the electric power, radio and telephone services. The hospital in Poptún lost parts of its roof, although it was able to continue functioning.

The damage caused by Hurricane Iris was largely due to the devastating winds and the storm surge. The rainfall was only 3-4 inches but caused flooding in localized areas. In spite of the hurricane intensity, the loss of life was low - 5 persons, while less than 100 were injured. It is estimated that approximately 27,500 persons were directly affected and will be at risk for adverse health conditions in Peten.

ACT member, LWF/DWS Petén office, is proposing to support the affected population in the Petén region of Guatemala, providing:

- ♣ Food supplies
- ♣ Medicines
- ♣ Shelter
- ♣ Seeds

ACT is a worldwide network of churches and related agencies meeting human need through coordinated emergency response.

The ACT Coordinating Office is based with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Switzerland.

Project Completion Date:

15 April 2002

Summary of Appeal Targets, Pledges/Contributions Received and Balance Requested

	<u>US\$</u>
Total Appeal Target(s)	246,239
<u>Less:</u> Pledges/Contr. Recd.	<u>0</u>
Balance Requested from ACT Network	246,239

Please kindly send your contributions to the following ACT bank account:

Account Number - 102539/0.01.061 (USD)
 Account Name: ACT - Action by Churches Together
 Banque Edouard Constant
 Cours de Rive 11
 Case postale 3754
 1211 Genève 3
 SWITZERLAND

Please also inform the Finance Officer Jessie Kgoroadira (direct tel. +4122/791.60.38, e-mail address jkg@act-intl.org) of all pledges/contributions and transfers, including funds sent direct to the implementers, now that the Pledge Form is no longer attached to the Appeal.

We would appreciate being informed of any intent to submit applications for EU, USAID and/or other back donor funding and the subsequent results. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

For further information please contact:

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Or ACT Appeals Officer, Elsa Moreno (phone +41 22 791 6420 or mobile phone 41796088133)

ACT Web Site address: <http://www.act-intl.org>

Ms. Geneviève Jacques
 Director
 WCC/Cluster on Relations

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Rev. Rudolf Hinz
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 LWF/World Service

I. REQUESTING ACT MEMBER

◆ Lutheran World Federation/Department of World Service (LWF/DWS)

II. IMPLEMENTING ACT MEMBER INFORMATION

The Lutheran World Federation / Department of World Service has been working in El Peten, Guatemala, since September 1998 implementing activities related to education, health, youth, food security and community organization. The El Peten office is under supervision and orientation of the LWF/DWS El Salvador Program, which has been involved in emergency situations such as the hurricane Mitch (1998), dengue epidemic fever (1999), earthquakes (2001) and the recent drought in Central America.

Since the beginning of the work in El Peten, the LWF/DWS regional office has established co-operation and co-ordination with indigenous communities, grassroots organizations, governmental institutions, catholic churches and local and international NGOs. The work is focused on direct support to local communities to increase their capacity for rehabilitation and development activities.

LWF/DWS Peten office has already carried out two ACT emergency projects: rehabilitation of communities affected by the Hurricane Mitch, in 1999, and another project in 2001 to assist families deported from Belize.

LWF/DWS regional office has technical and professional personnel, as well as the infrastructure to deal with the current emergency. Bilingual staff will be in charge of assistance to indigenous communities that do not speak Spanish.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

On 6 October, Hurricane Iris - classified as a category 1 hurricane - threatened Belize advancing to a category 4 by the night of 7 October. Iris continued in a westward direction with sustained winds of 140-mph moving at around 20 mph, putting Belize and Guatemala at risk.

On 8 October Iris reached Guatemalan territory, after causing major destruction and loss of life in Belize. As it struck the mainland its destructive force diminished considerably, but the damages caused to the South of Petén department, specifically in the municipalities of Poptún, San Luis and Sayaxche, were disastrous. Hurricane Iris seriously damaged houses, communal infrastructure and crops as well as cutting the electric power, radio and telephone services. The hospital in Poptún lost parts of its roof, although it was able to continue functioning.

Impact of the Hurricane Iris

The damage caused by Hurricane Iris was largely due to the devastating winds and the storm surge. The rainfall was only 3-4 inches but caused flooding in localized areas. In spite of the hurricane intensity, the loss of life was low - 5 persons, while less than 100 were injured. It is estimated that approximately 27,500 persons were directly affected and will be at risk for adverse health conditions in Peten.

