

# Annual Report Guatemala

Achievements January-December 2012



<b>Reporting period</b>	January – December 2012
<b>Total budget for the reporting period</b>	Red Cross: € 253,467 CARE: € 106,055.51 Cordaid/Caritas: € 280,682 Wetlands International: € 60,732.35
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## 1 Part I – intra-organisational developments

***Are there developments within individual organisation(s) that impact on the ability of the organisation to implement the agreed activities? These can be e.g. reduced availability of staff or financial resources, because of or as a reaction to external developments: has staff been involved in the development of proposals or the management of other programmes? Is staff reduced or replaced? Have resources become available in less quantity and/or later than planned?***

The technical teams of CARE/Vivamos Mejor and Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa continued unchanged, although Caritas Zacapa hired a facilitator to support gender in the communities.

During 2012, the technical team of the Red Cross has been entirely changed for various reasons: resignations, job performance, poor coordination experience. Currently, the crew is structured as follows: 4 field technicians (1 Community, 2 Institutional and 1 Environment) and two technical assistants. Three technicians are located in Quiché and a technician in el Estor. The technical assistants support the work with communities and schools located in Quiché, but have also the possibility to support the work of El Estor. The selection for the National coordination is still in process. Despite the turnover mentioned above, progress has been made in the program's activities. It has had the direct support of the Disaster Secretariat of the Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC) that has made the project coordinator available for direct support in the coordination and a team of volunteers with experience in community facilitation and institutional and interest in understand and replicate the issues on climate change and ecosystem management. Furthermore, the technical team count with the support of the Netherlands Red Cross office in Guatemala. In addition, as part of the support and direction in the new program operation structure, the GRC has appointed a deputy technical coordinator to support the local coordination in Quiché, ensuring the operation of the team, its orientation and the quality of program development.

Also within the PfR organizations that provide technical support have been changes.

At the beginning of the year, there was a change of personnel in the Climate Center. The person hired by RCCC spend 20% of her time to provide technical assistance to the PfR program in Central America.

WI hired at the beginning of the year a country program coordinator and in August 2012 a Development technician for the Biorights project.

In Caritas Zacapa there was a change in the General Direction of Caritas Zacapa. Due to this change it was necessary to explain the new General Director the basics of the PfR Programme, like what is the Alliance, who comprise it, etc., as well as the details of the program because of a total lack of knowledge.

There were also changes within the regional coordination. For personal reasons, the regional coordinator left the region in October 2012. However, from Italy she will continue with the regional coordination with a more strategic approach. Four times a year she will travel to the region to attend the Technical Committee meetings and other events. In addition, communication continues with the country team via email and teleconferences.

In the month of September 2012 with help of representatives of the country teams in Guatemala and Nicaragua a Programmatic for the regional coordination in both countries was contracted. Since November 2012 he is facilitating, monitoring and planning the processes. In addition, he is pushing the common activities.

Most PfR partner organizations has promoted the holistic DRR/CCA/EMR approach in other initiatives and within their organizations.

An example is the Biorights Project, an initiative of CARE and WI, that incorporates a model of organization, training and community building through funding to strengthen DRR/CCA/EMR actions. It is funded by the Humanitarian Innovation Fund and is being executed in 4 communities in addition to those of PfR complementing and enhancing activities and better results in the micro watershed Masa', Solola. The PfR approach is expanded in this project, and the activities and experiences of PfR in risk mapping, training of communities and COCODES also benefit the 4 additional communities, due to which the scope of PfR is expanded. The project implementation period is from February 1, 2012 to October 31, 2013. The PfR program continue to monitor the results of this project in the 4 communities through their involvement in the activities covered by the strategic line 3 of the program. The project has a total Budget of 207.779 Euros.

In addition, CARE and the Red Cross have included the PfR comprehensive approach in their projects under the Action Plan VIII of the DIPECHO Programme funded by the General Directorate for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission. The implementation period of these projects is July 1, 2012 to December 31, 2013.

Although GRC has gradually integrated a broader view, linked to climate change adaptation, into its strategic plan for risk reduction, the integrative approach of PfR, especially climate change and ecosystem issues, has required new strategic alliances with governing bodies or experts in the three areas.

In 2012 Caritas Zacapa has strengthened its organization with different skills that positively impacted the program execution. Of the six trainings, the following two are mentioned:

- a) Permaculture Workshop: The location of the workshop was the Permaculture Institute of El Salvador, located in the municipality of Suchitoto, El Salvador, from 7 to 8 June 2012 and was facilitated by the Dutch expert, Ishi Crosby and the IPES facilitators. The contents were developed with practices and field trips in the Permaculture Institute of El Salvador (IPES). The most importante subjects were permaculture designs, food forest, food production, food with Amaranth, water and effective microorganisms, thematic analysis and institutional monitoring actions. As a result of this workshop it was proposed to do work with microorganisms in Camotán and with Permaculture works with demonstration plots in Cabañas, 2 plots at the top and 2 at the lower part of the San Vicente River watershed. In 2,013 two systems with square garden will be implemented, together with a rainwater capturing system and 2 Mandala designs.
- b) Training course on the importance of dry forest for resilience building in Guatemala. This course was facilitated by Zootropic, with the following aim: Provide basic knowledge of ecology and conservation of dry forest and its biodiversity and was directed exclusively to five team members of Caritas Zacapa and the WI Representative in Guatemala. This course has resulted into cooperation agreements between Caritas and Zootropic to work in the communities located in the area of the Heloderma reserve.

***Are there changes in the external environment of individual organisations that impact on its ability to implement the programme activities, eg. security issues or legislative changes?***

At the time of preparing this report there are no significant changes in policies, laws and regulations related to DRR/CCA/EMR.

Changes of staff in the institutions implementing the above mentioned policies has let to delays for networking and coordination. Hower, at the end progress was made. For example, the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), and the National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP). In May 2012 CONAP, the lead agency on ecosystems and biodiversity, has appointed a new Secretary and Executive Secretary.

At Municipal level the change of officials didn't have a negative effect in all the working areas of the PfR Program. In case of the Municipality of El Estor activities were not started in the year 2011 because the operation in this township is ate institucion and civil society level and with governing bodies. In the political context of dissatisfaction with the elections results of the elections and the repetition of the election process and the change of officers at the same time, there were delays in starting the project activities.

In the municipality of Quiché, the population was dissatisfied with the election results, however, progress was made in the activities.

In case of the Municipality of Cabañas the elections of 2011 meant no changes or possible effects for the program because the mayor who won the election is the same as who occupied that position in the recent years, in other words, he was re-elected.

The earthquake of November 7, 2012 affected the region of the municipalities of Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán and Nahuala, nevertheless no significant damages were reported in the region and it didn't influence the implementation of activities. However, due to the same earthquake it was not possible to perform the National Forum "An Integrated Approach to DRR, CCA and EMR" with external stakeholders in the themes of DRR, CC and EMR that was planned for 8 and 9 November 2012. The event was replanned for 30 and 31 January 2013.

In 2012 there were no significant safety issues in the program working area that threatened the physical integrity of the staff who execute the program and their property.

## 2 Part II – functioning of the country team

### ***Does the team meet frequently, are all partners able to participate? Does the team effectively reach decisions?***

The Regional Coordination has established Technical Committee meetings to allow the participation of all PfR alliance members and its local partners. Objective of these meetings is to discuss the progress of the activities, agree upon common activities and unify criteria for implementation. It is important to find a central space for all organizations because it allows to know how each organization is responding to the goal of the program at country level and it is reviewed how to improve. Although sometimes the same topic is discussed in several different meetings and there are problems with defining agreements, regularly decisions are reached by consensus. During the year there were four Technical Committee meetings: January 31-February 2 (CARE Guatemala Office), 2-4 May (GRC Delegation Quiche), 13-14 August (CARE Guatemala Office), 3-5 December (Caritas Guatemala Office).

Additionally and when necessary, the representatives of the partner organizations have met, physically or by teleconference with an average of once a month, without the presence of the regional coordinator or the programmatic to advance in specific issues, review documents, take decisions about ongoing activities. These meetings have enabled decisions regarding common activities or to agree on issues or decisions that need response by the regional coordination. It is an indication that there is a team approach and appropriation of the role of each organization within the program. It is considered that there is a willingness of the alliance members to work as a team.

There is an availability to coordinated among partners. Tools and methodologies of community approach have been shared. Furthermore, tools for activities that impact the national level has been unified like the national forum and the information, education and communication strategy. However, the program also allows each organization to maintain their independence, experience and knowledge to implement the project in the different territories. In strategy 1 related to community capacity building there were some differences between the partners, however, these differences were mainly referred to the tools, not so much to the purpose or focus. For example, to perform risk analysis each partner used its own tool that has been used in the past and that has also been applied in this program.

An important element to note is the good working atmosphere within the Country Team and the Technical Committee and the willingness to address strategies related to strengthening civil society and advocacy. However, one of the limitations was the coordination with external stakeholder, this was very slow and it was not possible to define specific actions.

March 27, 2012 a meeting of the Steering Committee was organized with the participation of senior management representatives from the PfR partner organizations in Guatemala. Although it was the only meeting with top management in 2012, it is recognized that it is important to involve managers from partner organizations for greater ownership of the progress and difficulties of the program.

From July 2012 one started with the organization of regular teleconferences of at least once a month with the regional team consisting of regional coordination, WI and RCCC. During these teleconferences the technical assistance provided by WI and RCCC to country teams in the region is discussed and decided upon. Decisions are made effectively.

Due to its presence in the country, WI participates in meetings of the Technical Committee, Steering Committee and the country team. It also provides direct support to each partner organization. RCCC has a communication with the country team primarily via email. In addition, during the Regional Workshop that was organized in February 2012, with support of RCCC, the partners have participated in the co-design and development of a tool in game mode to promote participatory learning and dialogue on the core issues of PfR. Unfortunately, until now the game wasn't played in Guatemala.

**Does it operate collectively vis-à-vis stakeholders (if not, why not?)**

Since the start of the project, with the initial presentation at national and local level, although working in geographically different areas, all members of the alliance present themselves as members of an alliance managing the same program, the same work route and answering to the achievement of the common country. This allows that other organizations and institutions perceive us as PfR alliance and as a single program, despite the independence of each organization, according to its profile and expertise.

