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Annual report Honduras

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAHN002
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**This report covers the
period 01 January 2011
to 31 December 2011.**

*The Honduran Red Cross organized a
violence prevention activity in a
neighbourhood in Tegucigalpa.
Source: Honduran Red Cross*



In brief

Programme outcome

The work of the Honduran Red Cross (HRC) is guided by *Strategy 2020* and the Inter American Plan 2007–2011 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 non-violence and peace.*

Programmes summary

In 2011, the secretariat¹ of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies supported the Honduran Red Cross (HRC) mainly in the areas of disaster risk management, health and care, organizational development and principles and values.

Throughout the year, the Honduran Red Cross' health department has been working towards enabling healthy and safe living for vulnerable communities. In the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV the National Society has continued supporting projects in favour of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the building of a culture based on respect and non-discrimination. HIV programming was focused on prevention of HIV, providing care, treatment and support services to PLHIV, reducing the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS, and strengthening capacities to deliver and sustain HIV programmes in vulnerable communities. The National Society also implemented projects related to tuberculosis (TB) especially TB/HIV co-infection, voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD), community health and food security, albeit to a limited extent as a result of funding constraints.

The organizational development programme only received a portion of the expected contributions. These funds have been employed to boost volunteer management and strengthen branch capacities

¹ The secretariat support is provided to the HRC through the regional representation for Central America and Mexico and the Americas zone office, based in Costa Rica and Panama respectively.

through the use of different Federation tools such as the volunteer management cycle, well-functioning branches, among others. Despite the decrease in resources received, the planned activities have been implemented in their totality. The regional representation, with funds from the International Federation and micro-projects funds for the International Year of Volunteering, provided technical support throughout 2011 for the implementation of a micro-project to strengthen the structure of HRC's youth area and acknowledge and promote youth volunteering. Training was organized for the volunteer coordinators at the branch level to strengthen the National Society's capacity to recruit, introduce, monitor and motivate its volunteers. Additionally, a mechanism to acknowledge the most outstanding volunteers was introduced. The governance areas of the participating branches also received training and guide to take better decisions to benefit volunteers.

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget is CHF 126,970 revised at the mid-year reporting stage, of which CHF 84,550 (67 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 73,640 (58 per cent) of the budget.

Click here to go directly to the financial report.

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual11/MAAHN00211arf.pdf>.

See also [Tropical Depression 12-E \(MDRHN005\)](#)

No. of people we have reached

The National Society's actions in 2011 directly focused on organizational development, health and principles and values, which directly reached all of the volunteers, staff, and leadership of the Honduran Red Cross. In total 20,889 people were reached under the implementation of the Global Alliance on HIV and there are 45 new members of the Club 25 initiative. Additionally, the National Society's actions indirectly impacted the general population of this country of 8.1 million people.

Our partners

The Honduran Red Cross thanks all of its Movement and non-Movement partners, particularly Honduran State institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international cooperation agencies which shared work in favour of the humanitarian needs of the most marginalized people. Further details on the National Society's current alliances and partners are provided in the "Working with partners" section below.

The health department of the Honduran Red Cross is working in close coordination with the Health Secretary from the Ministry of Health, with a particular focus on HIV initiatives at the national level. The Finish Red Cross has pledged its bilateral support to develop community health and HIV interventions as part of a 3-year framework.

Context

Following months of much political activity in international institutions and with other ally States, in June 2011 the current government of Honduras managed to have the country readmitted into the Organization of American States (OAS). The readmission of Honduras again allowed for the country to receive resources for community-based projects and that benefit the population with the lowest economic resources. In addition, and contributing to an improvement in the country's political situation, the former president Manuel Zelaya was allowed to return to the country in late May, after having been in political exile for almost a year previous to this time. This situation has contributed to diminishing the outright clashes between the opposing groups, as occurred during the social conflict.

Nevertheless, Honduras is challenged to address increasing rates of violence and criminal activity. According to the statistics presented by NGOs in the country, 264 minors and young adults between the ages of 15 and 23 died in violent deaths during the first half of 2011. This number of deaths includes 62 (23.5 per cent of the total reported) minors under the age of 18 who were killed during

the first three months of the year. The rates of executions of young people and children annually increase due to the lack of gun control, the proliferation of drug trafficking, and actions by organized criminal gangs. These statistics on the loss of human lives are due to gang violence in the country's major cities, as well as deaths by hired assassins, common crime and kidnappings.

