

The Americas Zone 2012-2015

Mid-Year Report 2012

MAA42003

06 June 2013

**This report covers the
period 01 January 2012
to 30 June 2012.**

*Thirty-four National Societies
participated in the XIX Inter
American Conference in
Montrouis, Haiti in March 2012.*

Photo: IFRC



Overview

The Americas Zone of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has made significant progress towards its projected goals during the first half of 2012. The XIX Inter American Conference (IAC) held in March 2012 under the theme “Reducing the gaps” was a major success in which 35 National Societies (NS) participated. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Montrouis Commitment and the Inter American Framework for Action 2012-2016. The latter focuses on urban violence, migration, the role of State actors, in particular the civil defence and the military, non communicable diseases (NCD), climate change, urban risk, social media, migration, among other areas that will guide the work of the National Societies of the Red Cross in the Americas over the next four years.

While this report details the progress made, notable strides have been taken in all of the interconnected business lines. In the area of humanitarian standards, the secretariat has promoted a reference document on disaster law (DL) in Argentina, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico and Peru. Additionally, at least ten National Society abstracts were presented and eight National Societies registered for AIDS 2012 and the General Assembly HIV side meeting. With the aim of increasing Red Cross services for vulnerable people the IFRC publication “No Time for Doubt”, an advocacy piece on urban risk and other materials on the issue were launched in Barbados and the Toluca pre-hurricane meeting held in May. National disaster response plans were reviewed in light of the trends during the Hurricane Season preparedness meetings that were held in the Caribbean and Central America.

As part of the goal to strengthen contributions to development, the Haiti Learning Conference held in April served as a space to share information and documented lessons learned in shelter, water and sanitation, relief and other sectors. Actions were taken to increase influence and support for Red Cross work in the region. During the first half of the year, nine National Societies in Latin America created volunteer development plans and five volunteer strategies are in place in the Caribbean. Furthermore, 47 youth from 22 National Societies participated in a training course on Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change in Haiti.

As part of the secretariat's efforts to promote joint work and accountability, green response and urban risk initiatives between the IFRC and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) are gaining momentum and will be useful for more extensive discussions with governments and National Societies. In addition, the National Societies in the Americas maintain active roles in their respective national platforms for disaster risk reduction (DRR). This is also the case for the secretariat which takes part in regional DRR platforms where United Nations agencies have shown interest in continued collaborative actions. The IFRC Haiti country representation has increased dialogue with government authorities around the de-concentration of the camps and the need for the status agreement as part of the largest emergency operation in the Americas. With regards to accountability, the Federation-wide reporting system for the Haiti earthquake operation continues to provide a model for progress in effective and efficient monitoring, evaluation and reporting. During the first half of 2012, 15 participants from National Societies have participated in the Regional Intervention Team (RIT) internship programme to increase their capacities in services, programme areas and strategic services.

Working in partnership

The secretariat, the National Societies in the region and Partner National Societies (PNS) continue to work together to further the humanitarian goals in the Americas. Additionally, partners from outside the International Movement collaborate and coordinate towards these main objectives. The following table lists the most salient operational partnerships in the Americas and the agreements held with each:

Operational Partners	Agreement
American Red Cross	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
Association of Caribbean States	MoU
Barbados Red Cross (Resource Centre)	MoU
British Red Cross	MoU
Canadian Red Cross	MoU
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)	MoU
CARE consortium	MoU
Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC)	Partnership agreement
CIDA through Canadian Red Cross	MoU
DG ECHO	MoU
DFID (UK Department for International Development)	Partnership agreement
Ely Lilly Foundation	MoU
Finnish Red Cross	MoU
French Red Cross	MoU
Italian Red Cross	MoU
Japanese Red Cross Society	MoU
Netherlands Red Cross	MoU
Norwegian Red Cross	MoU
PIRAC	MoU
Spanish Red Cross	MoU
Swiss Humanitarian Foundation	MoU

Progress towards outcomes

Business line I: Humanitarian Standards

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 1.1.1: Humanitarian access is addressed through learning and action

Measurement			
2012 Target	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Implementation to Date
Increase in 3 National Societies, support for national legislation for international disaster response, capturing learning related with civil military relationships and support regional and sub-regional initiatives related to disaster law.	0 NS	3 NSs	- The Disaster Law programme continued to promote legal preparedness for disasters. A wide range of activities including technical support to governments and sub-regional organizations in the review of legal instruments, trainings for National Societies to expand their capacities, advocacy work with national and regional authorities, publication of materials, etc. have been carried out. Technical assistance projects on IDRL and support in reviewing laws were provided to the National Societies of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico and Peru. - During the XIX Inter American Conference a civil military relations side event was held with the support of the disaster risk management (DRM) programme and disaster law, with the participation of the National Societies of Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Paraguay, Suriname, OCHA, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), MINUSTAH, PIRAC and CEPREDENAC. In preparation for this session, in 2011 a civil-military workshop was held in coordination with the UN, ICRC and Norwegian Red Cross. The actions on this subject had been included in the IAC Framework for Action 2012-2016. 7 NS from Central America actively participated in the Fourth Conference for Central American Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders organized by CEPREDENAC. REDCAMP and the civil protection systems started dialogue towards better coordination at national and regional level. - The first global guide on relations between National Societies and civil protection systems in Europe was disseminated among National Societies of the Americas, as the first practical Red Cross Red Crescent publication to better understand and approach civil-military relationships.

[1] Targets set the degree of improvement on each indicator required to achieve the objective. In order to set the target you need to know the current level of performance ("baseline"). **Please note that targets are cumulative.**

			- The Caribbean Regional Representation Office (CRRO) participated in UN civil military coordination training in Southern Command Headquarters of the US Army in March. - An IFRC representative presented at the Annual Workshop of the CARICOM Disaster Response Unit held by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) in partnership with the Southern Command in April.
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OUTPUT 1.1.2: The Inter-agency and Movement emergency shelter sector has the appropriate global and in-country coordination and support

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Country level contingency planning and preparedness support is given to 2 countries and country level shelter cluster or Movement shelter coordination is convened in 1 country where required.	0	2 countries / 1 country	- Disaster Law: Collaboration with REDLAC shelter working group for the identification of best practices to overcome regulatory barriers for the provision of temporary shelters. - Shelter cluster coordination in El Salvador was handed over to Habitat for Humanity International in January. An internal evaluation of this shelter coordination team (SCT) deployment was carried out in May. - REDLAC shelter working group was created in February in which the IFRC took the lead. Terms of Reference (ToR) and a work plan for 2012 were developed. Haiti shelter lessons learned workshop with Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) and UN Habitat took place in June in Panama. The REDLAC shelter working group is pending recognition by the global shelter cluster agencies. - In the national contingency plan in Peru, the IFRC is the Shelter Cluster lead in emergencies and the Peruvian Red Cross in the preparedness phase. - In alignment with new global guidelines, the contingency plan guidelines are being adapted to the Caribbean with the input of National Societies in the Caribbean and the disaster management (DM) network. They will be piloted in two countries before dissemination.

OUTPUT 1.1.3 Urban risk reduction, climate change adaptation, migration violence prevention, non communicable diseases is better understood and promoted within National Society.

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Promotion of and interaction with at least 3 national and at least 1 regional, inter-agency thematic platforms, each one working with a) urban risk, b) climate change, c) migration, d) violence prevention e) other issues related to increased vulnerability in order to produce draft guidelines for	0	3 national platforms and 1 regional platform	- The Caribbean Cooperation of the Red Cross (CCORC) decided in March, following the IAC, to call for a summit to address migration issues in the Caribbean and define the humanitarian role of the Red Cross. - A violence prevention workshop was conducted in Haiti by a Canadian Red Cross facilitator with presidents and directors general of the Caribbean National Societies prior to the IAC. - A water and sanitation online technical group

Red Cross work.		was established to promote understanding of key trends within National Societies. • 7 National Societies from Central America attended the leaders' meeting organized by CEPREDENAC on the Central American Policy for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (PCGIR). • In agreement with the Association of Caribbean States, dialogue and coordination on the green response and urban risk workshop began; 6 countries and 6 National Societies together with their respective governments will participate in the dialogue concerning these trends. • As part of the urban risk and thematic platform for Latin America and the Caribbean, Oxfam and IFRC started dialogue and coordination on urban risk in the Americas. A thematic session was held in Mexico in the DRM meeting with the DRM network. • The DRM programme team participated in the Rio+20 meeting. The Brazilian Red Cross and Haiti Red Cross Society were part of the official IFRC delegation. • Progress was made in the planning of the Global Alliance pre-conference and the HIV/AIDS Conference to be held in July in Argentina. In Chile, the global health framework has been disseminated and is being implemented, as well as progress made to create an operational framework in health. In Uruguay, support has begun in the processes of regional exchanges, road safety and water and sanitation issues. • The urban risk publication and supporting communications materials have been produced and disseminated during launches in Barbados and the Toluca pre-hurricane meetings held in May. A final launch of the publication is being planned for October. Communications held a meeting to map out urban risk-related events that will require the use of these supporting materials. • The Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Resource Centre in Barbados and the CRRO have participated in the CDEMA education sector sub-committee, contributing to its work plan and promoting climate change actions. The Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Management Resource Centre began the adjustment of a CDEMA tool on climate change, incorporating it into Red Cross community intervention methodologies; this tool will be adapted for the Latin American context. • The Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Management Resource Centre with French Red Cross support and in coordination with the DM Network conducted the final validation stages of the "Safe House Module" aimed at introducing basic actions for structural reinforcement of homes against hurricanes and floods. • A European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps placement with the CRRO contributed to the
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			development of the Volunteer Management in Emergency Toolkit for the Caribbean, which is made up of a manual for the volunteer manager, volunteer handbook, and identification badge. Plans are underway to pilot the tool and then edit and print it. • The CRRO, with Canadian Red Cross support, is developing an HIV and violence prevention methodology. • 14 National Societies from the Caribbean participated in the IInd Sub Regional Community Based Health and First Aid in Action facilitator trainings. • The health programme participated in key regional forums and platforms, including the PAHO-led regional non communicable diseases forum, the Healthy Caribbean Coalition, and regional emergency related platforms such as the WASH Cluster and HIV in emergencies. Emergency health was actively involved in the development of the REDLAC annual work plan and collaboration on the creation of a regional emergency health technical group and also participated in the global urban risk workshop in Costa Rica. A water and sanitation online technical group was established to promote understanding of key trends within National Societies. • The zone health coordinator participated in the first meeting of the regional NCD Forum and the CARMEN network hosted by PAHO in Brasilia-Brazil as part of the development of a comprehensive social approach to NCD prevention and control. • The Caribbean health officer participated in a workshop hosted by the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) in collaboration with the World Bank, PAHO/WHO, LIVESTRONG, and the National Health Fund of Jamaica as part of on-going multi-sector regional efforts to create a comprehensive social approach that more effectively responds to NCD.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The unanimous adoption of the Inter American Framework for Action by all National Societies in the Americas promotes the integration of trends and the relevance of different levels of coordination and will require on-going commitment and follow up. Planning under the Business Lines implies a stronger level of dialogue between all areas of work and a change in mind set on the part of the secretariat and the National Societies.

With regard to the WASH Cluster, this has been supported with the strengthening of the team in the Regional WASH Group, baseline evaluations for the WASH coordination platforms in Honduras and Guatemala and initial establishment of coordination mechanisms for the platforms including tools for capacity mapping. Promotion and awareness-raising on the importance of coordination between all actors in preparedness, emergency response, and evaluation to provide a more effective response has increased participation at regional and country level in Honduras and Guatemala with respect to WASH coordination activities.

Outcome 1.2: *A system for research, education, learning and knowledge-sharing initially focusing on urban risk reduction, climate change adaptation, migration issues, and violence prevention enhances the understanding of these trends in the context of the Red Cross, as well as the capacity to address them.*

OUTPUT 1.2.1.: Federation-wide Reporting System and the databank are established in the National Societies of Americas:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Uptake by 8 National Societies.	3 NSs for FWRS / 6 NSs for data bank	8 NSs	- Employing the DFID questionnaire, 8 National Societies provided information against 4-7 proxy indicators in 2012, with 2011 data. 3 National Societies (Colombia, Costa Rica, and Honduras) had completed the FWRS exercise in 2011 and 6 National Societies (Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras and Paraguay) completed the data bank exercise in 2011. - A strategy has been prepared for roll-out of the Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System (FDRS) in 2012 with DFID funding. A consultancy with DFID funding, was carried out in Belize Red Cross Society that focused on data collection methods for reporting on the 7 proxy indicators; the report is being shared with interested National Societies.

