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Emergency Appeal Operations Update

Guatemala: Food Insecurity and Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Operation Update no. 1	Operation no. MDRGT009
Date of issue: 28 June 2016	GLIDE: DR-2015-000150-GTM
Operation start date: 3 February 2016	Expected timeframe: 12 months
Host National Society presence: Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) delegation in El Quiché	Overall operation budget: 2,037,024 Swiss francs (CHF)
Number of people affected: 110,000 families	Number of people to be assisted: 2,000 families
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Spanish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).	
Number of other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Health Directorate in El Quiché, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance	
Please note that a reduction in the appeal's activities is foreseen, particularly food security, nutrition and livelihoods, if the appeal's coverage, which currently sits at 13 per cent, does not increase.	

[<Click here for the contact information. Click here for the interim financial report>](#)

Summary:

According to the forecast issued in April 2016 by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET), in 2016, the development of subsistence basic grain crops in parts of the dry corridor will be affected by the late and irregular start of the rainy season, forecasted below average accumulated rainfall levels and the unusually high temperatures due to a weakened El Niño phenomenon. Moreover, the fact that many of these farmers lack technical assistance from agricultural extension workers and agricultural inputs or the means to obtain them increases the negative impact on final harvest yields. It is particularly concerning that that dry corridor municipalities located in the Temperate Western Highlands are in Crisis (Phase 3, Climate Investment Funds [CIF]) since April 2015 due to significant crop loss in 2015 following a severe drought and their limited income generation options. Given that the annual food shortage period is fully in place, with no new harvests coming in and limited seasonal employment opportunities, it is expected that these households will continue in this situation until the November/December 2016 basic grains harvest if extended emergency assistance is not provided. With such a long crisis period and no emergency assistance providing greater coverage in the short term, this region is the one that causes the greatest concern in the country and requires immediate attention.



Instruction on good soil analysis practices. Source: GRC

In addition to the drought, the Guatemalan National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (INSIVUMEH for its acronym in Spanish) predicts a more active- than normal hurricane season this year in the Pacific, while the Atlantic and Caribbean regions will remain normal. It is possible that the country may experience some direct or indirect effects from cyclonic events during the early part of the rainy season, which may negatively affect the development of subsistence maize and bean crops

Coordination and partnerships

The actions that are being developed to deal with the food and nutritional insecurity situation affecting the population living in the dry corridor are being implemented directly by the Guatemalan Red Cross and its staff and volunteers,

with support from the IFRC and as per the institutional response plan. Close communications is being maintained with Movement representatives in the country (IFRC, ICRC, Partner National Societies [PNSs]) for both the programming of activities and accountability and resource management.

During the appeal's implementation, the GRC will maintain close communication with IFRC representatives in the region as well as with the IFRC's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU).

The humanitarian team activated the food security, agriculture, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster/sectors to carry out a preliminary identification of potential humanitarian needs. The situation analysis and initial response actions were coordinated by the Drought Response Board, which is led by the Secretariat of Food and Nutritional Security (SESAN for its acronym in Spanish), and Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Food (MAGA for its acronym in Spanish).

Summary of current response

Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) based its intervention on a rapid needs assessment and secondary information from FEWSNET. Given that nutritional status depends on multiple factors, it is providing a comprehensive response where humanitarian assistance is accompanied by community nutritional surveillance and education sessions on food, nutrition, child care and hygiene, strengthening livelihoods and water actions, sanitation and hygiene promotion. Each and every action was conducted in coordination with health services in the two municipalities and the Health Area Directorate. Because of their vulnerability and the role they play in feeding and caring for families, response actions are prioritizing indigenous women in targeted communities. Only 5.4 per cent of humanitarian assistance was delivered to men, and it was only provided to widowers or to men whose wives did not have identification. A second criterion used to include the most vulnerable was being an older adult living alone.

Adjustments were made to programme actions and for families requiring more intense humanitarian assistance according to information obtained during the updated family census and with support from community leaders.