The hurricane caused extensive destruction to housing and food supplies. Those most affected are remaining in their damaged, roofless and flooded houses without food or potable water. Due to reported looting and fear of losing their few remaining possessions, people are reluctant to leave their homes.

According to official data 724 houses were completely destroyed and 1,345 partially damaged in the municipality of **San Luis**. 50 schools were also destroyed and the number of affected families surpasses 2,000, in 57 rural communities.

In the municipality of **Poptún** preliminary data indicate 854 houses destroyed with more than 1,500 damaged and 40 community buildings destroyed. The number of affected families surpasses 2,500 in approximately 50 communities. These data do not include the urban areas.

In the municipality of **Sayaxche** the damages were smaller and concentrated mainly in rural communities. In this municipality the hurricane affected only 8 communities and left 120 houses destroyed.

Agriculture is the principle economic activity in Peten with the main crops being maize and beans. It is reported that more than 75% of the crops were lost in the affected communities. Furthermore, the villagers are traumatized due to the massive loss of property and there is a high level of distress, anxiety and helplessness among the villagers and local authorities.

The high-priority needs of the affected families are food, shelter, medicines to prevent epidemics and potable water. For the rehabilitation phase secure roofs, seeds and agricultural inputs for sowing basic grains will be necessary.

IV. GOAL & OBJECTIVES

The main goal is to provide life-sustaining assistance and hope to **1,568** vulnerable families affected by Hurricane Iris in rural zones and the poorest villages in the municipalities of San Luis, Poptun and Sayaxche, through provision of food, shelter, communal first-aid kits and seeds.

The specific objectives are to:

- ♣ Provide emergency relief in the form of food, shelter material and medical assistance
- ♣ Promote organization in communities to channel and distribute aid to the affected families
- ♣ Reorganize the productive capacity and improve the food security of these communities.
- ♣ Provide technical assistance during the sowing and harvest phases.
- ♣ Strengthen community organizational structures.

The main criteria to carry out these activities are the following:

- ♣ To involve the affected people in the whole emergency and rehabilitation process to promote their self-esteem and emotional recovery;
- ♣ To give priority to vulnerable groups (single mothers, elderly people, children, handicapped people, etc.)
- ♣ To strengthen community organization

- ♣ To coordinate the activities with the mayors' offices.

V. BENEFICIARY INFORMATION & TARGETED AREAS

The estimated number of beneficiaries is 1,568 families (9,408 people) in 46 communities in the municipalities of San Luis, Poptun and Sayaxche, department of El Peten.

LWF/DWS has presence in most of the selected communities through other current projects. The communities and number of beneficiary families are detailed below:

Sayaxche

No.	Community	Families
1	Las Delicias	15
2	La Soledad	20
3	Nuevo Cobán	10
4	Caribe Salinas	25
5	Tierra Blanca	17
6	San Román	18
7	Colonia Susan Mitch	15
TOTAL		120

San Luis

No.	Community	Families
1	Santa cruz	395
2	Florida	59
3	Cruce Poxte	15
4	Esquipulas	27
5	Espolón	53
6	Santa Marta	45
TOTAL		594

Poptun

No.	Community	Families
1	Santa Amelia	10
2	Carmelita	18
3	Santa Rosa II	23
4	Santa Maria Sechacte	61
5	Secolay	15
6	Chocon	43
7	Rosario	30

8	Jabalí Bravo	12
9	Sutiha	15
10	La Ceiba	20
11	San Marcos	15
12	Ovelar Limón	12
13	Los Encuentros	20
14	Nueva Concepción	17
15	Nueva Alianza	18
16	Esquipulas	36
17	Chinahá	40
18	San Pablo China	19
19	Nueva Sutiha	15
20	San Marcos Patux	15
21	San Antonio Chumacté	27
22	Santa Lucia	24
23	Río Corozal	40
24	Cobanerita	25
25	Las Pacayas	25
26	Semuy	18
27	Las Flores	14
28	La Compuerta	85
29	Concoma	12
30	Sabanetas	48
31	Mameyal	25
32	Tanhoc	42
33	Canchacan	15
TOTAL		854

Criteria for selection

The LWF/DWS defined three basic criteria for selecting the beneficiary families and affected zones:

- ◆ The most affected and poorest areas
- ◆ Communities where official aid is not arriving
- ◆ Communities where the LWF is already working

VI. PROPOSED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & IMPLEMENTATION

The assistance is being carried out in two phases:

Phase I – Immediate emergency response (one month) assisting with: food, shelter, medicines and evaluation of damages along with technical analyses.