Furthermore, during 2012, several meetings have been organized to discuss issues related to linking and learning, and advocacy with the stakeholder institutions in the theme of DRR/CCA/EMR, like the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Agriculture (MAGA), National Coordinator of Disasters (CONRED), Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) and other organizations. To these organization the programme, the PfR alliance and possible coordination and joint working arrangements in the light of the programme have been presented. It must be said that most of these organizations have demonstrated its availability to assist and support the implementation of the programme and to define written agreements of cooperation, f.e. agreements or letters of understanding. It is still discussed within the country team about which partner organizations will sign these agreements and with which governmental institutions this will be done, taking into account that for the signing of agreements and/or letters of understanding only CARE, the Red Cross and Caritas have the legal capacity to do so.

**Are activities of all partners aligned?**

There is a common logical framework with specific activities due to which the PfR alliance in Guatemala has a general alignment, however, the methodology for carrying out the activities for each institution is not common. Each organization has its own way of doing it, but are responding and contributing to the same indicators and results.

Within the PfR Programme some common activities are defined that allow the joint work of all Alliance members, for example the baseline study, the communication strategy, the national forum, the introductory meetings with government institutions, and the development of education material. In addition, the country team is willing to continue defining and standardizing elements of the intervention. An example of this is the definition of a Protocol for Micro Projects<sup>1</sup> that guides all alliance partners in the type of projects and the method for implementation.

Furthermore, the members have defined and are in the process of adopting the minimum standards of "climate-smart DRR and ecosystems", which help the analysis in terms of climate and ecosystem sustainability of each action/micro project implemented within the program.

Due to the difference in the implementation methodology of activities there is a difference in the implementation pace/rhythm that is clearly demonstrated in the case of the micro projects. Some partners are already working on its implementation in the field while others are still working out the respective profiles.

In order to make sure that the activities of all partners are more aligned, the following is proposed:

- Increased implementation of collective or common activities.
- The regional coordination monitor the quality in terms of content and methodology of work of each partner to ensure the qualitative achievement of the activities and results established in the common logical framework of the Alliance.

**Is there a shared vision on 'resilience' and 'livelihoods', and how these should be addressed?**

Although Guatemala has not yet elaborated a single Alliance vision on "resilience" and "livelihood" and how these issues should be addressed, each organization of the Alliance has its vision that are very similar.

Themes	Visions
<b>Resilience</b>	<p><b>CARE:</b> Resilience is interpreted as the ability of a person and/or society to prepare, respond and recover from the physical, structural and economic disaster.</p> <p><b>RC:</b> Resilience is the ability of an organism, community or person to recover from an adverse situation.</p> <p><b>Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa:</b> We understand resilience as the ability of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of</p>

<sup>1</sup> The Protocol for the Micro Projects is a regional document elaborated with the support of the country teams in Guatemala and Nicaragua.

	functioning and structure.
<b>Livelihoods</b>	<p><b>CARE:</b> Livelihoods are a common issue in the three stages of resilience.</p> <p><b>RC:</b> Livelihoods are the material, financial and social resources that persons, families, and communities have for their own subsistence that ensure their life quality.</p> <p><b>Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa:</b> A livelihood comprises the capabilities and activities necessary to live. A livelihood need to be sustainable coping and recovering from social, cultural and environmental changes keeping the capabilities, both in the present and the future without neglecting natural resources.</p>
<b>How to direct these themes</b>	<p><b>CARE:</b> In the preparation and response stages actions should be promoted that build individual and collective protection capacities and that serve in the recovery stage. For capacity building on these themes one can conduct formation (training sessions, recreational activities) and training activities (learning - doing) via the implementation of the collective micro projects.</p> <p><b>RC:</b> It is important to recognize that resilience is a process, not an outcome that is linked to sustainable development, the ability of communities and individuals to operate and manage their resources, their environment, to identify threats, vulnerabilities and risks, weather conditions. To make this process possible livelihoods that are vital to the community and people have to be maintained, protected or recovered early to ensure continuity of everyday life. Therefore, it is important that the strengthening of community resilience is linked to the protection and recovery of livelihoods of the community, family, individual, to risk management, to environmental management, and to territory development planning. In order to resilience to be part of the development process it is necessary that leaders of community-based organizations take ownership of their role and advocate with their authorities to develop more comprehensive development.</p> <p>In the developing of the program, strengthening the community resilience is one of the main objectives through the organizational strengthening of the COLREDES, COCODES, and COMREDES, linking with the three approaches: ecosystems, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management. Similarly, local capacities of the institutions and CBOs are strengthened through training in DRR and Climate Change.</p> <p><b>Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa:</b> This is determined by the degree to which the social system is capable of self-organization to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters in order to achieve a better future protection and to improve risk reduction measures for disaster. A central element of this capability is related to the protection and adaptation of livelihoods to changing conditions, particularly in relation to climate change. In other words, you can not talk about community resilience if communities do not guarantee or fail to maintain their livelihoods.</p>

As expressed by WI, both the vision of resilience and livelihood must be conformed to the guidance provided in the document "A new vision for community resilience" which was published in November 2012 by PfR. Additionally, the development of minimum standards of ecosystems driven from several WI country offices (with a strong input from our region) are also a reflection of the vision of the organization about resilience. Finally, at global level WI together with RCCC the development of the "Principles of Resilience." In its development the regional input is again considered to be relevant and consistent with the national reality.

**How do partners support each other's programme development and implementation in this respect?**

A general team vision among the alliance members has been developed and the interest to support each other is shown, especially as technical support in areas where an organization has more knowledge and experience.

Examples of this mutual support are:

1. In September 2012, building on the experience of Vivamos Mejor (local partner of CARE) in the management of GIS, a training event on this topic was organized and facilitated aimed at staff and volunteers of the GRC and the staff of the CARE DIPECHO VIII project. For various commitments, previously established, it was not possible for the staff of Caritas Zacapa to participate.

2. To meet the activity A.1.1/2.2 Educative campaigns on DRR/CCA/EMR in public schools the need to jointly bid for a consultancy was identified, and it was agreed on terms of reference and the work that will take place during the school coordinated 2013.

3. In the organization of the National Forum that was planned for 8 and 9 November 2012 each of the partners has made its significant contribution to the organization, content, methodology and results.

4. During the last three months of 2012 with the support of CTNL and the regional coordination the program indicators were revised through several joint sessions.

5. Wetlands International supported significantly in the development of terms of reference for joint studies between partners. It also provided follow-up to the commitments that were made in terms of consulting and other activities.

***Are staff members invited to (planning) meetings or of partner organisations?***

The geographical dispersion of work it is not possible to have a closer relationship between partners and to unify the criteria for more integrated working. Thus, although the partner organizations exchanged invitations to meetings or activities such as training workshops, participation only took place according to the staff availability.

***Have field visits to each other's project sites already taken place?***

During 2012 there have been various field visits that permitted to know each other's working area and to share and learn from the experiences of others.

1. During the Regional Workshop held in February in Nicaragua an exchange between the technical teams of the countries was realized in a field trip that permitted to know the work of the alliance in communities of Madriz, Nicaragua and furthermore, to share the experience of making a demonstrative game to understand risk in both upper and downstream basin in a community.

2. One of the procedures for the meetings of the Technical Committee is to do it in the place where partners are located which allows to know the working area of each partner and what everyone is doing. Furthermore, it has also been a good way to share and learn from the experiences of others. The first meeting that was held in this way was from 2 to 4 May 2012 at the Delegation of the GRC in Santa Cruz, Quiche. RCCC had planned to participate in the meeting, but due to unexpected circumstances the RCCC representative had to cancel her trip.

3. During the M&E workshop organized from 20 to 25 May 2012 in which a training on Outcome Mapping and participatory video monitoring was facilitated, two communities of CARE/Vivamos Mejor were visited to practice the video production, but also served to know the community, the way they live, and the activities they are doing.

In the months of June and July the regional coordinator and WI have done some field visits in order to monitor the progress of activities on site and establish the conditions for WI to provide technical assistance to technical staff assigned to the program implementation in the field, including working with partners to picture the needs for internal and external training and inputs to the ToR of consultancies and studies to be made in each region.

- June 18 to 20, 2012: Visit to the St. Thomas office of CARE/Vivamos Mejor, in the region of Xejuyub, Nahualá. In this visit were involved the regional coordinator of the program, the country representative of WI, the risk management program director of Vivamos Mejor, project staff and program coordinator of CARE Guatemala.
- 26 to 28 June 2012: Visit to the Caritas office Zacapa and communities Sunzapote, El Solis, Plan de la Cruz, St. Thomas and St. Vincent de Zacapa. In this visit were involved the regional coordinator of the program, the country representative of WI, the country representative of Cordaid, the coordinator of Caritas Zacapa and technical staff.
- 9 to 11 July 2012: Visit to the delegation office in Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, and San Bartolome Jocotenango Joyabaj. Attended by the WI Country Representative, the program coordinator GRC and Chairman of the Delegation of the GRC.
- 17 to 19 July 2012: Visit to El Estor participating in an internal training of GRC to volunteers of the delegation El Estor. In this visit were involved the regional coordinator of the program, the country representative of WI, representative of the NLRC and the program coordinator GRC.

In addition, both CARE and the Red Cross through internal initiatives have organized visits to communities in the work area of the PfR program:

CARE: Under the LAC Workshop III: "Continuing to improve our work in DRR: Learning, sharing, building and working together" as an initiative supported by CARE Nederland to improve DRR

capacities of local partners and offices CARE in the LAC countries, a field visit was organized to two communities in the area of intervention of CARE/Vivamos Mejor, as a case study to have practical elements to improve the capacity of partners and CARE country offices in Latin America to integrate key elements of DRR and CCA and gender with the focus on planning, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

**Red Cross:** Among GRC and Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC) a knowledge and experience exchange activity was implemented, with the visit of the project coordinator of the Netherlands Red Cross office in Nicaragua. Communities were visited to understand the context and actions taken and shared with the technical team activities of interest. The GRC is very much interested to learn from the experience of CRN in addressing local traditional knowledge.

***Does the team apply a strategy or implementation plan for the remaining years under PFR?***

In the initial planning of the project a projection of activities for the four years of implementation was established. A consolidation of the general alliance activities was elaborated. At the same time a projection of expenses for each year according to plan was made. This has been adjusted according to the rhythm of the project to date.

A logical path for each strategic line was made, it needs to be concretized more. That is, it is known where the Alliance will go to, however every member has its own style in the field.

In August and September 2012 the country team together with the regional coordination has developed a consolidated annual operating plan for 2013 based on the established in the context of the intervention, the initial planning and the program monitoring protocol. Although this plan only reflects the activities for 2013, the country team is aware that there are only two years left for the implementation and that during the implementation of activities in 2013 the team should continue to define an exit strategy.

