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Bolivian Red Cross Annual Report 2014

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABO001
30/ABR/2015

**This report covers the
period 01 January 2014
to 31 December 2014**

*The Bolivian Red Cross implemented a
DREF operation for floods in 2014/ Source:
Bolivian Red Cross*



Overview

The regional representation for the Andean countries (regional representation) of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) supported the Bolivian Red Cross (BRC) in 2014 so that it could better fulfil its humanitarian mission. These actions were done in alignment with International Movement strategies and standards, including *Strategy 2020* and the Inter-American Framework for Action 2012-2016. Particular technical and strategic guidance was given to the BRC in the areas of urban risk and resilience, response and preparation for disaster, and organization development.

During 2014, the BRC lead a four-month DREF operation for floods (MDRBO009). This DREF operation assisted 5,000 people (1,000 households) following the heavy precipitation in November and December 2013, which led to the declaration of a national emergency in January 2014. The BRC attended the subsequent floods that severely impacted the Beni and Pando departments in the Bolivian Amazon. The National Society implemented a cash transfer programme, as well as health prevention activities and support for the recovery of water and sanitation actions. Click [here](#) for the Final Report.

Working in partnership

Operational Partners	Agreement
Red Cross Society of China	Bilateral agreement
Italian Red Cross	Bilateral agreement
Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran	Cooperation agreement through the IFRC
Spanish Red Cross	Bilateral agreement
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Cooperation agreement

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.

Output 1.1.1: Humanitarian access is addressed through learning and action.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of documented activities carried out with the military and the NS have increased	Weak position	Recognised as a leading humanitarian agency	2 meetings

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2014, the BRC participated in an ICRC activity held with the military and another separate activity was the coordination with the military during the DREF operation for floods.

The regional PADRU office (delegate and intern) and a regional intervention team (RIT) member participated in the DREF operation, in which the BRC coordinated the humanitarian relief with the military (marines and the army) and other State institutions. The institutions addressed coordination in the field, coordination with the IFRC and use of tools. The secretariat has not provided support towards this indicator, outside of the activity under the DREF.

Additionally, the BRC held meetings with Ministry of Health for staff training in first aid and with the Ministry of Education on first aid training in schools. Coordination was undertaken with the Vice-Ministry for Civil Defence (VIDECI) regarding the use of senalitics in public institutions.

Output 1.1.2: External trends are better understood and promoted within the National Society.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of lessons learned documented that contribute to risk reduction attributed to key humanitarian trends	Regularly fills	Evolution of figures	3

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The BRC produced a report on urban disaster risk reduction (DRR) through the pilot city study funded by the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This report provided lessons learned in urban DRR and contained recommendations for future actions on this issue.

Additionally, framed within the regional DIPECHO-funded project and the above mentioned pilot study, the BRC organized its second urban DRR national forum in La Paz with international participants. The BRC has become one of the National Society leaders on the topics.

Prior to this international forum, the BRC and the secretariat hosted the first continental forum on the "friendly neighbourhood" actions in La Paz. More than 60 participants from Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia and Panama, as well as representatives from Oxfam, CARE, Caritas and local authorities, participated in the event that shared good practices on violence prevention in urban areas.

Outcome 1.2: A collective understanding of the capacities, resources and services of the National Society has been improved.

Output 1.2.1: Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System is established in the National Society.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
The Bolivian Red Cross provides data on one or more FDRS key performance indicators.	not noted	7	Actualized the FDRS indicators

Comments on progress towards outcomes

The country support delegate worked with the BRC to update their FDRS indicators, contributing to the full use of FDRS by the BRC.

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

Output 1.4.1: Educational and knowledge-sharing platforms are mainstreamed in the National Society, increasing the learning opportunities for staff and volunteers.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of courses taken on the e-learning platform	Not noted	Not noted	242

Comments on progress towards outcomes

To date, 348 registered users in Bolivia have completed 355 courses. A total of 685 courses have been started, but only 335 (49%) have been completed. Important progress has been made, but follow-up is needed to ensure that course are completed and more new users employ this resource.

Business Line II: Disaster and Crisis Management

Outcome 2.1: Red Cross National Societies, through their network of branches, adopt integrated sectoral approaches that strengthen essential Red Cross preparedness, response and recovery systems, and enable communities to better understand trends that increase the impact of disasters and crisis in their lives.

Output 2.1.1: Community-based tools/ approaches to address emerging trends are adopted in disaster and crisis management.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of tools and methodologies for response and recovery that have integrated the key humanitarian trends	Does not integrate	Have a DR policy and planning integrating trends by 2015	3 new tools

Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2014, PADRU supported the BRC to incorporate Mega V and ODK into DREF operations; the cash transfer method was used in the DREF operation (MDRBO009).

