

Mid-Year report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Southern Cone and Brazil, South America

Appeal No. MAA46002

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This report covers the period 01 January 2010 to 30 June 2010

In brief

Programme purpose: Support five National Societies in the Southern Cone and Brazil to effectively operationalize *Strategy 2020* and the Inter American Plan 2007–2011.

Programmes summary: During the first half of 2010, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Regional Representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil has coordinated with and supported the National Societies of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay to implement actions, based on the country plans in four of these National Societies, to strengthen their response skills, better face humanitarian challenges, recover institutional governability, increase National Society visibility, and use the humanitarian challenges of emergencies to catalyze institutional growth and stability.

The Chilean earthquake and tsunami on 27 February 2010 demanded sustained focus in responding to the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people in the affected areas. The IFRC and the Chilean Red Cross issued an Emergency Appeal in response to the earthquake. The Regional Representation provided human and technical resources, and supported the integration of the operation's plan of action into the previously established strategic plan and adapted the country support plan. The Regional Representation also facilitated coordination with other International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement members contributing in Chile and outside the country to the Chile Earthquake Operation. The response efforts have resulted in slight delays in on-going programme implementation which has given rise to rescheduling several of the planned activities in the region's National Societies.

Nonetheless, in the first six months of 2010, comprehensive and tailor-made support to the region's National Societies continued in the areas of disaster risk management, health and care, and organizational development. The Disaster Risk Management programme worked with the region's National Societies to undertake diverse community-based activities. The Health and Care programme has focused on HIV and AIDS, community health and health in emergencies in line with

the plan. The Organizational Development programme continued its joint planning processes, started late last year, with the region's National Societies. This period's actions have focused on Statutes reform, the strengthening of the territorial network, the country plans and the development of volunteer systems, as well as community-based activities. All of the programme areas have worked in an integrated manner with the National Societies to provide technical support and facilitate planning, monitoring and evaluation activities, which contribute to ensure that the country support plans respond to the particular needs, interests and current context in each country.

Whilst the programme and administrative tasks have been challenged by scarce funds or delay in receipt of projected funds, Principles and Values is now included in programming as a crosscutting strategy due to the lack of dedicated human resources to implement work in this programme area. During the reporting period, the Regional Representation also experienced the reduction of its human resources in the Health and Care programme. Despite these challenges, the Regional Representation reaffirms its commitment to provide appropriate membership services to the National Societies and contribute to fulfilling the International Federation's mission.

Financial situation: The total budget for 2010 is 898,280 Swiss francs (888,309 US dollars or 696,796 euro), of which 556,055 Swiss francs (62 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including the opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was 275,534 Swiss francs (31 per cent) of the budget.

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

See also [Chile: Earthquake; Emergency Operation.](#)

No. of people we have reached: The Regional Representation focuses on building the capacities of National Societies in the Southern Cone and Brazil. The direct beneficiaries are the National Societies' staff, governance bodies and volunteers in the national headquarters and at the branch level. The indirect beneficiaries are the members of civil society in these countries since the strengthening of the National Societies' capacities and the technical support offered by the Regional Representation contributes to their comprehensive actions in their home countries.

Our partners: The Regional Representation continues to work with the following partners: the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the Regional Humanitarian Information Network Project (Redhum), United Nations agencies—including UNDP, PAHO, UNAIDS— as well as the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). Movement coordination continues with the Regional Delegations of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Partner National Societies (PNS) such as the American Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross, the German Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Swedish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross which cooperate bilaterally or multilaterally with the five National Societies of the region. Tripartite cooperation agreements exist between the ICRC, the IFRC and each of the five National Societies in the region. Within the Chile Earthquake Operation, the Chilean Red Cross and the IFRC have established additional partnerships with other PNS, international organizations and agencies, national institutions and bodies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector.

Context

Whilst approximately 260 million people inhabit the 12.6 million km², making up the five countries of the Southern Cone and Brazil Region (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay), the social-demographic trends point to the sustained growth of young populations and a relative increase in the number of elderly. Uruguay and Chile changed government authorities in early 2010, demonstrating the political stability and respect for electoral processes which now characterize these countries. Notwithstanding the related low level of social tensions and conflict, historic economic inequality

remains a major issue. The announced recovery from the global financial crisis in Chile and Brazil has not included all sectors of society. A recent study highlighted the increase of approximately 300,000 new people living in poverty in Chile since 2009. Moreover, faced with an upswing of violence and common crime, national and local authorities have begun implementing new measures to protect public safety. These issues combined with changes in family structures and the ongoing growth of urbanization in these countries increase the diverse and widespread challenges of the region.

During this period, the National Societies in the region responded to the earthquake and tsunami in Chile as well as other emergencies, especially related to climate change and other situations of risk. The earthquake in Chile measuring 8.8 on the Richter scale, and subsequent tsunami on 27 February 2010 was the sub region's largest disaster; the relatively low number of deaths and injuries does not reflect the enormous damage which reached an estimated 30 billion US dollars. As the disaster occurred in the days preceding the Presidential inauguration and the transfer of authority at the national, regional and provincial levels, disaster response coordination and capacities initially experienced obstacles, but these were overcome soon after.

The impact of climate change resulted in other emergencies during the first half of 2010. Increased precipitation and floods affected Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. In Brazil several dozens of people died due to the heavy rains in the north-eastern states and in the state of Rio de Janeiro. Drought, in the Paraguayan Chaco region, and a regional cold wave, led to more than 200 deaths. Despite the attention and resources provided to the IFRC's operation in Haiti, including the activation of the regional response system in the Americas, as well as the ongoing challenges due to institutional crises in the National Societies of Brazil and Uruguay, all of the region's National Societies, with support from PNS and the IFRC, mobilized their existing assets and skills to respond to these emergencies in the Southern Cone and Brazil. The Regional Representation continues its accompaniment of the region's National Societies so they can strengthen their response skills, better face humanitarian challenges, recover institutional governability, increase their visibility, and use the humanitarian challenges of emergencies to catalyze institutional growth and stability.

Apart from these significant emergencies and indications of increased levels of poverty, the region generally has remained stable. The current figures indicate an extremely low prevalence of A (H1N1) which most likely has resulted from a combination of State prevention measures (especially mass vaccination plans for groups at risk) and awareness campaigns conducted by a diverse range of actors.

Within the context of regional politics, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) continue their consolidation process. This included the designation of a new Secretary General in UNASUR and the strengthening of a regional coordination body, the MERCOSUR Specialized Meeting on Socio-natural Disaster Risk Reduction, Civil Defence, Civil Protection and Humanitarian Assistance (REHU) in MERCOSUR.

Progress towards outcomes

The two large-scale disasters in Haiti and Chile, and the IFRC's response under the leadership of the respective National Societies, have affected the established plans in the Americas during the first half of 2010. Whilst the Movement responded efficiently and effectively during the emergency response phases in both countries, there was an impact on the achievement of projected objectives for the Southern Cone and Brazil was during this period. For the remaining half of 2010, the region's National Societies and the Regional Representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil face a challenge to mobilize the necessary material and human resources to implement projected plans.

