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Bolivia Annual Report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABO001

13 May 2013

**This report covers the
period 01 January 2012
to 31 December 2012**

*Volunteer from the Bolivian Red Cross
Beni branch speaks with a woman who lost
her house because of floods. 2012.
Source : Bolivian Red Cross*



Overview

The regional representation for the Andean countries (regional representation) of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provided a diversity of support to the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC) in 2012 so that the National Society could better fulfil its humanitarian mission. Particular reinforcement was given to the BRC in the areas of disaster management, health and care, and organizational development. These joint actions were done in alignment with International Movement strategies and standards, including *Strategy 2020* and the Inter-American Framework for Action 2012-2016.

In February 2012, a large portion of the country was affected by heavy precipitations due to the La Niña weather phenomenon, which consequently led to serious flooding in four departments (Cochabamba, Oruro, La Paz, and Pando). Following the government's late-February declaration of a national emergency, the Bolivian Red Cross launched a 6-month long emergency operation. This operation successfully provided 1,900 households with food parcels and kitchen sets and 415 families with mosquito nets, jerry cans and chlorine for water purification, alongside educational campaigns and massive clean-up actions to reduce the probabilities of dengue outbreaks. Further information on this and other operations is available at: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals>

Working in partnership

The Bolivian Red Cross has solid International Movement partners who have accompanied it to mobilize mobilizing resources in times of emergency, as well as institutional strengthening efforts at other moments. The following table details the current agreements maintained by the National Society:

Operational Partners	Agreement
Finnish Red Cross	Bilateral and multilateral support
Swedish Red Cross	Multilateral cooperation
Spanish Red Cross	Bilateral agreement
Canadian Red Cross	Bilateral agreement

Swiss Red Cross	Bilateral agreement
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Cooperation Agreement

In addition to these International Movement partners, in 2012 the Bolivian Red Cross received funds from the Finnish government, through the Finnish Red Cross and from the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID). Additionally, the BRC works operationally with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on shelter issues.

Furthermore, the Bolivian Red Cross maintained operational relationships with State bodies focused on humanitarian issues, particularly in disaster management.

Progress towards outcomes

Business Line I: Humanitarian Standards

Outcomes:

Outcome 1.1: *The Red Cross is better positioned to lead and demonstrate the Federation-wide contribution to reducing vulnerability, the exposure to risks and the ability of most vulnerable people to deal with their daily challenges; and capture learning and knowledge management to improve the quality of Red Cross work.*

Output 1.1.3. **Urban risk reduction, climate change adaptation, migration, violence prevention, and non-communicable diseases are better understood and promoted within the National Society.**

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has analyzed the key humanitarian trends in the new Strategic Plan of the BRC as identified in the country and defined with the Zone plan.		1 plan	75% Some of the key humanitarian trends have been addressed and are included in the draft of the strategic plan.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Prior to the creation of the draft of the BRC strategic plan, the regional representation provided technical guidance for a strategic diagnostic and strategic planning, as well as on mother-child health, road safety and first aid. By the last half of 2012, the BRC started to circulate the first draft of the national strategic plan. The plan defines as key humanitarian trends: climate change, non communicable diseases, urban risk and violence. The regional representation has provided regular feedback, stressing the need to ensure integrated programming approaches and to incorporate other trends.

While the annual target of creating a new strategic plan has been reached (75%), with approval pending for the first quarter of 2013, other programmed activities to support the BRC's participation in regional platforms, meetings and events on humanitarian trends did not occur due to the lack of funds. DRM activities were not carried out due to the lack of allocated funds. By the end of this reporting period, this output has only been reached to 48%, which represents 75% for the progress towards a strategic plan that incorporates humanitarian trends and 20% for the BRC's insertion into global online platforms and events.

Faced with this situation, the regional representation has extended its technical support for these areas into 2013.

Output 1.2.2. **All National Societies in the Americas provide a minimum set of information: audited annual reports and strategic plans.**

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of January 2013, the BRC headquarters has created its operational plan.		1 plan	50% The decision was made to create its operating plan 2013-2014 during the first semester of 2013.