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

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
10 National Societies provide their audited annual reports and strategic plans.		10 NSs	- The IFRC participated in the Bolivian Red Cross general assembly where the annual report was presented. - Strategic plans and annual reports are being compiled by the Planning and Evaluation Department (PED) in Geneva. During this reporting period, a total of 8 annual reports have been received for 2009-2011. A total of 10 National Society strategic plans were received.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Federation Data Bank and Reporting System was merged at the end of 2011; at present, there is a lack of ownership of the initiative on the part of the National Societies and the zone office is seeking to engage National Societies by highlighting the value of FDRS at national, regional and global levels in order to portray the collective work carried out by the Red Cross both in the Americas and worldwide and the numbers of people reached by Red Cross work. It is hoped that peer-to-peer support in FDRS will boost interest and compliance by the end of the year. Similarly, it is proving difficult to collect Strategic Plans and annual reports which are not forwarded to the zone office spontaneously. Communication needs to be reinforced with the National Societies on both FDRS and strategic planning/annual reporting.

Outcome 1.3: *The use of Federation-wide assessment tools, furthering the understanding of the collective impact of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is promoted.*

OUTPUT 1.3.1: Organizational Capacity Assessment and certification (OCAC) process established

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Methodology designed and piloted. 5 National Societies have participated in the self	0	5 NSs for phase 1 / 2 NSs in phase 2	An OCAC induction workshop for National Society leaders was held in Haiti following the IAC. Directors General and Secretary Generals

assessment phase and 2 National Societies in the peer review phase.			from the National Societies of Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Peru and Trinidad & Tobago, participated. An OCAC facilitators' workshop was held in Panama in April, training a total of 12 facilitators from the National Societies of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras as well as from the secretariat offices in Argentina, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Panama. The following nine National Societies showed interest in or committed to following the OCAC pilot process: Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and Peru. The revision of the OCAC tool and its translation into Spanish are needed before starting the implementation of OCAC pilot process in the Americas, projected for August 2012 at the earliest.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

National Societies have demonstrated interest in the OCAC work begun during the first half of 2012. However, the consultation session with National Societies demonstrated the need to revise the tool. Some of the concepts were considered to be presented in a contradictory manner and/or poorly translated. Detailed feedback was presented to the Geneva team so that the National Societies' concerns about some of the OCAC content would be addressed. However, several OCAC processes are being planned for the second semester of 2012 and there is much interest on the part of the National Societies of the Americas.

Outcome 1.4: *The professional qualifications and competencies of the Red Cross volunteers and staff are strengthened, enabling National Societies to take the lead in addressing new risks and vulnerabilities.*

OUTPUT 1.4.1: *The capacity of the National Societies to provide professional qualifications and competences to volunteers and staff at all levels is strengthened*

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
The learning platform is mainstreamed in 5 National Societies and alliances with 2 academic institutions are established, resulting in training opportunities for different levels of the National Societies.	0	5 NSs for platform and 2 alliances with academic institutions.	- The Haiti Learning Conference was successfully held with quality information and documented lessons learned with an initial assessment in different fields, such as shelter, water and sanitation, relief and other sectors. - The IFRC has developed 12 online, free-of-cost e-learning courses. The number of users in the Americas has been low due to lack of availability of courses in Spanish. However, as a result of collaboration with the Geneva headquarters, most of the courses have been translated and uploaded in Spanish. Currently, a third of learners in the Americas are Spanish speakers, as well as a small but significant minority (7%) of French speakers. However, only 6 Spanish-speaking countries in the Americas currently have more than 100 registered learners. Portuguese-speaking Brazil currently only has 57 registered learners. - The Learning Platform has been introduced to all

			National Societies in the Americas. The following lists the active Learning Platform users in the Americas during the first half of the year: Jan - 4,510, Feb - 5,451, March - 3,566 April - 2,474, May - 2,604, June - 2,720. • Three courses were being developed as of March 2012 in Geneva, with delivery of the English versions scheduled before the end of 2012. The Americas Zone has supported this development with funds from DFID so the following courses can be translated into Spanish and uploaded: volunteering induction, code of conduct and self-reflection and self-learning tools on non-discrimination. Future steps will aim to expand access and visibility to already-translated contents, build the e-learning network's Spanish speaking community of learners and create a virtual community based on sustainable relationships with National Societies which requires communication and organizational development skills. An on-line focal person in Geneva has been trained in: online learning (instructional design skills and learning platform administration) and will develop online surveys in National Societies concerning e-learning subjects and interests. Virtual trainings for National Societies' staff and volunteers through E-Illuminate conferences are scheduled for September-October 2012 so National Societies in the Americas can promote and better understand the breadth and use of the e-learning platform. • In February the DRM team, the Centres of Reference and DesAprender met to discuss e-learning. The public awareness and education platform has been prepared and the process will include the National Societies of: Barbados, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico and Paraguay. In close coordination with CEPREDENAC, e-learning will be part of the regional DIPECHO VIII proposal. • The Resource Centre in Barbados is supporting the process to translate DesAprender to English. • The Learning Platform has been introduced in the Belize Red Cross Society, with their staff and volunteers' learning and teaching based on the content; during this period, this has included climate change adaptation, violence prevention and urban risk reduction. • The Argentine Red Cross, with IFRC support, has interactive materials ready for uploading to intranet. While this National Society would like to launch virtual classroom learning for communication and internal training, funds have not been obtained for a virtual classroom. • The DRM programme started market analysis of the public awareness and education platform to map the supply and demand for education in the National Societies of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico, together with the Centres of Reference (including Haiti), the Resource Centre in Barbados and DesAprender.
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			Coordination was begun to adapt NIT training to the e-learning mode, which will be available on the IFRC Platform.
A leadership training reaches a cumulative total of 20 National Societies.	0	20 NSS	- In Guatemala, leadership training took place in the national camp and reached board members, national coordinators, and branch members. In Panama a workshop for leadership promotion and definition of priorities was held. - Plans are underway for a workshop for National Societies' leadership in December 2012.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The process to increase Red Cross professional skills and competencies so that National Societies can provide leadership in addressing risks and vulnerabilities entails concerted efforts and comprehensive actions. During the first half of 2012, a wide range of activities was implemented towards achieving this outcome.

The IFRC developed 12 e-learning courses on key topics. Efforts have been made to make the core courses available in Spanish, mainly with DFID funding directed towards this aim. The Learning Platform has been introduced to all National Societies in the Americas and the number of users is slowly growing. The CRRO has promoted the learning platform so that National Societies are continually aware of the various available e-learning courses and programmes on the platform. A Geneva-based focal person will train National Society staff and volunteers through Elluminate later this year, thus contributing to achieving the 2012 targets.

The DRM programme in coordination with the Centres of Reference, with support from the areas of volunteering, shelter and the RLU, organized an individual training plan and adaptation of the DM mechanisms based on the simulation exercises for the National Societies of the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua to identify problems and gaps in the existing DM tools and procedures. The Well-Prepared National Society (WPNS) analyses jointly with the simulations were used as the basis for the design of the training plan. Based on this diagnosis more than 20 trainings were carried with the support of the CREPD and CREC. More information is available in the First Response Initiative (FRI) Interim Report.

The DRM programme and the University of Louisiana began discussing the future development of leadership training in partnership with the university and other relevant actors. An agreement was made to facilitate the participation of the National Societies and Centres of Reference in the CEPREDENAC information and communication platform.

The regional shelter course in the Caribbean seeks to include the building codes of specific countries where they exist as a result of consultation with technical experts. The CRRO is in the process of securing an agreement with a reputable technical institute to provide the necessary technical expertise to conduct the training and provide certification. This will enable the trained National Society volunteers and staff to facilitate further community training and awareness and serve as a qualified group to address all risks and vulnerabilities in a more systematic manner.

Business Line II: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

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 disaster crisis plans and programmes

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
The Federation's tools and methodologies for community-based response and recovery mechanisms have integrated	0		The health programme has integrated key trends into the operational framework for water and sanitation (with the support of the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay), as

relevant key humanitarian trends.			well as revised regional and national intervention training curricula for emergency health and water and sanitation. Initial steps to integrate violence prevention into CBHFA and HIV programming with partners are underway. • Emergency health focal points from the Red Cross Societies of Colombia, Guatemala and Haiti participated in simulations as part of the Canadian Red Cross-supported First Responders' project in El Salvador, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. • In the area of disaster risk management, a strategy to map and update existing community-based disaster risk management tools in line with humanitarian trends was designed with the Centres of Reference and the DesAprender platform. • A shelter tool kit developed under the Caribbean DIPECHO VIII and a pilot project in Jamaica were included as a part of the DFID climate change project. CBHFA focused on the increase of water and sanitation vulnerabilities as a result of climate change was also included. The shelter and settlements programme is widely disseminating material on risk in urban contexts, the migration policy, and a study on violence after disasters (in the context of the Haiti operation). • National disaster response plans were reviewed in light of the trends during the Hurricane Season Preparedness meetings that were held in the Caribbean and Central America. Meetings to develop a mapping system were also held. • In the Southern Cone and Brazil, key humanitarian trends are integrated into plans and disaster or crisis programmes. In the Latin Caribbean region the National Societies of the Dominican Republic and Haiti are engaging with the regional coalition (OAS and PAHO) to integrate contingency on cholera with an island-wide perspective (Hispaniola). • WPNS analysis was conducted in the National Societies of the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua. • The operational framework for water and sanitation in the Caribbean has been developed integrating key trends. • A report has been finalized in the Caribbean on epidemic early warning through regional health networks and this is linked to the DM system.
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OUTPUT 2.1.2: URBAN RISK approaches are adopted in disaster and crisis management

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the involvement of at least 5 key National Societies VCA, CBHFA, PASSA, water and sanitation, health in	0	5 NSs	• In the shelter and settlements programme, the PASSA trainer of trainers methodology was rolled out in January with Habitat for Humanity. PASSA training has taken place in 4 countries in

emergencies, search and rescue and volunteering are adapted for urban environments.			urban contexts. - Lessons learned from the Dominican Republic and other countries have been shared. - In Haiti, a USAID/OFDA study tour focused on urban settings. - A lessons learned in shelter workshop was held with the participation of the Haiti Red Cross Society, Dominican Red Cross, and PNSs in Haiti. Many findings focused on the urban context. Final findings were shared regionally through the REDLAC platform. - A new disaster risk management process in line with <i>Strategy 2020</i> and focused on “local to global” was agreed upon. - Communications and DRM are coordinating to incorporate the promotion of urban risk technical tools. DRM is also coordinating with communications on an advocacy piece on the issue. - CREPD, in coordination with the health programme, presented the first update and adaptation of the training modules on health on emergencies, epidemics control, water and sanitation, based on the recommendations received in the technical meeting held in Guatemala. - In line with the VCA adaptation process carried out by Geneva, a questionnaire was shared with the National Societies to include the lessons learned in the Americas in the new version adapted to the urban context. - In the regional DIPECHO VIII project, 3 National Societies in the Caribbean, with the support of the DRM programme, are in the process of piloting at least 3 of the tools adapted to urban contexts in settings chosen due to their homogeneity.
5 National Societies have mainstreamed livelihood and food security (cash transfer, food for work) strategies and methodologies as part of community-based readiness programmes in the urban environment.	0	5 NSs	In coordination with the Centre of Reference of the Spanish Red Cross, a study on livelihoods vulnerability in local urban context with an approach reflecting gender equity, diversity and inclusion will be created and implemented through micro projects in the National Societies of Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua. The process and results of this study will be disseminated with the aim that it later be adapted and applied by other National Societies in the region.

