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Nicaraguan Red Cross 2013 Annual Report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAANI002

24 June 2014

**This report covers the
period of 01 January
2013 to 31 December
2013.**

*Climate change project community fair in
the Nicaraguan Red Cross. Source :
Nicaraguan Red Cross/ Maya Schaerer.*



Working in partnership

During 2013 the IFRC Zone office through the Nicaragua country coordination office had an important and close working relationship with the National Society, to view to the results of developments achieved in the country plan in 2012.

The main results for 2013 were the upgrading of the national development plan, support the electoral process in the National Society and the election of new officers for the 2014-2018 term. Achievements were also made in sharing policies from the IFRC, improving the disaster management systems, including strengthening coordination with the national civil protection system (SINAPRED), promote voluntary blood donation, communicable diseases prevention (Dengue), strengthening volunteerism in subsidiaries and capacity logistics with 1,000 prepositioning emergency kits.

The National Society Red Cross Youth improved the ability to implement programs to prevent violence and social inclusion through training of its members in the methodology "Youth as Agents of Change" sponsored by the Regional Youth Network in Salvador.

With the IFRC support through PADRU, the National Society responded to the dengue emergency, which affected the population of three departments. During this response the National Society strengthened ties and coordination with the Ministry of Health and the SINAPRED.

In addition, the Nicaraguan Red Cross worked together with partners in several complementary actions. The cooperation agreement was elaborated and promoted as a means to channel efforts and support in the same direction and to strengthen the National Society in several areas.

| Operational Partners | Agreement |
|---|--|
| IFRC | Support on volunteering and government, community first aid, HIV, disaster response and Club 25. |
| IFRC, Canadian Red Cross Society, Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross | Development of institutional capacities and risk reduction |
| Italian Red Cross | Climate change |
| ICRC | Finance support |

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 the Red Cross work.

Output 1.1.1 Humanitarian access is addressed through knowledge and action.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|--|
| 1. At the end of 2013, the Regional Central American plan with the MECREG and the legal aspects of the international humanitarian response will be disseminated among the National Society. | 100% | In 2013, the Regional Central American plan was updated and shared. |
| 2. At the end of 2013, the first verification list for legislators on legal issues on humanitarian assistance (Disaster Law) is completed and contributes to the MECREG. | 100% | The revision list for legislators was developed and shared with the authorities. This list includes important aspects legislators should take into consideration on legislation for humanitarian assistance. |
| 3. At the end of 2013, the National Society will harmonize its risk reduction policies with the Central American policies and the Regional Reference Framework. | 100% | The National Society has the institutional policies in place to coordinate actions in case of disasters. |

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. Development of a plan for the implementation of a strategy for the Nicaraguan Red Cross for dealing with climate change. | 1 | <p>In 2012, aspects linked to climate change were incorporated into the Strategic Development Plan.</p> <p>In 2013, with the support of the Universidad Centro Americana (UCA) and with funds from the Netherlands Red Cross and in coordination with the border municipalities, a basin protection strategy was developed which will be used in future National Society interventions.</p> |
| 2. The National Society is part of at least one inter-agency platform or partnership related to key trends or emerging health issues (non-communicable diseases, migration, violence prevention or climate change) | 1 | <p>The National Society is part of the risk management platform led by SINAPRED. In 2013, the National Society promoted the people with disabilities rights and the use of the tools to reach the most vulnerable people. In addition, the National Society developed a tool to facilitate the approach on the protection of livelihoods in urban contexts.</p> <p>The National Society participated in the national network of organizations that promote actions towards climate change. The National Society adopted within the partner initiative framework for resilience, local tools aimed to strengthen knowledge and adaptation techniques.</p> <p>In 2013, the National Society was involved in the national and regional platforms including the humanitarian network, water and sanitation and HIV/AIDS. The Nicaraguan Red Cross shared the results of the urban livelihood guide as part of the community experience.</p> |
| 3. The National Society health staff participate on inter-agency platforms and in regional events related to key trends and emerging health issues. | 1 meeting | <p>The National Society's health department is part of the community committees.</p> <p>In 2013, the National Societies participated in water and sanitation cluster meetings including shelter</p> |