The country team is willing to define and standardize elements of the intervention.

Examples of this disposition are:

1. The Protocol for the Micro Projects that guides all members of the Alliance in the type of projects and method for implementation.
2. The minimum contents for training and formation, depending on the target population: community, local leaders, representatives of municipal and departmental institutions, and educational population.
3. The joint work agenda with the rectors in the field of DRR/CCA/EMR, which is one of the products to be obtained during the National Forum that is rescheduled for January 2013.
4. The desire to work more deeply with the minimum standards for climate-smart DRR to help articulate the execution plan for the following years of PFR.

***How is the DRR/CCA/EMR approach internalised, both contents and co-operation-wise? Is it applied in other DRR programmes as well?***

Although the program formally began two years ago, in real terms has run the activities for one and a half years. However, the focus of DRR/CCA/EMR has advanced in the internalization process within the country team, both in terms of content and cooperation level.

It has been a slow process, especially because most experiences in community work of the three partners is related to DRR. However, an interesting effort of integration and internalization has done by incorporating aspects of climate and ecosystems in different elements of the program. For example:

1. The partners have integrated into their risk analysis methodologies (AVC, CVCA, GCRRD) the 3 approaches.
2. Both CARE and Red Cross are making the effort to implement the comprehensive approach in other DRR programs, like DIPECHO VIII (CARE and the Red Cross) and the project Biorights (CARE/WI).
3. A Protocol for the Micro Projects has been created that includes minimum standards of DRR, climate change and ecosystems, which will be applies in the identified micro projects implemented by the communities in the working areas of the program.

To achieve full internalize of the integrated approach, it is not only essential that each partner shows a willingness to do so, but also the continued assistance of the Climate Center and Wetlands International. During 2012 the two organizations have provided technical assistance during different occasions:

- In February 2012, they organized the Regional Learning Workshop in Nicaragua. The workshop included training sessions on different topics of adaptation to climate change and ecosystems.

- WI organized an internal workshop for Partners in August 2012 of which the central theme was "Ecosystem Approach for CCA". One of the outcomes of this workshop was the definition of the specific support that the partners require from WI in the work with micro projects, capacity building and advocacy.
- In September 2012 the organization Zootropic through the intermediation of WI provided the technical team of Caritas-Zacapa the training course "The importance of dry forests to build resilience in Guatemala in a changing world."

***Is there more co-operation with organisations involved in PfR outside the PfR programme?***

The PfR organizations have established good cooperation with various organizations outside the consortium PfR at different levels.

At **national level** there has been progress in establishing cooperative relationships with various governing bodies in the field of DRR/CCA/EMR:

CONRED: Organization and planning of the National Forum, suspended in November 2012 and rescheduled for January 2013.

MARN: Establishing a Legal Technical Monitoring Committee that facilitates the joint work in specific activities.

MINEDUC: Mainstreaming DRR into school materials used to address CC at school level.

National Roundtable for Climate Change: Organization of the Workshop on "Ecosystem Approach for CCA" in August 2012 resulting in the identification of priorities for joint action under PfR.

Indigenous Roundtable for Climate Change: "Meeting for the exchange of traditional knowledge and practices focused on risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecosystem conservation" in Panajachel, Solola, in October 2012. The main objective was to promote the knowledge and experience exchange of GOs and NGOs in addressing indigenous and traditional knowledge done in the DRR/CCA/EMR approach.

Center for Conservation Studies at the University of San Carlos of Guatemala: Postgraduate Course in Ecological Restoration with teachers from Puerto Rico, Mexico and Guatemala to be held during the 1st half of 2013.

Defenders of Wildlife: "Regional Workshop for REDD+ actions implementers and Ecosystem Adaptation to Climate Change" in September 2012, where CARE, Red Cross, and Caritas Zacapa participated as exhibitors sharing the processes and lessons learned from the analysis of vulnerability.

At the departmental, municipal and local level each partner organization has established its own communications and partnerships:

CARE (Solola): Association of Friends of the River Ixtacapa, the Climate Change Institute, municipal authorities, district authorities of the Ministry of Education, local centers of the Ministry of Health.

Red Cross (Quiche and El Estor): Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, National Forests Institute, National Coordinator for Risk Reduction, which its response capacity has been strengthened through education and training to COMRED .

Cordaid/Caritas (Zacapa and Chiquimula): SECONRED, MARN, MAGA, Universities, Municipalities, MSPAS, MINEDIC, The Mountain Association Granadillas, CIAG, ICTA, Commonwealth El Gigante and Copán Chortí, ASIVESCA, Volunteer Fire brigade Zacapa, ZOOTROPIC, Caritas, Arquidiocesis, Diocesis and Vicariatos, among others.

***Are organisations (individually or collectively) engaged with Netherlands embassies? What can be said about the nature of these contacts?***

Despite the closure of its operations in 2013, the regional coordination has maintained contact with the Embassy of the Netherlands in Guatemala through various meetings.

During the recent meetings (September and December) possibilities of how the PfR program could provide follow-up to the initiatives that the embassy has started but have to leave due to its closure have been defined. Two organizations were identified, ASORECH (Regional Association for Ch'orti Farmers) and AEPDI (Association of El Estor for Integral Development) that have received support from the Dutch Embassy. With these organizations it is possible to initiate a cooperative relationship under the PfR program. On one hand, it was agreed that ASORECH could collaborate on climate predictions during the Regional Workshop in March 2013 and that AEPDI has experiences in the theme of Q'eqchí indigenous knowledge in El Estor where the GRC has its intervention area. Furthermore, the possibility of linking with the Netherlands Embassy in Costa Rica has been verified because this will be the only embassy that will remain in the Central American region.

Also the Netherlands Red Cross has had meetings with the embassy to share the activities done in the country, including the implementation of the PfR program. They were very interested and expressed the interest to be informed on the progress.

***Is senior management of the organisations actively supporting the PfR alliance? Why (not)?***



Top management of each PfR organization actively supports the PfR alliance in the country.

CARE: There is a constant support by the national programme direction and the initiatives manager. This support is translated into: monitoring of the implementation of the activities, management for the provision of resources, political support for the efforts, including the establishment and facilitation of contacts with government institutions related to the program intervention approach. It is promoted to incorporate the integrated approach in other regular programs of CARE Guatemala as well as the CARE CA Humanitarian Action Programme.

Red Cross: For the program operation the GRC has assigned the Disaster Secretariate as focal point. Furthermore, both the Presidency, the national director and the chairmen of the delegations of Quiché and El Estor have been informed of the progress, achievements and challenges of the program, and have demonstrated its endorsement and support when necessary. At delegation level technical committee meetings have been held which assesses the development of the program and proposes suggestions with the heads of the delegations. An example of the support that senior managers of GRC have given, is the staff performance evaluation and change if necessary.

Cordaid/Caritas: Cordaid maintains constant communication and guidance to its local partner regarding technical, political and financial aspects. The program manager has visited the area on several occasions, including meetings with Caritas and visits to communities and has participated in meetings of the Country Team. The discussion of AOPs and budgets has been an important space to define the work strategies and expected results.

WI: The Regional WI Office in Panama and the PfR managers in WI-HQ Netherlands support the work in Guatemala, through joint planning and budget review. For example, within the budget originally had no specific funding for activity *A1.1/2.3 Open recovery spaces of local and traditional knowledge on DRR/CCA/Ecosystems with youth, women and the elderly*, and because the "cosmovision" issue was identified as a priority, readjustment in budget lines has been done and during the 1st semester 2013 the consultancy "Q'eqchi Cosmovision study and Wetland Livelihoods in the municipality of El Estor, Izabal emphasizing CCA/DRR/EMR" will be implemented together with the Red Cross.

***Are there changes in the overall external environment that impact on the alliance's ability to implement the programme activities, eg. security issues or legislative changes?***

Complementary to the mentioned above under I, the following issues and/or changes that will affect the overall PfR program have been identified.

At community level the issue of security and social conflict is important, especially when working in very sensitive areas (Quiché and El Estor), affected by mining, etc.. Similarly, social mistrust that prevails in some communities didn't allowed people to share their data and information very easily. In addition, these areas are those that have been supported with government handouts, so expect direct incentives (cash, food, fertilizer, etc.), and if not given, it is more difficult to enter and win the trust of communities, the part of preparation and training is not considered to be important if not accompanied by direct incentives in kind or cash.

The political context has affected two communities in which the program has worked: Patulup and Chupacbalan in Sacapulas. Due to promises and conditioning of a political leader who has promised to support them in the development of the community, with the condition that they should not accept support from others, the communities have resigned to continue working with the Red Cross. This has directly affected the program since it requires finding new communities now. One alternative is to expand new communities in the watershed of Cucubá in order to provide a more comprehensive work in this area, however, is an issue that is still under review with the municipal authorities and the Red Cross.

In the area of Zacapa and Chiquimula it is expected that some conflicts in the area of the Mountain The Granadillas will occur because there are strong interests. On one hand, landowners who do not want to be restricted in forestry activities in their farms and ranches and at the other hand, the community members together with other local actors struggling because the area is declared protective mountain springs.