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<p>During 2012, the BRC worked towards improving planning, monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms. Two workshops (PPP and operational planning) were held. The Secretariat visited the Colombian Red Cross Society (CRCS) to discuss the possibility of sharing the CRCS project management system with the BRC. At the end of the year, the CRCS proposal remained pending.</p> <p>This output reached 50% implementation since only 4 of the programmed 8 tasks were completed: 2 monitoring missions by the country support programme (CSP) coordinator and 2 workshop reports. While not the sole reason, the change of the CSP coordinator in the first half of the year delayed some of the planned activities.</p> <p>During the first semester of 2013, the BRC will develop its two-year operational plans within the framework of its new strategic plan. The regional representation will continue to provide support for this process.</p>

Business Line II: Disaster and Crisis Management

Outcome 2.1: *Red Cross National Societies, through their network of branches, have enabled communities to better understand trends (urban risk, climate change, migration and violence) that increase the impact of disasters and crisis in their lives, and to develop appropriate integrated responses.*

Output 2.1.1. Key humanitarian trends are integrated into the National Societies' disaster crisis plans and programmes.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has a National Plan for Preparedness and Response developed in a participatory manner.		1 plan	0% No activities were implemented.

Comments on progress towards outcomes
The lack of funds for this output did not allow the BRC to make progress towards ensuring that key humanitarian trends were integrated into its disaster crisis plans and programmes.

Output 2.1.2. Urban risk approaches are adopted in disaster and crisis management.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has at least one contingency plan		1 plan	50%

update and include urban risk considerations at the national level.			While no plan was created, a BRC representative participated in a regional CBHFA meeting in Peru.
By the end of 2012, the BRC has two new members of the National Intervention Team's training of trainers.		2 members	0% No activities were implemented.
By the end of 2012, the BRC has at least 20 new volunteers trained in damage evaluations and needs assessments, CPI, Operations Centres, and Water and Sanitation in emergencies.		20 volunteers	25% Participation in the water and sanitation-meeting in Guatemala.
By the end of 2012, the BRC has identified at least one initiative to improve the management related to volunteering in emergencies, in accordance to the recommendations of the regional assessment of the application of common Minimum Standards for Volunteering in Emergencies.		1 initiative	100% Support provided for the terms of reference, interview with BRC, and questionnaire completed.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Overall progress for this output reached 38%. The lack of funds and the limited engagement from the National Society DM coordinator were constraints to the planned activities.

The BRC participated in the water and sanitation meeting held in Guatemala, in which the NIT curriculum for water and sanitation was revised. A BRC representative participated in the CBHFA regional meeting in November, sharing BRC's experiences with this approach.

The regional representation provided support to contribute to the regional assessment of the application of the common Minimum Standards for Volunteering in Emergencies (rooted in the 2009-2010 DIPECHO regional project). The overall assessment process is composed of eight activities: terms of reference, initial interview with the National Society, the use of a questionnaire, responses to the questionnaire, additional interviews, analysis, a round of feedback, and the final report.

Health in emergencies provided the National Society with a template for reporting on epidemic outbreaks so that the BRC can use it in future emergencies.

Output 2.1.3. Climate change adaptation is integrated into disaster and crisis management.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
The BRC has produced a report on early warning for epidemics through the regional health networks and linked this to the DM system.		1 report	25%
By the end of 2012, the NS has updated contingency plans that include climate considerations.		1 plan	0% Activities towards this indicator have yet to be

			implemented.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The overall achievement of this output only reached 13% due to the lack of funds for DRM activities. The foreseen activity to establish an early warning system for epidemics was reached to 25%. The National Society participated in regional and global initiatives. The regional representation was unable to disseminate a document on how to incorporate climate change into the areas of water and sanitation, health in emergencies, and community health planning. However, this activity has been deferred to 2013.

Business Line III: Sustainable Development

Outcome 3.1: *Red Cross National Societies, through their network of branches, demonstrate leadership through adopting policies, procedures and practices which promote social inclusion, non-discrimination and a culture of peace in the manner in which they work internally, with communities and with other beneficiary groups.*

Output 3.1.1. National Society leadership and institutional capacity for partnership exist.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC Strategic Plan reflects more cohesion between the indicators, compared to the previous plan, as a framework for the comprehensive work process.		1 plan	17% The first 2 steps (advocating for the process and National Society interest) were completed.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Promoting the National Society's leadership and institutional capacity remains a central goal for the secretariat. During 2012, the National Society, supported by the Secretariat, worked on this strategic planning process. Prior to the production of the draft for the national strategic plan, the regional representation provided technical guidance on drawing up a strategic diagnostic and on strategic planning tools, as well as on analysing the key humanitarian trends. The regional representation has provided feedback on the, stressing the need to ensure programme integration and incorporate some of the key trends.