OUTPUT 2.1.3: CLIMATE CHANGE adaptation is integrated into disaster and crisis management

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 key National Societies adapt existing and create new community tools and approaches for the inclusion of climate change and adaptation	0	5 NSs	The climate change adaptation tool kit is being developed with the Centre of Reference in Barbados with the support of National Societies in the Caribbean, the Canadian Red Cross and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. Under the climate change adaptation

around shelter, water and sanitation, health and food security.			strategy of DFID, a proposal was approved and will comprehensively support the areas of health, shelter and capacity building in Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Lucia. This tool kit will be adapted to the Latin American context. • Climate change adaptation as an integrated approach to disasters and crisis operations was introduced during the hurricane season preparedness meetings. • Americas zone representatives attended the food security cluster coordination meeting in Panama, organized by WFP, to increase the number of people on the roster with experience in this area in case of disaster. • A report on epidemic early warning through regional health networks with links to the DM system was finalized. The Peruvian Red Cross developed a contingency plan for epidemics during an emergency health internship that incorporates the meteorological cycle related to climate change; this plan has been shared with other National Societies. • The Caribbean Health Network participated in the Caribbean hurricane preparedness meeting and its chair led the discussion on the structure of a proposed Early Warning System for Health Disasters. The possibility of using the Global Information System (GIS) mapping system currently piloted by the Jamaica Red Cross in their HIV/AIDS programme and the introduction of a practical tool that can be utilized for the capture and monitoring of disease data in the region were discussed.
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OUTPUT 2.1.4: MIGRATION: Better programming Initiatives mainstreamed in programming and services to communities of origin and host communities impacted by migration

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
In association with agencies specializing in migration, adapt community-based early warning systems and mechanisms associated with migration.	0		• The Caribbean Cooperation of the Red Cross has called for a Migration Summit that will include a consideration of the appropriate Red Cross role in migration early warning systems. • The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) has a designated focal point for migration.
All sector programmes are adapted to include BPI	0		

OUTPUT 2.1.5: VIOLENCE PREVENTION is integrated into disaster and crisis management

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 key National Societies adapt existing and create new community tools and approaches for the inclusion of	0	5 NSs	• Violence prevention tools and approaches are included in DREFs and appeals for the National Societies of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay. The disaster and crisis response and early recovery unit has an assigned violence

violence prevention around human security in disasters and crisis.			prevention focal point. Violence prevention was also included and discussed in the hurricane season preparedness meetings. • The Chilean Red Cross organized a gender seminar focused on diversity and violence prevention, that was attended by national and parliamentary authorities, journalists and representatives of civil society and the IFRC. • The Caribbean Cooperation of the Red Cross has requested that Canadian Red Cross' "10 Steps" programme for building Red Cross National Society institutional awareness and capacities to address violence prevention is delivered to all Caribbean National Societies. • Safer Access has been incorporated into the Volunteer Management Toolkit for the Caribbean and a request made by National Societies to strengthen violence prevention. • In the DIPECHO VIII framework, 3 National Societies will conduct an analysis on the security issues in the project implementation areas, as well as familiarize, promote and be in a position to replicate the Safer Access tool. • In the Caribbean, National Societies are employing the revised Together We Can (TWC) methodology as they target issues of stigma within the broader HIV Global Alliance programme.
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OUTPUT 2.1.6: Support the development and measurement of National Society logistics capacity, to help strengthen National Societies and articulate the global capacity and effectiveness of the Federation logistics

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
4 National Societies of the Americas will have a comprehensive customized capacity building package in logistics (technical recommendations, training package and an online data collection and reporting mechanism).	0	4 NSs	• In close coordination with the ZLU, and under the FRI project (Canadian Red Cross), the logistics assessment and capacity building plan at National Society level has been prepared in the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua, with plans underway for Haiti. Simulations were carried out in the mentioned countries and the ZLU provided technical recommendations for the final reports. Trainings of National Societies are planned for the second half of the year. • The Japanese Red Cross Society support for logistics capacity building for the English Speaking Caribbean is underway. DRM analysis and logistics strengthening will be provided for the National Societies of the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago. This support also includes the piloting of the National Societies Logistics Capacity Enhancement (NSLCE) toolkit, which will provide input on National Society logistics and specific needs. • A representative of the Caribbean DM Network moderated a side event at the IAC

			on logistics (Opportunities and Challenges Best Practices in Managing Risk).
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OUTPUT 2.1.7: Increased the logistics capacity to deliver logistics services for preparedness and relief activities, connecting National Society assets where possible, and making it self-sustaining through promoting the effective functioning of the Federation

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Implement phase one of logistics strategy and tracking system. Resources and system in place to source, procure and manage delivery of relief items for 50,000 families, fleet of 80 vehicles and associated air assets.	0		Due the allocation and approval of the annual budget, this activity was not completed. Plans exist for completion in the second half of 2012.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Although actions leading to the outcome to support National Societies to work with communities on urban risk, climate change, migration and violence and their related comprehensive responses have moved forward during this period, the progress made in more traditional areas was more significant. National Societies' attention on trends affecting vulnerable communities has increased, as well as refocused attention on areas requiring different technical skills. However, progress has been slower on issues of migration and violence prevention, although initial work was completed in line with projected goals in the four-year plan. The progress in urban risk reduction is significant and all programme areas show increased attention to this context, by developing knowledge in this field and increasing awareness on the need for diversified attention to urban challenges. The presence of staff dedicated to these areas will increase opportunities for progress. With additional support from ECHO, traditional areas of work will contribute to achieving the outcomes.

In the area of DRM, four simulation exercises were carried in the National Societies of the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, and the WPNS analysis has been updated in three of these. Both tools allowed for the identification of strengths and weaknesses in the disaster response and management tools. Based on the first simulation held in 2011, National Societies developed a capacity building plan. The simulation and WPNS in 2012 demonstrated the positive impact of the plan and the areas that merit sustained attention.

The DRM programme, in joint action with RLU since 2010, implements the FRI project in which one of the pillars is to increase logistics service delivery capacity by the National Societies of Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. Furthermore, through DIPECHO support for Cuba stock for pre-positioning has been purchased and efforts are under way to deliver this in coordination with RLU.

The CREPD supported the formation of the National Intervention Teams according to the plans of the National Societies of Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. During the reporting period, 412 staff and volunteers were trained in social micro projects, VCA, the protected school, shelter, early warning systems and basic training skills.

Urban risk, climate change, migration and violence are current humanitarian trends that lead to more frequent and more extreme weather events occurring in more violent, vulnerable and crowded urban centres. The secretariat promotes National Societies' adaptability, integrating current humanitarian trends into its tools and methodologies for community-based response and recovery in order to both strengthen National Society networks and foster greater specialization within key programme areas.

Disaster management objectives in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action and following agreements of the Red Cross Inter-American Conferences include strengthening of National Societies so they can support each other in times of crises and the streamlining of Red Cross approaches to building community safety and resilience to both risks from natural hazards and risks produced by increasing violence and overpopulation

due to migration.

With the support of the zone office the 35 Red Cross National Societies of the Americas have increased their work at the community level, focusing especially on awareness raising and education.

In association with agencies specialized in migration, National Societies are adapting community-based early warning systems and other mechanisms associated with migration. Small-scale projects aim to reduce vulnerability to disasters and violence on specific groups such as migrants.

National Societies are adapting existing community tools and approaches and developing new ones for the inclusion of violence prevention around human security in disasters and crisis. Furthermore, key National Societies adapted VCA, CBHFA, PASSA, water and sanitation, health in emergencies, search and rescue and volunteering methodologies for work with urban environments.

Other National Societies have mainstreamed livelihood and food security (cash transfer, food for work) strategies and methodologies as part of community-based readiness programmes in the urban environment.

With regard to logistics, the secretariat offers the National Societies of the Americas comprehensive customized capacity building packages (technical recommendations, training package and an online data collection and reporting mechanism) aimed to increase their capacities.

The Red Cross has improved partnerships for preparedness, response and recovery from disasters. Thus fulfilling Secretariat's mandate "to organize, coordinate and direct international relief action" as a core service to its members.

Outcome 2.2: *An efficient and effective Red Cross disaster and crisis management system in the Americas will lead and inspire through strengthened capacity and coordination of all components focusing on increased shared operational responsibility with National Societies, improved mapping, the inclusion of innovative technology, creating new approaches and tools to address external trends in the zone and improved early warning/early action.*

OUTPUT 2.2.1: Humanitarian access is ensured as part of readiness for response and early action within a context of increased activity by military forces and corporate interests

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Based on the results from relevant discussions during the Inter-American Conference, a thorough assessment of the impact of other humanitarian actors (military forces, corporate sectors) on Red Cross humanitarian access will be completed and recommendations distributed.	0	1 assessment	- The Disaster and Crisis Response and Early Recovery Unit attended the civil military response capabilities meeting at the Inter-American Defense Board. At the hurricane season preparedness meeting the Disaster Response and Crisis and Early Recovery Unit presented the increased activity by military actors, governments and corporate interests in disasters and crisis operations. - A Digicel USSD messaging system and protocol was drafted for the Caribbean. - Discussions with the Coca-Cola Company were held to begin aligning capacities and resources, specifically with the Red Cross as the primary agency for Coca Cola post-disaster operational support. - A donor mapping exercise was conducted with Partner National Societies to assess their interest and lines of work in resource mobilization. The outcomes, disseminated internally and to National Societies of the Americas, are available for use during emergencies.

			The resource mobilization unit created a template with a list of processes for potential donors interested in donating to emergency relief. This template has been disseminated to all key focal points and is ready for implementation in the next emergency.
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OUTPUT 2.2.2: The disaster and crisis response system in the Americas will be forward looking through innovation and by taking maximum advantage of the resources available throughout the Red Cross network

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Guidelines and policies designed to promote and facilitate horizontal operational cooperation.			- Horizontal cooperation was demonstrated through internships. The Peruvian Red Cross health director had a one month emergency health internship. A national contingency plan for epidemics was developed and the plan shared with all National Societies as a blueprint. An architect from the Colombian Red Cross Society had a three-month internship with the Americas Zone Office shelter and settlements programme. The latter intern promoted horizontal cooperation with Guatemala and Chile. The Caribbean Resource Centre hosted an internship for the development of the Regional Contingency Guide. - The pre-hurricane meetings held in Central America and the Caribbean allowed National Societies to familiarize themselves with updated guidelines, procedures and policies that are aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i> and the Inter-American Framework for Action in disaster and crisis situations. - Consultation on revised principles and rules was completed in Toluca, Mexico and Barbados. - DM Network and one from the Caribbean Resource Centre. - Under the First Responders' Initiative with the Canadian Red Cross, four Well-Prepared National Society assessments have been updated and tested through four simulation exercises in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua.
5 National Societies are using bar codes for beneficiary registration.	2 NS	5 NSs	The Mega V bar code system was an agenda item to orient Caribbean National Societies during the pre-hurricane season preparedness meeting, as well as equipment training for selected RITs. This now requires follow-up with dedicated NIT and RIT training.
Damage and needs assessment utilising SMS technology is developed and tested.			An agreement was signed with the cellular phone company Digicel and is ready to start implementation for the hurricane season. A Digicel USSD messaging system and protocol was drafted and tested for the Caribbean.
One Federation-wide Reporting System implemented in a disaster	1	1	Work begun by the Federation-wide reporting coordinator for the Haiti Operation and the PMER team to define and agree on criteria for

where the National Society receives assistance from several Movement partners.			implementing Federation-wide reporting in a large-scale disaster response operation in the Americas.
All disaster operations evaluate compliance with the SPHERE standards including the Code of Conduct for disaster response.		All operations	In a regional shelter training and induction course, 35 Sphere manuals were distributed with an explanation of how the standards should be applied. People trained were representatives from 13 National Societies: Bolivian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Chilean Red Cross, Colombian Red Cross Society, Dominican Red Cross, Salvadoran Red Cross Society, Honduran Red Cross, Italian Red Cross in Honduras, Swiss Red Cross in Honduras, Nicaraguan Red Cross, Mexican Red Cross, Peruvian Red Cross, the Red Cross Society of Panama) and the IFRC delegation in Haiti.

OUTPUT 2.2.3: URBAN RISK approaches are integrated into disaster and crisis management:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Surge capacity readiness tools adapted for the urban environment focusing on VCA/DANA, CBHFA, PASSA, water and sanitation, health in emergencies, search and rescue and volunteering.	0		- Surge capacity readiness tools such as the RIT plan and Regional Response Units and plan are in the review process for their adaptation to urban environments. RIT modules on health and water and sanitation have been revised with National Societies and the Centres of Reference, taking key trends into consideration. Both IT and general RIT models have been completed. - The RIT internship programme deployed 9 participants to Panama for training in health, DM, IT Telecom, and shelter. - National Intervention Team curricula on health and water and sanitation were revised.
Readiness capacities to respond in urban slums are developed and tested in 2 National Societies.	0	2	PADRU assigned an urban risk focal point.
Skills in surge capacity in the urban context accounting for land use and priority health issues improved through the development of methodologies and tools and tested in 2 National Societies	0	2	Skills, methodologies and tools for cholera response were tested in urban contexts in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

OUTPUT 2.2.4: CLIMATE CHANGE is integrated into their disaster and crisis planning

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
At least 1 disaster response operation has incorporated and tested green response approaches which are reviewed by key programmatic areas of shelter, water and sanitation, health and food	0	1	The Colombian Red Cross Society has incorporated and tested green response approaches using cardboard beds. The Disaster Response and Crisis and Early Recovery Unit and shelter and settlement programme areas are reviewing this initiative. Some National Societies in emergency operations will continue to test the

security.			cardboard bed solution for collective shelters. In addition, green response was incorporated into the El Salvador Tropical Depression 12-E Appeal. The disaster risk management programme area is working closely with the ACS, the Caribbean Regional Representation Office and Director of zone on a draft proposal for a green response workshop.
Based on the results of the green response approach review, environmental standards are established.	0	Environmental standards established	The Disaster and Crisis and Early Recovery Unit developed a humanitarian Innovation Fund Green Response proposal.

OUTPUT 2.2.5: MIGRATION is integrated into all levels and scales of disaster and crisis planning and operations

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
In association with agencies specializing in migration, adapt assessment tools and methodologies and include early warning systems and mechanisms associated with migration for an effective response.	0		The IFRC Migration Policy has been disseminated through the regional shelter networks, reaching 35 Red Cross staff and 14 external partners.
Assessment teams incorporate in all operational assessments the specific needs of immigrant populations during times of disaster and crisis.	0		A disaster management delegate in the disaster response and crisis and early recovery unit has been assigned to be a migration focal point for emergencies.