Based on the needs identified jointly by the IFRC and the National Societies, this report not only reflects progress on the activities undertaken based on the country support plans for the Argentine Red Cross (ARC), the Brazilian Red Cross (BRC), the Chilean Red Cross (ChRC), the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) and the Uruguayan Red Cross (URC), but also monitors the regional progress with regard to the IFRC's Global Agenda. Whilst the Regional Representation is closely accompanying the process to resolve the crisis in the Brazilian Red Cross, conditions have not yet allowed for the creation of a

country support plan for this National Society. The following sections detail the progress made during the first six months of 2010 in the areas of disaster risk management, health and care, and organizational development. As will be further explained in its respective section, planned actions under the area of Principles and Values were not implemented due to the lack of funding for human resources for this area.

Disaster Risk Management

Programme purpose

Global Agenda Goal 1: Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Programme component 1: Institutional capacity-building for community risk reduction
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Component Outcome 1: National Societies are encouraged and receive support for strengthening capacities to work with communities to be better prepared and organized to reduce, respond and recover from disasters impacts, contributing to building safer and more resilient communities.

Achievements: During this reporting period, the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) regional programme has provided technical support to National Societies to undertake diverse community-based activities. The National Societies of Chile and Paraguay implemented community-based local initiatives based on the VCA tool and a participatory planning process with schools and communities. These activities form part of the DFID-supported Reducing Risk in America initiative. Additionally, thanks to DG-ECHO and Finnish Red Cross funding, the National Societies of Chile and Paraguay established a methodological framework for community-based participatory projects and actions.

Under the Reducing Risk in America initiative, the Chilean Red Cross started its third year of implementation in May 2010. The DRM programme shared information with community coordinators of micro-projects, visited two community micro-projects in Lota and Concepción and met with the ChRC's Regional Branch President to plan the implementation of new community micro-projects. The focus on strengthening preparedness skills and will be implemented with the national headquarters and in the following regions: a) Bío-Bío (Lota and Coronel), b) Araucanía (Villarrica, Loncoche and Teodoro Schmidt), c) Los Lagos, Los Ríos y Aysén (Valdivia and Puerto Montt), and d) Magallanes and the Chilean Antarctica (Punta Arenas, Porvenir and Puerto Williams). The ChRC is strengthening its DRM programme by increasing volunteer skills to guarantee the continuity of shared actions at the community level, as well as ensure institutional skills in risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

Within the same initiative, the Paraguayan Red Cross worked with 25 schools located in 25 communities in 7 departments. During this reporting period 14 of the planned 25 communities are consolidating their local risk management skills through the application of VCA, community-based first aid, healthy household and workshops on participative planning and disaster preparedness. In addition, in 24 of the 25 planned communities with their respective schools, the PRC held meetings to present the DFID initiative, reach agreements with the community, school and the PRC for the development of jointly-planned and implemented actions to reduce risk.

Since 2008, the PRC organizes and facilitates trainings in the departments of Central, Presidente Hayes, San Pedro, Concepción, Ñeembucú, Alto Paraná, and Itapúa for risk preparedness. The departments of Concepción and Itapúa now have their respective contingency plans. The community emergency plans, established in 2009, are being updated using a module from the "Better Be Ready". This process has given rise to the revision of the historical profiles of the communities, together with the timelines and context previously identified.

Moreover, at the school-level, the PRC branches are providing follow-up on the School Emergency Plan in seven schools, as well as updating the student brigades formed in 2008. As a sign of their commitment to continuing the actions established within the project framework, the participating branches (Ñeembucú, Itapúa Alto Paraná, San Pedro and Concepción), sub branches (Capiatá, Ita,

Nueva Italia and Ñemby), and departments of Youth and Relief have signed cooperation agreements with the PRC's national headquarters. In June, project focal points in the branches and sub branches received training in how to conduct community baselines.

Moreover, the DRM programme has accompanied the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay in their actions to reduce risks related to climate hazards. By the end of 2010, at least 15,000 people in high risk areas in these three countries will be reached by Red Cross community risk reduction initiatives. As a fundamental part of these initiatives, actions commenced in order to develop branch and volunteer skills and resources. In June, with DFID support and the facilitation of a national expert, the Paraguayan Red Cross organized a workshop on climate change. This National Society also has produced educational material for students and teachers on climate change and adaptation for knowledge-sharing with educational centres participating in the Protected Schools programme.

In spite of the delay due to the emergency situation post-earthquake and tsunami, the Chilean Red Cross has begun charting the first steps to implement the Preparedness for Climate Change (PFCC2) national project which aims to research climate change in Chile, organize a national workshop for ChRC volunteers and staff, and produce new communications materials.

The ChRC also participated in the continental Climate Change meeting organized in January 2010 by the Americas Zone Office and Regional Representations in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Participants, including other National Societies from the regions, and institutions such as the ISDR and GTZ, shared experiences on new lines of actions in climate change adaptation, mitigation, and use of renewable energies. During this meeting, the Red Cross National Societies presented their experiences and the existing tools developed in the three sub-regions, and also participated in joint sessions with Relief Directors in the Americas who attended a parallel sessions on *Strategy 2020*, results from the General Assembly in Nairobi (particularly the references to strengthening integration of climate change in institutional policies and strategies), the Global Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Disaster Risk Reduction Reference Framework for the Americas. One of the main conclusions was the identified need to integrate the climate change and risk management programmes and closely collaborate with other programme areas in the National Societies.

As follow up to the first continental Climate Change meeting, a PFCC2 planning session was held in May to discuss project implementation. Participants included the focal points for the PFCC2 project from the National Societies of Mexico, Chile and the Dominican Republic, regional staff from the DRM programmes, representatives from the Zone Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting and Finance Units, a representative from the IFRC Climate Centre and a delegate from the Netherlands Red Cross based in Suriname. The participants identified achievements and lessons learnt and discussed ways to fill gaps present in the programme's first phase. As a result of the meeting, a Plan of Action was developed to accomplish Phase 2 of the Climate Change Preparedness Project. Clarification about the different steps of the PFCC2 also was provided.

The Argentine Red Cross and the Chilean Red Cross presented proposals to the Innovation Fund on climate change adaptation from the PFCC2. Confirmation of results is expected in July 2010.

With the support of the Finnish Red Cross and DG-ECHO, the tool box on the DesAprender Learning platform¹ was updated with approximately 359 new tools from some 70 organizations supported by DIPECHO. These tools include those produced during the six different cycles of DIPECHO funding in South America. The updated list of tools is available at: www.desaprender.org/tools

Programme component 2: Institutional capacity-building for disaster preparedness

Component outcome 1: The secretariat encourages and supports the strengthening of the Southern Cone National Societies' capacities to effectively support communities to plan, prepare, respond and recover from emergencies.

¹ www.DesAprender.org

Achievements: The regional DRM programme has the goal of mapping of the regional National Societies' response and contingency plans and providing technical assistance for their creation or updating in the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay. During the first half of 2010, coordination between the Centre of Reference for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD), the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the three National Societies has begun for the creation and updating of response plans. With the support of the Finnish Red Cross, seven volunteers and three staff members from these three National Societies received training on the elaboration of response and contingency planning. Following this training, the National Societies started the process of drafting or updating national response plans with their own funding and trained human resources. During this period, the Chilean Red Cross established the terms of reference for the volunteer responsible for the creation of the national response and contingency plan and also selected this focal point.

