

Appeal

Nicaragua

Assistance to Floods Victims - Western Region LANI72

Appeal Target: US\$ 306,444

Geneva, 15 November 2007

Dear Colleagues,

Torrential rains hit the Pacific Western Region of Nicaragua from 10 to 15 October 2007, reaching 15,620 millimeters per square meter in some areas, far above the season average norm of 350 millimeters. The rains caused the rise and overflow of rivers in several districts. On 14 October 2007, a red alert was declared in the department of Chinandega where nine of the 13 municipalities suffered damages. Close to 3,600 people were affected, among which 2,119 had to be evacuated to temporary housing.

The ACT Nicaragua Forum immediately responded through its members organizations: ACT members **Interchurch Centre for Theological and Social Studies (CIEETS)**, **Council of Evangelical Churches (CEPAD)**, **the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (ILFE)** and **the Lutheran World Federation (LWF)** carried out joint damages and needs assessments in the municipality of Villa Nueva, Chinandega.

Villa Nueva, located 186 km from Managua with a population of 31,000, reported the loss of 1016.4 hectares of crops (corn, sorghum, sesame, and plantains) and domestic animal (cows, horses, barnyard birds and pigs). Infrastructure damages include 176 homes, 397 latrines, and the contamination of 120 wells, leaving the families without access to water. Food access has been hampered by difficult road condition. This, and the excessive moisture caused by the rains, result in deplorable health conditions for the affected population. Mosquitoes are proliferating, threatening to increase malaria. Vulnerable groups present respiratory illnesses.

ACT members plan to extend support to the affected population in Villanueva with immediate food relief and medical assistance to 624 families, psychological assistance and community tool kits to repair roads in 15 communities. After completion of these activities, ACT members propose to support the population with rehabilitation, including agriculture for 897 families, the construction of 60 fertiliser-producing latrines, and capacity strengthening to include disaster prevention in future activities.

The appeal will be implemented by the four ACT member organizations. ILFE will be in charge of coordinating the implementation of the appeal, monitoring and reporting to the ACT CO. The members have signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure correct, effective and transparent operations with the appeal implementation.

Project Completion Date: 16 August 2008**Reporting schedule:**

Interim narrative & financial	30 April 2008
Final narrative & financial	16 October 2008
Audit	16 November 2008

Summary of Appeal Targets, Pledges/Contributions Received and Balance Requested:

Total Appeal Target(s)	<u>US\$</u> 306,444
<u>Less:</u> Pledges/Contr. Recd.	0
Balance Requested from ACT Alliance	306,444

John Nduna
Director, ACT Co-ordinating Office

I. REQUESTING ACT MEMBER INFORMATION

The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (ILFE)

II. IMPLEMENTING ACT MEMBER & PARTNER INFORMATION

ACT members information:

Christian Medical Action (AMC) is a Christian non-governmental organisation (NGO) founded in 1984. Since 1989 it has been implementing a Community Health Program in the Atlantic Coast region of Nicaragua and in Matagalpa, benefiting 30,000 people. Its current coverage is 119 communities and approximately 75,689 people.

The organisation defines itself as ecumenical, with health services and development activities as an expression of Christian practice. Its mission statement states that “AMC is a Christian organisation that implements community health and development activities in poor communities of Nicaragua, with an emphasis on women, children and adolescents”.

Interchurch Centre for Theological and Social Studies (CIEETS) was founded in July 1986 by protestant churches and ecumenical service organisations as a non-profit educational and development organisation. Its mission defines the organisation as “a comprehensive educational and rural development organisation, formed by evangelical churches and ecumenical service organisations. It promotes comprehensive theological education, sustainable human development and interdisciplinary research in order to contribute to an improvement in the standard of living of the population and to improve the quality of church ministries and their community programs.”

The fulfilment of its mission and objectives is achieved through two programmatic areas: the Division for Agro-Ecological Formation and Community Development; and the Institute for Co-operation for Agriculture and the Environment, the Evangelical School of Theological Studies and the Institute for Pastoral Action and Ecumenical Co-operation.

The Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD) is a religious, Christian, non-profit, non-political organisation of social interest. It is an association of denominations, Christian institutions and district committees of pastors, which professes that Jesus is Lord and Saviour and that they wish to embody the Gospel in service to humanity, within the spirit of respect and non-discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, religion or political ideology. Its mission is to be a Christian organisation that follows the call of Jesus to accompany and serve poor communities through programs of development, assistance during emergencies and by promoting the unity of men and women.

The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (ILFE) is a non-profit association founded in 1983 with legal status since 18 September 1990. Its headquarters are in the capital city, being able to establish local churches and offices in any part of the country.

ILFE’s mission is defined as an ecumenical Christian organisation that executes actions of service in education, health and development in the most impoverished communities of Nicaragua. Their mission reads: “To announce the good news and to bring the message of a liberating Christ to the poor in both spirit and material.”

Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global body of Christian churches of the Lutheran tradition. Since its founding more than fifty years ago, through its Department of World Service (DWS), it handles a world-wide network whose specialty is disaster response, offering aid in emergency situations, rehabilitation and sustainable development. It has extensive experience in helping displaced persons and refugees, responding to the needs of persons who have been affected by natural or human-made disasters.

The main focus of the Central American Program of the DWS of LWF is capacity building of grassroots organisations to withstand the effects of disasters and the excluding economic system, and to build sustainable communities. It has a “spiral” structure: it is present at the community, municipal, provincial, national and Central American levels, to achieve a greater impact by means of a combination of direct support and advocacy work.