OUTPUT 2.2.6: VIOLENCE PREVENTION is integrated into disaster and crisis management

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 National Societies including government authorities and key stakeholders, methodologies and tools will be adapted or created for the inclusion of human security in disaster and crisis planning and operations	0		- Violence prevention tools and approaches are included in the Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia DREFs and Appeals. The Disaster Response and Crisis and Early Recovery Unit has assigned a violence prevention focal point. Violence prevention was also included and discussed in the hurricane season preparedness meetings held. - The Chilean Red Cross organized a gender seminar focused on diversity and violence prevention. The seminar was attended by national and parliamentary authorities, journalists and representatives of civil society and the IFRC. - The Caribbean Cooperation of the Red Cross has requested that the Canadian Red Cross "10 Steps" programme for building Red Cross National Society institutional awareness and capacities to address violence prevention are delivered to all Caribbean National Societies.

			The Canadian Red Cross will also be appointing a technical officer in gender issues based in Jamaica to support the integration of gender at all levels of National Society CCRDR activities.
Gender-based violence protection is mainstreamed in disaster and crisis operations.	0		The Disaster and Crisis and Early Recovery Unit has assigned a disaster management delegate to be the violence prevention focal point for emergencies.

OUTPUT 2.2.7: Providing agreed logistics services to pre-selected agencies

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Capacity to provide procurement and delivery services of relief items and storage facilities of NFIs for 2 pre-selected agencies.	0	2 pre-selected agencies	NFIs have been provided and delivered to 2 pre-selected external agencies in the first and second quarter.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Work towards this outcome has helped to increase National Societies' attention on trends affecting vulnerable communities and to focus on areas requiring different technical skills. In other more traditional areas of work, the progress made is even more significant at this stage. During the reporting period the DRM programme, through different initiatives, provided guidance and support to National Societies to develop and update their contingency and response plans in line with the NDPRM guide. Furthermore, the CREPD and the DRM programme is conducting an advisory process in the National Societies of the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua to support the development of the SOPs. In case of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, the SOPs will be developed through experience exchange between both National Societies.

Among the aforementioned National Societies, the CREPD and DRM programme have promoted a review of organization and response mechanisms to adapt a two-pronged model that includes government entities, management, the intervention sector and support services.

The DRM programme and the Centres of Reference, in coordination with internal and external partners have developed and adapted relevant community tools as well as methodologies to urban contexts. In the framework of the regional DIPECHO VIII for Central America, three National Societies (Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua), with the support of the DRM programme, have plans to pilot at least 3 of the adapted tools. The areas of implementation were chosen due to their homogeneous characteristics which will facilitate testing of the applicability of the developed and adapted tools. Moreover, a practical study on livelihoods will be developed through direct consultation with the communities.

Over the period, there has been an increased focus on regional networks (CAPRADE, CDEMA, and CEPREDENAC) and other partners such as private enterprises. This and civil-military understandings have improved the disaster management capacity of National Societies. Baseline studies show that many National Societies have made significant progress in strengthening their overall preparedness and capacities for response, including: improved plans and assessment tools, well-trained staff and volunteers, more appropriate response systems, and improved coordination with stakeholders.

In seeking to improve the disaster management system and embracing innovative means and methods of working, the zone offices continues to develop and disseminate tools to ensure a faster and smarter response. Innovation will build on traditional and well-tested tools and seek to support their growth and integration into a holistic system with the common goal of providing efficient and effective responses to disasters. The development, dissemination, implementation and assessment of new tools (Mega V, Digicel, RMS) is carried out in coordination with the National Societies, Partner National Societies and the secretariat. National initiatives are encouraged and promoted within the system while simultaneously incorporating global innovation in the Americas.

Business line III: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to 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

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 National Societies are using the outcomes of baseline assessments to identify and prioritize sectors for their own development and adopt policies, procedures and practices to implement integrated community-based development programmes in partnership with key stakeholders.	0	3 National Societies	- Baseline assessment processes are underway in Belize, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala for a new four-year funding framework with the Norwegian Agency for International Development (Norad)/ Norwegian Red Cross for integrated community-based health programmes in partnership with key stakeholders. - The Americas zone health coordinator participated in the Global Health Team meeting and NCD working group in March/April and liaised with violence prevention and migration focal points in Geneva regarding integration into health programming. Secretariat participation took place in regional multisectorial processes for NCD prevention including the Americas' regional forum in Brazil and regional strategic planning in Jamaica for the Caribbean. - The Argentine Red Cross, Paraguayan Red Cross and Uruguayan Red Cross are all in the process of preparing material to publicize the agreement of PAHO and the opportunity for operational agreement in key areas, such as NCD. The operational framework for health is based on a bilateral agreement between the Dominican Red Cross and the PAHO office. - The secretariat headquarters and the zone DRM programme have agreed upon the community-based disaster risk management analysis based on the adaptation of the tsunami study; the study will be conducted in Colombia, Guatemala and Saint Lucia. The coordination meeting with the National Societies, PNS and DRM team is planned for July with the first field visits programmed for September and October. - Three side events for resource mobilization for targeted National Societies were held during the IAC on the Federation-wide Resource Mobilization Strategy, corporate partnerships (with the participation of Coca-Cola Company), and public-private partnerships (with ACS participation).

OUTPUT 3.1.2: URBAN RISK is integrated into National Society programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
The Americas zone will focus on the development and dissemination of harmonized tools and methodologies to enhance at least 3 National Societies' urban risk programme development planning and implementation capacities.	0	3	- Three key DRM documents on urban risk were finalized and used as reference documents for the DIPECHO VIII Central America proposal, which was approved. This project will allow Central America to move ahead in the area of urban risk in Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua. - A risk reduction initiative in the urban context in Colombia was presented to OFDA, while in Paraguay the urban risk component was validated in the NIT curricula. - Discussions are underway to determine possibilities for collaboration between Habitat for Humanity International and the IFRC at the zone and national levels to complement profiles in urban settings in the Dominican Republic. - Urban risk publications, documents and tools were presented at the pre-hurricane meetings.
A zone-wide academic network is established for urban risk development.	0	1 academic network	

OUTPUT 3.1.3: CLIMATE CHANGE is integrated into National Society development programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
In 3 National Societies expertise is gained on impact of climate change on different aspects of vulnerability including access to water and food security through at least 1 formal academic and scientific partnership.	0	3 National Societies	- Two climate change focal points from the National Societies of Chile and Mexico received technical training in shelter and how better to implement measures to reduce vulnerability. - In Chile climate change is included in CBHFA and NIT modules which the Chilean Red Cross is in the process of implementing.
2 National Societies incorporate green programmes, and the use of green products and processes is taken up by the Red Cross network.	0	2 National Societies	Work in this area is expected to commence later in the year.

OUTPUT 3.1.4: MIGRATION is integrated into National Society programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 National Societies pilot integrated programmes with migrant communities.	0	3 National Societies	The health programme held Initial discussions with the migration department in Geneva regarding migration and health in the Americas and future collaboration to develop approaches and adapt tools was planned.
In conjunction with specialists conduct research and disseminate results to all National Societies on the	0		A workshop was held during the Inter American Conference on the issue of migration.

impact of climate change, urban risk and violence on population movement and migrant populations.			
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OUTPUT 3.1.5: VIOLENCE PREVENTION is integrated into National Society programming:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 6 National Societies adapt existing and create new development based methodologies and tools for violence prevention (VCA, CBHFA, PASSA, volunteering in urban communities and working in contexts of violence).	0		The health programme area has had initial discussions with the IFRC violence prevention focal point and Canadian Red Cross regarding integration of violence prevention in Americas' health programmes and future collaboration on approaches and tools. There are plans for collaboration on a violence prevention tool for youth at risk in the Caribbean and a violence prevention module in CBHFA. Argentine Red Cross held an urban violence thematic workshop on the prevention of gender based violence and HIV.
6 National Societies currently working in violence prevention strengthen coordination with governments and in addition provide peer-to-peer support to an additional 6 National Societies.		6/ 6 National Societies	The CRRO received funding from Swedish Red Cross to be used for a youth leadership workshop, which is programmed for August, to strengthen youth advocacy at governance level for violence prevention and other issues.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

During this reporting period, five National Societies have undertaken baselines to develop four-year NORAD funding proposals integrating violence prevention into community health programming in urban contexts. Three side events were held during the Inter-American Conference in Haiti covering the Federation-wide Resource Mobilization Strategy, corporate partnerships (with the participation of the Coca-Cola Company), and public-private partnerships (with the participation of the Association of Caribbean States). Additionally, side events were held on urban violence and migration promoting social inclusion, non-discrimination and a culture of peace among the National Societies attending the IAC. Seven National Societies met with the Coca-Cola Company to define zone and country activities related to disaster management and public engagement, and key urban risk reduction documents were finalized and used as reference documents for the DIPECHO VIII Central America proposal which was approved for three countries.

In the area of DRM, a DRR project mapping was carried in the Americas and shared to improve information management and facilitate information sharing within the National Societies and Partner National Societies in the zone, with external partners and also with donors. The zone, region and country based information should also facilitate the identification of strategic alliances and establish the base for harmonized information collection within the Federation.

The adaptation of the community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) projects based on evidence from the Tsunami Recovery Programme (TRP) to the Latin American and Caribbean context is underway. For this three National Societies were selected: Colombia, Guatemala and St. Lucia. The outputs from this study will include a set of *characteristics* of a safe and resilient community and the *key determinants* of a successful CBDRR programme. The adaptation will allow to learn and integrate lessons from these regions in order to validate and test the global applicability of the findings of the TRP CBDRR study. A proposal has been developed to incorporate the new trends into the Simulation Guide and the Organization and Operation of Emergency Operations Centres (OFCOE).

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: National Societies addressing major trends and challenges contributing to vulnerability

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 National Societies, in conjunction with government are engaged in development programmes with indigenous, urban slum communities and/or migrant populations in response to emerging trends.	0	3 National Societies	- The Argentine and Chilean Red Cross Societies are working with indigenous communities and marginal areas. Also the Guatemalan Red Cross is working with indigenous communities on MNCH, community health and HIV prevention. - Argentine, Chilean, Paraguayan and Uruguayan Red Cross have prepared MNCH mappings. Health continues to give support to the Argentine Red Cross in the areas of HIV/TB, harm reduction, road safety and planning and implementation, according to needs. While in Chile support is provided to CBHFA issues, blood donation, psychosocial support and first aid. In Uruguay a CBHFA workshop was held. - Through HIV and AIDS programming supported by the Canadian Red Cross, the Guyana Red Cross Society is working with high risk youth in mining communities on the border with Brazil while Jamaica is working with men who have sex with men (MSM). - Through the Caribbean DIPECHO VIII project, indigenous communities are targeted in Suriname, as well as urban areas with increased presence of violence in Trinidad. - Five National Societies in the Caribbean are facilitating a process along with their National Disaster Offices to develop country profile documents to guide future work with vulnerable communities. - Through the regional DIPECHO VIII in Central America the targeted municipalities will implement at least two points of the Resilient Communities campaign by UNISDR. - A MNCH mapping and research project was conducted with support from the Canadian Red Cross for scaling up MNCH in the Americas to address health inequities and key trends. The final report is ready for production and dissemination. - The Global Alliance on HIV 2009-2011 lessons learned report was finalized. The zone health programme focused on supporting the ongoing health programmes including the Global Alliance on HIV implementation in 12 National Societies (Argentina, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) as well as supporting National Society HIV programme strengthening in Peru and Uruguay. A working meeting was held with the Haiti Red Cross Society to develop their Global Alliance on HIV proposal 2012-2015. 13 National Societies

			were engaged in GA HIV in 2012 and 14 National Societies reported on global indicators for 2011. - At least 10 National Society abstracts were presented and 8 National Societies registered for AIDS2012 and the GA HIV side meeting (Argentina, Bahamas, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago). 3 abstracts were accepted as poster presentations (Argentina, Haiti and Jamaica). - Funding proposals were presented for global funding by the National Societies of Honduras (TB MDR) and Argentina (Harm reduction) in the framework of the GA HIV. - A second training for CBHFA national facilitators was held in the Caribbean (Antigua & Barbuda) in June bringing the number of CBHFA National Facilitators in the region to approximately 100. The newly trained facilitators will support CBHFA roll out in Caribbean countries and British Red Cross overseas branches. The workshop was facilitated by experienced master trainers from Argentina, Belize and Haiti and Zone Health staff. 25 volunteers and staff from the Salvadoran Red Cross Society have been trained as CBHFA facilitators, and they have included the CBHFA focus in community volunteer interventions. Also 26 volunteers and staff from 14 Caribbean National Societies were trained in CBHFA; they have already started the sensitization process in their own National Societies. The monitoring and evaluation tools for CBHFA have been already introduced to the National Societies of Central America and the Caribbean. - All National Societies in attendance at the CBHFA workshop developed a Plan of Action to start or continue to implement CBHFA in their own National Societies over a six-month period. Tailored support for the implementation of CBHFA activities under the new DFID funded programme will be provided to the National Societies of Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica and Suriname. It is recommended that these and any other National Societies actively implementing CBHFA activities have access to further in-depth training in the use of the CBHFA PMER toolkit.
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OUTPUT 3.2.2: URBAN RISK is integrated into community-based development programme

