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# Cuba

## Annual Report 2013

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**MAACU002**

**May 2014**

**This report covers the  
period 01 Jan 13 to 31  
Dec 13.**

*Right: Cuban home repaired through Red  
Cross action. Source: IFRC*



## Overview

The complex and unique Cuban context of the country also affects the development of the Cuban Red Cross, with respect to the diversification of its financing, in the modernization of its management and facilities of the implementation of activities. The 2013 plan took this into consideration, as well as activities planned in the plan of action of the Hurricane Sandy operation.

At end of October 2012, the Hurricane Sandy affected the eastern region, during its passage through Cuba, Sandy left significant damage behind, particularly in the city of Santiago de Cuba which is not usually in the direct path of Caribbean hurricanes. The city sustained the strongest winds as it was exposed to the eastern and stronger side of the hurricane. Members of the Red Cross have been coordinating efforts internally and externally from the onset of the emergency. In Cuba, the National Society has coordinated all its actions with local authorities while sharing information with partners.

This affectation became in an opportunity for the movement to position the Cuban Red Cross as a strong humanitarian actor and confirmed the Cuban Red Cross has ample experience working alongside the government authorities to assist in the rapid evacuation of families living in areas of risk. The implementation of the activities of the operation by Hurricane Sandy and plan of action, allowed the Cuban Red Cross to be positioned as a humanitarian agency, supported by the Federation systems.

It is important to improve our communication with the National Society through increased presence and field visits to Cuba, it is difficult sometimes for the limitation of the National Society to access to media in the Cuban context and the availability of resources to do it from the country office in Santo Domingo.

## Working in partnership

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), through its Federation Coordination Office in the Dominican Republic, provides institutional support to the Cuban Red Cross, as well as technical inputs in risk reduction management and volunteer development. Attending to operation response of Hurricane Sandy, the IFRC's Disaster and Crisis Response and Early Recovery Unit is also in regular contact with the Cuban Red Cross, as well as with Partner National Societies including the Norwegian Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross, which are currently working bilaterally with the National Society

Since 2008, the Norwegian Red Cross (NRC) has been developing a cooperation project with the CRC in disaster preparedness for vulnerable communities. Early this year, a new NRC representative in Cuba was introduced to the National Society and will continue cooperation and establish close coordination with the regional representation.

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) is one of the CRC's on-going donors, holding regular meetings to analyse the situation and humanitarian needs in Cuba through its regional office in Santo Domingo.

| Operational Partners                                   | Agreement   |
|--|---|
| Norwegian Red Cross                                    | PRECO IV (Community Preparedness)<br><br>Multilateral cooperation in association with Spanish RC and ECHO to response the emergency of Hurricane Sandy. |
| ECHO   | DIPECHO   |
| International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent | Cooperation<br>Emergency operations multilateral partners through IFRC  |

## Progress towards outcomes

This section should be structured under the IFRC secretariat's business lines.

### Business line I: HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS

**Outcome:** 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   |                  |                  |   |
|---|------------------|------------------|---|
| Indicators  | BL               | Annual Target    | Implementation to date  |
| <b>2013</b>   |                  |                  |   |
| The Cuban Red Cross has actively advocated with the national agencies for the inclusion | <b>1 meeting</b> | <b>1 meeting</b> | The thematic was shared with the participants at the meeting in Cuba, including the objectives and activities Disaster Law/IDRL projects. |

|   |          |          |  |
|---|----------|----------|--|
| of International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL) in 2013.   |          |          | Although Cuba has special provisions in the customs legislation for disaster, it is necessary to analyse in depth the rules and determine if there are areas that require strengthening with regard to the facilitation of international disaster. |
| <b>2012</b>   |          |          |  |
| By the end of 2012, the Cuban Red Cross would develop capacities in legal preparedness for international disaster assistance and its interlocutory capacity with the Government | <b>0</b> | <b>1</b> | The NS has designated one focal point to analyse of existing legislation in reference to disaster response, working in consultation with government authorities.   |