Seeking to improve the quality of information during emergencies and as part of the capacity building activities, the DRM programme in coordination with CREPD provided training for trainers in needs assessment guidelines to one volunteer from each of the three National Societies. The Chile earthquake operation, in coordination with PADRU, has integrated risk reduction in the emergency phase as well as in early recovery plans. During the second half of this year, one more National Society will incorporate a risk reduction approach in the emergency and early recovery plans.

The Paraguayan Red Cross is working on the consolidation of its national Disaster Risk Management programme and Disaster Management teams, with the support of the Finnish Red Cross and other partners. Team members from national and regional response teams, disaster risk reduction focal points, relief volunteers and representatives from other core areas at the branch and sub-branch levels held their first meeting in May to strengthen coordination capacities, to jointly establish National Societies' sectoral joint approaches and to plan for preparedness actions based on response priorities.

Programme component 3: Disaster risk reduction coordination and advocacy

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

Achievements: During the first semester of 2010, the DRM programme has promoted more efficient and focused National Society participation in the DRM national and international platforms and coordination with national State and non governmental institutions for disaster risk management. This was done by working together to create guidelines; the final version and dissemination of these guidelines is expected for the second semester of this year.

The IFRC coordination and knowledge-sharing mechanisms such as the technical networks, facilitators' networks, online training, and the DesAprender Learning platform have been reinforced. The Continental Disaster Risk Management Directors' meeting, with Norwegian Red Cross support, was held in January. Participants exchanged information amongst sub regional networks, shared priorities, and provided feedback on key emerging issues such as urban risk, climate change, food security and livelihoods.

As part of the mutual technical support of the DRM continental team, the regional DRM coordinator participated in a one-month mission to Haiti to provide support to the Haitian Red Cross Society (HRCS) to develop the DP/DRR Surge project in 11 regional branches in the country. This project is part of the third pillar of the Plan of Action for the Haiti Earthquake Operation.

Within the framework of the Reducing Risk in America initiative supported by DFID, participating National Societies attended a meeting to share learning in El Salvador to develop a common capacity building instrument that will eventually be tied to their sustainability strategies. A second meeting will be held in Paraguay in July.

This DFID-supported initiative also has sponsored five volunteer exchanges (1 Relief department, 2 Youth department, 1 Capiatá sub branch and 1 Ñemby sub branch) to support the application of a base line in the Itapúa branch and the Ñemby sub branch. Following up the risk reduction plan, the PRC

organized volunteer exchanges for two volunteers, one from the Ñemby sub branch and another one from the Capiatá branch, to strengthen their administration and communication skills.

The Paraguayan Red Cross, with DFID financial support, has made significant progress in its communication campaign during this reporting period. This National Society has already signed agreements and aired radio spots with 19 local radios in the regions of Central, Ñeembucú, Alto Paraná and San Pedro. Twenty-six other agreements with other local radio stations in other regions have been signed and are pending broadcast. Music has been added to the key messages on climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness so to attract a wider audience, particularly youth. The PRC continues to issue information supplements on risk reduction and the projects undertaken at the branch and sub branch levels to its database of over 1,000 people, as well as produce press releases for local and national media outlets, and update its webpage. The PRC magazine, *Kuruzy Pyta*, was redesigned during the first half of 2010; and its new format debuts in July.

Since February, the PRC has organized internships for volunteers in the communications department of its headquarters. These internships have been essential for improving capacities in information management, as well as developing a closer relationship among national headquarters, branch and sub branch volunteers. There are now trained focal points in communications in each of the branches and sub branches who understand and share information about projects, maintain permanent contact with local volunteers, report on activities internally and to local media outlets, as well as provide monthly reports to the national communications officer in the PRC's headquarters. These focal points in communications also have been given institutional emails to facilitate their tasks.

As part of the DFID/ DIPECHO-supported project in Paraguay, the National Emergency Secretariat (SEN) and the PRC organized the "Trans-border forum for sub-national governments from the Chaco² on disaster risk management and reduction". Participants included national, departmental and municipal state authorities from Paraguay, delegations from Chuquisaca and Villamontes in Bolivia, representatives from the European Commission, UNDP and other international institutions, representatives from the National Societies of Finland, Switzerland and the United States of America, and PRC leadership and staff. Participants shared ideas on policies, projects and activities with the aim of establishing sub national and trans-border actions to reduce risks, respond to the particular needs of the inhabitants of the Pilcomayo river basin, and mitigate climate change.

During this reporting period, the Finnish Red Cross supported two continental DRM coordination meetings in Panama.

Constraints or Challenges:

The clear identification of challenges allows the DRM programme and the region's National Societies to better plan and innovate so they jointly reach their projected outcomes. The following outlines some of the most pressing constraints and/or challenges starting at the regional level and then detailing those found at the National Society level:

- **Human resources:** There are limited human resources at the level of National Societies' headquarters. Although some initiatives have supported skill development, the disaster management structure and balance given to emergencies and daily tasks and commitments merits reflection. Whilst emergencies and disasters affect the continuity of projects, staff and budget reductions negatively impact the programme's effectiveness.
- **Agreements on joint emergency responses:** The most recent disasters in Haiti and Chile have demonstrated the need for the National Societies, with secretariat assistance, to establish mutual aid agreements amongst the members of the International Federation's Response System for use in emergencies.
- **Volunteering:** National Societies have solicited more technical and financial support from the Regional Representation for volunteer management capacity building. This work needs to be integrated into every area and clear guidance and plans are needed.

² The Gran Chaco is a vast territory located in the nations of Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay.

- **Political advocacy:** Disaster management requires an appropriate balance of political advocacy, partner negotiations and up-to-date technical management to be successful. As the National Societies are participating more frequently in decision-making with high-level State authorities, more support is needed. Governmental changes also impact the National Societies' projects and their formulation.
- **Networking and knowledge-sharing:** Notwithstanding the progress made, more reinforcement of the skills to facilitate consultation and promote participation, map National Societies' resources and skills, apply commonly-used protocols and methodologies for these, as well as training tools like online classrooms, trainings and facilitator exchanges are necessary.
- **Movement coordination in Disaster Management:** Increased coordination, based on Partner National Societies' support, is a priority at the sub regional and national levels. Particular emphasis should be given to regional National Society needs, contexts, existing skills as well as future goals.
- **Financial continuity:** Support is needed to create a portfolio of projects and identify non-traditional financing. The Regional Representation will continue to support resource mobilization skills. Delayed funds generate delays in implementation and changes in quality or quantity of actions affecting commitments with national partners.
- **Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reports (PMER):** The Regional Representations in South America have not had a PMER officer since April 2010. Special attention needs to be given to ensuring that all areas of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting continue to be developed both within the Regional Representation and the National Societies. ,. As with other areas, emphasis on articulating needs between sub regions will optimize resources and avoid duplication.
- **Chile:** Faced with the earthquake and tsunami in February 2010, the CRC had reduced volunteer participation for programmes unrelated to the emergency operation and needed to reschedule activities in the affected branches. However, the emergency response effort has given rise to positive change within the CRC, including adjustments to the country plan established prior to the emergency, allowing this National Society to use activities as an opportunity to re-position disaster risk management as a priority.
- **Argentina:** The federal system makes establishing agreements with the State more complex. However, the ARC's presence at a local level facilitates this interaction in different spheres. Attention has been given to facilitate collective discussion spaces and create joint instruments between the Argentine Red Cross and State authorities for shared analysis, coordination and mutual recognition.
- **Paraguay:** In the efforts to promote inter-institutional work between State authorities and the PRC, municipal authorities tend to not dedicate time to this objective and municipal procedures are time-consuming. Whilst focal points have been named by the participating municipalities, municipal elections are planned for November 2010 thus making this campaign period an additional challenge for joint work towards a national risk management strategy.
- **Brazil and Uruguay:** Given their institutional needs, the Brazilian Red Cross and Uruguayan Red Cross require a more tailor-made approach to identify specific actions which are possible given the status of these National Societies.