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 National Societies, adapt existing and create new development based methodologies and tools for the urban context (VCA, CBHFA, PASSA, volunteering in urban communities and working in contexts of violence).	0		- Initial discussion was held about PHAST - VCA and PASSA synergies and differences with the National Societies of the Dominican Republic and Spain, including the urban component. Wide dissemination of the 'The Urban Challenge' video and used as opening in the 'No time for doubt' publication launch in Mexico. - Through the Regional DIPECHO VIII in Central America, the targeted communities will implement adapted tools and methodologies,

			which will provide communities with tools to better address risks.
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OUTPUT 3.2.3: CLIMATE CHANGE is accounted for in community-based development programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 key National Societies adapt existing and create new community tools and approaches for assessing the impact of climate change on development programming in communities.	0		The series “Better be Prepared” has been translated into French and Creole in Haiti through the ECHO project. An earthquake education tool was developed with the University of Costa Rica.
The definition of “green initiatives” in the Red Cross context is agreed and disseminated.	0		In the Caribbean, a first proposal was developed in coordination with CEDEMA to hold an initial workshop on green response and urban risk with the Association of Caribbean States.
In 1 National Society communities in conjunction with Red Cross branches have piloted a green initiative project designed to increase their capacity to cope and adapt to climate change focusing on issues of food security and nutrition, livelihoods, health, shelter and settlements, and accessibility to clean water.	0		Greater focus will be placed on green initiatives in the latter part of 2012, as the zone will have an innovation delegate who will be dedicated to developing these initiatives.

OUTPUT 3.2.4: MIGRATION is a priority theme in community-based development programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 National Societies in coordination with government, adapt existing and create new development based methodologies and tools for working with migrant communities including their places of origin and with host communities (VCA, CBHFA, PASSA, volunteering in urban communities and working in contexts of violence).	0	5 NSs	Issues of access, marginalization, inequality and poverty have been addressed in the first half of 2012. Focused work with indigenous and marginal groups was carried out in the Southern Cone and Brazil and the Caribbean

OUTPUT 3.2.5: VIOLENCE PREVENTION is integrated into all community-based development programming

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
With the support of 5 National Societies, approaches, methodologies and tools will be adapted or new ones	0	5 NSs	Collaboration with Canadian and American Red Cross Societies is underway for integrating violence prevention into CBHFA and HIV for at-risk youth tools and approaches in the

created to ensure violence prevention is an integral part of all community work done.			Caribbean. The Americans zone health programme has assumed the role of global focal point for the secretariat in development of a violence prevention module for CBHFA. Violence prevention is being integrated into the 4 year health plans for NORAD/NRC funding in Belize, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The integration process of the external trends (urban risk, climate change, violence prevention and migration) into standardized IFRC tools and methodologies is underway and progress towards this outcome is observable in the Americas zone. This focus allows National Societies to better meet and address the individual needs of the communities they serve. Throughout the Americas zone, the IFRC in liaison with National Societies, Partner National Societies, external partners and the academic sector are working together to make communities more resilient and enable them to address the major trends and challenges that contribute to their vulnerability.

Tools and methodologies are being adapted and analyzed in line with the trends to ensure that they include community-focused methodologies to facilitate the inclusion of these tools into National Society programming. Some of the examples that should be highlighted from above include violence prevention; in the Caribbean violence prevention is being integrated into tools for communities. In the area of shelter, initiatives were carried out to analyze different existing tools to identify commonalities and to see where urban components could be identified. In addition, the Americas zone assumed the lead to become the focal point for the integration of violence prevention in the Community based Health and First Aid methodology.

Furthermore, issues of access, marginalization, inequality and poverty have been addressed in the first half of 2012. Focused work with indigenous and marginal groups was carried out in the Southern Cone and Brazil and the Caribbean, while youth at high risk and areas of increased violence received support in the Caribbean. Mother, Newborn Child Health was scaled up to address health inequalities and key trends.

In the second half of the year it is foreseen that there will be more focus on the area of violence prevention as the America zone will have a focal point for social inclusion. Furthermore, greater focus will be placed on green initiatives in the latter part of 2012, as the zone will have an innovation delegate who will be dedicated to developing these initiatives.

In the area of disaster and risk management, through the First Responder Initiative (FRI) the DRM, shelter and volunteering programmes, the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) and the Centres of Reference are contributing to reinforce the capacity of the National Societies of the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua to better respond to emergencies. Through the dissemination and use of tools and methodologies, the IFRC is contributing to strengthen disaster management policies and institutional systems of selected Red Cross National Societies at the different stages of the project.

Through the DesAprender Platform, new innovative techniques to transmit knowledge have been developed and tested such as web streaming of events and parallel trainings (on site and off site), consultation forums, among others. In order to improve the virtual knowledge sharing experience, DesAprender is being upgraded and will have a more powerful server and new programming, design and activities to promote the use of the platform.

During the reporting period, the DRM programme contributed to coordinating and holding global, regional and sub-regional meetings and supported representatives of the Red Cross National Societies to take part in these meetings: including the Central American leaders' meeting organized by CEPREDENAC, Rio +20, REDCAMP coordination meetings and the pre-hurricane preparation meeting.

REDCAMP and the IFRC have interacted constantly with CEPREDENAC under the PCGIR. A first proposal was developed in coordination with CEDEMA to hold an initial workshop on green response and urban risk with the Association of Caribbean States.

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

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
The Red Cross is showing leadership through 3 National Societies in existing national platforms or in promoting their creation.	0	3	- Government representation from 11 countries of the region and 6 sub-regional organizations at the Disaster Law Model Act consultation in Panama convened by the IFRC with UN OCHA and the government of Mexico, contributed to strengthening government relationships with National Societies. CDEMA formally received Caribbean Red Cross inputs to the model law it is drafting. - The IFRC jointly with the Colombian Red Cross Society also collaborated with CAPRADE in the review of the CAPRADE Mutual Cooperation Manual. - Youth from the Guatemalan Red Cross and Chilean Red Cross for the first time have been accepted in their respective National Society governing board. - The WASH Cluster-hosted project commenced and analysis was conducted to determine three priority countries. The WASH Cluster adviser participated in two global consortium meetings (Germany and Thailand) and met with key regional stakeholders in Panama and key Cluster stakeholders in Guatemala and Honduras in April and June. Baseline assessments were conducted and an annual work plan developed. Secretariat participation took place in regional multi-sectoral processes for NCD prevention including the Americas regional forum in Brazil and the regional strategic planning meeting in Jamaica for the Caribbean. - The DM Network has continued to meet minimally once a month, provide technical support to the Caribbean National Societies, review tools under development by the Caribbean Red Cross Resource Centre and support the development and targeting of proposals. Discussions have been initiated to revise the Caribbean DM Strategic Framework so it is aligned with the Inter American Framework for Action.

OUTPUT 3.3.2: Red Cross leadership is regularly updated on key humanitarian and development issues:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Produce twice a year a newsletter documenting key humanitarian and development challenges.	2	2	The Caribbean Regional Representation Office has produced a second newsletter in the reporting period that highlights humanitarian achievements by the National Societies in the region.

OUTPUT 3.3.3: Building National Society financial sustainability:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Make use of existing best examples of National Societies' capacities in resource mobilization to increase capabilities of at least 5 Red Cross Societies in fundraising, income generation, donor reporting and accountability.	0	5	- The Belize Red Cross Society continues to work on sustainable resource mobilization initiatives with a special focus on corporate partnerships. Also the BRCS has initiated a table and chair rental programme as an income generating activity. In addition, support has been provided to the Bolivian Red Cross and the Peruvian Red Cross to improve their accountability processes. - Chilean Red Cross and Paraguayan Red took advantage of 8 May (Youth on the Move) for national collections and both were part of dialogues with the Coca-Cola Company. The Paraguayan Red Cross also used Facebook to collect donations. - In Haiti the first part of the study of the future of the Haiti Red Cross Society compound has been released and hiring of a project manager is underway, while in the Dominican Republic terms of reference have been developed to hire a consultant who will develop a roadmap for the National Society to implement the Federation-wide resource mobilization strategy. - A consultant was hired to support NCD mapping in the English-speaking Caribbean and development of a concept paper and proposal for regional funding. - Three Caribbean National Societies (Belize, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago) attended the skills share workshop supported by the British Red Cross at which innovative resource mobilization initiatives were shared and discussed and led to the Belize Red Cross Society establishing a partnership with a major commercial bank in Belize.
Comments on progress towards outcomes			
During the reporting period the Red Cross has shown leadership in existing national platforms or in the promotion of their creation. This has included the strengthening of three Caribbean National Societies' relationships with their governments through their participation in consultations regarding the creation of a disaster law model. Guatemala and Honduras have been selected as priority countries for the newly established and regionally-hosted WASH Cluster project, which is resulting in increased engagement of the respective National Societies with their governments and key national-level Cluster stakeholders. At regional level, the secretariat is engaging with regional WASH Cluster stakeholders. In the priority health area of addressing non-communicable diseases, the secretariat is supporting National Societies to engage at national level on NCD prevention and control with a broad-based societal approach with the government, civil society, private sector and academia. The secretariat participated in the first meeting of the PAHO-led regional forum on NCD prevention and control held in Brazil, as well as the Caribbean strategic planning meeting also led by PAHO and the Caribbean Health Communities Coalition in Jamaica. Several National Societies have initiated innovative fundraising and income generation initiatives using social media such as Facebook and developing corporate partnerships. The secretariat is supporting mapping and regional proposal development on NCD in the Caribbean with a view to mobilizing resources for National Societies' responses to NCD.			

OUTPUT 3.4.1: National Societies are assisted by the National Society Development Facility (NSDF)

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
2 National Societies assisted by the NSDF	0	2	- Both the Guatemalan and Costa Rican Red Cross have been assisted by the NSDF. - El Salvador is implementing an ICB-funded project.

OUTPUT 3.4.2: National Societies in the Americas participate in the National Society development community of practice (COP)

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
20 subscribers in the Americas if available in English and Spanish.	0	20	

OUTPUT 3.4.3: All heads of IFRC regional and country offices are trained in advanced National Society development principles, approaches and methods:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
25%	0	25%	

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Although there has been limited progress under this outcome for this time period, it should be mentioned that in relation to organizational development, recent reports and case studies demonstrate that National Societies that invest in the development of simple and sustainable service delivery capacity within communities are more agile in mobilizing resources, even in the short term (1-3) years. (NSKD Mid-year report in reference to El Salvador).

Outcome 3.5: *Volunteers of National Societies, representing all sectors and ages and involved in all aspects of National Society life from decision making to programme implementation, are key actors in demonstrating the added value of the work done by the Red Cross network and in expanding National Society humanitarian access.*

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
10 National Societies have defined a plan and strategies, and are working on its implementation for their volunteering development efforts. 15 National Societies volunteers are using modern technology in various aspects of volunteering development. 5 National Societies are	0	10/15/5	- Nine National Society volunteer development plans are under development in Argentina, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay and Saint. Lucia. A volunteering policy as well as an implementation manual was developed and processed within the Haiti Red Cross Society in a participatory manner with the Federation, ICRC and Partner National Societies. - The Peruvian Red Cross has developed a new volunteer policy according to IFRC policies. In

implementing integrated volunteering in emergencies practices.			Colombia the government has approved a national volunteer law where the National Society is highly recognized. • In the Caribbean, volunteer development strategies are in place in the Red Cross Societies of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize and Jamaica. Volunteer development projects are also being developed in the National Societies of Argentina, Chile and Paraguay to include new volunteers with a focus on young people. • Furthermore a tool kit for volunteer development and an online training was launched in Spanish. In addition, 15 good volunteering development practices from National Societies were produced. • Three National Societies (the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua) are working on improving their volunteering in emergency systems and developing and/or improving their volunteer databases. A volunteering in emergencies curriculum is currently being developed. • A volunteering in emergencies toolkit has been developed with the support of an intern with the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. This includes a managers' manual, volunteer handbook and identification. Plans are underway to pilot the methodology to capture feedback and learning before dissemination to National Societies.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

There is significant interest on the part of National Societies in the Americas in improving volunteer management. Plans for improvement of the volunteer management cycle have been drawn up and are under implementation in 9 National Societies. Furthermore a tool kit for volunteer development and an online training was launched in Spanish. A volunteering in emergencies toolkit has been developed with the support of an intern with the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. The challenge for the second half of the year is the departure of the zone volunteering coordinator during the first semester and the need to seek funding for volunteering as of 2013 in order to sustain the initiatives underway and continue building capacities in this essential area.

