In brief

Programme purpose: The primary focus of the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico in 2008 was to support the scaling-up of the efforts of National Societies in the region to develop and execute programmes in an efficient and integrated way. This in turn will promote resilient communities and a culture of prevention, while spreading the fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement.

Programmes summary:

The Disaster Risk Reduction programme focused its efforts and actions on building resilience at the community level through tools, methodologies and training sessions. Efforts were also focused on strengthening National Societies in the region to respond to the most urgent necessities with the cooperation of the Centres of Reference in El Salvador and Costa Rica.

The Health and Care programme implemented successful and valuable initiatives to create a culture of prevention, especially regarding HIV and AIDS infection. Now more than ever the support to National Societies is necessary: four National Societies were launched as new members of the Global Alliance on HIV. The programme is also assisting National Societies to become stronger in the area of non-remunerated voluntary blood donation through the Club 25 initiative. The regional programme is intensifying its contribution to targeted groups through capacity-building, social mobilization, strategic alliances and awareness-raising initiatives.

The Organizational Development programme placed an emphasis on assisting National Societies to develop Strategic Plans in line with the International Federation Policies, the XVIII Inter-American
Plan 2007–2011 and the Guayaquil Commitment. The programme has also worked extensively in promoting peer-to-peer cooperation between National Societies in the region. Moreover, the department in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross coordinated follow up actions with the Provisional Intervention Committee on the Nicaraguan National Society intervention. The regional programme has also supported the strengthening of the Regional Youth Network.

The Humanitarian Principles and Values programme, during 2008 placed an emphasis on the areas of migration, non-discrimination and anti-stigma for people living with HIV, as well as the promotion of the Red Cross humanitarian principles and values and gender policies at the community and National Society level.

Financial situation: The total 2008 budget is CHF 2,519,319 (USD 2,351,076 or EUR 1,655,258), of which CHF 93 per cent was covered during the reporting period.

Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.

No. of people we have reached: The Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico is dedicated to building the capacities of National Societies in the region. Hence, direct beneficiaries of the Regional Representation’s programmes are the National Societies’ personnel at headquarters and branch level, governance bodies and volunteers. In effect, the Regional Representation’s indirect beneficiaries belong to the civil society since it is through the strengthening of National Societies’ capacities and the technical support offered, that methodologies, initiatives and activities as a whole can be carried out and executed accordingly.

The National Societies of the region are the Costa Rican Red Cross (CRRC), the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC), the Honduran Red Cross (HRC), the Mexican Red Cross (MRC), the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC), the Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) and the Salvadoran Red Cross Society (SRCS).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Estimated number of people reached per sector</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hurricane Felix Appeal</td>
<td>At the community level: 1,182 direct beneficiaries (247 in Guatemala, 252 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honduras and 674 in Nicaragua) Red Cross volunteers and staff trained: 196 people</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mexico: Floods (Tabasco) Appeal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>At community level: 876 families (Approx. 4,380 people) Red Cross volunteers</td>
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<td>and staff trained: 120 people (30 in Tabasco and 90 at the national level)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
<td>Downloads of the ‘Better be Ready’ series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The modules have been downloaded approximately 2,000 times.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Centres of</td>
<td>788 people reached through internships, training and courses.</td>
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<td>Reference</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Through the DRR projects</td>
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<tr>
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<td>DFID: 18,676 people</td>
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<td>ProVention: 22,458 people</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Finnish Red Cross: 27,847 people</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Climate Centre: 35 people</td>
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<td>DIPECHO V: 15,784 people</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DIPECHO VI: 70 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and Care</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Alliance on HIV</td>
<td>El Salvador: approx. 10,467 people</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guatemala: approx. 14,670 people</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honduras: approx. 19,953 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support provided to</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Society on HIV</td>
<td>Costa Rica: 120 peer educators trained 600 indirect beneficiaries (youth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>reached through peer education). Taxi project: 106 taxi drivers</td>
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<td>Panama: 16 women from indigenous communities trained on HIV prevention,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and 35 students trained as peer educators.</td>
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<td>Organizational Development</td>
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<td>Youth (through the</td>
<td>Direct beneficiaries: 275 Red Cross youth volunteers</td>
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<td>strengthening of the</td>
<td>Indirect beneficiaries: 1,072 Red Cross youth volunteers</td>
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<td>regional Youth Network)</td>
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<td>Principles and</td>
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<td>Approx. 125 volunteers and</td>
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<td>branch managers trained on</td>
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| the fundamental
Values

principles and humanitarian values, gender policy and non-discrimination.

Our partners: The work of the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico receives support from several Red Cross and non-Red Cross partners through operational alliances and joint collaborations. Partners that assisted programme areas by providing technical and/or financial support. Partners include the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the American, Finnish, German, Italian, Netherlands, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish National Societies. Additionally, the Regional Representation continues to reinforce its relationships with other organizations such as Plan International, EG ECHO, the ProVention Consortium, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO), International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the Organization of American States (OAS), the World Food Program (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Context

In recent years, the economies of Central American countries have grown favourably after a long period of stagnation. Poverty has been reduced in some countries while it has increased in others. The region continues to be characterized by extreme inequality as economic growth has not translated into adequate distribution of wealth. Major differences can be seen between areas of wealthy populations, and vast zones of poverty and low productivity. Furthermore, these differences have a stronger effect on vulnerable social groups such as indigenous populations, afro-descendants, women and other marginalized groups. The persistent socio-economic trends in the region are contributing to the increase in social violence. The dimensions of violence include domestic violence, gender-based violence, social unrest and youth violence and can be felt across all sectors of society.

Socio-economic conditions have fuelled the spread of HIV and AIDS in the region, with a devastating effect on productivity and human and economic development. Moreover, the region is prone to various natural hazards, which accounts for high vulnerability of populations. This reality presents a major challenge to disaster risk reduction and mitigation, and highlights the need to reinforce local capacity to cope with and avoid disaster situations. In addition, the effects of climate change such as changes in rainfall patterns pose the risk of increased impact of floods and droughts for the region.

With the support of the International Federation, ICRC and Partner National Societies (PNS), the seven Red Cross National Societies of the region have a long history of responding to these challenges. The Red Cross actions in the region placed more emphasis in developing a culture of prevention and self-reliance at all levels and also across all programmes and structures, particularly in high risk communities.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Risk Reduction

Programme objective: Strengthened National Societies are working at the community, national and regional levels to reduce risk, making communities safer and more resilient to disasters. The strategy for the Central American countries is based on an integrated approach for community disaster risk reduction. Efforts for Central America and Mexico focused on the areas of community-based disaster risk reduction, institutional preparedness for response, and disaster risk reduction coordination and advocacy.

Achievements
The programme has achieved its projected outcomes and results for this implementation period. The National Societies in the region have increased their capacity to support community-based initiatives.
Communities have become engaged actors using and providing inputs through their interactions and better informed field experience which has led to enhanced impact of the capacity development processes at work. The process has built on strengthened National Societies at the regional, national and community levels. Campaigns have been adopted to encourage a culture of “prevention” as well as work on early warning mechanisms through micro-project implementation. The strategic, technical support role of the regional Centres of Reference have proven valuable for rendering dynamic opportunities to promote common knowledge and synergies through collaboration as an essential element of capacity-building among key stakeholders.

The regional Disaster Risk Reduction programme implementation has concentrated on sustainability for the national programmes in the region. The National Societies of Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and Honduras have taken important steps in this direction. However there are challenges for continuity and also some political implications involved. There is also the need for establishing an integrated vision as well as adoption of longer-term actions to go beyond immediate plans in response to programmes and available funding.

The programme implementation for the various National Societies has integrated all funding—National Societies’, Federation’s and those of the PNS—for harmonizing and institutionalizing methodologies and actions to address disaster risk reduction and preparedness for response. Special emphasis has been given to the creation, development and training of a Regional Network of Trainers for the National Societies and other specialized organizations such as the Central American Coordination Centre for Disaster Prevention (Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de Desastres Naturales en Centro America – CEPREDENAC), National Civil Protection Systems, Ministries of Education, NGOs—OXFAM, OIKOs, CARE. It has enabled follow-up actions as identified in workshops and capacity-building efforts for the application of methods and validation of other informative resources. Benefits have transcended regional boundaries in some instances to South America and the Caribbean region.

Success stories have been made possible due to the significant contribution and funding from programs such as DFID, EG ECHO–DIPECHO V and VI, the ProVention Consortium, the Mexico: Floods (Tabasco) Operation; as well as from Movement partners such as: the Finnish Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross and the Climate Centre. New partners have also joined efforts and this has had a significant importance to programme funding diversification and the welcoming support of the PNS through this region’s proposals for in-country programmes. Through collaboration, the National Societies scaled up their impact and work on sustainability as reflected in their leadership role at the community level.

Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction

The National Societies in the region, the Regional Centre of Reference for Community-Based Education in Disaster Preparedness and the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico are working to make communities better prepared, more organized to respond and recover from the effects of natural hazards enabling them to recognize potential risks and actions to be taken.