Health and Care

Programme purpose

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

With the programme objective of supporting National Societies to increase health activities and mobilize volunteers, civil society and governments in order to achieve greater equity in health and have a greater impact on public health issues, during this reporting period the Health and Care programme has focused on work in the area of HIV and AIDS, community health and health in emergencies. Amongst the many achievements during the first semester of 2010, this programme has implemented the health plan in accordance with these three strategic components.

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS
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Outcome 1: National Societies have been strengthened to apply the Global Alliance in HIV and AIDS through prevention, care, treatment and support reducing HIV stigma and discrimination and strengthening their capacities.

During the reporting period, the Health and Care programme supported the Argentine Red Cross in the implementation of the Global Alliance on HIV at the national level (2008-2011). Technical assistance focused on creating support and monitoring plans for each of the four Global Alliance on HIV outcomes (prevention, treatment and care, stigma and discrimination and capacity strengthening).

In the first semester of 2010, 412,845 direct beneficiaries were reached in the context of a three-year plan with an overall objective of 776,832 people reached. According to the outcomes, 231,598 were reached in prevention activities; 1,221 in treatment and care for people living with HIV (PLHIV) or family members of people living with HIV (FPLHIV); 179,476 in reduction of stigma and discrimination; and for the 550 participating volunteers received training to ensure capacity strengthening. A total of 264,594 Swiss francs were employed to reach these goals.



The Argentine Red Cross conducts an HIV prevention campaign. Source: Argentine Red

The ARC is well-positioned on the issue of HIV with a clear work focus on human rights, gender perspective and respect for diversity. Furthermore, the ARC is the coordinating institution of the Forum of People with HIV within the National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism, a dependent institution of the Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights. The ARC has conducted awareness-raising workshops on the topic and organized five provincial forums of PLHIV in the provinces of Neuquén, San Juan, Santiago de Estero, Chaco and Corrientes.

The main ARC actions during this reporting period are:

- The training of 63 local HIV coordinators and 665 volunteers in “Norms for peer education programmes on HIV”.
- The organization of two meetings with ten civil society organizations to implement the Code of Good Practices on HIV, and adjust plans of action to comply with the Code. Internally within the ARC, monitoring, follow-up and accountability systems have been implemented in 32 branches and 19 provinces according to this Code.
- Thirty-seven condom distribution centres were established in the ARC branches in 21 provinces, reaching a total of 9,918 people of whom 762 are PLHIV.
- The implementation, for the second consecutive year, of 32 work plans with a peer education methodology in 19 provinces, reaching 13,649 direct beneficiaries mainly women and including youth in situations of vulnerability, incarcerated people, sex workers, men who have sex with men and transsexuals. This total includes the health staff who received awareness training on stigma and discrimination and the human rights of PLHIV.
- A total of 159 local prevention and awareness campaigns on stigma and discrimination, with an Information, Education and Formation focus, in 43 branches in 20 provinces reached 376,941 beneficiaries.
- Due to its work to connect primary health care centres with information workshops and testing promotion, 962 pregnant women were tested.
- Eight mutual support groups with regular attendance of 519 PLHIV and FPLHIV were conducted. Two groups which give support and assistance to 35 girls and boys living with HIV were also established. Support for food security was provided to 274 PLHIV and 7 PLHIV obtained micro-credits.

- The ARC signed an agreement with the Secretariat for Programming the Prevention of Drug Addiction and the Struggle against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) in May 2010. This opens up a new space in which the ARC can work on preventative activities with substance users.
- The ARC leadership, with UNICEF and other civil society organizations worked together on the day-long awareness campaign “I need a future. I need you”. This campaign highlighted the situation of children living with HIV and the inclusion in the public agenda of issues associated with paediatric medication, care and adoption policies and children’s comprehensive development.

In the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV, the Chilean Red Cross implemented a project with the objective of strengthening the skills and knowledge of youth and adolescent sexual health for pregnancy prevention for students, guardians and the general population in two marginal communes located in the Santiago metropolitan region. The 1,200 youth and adolescents who benefited from this programme live in areas with a high prevalence of adolescent pregnancy, domestic violence and social violence. The CRC is strengthening its volunteers’ skills to work with the recently opened Regional Centre for Youth and Sexual Health in this urban area.

Component 2: Community health and health in emergencies

Outcome 1: National Societies have strengthened their capacities to promote and scale up actions in Voluntary Non Remunerated Blood Donation (VNRBD), first aid, community based health and first aid (CBHFA) within an integrated community health strategy.



The ChRC branch in Linares is active in Club 25.
Source: Chilean Red Cross

During the first half of 2010, the National Societies of the sub region and the Health and Care programme have worked together on a diverse range of community health and health in emergency activities. In March, the directors from the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay, alongside the International Federation continental team, attended the Annual Directors’ Meeting. The participants worked towards the main objectives to build common work approaches between the National Societies on climate change and health in emergencies.

In June, the regional programme held meetings with the four National Societies (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay) in the region to evaluate their respective country plans and make the necessary adjustments. These visits were key to establishing the health plans, jointly evaluating skills and responsibilities and promoting more integrated work and shared actions.

This year marks the beginning of another stage in the Club 25 process. The Chilean Red Cross, with secretariat assistance, evaluated the process. The report presented to one of the donors, the Finnish Red Cross, highlighted the CRC’s efforts to educate youth about voluntary non-remunerated blood donations and volunteer work. As a result of the support of the IFRC secretariat and the Swiss Humanitarian Foundation a five-year programme for the Americas region was created to support seven National Societies in their Club 25 process. The Chilean Red Cross is one of these National Societies.

The Global Strategy for Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) is being promoted across the region in a strategic manner that can help National Societies empower communities, volunteers and branches. CBHFA is an integrated community-based approach in which Red Cross volunteers work with their communities in disease prevention, health promotion, first aid, and disaster preparedness and response. Within the framework of the emergency plan of action, the Chilean Red Cross organized a

training session for trainers in CBHFA in April. The CRC now has 15 trained volunteers and is planning to expand the trainings at a national level during the second half of the year.

Component 2: Community health and health in emergencies

Outcome 2: National Societies work in an integrated way and have intervention strategies in place to respond to cases of public health emergencies including epidemic control and disasters.

