

DONOR: American Red Cross

To March 2015

**RESILIENCE IN THE AMERICAS PROGRAMME (RITA)**  
Ecuadorian Red Cross**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

The objective of American Red Cross in building resilient communities brought the idea to plan and implement a diagnosis phase in 15 communities, through the Initiative Participatory Assessment (IPA) Methodology. This group a series of tools for communitarian data collecting for the elaboration of action plans, from communitarian bases and with a high participation of key actors in the identification and prioritization of needs: The local government, base organizations, schools, private and public entities with community aims, etc. The needs identified through IPA to enhance the community's resilience, resulted in the development of RITA Program since July 2013. The program has expanded in order to include a second year, which pretends to build a major resilience in The Americas.

**ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION**

During the first year of RITA Program the Ecuadorian Red Cross (ERC) oriented to contribute in the resilience of 15 communities, located in "El Oro" Province, Canton of Huaquillas by strengthening its organizational process, training to communitarian members and key actors, improving the physical environment and doing advocacy with stakeholders, including the local government and other instances with communitarian incidence. During the second year of the program, which started on July 2014, the Ecuadorian Red Cross has considered important to focus on 5 communities, supporting to consolidate the community organization through the formation of risk management brigades and health committees, basic first aids, managing of safe water and waste solid material, environmental sanitation, sexual and reproductive rights, advocacy and others. The programme also considers the improvement of physical environment through community microprojects to mitigate risks. In order to support the launching of community activities, the Ecuadorian Red Cross has considered strengthening its capacity to provide support. This by: Training to volunteers as trainers in the Methodologies of Community Based Health First Aid (CBHFA) and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST), training in sexual and reproductive rights, training as facilitators in healthy habits and Basic First Aid, and training to volunteers in methodologies for adult education. Resilience in The Americas is an integral and integrated proposal that allows a solid formation and community experience for Red Cross volunteers. It is a proposal that linked Red Cross National Societies, Red Cross Branches and institutions with the purpose to build networking and collaboration among institutions and community.

**KEY STAKEHOLDER IN THE OPERATION-PARTNERS**

The 15 communities involved in the program implementation process (communitarian leaders and community members in general), the local government in "Huaquillas", educative community in the schools, NGOs and other public and/or private stakeholders that get involved in the program's actions implemented by the Ecuadorian Red Cross through the Branch "Junta Cantonal" in "Huaquillas".



Mural paintings after motivational and leadership workshops to volunteers in the Canton of Huaquillas, 2014

**Intervention Strategy**

Application of Methodologies CBHFA and PHAST with a community approach and the development of participative activities: awareness campaigns, promotional and educative activities, etc. Development of a baseline and an end line.

**Priorization of the following sectors**

Community health, water and sanitation, risk reduction, HIV prevention, sexual and reproductive health, rights and advocacy, training and organizational strengthening, microprojects of mitigation and risk reduction.

**Project Period**

From July 01<sup>st</sup> 2013 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014.

**Direct beneficiaries**

During the first year of implementation the program is implemented in 15 communities.

**Location**

15 communities are located in "El Oro" Province, Canton of Huaquillas.

## EXPECTED RESULTS DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM

- 500 families receive key messages in DRR through massive campaigns of diffusion in DRR, health promotion or water and sanitation.
- 250 people participate in DRR workshops, health promotion or water and sanitation.
- 10 communitarian cleaning work developed in the community.
- 500 people receive awareness and information material.
- 15 communities have organized groups (Security, WatSan, CDRT, etc.).
- 70% of people formed the communitarian brigades and completed updating workshops in DRR, Communitarian Health, Water and Sanitation and Community Safety.
- 19 communitarian committees formed and updated receive a basic equipment according the specialty.
- 15 cooperative agreements signed between community and governmental organisms.
- 5 communities have communitarian plans to face the identified problems by the population.
- 1 technical study developed and presented in the community.
- 6 microprojects identified, proposed and implemented by the communities in DRR, Water and Sanitation, Health and Communitarian Safety.
- 6 kits of inputs or basic equipment in the communities.
- 9 Early Warning System installed and functioning in the communities.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR (To June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014)