All seven National Societies in the region have systematically worked with communities on Vulnerability Capacity Assessments (VCA) to identify specific needs and priorities for disaster risk reduction and interventions such as micro-project design and development as well as community plans and committee organization for response and preparedness.

A total of 94,371 beneficiaries have been reached through micro-projects, training, internships, campaigns, and other interventions in the region.

Communities have intensively worked in the identification of micro-projects as a result of the application of the VCA diagnosis methodology. The Disaster Risk Reduction programme, with the support of donors such as DFID, the Finnish Red Cross and the ProVention Consortium has supported 46 micro-projects in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico. The projects range from work on mitigation to community early warning systems, construction of a
drainage system and pedestrian access routes, new potable water systems and house ceiling repairs for communities. Jointly with the Organization of American States (OAS), four national forums were carried out in order to present part of these micro-projects to local authorities and the private sector in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Belize.

Forty-five communities were trained in community organization, provisional shelter, floods, first aid, protected schools, design and development of micro-projects in six countries (Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Belize). Sixteen of these communities also organized committees for disaster response and preparedness.

Within the Mexico operation: Floods (Tabasco) rehabilitation phase, integrated institutional capacity-building activities have been implemented. Three videos on climate change have been produced using the Tabasco experience as a case study. With the assistance of the American Red Cross, a Well Prepared National Society (WPNS) diagnostic tool is under way to be used in the revision and update of the National Disaster Response and Contingency Plan for 2009. A total of 80 Red Cross volunteers have been trained on health issues, Sphere, VCAs, and the modules of the ‘Better be Ready’ series (floods, prepared family and protected schools). From this operation the American Red Cross has used the Tabasco experience to continue to develop support for 2009 and 2010 plans.

The Youth Red Cross has been an important part of National Societies work in disaster risk reduction in the region. Ten Red Cross school brigades have been established at the national level. The Honduran Red Cross, the Costa Rican Red Cross and the Red Cross Society of Panama, through Finnish Red Cross funding, focused on youth activities which have resulted in three school projects for the renovation of classroom roofs, expansion of sanitary facilities and sensitization campaigns. The CRRC organized a Community Emergency Committee composed of 50 youth volunteers. In addition, training for youth has taken place in prevention and interventions in case of disasters and workshops on the ‘Return to Happiness’ methodology (Retorno a la Alegria). The school awareness programme included climate change and disaster and risk reduction for 125 youth volunteers reaching out to 25 education centres and 750 students from selected schools. The programme has worked to include the participation of youth within disaster risk reduction activities throughout 2008. This approach will continue during 2009.

Institutional Preparedness for Disaster Risk Reduction

The National Societies in the region have worked on capacity development activities focusing on outreach at the regional, national and community levels. All seven National Societies have promoted and supported the consolidation of a Regional Network of Trainers, the exchange of knowledge, information and regional alliances. With technical support from the Regional Centre of Reference for Disaster Preparedness, the National Societies have become partners, users and promoters in the development, validation and use of methodologies, didactic resources and capacity-building activities in general. These technical interactions have become a highly participative process providing the opportunity for continuous feedback and consultation among key stakeholders, the National Societies themselves and their branches.

Intense work has been dedicated to this process and to the implementation of disaster preparedness activities with Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras as part of the capacity-building component of the DFID project. Five National Societies—Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala—have worked on self assessment through the WPNS diagnosis tool. The WPNS have contributed to revising needs priorities for each of the National Societies. Through such interventions and through the DFID and ProVention supported initiatives the National Societies of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras have completed their National Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction. Also, the National Societies have used the methods and didactic resources developed through the Regional Centres of Reference. Capacity-building skills for volunteers and National Society staff have been especially emphasized. The Guatemalan Red Cross is making special efforts to increase the numbers of trained volunteers nationwide.
The National Societies have continued carrying out trainings on rescue techniques as well as trainings for the organization of National Response Teams (NITs). The GRC, the HRC, the RCSP and the SRCS completed the Basic NITs Training. The GRC has received a specialized NIT training on health in emergencies as well. Capacities strengthened in the National Societies include: disaster assessment, needs analysis, response and contingency planning, and management and control of emergency operations supported by the corresponding basic disaster response equipment acquired.

Redcamp Disasters: the Regional Team integrated by the National Society Directors in the region is becoming a consolidated network for joint initiatives with participation of the Regional Centres of Reference, the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation. The objectives for 2008 were revised and a new Redcamp coordinator was assigned. Plans include technical internships to strengthen the Redcamp’s effectiveness and the institutionalization of methodologies and tools. A Quality Criteria Document for disaster departments was created in close coordination with the Organizational Development programme.

Today, REDCAMP’s National Societies have adopted common methodologies, development, validation, implementation and continuous feedback to the Regional Centres of Reference for constant quality control of all the technical support products developed and capacity-building of staff in each of the countries. The REDCAMP supports the efforts of the regional programme through the strengthening of the regional network of trainers for the disaster risk reduction training series together with the institutional response and preparedness initiatives.

The regional programme has responded and provided support to important initiatives in the region as part of the International Federation’s commitment to evolving needs prompted by increasing disasters and hazards worldwide. Assessment tools, micro-project development expertise and printed guides were shared in training and workshop sessions. As part of the DIPECHO V project, the programme printed the ‘Better be Ready’ series for disaster risk reduction at the community level, the disaster preparedness modules and materials as well as the Spanish version of the Global Food Security Assessment Guidelines developed in Geneva. In addition, funding from the FRC and DFID created the opportunity to further strengthen the capacities of more staff from all the National Societies.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre in close coordination with the Regional Representation implemented a project on preparedness for Climate Change—understanding and addressing the risk of climate change. The activities took place in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. The National Societies have incorporated the four steps to increase knowledge about the country’s status in the field, establish contact with key stakeholders, prepare didactic resources to raise awareness and for preparing a plan to incorporate climate change as a topic in their regular programmes.

A key and vital component for the regional Disaster Risk Reduction programme has been the extensive interaction with partners working on the disaster risk reduction thematic. It has provided support for the development of communication and awareness-raising activities, development of printed resources, information and dissemination of activities conducted through the Regional Support Centres in close collaboration with important partners such as PAHO, ISDR, and UNICEF.

Disaster Risk Reduction Coordination and Advocacy
Continuous work was facilitated in 2008 between the National Societies, PNS (the German Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross), the Regional Centres of Reference and the Regional Representation for the coordination of disaster risk reduction activities.

The DIPECHO VI project; which has emerged from the lessons learnt since 2005 and the framework from the DIPECHO V project, represents the very essence of successful coordination and advocacy efforts by ECHO, PNS, the Regional Representation and the National Societies. At this point the 2008 coordination, negotiation and discussion efforts for common initiatives presented as a joint platform for action has become a regular and standard procedure. The DIPECHO VI action plan has come a
long way and involves three country projects jointly implemented between the National Societies and
the European PNS. The Netherlands Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Norwegian Red
Cross in conjunction with the International Federation have supported the regional proposal; which is
complemented by the national projects.

Collaboration among CEPREDENA’s National Systems and the National Societies has been
promoted through jointly organized activities. Based on the Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)
agreements mutual support has been formalized for the collaboration among the Regional Centres of
Reference; the Regional Representations from the Central America, Integration System (Sistema de
Integración Centroamericana – SiCA); which has several offices focused on: education and culture,
hydro resources, environment and development. Innovative opportunities for collaboration have been
identified through the Regional Programme for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Environmental
Degradation (Programa Regional de Reducción de la Vulnerabilidad y la Degradación Ambiental –
PREVDA) along with other stakeholders non-traditionally considered by the National Societies and
the Regional Centres of Reference.

Regional Centres of Reference: Technical Support tools
The Regional Centres of Reference have proven to be an essential, highly effective and dynamic
instrument to accomplish goals at the various action levels. The centres have been fundamental
for the successful implementation of the Federation’s Regional Representation initiatives for disaster risk
reduction, preparedness and response, as well as for community-based risk and vulnerability
reduction. Thus, they have supported the institutional strengthening of the National Societies and their
interventions as a capacity-building instrument in the region.

Both centres have provided technical assistance and support as a specialized resource for conducting
research, systematizing processes, validating methodologies, developing didactic resources and
processes. All these action are aimed to increase capacities through the strengthening the National
Societies themselves and their in-country and regional initiatives.