The Red Cross National Societies have been working together at continental level to establish shared health skills and strategies for epidemic control in disasters. In March, the National Societies of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay participated in the Continental Workshop on Public Health in Emergencies. The workshop trained volunteers on the implementation and coordination processes during public health emergencies and established focal points in each National Society for health in emergencies. These focal points currently coordinate with their respective risk reduction areas in their National Societies.

During this reporting period, the Centre of Reference for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) and the pandemic control project have facilitated trainings in the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay. Each of these National Societies now has trained volunteers in the methodology as well as human resources to replicate these trainings with their respective National Societies as well as others, , thus promoting South-South cooperation.

The regional Health and Care programme has drafted a project proposal for epidemic control training to be implemented –pending funding– in the South American countries with a prevalence of dengue outbreaks: Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia. This initiative aims to continue building National Societies’ skills to attend to health issues in emergencies.

Constraints or Challenges:

- As foreseen due to the decrease in financial support for the health and care area, the regional Health and Care programme, covering the Regional Representations for the Andean Region and for the Southern Cone and Brazil, now is staffed by one person. This person works in both of the programme’s main health areas (community health- HIV and health in emergencies). This situation results in the need for a stronger commitment from the continental team and increased cooperation between programme areas and support bodies such as the Centres of Reference.
- The successful integration of regional health plans and activities are dependent on the establishment of a continental framework and comprehensive approach on health issues.
- Resource mobilization should be intensified at all levels. The Global Alliance on HIV budget is insufficient for the accompaniment work being conducted in countries that are not yet part of the Global Alliance such as Paraguay and Uruguay. Also, increased attention to resource mobilization is needed to expand the CBHFA strategy at regional level.

Organizational Development

The outcomes presented in this section respond to the country planning processes started with each of the region’s National Societies during the last half of 2009 and monitored through June 2010.

The Regional Representation monitored the implementation of this plan through visits, participation and follow-up workshops in each country. This work was conducted through the reviewing and updating of the current planning and log frames by the IFRC programme technical teams, joint efforts of the National Society and IFRC, together with work with each of the National Societies in order to introduce them to Strategy 2020.

This process additionally included a meeting between the Americas Zone Director and the Regional Representative in Buenos Aires, Argentina to present the methodology and analysis used. This follow-up process facilitated an analysis of the progress and challenges of implementing each plan in the

region's National Societies. Furthermore, it demonstrates the strengthening of the secretariat's support role, particularly its implementation of tailor-made actions and the close relationships established with each National Society whilst establishing a comprehensive and holistic view with increased group cohesion that breaks with individual or isolated actions and perspectives.

Given the diverse actions conducted to support the organizational development of the region's National Societies, this section will report based on specific indicators within each proposed outcome.

Programme Component 1: Strengthening of the Organizational Development Capacities
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Outcome 1 Promote the strengthening of the territorial network in the National Societies of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay

As identified in their country plans, the strengthening of the territorial network is a prioritized topic for the National Societies of the Southern Cone and Brazil. The following indicators permit an overview of the progress made by the National Societies in this programme component.

With regards to *technically participating in at least four of the meetings on implementation of the New Territorial Organization Model in Argentine Red Cross*, this indicator is no longer pertinent since the National Society has decided to put a hold on efforts towards this goal. From the time when the country plan was created, the Argentine Red Cross management structure has undergone changes. In this period, three different Directors General have led this National Society, thus generating challenges to implement initiatives in organizational development and other sectors. The difficulties have impacted on the planned establishment of a new model of territorial organization.

Another indicator refers to the *participation of the Argentine Red Cross and the Uruguayan Red Cross in the elaboration of six (three per country) Local Operational Plans (LOP)*. The above mentioned situation in the ARC has contributed to this National Society's decision to put work on this issue on stand-by. The Uruguayan Red Cross has included the LOP in the project financed with funds from SOS, "Improvement in the Uruguayan Red Cross services and programmes through the strengthening of its territorial network". This implementation of this project, started in August 2009 and with a July 2010 end date, is delayed.

The delay in the LOP draft is due, among other causes, to the difficulties that the National Society has faced in providing simultaneous responses to the country's diverse demands. On one front, faced with floods in the country's Northern coast, URC local branches focused their efforts on responding to affected people's needs. On another front, with the advent of avian flu, URC branches supported the Ministry of Health to disseminate educational information to the population. And finally, the necessary review of the Arc's legal base demanded time which detracted from other activities.

The Regional Representation has requested a timeframe extension until December 2010 for the project implementation. This will imply rescheduling of the planned activities. In the second half of 2010, the Regional Representation has prioritized organizational development support to the URC.

Regarding the Regional Representation's *collaboration with at least two National Societies to formulate projects for the Intensified Capacity Building (ICB) fund*, during this reporting period there has not been an opportunity to formulate and present a project to the ICB fund.

Whilst projected for 2010, the plan to *disseminate the National Capacity Development Fund of the Argentine Red Cross in at least five National Societies* is on stand-by because the ARC has put the implementation of its National Capacity Development Fund on hold. The Regional Representation's will support this activity during the second semester of 2010.

Although this had begun during the second semester of 2009, the February 2010 earthquake in Chile interrupted *collaboration which had previously taken place through at least four meetings to create the Regional Branch Operational Plan of the Chilean Red Cross*. The National Society's Plan of Action, however, created within the context following the disaster envisages strong reinforcement for the

organizational development area and includes the regional operational plans. The Regional Representation provides on-going cooperation in this process.

The earthquake caused a short-term deferment of another planned indicator; the regional representation planned to provide *technical support to create a Chilean Red Cross coordination team to work with regional committees and branches*. Notwithstanding the delay, plans for the second semester of the year are underway to restart and reinforce the process, building upon the Plan of Action for the emergency operation and the new context.

In 2010 the Regional Representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil sponsors Paraguayan Red Cross's work on "Well Functioning Branches" in at least one branch. The work on "Well Functioning Branches" started in Paraguay in December 2009. Four trainings were conducted in four Paraguayan Red Cross sub-branches and in the national headquarters. During the first semester of 2010, work has continued to strengthen the branches. Based on current experience, the PRC has decided to focus sustained energy on two branches during the last half of 2010. Funds are pending which will allow the corresponding workshops to be organized in these branches.

Lastly, the Regional Representation is *providing technical support to the Uruguayan Red Cross in the reorganization of the Montevideo regional committee structure*. The reorganization process of the Montevideo regional committee started in 2009. The URC national headquarters since has developed smoother relations with the committee. The Regional Representation has accompanied and provided coaching to the URC's national President to solidify the good work and the productive relationship which exists between both bodies.

Outcome 2 Provide technical support to the National Societies of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay for the creation and implementation of National Plans of Mobilization and Resource Development.
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The National Societies of the Red Cross of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay participate in a Mobilization and Resource Development workshop that includes tools to improve advocacy. Given the lack of funds, it was not possible to hold this training workshop during the first half of the year. Nevertheless, a project was presented and approved by the Spanish Red Cross, and this workshop is scheduled for the second half of 2010.