Below is the total number of people to be reached based on the Emergency Appeal's objectives:

AREA OF INTERVENTION	CHICHÉ	PATZITÉ	TOTAL
FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOODS			
Food distribution	681 families	319 families	1,000 families
Livelihood strengthening	0	360 families	360 families
Livelihoods diversification	0	0	0
Growth monitoring	0	0	0
Nutritional screening	288 children	212 children	500 children
Education sessions to mothers	600 mothers	0	600 mothers
Home visits	30 families	20 families	50 families
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION			
Installation of rainwater collection and storage systems	70 families	0	70 families
Protection of water sources and water system operation and maintenance	4 communities	0	4 communities
Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST)	600 mothers	0	600 mothers

Quality programming - Aspects common to all sectors

Quality programming - Aspects common to all sectors	
OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Outcome 1 Continuous and detailed assessments and analysis are used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.	# of assessments conducted

Output 1.1 The management of the operation is informed by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system	Plan of action and sectorial plans for which a monitoring and evaluation plan has been developed Planned evaluations take place with lessons learned and a management response provided
Output 1.2 Operation activities are disseminated at the local, national and regional levels	No. of press releases issued No. of beneficiary stories prepared No. of publications in the media reporting GRC actions
Activities	Months
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
Hiring of operational staff and staff to support the operation in the field	
Community assemblies to present the project	
Monitoring visits	
Progress reports on the affected communities	
Documentary on activities	
Beneficiary satisfaction survey	
Lessons learned workshop	
Development of beneficiary stories	
IFRC monitoring	
Identify and implement a complaint mechanism	

Achievements

- **# of assessments conducted:** So far the following assessments have been conducted between November 2015 and June 2016:

- *Beneficiary census:* This was the first activity that was carried out as part of the project. It allowed cleansing the list of beneficiaries in communities and having the name of the person receiving the assistance. The information obtained was used to print cards with bar codes which were later assigned to each participating family. This census was updated with the inclusion of one new community in May 2016
- *Vulnerability assessment to prioritize beneficiary families:* Community leaders participated in this activity and provided vital information about families suffering from the greatest vulnerability. This allowed for the selection of 70 families to benefit from the installation of rainwater collection and storage systems, 360 families from seed, fertilizer and agricultural modernization and 1,000 families from food rations.
- *Nutritional screening to children between the ages of 6 and 50 months:* Two nutritional screenings have been conducted by measuring the mid-arm circumference of children between 5 and 59 months of age in eight participating communities. A total of 485 children were screened in December 2015, finding a 1.24 per cent prevalence of acute malnutrition, and 288 children under 5 were screened, finding a prevalence of 1.04 per cent
- *Detailed food security and nutritional assessment:* This assessment was conducted in December 2015, interviewing a population sample of 76 families, with a reliability level of 90 per cent (according to the Z table). Of interviewees, 67 per cent were women and 33 per cent were men. A tool was used to evaluate health, food security, livelihoods and nutrition of the humanitarian network in Guatemala, covering aspects related to availability and access to food, livelihoods, water, sanitation and food consumption. This assessment allowed for the launch of an international appeal to mitigate the drought's impact on the health and nutrition of the affected population.



Family census activities. Source: GRC

- *Satisfaction Survey:* A beneficiary satisfaction survey was conducted in December 2015 with 77 participants, of which 74 per cent were women and 26 per cent were men.
- *Feasibility study to implement a Cash Transfer Programme (CTP):* The IFRC's Cash Transfer Checklist was used to establish the method for the second delivery of humanitarian aid. The information was

obtained by interviewing representatives from the Catholic Church and Municipal Women's Office, municipal authorities and community leaders, addressing topics such as socio-economic aspects, access to markets, banking institutions in the region and benefits and risks which could result from cash transfers. The information determined that cash transfers were feasible; however, municipal authorities, representatives from the Municipal Women's Office, and community leaders indicated that they would prefer food deliveries. The affected families were consulted in community assemblies, where they also chose to receive food instead of cash.

Except for the feasibility study, all assessments were conducted using Open Data Kit (ODK), which facilitated the processing and analysis of the information. Additionally, the technical guidelines for the Community Health Programme were issued; project staff coordinated the process, and interviews were conducted with support from various participating branch volunteers