The Honduran population is challenged by increased prices for basic goods and fuel. Between April and June, fuel prices rose to 92 Honduran Lempiras (approximately 4.83 US dollars) per gallon, generating a great deal of uncertainty within the population due to its effect on basic food stuffs and the negative impact on other needs like education, transportation and tourism. The government approved a new retroactive increase (starting in January 2011) in the minimum wage in nine differentiated categories to alleviate this situation. The Minister of Labour's announced adjustment ranges from HNL 4,368 (approximately USD 230) for the agricultural sector up to HNL 6,651 (approximately USD 349) for the financial sector. This minimum wage increase is done in a selective and gradual manner and is dependent on the number of employees in a company and the field in which the company works.

In September and October, Central America was affected by Tropical Depression E-12, which tied to the atmospheric instability in the Caribbean region caused more than 5 deaths, disappearances and destruction of homes, and crops, leaving more than 60,000 Honduran families in situations of vulnerability. The government decreed a state of emergency that facilitated the arrival of international support and the allocation of national resources to attend to the needs of the affected population. The Honduran Red Cross activated its branch network to join the emergency committees. The National Society engaged in joint assessments, shared information and coordinated in the field with other institutions such as the Honduran Permanent Commission on Disaster Response (COPECO), the Humanitarian Network and the National Risk Management System (SINAGER).

The National Society presented a global plan to assist 5,000 households, which was doubled due to the large quantity of support channelled through the HRC by Partner National Societies (PNS), the International Federation, foreign embassies and diplomatic missions in Honduras, and the private sector. More than 6,700 households received material support of food, clean water, medicine, clothing and sleeping mats. The operation then supported 1,700 more households, thus reaching more than 8,000 affected households. In the Southern region of the country, the HRC installed water treatment plants to provide safe water to communities in Marcovia, Coluteca municipality, whose water sources were severely affected. Psychosocial support brigades also were deployed to provide emotional support to the affected population.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme component 1: Organizational Preparedness

Outcome 1: The secretariat supports the Honduran Red Cross to improve the skills of its human resources, financial and logistic skills for effective disaster management, supported by REDCAMP-DESASTRES.

Through the processes developed in the first half of 2011, at least 13 branches have contingency plans which were developed in a participative manner.

The National Society continued to promote knowledge of domestic law and international migration, violence prevention, peace culture, risk management and environmental protection, disaster and crisis preparedness, logistics, disaster response and recovery, health in emergencies, psychosocial support, water and sanitation, food security, livelihoods, volunteering in emergencies and coordination with external actors.

With a focus on risk management, the National Society improved the integration of its programmes, strengthening its operational structure, enhancing the quality of its human resources, undertaking a development approach for its branches, strengthening capacities for financial management and for logistics, and promoting the use of technological and methodological tools, in order to strengthen communities and achieve efficient and timely preparedness, response and recovery from disasters and crisis.

National relief coordinator of the HRC has actively participated in meetings in preparation to reduce the effects caused by disasters in 2011. An example is the reunion of the REDCAMP in Guatemala and San Salvador.

The implementation of a strategy to strengthen volunteering begun in 2010, and it continued during 2011 extending the strategy to a larger number of branches. The strategy focused on identifying area of improvement and providing training related to the volunteer management cycle.

Programme Component 2: Safer and better prepared communities

Outcome 1: Communities are better prepared and organized to respond/ recover from the effects of natural disasters. They are knowledgeable about possible risk reduction measures and actions that should be taken.

During 2011, 12 educational centres have implemented the Protected School module. Furthermore during the year, the Honduran Red Cross has started negotiations with government agencies to implement programmes to improve communities' response capacities, enhancing the training for their volunteers and for the population in at-risk areas.

The establishment and preparation of community brigades has been a success. Six new local emergency committees were formed and made official by the authorities of the municipal mayors' offices in the department of Santa Bárbara. Overall, 22 local emergency committees and their support brigades were trained also in the southern region of the country. This process has led to enhanced community collaboration, with most communities expressing their interest in receiving training. This increases reliance in communities and reduces the risk of affectation during the rainy season.

