

RESILIENCE IN THE AMERICAS PROGRAMME (RITA) CHILEAN RED CROSS

OBJECTIVE

The intervention framework in Chile has the background of the earthquake which struck on February 27, 2010, measuring 8.8 on the Richter scale. The earthquake occurred at 105 km northwest of Concepcion and 115 km Southeast of Talca, the respective capitals for the Bio Bio and Maule Regions in Chile, at a depth of only 35 km. This earthquake was subsequently followed by an equally devastating tsunami, which together with the earthquake, left 521 deceased, more than 1.8 million people affected, 370.000 homes destroyed or damaged, and close to 30 billion USD in losses. In January 2011 started the project with the objective of reduce the number of deaths, injuries and socio-economic impacts due to disasters, by strengthening the Chilean Red Cross, and constructing more secure and resilient communities in the regions affected by the earthquake-tsunami. Since the second semester of 2014 the project took a different approach, an integral and integrated vision addressing issues as health, water, sanitation, hygiene, risk reduction, housing, among others, seeking to construct resilient communities and strengthen them to be self-sufficient in response and mitigate the impacts of an emergency and/or disaster.

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

Since the beginning of the project the Chilean Red Cross has focused its community activities applying the Methodology of Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (VCA), with an inclusive and participatory approach among the beneficiary communities. The planification, reprogramming and development of activities for the extension project period is built on the basis of the Methodology Integrated Participatory Assessment (IPA), that currently has been implemented in the communities within projects funded by American Red Cross. This extension project in Chile is based on a community participatory design that aims to increase the resilience of beneficiary populations from a multi-sectorial perspective, unifying risk reduction, health, water and sanitation. This participatory approach emphasis four aspects: 1) Knowledge, Aptitudes and practices; 2) Community organizations; 3) Management of physical environment; and 4) Advocacy. The community education is based on methodologies developed within the International Federation of the Red Cross, such as the Series "Is Better to Prevent", complemented with other methodologies such as Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST), Community Based Health First Aid (CBHFA) and Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA).

EXPECTED RESULTS

Objective 1: Strengthen the Chilean Red Cross capacity to provide, coordinate, and lobby for disaster risk management.

- The Chilean Red Cross and its' chapters have increased their technical and program development abilities, and are an integral part of the local and national disaster response systems.
- The Chilean Red Cross has strengthened its disaster management capacity as well as disaster risk reduction methodologies and practices.

Objetivo 2: Reduce Disaster Risk and Increase Resiliency in Vulnerable Communities

- Community members mobilize in order to take on activities that increase their capacity to face natural threats and their risks. (Knowledge, attitudes and practices).
- Community members' knowledge is raised and its' organizational capacity for preparation and response to future disasters improves (Community organization).
- The communities increase their capacity to form community networks and carry out advocacy with key external actors (Network and Advocacy).
- Communities improve their environment through the implementation of micro-mitigation projects which reduce some vulnerabilities identified by the community (Environmental management).



Basic Aptitude Training workshop, May, 2014

Operation Areas:

- Disaster Risk Recution and Response.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (PHAST).
- Community Health (CBHFA).
- Safe Shelter (PASSA).
- Community organization.
- Community microprojects.
- Build and strengthen the capacity of Chilean Red Cross on disaster preparation and response, risk reduction and volunteering.

Intervention Strategy:

Through a participatory methodology during the intervention process. The evaluations will be done through base line, end line, checklists, household visits, focus groups, surveys, workplan progress, among others.

Project Period:

From March 01st 2014 to March 31st 2015 (extension period).

Direct beneficiaries:

10.000 direct beneficiaries.

Location:

14 communities distributed in 5 regions: Ana Luisa 2, California and Violeta Parra (O'Higgins), Los Queñes y Paso Nevado (Maule), José Miguel Carrera, La Suerte, Cerro Alegre and Bellavista (Bio-Bio), Foitzick and Missisipi (Los Rios) y Torres de Mesana, Laguna Verde and Manzana H (Valparaíso).