Phase II – Rehabilitation (6 months, overlapping with phase I), involves minimum housing, community organization and recuperation of productive capacity.

Immediate Emergency Response

- ♣ A basic basket food for one week will be delivered to each family. Each basket will contain 8 pounds of beans, 10 pounds of rice, 1 liter of oil, 5 pounds of corn flour, 5 pounds of sugar, 3 pounds of coffee and 6 pounds of "incaparina". The "incaparina" is a multivitamin cereal for children from 1 to 10 years.
- ♣ Medicines as needed and each community will receive a first-aid kit, with the objective of preventing epidemics. These first-aid kits will be under the responsibility of the health promoters of each community.
- ♣ Provisional shelter (plastic sheeting). Each family will receive eight yards of plastic sheeting for basic shelter.

Rehabilitation

- ♣ Minimum housing for families with houses completely destroyed. Each family will receive sixteen sheets of zinc and four pounds of nails, so they can build a provisional or basic housing unit. Each family will provide the wood for the construction, which is available in the communities.
- ♣ Development of productive capacity (income generation and agricultural production). The families will receive seed for cultivation of 1 manzana of maize and 1/2 of beans, to assure basic feeding for next summer. In Petén the next sowing phase starts at the beginning of November.

Implementation

A preliminary assessment of needs has been made by the LWF/DWS staff based in the El Peten office. Governmental organizations have carried out assessment visits only in the major towns of the department of Peten. In the municipality of Poptun a co-ordination mechanism was established and co-ordinated with the mayor's office. LWF/DWS sent three assessment groups to visit the affected communities. Co-ordination with the mayorships was established for the data collecting process.

All phases of the emergency work will be oriented towards strengthening the community organization, with the intention of developing local capacities and improving the community capacity for negotiation and discussion with local authorities and the State.

To facilitate the execution of this process, two technicians with experience in community organization and agriculture will be hired. They will be responsible for co-ordinating with each of the communities involved. To facilitate mobility the technicians will use motor cycles between the widespread communities being assisted.

The proposed activities are as follows:

- ♣ To evaluate the situation of each family, and establish detailed lists of those to receive assistance. The local population will participate in the decision making process.
- ♣ To carry out a technical evaluation of damages in the selected communities.
- ♣ To determine the levels of organization in each community and, according to the results, either support the existing processes or begin new ones.
- ♣ To determine in each community the control and follow-up of activities, which will allow for the monitoring of the proposed plans, as well as show the results of the various activities carried out.

The project will be implemented using the following criteria:

- ♣ There will be an orientation for all new staff regarding ACT principles.
- ♣ All technicians, promoters hired to work in the communities will be instructed to respect the Code of Conduct and the Minimum Standards (SPHERE) within the project's area of operation.
- ♣ There will be training activities to empower local organization.
- ♣ The members and community organizations will be included in all decision-making processes, beginning with the first phase project planning.
- ♣ The LWF/DWS El Salvador office will monitor the implementation.
- ♣ The co-ordination of financial reports will be carried out by LWF/DWS Guatemala and El Salvador.
- ♣ The materials and supplies will be purchased locally and regionally.
- ♣ There will be co-ordination with community organizations and the government in the implementation of programs in the beneficiary communities.
- ♣ The project will take into consideration the principles of gender, environment and strengthening of local capacity.

The planning, implementation and evaluation will be carried out by the LWF/DWS Peten office, along with local beneficiaries. A technical team of LWF/DWS will be responsible for supervising all planning, implementation and monitoring activities. The promoters will train local communities and facilitate their work.

VII. ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, MONITORING & REPORTING

Administration & Finance

LWF/DWS El Salvador has comprehensive experience in planning, implementing and monitoring relief and rehabilitation projects. It has well-established internal administration, personnel, financial and material management as well as reporting systems. The head office in San Salvador will be responsible for the overall administration of the project. LWF/DWS personnel will carry out general monitoring of the relief program. Head office will send both financial and narrative reports to Geneva as requested in the ACT guidelines.

Monitoring

The LWF/DWS regional office in Petén is structured to deal with all aspects related to financial control and reporting. The technical team responsible for the execution of the normal program will be in charge of supervising and monitoring the two technicians that will be hired for the execution of the emergency project. The regional office coordinator will also supervise and carry out training activities at community level.