- **% of indicators, disaggregated by gender and age:** Each indicator was disaggregated by gender, age and ethnic group in order to ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups. This applies to:
 - Humanitarian aid
 - Nutritional screening
 - Educational sessions
 - Home visits
 - Satisfaction survey
 - Community assemblies
- **# of communities participating in community assemblies where they have received information about the project and where they have been given the opportunity to contribute to the activities' implementation process;** Community assemblies were held in all eight of the participating communities. The project, its objectives, expected results and activities were presented during the first assembly meeting, and the members of the Surveillance Committee were also selected; this assembly presented vital information on the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its principles. A second assembly was convened in early January 2016 to hold a consultation process with all eight communities regarding the Cash Transfer Programme. A total of 901 people participated in this assembly, of which 783 were women and 118 were men.
- **# of contributions from the community that were included in the proposed activities schedule:** Communities made two major decisions during these community assemblies; the first was selecting the members for the Nutritional Surveillance Committees, and the second one involved reaching a consensus on whether to have women from each family receive food rations or get cash transfers in any form (check, voucher or debit card). The communities' decisions were recorded in the Book of Minutes authorized by each municipality.
- **Plan of action and sectorial plans for which a monitoring and evaluation plan has been developed:** There is one single Monitoring Plan, which enables each sector to be tracked; it is based on the beneficiary census. Data are processed to develop indicators that measure progress in terms of:
 - Humanitarian aid
 - Nutritional screening
 - Education sessions
 - Home visits
 - Satisfaction survey
 - Community assemblies

Moreover, volunteers, the project team and the GRC Communications Department are documenting all of the actions being conducted in the target communities through pictures and videos. With support from the Communications Department, 3 press releases, 3 spots and 1 video have been issued, as well as an interview that was broadcast over local media

Challenges

None

Changes

None


Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: Most families manage to meet their basic drinking water needs; however, in the case of families in the community of San Francisco in the municipality of Chiché, obtaining drinking water involves a two-hour walk

because they have neither piped water service nor nearby water sources. These 70 families also lack containers large enough to store water or set up rain harvesting systems.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Health's assessment of this municipality's water quality in May 2015 found E. coli levels in the targeted communities' water sources (Carrizal, Choyomche 1, Choyomche 2 and Choyomche 3), ranging from 20 to 10,000 colonies per 100 ml. Despite this, families and organized communities have refused the offers for chlorinated water because they dislike the taste.

Population to be assisted: Because of budget constraints, actions will focus on providing rainwater collection and storage systems to 70 families in San Francisco, as well as safe water use and sanitation promotion using the PHAST methodology and chlorinators will be installed in four communities if feasible.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion																	
OBJECTIVES		INDICATORS															
Outcome 2: Contribute to improved access to, storage, and handling of water through rain harvesting and protection of water sources in selected communities		# of families reached with water and hygiene promotion actions															
Output 2.1: Construction of home rain harvesting systems for 2,000 families.		# of households that have new home rain harvesting systems															
		# of people participating in rain harvester maintenance workshops															
Output 2.2 Hygiene promotion activities are provided to the entire affected population.		# of families participating in educational sessions that use the PHAST methodology															
Output 2.3: Promote organized community actions to protect water flows and maintain water systems		% of targeted communities that conduct actions to protect water flows and maintain water systems															
		% of targeted communities that have the means to protect water flows and maintain water systems															
Activities	Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Printing of educational material																	
Implementation of PHAST methodology																	
Establishment of agreements with communities to implement actions to protect water flows and sources																	
Implementation of actions to protect water flows and sources and harvest rainwater																	
Construction of home water harvesting systems																	
Hiring of a water and sanitation technician																	
Achievements																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of families reached with water and hygiene promotion actions: <p>To date, community assemblies have been held to establish water, sanitation and hygiene promotion needs, as well as to sign agreements and commitments with the community of San Francisco for the installation of rainwater collection and storage systems.</p> <p>The first system, which will serve as a model, has already been built with support from community leaders. The construction of the remaining 69 will start in June 2016 and end in the third week of July 2016.</p> <p>Actions aimed at the operation and maintenance of water systems will begin in July 2016, as well as an awareness-raising process regarding the importance of consuming safe water. The aim is for four communities to come to an agreement during the community assembly in order to allow for the installation of chlorinators in their water systems.</p>																	
 <p style="text-align: center;">Construction of a rainwater collection/storage system model. Source: GRC</p>																	

If this is not possible, training for families on household water disinfection by other means will be prioritized and the possibility of purchasing home water filters will be assessed.

Challenges

The biggest challenge to date has been the population's refusal to consume chlorinated water; however, hygiene promotion activities will be intensified in June and July 2016.