Programme Component 3: Coordination

Outcome 1: The Honduran Red Cross coordinates with key stakeholders and participates in strategic alliances for disaster risk reduction.

The Honduran Red Cross continued to strengthen its preparedness and response system with an integrated approach to programmes and support services, training its human resources, improving its monitoring centres, response plans and procedures, and logistics procedures based on the operational standards of the IFRC.

During the 2011, the National Society has developed two strategic alliances, improving coordination with partners and institutions. A cooperation agreement was signed with the Canadian Red Cross to support the First Response Initiative (FRI) project for 24 months. In addition, a cooperation agreement was signed with COPECO.

Branches in Roatán and in the Valle de Sula worked at the community and local levels in coordination with key stakeholders. For example, cooperation agreements were signed with Global Healing for a disaster preparedness project in the Roatán Island, and with Christian Aid for support within the framework of the DIPECHO project in Valle de Sula.

Furthermore, the Honduran Red Cross actively worked, cooperated and participated in national and local platforms as follows:

- Humanitarian Network (REDHUM) meetings and the national simulation exercise with the participation of national actors.
- Discussion group on Risk Reduction with representatives from AECID: the HRC participated in working meetings to share information and develop a disaster preparedness workshop for the members of the discussion group in coordination with COPECO.
- Participation in the Alliance for Risk Reduction Education chaired by the Secretariat of Education.
- Participation in the risk reduction educational fair in the National Pedagogic University with a stand presenting the activities using the Protected School module and the *Riskland* game.

The National Society has also worked with local emergency committees in 13 communities to train their support brigades in basic first aid, search and rescue, fire control and shelter management.

Health and Care

Programme Component 1: HIV and AIDS

Outcome 1: Reduce HIV incidence in prioritized geographic regions in the country

During 2011, the secretariat continued to support the HRC in their response to HIV through the Federation's Global Alliance on HIV. This Federation funding and technical support was complemented in 2011 by Eli Lilly global funding support for Tuberculosis and HIV co-infection, which will continue through 2012.

During the reporting period the HRC implemented four projects in four branches:

1. A Fulfilling and Healthy Life project "*Vida Sana y Plena*" was implemented in the Francisco Morazán and Puerto Cortes departments and funded under the Federation's Global Alliance on HIV. This programme targeted at-risk youth, truck drivers, taxi drivers, sex workers, Red Cross volunteers, people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the general population with prevention, and anti-stigma and discrimination messaging.
2. The Open Hand project "*Manos Abiertas*", funded by the Finnish Red Cross, provided comprehensive HIV prevention messaging and support for vulnerable populations. The programme targeted mobile populations, sex workers, youth, pregnant women and PLHIV in the departments of Choluteca and Olancho.
3. The Southern Zone Development project (PRODESUR) was implemented in Choluteca and Valle departments and funded by the Swiss Red Cross. The programme focused on health and HIV/AIDS, targeting students in the formal education sector using the Together We Can peer education methodology.
4. Prevention of HIV/TB Co-infection, funded by the secretariat with support from the Eli Lilly Pharmaceutical Company, targeted people living in prison settings and PLHIV.

Based on monitoring reports received, during the reporting period the HRC reached a total of 20,889 people with prevention messages, training and prevention services. This included 338 peer educators, 1,066 people trained using the Together We Can (TWC) methodology and a further 40 volunteers trained as TWC national facilitators. 17,406 people were reached through IEC initiatives including 212 sex workers, 2,082 at-risk youth, 14,345 mobile workers, 274 pregnant women, and 158 members of the general population. In addition, 153 PLHIV were supported in positive prevention, and 182 Red Cross volunteers participated in skills training. HIV voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) was carried out and reached a reported 2,390 people, including 272 pregnant women who were referred to services for Prevention of Mother-to-child Transmission (PMTCT). As can be seen in the number of beneficiaries reached, the National Society consolidated its work on HIV prevention during 2011 by focusing on at-risk populations. It successfully provided care and

treatment activities including sexually transmitted infections (STI) to these populations by working in difficult areas, such as the border with Nicaragua in Puerto Cortes, in permanent coordination with the Ministry of Health.