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.*

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
4 National Societies have defined a plan and strategies for generational change, including the creation or revision of youth policies, establishing mechanisms for inter-generational learning and developing innovative youth programmes. 2 National Societies provide peer support to other National	0	4/2	• Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC) training was organized in Haiti on 7-13 March 2012 during the XIX Inter-American Conference. 47 youth from 22 National Societies from the 5 regions were present and 2 participants from external organizations (Haitian Scouts and MASJoves Mexico) were represented. The training was held in Spanish, English and French. • The chair of the youth network in the Caribbean attended the trainer of trainers' course for

Societies on youth development or youth programming.			PPP/PME facilitators that took place in June 2012 in Geneva with a view to facilitating planning processes in relation to proposals to be submitted by the youth network. • In Central America and Mexico, the youth network worked on the implementation of the 2012 plan of action and shared experiences with other networks. Terms of reference for micro-projects were developed to support at least two National Societies. • The Chilean Red Cross has incorporated a youth representative in its governing board. It developed its plan and published materials about training activities in prevention of school violence, HIV, disaster risk reduction, climate change, first aid, Principles and Values. These activities were prepared for the new academic year as well as the preparation of manuals. The Chilean Red Cross youth department has requested a facilitator from Geneva to train in YABC during the second half of 2012. The Uruguayan Red Cross has begun activities with young people in educational centres. • The health programme supported youth leader participation in the Haiti YABC workshop from the Jamaican and Nicaraguan Red Cross Societies.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The continental training of YABC peer educators was successfully held for the first time in the Americas in March. Following this, participants and their National Societies have shown great enthusiasm for further training of YABC peer educators to promote a culture of non-violence and peace at national level and implement and incorporate the initiative in youth actions within their National Societies. The national plans of action for youth development are well underway, and youth project and programme planning skills will be developed during the rest of this year to further involve them in their National Societies' programmatic planning and implementation. The Chilean and Guatemalan Red Cross Societies have incorporated a youth representative in their respective national governing boards, which marks an important step in the National Societies' youth development efforts. The Red Cross Red Crescent day on 8 May was celebrated this year with the theme "Youth on the Move" in National Societies across the Americas.

Business line IV: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work

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. National Societies become a source of reference information for humanitarian issues and vulnerability reduction

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Launch the World Disaster Report in at least 4 countries and the report is used for communication and positioning the Red Cross during the year. Beneficiary communication is implemented in 2 National Societies.	0	4/2	• Ongoing coordination took place with the secretariat headquarters to ensure content for the World Disaster Report and to coordinate the publication's launch. Several National Societies from the region have been contacted to guarantee that they will launch the report in their countries.

			- The secretariat has supported studies of national laws and working groups from different ministries are focusing on disaster law issues. The Vice-President of Guatemala is actively promoting disaster law and the Mexican government has shown great interest in promoting DL in the region. - The IFRC is actively engaged and is a member of the planning committee of the Regional Platform for DRR with influence on the regional agenda. - Weekly meetings with Haitian national authorities have contributed to enhancing coordination and ensuring the visibility of Red Cross work in Haiti. Dialogue on the status agreement continues, with increased probability of solutions in the medium term. “Beneficiary Communications continues to be implemented as part of the Haiti earthquake operation as a means of delivering timely, accurate, and life saving information to vulnerable populations. This approach is also used as a means of receiving feedback from beneficiaries which helps involve communities in planning as well as evaluate and improve programmes and projects.
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OUTPUT 4.1.2. The International Federation in the Americas and the National Societies actively use social network capacities

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Capitalize the use of existing social media through research and partnership. 5 National Societies are using social media and begin to establish a network of communicators. 5 National Societies participate in a conference on the use of social media in humanitarian efforts. % National Societies provide support for campaigns lead by organizations promoting values shared by the Red Cross.	0	5/5	- The Peruvian Red Cross established an agreement with a national television outlet to develop a joint campaign to support vulnerable groups during the cold season. - The National Societies of Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and the United States of America are very active in social media initiatives including linkages with media and networks. - A Twitter account for shelter in America was created. - DesAprender was promoted as a platform to share information and tools within the Red Cross shelter network. DesAprender is becoming a key tool for social networks on DRR in the Americas. National Societies, external partners, donors and others are using DesAprender as the main tool for blogs and forums on DRR. - Communicators' network meetings continued to coordinate mapping on National Society capacities in social media. - Social media training was held with zone staff. Messages in the social media were used to promote the XIX IAC (social media side event held), 8 May, and the launch of urban risk actions. - Missions to Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Paraguay took place in April-May to promote the use of social media and coordination with the

			Americas zone office. Social media use was also discussed during pre-hurricane preparedness meetings in Toluca and Barbados. • Caribbean National Societies encourage their membership to use social media networks to advise users of activities and events on a regular basis. • A Jamaica Red Cross staff member presented on the use of social media for HIV prevention among key populations in the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV at the communications side event at the IAC. The health coordinator in Haiti presented on the use of social media in Haiti during cholera epidemic outbreaks. • Two Youth as Agent of Behavioural Change Facebook groups were established in Spanish and English. • The "Youth on the move" theme for World RCRC day on 8 May was promoted through disseminating information to the National Societies. The National Societies of Bolivia, Honduras and Nicaragua submitted pictures for the global IFRC photo exhibition and one picture from each was presented on the ifrc.org webpage. • The National Societies of Bahamas, Belize and Saint. Lucia were featured in articles on youth and first aid in the IFRC Americas zone bulletin. National Societies have also contributed with stories of their experiences to the CRRO newsletter. • A Social Media Committee was created, headed by the communications officer from the Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross to support National Societies in the Caribbean in making full use of social media opportunities to increase visibility of the National Societies. • The Paraguayan Red Cross is promoting a campaign for violence prevention and inclusion of women and children, as part of the DRR day.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The most significant progress during this reporting period was with regard to the National Societies' active engagement with social media to promote the work of the Red Cross in different fields. The monitoring of pages in Facebook and tweets on Twitter indicate that National Societies are making good progress. However, at the same time, National Societies are challenged to work on and respond to claims against them.

The regional leadership of the National Societies in the Inter American Regional Committee (CORI) agreed that social media is a topic that requires understanding by the leadership and decisions are needed to ensure social media expertise in the National Societies. Further discussion on the topic is scheduled for October with the Red Cross leadership.

Outcome 4.2: Strong links are fostered with governments, the public (including especially opinion leaders), academia, private sector, and other partners of the Red Cross who work at local and national levels. Including representation in key forums to address humanitarian challenges and trends.

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Meetings are held in 6 countries with government	0	6	• High-level meetings in El Salvador, Guatemala and Paraguay promoting the auxiliary role of the

authorities to enhance the National Societies' auxiliary role and one initiative with key stakeholders per country serves to improve opportunities for National Societies to access resources.			Red Cross were held. These meetings aimed to improve the National Societies' relationships with their respective governments and identify mechanisms to guarantee an annual allocation for the National Societies as established in national laws. • The Dominican Red Cross confirmed the inter-ministerial advisory group of vice ministers after the country's new president took power. • The Guatemalan Red Cross named the country's vice president as Humanitarian President of the Guatemalan Red Cross, recognizing her support to the National Society. • The Disaster Law programme participated in the "Fifth Regional Seminar on Enhancing Mutual Humanitarian Partnership". The Plan of Action to be implemented in 2012-2013 highlights the importance of legal preparedness for disaster and requests states to prepare national legal frameworks. The Red Cross is positioned in 8 work areas, in four of which the Red Cross was requested to act as a lead coordination agency. A booth on Disaster Law was organized during the event. • The General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) adopted an "Inter-American Plan for Disaster Prevention and Response and the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance" that highlights disaster law, the importance of legal preparedness for disasters and draws on the recommendations of the disaster law guidelines. A Disaster Law Advocacy Network was created by representatives of 22 National Societies and the IFRC. • A Meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Ministry of Health, President of the Republic, civil protection, Mexican Red Cross and the IFRC to promote the National Society's auxiliary role was held with the perspective of preparing for a major disaster. Preparatory work was also conducted for the ECOSOC meeting in New York. • The WASH Cluster-hosted project initiated a dialogue with government authorities and key stakeholders in Guatemala and Honduras. • The NCD regional forum attended by zone health coordinator and the NCD regional strategic planning meeting in Jamaica for the Caribbean region provided an opportunity to liaise with PAHO, academia, governments, UN agencies, civil society and the private sector. • Government authorities of DRM systems attended the DRM meeting organized by the DRM networks in the Caribbean and Central America regions in close coordination with CEPREDENAC and CDEMA. • The Southern Cone regional representation has supported dialogues with authorities both in Chile and in Argentina to strengthen the auxiliary role of the National Societies and influence these countries' public and legislative agendas to
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			support measures which reduce vulnerability. (Chilean Foreign Ministry manual, analysis of legal regulations for disasters, seminars on vulnerability, participation in disaster drills, etc.). In Paraguay, the National Society has signed an agreement with the University of Chaco to have undergraduate supervised practices in nursing and obstetrics; risk management in relief and comprehensive safety. • The Colombian Red Cross Society undertook the process to co-organize the First Regional Forum for Adequate Housing in Colombia which was co-organized by the Colombian Red Cross Society, in which governments from all LAC countries would be present. This forum, programmed for October, will enable the National Society to demonstrate its commitment to healthy and safe living as it builds alliances and networks. • Meetings were held with vice ministers from the Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Ministry of Health to promote the National Society's auxiliary role. Meetings with the same focus were held with several ambassadors from Brazil, France, Spain, and the Vatican). The National Society governing body in the process of analyzing a joint resource mobilization social event with the organized group of spouses of diplomats. • The WASH Cluster-hosted project initiated a dialogue with government authorities and key stakeholders in Guatemala and Honduras. Face-to-face meetings were conducted in Honduras and Guatemala with all Cluster members including the National Societies in April and June. Regional WASH group introductions, meetings and planning sessions took place with UNICEF and PAHO. A desktop study was drawn up regarding classification for priority countries for WASH coordination support. Contacts and discussions at regional level took place to determine the background and status of WASH Clusters at national level. WASH Cluster baseline assessment reports were produced for Honduras and Guatemala. • The zone health coordinator participated in the first meeting of the regional NCD Forum and the NCD regional strategic planning meeting in Jamaica for the Caribbean region which provided an opportunity to liaise with PAHO, academia, governments, UN agencies, civil society and the private sector.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

Significant progress was made to link and better position Red Cross Societies with their respective governments. Recognition from governments is progressively growing and during this reporting period has included direct high-level meetings, State representatives' participation in Red Cross events, and co-organization and co-coordination of meetings and activities in specific initiatives. This is the case of the State-National Society dialogue around disaster law.

However, different governments in the region have shown increased scrutiny of non-governmental organizations, which are considered to be agencies responding to foreign political interests. This situation may

trigger actions to reduce the number of NGOs or exert more control over them. In many countries, National Societies are understood as NGOs by their own governments and have this status within their respective legal frameworks. This situation will require increased humanitarian diplomacy efforts to guarantee that the Red Cross auxiliary role in humanitarian issues is respected.

Outcome 4.3: *National Societies and donors invest increasing financial and human resources to improve National Societies' abilities to deliver internal support services as the way forward for providing strong programming.*

OUTPUT 4.3.1. Resource mobilization capacities and efforts of the National Societies are scaled up to inspire more reliable contributions to the Red Cross Red Crescent

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
A cumulative of 2 National Societies, integrating a membership fee approach and a cumulative of 3 National Societies carrying out income generating service development. 2 best practices in resource mobilization shared within the International Federation. 2 National Societies receive focused resource mobilization support.	0	2/2/2	- Jamaica Red Cross is actively promoting a membership fee drive for its volunteers. The Paraguayan Red Cross is carrying out resource mobilization training with its branches. Uruguayan Red Cross has designated a person for RM and has presented a project to the Zone to start an RM department in the National Society. - A set of best practices in resource mobilization was drafted demonstrating good practices from National Societies that can assist others as part of peer-to-peer initiatives. - A consolidated document with various Partner National Societies' comments about their experiences with the zone/National Societies has been consolidated and is expected to be put in use during a "think tank session" with the zone. The projected final outcome is a transparency campaign that will be disseminated in 2013 to the National Societies. - The Ecuadoran Red Cross, the Red Cross Society of Panama and the Paraguayan Red Cross are receiving direct support on resource mobilization activities. Modalities of support vary depending of the nature of the activities implemented. - Contacts have been made in Argentina and the zone RM officer accompanied the Argentine Red Cross to potential private donors in the country. - Seven National Societies of Brazil Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Paraguay attended a Coca-Cola Company/ IFRC workshop in Mexico City to define zone and country activities; main areas prioritized were disaster management and public engagement. The National Societies learned how to approach the local bottlers and potentially develop local partnerships.