The ACT-Nicaragua Forum

The ACT-Nicaragua Forum is made up of 9 organisations, four of which have projects at a national level (described above) and 5 are international agencies with headquarters in Nicaragua that support all the processes to strengthen the network: **Christian Aid (CAID) – Nicaragua Office, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) – Regional Office, Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) – Nicaragua Office, Lutheran World Federation, Department for World Service Central America (LWF), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).**

The ACT-Nicaragua Forum focuses its work on emergency assistance with risk management, which as a cross-cutting issue in the operational and strategic plans of all member institutions. As much as possible, the actions implemented during emergency assistance and rehabilitation are designed to reduce, or at least not to increase, the risks of natural disaster by taking into account local conditions and social and economic conditions and the cultural environment of local communities. All ACT member organisations have had reasonable experience in emergency assistance since Hurricane Mitch.

The Forum is governed by a committee; each organisation is represented by its director. The Forum is supported by an executive secretary, in charge of coordination and administration of Forum activities. Each ACT Forum member assigns a liaison person to coordinate members’ activities consisting of individual projects and methodologies. In the past, the major activities of the forum consisted of designing, promoting and implementing responses to emergencies. In addition, it implemented activities aiming at strengthening the capacity of its members and partners institutions through workshops on Sphere standards, on management tools and damage and needs assessment methodology.

During emergency situations, ACT-Nicaragua Forum members are called upon to activate the response mechanism that is established at the country level and at the ACT International level. A committee is formed to carry out an assessment of damages and needs (EDAN) and to elaborate a proposal for the assistance of the affected population. Human and ecumenical participation is important in its membership and in the population being assisted.

Currently, four implementing organisations of the ACT-Nicaragua Network are executing the APPEAL LANI – 71: “Attention to Hurricane Felix Victims in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN)”.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

Due to the influence of a low-pressure phenomenon located over the countries of northern Central America, associated with another, similar system located over the Pacific Ocean, south of El Salvador and west of Western Nicaragua, there was historic rainfall in the province of Chinandega and its municipalities, located in the western part of the country.

Precipitation started on October 10th and ended on the 21st, with a registered accumulation of 840 mm, being the normal historic amount for these same dates just 350 mm. This high level of precipitation caused river waters to rise and overflow, directly impacting families who live in the lower areas of the municipality of Villa Nueva, among others. At the same time, damages are reported in agriculture and fishing.

On October 12th, 2007, the president of the Republic declared a Yellow Alert in the province of Chinandega, and a Green Alert for seven other provinces in the country. On October 14th, a Red Alert was issued for Chinandega. On October 19th, via the Presidential Decree 99/2007, the President of the Republic declared a state of National Disaster, given the intense rainfall and influence of hydro-meteorological phenomena. Damages caused by these phenomena were directly observed in housing and productive infrastructure, roads, and water and sanitation systems.

The most affected region was in the provinces of Leon and Chinandega in the west, followed by Matagalpa, Granada and Rivas. To date, 20,131 persons are affected, 105,000 hectares of crops destroyed and 18 persons dead.

The ACT network will contribute towards the recuperation of communities in the municipality of Villa Nueva, in the province of Chinandega, where there is the capacity to accompany them.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION IN THE AREA OF ASSISTANCE

Current Situation in the Area

The municipality of Villa Nueva is located in the north of the province of Chinandega, in the western region of the country, and is comprised of an extension of 779.88 Km². Its highest point is from 50 to 600 meters above sea level, in this way being given to flooding. This municipality is exposed to natural threats such as hurricanes, storms and intense rains: potential flood-generators; combined with the fact that 75.3% of the total population lives in poverty and 31.8% lives in extreme poverty makes it a zone that is highly vulnerable and defenceless in the face of disasters. It is a zone characterized by little government investment in infrastructure and public services, which increases the vulnerability factors facing these most recent floods.

A technical team of the ACT network carried out a visit to evaluate damages in 17 of the municipality's 53 communities. Of the 17 communities, 15 were prioritised, among them eight in a higher zone and seven in a lower zone, given the difference in altitude.

The damages are summarized in the following data; 1016.4 hectares of crop losses; corn, sorghum, sesame, and plantains. Domestic animal losses include 51 cows, 28 horses, 663 barnyard birds, and 91 pigs. Furthermore, infrastructure damages include 176 homes with damages to roofs, walls, and floors, 397 latrines destroyed, and 120 wells contaminated by the flooding, leaving the families of these communities without access to water.

In both zones the population is living in deplorable health conditions due to excessive moisture caused by the rains, flooded latrines that are now unusable, and the pollution of community and privately-owned wells that require a cleansing process. Mosquitoes are proliferating, threatening to increase focal points for Malaria, and there is a lack of food goods due to difficult road access.

In the lower flooded zone families continue living amidst the stench of standing, putrefied waters; vulnerable groups present respiratory illnesses, and all of their crops have been destroyed. In the higher zone, crops are being destroyed by excessive moisture and the emanation of water from underground sources, product of the earth's saturation. It is important to mention that both zones contribute with their production to the food supply of the municipality's urban area.

The municipal government of Villa Nueva declared itself incapable of responding to the needs of the disaster and is articulating efforts from information provided by community leaders to distribute ephemeral amounts of food that do not surpass a pound of rice or corn per family. But it coordinates the orientation of work to the affected zones among supporting organisations with whom they consult.