As part of this outcome, the Regional Representation provides *technical support for the elaboration of the Resource Mobilization Department's (RMD) national plan in the National Societies of the Red Cross of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay*. The Argentine Red Cross has a national plan for resource mobilization, which was established through a project financed by the secretariat in 2009; this was the first expected outcome. The second expected outcome was to share the document with the branches, which was partially fulfilled. The third step of sharing the document with four National Societies in the region is imminent for the second half of 2010. A diverse range of institutional challenges prevented the ARC from conducting this activity during the first semester of 2010.

The Chilean Red Cross has identified this topic as a prioritized area in its development and is available to start the process to elaborate a strategy and a plan during the second half of 2010. The Regional Representation will support the CRC in this process. The Paraguayan Red Cross is in the process of creating a national plan for resource mobilization. This National Society conducted a study of its institutional image in the first half of this year. During the second semester, the Regional Representation will hire a consultant to design this plan. Although the Uruguayan Red Cross does not have a national plan for resource mobilization, its creation is envisaged within the modernization and restructuration project that will begin implementation during the latter half of 2010.

The final indicator in this outcome addresses the need to *promote the configuration of a technical resource mobilization development team in the National Societies of the Red Cross of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay*. The ARC currently has a resource mobilization team which receives technical support from the Regional Representation. The CRC presently has a corporate social responsibility

team which the Regional Representation supports. During the second half of 2010, the National Societies of Uruguay and Paraguay plan to hire resource mobilization staff.

Outcome 3 Promote legal bases and structures and updates management tools that guarantees the base for the functioning of National Societies

The Regional Representation currently provides *active technical support in the creation of internal rules and regulations for the Argentine Red Cross and the Chilean Red Cross*. During this reporting period, the National Society and the Regional Representation reviewed the ARC's legal base and finalized the reassessment of the Statutes and internal rules and regulations. The Chilean Red Cross has incorporated the recommendations from the Joint ICRC/Federation Commission for National Society Statutes into its Statutes, has presented the revised Statutes to this body and awaits the approval from the country's authorities. The internal rules and regulations also have been reviewed and updated.

The Regional Representation *has participated technically and jointly searched for financial support for the dissemination of the legal bases in the Argentine Red Cross and the Chilean Red Cross*. Both National Societies now await the definitive approval by all the involved bodies so that the internal dissemination of the new documents can begin. The Regional Representation will continue to support these processes in the manner most appropriate to the National Society's needs.

With the Paraguayan Red Cross, technical support for the creation of a management manual has been provided, as well as technical support for the development of the new Strategic Plan 2011-2015. The PRC, with an external consultant's assistance, has started to evaluate its strategic plan which is still in force. The Regional Representation is accompanying and supporting the process which is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Initial steps have been taken to *support the Uruguayan Red Cross in the revision of its legal base*. The URC, with the assistance of the Regional Representation, is finishing this revision and once complete, the National Society will present these to the Joint ICRC/Federation Commission for National Society Statutes.

Close technical support and joint assistance in the process to obtain financial support for the management structure of the Uruguayan Red Cross has been given. Given that the current institutional crisis in the URC has the potential of developing into a operation integrity crisis, the Regional Representation is providing thorough follow-up and assistance to resolve this serious challenge. During this reporting period, the Regional Representation has visited the URC's headquarters to meet with its leadership and staff four times. Support has been provided for the creation of a modernization and restructuring project which will begin during the second half of 2010.

Outcome 4 Stimulation of dynamic communication processes adapted to new technology in the National Societies of the Red Cross in Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay

One of this outcome's particular goals is the *provision of technical support in the creation of national communication plans for the National Societies of the Red Cross of Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay*. The CRC, with IFRC support, is carrying out its national communication plan. The PRC is in the process of establishing its plan and during the first semester, it restructured its communication and dissemination system. The Regional Representation will continue supporting this issue in the PRC during the remaining half of 2010. During this reporting period, the URC, with support from the Americas Zone Office, has created its national communication plan. The Communications Coordinator from the Americas Zone office alongside the Regional Representation will continue this support within the framework of its modernization and restructuring plan.

Due to the delay in producing the communication plans at the national levels in the National Societies of Chile and Paraguay there is not yet progress towards the indicator regarding the provision of *technical support and joint assistance in the process to obtain financial support to disseminate the new communication plans at the branch level in the National Societies of Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay*.

Whilst the Uruguayan Red Cross has produced the communication plan, the dissemination process has been postponed until this National Society's management team has been restructured.

Outcome 5 Technical support for volunteer strengthening to improve NS response to new humanitarian challenges

The first indicator relating to this result is to *support the creation of a national volunteer plan for at least three National Societies (Argentina, Chile and Uruguay)*. In this reporting period, the Americas Zone Office has provided technical support to the Argentine Red Cross. The Chilean Red Cross plans to establish the national volunteer plan during the last half of 2010. The Regional Representation will assist the National Society as required and based on its particular needs. The Uruguayan Red Cross will create its national volunteer plan within the framework of the modernization and restructuring project scheduled for the second semester of 2010.

Directly connected to the above indicator, the Regional Representation established a second indicator on the *implementation of the volunteer management cycle in the National Societies of Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay*. Whilst the Regional Representation is providing technical support to the ARC for the implementation of its management cycle, it does not have sufficient financial resources to respond to this National Society's financial requests. As established in its plan of action and country plan, the CRC will initiate work on its volunteer management cycle during the second half of 2010. The IFRC began providing technical and financial support for the volunteer management cycle to the Paraguayan Red Cross in June 2010. In addition, as part of its modernization and restructuring project scheduled to take place in the latter half of the year, the Uruguayan Red Cross will include efforts to implement a new volunteer management cycle.

Outcome 6 Implement a sustained and continuous process for human resource training in National Societies

The Regional Representation has attempted to move forward with planned human resource training in spite of budgetary challenges. The first indicator of this outcome is *support to the Argentine Red Cross for its workshop with the directorate commission*. Since there has been no budget for this workshop, it has not been organized. However, the project remains in the Regional Representation's portfolio in anticipation of obtaining financial support in the future.

Lack of financial support has delayed the accomplishment of the indicator established to *support to the Argentine Red Cross for its leadership skills workshop*. The Regional Representation and the ARC are working together to identify funding sources to make this event possible. A related aspect of this workshop is the necessary *support to the Argentine Red Cross for the creation of a leadership development strategy and plan*. As the National Society has not yet taken final decisions on the issue, scant progress has been made towards achieving this indicator.

The Regional Representation planned to provide *support to create a social project investment toolkit in the Paraguayan Red Cross*. However, the PRC has yet to determine the level of interest and capacities necessary to create this toolkit. Additionally, the projected *support to the PRC for the organization of an experience exchange regarding productive projects* has shown no progress due to the absence of funds.

The indicator having the goal of organizing a *Logical Framework Approach and Participative Methodologies Workshop in the Red Cross Societies of Chile and Uruguay* started in Chile in January 2010. Work was undertaken with 17 regional committees and branches, reaching a total of 35 people. This work will be continued during the second semester of this year.