In 2014, two VCA trainings were held, a 100% increase over that initially programmed. The VCA tool adapted to urban areas was presented to the BRC as part of the regional DIPECHO-project. The second national training in the VCA module adopting climate change and urban risk was held in November in La Paz with the participation of 6 international experts, coordinated by CREEC.

The BRC will require support to integrate these tools and methodologies into all its recovery and response actions starting in 2015.

Outcome 2.2: An efficient and effective national Red Cross disaster and crisis management system in Bolivia.

Output 2.2.2: The disaster and crisis response system in Bolivia will be forward looking through innovation and by taking maximum advantage of the resources trained and available throughout the Red Cross network.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of National Society operations that use innovative tools for disaster response (SMS, Mega V) and/or in emergency operations	Not noted	Not noted	By 2015 BRC will use innovate tools in 50% of its disaster response actions

Comments on progress towards outcomes

During 2014, the BRC had the opportunity to learn and implement distinct innovative tools for disaster response.

At the start of the year, support was provided to the BRC so it could learn from the Colombian Red Cross Society's implementation of the VCA module incorporating urban risk and climate change. The BRC provided training in the VCA module to BRC volunteers and leaders in August and November. Additionally, a BRC trainer in VCA facilitated a training in Medellin- Colombia with the Colombian Red Cross in November. This

peer-to-peer support forms part of the Global Alliance for DRR.

During 2014, the BRC participated in the workshop on regional surge tool training (Ecuador) and another representative attended the PADRU training in Panama on cash transfer. The National Directorate of Health attended a field school to update training of community health (CBHFA) in Guatemala in October. This same directorate participated in the Global Forum on Resilience in Cali- Colombia in November.

From March to December, the BRC implemented an urban risk pilot city study, funded by the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran. AVC in urban areas was employed as part of this study.

On 26 November, the BRC organized the first continental forum on the "friendly neighbourhood" in La Paz with 18 participants. The Second National Forum on Urban Risk, with foreign participants, was held on 27 November with more than 60 people, with representatives from Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia and Panama and participants from Oxfam, CARE, Caritas and local authorities.

Business Line III: Sustainable Development

Outcome 3.1: Red Cross National Societies, through their network of branches, demonstrate leadership in promoting the Red Cross Red Crescent model of sustainable development.

Output 3.1.3: The key humanitarian trends (urban risk, climate change, migration and violence prevention) are integrated into National Society programming.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
The BRC includes urban risk and community resilience in its strategic and operational plans	0	integrated	100%

Comments on progress towards outcomes

As previously mentioned, from March to December, the BRC implemented an urban risk pilot city study, funded by the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This project trained BRC volunteers and staff in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in urban settings in two branches (La Paz and El Alto). The final report of the local study of urban risk contributed to increasing community resilience with concrete actions conducted by the BRC and fostering cooperation with local authorities, particularly VIDECI, on the issue.

The BRC addressed urban risk in its actions implemented in the field and into its recent strategic plan. The BRC has included urban risk in two branch-level operational plans (El Alto and La Paz).

Further actions include the hosting of the first continental forum on the "friendly neighbourhood" methodology in La Paz on 26 November with 18 national and international participants. The following day, the BRC hosted the Second National Forum on Urban Risk, which had 60 national and international participants (Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia and Panama), as well as representatives from Oxfam, CARE, Caritas and local authorities. As mentioned above, these actions were coordinated with the urban risk pilot study and the regional DIPECHO-funded project.

Additionally, the BRC, with NORAD funds, completed 3 workshops on first aid in 3 secondary schools in La Paz with 75 beneficiaries (23 boys and 52 girls) and purchased basic first aid equipment. Over 2014, the BRC conducted house visits to 300 families, all employing a community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach.

Business Line IV: Humanitarian Diplomacy

Outcome 4.2: Strong links are fostered with governments (including especially opinion leaders), academia, private sector, and other partners of the Red Cross who work at local and national levels, particularly as a representative in key forums addressing humanitarian challenges and trends.

Output 4.2.1: The BRC has a higher profile as auxiliary to the government.

Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of activities with governments exercising NS's auxiliary role	0	Better understood role and invitations for platforms and events	Increased connection with State institutions through work on DRR law and BRC-sponsored events.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

During 2014, special attention was given to fostering closer relationships with VIDECI, which is the primary State institution responsible for disaster risk response and reduction in the country.

