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Annual report Paraguay

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAPY001
16 May 2012

**This report covers the
period 01 January 2011
to 31 December 2011.**

*Volunteer training in the Alto Paraná
branch of the Paraguayan Red Cross, Alto
Paraná 2011. Source: Paraguayan Red
Cross*



In brief

Programme outcome

The secretariat of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the institutional capacity building of the Paraguayan Red Cross (PRC) in line with the priorities identified by the National Society, *Strategy 2020* and the 2007–2011 Inter-American Plan.

Programmes summary

This annual report for 2011 highlights the Paraguayan Red Cross's progress towards the established objectives and outcomes achieved, as well as identifying its possible future challenges.

The [Support Plan](#) for the National Society was created in 2010 through collaborative teamwork and consensus-based decision-making with the PRC and the International Federation's regional representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil. This plan responds to the PRC's strategic needs and priorities, and outlines particular International Federation support required to obtain them.

During 2011, the National Society faced two emergencies related to hailstorms and a dengue outbreak for which DREF funds were allocated. The disaster response capacities of the Paraguayan Red Cross reinforce its reputation as an organization capable of responding to and providing humanitarian support for the affected population.

The relative political and social stability during 2011 has enabled the National Society to dedicate increased attention to specific groups living in vulnerability, particularly groups in suburban and rural areas. The PRC has taken steps to strengthen its local branch network to better respond to the needs of the population outside the capital city. Over the course of 2011, the PRC took important and decisive steps to strengthen its institutional skills and internal management tools.

Financial situation

The total revised 2011 budget was 308,725 Swiss francs, of which 102,529 Swiss francs (33 per cent) was covered during this reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during 2011 was 102,225 Swiss francs. The budget underwent a revision at the mid-year reporting stage, decreasing from 401,205 Swiss francs to 308,725 Swiss francs.

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

<https://fednet.ifrc.org/docs/Appeals/annual11/MAAPY00111arf.pdf>

See also: [Dengue – DREF operation final report \(MDRPY009\)](#)
[Hailstorm – DREF operation - final report \(MDRYPY010\)](#)

No. of people we have reached

The calculation of the number of people reached by the Paraguayan Red Cross in 2011 relates to its different actions including two DREF operations that were conducted during the year.

By the end of the DREF operation for the dengue outbreak approximately 19,455 persons were reached with a preventive health campaign and an estimated 1,047,452 people via a media educational campaign on radio and television. The DREF operation for the hailstorm in August 2011 reached 877 affected households, providing them with food parcels, hygiene kits and seed kits for their subsistence agricultural production.

Notwithstanding possible minimal overlap between some of the international strengthening actions and both DREF operations, the actions of the Paraguayan Red Cross in 2011 reached a total of 1,105,284 people.

Our partners

The Paraguayan Red Cross established and maintained productive partnerships with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement through a tripartite agreement between the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the IFRC. Additionally, the PRC has maintained partnerships with the National Societies of Finland, Germany, Norway and Switzerland.

The PRC's cooperation agreements with the UK Department for International Development - DFID, the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid department - ECHO, and Disaster Preparedness ECHO-DIPECHO contributed greatly to implementing its country support plan. The National Society has strong working relationships with Paraguayan State institutions, especially the National Secretariat for Emergencies.

Context

The 6.57 million inhabitants of Paraguay, divided into 17 departments and a district for the nation's capital Asunción, live in a society challenged by socio-economic inequality. The rural-urban divide (40 and 60 per cent, respectively), which determines access to basic services also accounts for the poverty rates that soar in the rural regions inhabited by indigenous and non-indigenous populations. According to the 2010 figures from Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean-ECLAC, over 56 per cent of the total population, increasing to 67.1 per cent in rural areas, lives in poverty. Approximately 30.4 per cent of the total population, reaching 46.6 per cent in rural areas, survives in extreme poverty. Infant mortality is 24.2 deaths of girls for every 1,000 births with the average increasing to 33.1 deaths for every 1,000 boys born. According to ECLAC, the maternal mortality rate stands at 95 deaths from pregnancy-related causes, per 100,000 live births. Illiteracy rates are slightly higher for men (2.0 per cent) than for women (1.8 per cent).

