Disaster Management Appeal

20/12/2007

This appeal seeks CHF 76,696,000 (USD 68,601,073 or EUR 46,482,424) to fund programmes to be implemented in 2008 and 2009. Go to total budget summary.

Since many roads were blocked and ferries destroyed, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society used smaller boats to get supplies to where they were needed. Thousands of volunteers helped with the distribution, and the loading and unloading of relief items across the country. International Federation

Context

The number of natural disasters is increasing, especially weather-related disasters such as floods, storms, cyclones, drought and extreme temperatures. Whilst these increasing disasters have resulted in fewer deaths, the resultant economic losses are growing. All the statistics available underline this upward trend in numbers of disasters and their unpredictability.

Extreme weather related disasters are increasing in frequency, affecting over a third of the world’s population and causing horrendous damage over the last decade. In addition, environmental degradation is contributing significantly to an increase in disaster risk, while some disaster impacts can lead to deterioration in environmental conditions.

Climatic anomalies also present unusual operational challenges. A climatic anomaly means that people are experiencing an event either for the first time, or for the first time in many years. They have not built up traditional coping strategies or mitigation experience, which are seen in those communities more frequently exposed to hazards. In these circumstances, there is increased psychological stress, a poorer health context leading to a faster spread of disease, poorer security behaviour and reduced self-help capacity.

At the same time, the world’s population is moving to urban centres, with the largest cities in developing countries. These mega-cities and other urban environments are often poorly planned and develop and grow in areas where there is a heightened risk of earthquakes, floods, landslides and other natural and technological hazards. This heightened risk is exacerbated by an often violent and insecure environment. Migrants are increasingly at the heart of such vulnerability.

Access to basic health services, clean water and proper sanitation are still non-existent for the majority of the world’s population. Preventable diseases are still killing millions of children in poor countries and in wealthier countries the ageing of population, social isolation and long-term unemployment are creating new challenges. Underlying this, AIDS continues to attack the
socio-economic fabric of society in the worst affected countries, increasing vulnerability to disasters. A combination of these social factors with the risk of epidemics, pandemics or the impact of a disaster makes the health needs of vulnerable populations in disasters a key focus of disaster management.

While, these changes in risk and disaster patterns clearly result, on occasions, in large-scale emergencies that require the mobilisation of international disaster assistance, Red Cross and Red Crescent response statistics indicate that it is primarily the number of small-scale weather-related events, affecting under 25,000 people, which have risen. The National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, under their humanitarian mandate, respond to the effects of these disasters on a daily basis, in countries where the public infrastructures are weak or non-existent.

We are witnessing changes in the needs of disaster affected people due to multiple disaster events, longer term events and climatic anomalies. Multiple disaster events, such as the five consecutive cyclones in Madagascar and five consecutive typhoons in the Philippines in 2007 mean we are dealing with populations who are debilitated through having already lost all of their assets, making them even more vulnerable in the face of a new disaster event. This type of situation requires a different disaster response approach from the single specific event from which we assist people to recover.

This document provides a summary of the 2008 – 2009 Red Cross Red Crescent International Federation’s Disaster Management Funding Appeal. It describes the hugely demanding and deteriorating disaster context that the Federation is operating in, the changing needs and expectations of its members and the approach taken to meet these needs.

Disaster Management is central to the mission of the International Federation which is “to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity”. The efforts of the International Federation in Disaster Management support the achievement of the vision of the organisation which is to:

“strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity”.

The International Federation’s new Operating Model reflects these kaleidoscopic, massive challenges and places a greater emphasis on a strong centralized Disaster Management capacity with close integration between each element and devolved operational capability.

Programme summary

The three core stages of disaster management are disaster mitigation, disaster response and recovery. The International Federation’s Disaster Management plan consists of the following elements:

Disaster Planning and Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives focus on work to build the capacity of National Societies and vulnerable communities to prepare, respond and reduce the risk of disasters.

Go to: detailed 2008 to 2009 Disaster Planning and Preparedness plan and budget summary

For further information on this programme, contact: Mohammed Omer Mukhier, Head, Disaster Preparedness and Policy Department; email: mohammedomer.mukhier@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4430; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.
Food Security in Africa works with local, vulnerable communities to empower them to develop the capacity to meet their food needs, thus providing them with more resilience in the face of a disaster.

Legal preparedness is part of overall disaster preparedness under the International Federation’s Programme on International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL). Well functioning legal and policy frameworks can minimize barriers delaying international assistance and help maximize its quality and coordination. Hence, IDRL is key to ensuring that disaster-affected communities receive the right aid, at the right time and in the right manner.

Operations Support continues to develop a range of disaster response tools and through close alliances with external meteorological agencies provides an early warning system.

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund enables an instant response capability, predominantly by the National Society, through standby funds.

Operations Coordination works towards overall coordination both within the International Federation, and with international and local organizations.

Logistics ensures that people and relief assets are moved quickly to where they are needed.
Shelter concentrates on affected population’s needs for primary protection and housing.

