

**RESILIENCE IN THE AMERICAS (RITA)
Salvadorian Red Cross**

GENERAL OBJETIVE:

In result of learning obtained from the implementation of the Resilience of Americas Project (RITA) and considering the advances, achievements and difficulties at the programmatic level like the financial execution, a strategy was proposed to be considered as a key factor on the strengthening of the national societies and their organizational capacity, planning and management, to ensure a successful process of supporting that affects the development of more prepared and resilient communities.

In result of the analysis of actions reviewed vs. time and necessary resources to advance toward the achievement of the project objectives, in regard of the priorities identified in the community plan of actions, during the first months of the fiscal year 2015, an extension of 3 months was requested in order the Salvadorian Red Cross could complete the acquired compromises, before the second phase of intervention. For that reason the RITA II execution began on October 2014, with a period of 9 months of hard work, to intensify efforts in the strengthening their capacities, mainly for the auxiliaries committees and in this way manage projects with a bigger community impact.

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

The RITA II project placed emphasis on activities addressed on the strengthening of the national society, including the executors team, as auxiliary committees staff, whom are the main responsible to assure the community transformation processes, local development, project sustainability and impact.

In this sense, they have worked on the strengthening of the response organizations at community level, through training addressed to the brigades of risk management, health committees, basic first aids, preparation of community emergency plans, water and sanitation, good practices of hygiene, solid waste management, support to the water committee on audit. During this period, community actions as reforestation campaigns, community meetings in addition development of micro projects using recycle material.

As reference, the activities use methodologies developed by the International Federation of Red Cross, as "Mejor es Prevenir serie", participative transformation for health, hygiene and sanitation (PHAST), health and community first aid (SPAC)

Activities on community education, community organization and capacity building were conducted to reinforce the processes and commitment. In addition, the follow-up of processes that were mentioned on the first phase. We expect to consolidate the Red Cross presence in communities, strength links with local partners (state entities, community organizations, no governmental organizations) in addition to evaluate the advance and achievement reached during the first year. Relevant aspects will contribute on the development of auxiliary committees more strengthened and able to continue joining the community.

KEY ACTORS/PARTENERS

Six (6) communities involved on the process of implementation of the program (community leaders and members of the community), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Civil Protection.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Objective 1: To increase the National Societies capacity on services.

- Improve the NS capacity on program management.
- Improved the National Society capacity on response of disasters.

Objective 2: To create opportunities in vulnerable communities to improve the resilience.



Delivery of Educational material with key messages.

Strategy of Intervention:

Application of the methodologies (PHAST; SPAC, Es Mejor Prevenir Serie), focused-tools on communities, activities developed such as awareness campaigns. The evaluation will be made through baseline, endline, checklists, home visits, focus groups, interviews and more.

Priorization of this areas:

Strengthened on the capacity of benefits of the National Society (Project management, plans of response and volunteer management)

- Risk reduction and response to disasters.
- Water management and Hygiene (PHAST)
- Community Health (SPAC)
- Community empowerment.
- Community organization and local development.

Project Lifetime:

From October 31th, 2014 to June 30th, 2015.

Direct Beneficiaries

1,483 Direct Beneficiaries

- **Improve the NS capacity on response of disasters.**

PROJECT ADVANCES (October 2014-March 2015)

The program has accomplished a work plan adjusted to needs on strengthening the capacity of the National Societies on program management and strategies development, defined work and operative plans for planning processes and volunteer management.

At community level, formative work and skills developed has been intensified with organized groups, created and strengthened with the project support, through trainings addressed to the water committee, response brigades, health committee and community organizations. Home visits with key messages, cleaning campaigns and contests have been developed in order to promote the collaborative work and community cohesion.

- Community emergency plans from the communities of: Fatima, Cebadilla, Montecitos and Parque Cabañas have been reviewed and updated.
- Documents have been delivered to the commission of the civil protection of each community to be appraised and accepted for the final review.
- Developing of the PHAST methodology in 5 communities (Fatima, Cebadilla, Montecitos, Pque. Cabañas y Vado Lagarto) with the replica in two of them (Fatima and Cebadilla), in Sensuntepeque Municipally.
- Activities on water management were completed in four communities (Fatima, Montecitos, Pque. Cabñas and Vado Largo). A water filter was given to participants of the PHAST process, for water consume at home level.
- Inside the component of “community awareness meetings”, an activity was conducted in 6 communities, referent to the 7 fundamental principles of the Red Cross, to many politics situations the country has faced during the second quarter of the program.
- Presentations of good practices were conducted in two Municipality of Sensuntepeque (Cebadilla and Los Montecitos), which were shared with four National Societies (Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica and the American Red Cross Delegation). Two important achievements have been made on the field such as: organization and community cohesion.
- Equipments for water purification were delivered to each house during the educational sessions. How to manage water, First Aid workshops with their follow-up in the executing of a drill, update of PHAST component (Participatory Hygiene for Health Transformation and Sanitation) and communal Emergency Plans in 5 communities.

Achievements from October 2014 to June 2015

- 1,483 registered beneficiaries.
- Seven workshops have been held on organizational development and networking.
- 456 beneficiaries participated on community workshops.
- 5 Beneficiary communities have annual work plans for their organized group.
- 457 beneficiaries attended to scheduled meetings.
- 131 beneficiaries are trained through workshops on community development.
- 6 communities have organized groups in RDD, Health, Water and Sanitation.
- 6 communities maintained plans.
- 6 drills for the proper functioning of SAT community component.
- 84 members of community response participated on community drills, referent to the well-functioning of early warning system.

Location:

6 communities of the Municipality of Sensuntepeque: Montecitos, Parque Cabaña, Puebla Nueva, Vado Lagarto, Fatima and Cebadilla.

Funds

\$56,423.00USD

Contact

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Home visits with key messages



Water and Sanitation equipment delivered to community brigades.



Community First Aid Workshops.

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