OUTPUT 4.3.2. The funding provided directly or negotiated through by the secretariat to the National Societies for capacity building activities in support services has increased significantly over the 4 year period of the framework

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
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Funding channelled to National Societies increases by 10% compared to 2011.	0	10%	- Thanks to the IFRC-DFID Partnership 2011-2014, the Americas zone made a significant effort to increase the availability of funds for capacity building activities in support services using the funding available. - In Chile, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama and Paraguay funding for income generation activities was disbursed. The main idea is to support the growth of the National Societies' training centres by improving their existing capacities and equipment and strengthening their management for income generation.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

Resource mobilization is one of the greatest challenges facing the National Societies and their interest in the area continues to increase. Several small initiatives have been taken, serving as opportunities to support National Societies to implement income generating activities. However, this area still requires more attention to diversify the potential opportunities. The greatest progress can be seen in Haiti and Guatemala.

Overall progress in business line four is extremely positive in terms of humanitarian diplomacy, disaster law and positioning the Red Cross within governments and key humanitarian and development actors. Lesser progress is seen in income generation support for services provided by National Societies and fundraising for development programmes.

Business line V: To deepen our tradition of togetherness through 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 5.1.1: A network of practice is established through FedNet and other information sharing tools in each support services area (Admin, Finance, HR, Logistics, PMER and IT/Telecom)

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
At least 5 National Societies are represented and active in each support services network.	0	5	- In the area of finance, a dialogue was established with the regional representatives of the Andean Region, Southern Cone and Central America to launch the finance community of practice. During the second half of 2012 an initial workshop will be organized with finance managers of National Societies in South America to raise awareness on financial procedures and policies, exchange experiences and develop a cooperation agenda in the area of finance. The terms of reference and the expected results of this network of practice have been drafted and will be shared with National Societies and feedback requested. - With regards to PMER, 10 National Societies provided their respective focal point for FDRS. Peer-to-peer support is scheduled for that last half of the year to enable National Societies to input information against the 7 FDRS proxy indicators. - The terms of reference for the community of practice in human resources have been

			developed and a message sent out to all HR National Society contacts on the development of an HR network to support collaboration and sharing of ideas and best practices. This network will be an ideal platform to foster mutual growth within the area of human resources. All HR contacts in the National Societies have confirmed the names and contact information. • Mapping of National Societies' learning needs and identification of gaps: an inventory is being developed to facilitate the collection of information regarding the National Societies' basic learning needs, courses and analysis to strengthen capacity-building, encouraging knowledge-sharing at all levels and delivery through greater access to accredited learning and training. The inventory will also provide a mapping of the spectrum of resources, best practices, etc., which will facilitate appropriate HR support and encourage partnerships and knowledge sharing among National Societies. • An HR survey was conducted in March 2012 to identify gaps, training needs, and areas where National Societies need improvement, thus providing a better picture of requirements for support. • The Belize Red Cross Society continues to work on sustainable resource mobilization initiatives with a special focus on corporate partnerships. In addition, support has been provided to the Peruvian Red Cross and the Bolivian Red Cross to improve their accountability processes.
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OUTPUT 5.1.2: The National Societies in the Americas and the Secretariat successfully organised the XIX Inter-American Conference to define our key priorities and strategic orientations for the Americas over the next four years and follow up the outcomes

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
XIX Inter-American Conference is organized and a new Inter-American Plan (IAP) for 2012–2016, aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i> is fully disseminated.			• The XIX Inter American Conference was successfully organized and was held between 14-16 March 2012 in Montrouis, Haiti, under the theme "Reducing the gaps" addressing the current trends in humanitarian assistance and development, as well as lessons learned from the 2010 Haiti earthquake and the Red Cross Red Crescent response operation that followed it. Over 300 people from 34 of the 35 National Red Cross Societies of the Americas continent, Partner National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross participated, as well as invited external organizations and partners to promote co-operation, networking and partnerships. • The main outcomes of the Conference were the adoption of the Montrouis Commitment and the Inter American Framework for Action 2012-2016 which will guide and inspire the work of the National Societies in the Americas over the coming 4 years. Additionally, the Conference

			held thematic sessions on Volunteers and Youth; Migration; Urban Violence; and Relations with state institutions. The Conference also provided recommendations on the implementation of the Inter American Framework for Action and agreed that the next Conference would be held in the United States. • Organizationally speaking, the Conference represented a great challenge in terms of the support that had to be provided to the Haiti Red Cross Society to help the National Society fulfil its mandate. • Among the achievements were: - Resource mobilization and finance management in which the appeal (MMS42002) was fully covered and the conference therefore generated no deficit. - The distribution of the 2010-2012 photobook: "Recovering Hope the Americas through a Lens" was disseminated to the more than 200 focal points from National Societies, organizations and corporations in attendance. - The country representation in Haiti contributed significantly to overcome organizational weaknesses, providing on-site support to the conference in different areas (mainly security, logistics, and transportation), as well as the logistics for the youth events. - Administration and IT/Telecom teams contributed significantly to the organization put in place by the Haiti Red Cross Society and further support was provided with personnel from the American Red Cross and Ecuadorian Red Cross. - All the programmes and regional representations' staff played a key role in the preparatory work done in 2011 and 2012 and in actively involving all National Societies for a successful conference.
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OUTPUT 5.1.3: National Societies participate in the Federation-wide communication strategy

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 National Societies participate in the Federation-wide communication strategy.	0	3	• A communication network was established in the Southern Cone region. The Chilean Red Cross is actively participating in the Federation-wide communication strategy. The Argentine and Paraguayan Red Cross Societies are also taking steps, with support provided by the IFRC, towards participation in the Federation-wide communications strategy. • The Americas zone office is developing a communications strategy to be shared with National Societies in the second half of the year. • The communications unit conducted missions

			to Chile and Paraguay in May to review documents. Comments were given and meetings held with the communications units of both National Societies in order to align strategies and strengthen working relationships. • In the Caribbean, a communications technical committee was formed to revive the www.caribbeanredcross.org website. The committee liaised with the previous managers of the website and the technical team in Panama along with the CRRO to reactivate the site. Monthly online communications meetings are held to discuss essential issues and share communications materials to strengthen the communicators network and build capacity. National Societies are further strengthened by a rotation of the chairmanship for the meetings. • The CRRO participated in the public awareness and public education global meeting in Costa Rica. The objective of the meeting was to scale up inclusion of awareness and education in ongoing DRR projects. • The CRRO provided training in communications theory and practice for National Societies to build the capacities of the communications officers so as to increase visibility and understanding of each National Society's work. Communications officers were supported in developing communications plans for Caribbean National Societies. Support was also provided through the preparation of media and information packages and the creation of a fact sheet on the CRRO for the Caribbean pre hurricane meeting. • Support was provided to Caribbean National Societies to conduct market surveys to determine effectiveness, impact and reach of Red Cross messaging. Surveys took the form of street interviews (Vox Pop), online surveys and focus groups. • Key messages were provided to Caribbean National Societies and print advertisements were produced as part of commemoration of the International Day for DRR for dissemination to stakeholders and online social media portals. • Global best practices and methodologies were provided regularly to Caribbean National Societies' communications officers to encourage new ideas and broaden approaches to information use and management. Newsletters were uploaded to DesAprender and shared with Spanish-speaking colleagues and users.
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

The establishment of a **knowledge network** to disseminate innovation, promote horizontal cooperation and improve programming capacities in services areas (administration and finance, IT/Telecom, human resources, logistics and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting) is progressing in the areas of finance, human resources, logistics, communications and resource mobilization. However, progress is taking place mostly on preparing the IFRC teams to lead and promote these networks among National Societies.

Most of these teams were primarily focused on internally servicing the IFRC programmes and offices while this outcome requires more refocusing on networking with the National Societies in the region. Activities to date include the development of terms of reference; creation of databases of contacts; assessment missions to National Societies to analyze challenges and capacities; creation of required tools to promote these networks. Although it is not not foreseen that these networks will be in place and active in 2012, basic foundations will be built this year to ensure their functioning in 2013.

The **XIX Inter American Conference** was successfully organized between 14-16 March 2012 in Montrouis, Haiti, under the theme “Reducing the gaps” addressing the current trends in humanitarian assistance and development, as well as lessons learned from the 2010 Haiti earthquake and the Red Cross Red Crescent response operation that followed it.

The Inter-American Regional Conference brought together over 300 participants from 34 of the 35 National Red Cross Societies of the Americas continent, Partner National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as well as invited external organizations and partners, to promote cooperation, networking and partnerships among the National Societies, as well as setting a good strategic basis for the upcoming four years.

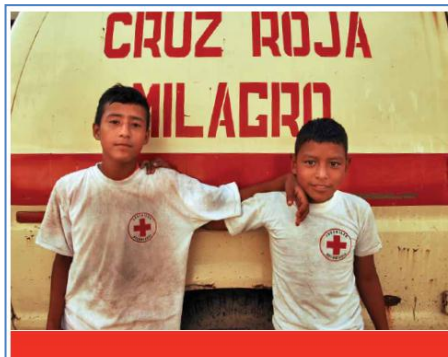


INTERSHIP PROGRAMME

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Red Cross Inter-American Framework for Action 2012-2016

XIX Inter-American Conference
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International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The main outcomes of the conference were the adoption of the Montrouis Commitment and the Inter American Framework for Action 2012-2016 that will guide and inspire the work of the National Societies in the Americas in this period. Additionally, the conference held thematic sessions on volunteers and youth; migration; urban violence; and relations with state institutions. The conference also provided recommendations on the implementation of the Inter American Framework for Action and agreed that the next conference would be held in the United States.

The **internships programme**, strengthened in 2012 thanks to the financial support provided by DFID, has been instrumental in promoting exchanges of knowledge and better mutual understanding of the realities in National

Societies and the IFRC. During the first half of 2012, a total of 8 internships involving staff from 5 National Societies were sponsored in the areas of IT/Telecom, logistics, health, shelter and DM. Another 22 internships are planned for the last half of the year, involving a total of 13 National Societies.

The organization of the XIX Inter American Conference required much involvement on the part of all support services departments during the first 3 months of 2012. Additionally, the refurbishment work for the new zone office required, and will continue to demand, an extra effort from the Administration, HR and IT departments. Similarly, the adjustment process for the Americas zone implies significant involvement from Human Resources and, to a lesser extent Finance and Reporting. Other outcomes resulting from global initiatives are underway such as follow up to the staff survey and the revision of job descriptions in human resources and the systems upgrade in IT/Telecom. As a result, some of the LTPF targets for 2012 projected might not be fully achieved; however, other key outcomes not contemplated in the LTPF will be delivered.

In the area of human resources, contacts for all National Societies' human resource teams were formalized. A mapping of National Societies' learning needs and identification of gaps is underway. An inventory is currently being developed to facilitate the collection of information on National Societies' needs in this area, which will facilitate appropriate human resources support and encourage greater partnership development and knowledge sharing among National Societies. Building capacities within human resources has included the development of a tool kit made up of recruitment and selection guidelines, templates for job descriptions and job performance appraisals, and distance coaching. Terms of Reference have been created to start a Human Resources Community of Practice on FedNet that will enable HR professionals within the National Societies to come together informally or formally to learn from one another and to share information, best practices and experiences.

OUTPUT 5.2.1: Peer-to-Peer initiatives are promoted among National Societies and disseminated through the knowledge network:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
4 peer-to-peer initiatives have been promoted, documented and disseminated	0	4	- Peer-to-peer support was established between the Belize Red Cross Society and the Mexican Red Cross on volunteer management which concluded in the first quarter. - The Honduran Red Cross provided support to the Dominican Red Cross for its volunteer database. - Several National Societies in the Caribbean have provided training to peers in VCA and the NIT curriculum. - Peer-to-peer support in PMER is a key element of the strategy for the roll-out of the Federation Databank and Reporting System in 2012.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The four year strategic plan of the Americas zone aims to gradually transfer responsibilities to those National Societies willing to take on a facilitation role and develop new capacities that will benefit the Red Cross. One of the approaches is the IFRC facilitation of this transfer of responsibilities through the peer-to-peer support between a National Society with the capacity to assist a sister National Society through networking opportunities and short-term consultancies.

Several peer-to-peer support initiatives have taken place during the first six months of 2012 to promote cooperation and exchange of experiences and best practices. Several other initiatives are being organized and will be implemented in the last half of the year.

In the HR area, work is underway so that the peer-to-peer initiatives can begin once the HR network is complete. Efforts will continue to be made to increase funding partnerships and resources; and to share expertise, in-kind support and other avenues to further collective commitment to build stronger National Societies. During this period, the progress towards this initiative was below the target since initial support to the National Societies began with providing advice, templates and tools. Notable collaboration is underway, alongside efforts that ensure a strong HR foundation with efficient systems and processes in the IFRC human resources department, such as a review of the templates and tools.