- 3,164 beneficiaries registered.
- 3 Health Campaigns in which key messages were diffused on transmittable digestive illnesses, clean water, hand washing, waste management, sexual health and first aid. 1238 participants were registered.
- 10 Community Clean Campaigns carried out in collaboration with the National Service for eradication of Malaria (SNEM in Spanish).
- 6 school brigades have been formed in 6 schools.
- 15 community brigades have increased their knowledge in risk management, First Aid, CBHFA and PHAST.
- 21 cleaning kits have been delivered to 15 communities.
- 2.400 personal hygiene kits have been delivered to students of 6 schools.
- 6 schools have formulated and validated new School Emergency Plans.
- 9 Micro-projects were carried out in 6 communities.
- 9 communities have installed early warning Systems.
- 1,238 families received key messages on risk reduction, health promotion and/or water and sanitation.
- Families were trained in risk reduction, health promotion and/or water and sanitation.
- 21 communities have organized groups in DRR, Community Health, Water and Sanitation, and Community Security.
- 21 community committees received basic equipment according the specialization (DRR, Community Health, Water and Sanitation, and Community Security).
- 9 communities have Community Emergency Plans.

## Funds

\$358,912.00 USD

## Contacts

Roberto Brito

Regional Representative for South America

American Red Cross

E-Mail: [roberto.brito@amcross.org](mailto:roberto.brito@amcross.org)

Tel.: (+511) 221-9006 Annex 119

Sonia Cárdenas

Program National Coordinator

E-mail: [scardenas@cruzroja.org.pe](mailto:scardenas@cruzroja.org.pe)

Tel.: (+593) 225-82482



Preparation of Chlorine (for purifying water) and its delivery to families  
Choferes Sportman, April 2014



Delivery of Personal Hygiene Kits to schools,  
May 2014

## SECOND YEAR OF PROGRAMME (July 2014 to June 2015)

The RITA Programme is being implemented in 5 communities located in the Province El Oro, Huaquillas: Choferes Sportman (Canton of Hualtaco), Brisas del Sur and 8 de Setiembre (Canton of Milton Reyes), Los Ceibos and Los Vergeles (Canton Unión Lojana).

This second year is intensifying the approach of an integral and integrated community work, having a model community, which is Choferes Sportman, where will be included activities in safe shelter through the Methodology of PASSA. This year of implementation will continue with the integral strategy of risk reduction, which includes the sectors of health, water and sanitation.

### EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE SECOND YEAR PROGRAM

- 3,500 beneficiaries of the activities during the second year project.
- 300 people treated in outpatient primary care through mobile health units.
- 300 people receive key messages in oral health.
- 200 people trained in community first aid.
- 5 schools develop their school plans, make response brigades are trained and develop simulations and receive basic response equipment.
- 500 students informed on risk reduction.
- 5 community emergency drills.
- 1 community that implements insurance activities by PASSA accommodation methodology.
- 5 community emergency plans developed.
- 5 micro-conditioning, mitigation or prevention developed.
- 5 communities make diagnosis DPI and update their community action plans to address the problems identified by the population

### PROGRESS OF THE SECOND YEAR OF PROGRAMME (July-March 2015)

- 1,266 beneficiaries, equivalent to 15% in the life of project.
- 41 volunteers received the cycle of volunteering management.
- 5 volunteers and/or Ecuadorian Red Cross staff members have been trained as PASSA facilitators.
- 20 volunteers and/or National Society staff trained on ABC Methodology (Basic Skills Training).
- 168 people have been attended in oral health through community campaigns.
- 232 people receive key messages on sexual and reproductive health.
- More than 150 people trained on Community First Aid.
- 191 students and professors informed on risk reduction, including first aid.
- 5 schools have School Emergency Plans.
- 3 schools have formed emergency brigades that have been trained on disaster risk reduction.
- 6 school simulations developed.
- 9 community simulations developed using Family Emergency Plans and Community Emergency Plans with the participation of key local actors.
- 2 institutions has participated of community cleaning campaigns.
- 5 beneficiary communities have elaborated its emergency plan.
- 2 reunions among community committees and members of public entities have been developed. Minutes of both reunions have been formalized.
- 2 community micro-project performed (adaptation of a community space for sports in Choferes Sportman community and installation of EWS in the community 8 de Setiembre).

### Project Period

From July 01<sup>st</sup> 2014 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015.

### Intervention Strategy

To the anterior has been added the Methodology Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA)

### Direct beneficiaries

The program is implemented in 5 communities.

### Location

5 communities are located in "El Oro" Province, Canton of Huaquillas.

### Funds

\$150,000.00 USD



Community Simulation in Los Ceibos, December, 2014



Household visits for the elaboration of Emergency Family Plans Los Ceibos, March 2015