Impact on human lives in the proposed area of assistance

There are 951 families affected by the floods and constant rains, representing 1,226 men, 1,345 women and 2,374 girls and boys under age five, according to data verification carried out by the network team in Villa Nueva.

These affectations provoked an emotional impact in the people, uncertainty in their food security due to the loss of their main crop and food base – corn - ; hopelessness in the face of an uncertain future upon seeing their lands transformed by the phenomenon; and anxiety due to the lack of assistance from municipal organisations and authorities. Some people who are in shelters have not received any kind of attention and it

was found that many emotional wounds from Hurricane Mitch were re-opened with this new disaster that does not respect gender, age, condition, nor personal wealth or poverty.

Coordinated Response in the Area

The ACT Forum members will carry out an intervention, coordinated with the Villa Nueva Emergency Committee, led by the municipal government. Said intervention will be carried out among 624 families of 15 communities in two phases: Crisis and Rehabilitation. In the first phase there will be support through food and medical aid, the supply of a family hygiene kit, psychological attention, the provision of a community tool kit for each community, agricultural productive assistance, and the treatment of water/cleansing of wells. In the rehabilitation phase work will focus on the recuperation of productive capacity, the construction of fertiliser-producing latrines to promote technology among members of the social network of the organisations and activities that promote the work of the ACT network in Nicaragua.

ILFE will coordinate the assistance project and, in conjunction with CEPAD, CIEETS and LWF, will attend to the psychological component in the three territories.

We have established coordination to implement the proposal with the municipal government, who currently is monitoring and participating in the seeking of resources for humanitarian aid and rehabilitation assistance.

The essential coordinates for the execution of this proposal are the members of ACT Nicaragua, the municipal government and organised communities.

V. TARGETED BENEFICIARIES

The targeted population are inhabitants of 15 rural communities, composed of small farmers whose main economic activity is in agriculture and ranching. They dedicate themselves principally to growing basic grains such as corn, sesame, vegetables and – to a lesser degree – cattle ranching. Farmers, due to their condition of vulnerability in the face of the impact of disaster, do not have sufficient means to reactivate their normal living conditions, being the main means of life in these communities of agricultural production.

Farmers in these communities, usually the household heads, migrate during the summer months or the “dead” period of agricultural production to El Salvador and Guatemala in search of a source of income. With the current situation, this emigration could increase if there are insufficient economic and material resources to reactivate production. The migration of men leaves the women in charge of the families.

The average family is comprised of six members; most of the communities register families who live in overcrowded living conditions, which provoke domestic violence, sexual abuse, and low self-esteem; another indicator of this is the high incidence of adolescent pregnancy.

The following project selection criteria will be confirmed in consensus with community leaders:

- Families who have lost 75 to 100% of their crops, with their homes affected, and who have land used for production.
- Families who have no other source of income
- Families with female heads-of-households (above all, single mothers)
- Families with vulnerable persons (children under five, differently-abled persons, the elderly, minors without parents, persons with HIV-AIDS)
- Those who participate in the project’s training process
- Reactivation of communal wells
- Affected persons will receive psychological attention, prioritising those who were evacuated and exposed to danger.

Priority will be given to families who meet three or more of these criteria. Implementing members in coordination with community leaders will select beneficiaries.

VI. EMERGENCY ATTENTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSAL

General Objective

To give assistance to the most vulnerable and poor persons affected by flooding caused by rains, helping them to recuperate from the damages and to strengthen their capacity to reduce the impact of future disasters.

Objectives of Emergency Assistance

- To provide immediate food aid to 624 families
- To provide immediate medical assistance to 624 families
- To provide psychological assistance to 15 communities
- To provide community tool kits to repair roads in 15 communities.

Objectives of Rehabilitation Assistance

- ? ? ? support the rehabilitation of productive systems of 897 families
- ? To support the construction of 60 fertiliser-producing latrines that serve as a model for implementation in the communities
- ? To strengthen the capacity for disaster prevention through the implementation of processes of capacity-strengthening in the 15 communities and in organisations of interinstitutional coordination, through three training events.

Description of Components

Activities for humanitarian attention are divided into two phases: **Crisis and rehabilitation**. Its components are designed taking into account the Humanitarian Charter and the norms of the Sphere Project. The municipal government will be informed regarding the area of intervention and in coordination with the emergency committee.

Crisis (Three months)	Rehabilitation (9 months)
Components of Crisis intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Food aid ✓ Medical assistance ✓ Psychological attention ✓ Hygiene kits ✓ Work tools ✓ Agricultural assistance ✓ Water purification tablets 	Components of Rehabilitation intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Recuperation of productive capacity ✓ Cleansing of wells and construction of latrines ✓ Promotion and advocacy

These components will be carried out with the support of organized social networks in the communities to facilitate the application of selection criteria in each one of the intervention components. The network is composed of community leaders, pastors, Delegates of the Word, health promoters, agricultural promoters, women’s groups, teachers, etc.).

a) Food Aid

The members of ACT will promote food security by providing 624 packets including basic products such as corn, rice, beans, oil, sugar, cereals, milk, coffee and matches, which allow the families to cover basic food needs for forty days – the necessary time-period to establish and produce other crops. The items will be purchased on the national market and in case of a possible scarcity in the country on regional markets.