During 2012, the regional representation shared the Strategic Operational Framework for Health with the BRC so it could be used as the basis for its national health plan review. As mentioned above, a BRC representative participated in the CBHFA regional meeting in November.

Outcome 3.2: *Red Cross National Societies, through their network of branches, have enabled communities to better understand trends that impact their lives and take action to improve their health, safety, environmental and socioeconomic conditions.*

Output 3.2.1. The National Society addresses major trends and challenges contributing to vulnerability.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has created a sanitation project.		1 project	25% The IFRC

			strategic water and sanitation plan was disseminated.
By the end of 2012, the BRC has at least two new trainers in Training of Trainers for Vulnerability and Capacities Assessment (VCA).		2 trainers	0% No activities were implemented.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The lack of funds impeded the BRC from consolidating comprehensive actions in the areas of health, disaster risk management, organizational development, and services. However, the BRC Strategic Plan includes an integrated programming approach as part of the new strategic direction in the National Society.

Outcome 3.3: *Red Cross National Societies have a progressive vision to reduce vulnerability including leadership skills and capacities for working in partnership with communities, government, NGOs, NGIs, academic institutions, the private sector and civil society networks.*

Output 3.3.1 Red Cross leadership is recognized by government and other key stakeholders.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
The National Society participates in the Inter-governmental Advisory Committee, Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) parallel event to promote BRC leadership with key stakeholders.		1 participation	80% The MNCH mapping was presented.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Bolivian Red Cross participation in the Inter-governmental Advisory Committee MNCH event contributed to fomenting its leadership and knowledge on the topic. Alongside the Canadian Red Cross, the BRC made important contacts during this event.

Outcome 3.6: *Youth, as agents for change of the Red Cross network, are a leading voice for joint actions with different sectors of society for inclusion, peace and innovation.*

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC is part of the reactivated youth network in South America.		1 Participation	0% No activities were implemented.
By the end of 2012, the BRC has consolidated the training of 14 youth volunteer student groups, compared to figures from 2010.		14 groups	100% 14 youth groups were trained.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

This outcome only reached 50% since following the youth camp during the XIX Inter-American Conference (IAC), youth coordinators did not continue and solidify these contacts.

The youth training project implementation began in May 2012. The national headquarters, in coordination with 7 BRC branches, met with students to organize the 14 youth groups. During the second semester, a National Youth Camp was organized in which 80 youth volunteers and staff discussed issues related to "Youth as Behaviour Change Agents" and "The 10 Steps to Build Safe Environments".

Business Line IV: Humanitarian Diplomacy

Outcome 4.1: *National Society Leadership capacities are enhanced to use their auxiliary role to influence public policies and ensure they are seen as a credible and preferred source of information on humanitarian issues by the general public, media and other actors.*

Output 4.1.1. **The National Society becomes a source of reference for information on humanitarian issues and vulnerability reduction.**

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has more participants from governmental and civil society at its events, in comparison with 2011.		5%	0% No activities were implemented.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Due to the lack of funds for DRM, the planned technical support was not possible.

Outcome 4.2: *Strong links are fostered with governments, the public, academia, private sectors, and other partners of the Red Cross who work at local and national levels, particularly as a representative in key forums addressing humanitarian challenges and trends.*

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has at least one operation agreement with a non-Movement partner.		1 agreement	0% No activities were implemented.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Due to the lack of funds, actions to fostering connections with State and non-state bodies were not able to be implemented. The operational agreement with PAHO remains pending for 2013.

Business Line V: Effective Joint Working and Accountability

Outcome 5.1: *A knowledge network is established to provide a framework to disseminate innovations; promote horizontal cooperation and improve programming capacities in administration and finance, IT/Telecom, human resources, logistics and planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation.*

Output 5.1.2. **The National Societies in the Americas and the Secretariat successfully organized the XIX Inter-American Conference (IAC) to define our key priorities and strategic orientations for the Americas over the next four years and monitor the outcomes.**

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has contributed through the working groups and its participation in the XIX Inter-American Conference.		100%	100% The BRC participated in working groups and the XIX Inter-American Conference.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The regional representation facilitated the BRC's participation in the XIX Inter-American Conference and its working groups. The National Society successfully participated in the conference and working groups. Each working group developed a concept paper and statements that served as the foundation for the IAC final document.