### **3 Part III – progress on programme implementation**

#### **3.1 Activities under the three strategic directions**

# of beneficiaries reached	# 17,394 <sup>2</sup>
# of female beneficiaries reached	# 8,625 <sup>3</sup>

<b>1.a # of mitigation measures implemented per community</b>	A.1.1.2, A.1.1.3, A.1.1/2.1	# 17 <sup>4</sup>
<p>In 2012, in Quiché the Social Micro Projects Workshop is realized with the participation of community leaders, volunteers and technical staff of GRC. During this workshop the following documents were used: Social Micro Module of the Reference Center for Community Education (CREC) and the Protocol for the Micro Projects of the PFR. At this moment there are 5 micro project profiles elaborated of which 2 profiles have been reviewed by the PFR Alliance partners in Guatemala providing their comments for later execution.</p> <p>In the 6 communities in Solola the team has started the identification phase of mitigation measures to be applied and related training, in every place at least one family has initiated mitigation activities, for example soil conservation, hedgerows.</p> <p>In Zacapa among the mitigation measures include reforestation in 8 communities of the Cabañas Municipality and water system expansion in Los Encuentros, El Arenal and Solis, of the same township.</p>		

<b>1.b % of community mitigation measures environmentally sustainable</b>	A.1.1.2, A.1.1.3, A.1.1/2.1	% 100 <sup>5</sup>
<p>In Quiche actions have been started to implement environmentally sustainable mitigation measures community, among them are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forestal seed collection for implementing community and municipal nurseries with the seed collection of the species llamo (<i>Alnus</i> sp.) and Pino Macho (<i>Pinus maximinoi</i>) in communities in the municipality of San Bartolomé Jocotenango.</li> <li>• A tour of experiences exchange for community ecosystem management (community forests) has been realized, in which 30 community leaders met in Quiché. The main ecosystem service of the forest resource is the use of water.</li> <li>• There have been reforestation activities in all nine communities.</li> </ul> <p>In Solola the identified mitigation measures are environmentally sustainable because they have prioritized those that do not require technology, but are planned to be developed with the materials and resources that exist within the community. These measures have been identified from the risk analysis and validated with community leaders who are integrated in a micro watershed committee.</p> <p>In Zacapa and Chiquimula all promoted measures are environmentally sustainable because they don't damage the environment, however on the contrary do benefit, and on the other hand, all necessary efforts are done to ensure that these measures are maintained over time.</p>		

<b>1.c # of community members reached with DRR/CCA/EMR activities</b>	Linea estrategica 1 & 2	# 6,331 <sup>6</sup>
<p>In 2012, the nine communities in Quiche count with an AVC. Seven communities have formed COLRED and community members and members of the COLRED have been trained in the structure and legal basis of CONRED, First Aid and climate change.</p> <p>An awareness campaign on the issues of DRR/ACC/EMR is implemented in Quiché and the municipality of El Estor. Furthermore, a holiday school for boys and girls have been organized in Quiché and El Estor in which the game "Riesgolandia" was used, a puppet show and the story "the weather is my friend" has been show.</p> <p>The team has worked on the School Setting, currently having realized 10 School Response Plans in El Estor, conducted in a participatory manner with teachers and schoolchildren.</p> <p>The Celebration Day for Disaster Reduction was performed in the municipalities of the 5 municipalities.</p> <p>In Solola community members participated in the development of risk analysis and mapping, and validation and consultation of local risk reduction plans. Furthermore, 80 members of Local Coordinating Disaster Reduction (COLRED) were trained on the following topics: legal basis and structure of the national disaster reduction, preparedness and DRR Organization (first aid, search and location, shelter management, damage assessment and information management), fundamental aspects of climate and climate change, basic concepts of CCA and EMR.</p> <p>In Zacapa children, youth and adults of both sexes were involved in training, reforestation and caring for plants, the community video as a tool for DRR, recovery of traditional knowledge for adaptation to climate change, exchange of experiences between communities and the formation in gender.</p>		

<sup>2</sup> Red Cross: 7,975 – CARE: 2,544 – Caritas Zacapa: 6,875

<sup>3</sup> Red Cross: 4,028 – CARE: 1,297 – Caritas Zacapa: 3,300

<sup>4</sup> Red Cross: 0 – CARE: 6 – Caritas Zacapa: 11

<sup>5</sup> In its Annual Report the Red Cross has indicated 20% because only 20% of all mitigation works are realized. However, because the environmental sustainability is taken into account, the regional coordination has decided to put 100%.

<sup>6</sup> Red Cross: 1,784 – CARE: 422 – Caritas Zacapa: 4,125

<b>1.1a # of communities that conducted climate trend risk mapping</b>	A.1.1.2	# 17 <sup>7</sup>
<p>Although the 9 communities in Quiche have risk maps, however they don't yet include the climate trend.</p> <p>All communities in Solola have developed risk maps considering trend information with weather data generated from INSIVUMEH meteorological stations located in the western region of Guatemala and experience of older people in each community that was gathered in the risk analysis. The methodology for participatory mapping is complemented with tools such as ortho photos at 1,000 to 2,000.</p> <p>In Zacapa eleven communities have made their risk analysis and has its risk maps, including their seasonal calendars.</p>		
<b>1.1b # of communities that developed collective risk red. plans based on climate trend risk mapping</b>	A.2.1.2	# 17 <sup>8</sup>
<p>No plans are yet developed in Quiche. In 2012 in the municipality of El Estor, 10 School Response Plans were developed.</p> <p>The six communities in Solola have developed a first draft of local plans for disaster risk reduction, taking into account the actions of climate variability and ecosystem conservation and recovery plans were developed through a series of workshops, trainings, and meetings for the preparation of each. The weather trend, as known, needs to be based on data of at least 20 years, but in coordination with Vivamos Mejor three weather stations are installed for this trend and to have technical tools for early warning systems.</p> <p>In Zacapa all communities have developed their DRR plans.</p>		
<b>1.1c # of community members covered by risk plans</b>	A.2.1.2	# 8,598 <sup>9</sup>
<p>Based on population census, the number of community members are covered by the plans is 1,723 persons in 6 communities of Solola. This number includes children, women and the elderly and there is also an identification of people with physical disabilities. The intention is to incorporate census in action plans for disaster risk reduction in line with the specific needs of the most vulnerable population. These plans also respond to a general management plan for the river basin at Masa that includes as one of its planning objectives the reduction of disaster risks. The management plan of the micro watershed has been built in a participatory way and encompasses 36 communities, including the 6 participating in the PfR program.</p> <p>All members of the communities in Zacapa are covered by risk reduction plans.</p>		
<b>1.2a # community members are trained in ecosystem-based livelihood approaches</b>	A.1.2.1, A.2.1.1	# 80 <sup>10</sup>
<p>In Solola, training workshops have been realized, which have addressed issues like: 1) Understanding the climate and climate change, 2) Understanding the causes of climate change, 3) Policies and measures on climate change, 4) New methods for assessing and managing forests. These issues have been included so the persons, COLRED members, know about climate change and how it can benefit or affect their livelihoods, considering that these are linked to agriculture, mainly with crops of coffee, Mashan sheet, bananas, and grains.</p>		
<b>1.2b # community members have undertaken actions to adapt their livelihoods</b>		# 145 <sup>11</sup>
<p>In Solola, 80 persons have been trained to take action related to taking steps to adapt their livelihoods to climate variability. However, although these people are prepared, they haven't taken any action because these measures are planned in the implementation proposals of the micro projects.</p> <p>Caritas Zacapa established a link with the Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (ICTA) who pushed demonstration plots with sorghum varieties resistant to drought (ICTA Mitlan - DR-85) in the communities Sunzapote, Plan de la Cruz and Lomas de San Juan, comprising 50 producers. Collecting native seeds of corn and beans in the community of El Solís in which 15 farmers participated.</p>		
<b>2a # communities where partner NGOs/CBOs have facilitated access to knowledge on disaster trends, climate projections, ecosystem data</b>	Linea estrategica 1 & 2	# 26 <sup>12</sup>
<p>The organizations and institutions in the working areas of Quiché and El Estor have actively participated in training processes organized by the program. Still need to be defined the time and the best way to provide the information in communities that are of interest to them as a way to replicate</p>		

<sup>7</sup> Red Cross: 0 – CARE: 6 – Caritas Zacapa: 11

<sup>8</sup> Red Cross: 0 – CARE: 6 – Caritas Zacapa: 11

<sup>9</sup> Red Cross: 0 – CARE: 1,723 – Caritas: 6,875

<sup>10</sup> Only CARE has reported advances related to this indicator during 2012.

<sup>11</sup> Only CARE and Caritas Zacapa have reported advances related to this indicator during 2012.

<sup>12</sup> Red Cross: 9 – CARE: 6 – Caritas Zacapa 11.

and extend this knowledge. Workshops at community level have been facilitated on risk analysis, community organization, functioning and responsibilities of COLREDES, Climate Change, Ecosystems, first aid, outbreak of fire. These issues have been worked on in the 9 communities.

The six communities in Solola receive information emitted by official bodies on climate trend and the trend of disasters and the actions to take in an emergency. This information is provided by INSIVUMEH and CONRED. Information that emit these entities, are technical in nature requiring an interpretation, it is best to get this information out to communities simply for ease of understanding. Vivamos Mejor has taken this information mediation role in each of the communities.

WI drafted the TOR of the consultancy "Establishment of baseline and trend of climatic parameters in four municipalities in the department of Quiché in support of adaptation measures for plans, projects and investments at the municipal sector" to work together with the Red Cross. It is expected that the consultancy will take place during the first months of 2013 in line with *A.1.1.2 Facilitation and sharing knowledge on DRR and CCA issue (risk maps, education, drills, simulations, etc.)* of the PfR Logical Framework 2011-2014.

Furthermore, working with Caritas-Zacapa, WI has developed the ToR for the consultancy "Characterization Low Water Resource and Water Ecosystem Services rating on the Mountain Granadillas" in line with *A.1.2.1 Documenting and visible role sound management of ecosystems (wetlands) in the provision of water and risk reduction* of the PfR Logical Framework 2011-2014. This consultancy is ready to be tendered the first months of 2013.

<b>2b # network/umbrella organisations, developed and active</b>	A.2.2.1, A.3.1/2.1	# 11 <sup>13</sup>
<p>Red Cross has established contact with the following networks/umbrella organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quiche Education Network</li> <li>2. Kawoq Women Association in El Estor that has begun with a process of linking actions with associations and networks of indigenous women in El Estor.</li> <li>3. COMRED (in 5 municipalities)</li> <li>4. CESA (Environmental Council of El Estor)</li> <li>5. National Bureau of CC that is coordinating the creation of a Departmental Roundtable on CC for the Department of Quiche</li> <li>6. Departmental Committee on the Environment (CODEMA)</li> <li>7. Indinuous Roundtable on Climate Change.</li> </ol> <p>Some actions, activities and coordinations that have been carried out for the national advocacy may be mentioned, the meeting on traditional knowledge and practices, working with the Ministry of Education to strengthen and link the issues of DRR/CCA/EMR in Public Education, the Bi-ministerial work (MINEDUC and MARN).</p> <p>CARE has worked in the development and activation of one micro watershed committee of the Masa River, where representatives from 36 communities, including six communities participating in the program PfR. In addition, the formation process of the Roundtable on Climate Change in the Department of Solola has started which has the support of the National Roundtable on Climate Change. This departmental roundtable will consist mainly of community members and institutions that are related to natural resource management and the environment, as well as those related to climate change, will serve as an advisory body in this area.</p> <p>Caritas Zacapa has had contact with the National Roundtable on Climate Change for the creation of a Regional Roundtable on Climate Change with the focus on DRR/CCA/EMR. It supported the Association for the Protection and Defense of Granadillas Mountain in order to boost a law initiative at constitutional level to be declared as protected springs reserve. Support to the Giant Mountain Association for conservation and recovery. Contact with the Commonwealth Copan Chortí for the approval of the methodology.</p>		

<b>2c % partner NGOs/CBOs engage in structured dialogue with peers and government on DRR/CCA/EMR</b>	A.3.1/2.1, A.3.1/4.1	% 80 <sup>14</sup>
<p>At national level as Alliance the country team has established coordinations and dialogue with the governing bodies SECONRED, MARN, MAGA, INSIVUMEH, in order to jointly define a working path of advocacy according to the country's priorities in risk reduction, climate change and ecosystem management. Hopefully, the National Forum planned for the month of January 2013 will be the first step in this process.</p> <p>There are 2 Bi-ministerial Roundtables on Climate Change (MARN y MINEDUC). Both ministries are working educational materials on environmental education for school children, which is an opportunity to integrate our approach as an alliance in educational materials and in turn coordinate with the Ministry of Education with school activities in the intervention regions.</p> <p>COMUSAN in Quiche and El Estor, COMRED of 5 municipalities and the CODEMA in Quiche are good</p>		

<sup>13</sup> Red Cross: 6 – CARE: 1 – Caritas Zacapa: 4.