Packets will be given prioritising vulnerable social groups, affected families and members of social networks that facilitate processes of change in the community, according to selection criteria.

b) Medical Assistance

The ACT network of Nicaragua, through the organisational support by *Acción Medica Cristiana* (AMC), will buy two kits of products based on a list provided by the Ministry of Health, guaranteeing the quality and origin of the providers.

The medicines will be used to attend to cases of bronco-respiratory illness, diarrhea due to unhealthy conditions, Malaria and dengue, skin illnesses, nutritional deficiencies, kidney infections, etc. Children under five years of age, pregnant women, single mothers and the elderly will be prioritised.

A medical work brigade will be formed, directed by the consortium of CEPAD and the AMOS Foundation, which will coordinate with MINSA of Villa Nueva. They will carry out community runs applying the Model of Integral Health Attention (MIHA). They will also weigh and measure, vaccinate, control focal points of Malaria and provide attention to the issue of improved water quality. Brigade members will receive support for travel expenses and fuel to facilitate their mobilization.

International coordination for the support of voluntary medical brigades to contribute to communities' medical attention will be solicited outside of this appeal (Activities by AMC are not part of the appeal).

c) Psychological Attention

The psychological component will be carried out by ILFE and CEPAD. It will attend to two target groups: 1) affected community members and specific groups on a community level, according to the level of priority established by each community, and 2) staff from organisations. Persons with traumas and pathologies that could produce long-term effects will be prioritised. This facet expects to contribute to reducing anxiety levels, fostering resilience and the re-integration into daily tasks.

ACT member PDA will organise a workshop on Community Based Psycho-social care to be take place in the first half of December to strengthen the know how of the psychologists and selected resource persons related to the work on the community based psycho-social approach. This aims to assist the team in adjusting activities to the local conditions and resources. The team will design an intervention plan for each target group with specific tasks and a timeline adjusted to the project's timeframe. The first group will receive collective psychological attention in the communities and persons who were in shelters, through 75 psychological sessions with the selected target group, through five visits per community and a final evaluation with community leaders. Said process will be conducted by specialists in psychological attention and community work. These sessions are collective in character and utilize participatory methodologies than take into consideration the psychological attention materials developed by CEPAD and community based psychosocial attention.

This process seeks to develop capacities in local leaders so that they can attend to the people at any given time. The psychologists will be entirely devoted to the communities, accompanying the communities in their emotional recuperation.

For the second group, three training workshops will be developed with team staff that carry out the ACT network's emergency project, to provide them with tools for self-care and therapies in times of crisis.

d) Personal Hygiene Kits

624 kits including personal hygiene products will be distributed to the house hold heads. Kit products include laundry soap, bath soap, lice shampoo, sanitary napkins, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and a comb. This packet will contribute to improve the conditions of health of the families.

e) Community Tool Kits

A basic tool kit will be given, including shovels, pick-axes, wheelbarrows, machetes and mallets, so that community members may carry out activities to improve the access roads to their communities. The kits have the objective to integrate families in an active way in the process of recuperation and development, through community brigades in their organized communities. Leaders will give of their means of work (trucks, horse carts, and other items), work force and time, receiving incentive through basic food aid.

f) Recuperation of Agricultural Capacity

Packets of agricultural products will be given, taking into consideration the traditional planting culture in the zone, the availability of planting areas, planting cycles and the generation of alternate sources of income.

Taking advantage of the existing moisture levels in the soil, 304 families will immediately receive (crisis phase) agricultural packets that they will use in 0.35 hectares. This includes rapid-growth creole corn seed, Nicaraguan sorghum, alazin bean, squash seed, string bean, cucumber, green pepper (tres canto variety), tomato, hot peppers and watermelon. It is expected that first fruits of this planting will come in February, 2008, with the objective of having immediate food products for families.

During the rehabilitation phase, 897 packets (44% more than in the crisis phase) will be handed out to the same number of families. These seeds will be used in the first planting season of 2008, with the purpose of promoting food security and obtaining seed for future planting seasons. During this phase the production area will be broadened to 1.4 hectares, with the same variety of crops.

Regional Field Technicians will be contracted to ensure follow-up to productive rehabilitation actions, through technical accompaniment and the strengthening of local capacities of community agricultural promoters in 15 communities. The technicians will have experience in managing appropriate production techniques that they will share with local voluntary agricultural promoters.

g) Water Purification

The project includes a campaign to sensitize people about preventive hygiene practices, management and treatment of water quality, through house-to-house visits, talks, etc. Workshops to transmit water treatment techniques will be carried out, and for these purpose 2,000 bags of purification chlorine and five-gallon receptacles will be given out. All of these activities will be carried out through the CEPAD-AMOS Foundation consortium, in coordination with the Ministry of Health (MINSa).

h) Cleansing of Wells and Latrine Construction

The project includes the purchase of two combustion pumps to suck contaminated water from the wells that provide water to family groups, and the cleansing of the wells.

Alternative technologies will be promoted, through the construction of four fertiliser-producing latrines in each community among persons who form part of the social network of organisation that transform awareness, thereby influencing the habits of the rest of the population. These will be models in the use of this technology. In the case of the wells that were contaminated by the inundation of water, the form in which they were constructed provided protection of the upper part, the cover, so the cleaning is needed on the inside.

k) Promotion and Advocacy

The project will carry out three workshops at a municipal level with key actors: one workshop to present the content of the appeal and to articulate the work; the second to present the Humanitarian Charter and the Code of Conduct; and the third to evaluate the appeal's interventions. There will also be a workshop in each community to present the content of the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Charter in popular language.