Go to: [Shelter Appeal 2007-2008](#) and [budget summary](#)

For further information on this programme, contact: Graham Saunders, Head, Shelter Department; email: graham.saunders@ifrc.org, phone: +41 22 730 4241; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.

Relief provides assistance during or immediately after a disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people affected.

Go to: [detailed 2008 to 2009 plan](#) and [budget summary](#)

For further information on this programme, contact: Hakan Karay, Officer, Relief; email: hakan.karay@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4513; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.

Recovery works with the community to reinstate itself to its pre-disaster context or better.

Go to: [detailed 2008 to 2009 plan](#) and [budget summary](#)

For further information on this programme, contact: Simon Eccleshall, Senior Officer, Recovery; email: simon.eccleshall@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4281; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.

Disaster Mitigation, Disaster Response and Recovery are currently being strengthened. Health and Care, and Water and Sanitation and Shelter are key components of Disaster Management leading to greater community resilience, response to needs and support for recovery efforts. The vital support components of Advocacy, Human Resource Management, Information, Technology and Telecommunications, and Security also all combine to provide the enabling context for the primary activities in Disaster Management.

Go to: [detailed 2008 to 2009 Information, Technology and Telecommunications plan](#) and [budget summary](#)

For further information on this programme, contact: Hugh Peterken, Head, Information Systems Department; email: hugh.peterken@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4540; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.

Go to: [detailed 2008 to 2009 Security plan](#) and [budget summary](#)

For further information on this programme, contact: Lars Tangen, Head, Security Unit; email: lars.tangen@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22 730 4445; and fax: +41 22 733 0395.

It is the integration of all these components that provide the International Federation with a formidable, yet flexible disaster management capability. This coupled with the largest and most powerful global disaster management network, obliges the International Federation to do more and better for those vulnerable to disasters.

In summary, the International Federation:

- Recognizes that the world is changing, and that the services provided will need to be scaled-up, as well as more efficient and effective.
- Improved services will be achieved through the provision of increased resources, higher quality, integrated services with good internal and external coordination.
- Ensure continuity of services and the change needed, as well as created a Disaster Management Team.
The Disaster Management Team has four objectives:

- Adopt, analyze, integrate and prioritize the planning of activities.
- Create clear definition of services, target levels and responsibilities.
- Deliver services and measure impact.
- National Societies value, use and are prepared to fund activities.

### Needs

<table>
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<th>Programmes</th>
<th>2008 budget in CHF</th>
<th>2009 budget in CHF</th>
<th>Total budget in CHF</th>
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### Working in Partnership

No agency can meet all humanitarian needs alone.

Coordination with other aid agencies involved in a disaster response is a necessity. Coordination with external actors is a means to optimize the overall impact of our humanitarian action. A coherent and successful coordinated approach amongst International Federation actors is a prerequisite for effective coordination with external actors. Participation and coordination must take place without compromising the International Federation’s fundamental principles and the
mandates of each component of the International Federation. The Movement’s humanitarian principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality are non-negotiable, and will be defended and upheld in all circumstances. Key responsibilities for coordination between Movement actors in international disasters are outlined in the Seville Agreement and Supplementary Measures, the International Federation’s Constitution, and the Principles and Rules for Disaster Relief.

The UN, other international organizations, NGOs and the International Federation also have an increasing responsibility to coordinate their work. The Inter Agency Steering Committee (IASC) is intended to be an inclusive and representative mechanism for humanitarian coordination.

In 2006, the first dialogue meeting to explore ways of enhancing the effectiveness of humanitarian response brought together 40 leaders of UN humanitarian organizations, NGOs, the International Federation, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the World Bank (Geneva representation). The meeting constituted one of the most representative events of humanitarian partners. The International Federation will remain central to, and active in the IASC.

The need to improve and develop coordination in the humanitarian sector is becoming increasingly evident with the frequency, and sometimes overwhelming magnitude of recent disasters. No one government or organization has the capacity to cover global relief needs alone.

The UN concept of the “cluster approach” is being introduced in humanitarian operations around the world, as a response to improving coordination amongst the various actors. The cluster approach was developed as part of efforts to reform and improve international emergency response, both to natural disasters and conflict situations.

The International Federation, as a key player in international emergency response, and as a standing invitee to the IASC, actively participates in several of these clusters. It has offered to provide leadership to the broader humanitarian community in the consolidation of best practices, the mapping of capacities and gaps, and in organizing a coordinated response to emergency shelter needs in non-conflict areas.

The International Federation is a member of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, a leading forum on disaster response. Symbiotic alliances also exist with academia to enable access to best practice, leading theories on disaster management, as well as case studies which provide valuable lessons learned for the future.

For similar reasons, alliances also exist with the private sector, and with a wide range of international bodies including the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the World Bank, (WB), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

The International Federation, through its network in 185 countries, provides unique global reach and critical mass with unrivalled local disaster connectivity.
### How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation’s website at [http://www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org).

| The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity". | **Global Agenda Goals:**  
Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.  
Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.  
Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.  
Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity. |