The ongoing demands of indigenous people for titles to their lands, the existence of an armed opposition group and the implications of the aforementioned urban-rural divide were factors in the government decision to declare a month-long state of exception in half of the country in April 2011. The country's unequal distribution of land, wealth and other resources fuels social protest. Addressing these national challenges, the Paraguayan Red Cross redirected its actions towards the most vulnerable sectors of society with participatory actions in disaster risk reduction, community development and income generating activities with marginalized groups and people. Over the course of the year, the PRC increased its contact and coordination with governmental authorities, thus strengthening its role as auxiliary to the government in humanitarian issues.

Added to the socio-economic situation that directly impacts the levels of vulnerability, Paraguay is also affected by climatic events. In 2011, Paraguay experienced severe flooding, a dengue outbreak and hailstorms. As the year came to a close, the lack of precipitation caused a drought in 14 departments and severely affected food security. The Itapúa department lost 75 per cent of its agricultural crops and Paraguari lost 70 per cent. Other departments lost upwards of a minimum of one-third of their staple crops of beans and corn.

During 2011, the PRC began the process of modernizing and professionalizing its management structures, working towards financial sustainability, strengthening its branch network and diversifying its membership base. The National Society also started the implementation of its *Strategic Plan* for 2011–2016, which has the following objectives and strategies:

Strategic Objective 1: Develop the National Society's overall skills, designing work to strengthen branches, sub-branches, and communities, incorporate new knowledge and value the skills of its volunteering resources.

General Strategy: Design and/or structure branch operational mechanisms, based on well-functioning branches, with the active participation of PRC governance bodies.

Strategic Objective 2: Work effectively in response and early recovery with communities affected by disasters or emergencies and consolidate disaster and risk management.

General Strategy: Implement processes with branches, sub-branches, and communities to complement government action through the establishment of strategic and cooperation alliances.

Strategic Objective 3: Promote health practices, health care and active community services to reduce risks.

General Strategy: Design care programmes in maternal-infant health with an emphasis on community-based preventative health care.

Strategic Objective 4: Facilitate the integration and inclusion of socially marginalized people and work with them.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

The International Federation in diverse global and regional declarations and plans of action continually expresses its commitment to reducing the risk of disasters. With a three-pronged strategy, the International Federation through its National Societies strengthens communities' ability to prepare to respond to disasters, mitigate hazards to avoid their occurrence, and protect strategic projects and infrastructure useful in normal times and emergencies. In other words, the Movement supports communities' actions to prepare, respond and recover from disasters. For the most part of

the year, the regional representation did not have a disaster risk management delegate in place, affecting implementation of the disaster management plans.

The regional representation plans to implement a series of diverse, yet interconnected, actions in disaster risk management in 2012. Some of these actions include the increase of secretariat support to the National Societies in urban risk strategies, support the creation of risk management strategic plans in every National Society, foster joint projects with municipalities, foment shared work on climate change with Partner National Societies and those in the region and provide training and collaboration to connect strategies on livelihoods with disaster risk management, amongst others.

Programme purpose

To reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
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Programme component 2: Institutional capacity building for disaster preparedness

Component outcome 1: The secretariat encourages and supports the strengthening of Paraguayan Red Cross capacities to effectively support communities to plan, prepare, respond and recover from emergencies.

The Paraguayan Red Cross implemented two DREF operations in 2011. The first focused on the dengue outbreak that reached a peak in April and May of last year. Faced with collapsed health services in the mostly highly affected communities in the Alto Paraná department (1,044 cases for every 100,000 inhabitants), the National Society took on response, prevention and educational tasks to combat the spread of the outbreak. A total of 133 volunteers (60 women and 73 men) from five sub-branches of the Central branch, and the Concepción and Alto Paraná branches worked together to implement a preventive campaign with house-to-house visits, talks in educational centres, and distribution of informational material that covered 60 neighbourhoods in 9 districts (approximately 19,455 people). Its media campaign of radio and television reached approximately 1,047,452 people. For more details, please see the Final Report of this DREF operation available at the link listed in the Financial Situation at the beginning of this annual report.