As much as possible, we will minimize costs of the actions we take; the ACT Network's work will be promoted through public signposts, a video, a brochure, distribution of t-shirts and hats.

Resources

a) Staff

The executive coordination of the implementation of the Appeal will be under the responsibility of the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (ILFE), which currently is the coordinating organisation of the ACT-Nicaragua Forum. ILFE will coordinate the activities carried out by member organisations that are implementing the ACT project. Each member, at the same time, will establish contract procedures for creating technical and administrative teams to implement the project. The following staff will be contracted exclusively for the implementation of the Appeal project:

- ? One Appeal Project Coordinator
- ? One accountant and two half-time assistants

Local teams:

- four psychologists to be recruited, three of which for nine months, one coordinating psychologist for a period of altogether 4 months
- four community technicians (agriculturalists, working by extension)
- The local teams will be working in the areas- The proposal included provision for accommodation.

A volunteer network will be organized to support the work of community technicians and promoters. In addition to the work of this team, the project will have support from staff at a central level and locally from each one of the member organisations. The Appeal will receive support particularly from human resources and organisational capacities of the communities and other institutions. The project will seek cooperation from the Municipal Disaster Prevention Committee and from the Ministry of Health.

b) Offices

The ACT-Nicaragua Forum has an office in Managua which is in communication with the offices of the other member organisations in Managua as well as their offices in each one of the areas of operation. It will establish a small office in the municipality of Villa Nueva for on-site implementation. The offices will be used as lodges for the local teams.

c) Vehicles and Equipment

Each implementing member will assign a vehicle for the implementation of project activities and will use Appeal funds for vehicle maintenance.

d) Communication

The executive secretary of the ACT-Nicaragua Forum, in coordination with the Coordinator of the Appeal Project, will facilitate communication relevant to the project and share information with all organisations concerned with the implementation.

Implementation Approach

Timeline for implementation: Nine months starting with project approval.

Apart from the aforementioned methodology, the implementation will take due account of: Gender Equity, Risk Management, Local Participation, Coordination among agencies, and rate of occurrence. The purpose is to guarantee the quality, transparency and sustainability of the project's results.

a) Gender Focus

Members of ACT recognize that men and women have distinct needs that ought to be considered at all times, also during the course of emergencies. Members of ACT recognize the importance for women to increase their influence in society, to augment their self-esteem and self confidence, to be able to have an impact on the decisions.

In the implementation local culture, educational levels and occupation will be taken into consideration. The Appeal will be careful not to burden women with more work. Staff will ensure that opportunities and resources will be shared in an equitable fashion between men and women, and will encourage the participation of women in decision-making processes. In relation to this, it is important to mention that although in reality it is not equal, and we hope that in this sense this project contributes in a significant way, the actual participation of women is estimated to be 35% of the total population.

b) Risk Management

The project will strengthen the community model for disaster prevention and attention to emergencies. Likewise, it will put special emphasis on the sensitization of the population about vulnerability factors in each one of the communities, according to their experiences and knowledge.

c) Local Participation

The participation of community leaders, target groups and municipal authorities is essential to the implementation of humanitarian aid and rehabilitation, to empower communities to seek their own resources. To ensure sustainable results in food security, mental health, water and water treatment, an agreement will be

signed with beneficiaries to be part of the project, and to participate in all of the activities. To achieve this, there will be coordination with community committees and training about the Code of Conduct; in the same way, interest groups will be formed.

d) Coordination among agencies

To allow for an efficient implementation of the Appeal, collaboration, articulation and coordination among members of ACT who are involved in said implementation and other actors working on recuperation and development in affected communities is essential. Information about the implementation will be shared with local and regional governments, government agencies, civil society organisation, national and international NGOs, and churches.

The creation of a reflection forum comprised of representatives of the organisations and beneficiaries will be promoted to monitor progress on project activities and make recommendations for improvement. Cooperation agreements and strategic alliances will reflect needs, in order to guarantee the sustainability of the activities.

e) Citizen Action

The Appeal intends to strengthen mechanisms and spaces within the regional legislative framework, so that community actors might be able to take actions regarding public policies through proposals and demands to appropriate authorities. Community alliances will be established at a level of agreement. These alliances will be focused on strengthening the space of participation between men, women, young adults, and children in a fair manner.

Assumptions of Planning, Constraints and setting of Priorities

- ✓ Assured financing: if the appeal is not covered to the extent desired, the activities will need to be accommodated according to the priorities: distribution of food and non-food items, medical and psycho-social support, procurement of seeds and reduce the period of implementation.
- ✓ Technical and methodological skill of contracted human resources: skilled personnel with local background is available. Psychologist will be given training in the Community Based Psycho-social Approach.
- ✓ Political will and commitment of participating organisations
- ✓ Insertion and community participation
- ✓ Inter-institutional coordination
- ✓ Support from municipal and national governments

Challenge at the community level:

- ✓ The that emotional crisis does not permit the integration of community populations in the process of community development
- ✓ Forced migration increases due to the lack of economic income and the region's vulnerability
- ✓ a new disaster may occur due to hydro-meteorological phenomena.