Changes

The number of families to be reached with rainwater collection and storage systems was reduced from 580 to 70. Likewise, the number of communities where water source protection and water system operation and maintenance actions were to take place fell from 11 to 4.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Needs analysis: Families lost 50 per cent or more of their crops in the 2015 drought; the losses were particularly significant in corn and bean crops as 17 per cent of families reported the loss of their entire corn crop and 24 per cent of families reported that they lost their entire bean crop.

In addition to the drought, families use inadequate planting, harvesting, and soil conservation practices. Only 7.9 per cent have ever received agricultural modernization training, which explains their lack of knowledge regarding soil protection and conservation techniques, the use of barriers or incorporation of organic materials. Instead, they engage in practices that negatively affect crops, such as burning and planting four or five seeds in a single space, which limits plant growth.

GRC's detailed assessments indicated that by May 2015 only 35 per cent of families would still have some limited food reserves, while 64.8 per cent would have exhausted their reserves by April 2016.

While it is true that families have additional incomes as well as that from small livestock, these activities are not enough to deal with the loss. Reports indicate that families began selling their assets and farmyard animals, as well as implementing other survival strategies such as reducing the quality and quantity of the food consumed and taking out to loans to cope with the situation. With support from community leaders and based on information collected regarding family incomes (assets such as vehicles or appliances), number of family members and land tenure, 360 families in six communities in Chiché were identified who lost almost all their crops in 2015 and lack additional sources of income.

Even if the prevalence of acute malnutrition at the time of the GRC assessment was within limits for a normal population (1.24 per cent), there is still a risk of an increase in cases due to the change in food consumption and limited access to drinking water and health services.

Population to be assisted:

One dry food ration will be delivered to 2,000 families affected by the drought. In addition, 360 families with no additional income sources that possess a minimum of 1 *cuerda*¹ of land will receive improved maize and bean seed, as well as fertilizer and technical assistance for planting, soil conservation, grain harvesting and storage.

In addition to livelihoods strengthening actions, nutrition actions will be conducted that are aimed at improving child-feeding practices, community nutritional surveillance, and the identification and referral of acute malnutrition cases.

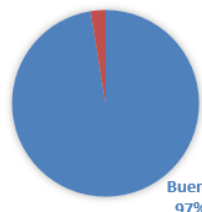
Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS																
Outcome 3: Immediate food needs of the disaster affected population (2,000 families) are met	At least 80% of the targeted families claim to meet their basic food priorities.																
Output 3.1: Appropriate food rations are distributed to 2,000 vulnerable households	2,000 families affected by food insecurity receive a food kit at the end of the second month of the operation At least 80% of families report receiving food assistance timely, appropriate to needs related to nutritional indicators																
Activities	Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Identify and register affected families using a																	

¹ In [Guatemala](#), a cuerda is a traditional unit of distance, equal to exactly 25 varas or almost 21 meters (nearly 69 feet).

- **At least 80% of families report receiving food assistance timely, appropriate to needs related to nutritional indicators:** At the end of the

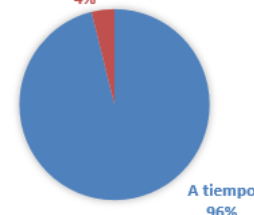
CALIDAD DE LA AYUDA

Regular
3%

project, 96 per cent of those interviewed indicated that nutritional assistance was delivered on time, but the remaining 4 per cent said that this aid should have been delivered last year since this is the third consecutive year of drought, as well technical assistance to improve harvests.

When asked about the quality of the food delivered, 97 per cent expressed that the quality was good and appropriate for their family.

AYUDA OPORTUNA

Tarde
4%

In May 2016, the list of beneficiary families was reviewed and cleared with support from community leaders. This allowed an extra community to be added to those benefitting from the DREF and that the families with the greatest percentage of losses and no additional income would receive food rations at the end of June 2016.

FAMILIES TO BENEFIT FROM A SECOND FOOD DELIVERY IN JUNE 2016

MUNICIPALITIES	COMMUNITY	FAMILIES
CHICHÉ	Choyomche 1	106
	Choyomche 2	147
	Choyomche 3	69
	Carrizal	167
	San Francisco	104
	Laguna seca 1	88
PATZITÉ	Pachaj	105
	Pazajcap	47
	Chuicojonop	167
TOTAL		1,000

Challenges

The greatest challenge was getting mayors and families from targeted communities to understand why not all families in those communities or all communities in the municipality were chosen to receive aid. It was necessary to hold a series of meetings to explain the Movement's Fundamental Principles, the nature of the intervention and selection criteria. After these meetings, communities and municipal mayors better understood and supported project actions without any further problems.