Funding:

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KEY ACTORS - PARTNERS

The 14 communities participants of the project's extension period, community leaders, community brigades, education community, local governments, NGOs and other public and/or private actors involved in the project's actions, such as the National Office of Emergency from the Ministry of Interior and Public Security (ONEMI in Spanish), the Forest National Corporation (CONAF in Spanish), Firemen Corp, Police, among others.

PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT (March 2014 to March 2015)

Work was done in two stages. A transition period from March to October 2014, incorporating more activities oriented to increase resilience. The project was reformulated, and from November started the RITA phase, including water, sanitation and safe shelter. In January ended activities in O'Higgins, Maule and Los Rios regions. Since February is continuing in 6 communities, 4 in Bio-Bio and 2 in Valparaiso (Torres de Mesana and Laguna Verde).

Achievements from march to October 2014:

- 1,837 beneficiaries of the activities.
- 23 participants from different Red Cross Branches and collaborators of Chilean Red Cross were trained on Methodology IPA 2.0.20 volunteers reinforced their facilitation skills through workshop Basic Skills Training-BST
- 21 volunteers trained in Social micro-projects.
- Total 118 volunteers trained in disaster risk reduction issues.
- 312 community members trained in Community Based Health First Aid CBHFA).
- 439 beneficiaries of home visits on issues of DRR.
- 279 families prepared their family emergency plans.
- 6 of 14 schools formed their school brigades.
- 1 school held a drill (José Miguel Carrera in Bio Bio).
- 1 school received basic response equipment (Mississippi in Los Rios)
- 2 of 14 communities developed their Community Response Plans.
- 2 of 14 communities formed / reconform its community response teams.
- 6 of 14 communities receive basic equipment for first response.
- 127 people trained in first response.

Achievements since November 2014:

- 1,208 new beneficiaries. A total of 3,045 during march 2014 to march 2015 period.
- 1 Workshop on Lessons.
- 2 meetings to present the project to partners and stakeholders, as ONEMI, Municipio, Civil Defense and Red Cross Regional Committees.
- 53 volunteers participated in workshop Leadership Skills Development (DHL in spanish).
- 3 Chilean RC staff trained as facilitators in the PASSA Methodology. 11 volunteers received induction PASSA to support the development of activities.
- 26 volunteers trained in PHAST methodology.
- 825 people sensitized with DRR messages (such as tsunami and floods), health (such as hantavirus) and energy efficiency, among others.
- 106 new beneficiaries trained on Community First Aid.
- 28 people receive key messages on sexual and reproductive health.
- 1 community clean-up campaign.
- 6 closing lines of project activities.
- 254 students and teachers informed on risk reduction.
- 4 schools have Emergency School Plans elaborated/updated and school brigades formed and trained.
- 2 school simulations developed.
- 7 schools receive basic equipment on disaster response and/or water and sanitation (3 in O'Higgins, 2 in Maule, 1 in Los Rios and 1 in Bio Bio).
- 138 new families have elaborated their Emergency Family Plans.
- 5 community simulations developed.
- 4 Emergency Community Plans elaborated.
- 8 community committees of response to disasters formed and trained.
- 4 cooperation agreements signed among community and local entities.
- 6 community microprojects implemented.
- 4 IPA in execution (Laguna Verde, Torres de Mesana, La Suerte and Bellavista).



Volunteers attending a Social Microproject Workshop, April 2014



Installation of an antenna in the Community Mississippi, Region of Los Rios, 2014



60% of energy saving with the utilization of the innovative "Witch Pot" in the Community Violeta Parra, Region O'Higgins, 2014.



First Aid Attention to elderly people during a real emergency, Community of Violeta Parra, 2014.



Historical Profile during IPA José Miguel Carrera (Bio Bio), March 2015