As a means of targeting the aforementioned at-risk groups the HRC implemented three peer education strategies during 2011. The Federation's Together We Can and the GTZ developed Participatory Transect Walk were used to target at-risk youth. A third methodology, developed by the Peace Corps, Here Between Us, was implemented to reach adult males with HIV prevention messaging.

Furthermore, the National Society increased its capacities for working on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) in rural areas by integrating PMTCT interventions with an existing maternal and child programme implemented by the National Society.

In the area of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD), global funding from the Swiss Humanitarian Foundation was approved in April 2011 to support the HRC to participate in a 5-year global project to strengthen the Red Cross Red Crescent Club 25 initiative worldwide. This is being accomplished by increasing the number of youth donors focused on healthy lifestyles and by ensuring the longer-term sustainability of the initiative. During 2011, the HRC welcomed 45 new members to the Club 25 initiative in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula branches, where the programme is being developed. According to the reports, 40 per cent of Club 25 members in Honduras donated blood during 2011.

The table below shows the progress of the HIV prevention programmes during 2011 according to pre-defined indicators. The data highlights that the majority of targets were either met or exceeded during this period.

Indicators	Progress	% Covered
By the end of 2011, 1,070 people will have been reached through peer education and social mobilization including 500 at-risk youth and 500 detainees. A further 50 peer educators and 20 HRC volunteers will have been reached.	1,444 people reached (includes 338 peer educators, 1,066 at-risk youth and 40 Red Cross national facilitators)	135%
By the end of 2011, 10,000 people will have been reached through IEC initiatives.	17,406 people reached	174%
By the end of 2011, 600 people will have attended HIV voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services.	2,390 people attended HIV voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services	398%
By the end of 2011, 200 pregnant women will have been referred to services on Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT).	272 pregnant women referred to services for PMTCT	136%
By the end of 2011, 350 people will have been reached with skills for personal protection, including 150 people living with HIV (PLHIV). This will be supported by positive prevention and skills training provided for 50 HRC employees and 150 volunteers.	153 PLHIV were supported in positive prevention 182 Red Cross volunteers /staff participated in skills training	102% 91%
By the end of 2011, 800 young people actively engaged in Club 25 including health promotion activities and more than 50 per cent donating blood at least twice in 2011.		

Outcome 2: Care, treatment and support for PLHIV have been increased.

During the reporting period, 200 PLHIV were supported through their participation in peer support groups, and were reached with Red Cross care, treatment and support services at the national level. This was enabled through the roll out of the Federation's HIV Prevention, Care, Treatment and Support training package for community-based volunteers. A further 23 PLHIV benefited from emergency support funds for treatment of opportunistic infections and nutritional supplements. The table below indicates that projected indicators were almost reached or in the first case exceeded.

Indicators	Progress	% Covered
By end of 2011, 150 PLHIV participating in peer-support groups will have been reached with care, treatment and support.	200 PLHIV in self-support groups were reached	133%
By end of 2011, 25 PLHIV will have received home-based care (HBC) and/or livelihood support.	23 PLHIV received home-based care with this use of emergency funds.	92%

Outcome 3: Stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS has decreased.

A reported 1,616 taxi drivers and heavy transport drivers were beneficiaries of sensitization campaigns on the impact of stigma and discrimination towards PLHIV. This dissemination of information allowed the taxi drivers to reach an estimated 5,000 customers. Furthermore, social mobilization campaigns to raise awareness of issues surrounding HIV and respond to stigma and discrimination were carried out at national level. Furthermore, 200 HRC staff were sensitized on the impact of stigma and discrimination towards PLHIV, and the National Society revised and disseminated its HIV Workplace Policy.

The table below highlights that all the planned indicators were exceeded in 2011 for this programme outcome. This shows the clear and positive impact of the National Society working on stigma and discrimination initiatives related to HIV and AIDS.