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| | | within the UN system. |
| 4. The National Society's health staff/volunteers participate in two virtual seminars carried out during 2012 to better understand the key trends in relation to health within a regional context. | 2 | Accomplished during the 2012 regional meetings. In 2013, there were no virtual meetings held on health related issues. |
| 5. Urban risk reduction, the adaptation to climate change, migration and the prevention of violence are promoted and understood internally by the National Society. | 1 study 1 work guide | DIPECHO VIII has included urban risk in the activities carried out in district 2 in Managua. In 2013, the National Society conducted a vulnerability study on livelihoods in urban contexts in district 2 in Managua in coordination with different actors, conceptually defining the livelihoods in urban contexts. In addition, a guide was developed to allow analysis on the vulnerabilities in urban contexts. The National Society revised and updated the list of social projects and micro-projects. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

To ensure uniformity in the implementation of actions, especially in the application of relevant tools, the first step was to lay the conceptual and technical process, for this, a technical meeting where key concepts were reviewed, including: urban risk and checklist; livelihoods; social inclusion; tools (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment—VCA). From these concepts and reviewing the different tools (VCA) was determined that the most efficient would be to incorporate elements of livelihoods, social inclusion and urban risk in VCA tools. Tools were validated by implementation in the neighborhood Alfredo Silva on District 2 in Managua.

With support from the Canadian Red Cross Society, the National Society developed the diagnosis of a well prepared National Society, implementing the National simulation the National Society with the participation of all branches, Partner National Societies and the IFRC supported by the Reference Centre in El Salvador and in Costa Rica. In addition, the national emergency centre (COE) was completed and three simulations were conducted and the guides were updated.

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------|
| The National Society is in compliance with the | 1 revision | Accomplished in September 2012. |

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| statutes governing its administration and undertakes an external audit to be submitted to and adopted by its General Assembly. | 2 external audits | In 2013, the National Society revised and updated the statutes. External audits were conducted during the 2012-2013 administration. |
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

Due to the institutional crisis, the revision and updating process for the statutes was put on hold. The National Society had two audits for 2012 and 2013 done by an external firm.

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 competencies to volunteers and staff at all levels is strengthened.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|--|---|
| <p>The capacities of the National Society's human resources are strengthened through the IFRC's online learning platform.</p> <p>In 2013, the National Society documents the Urban Risk tool application in district 2 in Managua through DesAprender.</p> | <p>1 dissemination campaign</p> | <p>The National Society achieved wide dissemination of the learning platform through courses and workshops for volunteers.</p> <p>In 2013, the National Society promoted the use of the tool box in urban contexts. The tool most promoted was the one aimed to the integration of people with disabilities.</p> <p>The National Society jointly with the people with disabilities developed a series of mechanisms that can be used by other government actors and civil society to work with vulnerable groups in urban contexts. The Spanish Red Cross supported this under the DIPECHO project framework executed in district 2 in Managua.</p> <p>These tools were documented and presented through the DesAprender platform and in the regional DIPECHO forum held in Panama in November 2013 with technical support from the CRREC.</p> <p>In 2013, there was a 10 per cent increase in users utilising the learning platform.</p> |

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Comments on progress towards outcomes

During 2013, various initiatives allowed the National Society to strengthen the disclosure of humanitarian standards. Moreover, the National Society participated on risk management platforms focused on emergency care.

With the support from the Red Cross Movement, the National Society started the analysis of how to face new trends and align its key priorities within the National Strategic Plan.

Relevant discussions with key actors were carried out and allowed the national staff, the volunteers and the governing board have a better understanding of the globalization challenges.