Challenge at an institutional level:

- ✓ cooperating implementing agencies, in their desire to contribute to humanitarian aid, promote greater levels of a "welfare state" in the communities, raise expectations and deplete coping capacity at community level.

Responsibility and Transparency

Each one of the member organisations of the ACT-Nicaragua Forum that participates in this proposal has a grassroots social network of more than a decade of work in the proposed territories. This will facilitate the implementation of the proposal, the participation of social agents, and the sustainability of foreseeable results achieved.

During the execution of the Appeal project, ACT-Nicaragua Forum will establish collaboration agreements with the municipalities and local emergency committees. At the same time they will define mechanisms for supervision and evaluation with the purpose of making assessments and necessary adjustments for the effectiveness of this attention. For monitoring purposes, tracking instruments will be used for field work, and

for the different activities that communities carry out. Similarly, the formats for evaluations, narrative and financial reports established by ACT International will be used.

On the other hand, strategic alliances will be carried out with key actors who will develop similar actions to those of the project, and which will contribute to the sustainability of obtained results. The key actors in the region will be the Municipal Committee for the Prevention of Disasters, the mayor's office, and community leaders.

The sustainability of this process is very important and the rehabilitation phase will contribute by planting seeds that can continue to be used. Managing rehabilitation projects is also a learning process for the future of the communities.

Members will promote the idea that implementing agencies and local authorities need to respond to the communities and provide social audits about the activities' impact. Previous experience indicates that local organizations respond best to urgent situations when they are well supported and strengthened, and the project will encourage the strengthening of these local organizations.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES

Funds from ACT members through the ACT Appeal will be deposited in a special fund that will be administered by ACT member the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (ILFE), who is the current coordinating organisation for the ACT-Nicaragua Forum. ILFE will take responsibility for the coordination and general accountability of the entire Appeal. Funds will be disbursed to each implementing organisation, according to the budget. Funds will be handed out based on a written petition and a work plan that describes activities to be carried out. Implementing members should turn in financial reports with original documents (monthly), according to policies and guidelines established for internal control, which at the same time are congruent with ACT-International policies.

ILFE will carry out supervision and progress follow-up of the work plan's implementation. Information gathered will be shared with the Coordinating Committee of ACT-Nicaragua. The Coordinating Committee will make decisions on changes in plans. ILFE will report regularly to the Coordinating Office of ACT International.

In case funds are channelled directly to implementing members, the members will report to ILFE regarding the status of funds received and budget executed.

Implementing members will be responsible for bilateral agreements and reports (narrative and financial) with donor agencies. However, implementing members will keep the ACT-Nicaragua Network/Forum informed about the progress and adjustments related to the project's execution.

VIII. MONITORING, REPORTING & EVALUATIONS

Activities will be supervised by implementing members of the ACT-Nicaragua Forum:

Directive Body: Directors of implementing institutions: CEPAD, CIEETS, ILFE and LWF are responsible for the implementation of their respective activities.

The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope is responsible for general coordination, and at the same time for supervision and reports on the entire Appeal to the ACT alliance. The members have signed an Agreement of Understanding with implementing members about the project's execution and reports. It states the commitment of implementing members to submit timely reports to ILFE. ILFE commits to establish the conditions for correct, transparent and efficient control of human and physical resources. ...

The Executive Secretary, named by ILFE, will keep track of the progress and achievement of plans, projects and agreements derived from the Directive Body. The Executive Secretary is in charge of writing and disseminating narrative and financial reports based on information gathered from implementing members.

Technical Liaisons: each implementing member will name an official technical liaison that will provide follow-up and will carry out activities agreed upon with the Executive Secretary, and will present proposals to the directors of implementing members.

Procedures for purchases, finances and staff will be in line with the policies and rules of ACT's guidelines. Financial agreements will be signed by the coordinating organisation and member institutions.

Supervisory field visits and meetings with technical teams and directors will be held monthly, and will be reported in summary in the minutes. The contracted Appeal Coordinator will present a monthly report. The Lutheran Church will be responsible for turning in all reports and evaluations to ACT CO. ILFE will report to ACT CO in due time according to the agreed reporting schedule: the intermediate report is due after 6 months of implementation, the final report two months after completion of the appeal. An evaluation is planned after the completion of the Appeal.

Reporting schedule:

Interim narrative and financial reports are due to the ACT CO no later than **30 April 2008**, or one month after mid-term of appeal implementation.

Final narrative and financial reports are due to the ACT CO no later than **16 October 2008**, or two month after the completion date of the appeal.

Audit report is to be received no later than **16 November 2008**, or three months after the completion date of the appeal.

IX. COORDINATION

This will vary according to the activities. The project will take great care to promote community participation with focuses on gender and age. Active community participation is very important in the development of the actions and strengthens relationships with existing local agencies, institutions and other actors present in the community. This is a methodology that has already been used.

Coordination with Other Members of ACT

Information about project implementation will be shared with all members of the ACT-Nicaragua Forum; AMC will be asked to support the implementing members in selecting and purchasing medicines for the beneficiaries. Wherever deemed useful, members of ACT will seek expertise from other ACT forums in Central America.

The coordination of the implementation of the Appeal Project will be through Municipal Emergency Operations Committees in cooperation with the National System for Disaster Attention and Prevention (SINAPRED)

With other institutions of Civil Society present in the area of implementation such as Nicaraguan Risk Management Group and non-governmental organisations present in the zone. Where possible, agreements will be established to share methodologies and agreements, with the object of optimizing resources and avoiding duplicity of actions.