The Centre of Reference for Community Based Education in Disaster Preparedness addresses
community capacity-building issues in the prevention, preparedness, mitigation and early warning
initiatives as well as reduction of community vulnerability. During 2008, it has continued to give
technical support on community risk reduction activities in Central American countries. The CRREC
has carried out workshops on the VCA methodology (El Salvador and Mexico), regional Training of
Trainers (ToT) on micro-projects (in Costa Rica), micro-projects (El Salvador), application of the
‘Better Be Ready’ series (Guatemalan Red Cross, Plan International Guatemala) and Community
Shelter Management (in Costa Rica). All the materials can be found at:
www.cruzroja.org/desastres/redcamp/crrec.htm
For activities please visit: www.cruzroja.org/desastres/redcamp/crrec/acti08.htm

The Centre of Reference for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) focuses specifically on capacity-
building activities related to Emergency Operation Centres, National Disaster Intervention Teams,
National Response and Contingency Planning as well as training strategies and operational
procedures. At the institutional level, it has continued working in: a) the revision of training materials
and tools; b) the harmonization of methodologies focused on disaster preparedness; c) providing
technical support to the National Societies; d) training National Intervention Teams; and e) developing
Response and Contingency plans, drills, simulations and others. All the materials can be found at:
www.cruzroja.org/desastres/redcamp/crepd.htm
To see the activities carried out by the CREPD please visit the following URL:
www.cruzroja.org/desastres/redcamp/crepd/actvi08.htm

During 2008 the Regional Centres of Reference with the Regional Representation for Central America
and Mexico support, closely worked with the National Societies providing technical guidance and
support in four action areas:
A. **Technical support** is provided to all seven National Societies’ volunteers for their own institutional strengthening activities and in support to their community actions. This support has spread to countries outside the region to the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean; Paraguay and Chile in South America; and to other partner institutions such as OIKOS, CEPRODE, the National Disaster Systems from CEPREDENAC. Such support is provided through professional-technical assistance from the Regional Centres of Reference. Although staffing is low, the impact is high-reaching as there are a considerably increasing number of trained volunteers. These volunteers are in a position to multiply the acquired skills as they provide joint support to communities as needed with responsive didactic resources and implementation processes at hand.

B. **Trainings:** The training of trainers (ToT) has effectively scaled up the impact, efficiency and effectiveness of the National Societies efforts in the region by increasing the skills of through the trained regional volunteers. Both Centres have implemented actions at the regional, national and community level to strengthen National Societies as well as their community-based integrated efforts. Some examples include:

The CREPD supported the ToT workshop on the use of the Management Guide of Emergency Operations Centres (EOC). Due to high demand, English translations of the manual on Management of Emergency Operations Centres were carried out as part of the programmed activities of the CREPD.

The CRREC has continued supporting regional trainings such as: ToT on micro-projects held in Costa Rica, micro-projects (El Salvador), application of the ‘Better Be Ready’ series (Guatemalan Red Cross, Plan International Guatemala) and Community Shelter Management in Costa Rica.

C. **Design and Production of required didactic resources** to complement workshops, awareness-raising campaigns and education on the disaster preparedness, response and risk and vulnerability reduction efforts.

The CRREC is constantly working on the development of tools, harmonization of methodologies being used by the National Societies and communities in the region; and upgrading of the VCA tools which now include input of data formats from diagnosis performed. The Better Be Ready series now has 14 modules for key topics to be addressed for reaching established goals. These materials were distributed in the entire region. Upon demand, the modules were translated to English and are being used in the English-speaking Caribbean countries. There has been a close exchange with south-east Asia and Mozambique for the application of the series there. The technical team based in the Regional Representation in Lima together with the Brazilian Red Cross has translated four of the modules into Portuguese. Trainer manual-resources were also designed.

Through the CRREC website, the modules were downloaded more than 2,000 times during 2008. The Centre of Reference is getting technical assistance for the revision of the materials of the ‘Better Be Ready’ series to improve its quality.

A toolkit containing an interactive, Spanish-English CD was developed for the ‘Better Be Ready’ series as well as videos about Natural Hazards’ which have received over 12,000 visits through the video-sharing website YouTube. All materials have been presented in various fairs, forums and meetings in the region and in the Caribbean.

Regarding institutional preparedness, the CREPD developed training materials for basic NITs training and specialized curricula on water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, health in emergencies. Modules on Response and Contingency Planning were revised as well as on Logistics and Operating Procedures under Emergencies. This has added to existing materials
in National Response Teams (ENIs), Drills on simulations, Security Operation, Management and Control of Operation Centres, and didactic resources in Response and Contingency Planning.

D. Internships to design, validate, implement and evaluate methods and didactic resources with the participation of the National Societies, and other key stakeholders.

The CRREC conducted internships with the participation of volunteers from all seven National Societies and partner organizations to assess lessons learnt for the upgrading of didactic materials, methodologies and processes applied at the regional, national and community levels with the Centre’s support.

The CREPD worked with technicians and volunteers from all National Societies and partner organizations in order to design training modules and corresponding didactic materials needed for the work in the region. These took place according to the various stages of the process: consultation, design, working with the model and validating it, training of trainers and the implementation together with the National Societies and other partner organizations.

Both Centres have been instrumental in providing technical expertise to the National Societies and supporting their community outreach efforts through the development of methodologies, human capacity development materials for key issues and skills to be addressed or developed; workshops, and internships. Not only have these Support Centres provided assistance to the region, but they have also exported its technical expertise and methods to other regions.

Constrains or Challenges:
During the beginning of the year, some delays were encountered due to administrative, financial conditions that presented difficulties, mostly dealing with confirmation of funds in order to launch planned activities. Therefore, the biggest challenge was to finish the projects on time. In addition, the projects face challenges due to the effects of the hurricane season that causes heavy rain, floods and mudslides in the region.

Health and Care programme

Programme objective: The seven National Societies in the region have increasingly adhered to the commitments to scale up efforts in the Health and Care programmatic area as set out in the Plan of Action of the XVIII Inter-American Conference; particularly with respect to the development of their health departments, and in the areas of HIV and AIDS, health in emergencies, community health, the promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD), psychosocial support programmes (PSP), and water and sanitation.

Achievements
During 2008, the Regional Health and Care programme continued to scale up its efforts against HIV and AIDS as stated in the 2008 – 2009 Plan. The Global Alliance on HIV proposal was launched during the XVII International AIDS Conference held in Mexico August 2008. As for the 2009 – 2010 planning process, it was necessary to prepare two separate work plans and budgets, one for National Societies that are part of Global Alliance on HIV and other for National Societies that are not.

Within the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV, during 2008, approximately 44,215 people benefitted directly and indirectly from National Societies HIV programmes with the funds provided by the International Federation, Partner National Societies, as well as donors external to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

OUTPUT 1: PREVENTING FURTHER HIV INFECTION
**El Salvador:** Peer education programmes targeted youth, taxi drivers and female sex workers. Information, education and communication materials were developed focusing on awareness-raising and behaviour change. VCT, PMTCT and skill-building for personal protection activities involved peer education and support with key populations, participatory community education workshops, promotion of HIV counselling and testing, counselling for pregnant women and their partners, information booths in shopping centres, parks and public spaces, distribution of 3,000 condoms together with key messages on condom use and harm reduction, and promotion of positive attitudes and safer behaviour. Significant joint work was carried out with local authorities, branches and local health services.

In the framework of the project “Transporting Knowledge and Respect for People Living with HIV”, 75 taxi drivers were trained as communicators and these have, in turn, raised awareness amongst 115 passengers on HIV prevention, anti stigma and non discrimination. In addition, drivers were provided with IEC and visibility materials on the theme of anti-stigma and non-discrimination.

In rural areas, the SRC cooperated closely with the government’s programme “Red Solidaria”. Five hundred people participated in community education activities in Estanzuelas and Nueva Granada de Usulután. Twelve community education activities were conducted in San Miguel, La Unión and San Salvador through the methodologies described above, complemented with dramatizations, presentation of information sheets inviting reflection on the impact of HIV, focus groups and testimonials from PLHIV. In urban areas, 742 community members participated in community education activities.

Twenty five Salvadoran Red Cross health staff were trained in the promotion and implementation of HIV rapid testing in Usulutan and San Salvador. Thirty five technical staff and volunteers were also trained in pre and post HIV test counselling. One hundred and sixty people received post test counselling in Estanzuelas, Usulutan and San Salvador. Additionally, 22 pregnant women were referred to Preventing Mother-To-Child-Transmission (PMTCT+) services and 172 community leaders were provided with information on PMTCT+.

**Guatemala:**

In Guatemala, the main focus of work in the area of HIV in 2008 has been in the south-west of the country: Mazatenango, El Palmar, Retalhuleu, Coatepeque and Tecún Umán. One hundred and sixty nine new peer educators were trained in the “Together We Can” methodology, resulting in a total of 191 peer educators who have passed on knowledge to a further 235 people. Furthermore, the project “Transporting Knowledge and Respect for People Living with HIV” has ensured training for a group of 40 taxi drivers so that they are able to pass on key messages on HIV transmission, prevention and stigma and discrimination to their clients. Printed material has been developed to promote visibility and improve communication. Thirty eight people from the National Society staff and volunteers have benefited from awareness-raising sessions in the area of STIs, HIV and AIDS, and the rights of people living with HIV. Furthermore, 13,655 people in the South West of the country and the capital city have benefitted from awareness campaigns relating to HIV/STIs and reduction of stigma. Information booths on issues relating to HIV were set up by the five branches in the south-west and in the capital city.