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 disaster and crisis plans and programmes.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Incorporate and strengthen integrated institutional disaster and crisis response mechanisms, based on internationally adopted standards and guidelines, including the current trends. | 1 simulation 1 national COE | The national emergency response plan was updated with new approaches and guidelines. In 2013, the National Society conducted an institutional simulation to revise the emergency response plan. In addition, a national operations centre for disasters and emergencies was inaugurated. |
| 2. The operational framework for water and sanitation has been developed and disseminated within the National Society. | 4 meetings | The National Society has disseminated the water and sanitation framework and developed a response protocol. In 2013, the National Society participated in four water and sanitation coordination meetings and continued sharing their coordination protocol. |
| 3. The National Society has validated the revised training curricula for RIT and NIT in health in emergencies and water and sanitation. | N/A | The National Society has participated in the validation and revision of the training curricula for RIT and NIT health in emergencies and water and sanitation in April 2012. |

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| 4. By the end of 2012, the National Society has developed a risk mapping and prepositioning plan for the water and sanitation KIT2. | 1 prepositioning | In 2012, there was no implementation due to lack of funding. In 2013, the National Society in coordination with the IFRC logistics unit in Panama, prepositioned 1,000 emergency kits. |
| 5. In 2013, the National Society has an updated Well-prepared National Society (WPNS) with support from the IFRC. | Update | In 2013, the National Society updated its WPNS using the guide. |

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------------|--|
| 1. The National Society organizes meetings to discuss the links between urban risk and water and sanitation, health in emergencies, and community health programmes, for further interventions. | 1 process | In 2012 it was accomplished. In 2013, all National Society branches WPNS were revised and defined. Virtual meetings were held with the Dominican Red Cross and Nicaraguan Red Cross to exchange information. Poll tools were applied to update the National Society document. On 1 and 7 February 2013, technical meetings were held with NRC coordinators, technicians and volunteers to share methodology concepts and tools for the livelihoods study. Participants had the chance to gain knowledge on the subject and also learned how to use the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) tools. For this activity other National Society Project coordinators involved in livelihoods in urban context projects including the national DIPECHO coordinator provided technical support in managing the tool. |
| 2. In 2013, the National Society has the support from the IFRC to strengthen its capacity in community level interventions through the disaster preparedness reference centre. | IFRC support | The disaster preparedness reference centre held a regional workshop in Costa Rica. The National Society participated and is better prepared in the use of community intervention tools. |
| 3. At the end of 2013, the National Society | VCA | In 2013 it was 100 per cent |

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| has participated in the adaptation of the VCA in urban contexts including climate change and violence in urban contexts. | adapted | achieved. AVC workshops were conducted in Costa Rica and two technical meetings to join concepts and tools on community issues were held. These concepts were applied in district 2 in Managua. |
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Output 2.1.3 Climate change adaptation is integrated into disaster and crisis management.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. The number of the health meetings organized by the National Society to discuss the links between climate change, water and sanitation, health in emergencies and community health programmes for further interventions. | 3 | Planning the national meeting and coordination meetings. In 2013, with support from the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) and SINAPRED, the National Society in coordination with municipalities developed a certification for decision makers and branch members, including the border Honduran municipalities. Case studies on the study of basin management and local strategies on climate change are planned to be developed in 2014. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2013, the National Society strengthened its technical capacity in different aspects such as the rising of diagnoses in urban contexts with the AVC, diploma in watershed management with the Central America University (UCA) certification, the review of the checklist for decision makers and training on the auxiliary role of the state. All this was accomplished with the support of the IFRC reference centres and the PNS technical guidance (Netherlands, Spain and the Italian Red Cross Societies).

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 improve early warning/early action.

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.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|----------------------|---|
| 1. The National Society participates in the online health platform by the end of 2012. | Participation | Activity accomplished in the second semester of 2012. |

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| | | There were no virtual meetings in 2013. |
| 2. The number of National Society staff/volunteers trained in health in emergencies (NIT), focusing on epidemic control. | 3 | Activities accomplished in the second semester of 2012. During the dengue emergency in the second semester of 2013, the National Society activated volunteer teams trained in epidemic control which conducted prevention campaigns. |
| 3. The number of National Society staff/volunteers trained in health in emergencies (NIT), focusing on psychosocial support. | 3 | Activities accomplished in the second semester of 2012. In 2013, the National Society formed a team of volunteers and technicians specialized in psychosocial support as part of the National Society disaster response system. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Zone Logistics Unit advised the National Societies on standard IFRC procurement procedures regarding distributing IFRC funds, with considerable progress in helping National Societies align their standard procedures.

The Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) strategy was consolidated in 18 countries, resulting in an increased number of vulnerable communities engaged in improving their health status and reducing risk through the CBHFA approach

The National Society has included health interventions related to epidemic control, community health, psychosocial support and hygiene promotion into the emergency operations that have taken place during 2012.

In 2013, the National Society strengthened its organizational capacity, updated manuals, procedures and protocols to have an effective and rapid response when disaster strikes. A national operations centre was inaugurated, strengthening the capacities of the intervention teams and strengthening relations with SINAPRED. The National Society shared their progress and experiences in disaster response in the regional forum held in Costa Rica on June 2013.

Business Line III: Sustainable development

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

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|--|
| 1. The National Society participates in the discussion on the global health strategic operational framework as part of the regional health network. | 100% | In 2012, the Nicaraguan Red Cross participated in the discussion on the global health strategic operational framework. In 2013, there were no health regional network meetings. |
| 2. The National Society health staff have been informed about the global initiatives and health framework, as well as about the new MoU signed between IFRC and PAHO. | 100% | In 2012, a regional advocacy publication was developed. In 2013, the National Society participated and shared information in the national council meetings related on global health initiatives and the MOU with the IFRC and the OPS was shared with national authorities. |
| 3. By the end of 2012, the National Society has disseminated the mapping results of the national health plans and institutional partnerships. | 100% | This activity was carried out in the second semester of 2012 |

Output 3.1.2 Urban risk is integrated into the National Society programming.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. By 2012, the National Society health staff have evidence-based case studies on urban risk in relation to health and water and sanitation. | 50% | Activities accomplished during the second semester of 2012. |

Output 3.1.3 Climate change is integrated into the National Society programming.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. By 2012, the National Society health staff have evidence-based case studies on climate change in relation to health and water and sanitation. | 100% | In 2012, the study was postponed to be implemented in 2013. In 2013, with support from the Netherlands Red Cross and the IFRC climate change reference centre, the National Society implemented a project in the border area with Honduras for the protection of micro basins affected by climate change. In 2014, the National Society is planning to systematize the implemented process to share with other National Societies. |

Output 3.1.4 Migration is integrated into the National Society programming.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. The National Societies have been informed on issues related to migration through regional networks. | 100% | It was accomplished in 2012. In 2013, the National Society participated in meetings held in Costa Rica in June 2013 and in El Salvador in September 2013 and shared with other National Societies the progress and migration tendencies in the Central American region. Nicaragua is one of the countries that reports low migration |

Output 3.1.5 Violence prevention is integrated into National Society programming.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|--|
| 1. By the end of 2012, the National Society has included the violence prevention module in the CBHFA national trainings. | 100% | In 2012, the National Society participated in the sessions. |
| 2. The number of facilitators in the promotion of a culture of peace and prevention of violence through an academic partnership with a university. | 6 | In 2012, the National Society staff and volunteers were involved in the promotion of a culture of peace. In 2013, the National Society participated in the YBC methodology training held in El Salvador where youth volunteers were trained in violence prevention. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The young people and the National Society technicians shared their experiences and lessons learnt in the regional forum of violence prevention and in the workshop on YBC methodology (young change agents) both activities held in El Salvador.

The issue of climate change was addressed through intervention in border departments with Honduras, with focus on the river basin conservation. These activities included specialized training of municipal authorities, NGOs and other government organizations. The Central America University provided the diplomas. The National Society and branches strengthened their knowledge capacity on the climate change with support from the Netherlands Red Cross and the Italian Red Cross.

Outcome 3.2 The 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 and safety, as well as the environmental and socioeconomic conditions.