An audit will be carried out when concluded the project.

The project has two mechanisms for evaluation:

- ◆ Evaluation during the implementation period of the project (at the end of each month), involving the active participation of the communities.
- ◆ Final evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project, taking into account the various aspects. Here again, active participation of the communities/beneficiaries will be promoted.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

Six months – 15 October 2001 to 15 April 2002.

IX. COORDINATION

Just hours after the hurricane landfall, emergency committees were constituted in the municipalities of Poptún and San Luis, coordinated by the municipalities. The Departmental Government, Guatemalan Red Cross, Catholic Church, local NGOs and the Federation Lutheran World are co-ordinating the different efforts to mitigate the problems faced by the affected families.

X. BUDGET

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Unit Cost Quetzales</u>	<u>Budget Quetzales</u>	<u>Budget US\$</u>
FOOD, MEDICINES AND SHELTER					
Food Supplies					
Beans	pound	12,544	3.15	39,513.60	4,890
Rice	pound	15,680	1.98	31,046.40	3,842
Coffee	pound	4,704	3.86	18,157.44	2,247
Vegetable Oil	litter	1,568	7.16	11,226.88	1,389
Cornflour	pound	7,840	4.49	35,201.60	4,357
Sugar	pound	7,840	1.72	13,484.80	1,669
Incaparina	pound	9,408	3.49	<u>32,833.92</u>	<u>4,064</u>
Sub total				181,465.08	22,459
Medicines					
Alcohol	unit	92	1.25	115.00	14
Mercury	unit	184	4.60	846.40	105
Aspirin	tablet	920	0.25	230.00	29
Anti-acid	unit	920	0.75	690.00	86
Band curative	unit	920	0.60	552.00	68
Oxygenated water	unit	62	3.00	186.00	23
Sertal	unit	460	2.25	1,035.00	128
Cotton	½ pound	23	13.25	304.75	38
Adhesive band	roll	46	3.25	149.50	18
Oral saline solution	unit	460	1.25	575.00	71
<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Unit Cost Quetzales</u>	<u>Budget Quetzales</u>	<u>Budget US\$</u>
Iodine-chlorine	tablet	920	0.35	<u>322.00</u>	<u>40</u>
Sub total				5,005.65	620
Shelter					
plastic sheeting	yards	12,544	7.00	<u>87,808.00</u>	<u>10,867</u>
Subtotal				87,808.00	10,867

MATERIAL TRANSP, STORAGE, W/HOUSING, HANDLING

Transport of provisions	trip	11	3,590.90	<u>39,500.00</u>	<u>4,889</u>
Sub total				<u>39,500.00</u>	<u>4,889</u>

RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION**Housing**

16 feet zinc sheet	unit	25,088	43.20	1,083,801.60	134,134
Nails	pounds	6,272	4.50	28,224.00	3,493

Food Security

Maize seed	quintal	400	470.00	188,000.00	23,267
Bean seed	quintal	240	940.00	<u>225,600.00</u>	<u>27,921</u>
Sub total				<u>1,525,625.60</u>	<u>188,815</u>

IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING EXPENSES**Salaries Staff and Support**

Program Coordinator (at 25%)	month	6	3,500.00	21,000.00	2,599
Technician - productive cap (2)	month	6	4,000.00	24,000.00	2,970
Social charges & benefits (2)	month	2	2,000.00	4,000.00	495
Perdiem (2)	month	6	2,400.00	14,400.00	1,782
Perdiem (3 days)	people	15	285.00	4,275.00	529
Monitoring		6	400.00	2,400.00	297

Office Operation

Training material		6	500.00	3,000.00	371
Communications -Tel, fax, email	lumpsum			2,000.00	248
Working meetings		5	500.00	2,500.00	309
Stationary and supply	lumpsum			1,133.33	140

Vehicle Operation

Motorcycle Fuel Maintenance	month	6	2,000.00	12,000.00	1,485
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Capital Equipment

Motorcycle 125cc	unit	2	24,750.00	49,500.00	6,126
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Audit	lumpsum			<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>1,238</u>
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Sub total				<u>150,208.33</u>	<u>18,589</u>
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TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE

1,989,612.66 **246,239**

Exchange rate: US\$ 1 = Q8,08