<sup>14</sup> This indicator is related to only PfR partners. 100% would be when the 5 partners participate in the structured dialogue, however in Guatemala only 4 partners have participated in this dialogue in 2012.

platforms that support the strengthening of municipalities in risk reduction and the mainstreaming of climate and ecosystem change, since these structures can be promoted.

In MAGA is coordinating a study in which soil can be related to the CC in reducing agricultural production and crop losses, with the SE-CONRED, MARN and MINEDUC has initiated the process for review and consolidation of materials that address the issues of DRR/CCA and EMR.

There were important advances in the formation of the Departmental Roundtable on Climate Change in Sololá that the National Roundtable on Climate Change supported financially and that will be strengthened at short notice. Institutions such as the National Forest Institute (INAB) through the Natural Resources Commission of the Departmental Development Council of Solola, proposed financial support for ecosystem protection in the territory through the protection of forests and agroforestry systems implementation with the objective to provide financial incentives for people to become involved in these activities.

Caritas Zacapa has dialogue with MARN Zacapa, MAGA, ICTA, CIAG, Municipality of Cabañas, Volunteer Firefighters, SECONRED, ASIVESCA, Zootropic, MSPAS, MINEDUC. Pending are the dialogues with INAB, SESAN, CONAP, Municipality of Camotán and Concepcion las Minas.

**2.1a # (Partner) NGO/CBO staff trained on DRR/CCA/EMR.**

# 169<sup>15</sup>

In 2012, the organization, formation and training of the various coordinators and committees at the municipal and departmental was started.

Five municipal coordinators for disaster reduction in the 5 municipalities where the program is implementing its actions were updated and created. They have received training in Disaster Risk Reduction, in EDAN topics, shelter management and an introduction to SPHERE. Furthermore, technical support have been facilitated and provided for updating response plans of the departmental coordinators.

There have been joint actions with the municipalities of San Bartolomé, Jocotenango, Sacapulas and MAGA in seed collection activities in Quiche, for the establishment of municipal forest nursery.

Within the GRC strengthening activities have been organized in the Delegation of El Estor, Sacapulas and Quiché, including training of the volunteers in Social Micro Projects, Use and Management of GPS, Induction on the RC Movement, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster preparedness topics.

With the Ministry of Education, in the departments of Quiché and El Estor, trainings have been implemented on plans for the development of school committees and Climate Change aimed at teachers of schools. In this training participated 89 teachers of these establishments.

Also the staff of Caritas Quiché has been trained in developing the AVC tools for the diagnosis of the communities in which Caritas performs actions.

Training of technical and administrative staff of Vivamos Mejor and CARE during the learning event integrating climate and ecosystems in DRR to strengthen resilience in Nicaragua in February 2012.

Internal Training on Ecosystem Approach to Climate Change Adaptation, facilitated by Wetlands International in Guatemala City in August 2012.

Participation of one technician of Vivamos Mejor at the Coordinators Trainers Course for Disaster Reduction, facilitated by the Executive Secretariat of CONRED in Guatemala City in October 2012.

Training of 80 persons of 6 COLREDs on issues such as: 1) Understanding the climate and climate change, 2) Understanding the causes of climate change, 3) Policies and measures on climate change, 4) New methods for assessing and managing forests.

Caritas Zacapa taught a graduate of DRR to the staff of NGOs, GOs, municipalities, universities, where staff increased its DRR capabilities and different organizations shared their experiences on CCA and EMR.

At the internal workshop "Ecosystem Approach to CCA" with Alejandro Jimenez as WI trainer attended 15 technicians of CARE-Vivamos Mejor, Caritas Zacapa and Red Cross.

At the Workshop "Ecosystem Approach to ACC" for members of the National Roundtable on Climate Change attended 20 people from as many institutions.

At the "Regional Workshop for REDD+ actions implementers and Ecosystem Adaptation to Climate Change" that was organized with Defenders of Wildlife attended by 45 people from 24 institutions.

Training "The importance of dry forests to build resilience in Guatemala in a Changing World" was given by Zootropic to 5 technicians of Caritas-Zacapa.

The "Meeting of knowledge and practices exchange focused on risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecosystem conservation" directed to the Indian Roundtable on Climate Change was co-

<sup>15</sup> Red Cross: 134 – CARE: 5 – Caritas: 30. Please be aware that the PfR partners have used measurements: Red Cross and Caritas has already used the new measure that goes beyond the technical teams. CARE only calculated its technical team.

financed with the Red Cross. The information on how many people and institutions participated can be provided by the Red Cross.

<b>2.1b # (Partner) NGO/CBO have established cooperation with knowledge &amp; resource organizations (e.g meteorological institutes, universities, etc)</b>	A.2.1/2.1	# 4 <sup>16</sup>
<p>Red Cross has continued with the definition of cooperation agreements with the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG), University Foundation Galileo and Defenders of Wildlife.</p> <p>They have established letters of agreement and cooperation with the Quiché Indigenous Defense to work on the issue of Ancestral Knowledge and Best Practices, with delegations of CONRED and SOSEP in Quiché.</p> <p>With SECONRED and INAP, coordinations have been made for the realization of a Degree in risk management, in order to train representatives of key institutions for the municipality development process, like the Municipality, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Agriculture, that at the moment that they are trained integrate the component of risk management in their action plans.</p> <p>It is planned during 2013 to make a Degree that integrates the three subjects CCA, DRR and EMR, also addressed to representatives of key institutions in the working area. The objective is to establish trained human resources in the three issues that support them for a more integrated vision in the development plans.</p> <p>CARE staff achieved the coordination with students from the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, who visited the working area in the six communities to give presentations about: the use and conservation of water for human consumption, food preparation, development and protection of forests.</p> <p>Coordination was established with officials of Social Work Practice of the South West University Center of the San Carlos University in Guatemala, to realize during the month of November 2012, a basic training course to 19 students and 11 teachers in the topics DRR/CCA/EMR. The objectives of this activity were: 1) To provide the participants basic concepts and issues in DRR, CCA, EMR, to be incorporated into the curricula and academic activities of the social work career CUNSUROC. 2) Socialize training tools and methodologies that promote an integrated approach to DRR/CCA/EMR. From this coordination is also expected to receive feedback from the universities on how to improve or strengthen the innovative model of the PfR Alliance.</p> <p>Caritas Zacapa maintains a working relationship with Rafael Landivar University, Universidad Rural de Guatemala and Universidad del Valle.</p> <p>WI organized with the Center for Conservation Studies (CECON) at the San Carlos University in Guatemala a postgraduate course in Ecosystem Restoration for 20 participants.</p>		

<b>2.2a # Organisations (including non-PfR) involved in DRR/CCA/EMR coalitions</b>	A.2.2.1, A.3.1/2.1	# 13 <sup>17</sup>
<p>Organizations participating in coalitions on issues of DRR / CCA / MRE, at local level:</p> <p><u>Quiché</u>: (7) MARN, SEGEPLAN, INAB, CONAP, SOSEP, CARITAS Quiché, Indigenous Defense.</p> <p><u>El Estor</u>: (4) CONRED, MARN, AMASURLI, Kawoq Women Association.</p> <p>Different coalitions with organizations and the work done, have been done in order to influence the various levels (municipal and departmental) and to join efforts to increase positive actions that benefit vulnerable families in the various departments.</p> <p>Currently Vivamos Mejor is participating in the formation process of the Departmental Roundtable on Climate Change in Solola.</p> <p>Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa participates in coalitions identified in the indicator 2b.</p>		

<b>2.2b # of times DRR/CCA/EMR related topics on agenda of platforms/networks</b>	A.2.2.1, A.3.1/2.1	# 35 <sup>18</sup>
<p>Red Cross have organized different events where they have addressed the issues of DRR/CCA/EMR with institutions in El Estor and municipalities in Quiché.</p> <p><b>Quiché</b>: 6 (CONRED), 7 (CODEMA), 1 (REGIONAL MEETING Sotzil), 2 (SESAN), 4 (Departmental Roundtable on Climate Change).</p> <p><b>El Estor</b>: 1 (COMUSAN), 3 (CESA), 2 (COMRED).</p> <p>In the events held in the different Committees for Food Safety and Disaster Reduction, awareness was raised of the importance of integrating issues DRR/CCA and EMR in different networks at the municipal level, coordinating actions to strengthen these issues at the level of the institutions that form part of these networks.</p>		

<sup>16</sup> Red Cross, CARE, Caritas Zacapa and Wetlands International.

<sup>17</sup> Red Cross: 11 – CARE: 1 – Caritas Zacapa: 1

<sup>18</sup> Red Cross: 26 – CARE: 8 – Caritas Zacapa: 1

8 times the issues DRR/CCA/EMR have been addressed in the meetings of the Coordination Board or Micro River Basin Committee of the Masa River.  
Only with the National Roundtable of climate change for the formation of the Regional Roundtable on Climate Change with the DRR/CCA/EMR approach.