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|--|
| 1. The National Society participates in the MNCH regional mapping. | 100% | Accomplished |
| 2. The National Society shares lessons learned in the CBHFA roll out in 2012. | 2 | Accomplished |
| 3. Number of National Society staff trained in BCC. | 2 | The BCC training was carried out in the second semester of 2012.. |
| 4. The number of staff and volunteers trained in CBHFA in 2012. | 2 | The CBHF training was carried out in the second semester of 2012.. |
| 5. The number of volunteers who are part of Club 25. | 15 100% | <p>Accomplished in 2012.</p> <p>In 2013, the young members of Club 25 were retained as blood donor volunteers.</p> <p>Of the 100 per cent of the Club 25 volunteers, 90 per cent are blood volunteer promoters with theoretical training in volunteer blood donation topics.</p> <p>A Club 25 was formed in Jinotepe branch starting with 15 young volunteers.</p> <p>The National Society participated in volunteer policy revision meetings of the Nicaraguan Red Cross including the updating and management of the volunteer system. (SISVOL).</p> |

Output 3.2.2 Urban risk is included in community development programs

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|---|
| 1. During the first semester of 2013, the VCA tool is adapted to urban environments. | 100% | By 30 June 2013, this indicator was reached. The VCA tool was adapted to be used in urban contexts and integrating the approach in livelihoods. |
| 2. During the first semester of 2013, the VCA tool is adapted and applied in one community. | 100% | By 30 June 2013, the VCA was applied in the Alfredo Silva neighbourhood of district 2 in Managua. |
| 3. In 2013, the horizontal cooperation and knowledge exchange is promoted among | 100% | By 30 June 2013, actions were developed to encourage the |

the National Societies of Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

exchange among Central American countries participating in the present plan of action.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The VCA guide to perform diagnostics in urban contexts was developed within the DIPECHO 2013 project. The checklist for decision makers in the Guide on livelihoods in urban contexts and communities was updated. All these tools were shared by the National Society and their counterparts in the region.

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

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|------------------------|
| The National Society participates in the IAC side event about MNCH and promotes the National Society leadership among key stakeholders. | 100% | Accomplished in 2012. |

Output 3.3.2 Red Cross leadership is regularly updated on key humanitarian and development issues.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|------------------------|
| By the end of 2012 100% of government members have been informed on key humanitarian and development issues. | 100% | Accomplished in 2012. |

Output 3.3.3 Building National Society financial sustainability.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| By the end of 2012 the National Society has developed at least two proposals for donors to work on community health interventions addressing key trends. | 2 100% | One proposal was developed in 2012. In 2013, the National Society presented three proposals through the IFRC, the Spanish Red Cross, and the Italian Cross to address the effects of climate change and livelihoods in urban contexts. These three proposals were implemented in different sectors of the country. With the IFRC support, the National |

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| | | Society responded to the dengue outbreak. |
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Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2013 there was significant progress and results. The DIPECHO project trained 35 blind people from the Maricela Toledo's Organization, to be prepared in case of an earthquake. Additionally, 55 teenagers and young people were trained on topics such as life skills, leadership and protection polices, human rights, gender and culture of peace. This project also supported families from district two in Managua to assist in developing a media guide based on life experiences in urban contexts.

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|-----------------|--|
| The 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 | 50% 100% | In 2012, several steps were taken in this direction, including approval of the volunteer policy and the process to update the volunteer registration system. In 2013, the National Society with support from the IFRC and the Canadian Red Cross Society strengthened the volunteer management system, training the youth volunteer leaders. The National Society placed a volunteer coordinator in the branches and built and applied a database to control the members. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The year 2013 was an important year for the volunteerism strengthening. The National Society trained the branches' leaders on volunteer management to have better control and documentation, database implementation and training in leadership skills for managers responsible for managing volunteers.