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

| Measurement   |          |                     |   |
|---|----------|---------------------|---|
| Indicators  | BL       | Annual Target       | Implementation to date  |
| <b>2012</b>   |          |                     |   |
| 1. In 2012 , 3 NSs of the sub region, including Cuban RC are sharing knowledge and expertise through a regional network in Latin Caribbean. | <b>0</b> | <b>2 activities</b> | <p>The Cuban Red Cross is actively preparing their staff, volunteers and their equipment to respond in disaster cases in alignment with the humanitarian trends.</p> <p>The CRC had an active participation in in two important events in the region: the Seminar on Seismic Risk Reduction 2012 and the Forum of Urban Risk in both in Santo Domingo, in a multi-sectorial scenario with government institutions and international partners.</p> |

#### Comments on progress towards outcomes

Next year it will be relevant and determinant to concretize the participation of Cuban Red Cross with IDRL project. The NS is interested to follow with dissemination of the IDRL in Cuba, especially with ministries and government authorities.

**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 the Americas

#### Measurement

| Indicators  | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|---|----|---------------|---|
| <b>2013</b>   |    |               |   |
| By the end of 2013, the NS has provided and completed the requirements of DATABANK through presentation of hard copy version. | 0  | 1             | By the end of 2013, the NS provided its Strategic Plan and reported against 6 of the proxy indicators through presentation of hard copy version.  |
| <b>2012</b>   |    |               |   |
| The NS has provide and complete the requirements of DATABANK through presentation in paper by the end of 2012.                | 0  | 1             | Although the CRC expected to have the information for the databank by November it has not been achieved. The CRC is aware of the use of the tool, but completion of the formats to provide information was affected by the emergency arose in October |

**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** Organisational Capacity Assessment and certification (OCAC) process established

| Measurement   |    |               |                             |
|---|----|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Indicators  | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date      |
| <b>2013</b>   |    |               |                             |
| By the end of 2013 the NS has completed the self-assessment phase.                      | 0  | 1             | Target not reached in 2013. |
| <b>2012</b>   |    |               |                             |
| In the second half of 2012, the NS has a trained 1 focal point for the process of OCAC. | 0  | 1 person      | Not achieved in 2012        |

#### Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Cuban Red Cross was not prepared to start the OCAC process in 2013. Thus this activity has been eliminated. It will not be carried over to Development Operational Plan for 2014, until the National Society is in a better position to undertake the self-assessment.

## Business Line II: DISASTER AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

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

**Output 2.1.1:** Key humanitarian trends integrated into their disaster crisis plans and programmes

#### Measurement

| Indicators   | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|--|----|---------------|---|
| <b>2013</b>  |    |               |   |
| By the end of 2013 1,500 families have been reached with community orientation on the main risks in disaster situations in Cuba. | 0  | 1500 families | Target not achieved in 2013   |
| <b>2012</b>  |    |               |   |
| 1. 2 members of NS have completed and are prepared with knowledge of standards of reliefs operations.                            | 0  | 2 members     | Not achieved in 2012  |
| 2. It acknowledged the support of the Federation and Cuban RC in projects in Cuba.   | 0  | 1             | The CRC has worked with the Norwegian Red Cross in the development of a DIPECHO proposal. The CRC has also received support from the Caribbean DIPECHO. |

#### Comments on progress towards outcomes

Target not achieved in 2013, due to reprioritization of actions of the CRC to focus on the Hurricane Sandy response operation.

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

| Indicators  | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|---|----|---------------|---|
| 1. In 2012, The Cuban RC has integrated climate change approach in the Risk Management. | 0  | 1             | As national policy and part of the strategic plan of CRC is promoting social mobilization towards greener lifestyle. It has also integrated the climate change approach in their plans and within VCA practice. |

#### Output 2.1.6: 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

| Indicators   | BL | Annual Target  | Implementation to date  |
|--|----|----------------|---|
| <b>2012</b>  |    |                |   |
| 1. In November 2012, has successfully completed the execution of the activities and reports. | 0  | 1 final report | Emergency items stock for up to 1,500 families is available for distribution. The stock of NFI was managed by CRC to provide first response for families affected by Hurricane Sandy. |
| 2. Increase the capacity of the Cuban RC to address and respond to emergencies.              |    |                | Emergency items stock for up to 1,500 families is available for distribution.   |