The workshops to strengthen the territorial network have focused on branch development. These efforts have been made so that branches can respond effectively, efficiently and with quality to the needs of the people and groups in situations of vulnerability, thus contributing to human development. The trainings are being conducted using the guidelines from the IFRC's "Well-Functioning National

Society” and “Well-Functioning Branch” tools. National Society participants examined and discussed the guidelines with a focus on their National Society’s actions. Additional focus was given to the applicability of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and providing the tools which facilitated an analysis of the internal and external realities, thus enabling better planning of actions that comply with the policies, norms and structures of each National Society. These workshops also were used to introduce the use of a gender perspective in institutional activities internally and externally.

These workshops were established with four main objectives: a) the understanding of the importance of strengthening the territorial network; b) learning new tools and skills to analyze the situation at the branch level and plan activities accordingly; c) strengthening the conceptual basis with the aim of continuing preparation through the provision of specific tools to conduct joint work with communities; and d) provision of information on participatory planning methodologies as tools for the creation of projects aimed at development.

The workshop with the Uruguayan Red Cross, originally scheduled for June 2010, was postponed due to its institutional crisis. Plans have been made to conduct this workshop before the end of 2010.

Constraints and Challenges:

- The National Societies and the Regional Representation established joint commitments to continue developing and monitoring the country plans. Whilst a mutual responsibility, the support of external partners also plays an important role.
- Providing follow-up based on each National Society’s identified priorities is a pending challenge for the second half of 2010. Special emphasis needs to be given to resource mobilization to implement the plan and ensure the continuity of comprehensive and coordinated support.
- This period also has generated lessons learnt and an increased understanding of delays in achieving expected results. Due to summer vacations in the Southern hemisphere, the first months of the year generally are not as productive as later months.
- The large-scale disasters outside the region (Haiti) and in the Southern Cone (Chile), and the humanitarian response by the International Movement, influenced the fulfilment of projected plans. On the one hand, all activities have been delayed as a result of efforts to respond to these disasters, whilst on the other hand, if managed effectively and with a comprehensive vision in favour of institutional development, this can be a catalyst in the process to achieve the established plans.

Principles and Values

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 4: Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

Funding for the Principles and Values programme has decreased substantially over the past few years and has been a major constraint in planning and implementation. Due to the lack of funding for the Regional Principles and Values Officer position, shared between the Regional Representations for the Southern Cone and Brazil and the Andean Countries, there has been no dedicated person to cover this area since early 2010. Whilst the funding of human resources remains a challenge, close accompaniment to the National Societies in the 2010 plan for Principles and Values is on hold. For this reason, this report does not provide specific progress details on this programmatic area.

Since this area is a priority in the Inter-American Plan 2007-2011 and *Strategy 2020*, other programme areas have made efforts to further include the respect for diversity and human dignity, particularly with groups of youth, women, PLHIV, indigenous peoples and other people in situations of vulnerability,

within their programmes' activities. Details on this cross-cutting focus have been included in the pertinent sections above.

Constraints or Challenges:

- As mentioned above, the financial constraints have made the continuation of this programme improbable in 2010. Despite this, other programmes have ensured that their actions incorporate Humanitarian Principles and Values which are the basis of this programme and the International Movement.
- Undoubtedly, the impact of the lack of human resources for this programme is the continuation of work to support National Societies' incorporation of a non-discrimination approach within their plans, actions and goals.
- Renewed efforts are needed to fundraise for this programme and reflect upon this goal as being fundamental to the IFRC mission in this region and globally.

Working in partnership

Cooperation and coordination has been prioritized as essential to efficient and effective actions by the Movement in this region during the first semester of 2010.

The secretariat through its Regional Representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil has the goal of providing high quality membership services based on the particular needs and contexts of each of the National Societies in the region. The Regional Representation coordinates, channels and promotes support and cooperation from other Movement members, including Partner National Societies and the ICRC, as well as from State bodies, non-governmental organizations and private sector institutions towards these National Societies. Coordination with the ICRC continues, despite its sub regional office recently relocating to Brazil; the tripartite agreements in the five countries and the four established country plans are the basis for this constant cooperation. Based on the jointly established country plans, the positive impact of the diverse support and cooperation demonstrate the added value of concerted regional planning and teamwork.

This manner of working together towards shared goals is not only more organized and comprehensive to ensure that the needed technical, financial and other resources reach the National Societies, this also facilitates donor support. The Regional Representation implements coordinated efforts within its technical team and with each National Society to support, monitor, evaluate, and adjust the country plans as necessary. In June, the regional team met to collectively assess and update the country plans.

Faced with the challenge of responding to the humanitarian needs immediately following the February earthquake and tsunami in Chile, the Movement's efficient response put into practice the importance of coordinated actions with a focus on comprehensive strategies and participatory development. Additionally, a management model was implemented in which the secretariat's operational and political roles interacted and complemented one another to support the Chilean Red Cross' leadership. Finally, and notwithstanding the almost concurrent large-scale disaster in Haiti and the required emergency response, the operation in Chile demonstrated the Movement's ability to mobilize resources from a diversity of partners and donors.

The goals and actions of the National Societies of the region, the Partner National Societies and the IFRC have benefitted from interaction with State authorities at all levels within these countries, as well as with international institutions including the United Nations system, civil society organizations and the private corporate sector. All of the relationships developed within the framework of the DIPECHO VI project in Argentina and Paraguay, thanks to the fundamental partnership of the Finnish Red Cross, have enabled the respective National Societies and the Regional Representation to develop essential contacts and establish local, regional and national alliances. Similar processes are underway following micro-regional initiatives such as the III Regional Meeting on International Mechanisms of Humanitarian Assistance, held in Argentina in June, in which the International Federation was recognized as a key institution in the field and extended its contacts. Cooperation with the private sector has developed during this period in Argentina and Chile. In Argentina, one of the most important logistics companies is working together with the IFRC to coordinate the first international seminar on logistics in disasters

scheduled to be held within the framework of the International Day for Disaster Reduction in October. In Chile, a wide-range of private sector companies supported the National Society in the emergency response and new dialogues for future partnership are underway. Furthermore, the CRC and the IFRC established joint coordination with diverse UN agencies (PAHO, OCHA, ECLAC, among others) and international organizations and inter-governmental organizations like ECHO and OFDA/ USAID active in the Chile emergency and early recovery actions.

In addition to most National Societies' participation in the national disaster management systems, relationships with national and local management systems have been enhanced through joint work during disasters in Paraguay, Chile and Argentina. The Regional Representation will continue to support the National Societies to engage in more systematic and well prepared advocacy work through support to their governing bodies and to promote humanitarian diplomacy, which is the putting into practice of the Movement's Humanitarian Values and established practices, with decision makers at the local, national and regional levels. Special attention still is needed to strengthen the National Societies' auxiliary role to the State in humanitarian issues. The existence of new initiatives as REHU and UNASUR will provide increased coordination with respect to disaster management and risk reduction in the Southern Cone and Brazil region.

The Global Alliance on HIV is the major health strategy based on partnership with diverse institutions at different levels. The National Societies and the IFRC currently participate in working alliances with organizations of PLHIV, UNICEF, UNAIDS and GNPlus.