X. BUDGET

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Unit C\$</u>	<u>Budget C\$</u>	<u>Budget USD</u>
EXPENDITURE					
DIRECT ASSISTANCE					
CRISIS PHASE					
<u>Family Food Relief Assistance Kit</u> (Flour, beans, rice, oil,salt, milk,cereals, matches, coffee, sugar)					
ILFE	Kit / family	204	2339	477,156	25,497
CIEETS	Kit / family	135	2339	315,765	16,873
FLW	Kit / family	150	2339	350,850	18,748
CEPAD	Kit / family	135	2339	315,765	16,873
Sub total food relief				1,459,536	77,990
<u>Community Medical Assistance Kit :</u>					
Medicines (fever, respiratory diseases, parasites control)	Kit	1	180000	180,000	9,618
Sub total medical kit				180,000	9,618
<u>Psychological Support</u>					
Coordinating Psychologist	month	4	7484	29,936	1,600
Benefits for Coordinating Psychologist	month	4	3351	13,405	716
Psychologists (3 persons)	month	9	7484	67,356	3,599
Benefits for Psychologists	month	3	3351	10,053	537
Workshop Community Based Psycho-social approach	Lumpsum	1	150000	150,000	8,015
Self-care material (occupation, toys)	Lumpsum	1	5200	5,200	278
Sub total psychological support				275,950	14,745
<u>Hygiene Kit</u> (soap, detergent, sanitary napkins, toilet paper, tooth paste, tooth brushes, nail clipper, comb)					
ILFE	Kit / family	204	189	38,556	2,060
CIEETS	Kit / family	135	189	25,515	1,363
FLW	Kit / family	150	189	28,350	1,515
CEPAD	Kit / family	135	189	25,515	1,363
Sub total hygiene kits				117,936	6,302
<u>Agriculture Assistance Kits</u> (Sorghum, Bean,Squash, Cucumber, Watermelon, Peppers, Tomato)					
ILFE	Kit / family	100	484	48,380	2,585
CIEETS	Kit / family	75	484	36,285	1,939
FLW	Kit / family	51	484	24,674	1,318
CEPAD	Kit / family	78	484	37,736	2,016
Workshops: lower zone	Kit / family	16	3000	48,000	2,565
Workshops: higher zone	Kit / family	14	4000	56,000	2,992
Sub total agriculture assistance				251,075	13,416
<u>Community Tool Kit</u> (shovels, mattocks, axes, wheelbarrow, machetes, hammer, plastic)					
ILFE	Kit / community	4	4090	16,360	874
CIEETS	Kit / community	3	4090	12,270	656
FLW	Kit / community	3	4090	12,270	656
CEPAD	Kit / community	5	4090	20,450	1,093
Sub total tool kits				61,350	3,278

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>USD</u>
Water Purification Kit (purifiers, bucket, water treatment workshop)					
ILFE	Kit / community	4	3650	14,600	780
CIEETS	Kit / community	3	3650	10,950	585
FLW	Kit / community	3	3650	10,950	585
CEPAD	Kit / community	5	3650	18,250	975
Sub total water purification kits				54,750	2,926
Direct Program Related Costs					
Supervision per diem 4 directors, 8 d/m	days	96	120	11,520	616
Per diem coordinators in area	days	18	260	4,680	250
Per diem 4 technicians in the area	days	280	120	33,600	1,795
Per diem 4 psychologists in the area	days	280	120	33,600	1,795
Needs assessment and appeal formulation	Unit	1	12000	12,000	641
Subtotal				95,400	5,098
ILFE					
Field Technician	month	3	7484	22,452	1,200
Field Technician benefits	month	3	3351	10,053	537
Salary for part-time accountant	month	3	3500	10,500	561
Accountant benefits	month	3	1470	4,410	236
CIEETS					
Field Technician	month	3	7484	22,452	1,200
Field Technician benefits	month	3	3351	10,053	537
Salary for part-time accountant	month	3	3500	10,500	561
Accountant benefits	month	3	1470	4,410	236
FLW					
Field Technician	month	3	7484	22,452	1,200
Field Technician benefits	month	3	3351	10,053	537
Salary for part-time accountant	month	3	3500	10,500	561
Accountant benefits	month	3	1470	4,410	236
CEPAD					
Field Technician	month	3	7484	22,452	1,200
Field Technician benefits	month	3	3351	10,053	537
Salary for part-time accountant	month	3	3500	10,500	561
Accountant benefits	month	3	1470	4,410	236
Sub total Technician				189,660	10,134
SUBTOTAL CRISIS PHASE				2,685,657	143,508
REHABILITATION PHASE					
Agriculture recovery (Sorghum, Bean, Squash, Cucumber, Watermelon, Peppers, Tomato, plantain, fruit trees)					
ILFE	Kit / family	223	1034	230,537	12,319
CIEETS	Kit / family	180	1034	186,084	9,943
FLW	Kit / family	150	1034	155,070	8,286
CEPAD	Kit / family	344	1034	355,627	19,003
Sub total agriculture				927,319	49,551