**Honduras:**

The Honduran Red Cross peer education programme trained 1,943 peer educators in the Together we Can methodology in 2008. As a result of training sessions, a total of 10,041 people were reached country-wide through peer education. The use of the “Together We Can” methodology in the work teams has strengthened the capacities of the HRC technical team and volunteers, enhancing knowledge as well as skills, and facilitating work with young people. The training of youth volunteer peer educators in formal and informal educational settings, as well as at community level, has contributed to the strengthening of volunteering, boosting volunteer recruitment and thereby contributing to institutional capacity-building. Awareness-raising was carried out at management level of the Honduran Red Cross branches and also with branch volunteers. PLHIV were involved in
training sessions provided for taxi drivers, youth from schools and managers and volunteers at branch level.

OUTPUT 2: EXPANDING HIV CARE, TREATMENT AND SUPPORT

El Salvador:
Associations working in community development (ADESCOS) in San Miguel, La Union, Usulután and San Salvador were identified to raise awareness amongst 120 community leaders on HIV and issues faced by PLHIV and their families. Four PLHIV support groups were strengthened at the Hospital Nacional Rosales, Hospital Zaldaña de Los Planes de Renderos, Hospital Nacional Soyapango and with the Women Living with HIV (WVIH) network. The PLHIV REDSAL (Health Network) provided information to the Red Cross relating to the support groups included in its data base. With regard to the provision of food support for the most vulnerable, activities were carried out in 2008 in coordination with the national authorities. The focus has been on the design of a tool in order to carry out a socio-economic baseline study for PLHIV to determine needs within support groups; 80 groups have been reached to date of the 200 projected by 2010 according to baseline and scale-up.

Guatemala:
In Guatemala, 16 mothers and 40 families affected by HIV were provided with counselling and support, information and referrals on where they can receive improved treatment, care and support to ensure a better quality of life. Additionally, six people were referred to centres for complementary assistance. Four children were provided with assistance and taken to local centres for families and PLHIV, and one of the children is now receiving anti retroviral treatment. Sixteen PLHIV community support networks and groups were set up in the south-west region and two have been established in the capital, promoting awareness-raising and information concerning the rights of those living with HIV.

Honduras:
The Honduran Red Cross provided support to 11 PLHIV support groups and networks for community support for people with HIV, together with associations and organizations for PLHIV. In addition, a plan of action was developed with the National Association of People Living with HIV, as well as annual operational plans to facilitate follow-up. Support was also provided for the development of 13 proposals for micro-projects which aim to generate income, benefiting 300 people with HIV, as well as for activities focused on awareness-raising and information which were aimed at different populations within communities. In addition, different educational and recreational activities were carried out with the self-support groups. An emergency solidarity fund was set up to assist people with HIV.

OUTPUT 3: REDUCING HIV STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

El Salvador:
Together with the Ministry of Public Health, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society worked with 96 families to raise awareness of HIV stigma and discrimination, and handed out educational material and interactive games. Twenty two support groups in the country were mapped in joint work with REDSAL; these groups then received support towards successful self sustainability and training to develop leadership capacities. Sixty eight PLHIV took part in these activities over three months and it is expected that a total of 150 people per year will benefit. Alliances were also made with the Salvadoran Institute for Women’s Development (ISDEMU) and the Salvadoran Institute for Children and Teenagers (ISNA) which provided training on Human Rights and gender equality, reaching 90 housewives and 212 community leaders from Nueva Granada and Usulután. Furthermore, mass communication campaigns were carried out on stigma and non discrimination benefiting PLHIV, taxi drivers, health personnel and the general public.

Guatemala:
The Guatemalan Red Cross implemented a project aimed to strengthen community capacities to prevent HIV and reduce stigma by providing a Diploma on Human Rights and the Culture of Peace relating to Anti-Stigma and Anti-Discrimination in which 42 persons and 18 institutions working in the
area of HIV participated. In addition, mobile health fairs were held in October and November in the capital and in El Progreso, Guastatoya, with the participation of some 250 people, also promoting non-discrimination. Further health fairs which took place during the year reached a total of 1,300 beneficiaries. Awareness campaigns including “Come Closer” took place in the south-western part of the country and in the capital.

**Honduras:**
This output was approached through the project entitled “Transporting Awareness and respect for people living with HIV” via conversations with taxi drivers who are trained by the National Society to pass on key messages relating to HIV and stigma. Training was carried out in stigma and discrimination for 226 taxi drivers in three cities in Honduras. New ways of working have been introduced, adapted to the characteristics of populations which are difficult to address in formal settings; as a result, this population is approached individually or in small groups, adopting, for example, activities from a methodology designed by the Peace Corps, aimed specifically for working with men. An advocacy campaign in favour of people with HIV was designed and implemented. The Come Closer “Acércate” anti-stigma and anti-discrimination campaign was carried out at the national level, and was implemented in 28 of the total 50 HRC branches in various regions of the country. Other awareness activities for the general population including social mobilization initiatives such as marches, information exhibitions, and distribution of educational materials were successful. The population took part in activities organized for World AIDS day in 14 cities in the country.

**OUTPUT 4: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL RED CROSS RED CRESCENT CAPACITIES TO DELIVER AND SUSTAIN SCALED UP HIV PROGRAMMES**

**El Salvador:**
One hundred and twenty three volunteers from San Miguel, La Unión, San Salvador and Usulután have participated in continuous training on team work, interpersonal relationships, stress management and self esteem. This encouraged volunteers to get more involved in their work and motivated others to join. Similarly, two workshops were held with Red Cross youth and the National Disaster Intervention team respectively on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in Emergency Situations which was developed based on the Code of Good Practice for Humanitarian Organizations and the Sphere Project.

**Guatemala:**
Forty five people from the headquarters benefitted from training on gender equality and violence prevention. Six HIV institutions, of the 23 planned by 2010, have been approached with the aim of forming strategic alliances. Sixty per cent of the Guatemalan Red Cross branches have improved volunteer and staff support and management through the creation of an incentive programme for volunteers that directly supports the HIV programme.

The Guatemala Red Cross held a fund-raising dinner in support of the HIV programme and to acknowledge businesses that have contributed to social efforts in Guatemala. During the event, the Government and NGOs were acknowledged and the Global Alliance on HIV was presented.

**Honduras:**
The Honduran Red Cross policy on HIV was disseminated, as well as the plan for the Global Alliance which was discussed thoroughly with involved branch managers and volunteers. This promoted further commitment, generating awareness and promoting general knowledge on HIV, particularly as a result of talking with Honduran Red Cross volunteers who are HIV positive. Moreover, the National Society designed and approved a Gender Policy for implementation in all programmes and projects including those related to HIV, promoting the active participation of women and girls and ensuring inclusion of representatives of diverse population groups.

**Non-Global Alliance Countries**
Costa Rica: An HIV programme office was established and has been working at the national level. In the communities of Terrazú, San José and Heredia, peer education training was carried out in 2 schools: the Luis Doble Segreda and Santo Domingo, as a result of which 50 new peer educators were trained; the Costa Rican Red Cross now has a total of 120 peer educators. Through 6 workshops, these peer educators have reached a total of 600 young people, with the support of 7 Red Cross youth volunteers, guidance from 6 teachers acting as facilitators and the directors of the schools. In addition to this training, these young people took part in activities to celebrate the international solidarity day with people with HIV through the implementation of the “Come Closer” campaign using National Society funding. The 0% awareness-raising campaign was re-launched, achieving alliances for its dissemination at community level with the university newspaper entitled “Vuelta en U” (U turn).

Funding provided by the Federation was used to conduct a training session with 106 taxi drivers on anti-stigma and discrimination information dissemination and 1,590 passengers daily are expected to be reached. Five thousand brochure containing information on prevention and anti-stigma and non-discrimination were also produced for dissemination.

Panama: Sixteen people from the Wounaan community in Gamboa were trained in HIV prevention and condom usage. In addition, 35 students in San Miguelito were trained as peer educators using the “Together We Can” methodology. The Red Cross Society of Panama participated in the Health Fair organized by the Ministry of Government and Justice, providing information on the correct use of condoms. The Health Fair targeted Ministry employees and the community in general. The Red Cross Society of Panama volunteers also participated in activities in a jamboree together with the “Alliance towards Integral Education in Sexuality" in order to promote HIV prevention by distributing informative CDs. Increased awareness-raising among population groups is being promoted through, for instance, participation in activities such as the Candlelight Day vigil held on 18 May worldwide in memory of people who have died from AIDS. On World AIDS Day, booklets and educational material on HIV were distributed and red ribbons were hung in solidarity with PLHIV.

An agreement was signed between the Ministry of Government and Justice and the National Society for mutual cooperation on prevention and management of HIV within the project targeting Police and Armed Forces in Latin America and the Caribbean (COPRECOS). In addition, peer education workshops were carried out and IEC initiatives targeting vulnerable groups were developed. VCT and PMTCT services were promoted; support provided for orphans and vulnerable children; and care, treatment and support activities conducted with PLHIV, with the aim of establishing community-based support groups and networks.