As a result of the continual support of the IFRC's Centres of Reference and coordination with external foundations and learning centres, the Regional Representation has stimulated South-South coordination. The National Societies are now employing trained human resources from sister National Societies. Internships, learning exchanges and sharing good practices have increased the development of knowledge and skills during the first half of 2010. The Regional Representation alongside the National Societies have the challenge of better systematizing this knowledge and replicating it with greater attention to the branch and sub branch levels.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The majority of the actions undertaken during the first semester of 2010 have medium to long-term perspectives.

Following the disaster in Chile, as well as the actions implemented in Paraguay and Argentina, the Organizational Development programme contributes to making the region's National Societies more sustainable and capable of generating lasting impact. The Statutes reform, the strengthening of the territorial network, the country plans and the development of volunteer systems, as well as community-based actions, include sustainability as one of their goals.

As has been previously mentioned, the disaster in Chile is a catalyst for CRC's institutional growth and strengthening of resources and skills. In contrast to previous experiences, the current response activities in Chile contribute to strengthening the National Society as it responds to this disaster. The operation's plan of action has been incorporated into the country plan, thus strengthening the CRC's normal structure and ensuring long-term organizational development.

Monitoring and evaluation are amongst the long-term impacts. Currently National Societies' disaster management actions, with IFRC support, use the tools developed for the DFID-supported project and evaluations are planned in project timeframes. Additionally, memoranda of understanding are signed at the beginning of projects. Furthermore, attention is paid to systematizing lessons learnt, best practices and quality standards so that the National Society, sister National Societies, the IFRC, and other organizations working in related fields can replicate successful actions and strategies. The Disaster Management programme with the National Societies have fostered these skills through DesAprender, joint work with the Centres of Reference, educational and information-sharing events and support for communications areas.

The modernization of National Societies' structures and systems to develop actions and strategies which facilitate and guarantee diversity remains an important challenge. There are indications that the National Societies have begun to take on this challenge, including some National Societies which demonstrate noticeable political will to initiate the needed transformations. This progress needs to be regularly reinforced to consolidate good practices and demonstrate through practice that this change is not only possible but is fruitful. The Regional Representation reiterates its commitment to work side-by-side with the National Societies to face this challenge. In this sense, the crosscutting gender perspective and integration of youth in governance bodies and strengthening the volunteer base in the communities remain regional priorities. Equal attention will continue to foster sustainable financing of the region's National Societies, thus promoting their impact and accountability.

Looking ahead

Whilst the region and continent have faced several significant disasters during the first half of 2010, these have been productive learning experiences. The outpouring of solidarity following the disasters in Haiti and Chile has challenged the National Societies and the Regional Representation to build upon the recent attention given to the Red Cross and Red Crescent skills and actions. These experiences also have catalyzed the need to reorient and focus regional actions so as to be able to fulfill the significant aspects of the 2010 plans. The joint monitoring and evaluation undertaken in June with the National Societies has resulted in a readjustment of the plans based on redefined priorities.

The critical situations in Brazil and Uruguay continue to demand special accompaniment and renewed synergies. During the second half of the year, special funds will be destined to the organizational restructuring in the Uruguayan Red Cross. The Regional Representation with the BRC is in the process of fashioning a new strategy to reach a solution to the serious challenges, including the vicious cycle of historic debt, faced by this National Society.

The Regional Representation and the region's National Societies have two additional challenges in the near future. The new *Strategy 2020*, including its dissemination and the incorporation of its concepts in the country plans, will demand time and shared commitment. As the region starts the second half of 2010, additional team work is needed to prepare for the important process of the Inter-American Conference scheduled for 2011.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Cone and Brazil: Gustavo Ramírez, Regional Representative for the Southern Cone and Brazil; email: gustavo.ramirez@ifrc.org; phone: + 54 9 11 4591-7420. • America Zone, Panama: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xavier Castellanos, Director of Zone; email: xavier.castellanos@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 317 3050; and fax : (507) 317 1304 - Zuleyka Maynard, Resource Mobilization Officer; email: zuleyka.maynard@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 317 3050; and fax : (507) 317 1304 	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA46002 - Southern Cone and Brazil

Mid-year Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAA46002
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	275,800	213,990	34,442	0	374,048	898,280
B. Opening Balance	-0	18,871	8,296	0	172,349	199,516
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>DFID Partnership grant</i>	97,549					97,549
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>		0				0
<i>Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)</i>		0				0
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>	9,448					9,448
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>		498				498
<i>Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)</i>		4,479				4,479
<i>United States Government - USAID</i>		68,233				68,233
C1. Cash contributions	106,997	73,210				180,207
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>European Commission - DG ECHO</i>		-856				-856
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>	6,708					6,708
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>		468				468
<i>Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)</i>		4,213				4,213
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>		80,169				80,169
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	6,708	83,993				90,701
<u>Income reserved for future periods</u>						
<i>European Commission - DG ECHO</i>		3,246				3,246
<i>United States Government - USAID</i>		-5,815				-5,815
C3. Income reserved for future periods		-2,569				-2,569
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Spanish Red Cross</i>					37,200	37,200
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>					51,000	51,000
C5. Inkind Personnel					88,200	88,200
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	113,705	154,634	0	0	88,200	356,539
D. Total Funding = B + C	113,705	173,505	8,296	0	260,549	556,055
Appeal Coverage	41%	81%	24%	#DIV/0	70%	62%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	-0	18,871	8,296	0	172,349	199,516
C. Income	113,705	154,634	0	0	88,200	356,539
E. Expenditure	-110	-154,269	-1,781		-119,374	-275,534
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	113,595	19,236	6,515	0	141,175	280,521

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA46002 - Southern Cone and Brazil

Mid-year Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAA46002
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)		275,800	213,990	34,442	0	374,048	898,280	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	70		13				13	57
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,571		6,645				6,645	-4,073
Total Transport & Storage	2,641		6,658				6,658	-4,016
Personnel								
International Staff	235,918					108,098	108,098	127,820
National Staff	23,566		16,355				16,355	7,211
National Society Staff	54,162		50,609	22,413			73,022	-18,861
Consultants	7,340		4,429				4,429	2,910
Total Personnel	320,985		71,393	22,413		108,098	201,904	119,081
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	359,962		35,948	7,572		25	43,545	316,417
Total Workshops & Training	359,962		35,948	7,572		25	43,545	316,417
General Expenditure								
Travel	72,184		5,438	2,360		13,344	21,142	51,041
Information & Public Relation	44,465		27,569			670	28,238	16,227
Office Costs	19,156		4,305			-53	4,252	14,904
Communications	7,709		4,009			882	4,891	2,819
Professional Fees	228		957			146	1,103	-875
Financial Charges	13,531	102	996	-1,130		4,288	4,257	9,274
Other General Expenses	2,396	-0	2,396	0		-0	2,396	0
Total General Expenditure	159,670	102	45,671	1,230		19,277	66,280	93,390
Programme Support								
Program Support	55,021	8	9,250	139		1,850	11,246	43,775
Total Programme Support	55,021	8	9,250	139		1,850	11,246	43,775
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			-14,650	-29,573		-9,875	-54,099	54,099
Total Operational Provisions			-14,650	-29,573		-9,875	-54,099	54,099
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	898,280	110	154,269	1,781		119,374	275,534	622,745
VARIANCE (C - D)		275,690	59,721	32,662		254,673	622,745	