Indicators	Progress	% Covered
By the end of 2011, at least 90 staff from the HRC headquarters and 160 volunteers from branches implementing HIV projects will have been sensitized on the impact of stigma, and discrimination towards PLHIV.	200 staff were sensitized 182 Red Cross volunteers	222% 113%
By the end of 2011, 10,000 beneficiaries will have been sensitized on the impact of stigma, and discrimination towards PLHIV.	17,406 beneficiaries were reached	174%
By the end of 2011, at least 5,000 will have been reached in three social mobilization campaigns to raise HIV awareness and respond to stigma and discrimination.	Approximately 6,616 people were directly reached (taxi drivers, and costumers).	132%

Outcome 4: Strengthen National Societies of the Red Cross Red Crescent to deliver and sustain strengthened programmes to attended communities.

The last area of work related to HIV and AIDS programming aimed to strengthen the National Society to deliver and sustain strengthened programmes to attended communities. The technical team of the national HIV programme strengthened their capacities to deliver and sustain improved initiatives during 2011. A key focus under this area of work was the training of technical staff on HIV, incorporating related issues such as HIV in emergencies, gender and psychosocial support. The HRC health team worked in close coordination with the Ministry of Health, developing joint activities in different branches as the need arose.

Programme Component 2: Communicable illnesses with an emphasis on HIV and tuberculosis co-infection.**Outcome 1: The incidence of HIV and tuberculosis co-infection in the incarcerated population and PLHIV is reduced through a directly observed therapy (DOT) prevention and facilitation strategy.**

In the second half of 2011, the HRC implemented a new combined programme working on Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV co-infection. This programme was funded with new Eli Lilly global funding, targeting prisoners in the National Penitentiary. Prison authorities supported the HRC activities, establishing a secure environment in which the activities could be implemented. The Education Project for TB/HIV co-infection prevention aimed to contribute to reducing the vulnerability of PLHIV to TB co-infection. The project implementation enabled 37 prisoners to be trained on HIV prevention, care and support. As a result, 7 new cases of HIV/TB co-infection were detected during the implementation period. The programme was able to successfully contribute to reducing the impact of TB on PLHIV by providing counselling to people with newly diagnosed cases of co-infection. The programme also provided a sense of solidarity and support for PLHIV within the National Penitentiary.

In addition, the HRC carried out an information, education and communication (IEC) campaign which was able to assist in the detection of 22 cases of TB in the prison. All prisoners testing positive received HIV voluntary counselling and testing. During this testing all 22 prisoners with TB returned negative results for HIV co-infection.

This programme enabled the HRC to strengthen its capacities in working with HIV/TB co-infection. In June 2011, the National Society held a forum on HIV/TB co-infection for staff of the Ministry of Health that included the participation of HRC volunteers. This forum became an important platform for coordination and cooperation between the Ministry and the Honduran Red Cross. The National Society hopes to extend the interventions into two additional prisons during the coming years.

Programme Component 3: Health in Emergencies**Outcome 1: Contribute to improved prevention services in cases of emergencies or public health threats.**

During this period, the secretariat focused its support efforts on providing technical and operational support for health in emergencies to the Honduran Red Cross. This included technical support in emergency health, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion related to the preparation for and analysis of the 2011 hurricane season.

After severe rains, a State of Emergency was decreed in October 2011 in the southern region of Honduras. In response, the HRC implemented a 3-month emergency operation with support of the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). The focus of the operation was on the provision of drinking water and psychosocial support for the affected population. The DREF operation updates show the progress of the intervention according to planned outcomes and are available [here](#).

In November 2011, the HRC participated in the second Training of National Facilitators as preparation for the roll out of the Federation's revitalized community health methodology, Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) *in Action*, which took place in Panama.

Outcome 2: Improve community access to mental and social health services to reduce the effect of stress due to situations which threaten emotional stability

In the first half of the year, 26 people were trained on the Helping to Heal methodology for psychosocial support. The participants comprised 16 technical personnel and 10 Red Cross volunteers. This training was made possible thanks to the bilateral support of the Italian Red Cross.

Outcome 3: Contribute to slowing down the progress of epidemic illnesses by implementing prevention and contention actions, based on hygiene, sanitation, education, social mobilization, home care, psychosocial support and detection of cases for referral.

In April 2011, the HRC participated in a continental emergency health workshop "Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in the Americas: Lessons Learned and innovative approaches", organized by the secretariat. During this workshop different experiences in emergencies caused by epidemic diseases were shared by National Societies from the Americas.