Outcome 3.7 The volunteers are the basis of the organization.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. The statutes of the Nicaraguan Red Cross are updated in a participatory manner. | 1 50% | Review was under development in 2012. In 2013, with the participation of the |

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| | | branch representatives and volunteers the National Society undertook a review of its statutes, under the advice of the IFRC. The National Society expects to finalize this process and obtain approval by 2014. |
| 2. Development of an operational volunteer management plan for the Nicaraguan Red Cross. | 100% | Accomplished in 2012. |
| 3.The volunteer policy is defined and disseminated. | 100% | Accomplished in 2012. |
| 4.The gender policy is defined and disseminated. | 50% | Was in process in 2012. There was no progress in 2013 due to a institutional crisis in the second semester during the election of the new authorities. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2012, with the assistance of the IFRC, the National Society made major improvements to the management of volunteers by updating the existing database; the advances made in terms of strengthening at the level of policies and procedures will ensure an adequate volunteering cycle.

In 2013, the National Society went through an internal crisis for the dispute of the election to the Presidency of the organization among two groups which the government had to intervene. This crisis lasted eight months causing the delay of institutional strengthening activities. Therefore, there was not much progress in 2013.

Business Line IV: Humanitarian Diplomacy

Outcome 4.2 Strong links are fostered with the government, the public (especially opinion leaders), academia, the private sector, and other partners of the Red Cross who work at the local and national levels. The National Society is represented in key forums to address humanitarian challenges and trends.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|---|
| During 2013, the National Society will maintain and put into effect the benefits and privileges arising from the status agreement signed between the Nicaraguan government and the IFRC, to achieve greater efficiency in preparedness, care and recovery of persons and communities affected by disasters and crises, as well as for programmes for vulnerable communities during normal times implemented by the National Society. | 1 | In process in 2012. In 2013, the agreement of an IFRC office in Nicaragua is maintained and it has been useful to support the National Society in responding to disasters. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2013, the agreement between the IFRC and the National Society was strengthened with the

representative accredited to the Nicaraguan government. The National Society received support to mobilize the RITs staff and humanitarian aid during the dengue emergency in different departments of the country.

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 Society are scaled up, in order to inspire more reliable contributions to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|--|
| 1. Strategic partnerships are established with other organizations and Movement components on issues of common interest and for the purpose of resource mobilization. | 1 50% | No progress in 2012. In 2013, the cooperation framework was promoted with the participation of all the National Societies' cooperators. Two meetings with the executive committee members were held. Nevertheless, due to the crisis of the National Society there was no major progress. |
| 2. A resource mobilization strategy is defined and approved. | 1 50% | Accomplished in 2012. A proposal was presented to the executive committee to obtain support from the IFRC in the formulation of a resource mobilisation strategy. Nonetheless, there was no internal consensus in the National Society in order to proceed. |

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2013, despite of the institutional crisis suffered during most of the year, the National Society benefited through the agreement of the IFRC office in the country with the Nicaraguan government and the reaffirmation of the cooperating entities in continuing to support its strengthening efforts through a cooperation framework.

In the area of resource mobilization there was no progress in 2013 due to the institutional crisis.

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 (Administration, Finance, HR, Logistics, PMER and IT/Telecom).

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|--|
| The National Society is represented and active in each network of support services. | 100% | Accomplished in 2012. In 2013, the National Society strengthened different capacities with the support of the IFRC. 1,000 emergency kits were prepositioned for emergencies, training the administrative staff in logistics, implementing new administration guidelines and improving reporting capacities. |
| Comments on progress towards outcomes | | |
| The National Society supported by the IFRC logistics unit in Panama prepositioned 1,000 emergency kits to respond in case of disaster. A logistics plan of action will be developed by 2014. | | |

Outcome 5.2 Alliances and partnerships are built that maintain unity and achieve higher value from our work together as a Movement.