<b>3a # of processes started to reduce identified national and local institutional obstacles to DRR/CCA/EMR activities in the communities (in terms of communication between departments, appropriateness of laws)</b>		# 9 <sup>19</sup>
<p>Alliance: Meetings with external national actors (CONRED, MARN, MAGA, SEGEPLAN, MINEDUC). It is discussing with MARN joint work plan, the CONRED has designated a focal point of monitoring the program. Similarly, all these efforts are being coordinated with CEPREDENAC and CCAD to be aligned with the priorities of the country.</p> <p>Red Cross:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of COLRED (locally) in the communities (it is in the process of accreditation coordinators in the SE-CONRED).</li> <li>• 5 COMRED in the 5 municipalities (Santa Cruz del Quiché, Joyabaj, Sacapulas, San Bartolomé Jocotenango and El Estor) have been updated and trained.</li> <li>• Meeting on traditional knowledge and practices, as a joint effort, coordinated with CONAP, CONRED, MARN, Indigenous Roundtable on Climate Change, Sotzil, GRC and WI.</li> <li>• Working with the Ministry of Education to strengthen and link the issues DRR/CCA/EMR in Public Education. The process of reviewing educational tools has begun, aimed at addressing issues of CCA/EMR/DRR in public schools.</li> <li>• Bi-ministerial Working (MINEDUC-MARN). The process of revising the Guidelines for Curriculum Development (ODEC) of the MINEDUC has begun, with the Bi-ministerial Roundtable on Climate Change, for integrating DRR and ecosystems criteria. Therefore, the material will be sent to SE-CONRED for review and implement a strategy for working with teachers.</li> </ul> <p>In Solola so far progress has been made in two processes: one at the community level to create awareness among the community leaders and local/traditional authorities on the topics DRR/CCA/EMR to achieve its endorsement to work with communities on these issues and 1 to local institutional authorities and officials of the health centers and mainly local supervision of the ministry of education to achieve the institutional support for the implementation of activities in schools located in the communities participating in the PfR program.</p> <p>Caritas Zacapa has initiated a contact with the Municipality of Cabañas, achieving an agreement to sign letters of understanding to strengthen the process of DRR/CCA/EMR in communities.</p>		

<b>3b % of increased local government budgets in target areas on either early warning, mitigation of natural hazards and/or natural resource mgt on community level.</b>	A.3.3.1	% 33 <sup>20</sup>
<p>For the 2013 Red Cross will continue with local advocacy to creation budgetlines where budget is identified for activities of DRR/CCA and EMR in the working areas of the programme. CARE expects that the micro projects and other initiatives have a budget and tripartite contribution: PfR program - Community - Municipality. The municipal contribution is managed by the community and staff of the program. At this point, pledges of support from local governments have been obtained but these have not translated into concrete contributions. During the first half of 2013 it is expected that this is achieved including those contributions that can be received through the incentive programs as promoted by the National Forest Institute. A municipality level, of the three with which has been cooperated, only contributions from the Cabañas municipality has in its budget an amount stipulated to perform actions on the issues of DRR/CCA/EMR.</p>		

<b>3.1a # Governments/ institutions reached with advocacy activities by Civil Society and their networks and platforms</b>	Lineas estrategicas 2 & 3	# 37
<p><b>Governmental institutions (17):</b> National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Education (MINEDUC), Ministry of Public Works of the First Lady (SOSEP), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), National Forest Institute (INAB), Department of Quiche, Department of Zacapa, National Civil Police (PNC), Volunteer Fire Department in Guatemala, Municipal and Departmental Fire Brigades, Army of Guatemala, National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP), Ministry of Culture and Sports (MICUDE), Ministry of Economy (MINECO) and the Congress of the Republic.</p>		

<sup>19</sup> Alliance: 1 – Red Cross: 5 – CARE: 2 – Caritas: 1

<sup>20</sup> Caritas: 3 municipalities = 100%, one municipality where there is finally support = 33%

**Local government bodies (4):**  
 Departmental Delegate CONRED (Solola)  
 Technical and administrative coordination of the Ministry of Education (Solola)  
 Xejuyub Health Center  
 Guineales Health Center

**Municipalities (local government) (8):**  
 Municipalities of Santa Cruz del Quiché, Joyabaj, Sacapulas, San Batolomé Jocotenango, and El Estor (Red Cross)  
 Municipalities of Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán and Nahualá Municipality (CARE)  
 Municipality of Cabaña (Caritas)

**Networks and Platforms (8):**  
 Departmental Committee on the Environment (CODEMA), (5) Municipal Coordinators of Sacapulas, Joyabaj, San Bartolomé Jocotenango, Santa Cruz del Quiché and El Estor, Indigenous Roundtable on Climate Change, Committee of micro river basin of the River Masa.

<b>3.1b # of (local) government institutions actively engaged in activities (meetings/field visits/training)</b>	Lineas estrategicas 2 & 3	# 25 <sup>21</sup>
<p>In the working area of the Red Cross the governmental institutions that are involved in the activities are: National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Education (MINEDUC), Ministry of Works of the First Lady of President (SOSEP), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), National Forest Institute (INAB), Department of Quiche, 4 municipalities in the department of Quiché (Santa Cruz del Quiché, Joyabaj, Sacapulas, San Batolomé Jocotenango) and the municipality of El Estor, National Civil Police (PNC), Volunteer Fire Department in Guatemala, Municipal and Departmental Fire Brigades, Army of Guatemala, National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP), Ministry of Culture and Sports (MICUDE).</p> <p>In Solola (CARE) local institutions involved in the activities of the program are: Health Centers of the Ministry of Health, located in Xejujub (Nahualá) and Guineales (Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán), Technical Administrative Coordination of District of the Village Xejuyub of the Ministry of Education and Departmental Deputy of the CONRED Executive Secretariat in Solola.</p> <p>In Zacapa, MARN, MAGA and SECONRED participate in meetings, field visits and trainings related to DRR/CCA/EMR.</p>		

<b>3.1c # of countries, where the connection between DRR, CCA and EMR has explicitly been mentioned in official government documents</b>		# 1
<p>The country has a climate change policy, which is elaborated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), a national policy of risk reduction by CONRED and the theme of biodiversity that is elaborated by CONAP. Until now there is no clear link between these documents, however there are important efforts of CEPREDENAC and CCAD that as regional governing bodies concrete actions and link these issues. To date no processes are initiated in which the alliance could contribute significantly to this effort.</p>		

**Actividades específicas**

**Red Cross - Implementation Process of Social Micro Projects(Quiché)**  
 In 2012 began the process for implementing Microprojects in the communities of Quiché starting with training with the program team, GRC volunteers and leaders of the communities in Quiché.  
 After the training the prioritization and selection of micro project ideas that were selected by the people of the community, were developed in a participatory manner together with the inhabitants of the communities, using the Module on Social Micro Projects of the Reference Center for Community education (CREC) and the guidelines of the Protocol for Micro Projects of the PfR Alliance.  
 There are currently five micro profiles, 2 of them have already been reviewed by the members of the Alliance and have already approval for execution. It is planned to start the implementation of micro-projects in the first quarter of 2.013.

**Red Cross - Awareness Campaign and Vacations School**  
 At the end of 2012, an awareness campaign and a Vacations School were conducted in the working areas of Quiché and El Estor, these activities took place in the communities and in the municipalities where the program works.  
 The activities were aimed at children and young people, with the aim of increasing awareness and knowledge about the issues of Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation and Ecosystem

<sup>21</sup> Red Cross: 19 – CARE: 3 – Caritas: 3



Management and Restoration. Activities conducted were the presentation of the puppet show "The Show of Nature", the story "The weather is my friend", and performing Risk Reduction Rally. At the end of the activities of the awareness campaign and Vacations School 1,236 children of the urban communities of Quiché and El Estor had participated.

#### ***Caritas Zacapa - Management Plan of the Micro Basin of the San Vicente River***

To complete the diagnostic information of each community and get recommendations for possible micro projects, Caritas commissioned a research on "Characterization and management plan of the micro basin of the San Vicente River with a focus on DRR/CCA /EMR/RTK<sup>22</sup>" providing information on the current state of the micro watershed, the causes of its destruction, the main impacts and responses to mitigate the effect of impacts through the management plan to ensure the conservation and sustainability of ecosystems.

For this investigation, 7 communities of Cabañas (Cerro de Piedra, Los Encuentros, El Solis Sunzapote, Plan de la Cruz, Lomas de San Juan, Santo Thomas) have increased their knowledge on sustainable management of watersheds and raised their awareness that many of the activities and practices developed for corn and beans are severely damaging and degrading the watershed of the River San Vicente.

#### ***Caritas Zacapa - Eleven Microprojects***

During 2012, 11 microprojects were initiated or implemented, eight of them concerning reforestation of deforested areas, areas near slopes, landslide areas and rivers and streams banks, as many communities in the municipality of Cabañas. The remaining three are micro projects of expansion of water systems in Los Encounters, El Arenal and Solis, in the same Municipality.

#### ***Caritas Zacapa - Exchange of experiences between communities***

There has been exchange of experiences between communities. Seven communities of Cabañas moved to the community in the municipality of Lantiquín Camotán, in order to hear the success stories and observe the process of community management by the municipal, non-governmental, private and communal entities, how to run a micro project of pipe extension for supplying water for human consumption.

#### ***CARE/Vivamos Mejor - Integrating and strengthening of community organization***

During 2012 there has been progress in the integration and organizational strengthening of a Micro Basin Committee of the River Masa in which there are representatives of the six communities attended by the PfR Program carried out by CARE and other communities in the watershed. This committee is legally constituted and is being accompanied to strengthen their management capacities for disaster risk reduction to increased threats of climate change and land development with watershed approach.

They have organized the local coordinators for Disaster Reduction (COLRED), which are active and constantly trained, related to their duties in cases of emergency. The process to become officially recognised by the National Coordinator of the Disaster Reduction (CONRED) is pending.

#### ***CARE / Wetlands International - Implementation of BIO RIGHTS Project***

From February 2012 the project Bio-rights: linking community-and ecosystem-based approaches to disaster risk reduction started its implementation. This project aims to show the important relationship between ecosystem management and recovery and disaster risk reduction, in addition to the benefits that natural resources provide to the community, encouraging their protection, based on the premise that ecosystems protection is not sufficiently recognized in reducing disaster risk due to which these are being undermined by the subsistence activities of the community.

In this sense, the project aims to promote a financial incentive mechanism that unites the community and its ecosystems, focusing on the implementation of measures to reduce disaster risk, is currently working in four communities located in the same region of the river watershed of Masa in the municipalities Nahualá and Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, complementing the activities of PfR and promoting more and better results in the micro watershed Masa.