The second DREF operation responded to an August 2011 hailstorm and heavy winds that affected the Itapúa department. In the most affected municipalities of Mayor Otaño and Carlos Antonio López, a total of 1,714 families experienced crop destruction and damage to the roofs of their homes. The Paraguayan Red Cross implemented this operation to support 887 urban and rural families with food parcels, hygiene kits and seed kits for family subsistence crops. For more information, please see the Final Report for this operation available at the link listed in the Financial Situation at the beginning of this annual report.

Constraints or Challenges

The regional representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil, as well as that for the Andean Countries, did not have a regional delegate for most of 2011 to supervise this area and provide tailor-made assistance to the National Societies. Whilst a contributing factor was the period of time that it took to identify and hire the appropriate staff member, financial constraints also contributed to the hiring delay. In mid-November, the disaster risk management delegate for South America re-started the activities in this area.

Health and Care

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

The International Federation has funded specific projects to strengthen this area. In recent years, this support has allowed for the hiring of a coordinator to integrate this work with other areas. The International Federation primarily contributes to increase the response capacity of the community health component of health and care at the branch and sub-branch levels, contributing to the strengthening of those with potential and those who require support to implement community health issues.

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

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

Health is a key component of the National Society's experience in community work. During 2011, its projects in community health, HIV, and health in emergency reached populations in the rural areas of the country, as well as the capital city. The International Federation and the Swiss Red Cross supported work on HIV/AIDS in different cities in the Itapúa department and risk reduction and community health in communities surrounding the small cities of Horqueta and San Pedro located in the country's rural areas.

The health area organized workshops on personal development with women artisans incarcerated in the Buen Pastor Prison, accompanying the protection actions taken by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). In the last half of 2011, the health area has incorporated methodology in community-based health and first aid. The PRC organized educational talks on community health, awareness-raising actions, promotion and prevention of HIV/AIDS in the departments of Itapúa, Alto Paraná and Central, where the cities of Ñemby and Capiatá are located.

The National Society and the National Programme of the Struggle against AIDS, a sub-programme of the Ministry of Health, organized a meeting in Asunción. Four meetings of the network on HIV/AIDS were held in Itapúa with the organizations working on this issue in Encarnación; the network participants established entrance strategies for the institutions and communities that will implement this project.

The PRC focused its work on HIV prevention and non-discrimination with youth. Having faced challenges to train volunteers to start the activities in the city of Pedro Juan Caballero, it was decided to transfer the action to the Alto Paraná branch. When the year came to a close, this branch was in the midst of a training cycle, held each week-end, to be able to give the branch the skills to engage in community activities.

Programme component 2: Public Health in the Community

Component outcome 1: Paraguayan Red Cross has strengthened its management capacities and scaled up actions related to Community-Based Health and First (CBHFA), Voluntary-Non Remunerated Blood Donation (VNRBD), within an integrated community health strategy.

During 2011, the National Society participated in regional training events. The PRC participated in the II Latin American Workshop for Facilitators in Community-based Health and First Aid that was held from the 21 to 26 November in Panama and in regional activities and South-South cooperation as part of the training team in the "Project to Prevent and Reduce Damage Related to the Use of Psychoactive Substances" in the national workshop held in Colombia, as well as participating in the monitoring and evaluation workshop in Lima- Peru in December. The International Federation contributed to the PRC's workshops for 143 volunteers in community-based health and first aid in the sub-branches of Ñemby (22 volunteers) and Capiatá (41 volunteers) and the branches of Alto Paraná (32 volunteers) and Itapúa (48 volunteers). Activities have been implemented in community health and strategic partnerships have been established. The PRC created written material and

stickers to educate and raise awareness on health issues for children and adolescents, as well as adults. Activities have been held in schools, universities and other educational centres and with community groups.

Programme component 3: Public Health in Emergencies

Component outcome 1: Paraguayan Red Cross has strengthened its capacities to prepare, respond and recover from health emergencies related to epidemics/pandemics and disasters.

The Paraguayan Red Cross participated in emergency regional health workshop **“Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in the Americas: Lessons Learned and innovative approaches”** in April 2011 organized by Public Health in Emergencies; the objective was to share the different experiences of emergencies caused by epidemic diseases in the Americas with reference to the community-based approach and integrating prevention and preparedness activities.