Support by the Regional Representation for the HIV Programme in Central America
Representatives of the three National Societies which form part of the Global Alliance in Central America: the Salvadoran Red Cross Society, the Guatemalan Red Cross, and the Honduran Red Cross attended the 17th International AIDS Conference between 1 and 8 August 2008 in Mexico. Also present were members of the host National Society, the Mexican Red Cross, a volunteer from the Red Cross Society of Panama representing the RCRC+ network (see interview http://www.cruzroja.org/salud/vihsida/entrevi-mangel.htm in Spanish) and the regional team from the Federation secretariat consisting of the regional HIV officer, the regional communications officer and a volunteer from the Spanish Red Cross who organized the participation of the Movement in the events. These included the launch of the Federation’s Global Alliance in the Americas which took place on 1 August 2008, organized by the governance and management of the Mexican Red Cross; a press conference (see http://www.cruzroja.org/notsemana/2008/ago/compre010808.htm in Spanish); the Forum on the Global Alliance on HIV, the XVII International Conference itself and a peaceful march against stigma and discrimination.

It is estimated that these activities and key messages from the Movement on HIV reached 24,000 people directly: members of international organizations, NGOs, government authorities, as well as millions of people who were reached indirectly through mass communications: television, radio and
the web. The International Federation, together with other organizations, participated with representatives and volunteers in the march against homophobia organized by social organizations.

Support for the launch of the Global Alliance on HIV included the production of a media kit and interviews with the Federation Vice President and the Secretary General’s Special Advisor on HIV were prepared for publication on the website. Enhanced visibility was achieved for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement during the Conference as well as in the media: including, Reuters, EFE, Voice of America, BBC World Today, The Global Voice. Furthermore, a booth was set up by the International Federation which received many visitors and distributed a total of 3,000 condom-holders, 5,000 bookmarks from the “Come Closer” campaign and approximately 200 t-shirts from the “Faces” campaign. Following the event, the Mexican Red Cross organized a visit to the Ecatepec branch of the National Society so that the volunteers working in the HIV programme could interact with colleagues from other National Societies and the Federation.

A planning workshop was held with the health coordinators of the three National Societies working under the Global Alliance framework in order to determine implementation strategies. The National Societies encountered many difficulties in carrying out planned activities given the late arrival of funding. As a result of this workshop, the three National Societies defined technical, operational and administrative strategies in order to face the challenge of implementation in a period of five months. Furthermore, a model MoU was established which was adapted to the implementation period, and activities at the regional level in order to ensure provision of support were agreed on jointly. Furthermore, in September a meeting was organized by the regional health programme with the participation of the National Health, Communication and Marketing coordinators of the Salvadoran, Guatemalan and Honduran National Societies in order to define jointly, strategies for the launch of the Global Alliance in their respective countries and the strengthening of strategic alliances with governmental authorities, organizations and local businesses.

Volunteers, administrative personnel, coordinators and instructors from the HIV programme in the 7 National Societies in the region, as well as beneficiaries in the community have at their disposal: training modules and 5,000 full-colour brochures on HIV and AIDS concerning prevention, treatment, care and support for people with HIV. A training package for community volunteers was developed along with promotional material for the “Taxi programme”; a documentary entitled “DAY 1” about prevention and anti-stigma which was produced in Panama with national actors and with advice from the regional HIV programme and the Red Cross Society of Panama HIV programme. National organizations involved in work in the area of HIV, the University of Panama and volunteers from the Red Cross Society of Panama also participated. In 2009, the documentary will be presented in auditoriums and distributed in Universities, schools and to television communications media through which it will be possible to increase significantly knowledge concerning prevention, anti-stigma, non-discrimination and awareness-raising.

The region has seven people who are certified as regional instructors in the TWC methodology which enables the region to replicate the training of new instructors. The organization of a training course on the part of the Regional Representation also resulted in the training of instructors from National Societies in the Caribbean and South America.

A reduction in contributions to the regional health and HIV programme made it impossible to maintain the position of regional health delegate. The resources granted by the Norwegian Red Cross however, also contributed to the position of the regional HIV officer and to support the HIV coordination structures which have been essential to planning and implementation.

Voluntary non-Remunerated Blood Donation
In January 2008, the National Societies from the Americas implementing Club 25 participated in the 11th International Colloquium on Voluntary and Non-Remunerated Blood Donation held in Cairo, Egypt. The Red Cross National Societies from the Americas presented the official logo for club 25, which was a result of a marketing campaign carried out by McCann Erickson, Panama. National Societies from other zones showed interested in the campaign designed by McCann Erickson. In
addition, the progress made in Club 25 in the Americas since the 10th International Colloquium in Chile was shared with participants.

During May, the Global Health Forum held in Geneva was another opportunity to show case Club 25 as a good example of working with youth. At the continental level, National Societies have agreed to use the common logo designed by McCann Erickson in order to identify Club 25. In addition, National Societies implementing Club 25 have welcomed the slogan proposed by McCann Erickson “New blood for the world”.

The regional programme continued supporting National Societies in the implementation of Club 25 with the generous support of the Finnish Red Cross. During 2008 this year seed funds were sent to the Honduran Red Cross and the Guatemalan Red Cross, to make a total of four National Societies implementing Club 25 in the region. The other two National Societies implementing Club 25 are the Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) and the Salvadoran Red Cross Society (SRCS).

The Regional Representation through the regional coordinator of the HIV and AIDS programme and the regional health officer, provided the required technical and administrative support to the National Societies implementing Club 25. This support was made possible through the Finnish Red Cross contribution during 2008 and allowed National Societies to implement the planned activities. In coordination with the communications department, the main press releases and news related to the development of the Club 25 initiative were published on the regional website (www.cruzroja.org). In addition, the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico supported the efforts of National Societies such as the Red Cross Society of Panama, which implemented promotional activities on VNRBD amongst youth through the Club 25 initiative.

The technical and administrative support to the National Societies was carried out through the following activities:

1. Design and publication of 1,000 copies of the Club 25 manual. The manual will help volunteers raise awareness among youth about the value of saving lives through blood donations.
2. The publication of promotional materials will reinforce and promote the awareness-raising activities and advocacy carried out by volunteers (including pens, key chains and bags). All these materials have key messages that promote VNRBD and the Club 25 logo.

The Guatemalan Red Cross runs one blood bank located in the Coatepeque branch. The National Society through the Finnish Red Cross support implemented Club 25 activities in the municipalities of Tecún Umán, Mazatenango, El Palmar, Retalhuleu and in the capital, Guatemala City. The promotion of Club 25 has been carried out in high schools and universities with the objective of raising awareness on basic knowledge about blood, different types of groups and the way blood is used for health matters, and to clarify myths and misperceptions regarding blood donation.

Under the emergency operation for Hurricane Felix, a total of 71 volunteers from the Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua National Societies were trained in psychosocial support at the community level. Trained volunteers are now able to help people cope with different situations and ensure that their own psychological needs are recognized and met. The volunteers trained then participated during the psychosocial interventions in the communities of El Tule in Honduras, Quetzalito in Nicaragua and Truhlaya in Guatemala, which were affected by the hurricane.

Through the Felix Earthquake operation in the community of El Tule (Honduras), household’s access to education on community health was enhanced through a sanitation campaign with construction of 35 latrines. Two trainings were organized for 40 people aiming to train and raise awareness on the specific needs of nutrition for children under two years and how to monitor physical development. Also psychosocial support was ensured to 75 children through training given to school teachers. In Nicaragua, a total of 200 people from the community of Truhlaya received psychosocial support. Meanwhile in Guatemala, the Quetzalito community improved its health and sanitary condition through the construction of school latrines, 30 family members and 60 children received information through three trainings on best practices in personal hygiene, water and sanitation following the
methodology of “Prevention of tropical diseases”. The project, which emphasized work with children, promoted the participation of 50 children clean-up the community. Psychosocial support was also provided to 30 children who are now dissemination agents of better social practices, solidarity, and hygiene and nutritional practices. Finally, eight community leaders were trained to provide psychosocial support, and 23 community members in community first aid (using the modules of the ‘Better Be Prepared’ series).

Resulting from the psychosocial activities carried out with targeted communities, parents in the communities are giving more consideration to children. In addition, children can now play a role of divulgation agents of better social relationships and solidarity as well as good hygiene and nutritional practices.

Constraints or Challenges:
One of the main challenges during 2008 was to ensure increased technical and management capacity in the Health and Care programme. Also, in order to be able to implement the 2009 – 2010 Plan of Action, funds will have to be ensured. Additional technical support for resource mobilization efforts at the national and regional levels is needed. Severe flooding in Central American countries as a result of meteorological events also represented a delay in the implementation of programmatic activities, as the National Societies had to focus on the response efforts. National Societies are in agreement that a major constraint during 2008 has been the late disbursement of annual project funding on the part of the Federation. This has meant that activities programmed for a year have been implemented in a shorter period, which in some cases has affected completion of proposed activities.