### 3.2 Initiatives related to the Learning Agenda

Regarding the learning agenda, during the Technical Committee meeting in December 2012, with the support of CTNL and the regional coordination, the country team has identified specific actions for each of the five questions. When identifying concrete actions the activities that partner organizations are implementing as part of the 3 strategic lines of the program have been taken into account. During the last years of the implementation, two moments (June and December) are planned in which the learning regarding the 5 questions will be deepened through a joint monitoring of the implementation of

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<sup>22</sup> RTK = Recovery of Tradition Knowledge

the concrete actions and the identification of lessons learned and good practices that will be used to improve program implementation and will be reflected upon in subsequent reports

### **Households**

#### **Question 1: What knowledge and tools do communities need to carry out integrated risk assessments?**

In the view of updating the risk analysis of the communities in the working areas in Guatemala, the partner organizations have identified the idea of **integrated risk assessments appropriate for communities**. Initially, the integrated risk assessment is carried out by the facilitators of each organization. But it is a starting point for community work to be done regularly in the community. Then, the community assumes the role of his own assessment. Community leaders are trained in methods of diagnosis, then the community assume the replication of the methodology (AVC, CVCA, CBDRR) including the risk map. The risk map tool serves to evaluate/analyze the progress/situations in communities.

Preconditions that must be considered are: 1) risk analysis is produced periodically, at least 1 time per year, 2) an adequate selection of communities is done, 3) during the risk analysis all view points possible are captured.

Link with the logical framework of the PfR Programme Guatemala: A.1.1.1 + A.1.1.2 + R1 and R2 of the Learning Agenda of PfR Guatemala.

#### **Question 2: What are effective/ innovative (technical and 'social capacity') measures to reduce disaster risk and to adapt to climate change in a sustainable way?**

Three measures, the process on how to reach these measures and doubts, problems, needs and lessons learned are identified.

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Process on how to reach the measures</b>	<b>Doubts, problems, needs, lessons learned</b>
<p>1. Establish a <u>framework (integrated development plan) that integrates the three approaches</u> and others. At this moment there are more plans. The challenge is how to join the existing plans. It is important to include livelihoods in the plan because they are of most importance to the community.</p> <p>2. Find a solution that covers several sides, a <u>multidisciplinary solution</u>. For example: Agroforestry can support disminucion of erosion, groundwater feeding, improving diet.</p> <p>3. Having <u>trained community organizations</u>.</p>	<p>To reach the defining of actions the integrated development plan should be built participatory being adopted by all sectors (different levels, institutions).</p> <p>For the implementation of the plan other esctructuras may exist. Therefore, organizations at community level should be strengthened including the authorities of different levels.</p>	<p>For example in Solola, due to water pollution and the presence of NGOs, people already know how to communicate their problems. Elsewhere it has yet to be developed. Sometimes municipalities do not give room to people to present their ideas.</p> <p>For sustainability it is important that the communities take control of the plan. However, the question is "how". There are always issues of power and a political situation.</p> <p>Another problem is political instability. However, this problem could be overcome if there is an empowered civil society and participation.</p> <p>The big challenge is the comprehensiveness of the plan, which includes more things at the same time. Also, problems should be prioritized.</p>

Link with the logical framework of the PfR Programme Guatemala: A.1.2.1 + A.2.1.2 + A.2.1.3 + A.2.2.2.

### **Communities**

#### **Question 3: What community structures and mechanisms facilitate households to apply the DRR/CCA/EMR approach?**

With respect to the community structure it was identified what is the current structure, which is the desired situation and what is the process to achieve the desired situation.

Existing structures internally in the community are:

- COCODEs
- COLREDs

- Indigenous Authorities

Existing structures externally in the community are:

- Associations (Chortí and El Gigante), can be of communities or municipalities
- COMUDE
- COMRED
- Church
- Schools

It is important to consider the context of each community, define with what organizations you will work and the responsibilities of the structures.

Before the PfR intervention COLREDS were not formed and the integrated approach to DRR/CCA/EMR was not considered.

The desired situation: Communities (families and leaders) know their threats, vulnerabilities and have strengthened their response capabilities. They have a comprehensive risk analysis on ecosystem, climate and disaster risk. It is expected to see communities that improve their practices on the management of their resources, the conservation of the environment (water, forest, land). We want leaders who have response plans or DRR plans, tools or capabilities to influence municipal authorities. We want children to know about risks, but also with a positive attitude to be prepared for adverse events and aware of environment conservation. Parents contributing to a culture of prevention and preparedness for any risk in their homes.

To achieve the process from the current state to the desired state the following is considered.

First there must be an acceptance on the part of leaders and community to the PfR. This can be achieved through project presentations and emphasizing what is to be achieved so there will be a motivation of the community.

Other mechanisms that are planned to be used are:

- Local campaigns (radio, spot)
- Visit from house to house (key messages and well directed to the DRR/CCA/EMR approach)
- Educational activities (games, messages)
- Working with educational platform (schools) with school safety component and recreational-educational activities with children in DRR/CCA/EMR
- Plays, puppets
- Collision with religious leaders to convey the key messages in their churches
- Encourage open meetings and/or encounters with municipalities where communities have the opportunity to dialogue and express their needs and concerns
- Support and training to municipalities on the issues DRR/CCA/EMR for them to promote dialogue with the community

Link with the logical framework of the PfR programme Guatemala: A.2.1.1 + A.2.1.3 + A.2.2.1 + A.2.2.2 + A.3.1/2.2.

### **Southern Partners**

#### **Question 4: *How to facilitate application of integrated DRR/CCA/EMR with communities?***

To facilitate the application of integrated DRR/CCA/EMR with communities the following preconditions have been identified:

- Trust of the community to institutions that provide information
- Empowerment in the understanding of the program

Entering in a relationship with the community it is necessary and appropriate to create an atmosphere of trust and acceptance to institutions who want to walk with that community for better empowerment and understanding of the learning process that is meant to be pursued.

With respect to what is needed to facilitate the implementation of integrated DRR/CCA/EMR, the following has been identified:

- Joint planning
- Participation and Social Inclusion
- Raise awareness on issues
- Training and demonstration areas and pilot
- With very clear and concrete examples
- With the implementation of sustainable micro project
- With the community microprojects as concrete examples of the integration of DRR/CCA/EMR
- Innovative microprojects

- Practices or exchange of community experiences

For the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation, Improvement and Restoration of Ecosystem (DRR/CCA/EMR), communities must have a joint participatory planning with the community and social inclusion for the awareness of training topics in DRR/CCA/EMR, can make a pilot plan or demonstration areas as clear and concrete examples in implementing sustainable and innovative micro project through community experiences.

The facilitation methodology is:

- Use participatory methodologies
- Participation in methodology aimed at the participants able to involve women and men
- Respect of local culture
- Linking the issues with their daily lives with their environment through participatory, conversativa, playful and less formal methodologies
- Not limited to interventions in the community but also in the environment (ecosystem)

Through a participatory methodology aimed at participants able to involve men and women together respecting local culture. Furthermore, it is important to link the issues of their environment through participatory, playful and conversativas methodologies that do not limit the intervention in the own community but also the ecosystem environment.

Link with the logical framework of the PfR programme Guatemala: A.1.1.2 + A.1.1.3 + A.2.1.1 + A.2.1.3 A.1.1/2.1 + A.2.2.2 + R2 + Learning Agenda PfR Guatemala.

**Question 5: What steps are needed to incorporate integrated DRR/CCA/EMR approaches into policy at different levels (local to international)?**

An advocacy plan is suggested that contains the following.

Steps	Explanation
1. Mapping actors, Policies, Strategies and Experiences	Mapping stakeholders. Make mapping of existing policies and strategies. Know successful experiences to continue the process.
2. Identify key messages	Define what you want to communicate. Consider the Communication Strategy.
3. Socialization and Disclosure Policy (Legal Framework)	Socialize and disseminate national and local policies as a framework for strategic planning. To analyze what is changed, incident level.
4. Coordination with key stakeholders and linking	Coordination with key stakeholders in the different processes to link them and they know the process on DRR/CCA/EMR. Search meeting points in common: Find points binding between governing bodies and their policies and plans.
5. Strengthen opportunities for dialogue	Promote opportunities for dialogue with key stakeholders at all levels. Start learning processes in the topic (training). Being part of dialogue and consultation processes that departmental, regional and national stakeholders are underway and take it to the municipal level. Leverage existing platforms (national or departmental roundtables on DRR/CCA/EMR): Strengthen roundtables. Do you create tables built into the theme?
6. Systematize experiences	Successful cases and pilot projects.
7. Advocacy at all levels	Development and implementation of an advocacy plan with different stakeholders (ministries, CONRED, municipalities, universities, CONAP, NGOs), according to each actor prioritized. Providing roadmap to follow to achieve political willingness.
8. Evaluation and monitoring	Monitoring and support of the advocacy process. Compile lessons learned. Establish a model advocacy plan that is measurable and adjustable.

Although November 7, 2012 a learning session was organized between partner organizations, it failed to be finished due to the earthquake that occurred in Guatemala on the same day.

### 3.3 Activities related to strengthening Civil Society and Southern Partner organizations

Several activities under the strategic aims also contribute to the aims of Strengthening Civil Society. Additional indicators have been set for the following:

## **Civil engagement**

### ***The organizations are accountable and responsive to stakeholders.***

Each partner organization has its own way to show their responsibility (accountability) and sensitivity to stakeholders.

**CARE:** Before and during the implementation of all processes and activities consultations with key stakeholders are carried out: community leaders, local authorities and institutions in order to count with their endorsement and looking for keeping them informed on the proceedings, for example: planning and implementation with school activities are carried out with the active participation of the Technical Administrative Coordinator of the Ministry of Education and is informed of the proceedings.

**Red Cross:** Since the start of the project it was looking for the backing of the community and local and national authorities, through their representatives. Community activities are coordinated and has respected the requirements of community leaders. It has established coordination of community activities with municipal authorities. The plan responds to the immediate needs of communities. All program communities are coordinated with the municipal authorities and have their support. Accountability as such has not yet been made, it has been more at the level of coordination and to have the permission from the authorities and leaders.

**Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa:** Caritas tries to fulfill the commitments and reports regularly to Cordaid. Also, maintaining respectful relationships with key stakeholders such as: MARN, MAGA, SECONRED, Municipalities and Government department.

**WI:** WI tries its relationship with actors on issues of ecosystems to be transparent and open. By identifying common interests, defining specific activities, responsibilities and timeframes for implementation by both parties.

### ***% of supported community committees are invited to participate in regular dialogue with government bodies***

Not in all working areas it has been accomplished that supported community committees are invited to participate in a regular dialogue with government institutions.

**CARE:** So far no regular dialogue between community committees and government institutions was established, meetings or dialogues are presented according to the needs of cooperation manifested by community committees to the institutions. However, the Coordinator Board or Committee of the Micro River Basin Masa is taking regular coordination on behalf of communities, especially with the Municipality of Nahualá.