The National Disaster Response Unit was activated during the dengue outbreak, in particular the member specialized in health in emergencies and epidemic outbreaks. The emergency health outcome in the DREF operation was: “dengue-related morbidity and mortality is reduced through a comprehensive approach to preventive health and increased awareness”. This was reached through activities such as: training in epidemic control for volunteers, IEC material distribution, educational and communication campaigns.

The Paraguayan Red Cross participated in an emergency regional health psychosocial support meeting of Red Cross focal points in the Americas from 7-9 September 2011 in Bogota, Colombia where there was the presentation of reference manuals, training materials, and experiences from recent disasters and crises organized by Health in Emergencies and the Colombian Red Cross Society. This had the objective of strengthening the reference group at the regional level and becoming further integrated into the RCRC global psychosocial support referral system to expand knowledge and promote organizational cohesion to contribute to the work being carried out.

The psychosocial focal point has an active role in the National Society working group which prepared the psychosocial support in emergencies module for the national intervention teams in health. In addition, the PRC focal point for psychosocial support participated in a pilot workshop in Chile in September.

The DREF operation in response to the dengue outbreak focused on affected areas in the cities of Alto Paraná, Central: Nueva Italia, Capiatá, Ñemby, Ita, San Lorenzo and Mariano Roque Alonso, as well as Bañado Norte and Bañado Sur, Itapúa, Cordillera, Paraguarí, Misiones, Boquerón, and Alto Paraguay. The campaign aimed to reduce mortality and morbidity through dengue control and prevention in the most vulnerable areas and support the joint implementation with the local bodies of the Ministry of Health of vector-control and prevention measures like educational talks in schools, visiting homes to identify necessary clean-up, and participating in shared community work. The PRC employed International Federation material on epidemic control for volunteer training; a total of 133 volunteers participated in the dengue operation.

A strong hailstorm with hail up to 8 cm in circumference and lasting up to a half hour hit the Itapúa department in early August 2011. It damaged homes and subsistence crops in the Mayor Otaño and Carlos Antonio López municipalities in the Itapúa department. The PRC focused on the most vulnerable households and provided food parcels, hygiene kits and seed kits for subsistence agricultural production and to 877 affected households, as well as repaired damaged roofs in the same municipalities.

Constraints or Challenges

The Paraguayan Red Cross is challenged to continue and expand its health actions and ensure the permanence of the person responsible for this area. When the year came a close, the PRC had not

been able to implement a work plan aligned with the overall National Society Strategic Plan, neither ensure on-going coordination with the rest of the National Society team.

Organizational Development

Programme purpose
Increase the skills of local communities, civil society, and Red Cross to face the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

Programme Component 1: Strengthening of the Organizational Development Capacities
Component outcome 1: Promote the strengthening of the territorial network in Paraguayan Red Cross

During 2011, the regional representation supported the work of the Paraguayan Red Cross to strengthen its branch network through the project “Development of Volunteer Capacity in Red Cross Branches”. The project aims to increase the PRC’s capacities to provide more efficient and effective services to communities and their populations in the areas where they are located and work. The PRC launched an organizational capacity strengthening process in the Itapúa, Alto Paraná and Ñeembucú branches. In 2011, these three branches started applying a volunteering management cycle.

The three branches analyzed their volunteering needs and based on these, established an agreed upon curriculum to apply as part of the volunteering management cycle. These branches also have implemented actions to integrate recent and older volunteers in branch-level actions. Additionally, they conducted prioritized activities within the volunteering management cycle that were carried out in the Volunteering School established for these branches. The seven-month school cycle included trainings as well as integration exercises. A total of 196 people, of which 27 were branch volunteer leaders, were trained in human resource management and administration. Lastly, workshops were organized for branch leadership and volunteers to disseminate the project and a basic institutional training was held.

In addition to these actions, prioritized actions to recruit, train and integrate new volunteers were implemented at the branch level. Branch volunteers and leadership from the Ñeembucú, Cordillera, Itapúa, and Misiones branches and the Capiatá, Nueva Italia, Mariano Roque Alonso and Ita sub-branches, as well as the youth department from the national headquarters participated in a resource mobilization workshop, which was held as part of the National Society’s communication plan. The workshop provided strategies for resource mobilization and strategic models to finance the organization, and reviewed the purpose of creating alliances and the National Society’s communication strategy in this context.