Output 5.2.1 Peer-to-peer initiatives around support services (finance, administration, human resources and planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation) are promoted among the National Societies and disseminated through the knowledge network.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has more staff and volunteers trained in administration and finance procedures and planning, compared to 2011, as a result of peer-to-peer support from other National Societies and the Secretariat.		9 branches	70% The PPP workshop was held in December and the administration and finance procedures were disseminated in branches during the period.
By the end of 2012, the BRC, PNS and ICRC engage in more coordinated political and programmatic work, which the IFRC facilitates.		100%	75% The regional representation supported technical support for administration and finance training for volunteers.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The secretariat organised the PPP workshop and present the new NS guidelines on project management to eight branches in early December 2012.

During 2012, the regional representation, with DFID and Finnish Red Cross funding, began the project to teach basic concepts of administration, finance and the planning and transparency instruments in line with International Federation standards to volunteers. In the first half of 2012, the Secretariat supported the facilitation of the training workshop in the Tarija departmental branch and Bermejo and Villa Montes municipal branches. During the second semester, volunteers from the other eight departmental branches were also trained by the headquarters staff primarily in basic administration and finance concepts.

Additionally, a coordination meeting between the BRC, PNSs, ICRC, and the International Federation was held in Argentina in May.

Output 5.4.1 National Societies in the Americas have a plan aligned with *Strategy 2020* and report data on Federation-wide Reporting Indicators.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to date
By the end of 2012, the BRC has a National Strategic Plan aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i> .		1 plan	60% More than half of the 11-steps for the drafting of the plan were completed.
By the end of 2012, at least three indicators of the Federation-wide Reporting System are integrated into the BRC project, planning and monitoring system.		3 indicators	5% The secretariat met with the BRC to explain the Federation-wide Reporting System (FWRS) indicators in September.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

While the BRC strategic plan is not yet complete, steady progress was made during 2012. The action plan was designed, the BRC agreement was signed, the tools were created and were applied, and the strategic diagnostic was concluded. The remaining tasks (first draft of plan, feedback on draft, and the second draft) will be continued in 2013. The secretariat visited the BRC national headquarters in September and December to discuss the strategic plan with the President and technical team.

Additionally, the secretariat presented the FWRS indicators during this September mission. It is expected that the BRC will include these indicators in their systems for project planning and monitoring. More attention to the steps required for its incorporation into the BRC's systems is foreseen for 2013.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

In 2012, the secretariat promoted coordination meetings with the Bolivian Red Cross, the ICRC, and the regional representation to better align the actions of the National Society with a shared approach and promote more effective work. Despite the change in the CSP coordinator early in the year, efforts were made to ensure that the communication channels were active and efficiently used.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Not all planned activities—particularly in DRM—were implemented due to the lack of allocated funds.	H	While concerted efforts are being made to ensure the creation of a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the BRC that reflects new humanitarian challenges, integrates the areas of work, and structures the governing body's actions, these are undermined by the lack of funds. The National Society and the secretariat are challenged to identify and obtain funds to support the expected results from the strategic planning process.
The introduction of new International Federation standards and tools, particularly the FWRS, might generate some resistance in the National Society due to current efforts	M	The secretariat and National Society require further spaces for discussion, exchange and learning so as these standards and tools are not understood as

being focused in other areas.		more work, but rather the streamlining of current tasks.
Staff changes at the regional level delayed the creation of the BRC's operational plan.	L	The delays incurred due to staff changes at the level of the secretariat, as well as in the National Society, can be decreased by the compliance with streamlined operational systems that allow for efficient and effective hand-overs.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

Although projected for completion in 2013, the Bolivian Red Cross has worked consistently throughout 2012 to establish a new Strategic Plan. This plan, in line with *Strategy 2020*, alongside the proposed operational plan will be useful documents to guide the National Society's future strategic actions and institutional functioning. In the upcoming year, the secretariat will extend its technical assistance and capacities for the tasks and activities that were not completed in 2012, as well as new ones established for 2013. Following through on these processes currently underway will undoubtedly strengthen the Bolivian Red Cross and impact its humanitarian actions in favour of the most vulnerable populations in the country.

Financial situation

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

[http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF Process/LTPF/2012/SP246BOLTPF_12arf.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF%20Process/LTPF/2012/SP246BOLTPF_12arf.pdf).

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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