**Red Cross:** 100% of the communities have a local coordinator for disaster reduction (COLRED), mostly coordinated by the coordinator of the development committee, its leadership allows to participate in dialogues spaces at municipal level for the advocacy of their communities needs, like councils, and meetings with municipality officials.

The coordination of the COLRED to the COMRED has been established to coordinate response actions in a disaster.

**Cordaid/Caritas:** Eleven committees of risk reduction (one per community) have been formed that have 100% possible dialogue with the municipality.

## **Practise of values**

### ***The target group is involved in decision making***

In all working areas of the PfR program in Guatemala the target group is involved in decision making. In Solola (CARE) meetings are organized with the public for consultation and obtaining their endorsement supporting operational decisions taken by community leaders. The Red Cross (Quiche and El Estor) has planned and implemented activities together when an endorsement of the target group for the activities is necessary, respecting leadership and the decisions they make. Caritas Zacapa (Zacapa and Chiquimula) uses the CBDRR methodology that includes the approach that the community participation in all decision-making is essential and required to achieve sustainability of interventions.

### ***The organizations have transparent financial procedures and practices transparent financial reporting***

All organizations have and apply their own financial accounting procedures that ensure transparency in the management of resources. Also, apply an annual external audit.

Also several of the activities under the three strategic directions contribute to this aim. Additional indicators are:

## **Capability to act and control**

### ***Strategy is elaborated in workplans and activities/ projects***

The work plans of each partner organization is linked with the logical framework of PfR.

### ***The organization's leadership is accountable to staff and stakeholders***

Each partner organization has its own way of internal accountability.

**CARE:** The National Program Direction of CARE has assumed the responsibility to promote the appearance of accountability within the organization. To the programme coordination this responsibility has been delegated to promote and ensure that they meet the accountability processes in technical staff and the implementing partner of activities.

**Red Cross:** RC has leadership and acceptance by the population and the national and local actors, under the direction and supervision of the president and general direction.

**Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa:** Maintain a respectful and committed to the goals of the program working relationship by all team members, which has continued since the beginning of the project.

**WI:** There is constant coordination with the Regional Office in Panama and regular consultation with WI-HQ in Holland.

### **Capability to achieve, adapt and renovate**

#### ***The organizations have a well-functioning PME system***

Some organizations have a more established PME system than others.

For example, CARE within each program or project within the organization plans the establishment of a PME system to respond to the CARE program priorities.

While the Red Cross has a link (focal point) for tracking and monitoring of each project under the same profile.

But within organizations that do not have a formalized PME it is clear what actions are needed in this field.

### **Capability to achieve coherence**

#### ***% of organizations in which efficiency is addressed in the external annual financial audit***

Each partner organization has its own way of approaching the efficiency of financial audit. For example, Cordaid and WI have established signals on efficiency/audit parameters.

## **4 Part IV – Sustainability, quality, efficiency**

### **4.1 Sustainability**

#### ***Which agreements have been made with communities on how results will be maintained?***

Agreements have been established with communities that define the conditions of support and assistance to be provided from the program and the contribution expected of each community. Some communities have established more specific agreements related to micro projects.

In addition, community plans (community development plan, contingency plan) contribute to planning beyond the program time.

The establishment/strengthening of the COCODE and COLREDs have a legal basis and the commitment of these structures prevail beyond the program because they are institutionalized by the governing bodies and strengthen their functioning through coordination and active participation of community leaders.

#### ***Which agreements have been made with local or national government how results will be maintained, and/or how the programme will be continued after its timeframe (2014 or 2015)?***

Not in all working areas arrangements with the local government have been made .

In Solola (CARE) have maintained contacts with city officials in an attempt to link the results of the program with the priorities of the Municipal Planning Departments of Nahualá and Ixtahuacán Santa Catarina. In Quiche and El Estor (Red Cross) the advocacy process on the holistic approach has started with municipalities, the COMREDs and community leaders in order to give continuity to the issues, not to the program. It is a process that needs to be exhausted due to which it does not have concrete commitments with municipal authorities.

Caritas and the municipality of Cabanas (Zacapa) have maintained a continuous dialogue and agreed to sign a letter of understanding that will establish a commitment to supporting the communities in the activities to be held in the remaining two years of the project. The Municipal Planning Department (DMP) is committed to support the formation of communities of the micro watershed of the San Vicente River and other initiatives that benefit the community emerging during the implementation process of the program.

Nationally the advocacy has started with the governing bodies in the field of DRR/CCA/EMR in 2012, however it is expected reach agreements and working agendas that transcend PFR time during the National Forum to be held at late January 2013.

#### ***Which agreements have been made with partner NGOs/CBOs on how they will be involved during and beyond the programme's timeframe to continue activities and sustain the results?***

There is still no agreements with partner NGOs and CBOs. However in the working area of Solola it is expected that the partner Vivamos Mejor can continue to monitor the results obtained in the framework of PfR, ensuring its maintenance. Through stakeholder mapping the Red Cross know the NGOs and various community organizations (COCODE, COLRED) present in the working area. However, the realization of agreements is still lacking.

Although no agreements have been formally established, WI maintains good cooperative relationship and participates actively in initiatives with Defenders of Wildlife, the Pine-Oak Alliance, the National Network of Ecological Restoration, the Private Institute for Climate Change (ICC), and Biocultural Corridor Coordinating Group Strategic Ecosystems. All these organizations are more permanent in time than PfR and through working with them it is expected that holistic focus of DRR/CCA/EMR is known and adopted in their work at local, national and regional levels.

***Which decisions have been taken on how to continue the programme or sustain the results in case of reduced budget and/or reduced staff capacity?***

Not all organizations have taken a decision on this matter. However, each organization has its idea: CARE: Rethinking the strategy of the program, affecting operating costs and reducing the amount of results, which could include the coordination and facilitation of processes with other organizations, reducing the number of communities without affecting the quality of results and products .

Red Cross: Reducing activities that have a bit more funds like for example micro projects, educational and awareness campaigns, which if not implemented the sustainability of the results is not lost.

Cordaid/Caritas: Define a joint strategy with Caritas Guatemala for both resource management and continuation of the intervention.

WI: Consolidate more specific agreements with various entities and external partners that have been addressed to date.

## 4.2 Quality

***(How) is the satisfaction of beneficiaries (community members) assessed?***

Through evaluations after activities, partner organizations verify the satisfaction of the beneficiaries. For example, CARE uses simple questions: what they liked, and what they did not like? Suggestions for improvement?

Furthermore, during the training and institutional approach to support and assistance for the building processes with organizations Red Cross uses a methodology that has been accepted and has favored the achievement of the goals set by the program. It is important to approach the communities with care and look for the best way to communicate, respecting their culture, customs, context, particularly in communities in Quiché that are very wounded by broken promises and the threats that they have lived in the past.

Cordaid/Caritas indicated that a particularly aspected valued by the residents of the communities is the level of organization achieved and the different style of working relationships, which breaks with the traditional conception of the "technician" who knows everything and changes to be a facilitator of community processes where the community is the true protagonist. They have stated that the presence of Caritas has made a difference in community life.

***Have measures been taken to ensure a standardised way of working (use of formats, process, standard ways of working and reporting)?***

Annual planning is done together as a country team and partners, including the budget. In regular meetings progress of each partner, faced problems, innovations, etc. are reviewed.

The reporting process (annual and half year) is standardized within the program. For reporting exists a unique format. Standardized forms of work are constructed, like the monitoring protocol and unified monitoring system, protocol and profile for the micro project planning, and the minimal content of training.

For planning and monitoring of daily work, each partner organization has its own way of working.

***How is programme implementation assessed, and are improvements introduced?***

As Alliance the implementation of the program is evaluated through meetings with the Technical Committee in which improvements of the programme are proposed as well.

Moreover, during the last meeting of the Technical Committee in December 2012 the learning agenda (see 3.2) was defined in more detail and it was agreed to review the implementation of specific activities and lessons learned/best practices twice a year (June and December). The results of these reviews will be reflected in the reports (annual and half year) and in the planning of the next year.

Each organization organizes its periodic review through staff meetings and field visits.

Cordaid conducted a study of its Central American Program that assess the impact of its working approach in communities in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala, specifically the communities served by Caritas Zacapa within the PfR. The results of the study will be available early 2013 which could be inputs for the midterm evaluation planned for March 2013.

***(How) is innovation stimulated?***

The proper approach of the program is innovative, because it unites different themes and different organizations with expertise in the areas due to which they become complementair in regard to the focus.

In promoting a comprehensive approach at institutional level and display with concrete actions the importance and functionality of this, greater stimulation is achieved for replication of the approach in other disaster risks reduction initiatives.

Some measures that can be innovative: Recovering traditional and local knowledge, incorporating weather trend in risk analysis, participatory community video, implementation of pilot projects using effective microorganisms and permaculture, participatory games on DRR/CCA and EMR.

### 4.3 Efficiency

***How are costs per beneficiary kept low (without compromising the ability to achieve the intended results or the quality of the programme)?***

Each alliance organization has its own way of keeping costs per beneficiary low.

CARE: Through the contribution that the beneficiary population provides in activities such as: micro projects or mitigation measures, where each community would provide local resources for its implementation, reaching more people with training and awareness measures such as working with schools. Given a scenario of reduced funding for program support activities, consider agreements between partners to share costs, but due to the geographical location of the working areas this is a difficult task to achieve.

Red Cross: An annual planning was performed with the projection of activity expenses and administrative expenses and seeks to maintain or reduce costs while caring for the same amount of participants. An assessment is made of several deals regarding services or products verifying the quality and benefit of the offering and looking for the best price, which also helps to reduce costs. GRC volunteers support activities for free (they are recognized only a per diem for food), and simultaneously strengthen their knowledge in the subjects of the program.

Cordaid/Caritas Zacapa: Without establishing or calculating figures showing costs per beneficiary, it is possible ensure efficiency which is precisely the approach used by Caritas Zacapa producing large profits with low costs. Furthermore, the CBDRR methodology is based on the own community potential and resources. Moreover, when communities realize that what you are doing is for their own benefit and they themselves are doing and guiding the process. First there will be no need for an implementing partner but the communities themselves review and decide how much they can contribute and how much is necessary to negotiate with other actors.

***Has the target group been increased or has there been spent less while achieving the planned results?***

Only in the working area of Red Cross the target group has increased from 6 to 9 communities. The costs of Cordaid/Caritas have been lower than expected since it encourages the communities involved in the process to provide resources to commit themselves both cash and in kind. In fact, during 2012 the communities contributed resources for the implementation of micro-projects.