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

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|--|---------------|--|
| During second semester at least one peer-to-peer initiative is promoted. | 1 | In 2012, the Youth Volunteer Network Support was promoted as peer-to-peer initiative. |
| | 3 | In 2013, there were two exchanges among young members with the Salvadorean Red Cross Society and with the Costa Rican Red Cross. |

| Comments on progress towards outcomes |
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| In 2013, the National Society gave opportunity for young staff to participate in work exchanges with other National Societies of the region. The young people's program management and the YBC initiative for the prevention of violence and social inclusion promoted the work exchange for staff of the NRC to work in the Costa Rican Red Cross and the Salvadorean Red Cross Society. Additionally, the teens had representation at the global meeting held in Sydney, Australia. |

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.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|---|
| By the end of the year the Nicaraguan Red Cross will have a modern and detailed volunteering database providing essential information on volunteers, and their levels of training is available following the updating and decentralization of the existing technology platform. | 100% | In 2012, the volunteering database was updated. |
| Comments on progress towards outcomes | | |
| The activity was achieved during the year 2012. | | |

Output 5.4 National Societies have a strategic plan aligned with *Strategy 2020* and report to their stakeholders on their results.

Output 5.4.1: The National Societies in the Americas have a plan aligned with Strategy 2020 and report data against the Federation-wide reporting indicators.

| Indicators | Annual Target | Implementation to date |
|---|---------------|--|
| By the end of 2012, the Nicaraguan Red Cross will have a strategic plan aligned with <i>Strategy 2020</i> . | 100% | Through a process of national workshops, the National Society aligned its strategic documents with IFA. In 2013, the National Society launched the new 2013 to 2017 Strategic Plan aligned with the Strategy 2020 and the Inter-American Framework. |
| Comments on progress towards outcomes | | |
| <p>The contribution of the Nicaraguan Red Cross to the activities carried out inside the Youth Regional Network and the Communications Network was of great importance to strengthen relations with other National Societies in the region.</p> <p>In 2012, the Nicaraguan Red Cross made substantial effort for the development and update of the platform for the database system of volunteers, with technical support from the IFRC.</p> <p>The main achievements accomplished by the National Society in 2013 was the exchange of youth volunteers within the region in different work areas, the strengthening of logistics aspects, the prepositioning of humanitarian aid and the new strategic plan.</p> | | |

Stakeholder participation and feedback

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the Nicaraguan Red Cross is a member of the National System of Prevention and Mitigation of Emergencies and Disasters (SINAPRED) and other coordinating bodies linked to its mission to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable. The National Society also develops prevention and promotion activities in line with the country's priorities, coordinating with the Ministries of Health, Education, the Environment and local authorities amongst others, with a variety of local and international bodies including the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) in Nicaragua, UNICEF, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), ACDI, Spanish cooperation (AECID), the European Union, the Disaster Preparedness European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection Directorate General (DIPECHO), Sistema Nacional para la Prevencion, Mitigacion, y Atencion de Desastres (SINAPRED) and its component structures, and the Association of Municipalities, as well as with Movement partners, including Partner National Societies: the Canadian Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The beneficiary communities were consulted and included in each project which was very useful for the reformulation and reorientation of the activities. Innovative mechanisms were used including the communication with beneficiaries to obtain positive results with the affected by disasters.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

| Key Risks or Positive Factors | Priority High Medium Low | Recommended Action |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| In 2013 the major risk was the internal institutional crisis which put in jeopardy the ongoing projects due to lack of decision making. | H | The IFRC, the PNSs and the ICRC provided support to the National Society during the crisis. |

Lessons learned and looking ahead

In 2013 the Nicaraguan Red Cross went through a critical period, as a result of the internal division that caused the internal electoral process. This situation led to an institutional crisis that jeopardized the integrity of the reputation and image of the National Society, including the indirect intervention of the government, as a clear violation of the fundamental principles. Even with the institutional crisis programmes managed to reach communities with different calls for applications geared to the prevention of disasters, the management of risk in urban contexts, effects of climate change, the developed work guides on livelihoods and the checklist for decision makers, as well as the prevention of HIV and AIDS, dengue fever and the promotion of voluntary blood donation.

With SINAPRED (the national disaster prevention system), and the Ministry of Health, both community education actions were coordinated as a response to the emergence of classic and haemorrhagic dengue, which strengthened coordination with other institutions and allowed to speed up the response in the affected areas. This capacity was strengthened both at headquarters and branch levels through the training of volunteers, the review and update of response plans and improving the coordination of the emergency response strategy.

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.



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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