Changes

Based on the available budget, three food deliveries will take place instead of what was initially planned. Another substantial change was the reduction in the number of families to 1,000.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Outcome 4: Livelihoods are restored among targeted population	% of households that report that their income and expenditure balance has returned to pre-disaster levels % of households with agricultural production volume restored to pre-disaster levels % of households applying at least 3 key practices that support restoring livelihood
Output 4.1 Productive assets are replaced and retained by 2,000 families	% of households who report that all assets lost due to the disaster have been replaced # of households provided with productive assets to replace

		those lost in the disaster														
Output 4.2 Information regarding better knowledge, skills and practices for restoring livelihoods is provided and used by the targeted groups		# of people that participated in information events (awareness, campaigns, trainings etc.) on restoring livelihoods														
		No. of participants in training courses reporting at least 3 improved livelihoods practices														
Activities	Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Identification of affected families using ODK																
Processes to purchase inputs and seed																
Purchase of inputs and seed																
Distribution of inputs and seed																
Technical assistance for planting and soil management and protection																
Technical assistance for grain processing and storage																
Hiring of an agronomist																
Base line study																
Livelihood training for volunteers																

Achievements

- % of households that report that their income and expenditure balance has returned to pre-disaster levels; pending evaluation
- % of households with agricultural production volume restored to pre-disaster levels: pending evaluation
- % of households applying at least 3 key practices that support restoring livelihood: pending evaluation

This output started with a census that enabled the most vulnerable families in selected communities to be identified. With support from community leaders, 360 families in 6 communities who had lost almost their entire harvest and had no additional sources of income were identified. To date, these 360 families have received:

- 5 pounds of Institute of Science and Agricultural Technology (ICTA for its acronym in Spanish) Hunapu beans, which grow between 1,500 and 2,000 metres above sea level. This is sufficient for the planting of 2 *cuerdas* of land, which is expected to yield 6 quintals (qq) per *cuerta*
- 5 pounds of Marshall maize, which grows between 1,500 and 2,000 metres above sea level; this is enough for the planting of 2 *cuerdas* of land and expected to yield 10 qq per *cuerta*
- 1 qq of 20-20 fertilizer (20 nitrogen, 20 potassium)
- 1 qq of 15-15-15 fertilizer (15 nitrogen, 15 potassium x 15 phosphorus)

Additionally, each community received one backpack sprayer to be shared by 30 families.

DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES THAT BENEFITTED FROM SEED AND FERTILIZER

MUNICIPALITIES	COMMUNITY	BENEFITTING FAMILIES
CHICHÉ	Choyomche 1	18
	Choyomche 2	66
	Choyomche 3	40
	Carrizal	120
	San Francisco	44
	Laguna seca 1	72
TOTAL		360

All members of these families - 412 people, including men and women - participated in training workshops on types of erosion, live and dead barriers, deforestation and reforestation, and, of course, a strong agricultural practices component including soil and water conservation, improved seed, proper planting distance, mixed cropping and fertilization. The second workshop provided training on how to make and the benefits of organic fertilizers, organic pesticides, and the proper use of personal protective gear and backpack sprayers.

PARTICIPANTS IN GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES TRAINING

MUNICIPALITY	COMMUNITY	MEN	WOMEN
CHICHÉ	Choyomche 1	6	83
	Choyomche 2	5	74
	Choyomche 3	11	31
	Carrizal	4	106
	San Francisco	14	14
	Laguna seca 1	7	57
TOTAL		47	365

The fields were sown in the third week of May 2016 in order to coincide with onset of the first rains, and volunteers and technical team report crops are growing as expected. It is important to mention that each plot is geographically identified through ODK.

An unexpected achievement was the implementation of a demonstration garden at the Choyomche school. Teachers, community leaders and parents requested support to expand the garden and improve agricultural practices. This garden was used to teach agricultural techniques in a practical way, and it will provide food to the school children and seed to the poorest in the community in the future.