Outcome 5.3 National Societies' access and ability to use affordable technologies are improved, increasing outreach in a self-sustaining manner by bridging the digital divide.

OUTPUT 5.3.1: National Societies become ICT certified centres and offer their membership and communities courses and certifications on the use of computers and other technologies

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
2 National Societies become ICDL certified centres and offer online training and in country certification.	0	2	20 end users from Saint. Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross are taking the International Computer Drivers License (ICDL) courses. - The ICDL courses in Spanish were provided on CDs to the Peruvian Red Cross.

OUTPUT 5.3.2: National Societies develop policies and procedures to manage their technology

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
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12 National Societies become ITIL certified; 3 National Societies write and implement 3 policies with related procedures	0	12/3	- Following the secretariat's introduction to a wide range of policies and procedures and knowledge on their implementation, the Ecuadoran Red Cross IT staff presented their IT policies proposal to their governing body. Information is being provided to the Ecuadoran Red Cross for guidance on the Information Technology International Library (ITIL) certification. - The Chilean Red Cross implemented IT policies, which are currently being applied in their internal processes.
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OUTPUT 5.3.3: Horizontal cooperation initiatives on IT/Telecom thematic areas

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 horizontal cooperation initiatives have been promoted, documented and disseminated	0	3	- The Costa Rican Red Cross Radio Over IP (ROIP) solution is being assessed for potential replication in other National Societies. - Involvement in the IAC during the first quarter and the absence of an IT manager during the second quarter has led to delays in the implementation of these initiatives.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

Progress towards this outcome in this reporting period is below projections due to the limited capacities of the IT/Telecom team as a result of the departure of the IT manager as well as demands related to the organization of the Inter American Conference and the setting up of the new IFRC offices in Panama. A revision of targets for 2013 is necessary so that these are more realistic and identify potential areas for development of IT technologies in the National Societies.

Despite these constraints during this period, ICDL capacity building support has been provided to two National Societies (Peru and Saint. Vincent and the Grenadines), which participated in the Digital Divide Initiative last year. IT policies have been disseminated in two other National Societies (Chile and Ecuador).

OUTPUT 5.4.1: National Societies in the Americas have a plan aligned with *Strategy 2020* and report data on Federation wide reporting indicators:

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
20 National Societies have a plan aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i> . 8 National Societies are providing data on all seven FWRS indicators. 10 National Societies are providing data on one or more FWRS indicators.	0	20 8 10	10 National Societies in the Americas have a Strategic Plan aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i>. - With IFRC support, the Bolivian Red Cross and the Peruvian Red Cross have begun the process of renewing their respective national strategic plans and aligning these with <i>Strategy 2020</i>. - The National Societies of Costa Rica and Guatemala are also reviewing their Strategic Plans and ensuring alignment with <i>Strategy 2020</i>. - The Chilean Red Cross is in the process of revising its strategic plan with branches and will seek approval from its governing board at the end of the year. - In total since 2010, 9 NSs have completed the FWRS exercise, although they have not necessarily provided information on all 7 proxy

			indicators. The full roll-out for 2012 of the FDRS took place in the second quarter in accordance with a defined strategy. However, due to the results from the DFID reporting questionnaire, the Belize Red Cross, the Bolivian Red Cross, the Dominican Red Cross, the Paraguayan Red Cross and the Peruvian Red Cross have already provided data on all 7 FWRS indicators (2011 data).
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OUTPUT 5.5.1: The IFRC Framework for Evaluations is upheld for all the evaluations carried out in the secretariat funded programmes in the Americas

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
	0		The Federation's Evaluation Framework was shared with all programmes and operations undertaking evaluations in 2012 including the reesponse to cholera in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, water and sanitation programming in Haiti and the zone youth programme and has been taken into consideration when drafting and finalizing the ToR.

OUTPUT 5.5.2: All disaster operations in the Americas meet the criteria to carry out a Real Time Evaluation

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
	0		During the first six months of 2012, no emergency operations in the Americas meet the criteria for a Real Time Evaluation.

Outcome 5.6 Federation policies and best practices on support services are increasingly adopted and implemented by National Societies

OUTPUT 5.6.1. International Federation policies on support services (finance, administration, human resources and planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation) are disseminated among National Societies

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
Key policies are translated into Spanish and published on FedNet.	0		10 key financial procedures are being translated into Spanish to make them available to National Societies in the third quarter through sharepoint and FedNet so that IFRC and National Society staff may access them. Once the community of practice has been approved, National Societies will be notified. - The structure of the Americas PMER web page was designed and material to be translated into Spanish was identified. 4 Human Resources guides were documented and translated into Spanish. Documents will be uploaded on the HR webpage under

			construction. These include: best practices/policies implemented in Haiti Red Cross Society; procedure for requests for staff or consultants; revision of administrative and accounting procedures (including management of human resources); implementation of several forms such as performance evaluation and classification of job descriptions; personnel evaluation for the following directorates or departments: human resources, training centre, directorate of disaster management, directorate of branches and volunteering (ongoing), directorate of health (ongoing) together with structural analysis. • Trainings were provided to the Haiti Red Cross Society with a view to improving capacities in human resource management.
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OUTPUT 5.6.2. National Societies in the Americas region have improved their capacity in the area of finance and therefore have achieved some common goals of a well functioning finance department, enabling them to move from the working advance (WA) system to the Cash Transfer system (CT System)

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
3 National Societies have moved from the WA to the CT System.	0	3	• The finance department initiated the process of changing the working modality from working advances (WA) to cash transfer (CT) and assessments will be carried out in the third quarter in three National Societies. • The Chilean Red Cross is the process of establishing financial mechanisms and procedures in 2012.

OUTPUT 5.6.3. Americas Zone Office is seen as a well functioning support unit by the National Societies

2012 Target	BL	Annual Target	Implementation to Date
The Americas Zone Office's outputs and targets are met in timely manner and of quality are achieved by well motivated and functioning staff.	0		• Progress against LTPF 2012-2015 outputs and targets (Americas Zone mid-year report). • Alignment between the Americas Zone LTPF 2012-2015 and the Inter American Framework for Action 2012-2016.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

There is a high level of alignment between the secretariat Long Term Planning Framework 2012-2015 and the recently approved Inter American Framework for Action (IAFA) 2012-2016, showing that the direction of secretariat support to National Societies and its programmes is moving in the right direction to address the same external trends and internal challenges to enable the secretariat to do more and to have further collective impact.

One of the core elements highlighted in the Inter American Framework for Action 2012-2016 is the importance of working with harmonized approaches and in accordance with Federation-wide strategies, frameworks and policies. Human resources, finance, planning, monitoring and reporting are areas where the IFRC has also promoted this Federation-wide approach.

The finance department has made good progress towards the creation of policies and other reference material available to National Societies to facilitate their use for the improvement of each National Society's internal financial procedures. These will also serve as elements to be developed the community of practice (output

5.1.1.). Assessments are underway in three National Societies to move from the working advance to the cash transfer system. The CT modality significantly reduces the bureaucratic burden and financial reporting requirements of National Societies when reporting on funds channelled by the IFRC to National Societies.

The human resources department has also shown positive progress towards providing references and sharing best practices with National Societies. Special attention is paid to supporting the Haiti Red Cross Society in its efforts to modernize its human resources management. Numerous policies, best practices and trainings were implemented in the Haiti Red Cross Society to enhance its capacity in the human resources area. Some of the challenges in this area stem from the time dedicated to the introduction of new staff rules and regulations for International staff and the classification tool for them, the implementation of the INA structure in Haiti, the IAC in March 2012, and staff surveys. All of these actions required a great deal of involvement by the human resources department, thus delaying some aspects of projected targets. To date, only 4 HR guides have been documented and translated into Spanish; these and other documents will be uploaded to the HR web page currently under construction.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

The IFRC in the Americas has internal and external stakeholders. The internal stakeholders are composed of the programmes, the regional and country representations, the secretariat headquarters, the National Societies and the Partner National Societies. External stakeholders include non-Movement partners such as NGOs, international organizations, the private sector, multilateral institutions, governments and the beneficiaries. Work with internal stakeholders involves significant coordination, strategic programming, knowledge sharing, capacity building, fundraising, communications and support to the implementation of programmes and projects.

Internal stakeholders' needs have been addressed by organizing the way work is carried out in a more integrated and efficient manner. The current work model divides the National Societies' portfolio by region, assigning focal points to improve information management and capacity to respond to the needs of National Societies in joint collaboration with the regional and country representations and offices. The Long Term Planning Framework of the Zone Office has been harmonized with the National Societies' country plans and the operational plans are in the process of alignment with the Montrouis Commitments (Haiti IAC 2012). Fundraising has been done proactively in emergency operations and development fundraising has been done by supporting the programme dialogues with PNSs, accessing calls for proposals, mapping donors' interest and cross checking these with needs. Coordination meetings and workshops have further paved the way to strengthen collaboration channels.

Working with external partners focuses more on the development of strategic partnerships to develop the capacities of the National Societies in the Americas. Some of the ongoing partnerships include accessed knowledge sharing platforms, the development of thematic networks, funding for programmes, emergency operations, and capacity building of the National Societies.

Partner National Societies have demanded higher accountability standards. In response to this request, reports reflect earmarking, impact on beneficiaries and results against targets and outputs, which is carried out in close collaboration with the different business units and National Societies. An ongoing accountability and transparency campaign led by support services entails planning, monitoring and reporting trainings conducted across the Zone. These ongoing trainings aim to improve and standardize the quality of reporting and enhance the National Societies' overall accountability capacities. Within the next few months, peer-to-peer support activities designed to strengthen staff capacities in resource mobilization will be conducted. Several evaluations or mid-term reviews are programmed for projects funded by external donors to measure achievement against goals.

With regards to the beneficiaries, a beneficiary communications programme (BENCOMS), which was first launched in Haiti within the framework of the Haiti earthquake response has been developed. The BENCOMS programme consists of sending essential text messages with early warnings to beneficiaries through an Interactive Voice Recognition System. It has proven to be extremely effective and widely-accepted by

beneficiaries in Haiti and the international community has recognized it as an innovative project. The Americas Zone is determined to extend this programme globally. During the IAC, communication side events were held, highlighting this successful experience, sharing best practices and lessons learned with Partner National Societies. The global roll-out of the beneficiary communication programme is planned for the near future.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
The Americas zone adjustment process including improved alignment with S2020.	Low	Continued monitoring of the process and participation of stakeholders.
Increasing bilateralism in the Americas.	Medium	Improved communication and coordination to ensure that multilateral action meets needs and that duplication is avoided.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

During the second semester of 2012, important strategic activities and processes will take place at national levels to build a better coordination among the National Societies and government entities on the urban risk agenda in each country. These actions will contribute to the process of strengthening of auxiliary role of these National Societies with public powers and governments.

An E-learning Training will be held in October 2012 for National Societies of the Americas to promote and better understand the reach and use of the e-learning platform of the Federation. Coordination was started to adapt the NIT Training to the e-learning mode, which will be available at the IFRC Platform.

Financial situation

During the first semester of 2012 the Americas zone implemented a total of Swiss francs 33 million through activities related to development programmes, disaster response, supplementary services, unrestricted budgets and others.

The highest expenditure was reported through the disaster response portfolio with Swiss francs 25 million (76% of the overall expenditure). The key driver was the Haiti earthquake operation with expenditure of Swiss francs 21 million. The remaining expenditure is related to other emergency appeals and DREF operations.

Swiss francs 4 million were implemented through the development programmes with the highest expenditure as follows:

- Americas zone plan Swiss francs 2.0 million
- Caribbean Region Swiss francs 1.1 million

Supplementary services contributed to the amount of expenditures incurred with Swiss francs 1.3 million of which Swiss francs 1.2 million took place in Haiti. This is mainly through the services provided to the PNSs and providing support to the emergency programmes in Haiti.

In terms of the unrestricted budget which is mainly to fund the zone structure which provides support towards programme implementation and the delivery of services, Swiss francs 1.7 million were spent of an initial budget allocation of CHF 3 million; 58% was spent during the first semester of 2012.

If the perspective of the business lines is considered, it can be seen that the highest investment was made in the business line 2 – Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people with Swiss francs 20 million, followed by business line 3 – Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development with Swiss francs 7 million and business line 5 – Joint working and accountability with Swiss francs 4 million. Business lines 1 – Raise humanitarian standards together with the business line 4 – Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work incurred significantly less expenditure.

The information can be analyzed under the perspective of the type of expenditure, the highest being as follows:

1. Personnel	Swiss francs 15mn
2. Relief items, construction and supplies	5mn
3. General Expenditures	2mn
4. Logistic, Transport and Storage	2mn
5. Contributions & Transfers	2mn
6. Others	7mn

Click here to go directly to the financial report. report:

https://fednet.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF%20Process/LTPF/2012/SP2LTPF_12myrf.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.

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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