The National Societies propose that monitoring and evaluation tools should be distributed at the beginning of the project in order to improve project efficiency. Moreover, it was suggested by the Salvadoran Red Cross Society to develop a standard accountability package online which would allow the National Societies to guarantee more transparency in project development.

Organizational Development

Programme objective: The Regional Organizational Development programme’s aim is to scale up National Societies’ institutional capacities at all levels, as well as to promote and develop the volunteer system. Strengthening management at both areas will create stronger National Societies staff members and volunteers, which will help the Health and Care, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Principles and Values programmes deliver more organized and effective actions to vulnerable groups.

Achievements
In order to address the component of National Society development at headquarters and branch level in 2008, the regional Organizational Development programme worked to improve leadership development by coordinating with the ICRC on a leader’s workshop in which five national Societies participated. The workshop which was held in Geneva saw the participation of two Presidents, one Vice-President, one President at branch level and one Director General. In addition, in order to promote leadership youth volunteers of seven National Societies of the region shared their experiences, tools and methodologies in the Youth Regional Conference.

Also, to ensure that strategic plans are in line with International Federation policies and the Inter-American Plan, the programme acted as facilitator of the Management Workshop for the Honduran Red Cross with the objective of drafting the National Society’s strategic plan with support of Shoken funds. Support to strategic planning was also promoted through south – south cooperation in which the Honduran Red cross supported the Guatemalan Red Cross in the development of its strategic plan. In addition, overall support was provided by the Regional Representation to the National Societies of Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras to align strategic plans with the Inter-American Plan 2007–2011.
As part of improving management and accountability, six National Societies representatives attended the accountability workshop (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and El Salvador). In addition, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society (SRCS) presented a proposal on accountability standards at the regional level.

The regional Organizational Development programme promoted peer-to-peer support and the improvement of the organizational development network by encouraging south–south cooperation, cooperation agreements and exchanges. The Organizational Development programme supported the drafting of the MoUs between Guatemalan Red Cross, the Salvadoran Red Cross Society and the Red Cross Society of Panama in the south-south cooperation framework. Also, the presidents of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan Red Cross signed the “Agreement for Collaboration between the respective national Societies through which volunteer capacity-building activities have been implemented and which encompasses volunteer and staff capacity-building. In addition, both presidents met with representatives from non-governmental organizations from El Salvador in order to exchange information on projects’ progress and support each other on the lifeguard services.

Likewise, the National Societies of Guatemala and Panama are implementing a cooperation agreement. The Red Cross Society of Panama shared experiences on capacity-building centres with the Guatemalan Red Cross and the latter will support the drafting of the Panama National Society project portfolio by sending technical experts. The Guatemalan Red Cross planning coordinator provided training support to members of the Red Cross Society of Panama on project cycle and advice on management of current projects.

Following the Guayaquil Commitment and Complutense University Plan, a total of six National Societies in the region completed a consultation resulting in an analysis by country and by region. The results of this consultation process helped to identify priority areas for each National Society, which will help to harmonize the efforts of the Regional Representation with those priority areas.

Financial support was provided to the Humanitarian Principles and Values programme for the drafting of the Regional Volunteer Guide. Also, in order to improve volunteer management by increasing the number of trained and satisfied volunteers, the Regional Representation and the Zone Office supported the Guatemalan Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross in carrying out the volunteer reorganization and resource mobilization workshops.

Support was provided to the RCSP in its talks with the Ministry of Foreign Relations at the different levels to support initiatives of the National Society and PADRU as well as other initiatives related to the protocol of the chancellery with regards to emergencies and disasters. The Organizational Development programme also supported the discussion with international organization and other national and regional institutions (such as the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food Program) to support the food security project in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

The Organizational Development programme achieved the accomplishments of several objectives related to volunteer promotion and development. With support from the Finnish Red Cross, the Youth Network strengthening project was further developed. The regional programme has sought to boost the number of qualified, trained, motivated volunteers who work at the community level. Actions on this area have been implemented with support of the Fundamental Principles and Values programme staff.

The regional programme supported the revision and validation of the Volunteers Manual. In addition, aiming at training a greater number of facilitators, as well as reaching branch volunteers, 120 volunteers of 15 Honduran Red Cross branches were trained in the Fundamental Principles and Values within the framework of the National Meeting on Risk Reduction (activity supported by the Principles and Values programme). Also more funds were allocated towards training volunteers and managers in an effort to build capacity of the Red Cross volunteers and youth.

The regional programme implemented the strategy “Volunteering and Principles and Values” within the framework of the Food Security project in the National Societies of Guatemala, Honduras and
Nicaragua under the Hurricane Felix operation. Through this strategy, the following Red Cross volunteers and personnel were trained in Humanitarian Principles and Values and volunteer management with support of the regional Principles and Values programme:
- Guatemala: 47 participants (from 20 branches in the country) responsible for coordinating volunteers.
- Honduras: Training of 22 volunteers and branch managers from the HRC branches in Potrerillos, La Lima, Pimienta, Villanueva and San Miguel.
- Nicaragua: 35 volunteers and branch managers from 17 NRC branches in the country were trained.

Within the organizational development and capacity-building component of the Felix operation, a Food Security Assessment regional training was held in San Pedro Sula capacitating 31 staff members and volunteers from National Societies, Partner National Societies active in the Region and staff from the Regional Representation. The training was facilitated by experts on food security from the secretariat in Geneva thanks to the support of the Spanish Red Cross. The participants were trained in the use of the Food Security Evaluation guidelines translated and printed in Spanish with DIPECHO funding.

Moreover, a meeting was held for the development of the methodology “Agents of Change” to be used in 3rd World Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Meeting in Solferino 2009. This methodology will support future trainings of youth volunteers in the Movement.

Aiming at ensuring further participation of youth and volunteers at all levels of the National Societies, the regional programme supported the strengthening of the Regional Youth Network through support provided by the Finnish Red Cross. The strengthening of the regional Youth Network project is in alignment with the Global Agenda Goal 3 as well as with the initiatives captured in the Inter-American Plan 2007–2011, specifically:

Article VII: ‘to attract and prepare leaders with a clear strategic vision, able to drive the internal changes and innovations required to meet the challenges of the future’, and Article XI: ‘to take steps to ensure that youth have the opportunity to be actively involved in all aspects of our work and our organization’

A coordination meeting was programmed to harmonize the implementation of future actions by the regional network. This meeting took place in Panama from 14 to 15 April. The main objective of the meeting was to review and adjust the Plan of Action of the regional network to the framework of the regional project financed by the Finnish Red Cross and to consider the details relating to participation of National Society network members with respect to the commitments outlined in the plan. A focal point provided support to the regional Youth Network in the implementation of activities contemplated in the network plan, as well as those set forward in the regional project, up to 31 December 2008.

The Regional Red Cross Youth Meeting was held during November in Zambrano, Honduras, with the seven National Societies of the region. A highlight of the meeting was the attendance of over 130 youth volunteers and staff from the Youth Network. This event was held using a capacity-building approach, carrying out training sessions in topics such as: healthy practices in the use of water, the regional strategy for violence prevention, health and gender. The meeting was coordinated jointly by the Honduran Red Cross, the Costa Rican Red Cross and Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico.

Through the strengthening of the Regional Youth network process six internships were carried out to enhance information exchange and lessons learnt. The internships were done as follows:
- Two CRRC volunteers provided teaching tools for youth volunteers in the Nicaraguan Red Cross.
- A volunteer from Mexican Red Cross Youth travelled to Costa Rica to learn about the Red Cross School methodology and participate in a Training of Trainers’ workshop for the Red Cross School.
• A SRCS volunteer attended the 43rd National Convention of MRC volunteers to learn about the structure, organization and the successful activities planned and implemented by the MRC Youth programme.

• The regional Youth Network Coordinator carried out an advisory and orientation visit to the Guatemalan Red Cross to provide advice and cooperate in the implementation of the Guatemalan Red Cross Youth plans, in order to strengthen the Youth Programme in the GRC.

• Two Costa Rican volunteers travelled to Honduras to develop a workshop focusing on social dynamics raise awareness concerning the importance of transmitting messages to the population through games, puppet shows and other social techniques.

• Two RCSP youth volunteers attended the regional meeting of Red Cross Youth held from to involve RCSP volunteers during the regional meeting and receive training on the regional strategy for the prevention of violence.

• The focal point of the Regional Youth Network carried out an internship with the International Federation and visited the Regional Representation Office for Central America and Mexico, and the Americas Zone Office. The purpose of this internship was to: receive support in the financial close of the Youth project financed by the Finnish Red Cross; carry out meetings with the American Red Cross delegate, the Finnish Red Cross delegate, the National Youth Director from Panama, and the Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico. In addition, the Focal Point visited the RCSP to promote teamwork between the Youth Network and the RCSP and to present the advantages of the network for volunteers of the National Society.