Challenges

The technical team reports that some families have refused to put into practice what was taught in the training workshops. During post-training follow-up visits conducted by volunteers and technical team members, some people expressed that they had no desire to change the planting practices they were taught by their parents and grandparents. One community continued to practice land burning and others continued sowing more than 5 seeds per hole. Given that most families did put into practice what they learned, it is expected that the future harvest will demonstrate the benefits of doing so.

On the other hand, some families preferred to get a head start on sowing by using seeds from last year, which they had previously purchased and refused the Guatemalan Red Cross's support. Unfortunately, the late arrival of the first rains caused most of what had been sown to be lost, and they did not have time to prepare the soil again and sow for a second time.

Changes

The project managed to benefit only 360 families and not 2,000 as originally programmed. It was not possible to carry out livelihoods diversification efforts with organized women's groups or the livelihoods training workshop for volunteers.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Outcome 5: Contribute to prevention and monitoring of acute malnutrition in children under five from families affected by food and nutrition insecurity	% of children under five with acute malnutrition (mid-upper arm circumference- MUAC) less than 2.5%
Output 5.1: Identification and timely referral of children under five with acute malnutrition, as well as improvement in child feeding practices	By the end of the project, at least 70% of children under five have been screened At the end of the first month of the project, 56 leaders have been trained to identify and refer children under five suffering from acute malnutrition 95% of children under five suffering from acute malnutrition are referred to health services
Activities Months	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

acute malnutrition; the children were immediately referred to the health centre for treatment.

At the end of the first month of the project, 56 leaders have been trained to identify and refer children under five suffering from acute malnutrition: The nutritionist engaged by the project and branch volunteers trained 121 community leaders in nutritional surveillance. Topics included signs and signals of acute malnutrition, mid-arm circumference measuring techniques and the vicious circle of malnutrition, exclusive breastfeeding, supplementary feeding and the dietary guidelines for Guatemala. These leaders participated in nutritional screening conducted in November 2015.

Table 4
Leaders trained in nutritional surveillance

COMMUNITY	TRAINED LEADERS
Choyomche 1	16
Choyomche 2	24
Choyomche 3	13
Carrizal	19
San Francisco	13
Pachaj	8
Pazajcap	13
Chuicojonop	15
TOTAL	121

- **95% of children under five suffering from acute malnutrition are referred to health services:** All six children with below normal (12.5 cm) mid-arm circumferences were referred to health services. Health personnel confirmed their nutritional status, and given that their condition was moderate and showing no complications, the children were provided with INCAPARINA during their outpatient treatment, which is a recovery formula based on fortified cereal, sugar and oil. Red Cross volunteers and nutritionist conducted home visits to verify adherence to treatment, reinforce the formula's preparation and ensure adequate household hygiene.

- **Education sessions and home visits:** Educational sessions and supplementary food preparation demonstrations aimed at mothers of children between 6 and 24 months were held, as well as home visits in order to contribute to improving food consumption practices, especially for children under 2:

- Educational sessions were delivered to 872 mothers and 41 fathers, addressing topics such as exclusive and prolonged breastfeeding, solving breastfeeding issues, supplementary feeding, problems with using bottles and junk food, delayed introduction of food, use of oil, and the dietary guidelines for Guatemala.

- Food preparation demonstration sessions were conducted in groups of 10 to 15 mothers in some of their homes, which were attended

by 957 mothers and 38 fathers. Each session began with hand washing followed by recipes aimed at specific age groups: children 6 to 8 months, 9 to 12 months and 12 to 24 months. Trainers emphasized food consistency, frequency of meal times and size of serving per meal, food variety and perceptive feeding.

- A total of 89 home visits to mothers of children under 5 took place, and 37 visits to pregnant women were also conducted. In the case of children with severe acute malnutrition, the GRC promoted the preparation and administration of the nutritional formula as well as hygiene practices. With the rest of families, the GRC discussed issues such as breastfeeding, supplementary feeding, danger signs, immunization, and growth monitoring.