Constraints or Challenges

- Funding has been a constraint for proposed health activities, particularly in the areas of community and emergency health.
- The long-term sustainability of the water and sanitation technical unit is a challenge.
- The late transfer of secretariat funds from the Norwegian Red Cross/NORAD and Eli Lilly presented some delays to programme implementation.

Organizational Development/ Skill Strengthening

The organizational development programme only received a portion of the expected contributions for 2011. Despite the reduction of projected funds, the HRC managed to fully implement its planned activities.

Programme component: Governance, Volunteering and Management

Outcome 1: The National Society's new statutes and regulations are approved, disseminated, and implemented.

In this reporting period, the National Society elected a new Executive Committee and started the informative process with new members on the central institutional needs for the incorporation of commissions and to begin to produce the new statute regulations. A pedagogical guide was implemented to train the leaders in directive positions on the new National Society's Statutes. This past year, 27 directorate members from 14 branches (Santa Rosa, La Entrada, Copán Ruinas, Quimistán, San Luis, Choloma, Puerto Cortés, Omoa, Catacamas, Juticalpa, Danlí, Comayagua and San Francisco de la Paz) received training on the Statutes so they could effectively apply them. Alongside the training, each branch was given five copies of the Statutes for their monitoring and dissemination.

Outcome 2: The National Society management system for volunteering is adjusted and implemented.

During 2011, volunteering focal points were established in 16 branches (Santa Rosa, La Entrada, Copán Ruinas, Quimistán, San Luis, Choloma, Puerto Cortés, Omoa, Catacamas, Juticalpa, Danlí, San Francisco de la Paz, Comayagua, La Ceiba, Tela and Tegucigalpa); thus reaching 80 per cent

of the planned indicator. These focal points were trained on how to apply the National Society's regulations on volunteering, the volunteer management cycle and the use of the relevant forms for the monitoring and control of the volunteer registry. This process enabled the HRC to define the job description of the volunteer focal points at the branch level, their responsibilities, and their level authority for decision-making.

The Honduran Red Cross worked to incorporate other Movement members as cooperating agents in this process to strengthen volunteering in the National Society. The Canadian Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross supported logistics and provided financial resources for this process.

During 2011, a total of 90 volunteer members from 20 branches received training in volunteer management (30), financial accountability (33) and institutional regulations (27). The following table details the location and type of training provided:

Branch	Volunteer Management	Financial Accountability	Institutional Rules
Tegucigalpa	2	0	1
San Lorenzo	2	2	2
Catacamas	2	3	3
Juticalpa	2	1	0
San Francisco	2	4	3
La Paz	2	0	0
Comayagua	1	2	2
Choloma	2	2	2
Puerto Cortés	2	2	2
Omoa	1	2	1
Quimistán	3	4	5
La Entrada, Copán	2	3	1
Santa Rosa, Copán	1	1	0
Copán Ruinas	1	1	0
Tela	1	1	1
Danlí	0	1	1
La Ceiba	2	2	2
San Luis, SB	2	1	1
San Pedro Sula	0	1	0
Subtotals	30	33	27
Total number of people trained: 90			

The Honduran Red Cross organized a day-long informative event to recognize the work of outstanding volunteers. A total of 85 volunteers received institutional recognition for their work in the directorate office, the youth area, the relief area, the volunteer ladies group, as well as naming the volunteer of the year, which encouraged other volunteers to continue their support. The Honduran Red Cross awarded medals, diplomas and certificates. This new modality of recognizing the National Society's volunteers will be the basis to continue promoting and ensuring future volunteer recognition.

Additionally, with support from the First Response Initiative (FRI) project, the HRC created a web-based platform with direct link to the branches to gather information about the National Society's volunteers. This new internet application has been validated and will be put into practice in 2012.

In April 2011, the HRC signed an accident insurance policy for volunteers. Requiring a minimum of 1,000 insured people, this is the first year that the National Society has contracted this type of insurance policy. The volunteering focal points at the branch level have been informed about the

characteristics of the insurance policy so they can disseminate this information in their own branches.

Outcome 3: The Honduran Red Cross enjoys a positive image, credibility, and full trust in its actions.