Also with the support of the Finnish Red Cross, six micro-projects were developed focusing on: “Leadership in Red Cross Youth at branch level and Institutional Strengthening” in the CRRC, the RCSP, the HRC, the MRC, the NRC and the SRCS.

To complement the aforementioned activities, a series of publication materials were developed by the Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico, through the Focal Point of the network based in Costa Rica. These materials were designed with the objective of increasing awareness and ensuring better understanding of the Regional Red Cross Youth Network and the activities implemented by the members of the network. Some of these publications were shared among other networks and youth organizations in the different countries. The materials developed included a monthly bulletin, banners, brochures and monthly planners.

Nicaraguan Red Cross Intervention
With the support of the secretariat and the ICRC, the Organizational Development programme was able to provide support to the Nicaraguan Red Cross for addressing institutional challenges. Funds for special cases were assigned and the revision phase of the institutional-legal framework has been concluded. The Nicaraguan Red Cross and its provisional authorities now have a quick diagnostic on the financial, administrative and warehouse management situations; a budget and proposal for the electoral process and a technical report on legal and institutional aspects is still being revised. With this information, a cooperation appeal will be drafted during the first weeks of July.

The electoral process is ongoing based on the main components of the institutional recovery plan, which include a database of volunteers, updating of the electoral registry, electoral rules, code of ethic, electoral commission, dissemination and training of the electoral rules at headquarters and branch level, establishment of the electoral timeframe, and improved volunteer management.

Consensus has been achieved from the high level commission, CORI and the National Societies of the region on the provision of political support to the institutional recovery plan, the Provisional Executive Committee (PEC) and the Federation role.

The Federation’s regional Organizational Development programme has also provided technical support on planning, administrative and financial matters to the Nicaraguan Red Cross. In addition, with the assistance of the Spanish Red Cross an organizational development delegate has been deployed to Nicaragua since October 2008 to support the plan and the PEC.
Constrains or Challenges:
The regional Organizational Development programme will continue to maintain the institutional recovery process under the parameters of the legal base, accountability standards and ethics commitments of the PEC in order to ensure the accomplishment of the electoral process with the integration of governing bodies of the National Society at the local and national levels.

One constraint experienced during the strengthening of the Regional Youth Network was the delay in the implementation of micro-projects. The fact that the International Federation does not directly carry out or lead the implementation of actions, but supports the joint participation and decision-making within the network, results in a more complex and time consuming process.

Humanitarian Principles and Values

Programme objective: The Humanitarian Principles and Values programme focuses its efforts on promoting the Red Cross principles and values at the community level. Also, it encourages the establishment of a Gender policy in line with the Federation Policies and the XVIII Inter-American Plan.

Achievements
The initial component of the Humanitarian Principles and Values programme concentrates on the dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values and the training of a greater number of facilitators in these themes, as well as reaching branch volunteers with an updated training curriculum. During 2008, the programme supported by the Organizational Development programme provided assistance in follow-up activities and in the evaluation of the Shoken funded project: “Dissemination of the Humanitarian Principles and Values” of the Honduran Red Cross. In addition, the programme supported the Honduran Red Cross in the facilitation of 5 workshops in 5 regions of the country training approximately 25 participants per workshop (branch directors, volunteer managers, and volunteers) on Statutes, laws of the use of the Emblem and International Humanitarian Law. The participants of the workshop were provided with technical guidance on planning and taking into practice the criteria to facilitate humanitarian interventions.

The programme promoted new awareness-raising initiatives on Humanitarian Principles and Values across the Central American countries. For example, from collaboration with AudioVideo, a radio campaign project was developed jointly with the Honduran Red Cross in early 2008 for the promotion of the Humanitarian Principles and Values also focusing on the use of the seat belt. The campaign released three different key radio messages, through AudioVideo, focused on a) respect towards the ambulance of the Red Cross when responding to an emergency, b) respect towards Red Cross volunteers and brigades and c) awareness-raising on the importance and respect of the Red Cross Emblem.

In the area of non-discrimination and respect for diversity, the regional Humanitarian Principles and Values programme encouraged the development of a National Gender Policy for the Honduran Red Cross, which was presented to the Executive Committee for its approval. The planning process for its implementation was financially supported by the programme through bilateral coordination with the Canadian, Italian, Netherlands, Spanish, and Swiss Red Cross Societies. The implementation of the Gender Policy in the National Society has been prompted. In 2009, it is expected that the programme will support the National Society in the revision of its National Gender Policy.

Between 3 and 6 November, the National Societies of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama participated in the Continental forum on the Transversality of Gender, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The forum was facilitated by the Spanish Red Cross. Approximately 30 participants were trained on gender issues and the existing methodologies on the thematic on gender were revised. The forum also trained the participants in the incorporation of the gender approach in the action and interventions of the National Societies. Moreover, with the support of the Humanitarian Principles and
Values department in Geneva, representatives from the four aforementioned National Societies of the region and the regional principles and values representative participated in this continental forum.

In coordination with the Health and Care programme, the Principles and Values programme promoted non-discrimination and respect for people living with HIV in El Salvador, Nicaragua (in Granada) and Honduras (in the occidental and south regions of the country and in the capital city) through interventions with the Taxis project. In Honduras more than 150 were trained on prevention of HIV and stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS.

In the component of violence prevention, the regional programme participated in December during the World Meeting on Violence, for the creation of a working group for the development of the federation-wide global strategy and policy to address and prevent violence.

The Regional Programme and National Societies also focused on the issue of migration in the region as this is a growing concern. This support is aligned with Article six of the Guayaquil Commitment: 'to better protect, support and assist people affected by migration, regardless of their legal status'. Following Geneva's workgroup on Migration, the programme developed a regional National Societies interventions map on migration. The programme also drafted a summary of the trends in the law system in the Central American region with the support of the National Migration Forum in Honduras.

In coordination with the Spanish Cooperation Agency for International Development (Agencia Española de Cooperación International para el Desarrollo – AECID), the Zone Office, and the regional Humanitarian Principles and Values Coordinator for South America, actions for the Continental Forum with the AECID on migration were carried out. These activities included participants' criteria selection, gathering of information on the possible participants and the sharing of ideas to draft the agenda. The Latin American Migration Forum was held in Guatemala in March, in coordination with the Zone Office and AECID, with 35 participants, including NGOs, government and National Societies representatives. Following the Migration Forum, the programme initiated coordination with the ICRC in order to disseminate the results across the region through an information network. After the forum, through this information network, the programme has shared with PNS and organizations that participated in the forum concrete initiatives carried out by the National Societies of Central America on the theme of migration.

Constraints or Challenges:
The Humanitarian Principles and Values programme has established communication with CONCACAF directors in Honduras for the negotiation of the “Come Closer” campaign launch during the soccer matches for the South Africa 2010 World Cup. This awareness-raising initiative was expected to reach large numbers of indirect beneficiaries due to the exposure of the matches. Unfortunately, even though preparation activities took place to move forward with this initiative, it was not possible to be implemented due to funding issues.

Working in partnership
The Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico continues to build new and vital alliances with other NGOs, UN agencies and the private sector through all programme areas. The Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Programme has been strengthening joint initiatives and interaction for Disaster Risk Reduction. These interactions have become a common factor reflected in the interaction and work with the ISDR, UNICEF, and Plan International for the celebration of the International Disaster Risk Reduction. Also, it is present in the implementation of biannual campaign towards Safer Hospitals and Health Facilities as well as the joint application of tools such as the Riskland game. These have brought clear benefits to the regional efforts, strengthening coordination opportunities to scale up the impact of the available resources. As mentioned above, the DIPECHO VI project represents the very essence of successful coordination and advocacy efforts by ECHO, PNS, the Regional Representation and the National Societies.
Regional organizational interactions have targeted capacity-building between the National Societies vis-à-vis third party National Systems for CEPREDENAC; ministries of education; in-country, national and international NGOs who are users of the services and products provided by the Regional Centres of References. Such interactions have promoted strong links among volunteers, staff, technicians from the National Societies and third parties. The National Societies of Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador have benefited from the close collaboration with these third-party organizations which operate in-country.

The HIV prevention programme has forged strategic alliances with entities such as Ministries of Health and Education, hospitals, health services centres, education departments and schools, PLHIV support groups, associations and national PLHIV networks, social security centres in the respective countries, NGOs, civil society organizations and UN agencies.

With regards to communications, the promotion of strategic alliances with companies and media-holding companies with national or regional outreach has been achieved through formal Memorandums of Understanding, for example: AUDIOVIDEO in Honduras, and Albatros Foundation. In addition it was possible to disseminate TV spots on voluntary action and disaster risk reduction during the 2008 hurricane season in CNN en Español and Discovery Latin America. Also, it was possible to carry out an internship through the agreement with Florida State University to provide support to the regional communications unit.