Constraints or Challenges

The National Society has the challenge of expanding this process beyond the three initial branches. This challenge is directly related to identifying and obtaining the necessary resources for this growth. The PRC additionally needs to foster understanding about the importance of this process and generate interest in other branches so they enthusiastically take on this task.

Outcome 2: Provide technical support to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the creation and implementation of a National Resources Mobilization and Development Plan.
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In 2011 the Paraguayan Red Cross continued its efforts to develop its resource mobilization area. In the last half of 2011, the National Society obtained new funding from the Norwegian Red Cross. This financial support allowed the PRC to continue the project “Positioning the Paraguayan Red Cross for

Resource Mobilization”. This project’s general objective was to develop the National Society’s skills to mobilize resources inside and outside the country for the purpose of sustaining its structure and actions, with the specific objective of creating a campaign to position the image of the PRC at the national level to encourage the population to donate and facilitate resource mobilization.

The National Society’s efforts included the creation of a communication campaign to position the PRC, dissemination of the campaign for eight months, and hiring a staff person for the resource mobilization area. This staff person not only works in the PRC’s central headquarters, she also provides technical assistance to the branches and sub-branches on resource mobilization.

Constraints or Challenges

The Paraguayan Red Cross faces the challenge of continuing its efforts to situate the institution in the public eye and reach out to the diverse financing opportunities available in Paraguay. Whilst corporate social responsibility is still relatively new in Paraguay, this option could be combined with raising the general public’s awareness about donating to improve the quality of life for others.

Outcome 3: Promote legal bases and structures and updates management tools that guarantee the bases for a well functioning National Society.

The Paraguayan Red Cross finished the writing and production of its organizational and methods manual by the end of 2011. However, its implementation is dependent on the governance body’s prior approval.

The Strategic Plan 2011-2016 began to be implemented in 2011. During the first year of the plan, the National Society initiated work at the branch and sub-branch levels to disseminate its content and promote a deeper understanding of projected actions. Work was additionally undertaken so the branches could create their operational plans for 2012.

Constraints or Challenges

The Paraguayan Red Cross governance structure is challenged by the division between its staff positions and its projects. Sustained work is needed to continue resource mobilization efforts so the National Society can become self-sustainable.

Although its implementation should not be delayed, the organizational and methods manual depends on the PRC normalizing and regulating its governance structure.

Outcome 4: Stimulation of dynamic communication processes adapted to new technology in the National Society of Paraguay.

Tied to the development of the resource mobilization department, at the end of 2010 the Paraguayan Red Cross started to strengthen its communication system. This work continued throughout 2011 with the dissemination of the National Society communication plan at the branch level.

The National Society considerably improved its communication processes with the design of its web page to include data, statistics, local cases and stories, informational bulletins, financial accounts, programmes and projects, and other information. Additionally, the communication area issues daily newsletters via email and a monthly bulletin with information about the National Society’s actions.

In 2011, the PRC also designed a communication campaign to recruit new volunteers employing the slogan “ADD YOURSELF—Make the smallest action add up”. The television and radio spots contained the message “a small note in a large melody makes the difference. Join the Red Cross volunteers so together we can work for a better country” with the web page address. In late

December, the campaign's printed material was completed. Based on the International Movement's principle of volunteer service, this material provides information on the National Society, requirements for volunteering in different areas of the PRC and encouragement to join. The PRC has also used internal and external bulletins, mass emails to its contacts and banners on its webpage. This campaign will continue in 2012.

Constraints or Challenges

The PRC is constrained by the difficulty in obtaining the needed resources for the communication system, as well as sharing communication knowledge and tools in the entire territorial network.

Outcome 5: Technical support for Human Resources strengthening to improve National Society response to new humanitarian challenges.
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Over the past year the regional representation has fomented the participation of the Paraguayan Red Cross in different Zone-organized events, as well as the International Federation learning platform and others organized by partner National Societies.

It also fostered peer cooperation for which the PRC participated with other National Societies in different events, like those for volunteering and risk management.