As part of the regional disaster law project, financed by ECHO for the AZO technical unit on disaster law, the AZO officer from this unit worked closely with VIDECI to complete the outlines of a new risk management law. With missions to the country and coordination from abroad, the secretariat representative provided technical support that complied with international standards. This law addresses the responsibilities of autonomous regions and municipalities with regards to risk management. The secretariat representative also provided recommendations for future work to ensure that urban risk in the capital city is addressed in future legislation. The law was passed in November 2014.

Additionally, coordination with VIDECI was undertaken to discuss planned scholarships that form a part of the aforementioned ECHO-funded project.

Moreover, the BRC and distinct secretariat representatives, as previously mentioned, met with VIDECI as part of the regional DIPECHO project and through the secretariat a VIDECI representative attended the sub-regional dialogue on DRR in Quito- Ecuador in December.

Representatives from VIDECI also attended the Second National Forum on Urban Risk in La Paz and the sub-regional dialogue on DRR in Quito- Ecuador.

Business Line V: Effective Joint Working and Accountability

Outcome 5.1: Movement components have strengthened relationships, common aims and improved access to knowledge and shared learning.

Output 5.1.1: The BRC facilitates greater peer-to-peer support, horizontal initiatives, regional exchange, and shared learning.

Indicators	BL	Annual	Year to Date
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		Target	Actual
# of peer-to-peer/ horizontal initiatives with members of the NS	0	At least 2	4

Comments on progress towards outcomes

As part of the DREF operation (MDRBO009), the BRC hosted a regional intervention (RIT) member during the emergency and then received an intern from the Peruvian Red Cross who conducted a survey with beneficiaries. A BRC representative went to Colombia to facilitate VCA training in November. The BRC health director attended a CBHFA training organized by the Guatemalan Red Cross in October.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

In order to better guide its support for the National Society, the secretariat employed the Development Operational Plan 2014, which was created in coordination with the Bolivian Red Cross. The country support office balanced the areas prioritized by the National Society with those deemed significant by the secretariat in the Americas. Particular emphasis was given to the areas where the National Society needed to improve its compliance with IFRC standards.

Efforts are made to maintain a horizontal relation between the secretariat support positions and the National Society leadership and staff, which is based on dialogue, monitoring and jointly-decided adjustments. Additionally, the secretariat aims to foster peer-to-peer exchanges with other National Societies so lessons learned can be shared and capitalized on while volunteers, the central motor of the National Society, have the opportunity to improve their capacities. Furthermore, the secretariat regularly relies on written reports in order to receive feedback from the Bolivian Red Cross.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
The BRC is challenged to uphold transparent and sustainable financial management standards	H	There is a need for a structural-financial adjustment plan for the BRC. The secretariat needs to take unified and decisive steps towards this goal.
At the organizational level, the Bolivian Red Cross needs support to train new human resources (volunteers, staff and leadership).	M	While this goal encompasses institutional finances, it also responds to the need to strengthen programmatic training for future leaders of the National Society.
The BRC is one of the strongest National Societies in the region in the field of urban DRR and community resilience.	H	The secretariat needs to identify future peer-to-peer training so BRC volunteers can be deployed on missions to sister National Societies.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

Reviewing the past year's progress and challenges of the Bolivian Red Cross, the secretariat notes that many of the National Societies in the region are in similar situations. While not all of the projected outputs were fulfilled in 2014, the vast majority of these have been extended through 2015. As the Long Term Planning Framework suggests, many of the desired changes and advancements are extended processes that surpass simple one year plans. However, the secretariat, through its technical support and strategic guidance, continues to be committed to reaching the objectives established in the LTPF 2012-2015. Rather than a strict sense of fulfilment, the IFRC's support at the regional level aims to strengthen the institutionalism of the National Societies of the Red Cross in South America, by ensuring that their statutes, organizational structures and financial practices reflect and comply with International Movement standards, supporting their monitoring and evaluation in order to provide feedback that allows for adapting and changing actions as needed, and lastly, by guaranteeing that all the National Societies have the capacities to serve as a leading humanitarian actor in their countries.

In light of the ongoing changes in the secretariat in the Americas, the services provided by the IFRC to its members will reflect some changes in 2015. While the nature of the support has not changed, starting in 2015 the IFRC Delegation in Lima- Peru will provide the Bolivian Red Cross with organizational development assistance, prioritizing National Society integrity, integral services and innovative tools. All support services for the BRC will also be provided by this delegation. Recognizing the emerging challenges due to the reduction in the secretariat staff with expanded responsibilities, the IFRC reiterates its willingness to receive feedback from the National Society regarding the manners to better respond to the existing needs of the Bolivian Red Cross.

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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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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