With the election of new HRC authorities, through its General Assembly, a day-long induction event was held for the new Executive Committee members, in line with *Strategy 2020*, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the members of the governance body. The National Society disseminated *Strategy 2020* in five strategic planning meetings with the departments or areas of disaster management, health, principles and humanitarian values, governance and volunteering. Training on *Strategy 2020* was also provided to 145 HRC volunteers.

At the branch level, a new financial manual was launched that enables the Honduran Red Cross's central headquarters to have knowledge about and monitor the branches by gathering information on assets and liabilities, inventories, fundraising and account balances through the presentation of periodic reports. Efforts were made to encourage the use of social networks by the branches to promote their activities and volunteering. During 2011, 33 treasurers and administrators in 12 branches received training in the Financial Manual to promote accountability through the presentation of quarterly reports. To date, 15 per cent of the branches provide monthly reports on their financial and technical balances to the central headquarters. To guarantee institutional rules and transparency, 23 oversight counsellors (*fiscales*) at the branch level have also been trained.

Outcome 4: The National Society's human resources are professionalized, committed, and provide high-quality services, systematize, monitor and evaluate programmes and projects on a standardized basis within the national development plan framework.

In November 2011, the Honduran Red Cross presented its new national development plan for the following four years. The institutional risk management strategy was revised and started to be implemented; this strategy will guide future HRC actions, aiming to strengthen the disaster management department and the National Society's response operations. Lastly, the planning process enabled each sector in the National Society to evaluate the plans and re-establish new priorities for this national development plan.

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During 2011, the secretariat and the Honduran Red Cross disseminated and promoted the use of the Federation's online Learning Platform for its volunteers and technical staff during the different training activities.

Constraints or Challenges

- The Honduran Red Cross is challenged to identify and obtain the appropriate financial support for its projects. The secretariat will continue to support the National Society in this endeavour.

Principles and Values

This programme established a 40,472 Swiss francs budget to implement the proposed activities for 2011. Unfortunately no direct funds were received for this area. However, the Honduran Red Cross,

with secretariat support, managed to implement some of activities in line with the Movement's Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values.

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Outcome 1: The Honduran Red Cross institutionalizes and consolidates its training programme at all levels of the National Society on the structure of the Fundamental Principles, Humanitarian Values and International Humanitarian Law.

During 2011, the National Society reviewed the institutional training programme, defining a new basic training model with a focus on the Movement's Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values. Implementation of this programme is scheduled to begin in the first half of 2012. The technical training unit has been reviewed and its functions have been re-established. This unit will be responsible for taking on, coordinating, monitoring and certifying the National Society's training processes, including the training provided on the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values.

By the end of 2011, 26 out of the 50 branches (52 per cent of the total) included and implemented dissemination activities on the Principles and Values within the Honduran Red Cross. The National Society has a 20-person team of HRC volunteers who have been trained as promoters and/or monitoring focal points for disseminating and promoting the Principles and Values in the National Society. A new strategic plan, with a strong emphasis on training, for the area of principles and values has been created for the 2011-2015 period.

Furthermore, the Honduran Red Cross organized a workshop on migratory issues in the country, facilitated by representatives from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Technological University. All of the technical staff, volunteer leaders, and directorate members were trained on these issues. The National Society added three technical staff people in the preparatory commissions on the topics of violence prevention and migration for the Inter-American Conference to be held in Haiti in 2012.

Programme component: Civil Society Participation

Outcome 1: Equitable citizen participation is strengthened in communities where the Honduran Red Cross works.

Very limited progress was achieved in 2011 in relation to this programme component, due to financial constraints.

The National Society continued to implement the regional strategy on Principles and Values for Citizenship in the cities of Tegucigalpa (Quebrada El Sapo), La Ceiba (La Libertad, San Judas, and San José) and in San Pedro Sula (neighbouring areas to the Fesitranh colony, Los Pinos Veracruz, and Altos de Sula). These are locations where the Honduran Red Cross has managed public spaces for the participation of at-risk youth, implementation of jewellery-making workshops for income generation, technical workshops for youth in collaboration with other institutions, and organizing recreational, cultural and sports activities for young people.