Constraints or Challenges

As the issue of training and educating human resources is a priority for the Paraguayan Red Cross and the secretariat, the current challenge is to identify coordination mechanisms so that this can be done more efficiently. As an important challenge in 2012, cooperation between peers with the regional representation and other institutions will be fostered and supported.

Principles and Values

The Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values of the International Movement are the backbone of all its strategies, actions and future plans. Due to the ongoing budget challenges, these issues are no longer addressed as an independent work area at the regional level. Two years have passed since the regional representation for the Southern Cone and Brazil, as well as the regional representation for the Andean countries, had its budget reduced, thus causing the elimination of this independent area. Yet, this serious challenge has not implied abandoning the commitment to ensuring that the International Movement's principles and values remain central in its regional work. The secretariat's diverse team provides accompaniment to the region's National Societies so they can understand and incorporate principles and values in their actions and guarantee that they are recognized as cross-cutting issues. This has been most successful in their actions with youth, women, PLHIV, indigenous people and others groups living in situations of vulnerability. However, the achievement of specific outcomes in this area will continue to be minimal until appropriate material and human resources are obtained and assigned.

In 2011, the Paraguayan Red Cross promoted gender and diversity in a cross-cutting manner. Despite not having resources assigned for these actions, the National Society demonstrated its commitment to ensuring the creation of spaces of equality and non-discrimination in its national and local level work, as well as in all training opportunities that it organized.

Constraints or Challenges

The effectiveness of the National Society's actions to promote the International Movement's principles and values remain dependent on the resources available for this central goal. Whilst cross-cutting actions continue to be undertaken, it is vital to earmark a part of the National Society budget, as well as that of the regional representation, for this area which underpins all of the International Movement's humanitarian actions.

If renewed resource mobilization for this area is no longer a high priority, technical skills from the regional human resources, as well as from sister National Societies, need to be shared. Initiatives can be established to promote information exchange on Principles and Values.

Working in partnership

In 2011, the Paraguayan Red Cross further developed its alliances and partnerships with different local, national and international actors within and outside the International Movement. Analyzing its needs, the PRC continued taking important steps to diversify its sources for funding and collaborative actions so as to avoid dependency and financial vulnerability and boost the impact of its actions.

Last year, the ICRC, the IFRC and the Partner National Societies from Finland, Germany, Norway and Switzerland supported the work of the Paraguayan Red Cross.

Support from DIPECHO, ECHO and DFID in previous years allowed the National Society to implement a variety of humanitarian actions within Paraguay. The PRC maintained contact and cooperation with the United Nations system agencies as appropriate.

In the field of health, the National Society participated in inter-institutional initiatives with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, the National Emergency Secretariat (SEN), the Paraguayan Armed Forces, the municipalities in each location where it works, as well as educational centres during its DREF operations. These PRC-State partnerships reflect the respect that the National Society has cultivated in Paraguay.

Although the PRC undertook actions to develop relationships and partnerships with the private sector, these PRC-private sector alliances have not yet produced substantial outcomes. The challenges, however, are not only due to PRC inexperience in the area, but also to the lack of a history corporate social responsibility in the country.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The Paraguayan Red Cross frames its activities within its strategic plan. Since its actions project medium to long-term impact, it has developed the appropriate skills to monitor, analyze and modify its activities to better respond to challenges as they emerge and address the transforming humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations. The PRC is committed to improving its accountability.

The commitment to gender equity and equality and respect for diversity and non-discrimination contribute to long-term and broad societal impacts. In 2011, the PRC incorporated Principles and Values, particularly non-discrimination, into its work and will continue to do so in 2012. Additionally, in its community work, the National Society frames its actions as development with sustainability, thus strengthening the stakeholders' ability to continue activities and employing learned knowledge after particular projects end.

Looking ahead

The Paraguayan Red Cross has taken firm steps and shown progress in its commitment to improving the work of the National Society. Its work to enhance its management structure, increase its resource mobilization and strengthen its branch network should be continued, supported and reinforced by the regional representation and other members of the International Movement. The National Society will continue to establish conditions that contribute to self-sustainability for its development, projects and programmes.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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