Educational session for mothers. Source: GRC

Table 5
Mothers participating in education sessions

COMMUNITY	EDUCATIONAL SESSION FOR MOTHERS		DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING		HOME VISITS	
	Mothers	Fathers	Mothers	Fathers	Children	Pregnant women
Choyomche 1	85	3	91	4	10	3
Choyomche 2	166	3	171	3	14	8
Choyomche 3	69	3	69	2	10	0
Carrizal	171	10	184	6	15	9
San Francisco	93	4	94	4	7	3
Pachaj	130	7	138	6	17	3
Pazajcap	56	2	58	2	6	5
Chuicojonop	102	9	152	11	10	6
TOTAL	872	41	957	38	89	37

Challenges

Interventions have identified three challenges to combating acute malnutrition: First is the high levels of faecal coliforms in water sources, which coupled with the families' refusal to consume chlorinated water increases the incidence of acute diarrhoeal diseases in children under 5; the second challenge is related to inadequate breastfeeding and supplementary feeding practices. Mothers do not practice exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months of life, and there is a delay in the introduction of solid food; the third challenge is related to the provision of health services, as the health clinics lack sufficient supplies and personnel to meet the standards of care and, the communities lack of awareness regarding the use of ready-to-use food (RUF, Plumpy Nut) at the household level, as well as of the value of nutritional screening via Mid-arm circumference (MAC) to identify children at risk of dying from malnutrition.

Changes

The proposal to continue the nutrition technician's contract and the reproduction of educational materials was eliminated.

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Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRGT009 - Guatemala - Drought

Timeframe: 03 Nov 15 to 04 Jan 17

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 16

Interim Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2015/11-2016/5	Programme	MDRGT009
Budget Timeframe	2015/11-2017/1	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		2,037,059				2,037,059	
B. Opening Balance							
Income							
Cash contributions							
<i>American Red Cross</i>		146,696				146,696	
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		43,830				43,830	
<i>Red Cross of Monaco</i>		16,481				16,481	
<i>The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Government*)</i>		62,535				62,535	
C1. Cash contributions		269,543				269,543	
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		245,273				245,273	
C4. Other Income		245,273				245,273	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		514,816				514,816	
D. Total Funding = B + C		514,816				514,816	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance							
C. Income		514,816				514,816	
E. Expenditure		-374,647				-374,647	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		140,168				140,168	

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRGT009 - Guatemala - Drought

Timeframe: 03 Nov 15 to 04 Jan 17

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 16

Interim Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2015/11-2016/5	Programme	MDRGT009
Budget Timeframe	2015/11-2017/1	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
A						B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			2,037,059			2,037,059		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Clothing & Textiles			938			938	-938	
Food	681,455		180,382			180,382	501,072	
Seeds & Plants	100,214						100,214	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	818,748						818,748	
Medical & First Aid	802		761			761	40	
Teaching Materials	37,380		394			394	36,986	
Utensils & Tools	100,214		218			218	99,996	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	1,738,811		182,694			182,694	1,556,118	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicles Costs	12,687		2,090			2,090	10,597	
Logistics Services	10,021						10,021	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	22,708		2,090			2,090	20,618	
Personnel								
National Staff	7,006		54			54	6,952	
National Society Staff	69,533		23,137			23,137	46,396	
Volunteers	18,386		1,493			1,493	16,893	
Total Personnel	94,926		24,684			24,684	70,242	
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	7,015						7,015	
Total Consultants & Professional Fees	7,015						7,015	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	24,653		1,347			1,347	23,305	
Total Workshops & Training	24,653		1,347			1,347	23,305	
General Expenditure								
Travel	4,009		1,420			1,420	2,589	
Information & Public Relations	3,107		2,175			2,175	932	
Office Costs	4,710		303			303	4,407	
Communications	7,516		1,713			1,713	5,803	
Financial Charges	2,505		-11,428			-11,428	13,933	
Shared Office and Services Costs	2,772						2,772	
Total General Expenditure	24,618		-5,818			-5,818	30,436	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			146,784			146,784	-146,784	
Total Operational Provisions			146,784			146,784	-146,784	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recover	124,328		22,866			22,866	101,462	
Total Indirect Costs	124,328		22,866			22,866	101,462	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,037,059		374,647			374,647	1,662,412	
VARIANCE (C - D)			1,662,412			1,662,412		

Disaster Response Financial Report**MDRGT009 - Guatemala - Drought**

Timeframe: 03 Nov 15 to 04 Jan 17

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 16

Interim Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2015/11-2016/5	Programme	MDRGT009
Budget Timeframe	2015/11-2017/1	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

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IV. Breakdown by subsector

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people							
Disaster response	2,037,059		514,816	514,816	374,647	140,168	
Subtotal BL2	2,037,059		514,816	514,816	374,647	140,168	
GRAND TOTAL	2,037,059		514,816	514,816	374,647	140,168	