**Business Line III: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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

**Output 3.1.1:** National Society leadership and institutional capacity for partnership exist

| Measurement  |    |               |   |
|--|----|---------------|---|
| Indicators   | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
| <b>2013</b>  |    |               |   |
| At the end 2013, the number of branches that have prepared their development plans has increased by 8.   | 26 | 40            | Target not achieved in 2013, due to reprioritization of actions to focus on the Hurricane Sandy response operation  |
| At the end 2013, 14 branches are using standard tools for the development of branches and planning.  | 14 | 28            | Target not achieved in 2013, due to reprioritization of actions to focus on the Hurricane Sandy response operation.   |
| Number of that members have strengthened the capacity and knowledge of national guidelines, internal and external tools, and the Federation's work locally, regionally and globally. | 50 | 84            | Staff of 34 branches in 8 provinces in Cuba have acquired knowledge about S2020, Inter-American Framework, and the IFRC response system.  |
| <b>2012</b>  |    |               |   |
| 1. By the end of 2012, 14 branches of NS facilitate to others municipal branches the support in development branches planning.   | 0  | 14            | 54 staff people from 26 branches from both branches and HQ of the CRC participated and received knowledge in S2020, the IFRC disaster response system of the Federation, and new IFRC frameworks. |

**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.

| Indicators   | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|--|----|---------------|---|
| <b>2012</b>  |    |               |   |
| 1. 1,500 families have been reached in the community orientation of the main risks in disaster situations. | 0  | 1,500         | There were no funds to produce these guidelines, nor projects that could cover this activity. It has been postponed for 2013. |

**Comments on progress towards outcomes**

No progress recorded on this until this moment. This indicator was relocated to Business Line II.

**3.4. 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.**

**Output 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.

| Indicators  | BL | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|---|----|---------------|---|
| <b>2012</b>   |    |               |   |
| 1. In 2012, 6 volunteer representatives have participated in 3 relevant events.   | 0  | 6             | 1 volunteer of CRC has participated in YABC in Haiti. She is the CRC focal point for the dissemination of the tools and knowledge sharing in within the National Society.   |
| 2. In 2012, the material of volunteering in emergencies has reached at least in 14 provincial branches, available in hard copies and digital media. | 0  | 14            | Electronic versions of information related to volunteering has been delivered. There are hard copies available, which will be shared when the volunteering delegate visits the National Society.                                |
| 3. At the end 2012, the Database application system implementation is in course.  | 0  | 1             | At the moment, and taking in account the Cuban context, they prepared an electronic template to capture the information of volunteering registries in all the branches. It's necessary to provide follow up to this initiative. |

#### Comments on progress towards outcomes

This indicators were not retaken during 2014.

### Business Line V: EFFECTIVE JOINT WORKING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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

**Output 5.1.2.** The National Societies in the Americas and the Secretariat successfully 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:

| Indicators   | BL       | Annual Target | Implementation to date  |
|--|----------|---------------|---|
| <b>2012</b>  |          |               |   |
| 1. The RRO has sponsored 2 people of the NS to participate at the IAC 2012 | <b>0</b> | <b>2</b>      | Three staff people of the Cuban RC participated in IAC2012. With these representatives the NS acquired the inputs to share with the Cuban RC and include it in their National Development Plan 2012-2020. |

#### Comments on progress towards outcomes

This indicator was not retaken during 2014, as the conference was 2013-specific.

## Key Risks or Positive Factors

| Key Risks or Positive Factors  | Priority<br>High Medium<br>Low | Recommended Action  |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| The coordination with Norwegian Red Cross  | M                              | Strengthen coordination with NRC representative, and share plans.   |
| Elaboration of a Cooperation Agenda  | H                              | Facilitate and support with the Cuban RC the elaboration of this agenda.<br><br>Concretize regular cooperation agreements with the government |
| New regulations or adjustments in all sectors will affect the cooperation in Cuba. | H                              | The Federation should continue the work begun with CRC and Cuban authorities on the initiative of laws disaster and IDRL guidelines.          |

## Financial situation

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

## How we work

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

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

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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](http://www.ifrc.org)

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