The regional Humanitarian Principles and Values programme efforts have been coordinated and implemented with the financial and technical support of Red Cross partners (the ICRC and PNS such as the Canadian Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross). Also, the regional programme has promoted information-sharing and cooperation with other international organizations and UN agencies present in the region such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), AECID, National Migration Forum in Honduras (Foro Nacional para las Migraciones en Honduras - FONAMIH), ACNUR and UNICEF.

**Contributing to longer-term impact**

The majority of the work carried out by the regional Disaster Risk Reduction programme is focused on strengthening National Societies’ capacities to assist vulnerable communities, which has helped them to position themselves at the national level. As well as having the opportunity to work closely with PNS, it has increased the level of harmonization and created a common approach to direct efforts. Both Centres of Reference have positioned themselves as leaders in the development of tools, methodologies and training sessions to enhance communities and institutional capacities.

A feeling of ownership of the HIV programme exists amongst Red Cross staff and volunteers in the National Societies involved. The beneficiaries are provided with a sense of empowerment to make and sustain positive behaviour change, which in turn reduces vulnerability and increases the wider uptake of HIV prevention messages. It has been important for the National Societies to raise awareness among community leaders and to enhance advocacy and coordination with similar organizations, in order to generate political will from governments to meet the health and psychosocial needs of the population.

The Global Alliance on HIV has contributed to strengthening Red Cross branches through the training of volunteers, branch development activities and promoting of active implementation of programme activities. The training of trainers and peer educators in workplaces and educational centres, and awareness-raising amongst community leaders, as well as mobilization and participation of PLHIV and affected communities are contributing to the achievement of project objectives and the sustainability of the programme.

Club 25 is being implemented in four countries in the region. Slowly Club 25 is being seen as an important Red Cross youth initiative that promotes not only voluntary non-remunerated blood
donation, but also healthy life styles and a culture of prevention among youth. To guarantee the continuity of clubs in each country, capacities of National Societies’ staff and volunteers need to be strengthened through technical and financial support. The Regional Representation for Central America and Mexico will continue providing technical and administrative support to the National Societies to ensure the continuity of the initiative and promote voluntary non-remunerated blood donation in the region.

During 2008, efforts have been made by the Regional Representation to encourage and support the development of Gender Policies, Volunteer Manual, management and accountability systems at the National Societies in line with the Guayaquil Commitment and the Inter-American Plan in order to work towards the Global Agenda Goals.

The strengthening of the regional Youth Network project is in alignment with the Global Agenda Goal 3 as well as with the initiatives captured in the Inter-American Plan 2007-2011, specifically Article 7: ‘to attract and prepare leaders with a clear strategic vision, able to drive the internal changes and innovations required to meet the challenges of the future’. Activities and actions were carried out to promote variety in leadership of each National Society, and will help ensure that positions are accessible to new leaders coming from youth, as well as from communities, civil society, and the private sector.

Looking ahead

The regional Disaster Risk Reduction programme continues developing programmed activities presented in the 2009-2010 plan, and will continue to work with the Centres of References. There will be an emphasis on gradually expanding and supporting activities of the programmes of the two other regional representations (Caribbean and South America).

Efforts and actions undertaken by the Regional Representation for Central America and the National Societies focused on the identification using VCA methodology and elaboration of micro-projects that will solve some concrete needs in the communities, in close coordination with local authorities and other partners. These analyses could be used in the future to develop project proposals.

The regional Disaster Risk Reduction programme will support the distribution of documents related to the global alliance on DRR, and it will print material focused on climate change and other related tools. In addition, the programme will support the development of a communication strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction to promote sharing of experiences between National Societies. These materials aim to promote the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction within National Societies’ visibility. The programme will also support the National Societies in the use of the volunteer management guide in close coordination with the Organizational Development and Humanitarian Principles and Values programmes.

Within Club 25, one of the main challenges for 2009 is to ensure that the voluntary non-remunerated blood donation programme has high level technical and management capacity. Another challenge is that in order to develop capacities on resource mobilization in the long run, the National Societies need to develop a fundraising strategy to sustain Club 25 in their countries. Furthermore, given the context of the countries in which the programme is under implementation, there is a major need for blood given, particularly due to the incidence of violent crime and traffic accidents. Club 25 works towards this need, but the demand for blood nationally continues to far exceed the amounts of blood collected.

The Organizational Development programme in 2009 will continue providing support for the alignment of strategic plans with the Inter-American Plan 2007—2011, focusing on the National Societies of El Salvador, Mexico and Panama.
In 2009 the regional Youth Network will work on innovative activities for the Youth programmes in the region. Future activities should be designed to respond to the needs of youth and enhance the capacities of youth volunteers in each National Society. In addition, the network will start working towards the unification of concepts and objectives for youth, at the same time respecting cultural differences in the region and working mechanisms of the seven National Societies. Moreover, the network will seek to promote greater participation of youth in decision-making and in National Society programmes. Each of the National Societies is working to strengthen Youth and is identifying concrete action points based on the strategic plans.

The Regional Representation acknowledges the need to improve and diversify the base of sources of funding and partners.

### How we work

**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”**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Global Agenda Goals:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:

- **In Panama:** Fabricio Lopez, Regional Representative for Central America and Mexico; email: [fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org](mailto:fabricio.lopez@ifrc.org); phone: (507) 380 0250; and fax: (507) 317 1304.
- **In Panama:** María Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas Zone; email: [maria.alcazar@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.alcazar@ifrc.org); phone: (507) 380 0250; and fax: (507) 317 1304.

To support or find out more about the Federation’s programmes or operations, click on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)
### I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

#### I.1. Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal 1: Disaster Management</th>
<th>Goal 2: Health and Care</th>
<th>Goal 3: Capacity Building</th>
<th>Goal 4: Principles and Values</th>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>A. Budget</td>
<td>1,429,587</td>
<td>784,208</td>
<td>219,055</td>
<td>86,470</td>
<td>2,519,319</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### I.2. Opening Balance

|                    | 86,962                | 254,747                  | -31,665                       | 2,403       | 795   | 313,241 |

### Income

**Cash contributions**

- American Red Cross: 0
- Andorra Red Cross: 1,668
- British Red Cross (from British Government): 799, 1,668
- Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government): 2,003, 17,363, 10,200
- Capacity Building Fund: 26,671
- DFID Partnership grant: 343,637
- ECHO: -36,084
- Finnish Red Cross: 25,234, 6,146, 6,234
- Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government): 142,972, 34,551, 35,374
- Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government): 38,609
- Norwegian Red Cross: 37,139
- Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government): 334,249
- ProVention: 156,897
- Spanish Red Cross: 222,215
- Swedish Red Cross: 9,169
- Swiss Red Cross: 34,757
- Unidentified donor: 11,005, -246

**Total Income**: 1,460,751

### Outstanding pledges (Revalued)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>341,331</th>
<th>214,812</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DFID Partnership grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
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**Total Outstanding pledges (Revalued)**: 556,143

### Inkind Personnel

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Red Cross</td>
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**Total Inkind Personnel**: 15,707

### Other Income

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Other Income**: 5,448

### Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)

|                  | 1,232,855             | 402,842                  | 382,193                  | 20,958      | -799  | 2,038,049 |

### Total Funding = B +C

|                  | 1,319,817             | 657,588                  | 350,528                  | 23,361      | -799  | 2,351,280 |

#### Appeal Coverage

92% 84% 160% 27% #DIV/0 93%

### II. Balance of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Goal 1: Disaster Management</th>
<th>Goal 2: Health and Care</th>
<th>Goal 3: Capacity Building</th>
<th>Goal 4: Principles and Values</th>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Opening Balance</td>
<td>86,962</td>
<td>254,747</td>
<td>-31,665</td>
<td>2,403</td>
<td>795</td>
<td>313,241</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Income</td>
<td>1,232,855</td>
<td>402,842</td>
<td>382,193</td>
<td>20,958</td>
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<td>F. Closing Balance</td>
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<td>202,124</td>
<td>1,811</td>
<td>347,874</td>
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Extracted from the IFRC financial statements 2008
Prepared on 26/03/2009
### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Account Groups</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>Variance</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>A - B</td>
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<td><strong>BUDGET (C)</strong></td>
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<td>2,156</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshops &amp; Training</td>
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<td><strong>Total Workshops &amp; Training</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Contributions &amp; Transfers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operational Provisions</td>
<td>-68,264</td>
<td>-24,689</td>
<td>-3,018</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operational Provisions</strong></td>
<td>-68,264</td>
<td>-24,689</td>
<td>-3,018</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extracted from the IFRC financial statements 2008  
Prepared on 26/Mar/2009  
Page 2 of 3
III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Groups</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A - B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDGET (C)</td>
<td>1,429,587</td>
<td>784,208</td>
<td>219,055</td>
<td>86,470</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</td>
<td>2,519,319</td>
<td>1,315,394</td>
<td>518,072</td>
<td>148,405</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VARIANCE (C - D)</td>
<td>114,193</td>
<td>266,136</td>
<td>70,650</td>
<td>64,920</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)