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>USD</u>
<u>Wells and latrine recovery</u>					
ILFE	Kit / family	16	6000	96,000	5,130
CIEETS	Kit / family	12	6000	72,000	3,847
FLW	Kit / family	12	6000	72,000	3,847
CEPAD	Kit / family	20	6000	120,000	6,412
Suction pumps	Units	2	9355	18,710	1,000
Gasoline	Gallons	250	75	18,750	1,002
Sub total wells and latrine				397,460	21,238
<u>Visisbility and advocacy</u>					
Workshops with local actors (25 participants)	Workshop	3	18500	55,500	2,966
Community Training (High zone)	Workshop	8	4000	32,000	1,710
Community Training (Low zone)	Workshop	7	3000	21,000	1,122
Promotional signs	Lumpsum	2	4000	8,000	427
Videos/documentation	Lumpsum	1	18000	18,000	962
Subtotal visibility and advocacy				134,500	7,187
<u>Costs related to the program</u>					
ILFE					
Field Technician salary	Month	6	7484	44,904	2,399
Field Technician benefits	Month	6	3351	20,106	1,074
Salary for part-time accountant	Month	6	3500	21,000	1,122
Accountant benefits	Month	6	1470	8,820	471
CIEETS					
Field Technician salary	Month	6	7484	44,904	2,399
Field Technician benefits	Month	6	3351	20,106	1,074
Salary for part-time accountant	Month	6	3500	21,000	1,122
Accountant benefits	Month	6	1470	8,820	471
FLW					
Field Technician salary	Month	6	7484	44,904	2,399
Field Technician benefits	Month	6	3351	20,106	1,074
Salary for part-time accountant	Month	6	3500	21,000	1,122
Accountant benefits	Month	6	1470	8,820	471
CEPAD					
Field Technician salary	Month	6	7484	44,904	2,399
Field Technician benefits	Month	6	3351	20,106	1,074
Salary for part-time accountant	Month	6	3500	21,000	1,122
Accountant benefits	Month	6	1470	8,820	471
Sub total technician				379,320	20,269
Per diem for supervision (4 directors/ 2 d/ m	Days	48	150	7,200	385
Per diem for volunteers in the area	Days	72	150	10,800	577
Per diem: 4 technicians & 2 psychologists (21 day/ month	Days	756	150	113,400	6,060
Per diem for project coordinator	Days	48	150	7,200	385
Mobilization of volunteers and staff	Meetings	6	4000	24,000	1,282

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Unit C\$</u>	<u>Budget C\$</u>	<u>Budget USD</u>
Subtotal				162,600	8,688
TOTAL REHABILITATION				2,001,199	106,934
TOTAL - DIRECT ASSISTANCE				4,686,856	250,441
TRANSPORTATION					
<u>Transportation</u>					
Truck rental	Trips	16	8000	128,000	6,840
ILFE vehicle					
Fuel for vehicle	Gallons	250	75	18,750	1,002
Maintenance	Month	9	2500	22,500	1,202
Insurance		1	2250	2,250	120
CIEETS vehicle					
Fuel for vehicle	Gallons	250	75	18,750	1,002
Maintenance	Month	9	2500	22,500	1,202
Insurance	year	1	2250	2,250	120
FLW vehicle					
Fuel for vehicle	Gallons	250	75	18,750	1,002
Maintenance	Month	9	2500	22,500	1,202
Insurance	year	1	2250	2,250	120
CEPAD vehicle					
Fuel for vehicle	Gallons	275	75	20,625	1,102
Maintenance	Month	9	2500	22,500	1,202
Insurance	year	1	2250	2,250	120
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION				303,875	16,237
CAPITAL GOODS (+ US\$500)					
Computers and accessories	Unit	1	18570	18,570	992
TOTAL CAPITAL GOODS				18,570	992
INDIRECT COSTS: STAFF, ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS & SUPPORT					
<u>Staff salaries</u>					
Program coordinator	Month	9	7484	67,356	3,599
Financial coordinator	Month	9	3351	30,160	1,612
<u>Staff Benefits</u>					
Legal benefit for coordinator	Month	9	1531	13,779	736
Legal benefit for accountant	Month	9	1175	10,577	565
Life insurance for project staff	annual premium	7	4643	32,501	1,737
<u>Office Operating Expenses</u>					
Administration expenses Managua office	Month	9	2000	18,000	962
Administration expenses field office	Month	9	5000	45,000	2,405
Administration expenses ILFE	Month	9	7428	66,852	3,572
Administration expenses CIEETS	Month	9	7428	66,852	3,572
Administration expenses FLW	Month	9	7428	66,852	3,572
Administration expenses CEPAD	Month	9	7428	66,852	3,572
Translation expenses Appeal and reports	Unit	4	5000	20,000	1,069
Bank Charges	Unit	6	925	5,550	297

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>C\$</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>USD</u>
<u>Communications</u>					
Telephone and fax Coordinating Office	Month	9	1000	9,000	481
Telephone and fax Field office	Month	9	1800	16,200	866
Purchase of cellphone cards	Unit	40	370	14,800	791
<u>Local ACT network promotion</u>					
Advertising products	unit	400	90	36,000	1,924
Press conferences	unit	2	5000	10,000	534
TOTAL EXPENSES OF STAFF, ADMIN., OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT				596331	31865
AUDITS & SUPERVISION					
Audit of ACT funds	Lumpsum			74,280	3,969
Evaluation	Lumpsum			55,000	2,939
TOTAL AUDITS & SUPERVISION				129,280	6,908
TOTAL EXPENSES				5,734,912	306,444

Exchange rate = Local currency vs. USD

1 USD = NIO 18.71