Programme Component 3: Violence Prevention

Outcome 1: Communities where the HRC works address the causes that lead to all forms of violence, with an emphasis on protection of the rights of children and youth.

The National Society presented a document that systematized the information regarding youth participation in the violence prevention projects sponsored by the Honduran Red Cross. HRC youth volunteers were encouraged to participate in the violence prevention projects implemented in the branches in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. In June, with Canadian Red Cross support, the HRC organized a workshop on the "Ten Steps to Safe Environments" with the participation of the National Society staff and youth representatives from Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua to start an internal process to address and prevent situations of violence.

The HRC national youth directorate launched a campaign “Promoting Values” in each of the branches. The campaign employed significant initiatives such as monthly newsletters, expo-fairs, and the radio programme “Youth on the Web”, and an exhibit of murals in the HRC central headquarters. The Honduran Red Cross continued to implement the project “Expanding Opportunities for Adolescents” in the San Francisco colony and neighbouring areas in the city of Tegucigalpa. It has incorporated project volunteers from some of the youth targeted by the project, who have modified their behaviour and now foster different values, through training activities in computers, automobile painting, jewellery making, theatre and dance.



A mural painted by beneficiaries of images depicting activities representing the Expanding Opportunities Project, in Honduras. Source: Honduran Red Cross.

Working in partnership

The National Society and the secretariat established important partnerships and alliances in 2011. In addition to thanking its partners, the Honduran Red Cross looks forward to strengthening and expanding these partnerships in the following year. Within the Movement, the National Society works with, and receives support from, the Canadian, Finnish, Spanish and Swiss Red Cross Societies, as well as the IFRC’s secretariat through its regional representation office for Central America and Mexico and the Americas zone office.

The following details the partners outside the Movement with whom the National Society has coordinated and/or implemented activities in the past year:

- The Honduran Humanitarian Network for disaster risk management was an ally in the coordination of actions and information-sharing for emergencies that affected the country.
- The National Society established a strategic partnership with the Audio Video System-Communications and News Company to create and air radio campaigns on different topics throughout 2011.
- Working relations were established with the following **academic centres**: the Catholic University of Honduras for research on health and violence and the National Autonomous University of Honduras with whom initiatives to promote volunteering were undertaken and which provided technical support on the HRC’s community-based programmes. The HRC also worked with the Technological University on a forum on migration issues.
- In fulfilment of its mandate as an auxiliary to State powers on humanitarian issues, the National Society continued and strengthened its relations with **State institutions**. The National Society coordinated response actions during emergency operations during the past year with COPECO and SINAGER. Coordination also was maintained with the Public Health Secretariat, as the maximum health authority in the country, to authorize the campaigns and support project supervision, as well as provide guidance for the National Society’s community interventions. The HRC health department closely worked in coordination with this same Secretariat, especially focusing on HIV and AIDS initiatives at the national level. The HRC has an agreement with the Public Education Secretariat to implement educational campaigns and involve young people in projects and actions that

benefit their communities. This State body also grants the permission for the establishment of student brigades and support groups for the Honduran Red Cross youth area.

- The National Society has worked with **international cooperation agencies** such as the Spanish Cooperation Agency for International Development (AECID) in the Cooperation Roundtable, the Canadian Embassy in Honduras for resource management in health programmes. The results of the projects were presented in these roundtables and possible future programmes were identified. Additionally, the Honduran Red Cross participated in a coordination roundtable with institutions with volunteers that operate in Honduras, including the United Nations Volunteers (Volunteering and Youth). Joint work to learn more about and monitor migratory issues in the country and region was undertaken with support from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The Honduran Red Cross employs different mechanisms that allow it to monitor, evaluate and gather information on each of its interventions. These actions have the goal of directly benefitting marginalized populations, in line with *Strategy 2020*.

The National Society developed its new national development plan for the 2012–2016 period, which takes up the institutional motivations and concerns, as well as the main humanitarian trends in the country and in the region. The implementation of this plan will generate sustainable impacts.

Lastly, the Honduran Red Cross, with support from the secretariat, conducts periodic evaluations of its strategic areas, having the purpose of gathering information on the progress made to implement project and programme activities.

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 \(NGOs\) 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.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



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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