

# Programme Update

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Maldives

Appeal No. MAAMV001

18 August 2008

This report covers the period 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2008.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation – with its global network – works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



In March 2008, the Disaster Management team of the International Federation country office in the Maldives distributed comprehensively-stocked emergency first aid kits to island disaster management committees in Raa and Kaafu atolls. **John Bales/International Federation.**

## In brief

**Programme purpose:** All [Appeal 2008-2009](#) programmes for the Maldives are focused essentially on creating the environment for a Maldivian National Society to be established and begin its work. Their foundation is tsunami recovery programming – which inspired the need for the Maldivian Red Crescent. They will eventually become the core programmes of the new National Society.

**Programme summary:** Tsunami recovery programmes provided an opportunity for the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's work to be visible to the Maldivian community, thus establishing goodwill and better understanding about its humanitarian nature. This understanding opened the way to support the formation of a Maldivian National Society, a process which has been going on since September 2005 and is nearing conclusion.

Based on the current implementation rate, it is expected that most of the pending International Federation Secretariat tsunami recovery activities will be completed by the end of 2008. However, work associated with construction warranty, follow up and community resettlement support, will remain.

During the reporting period, implementation of integrated disaster management and health and care programme activities progressed well on the five targeted islands of Raa Atoll. Community-based disaster management (CBDM), vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA) and first aid trainings were facilitated in three islands of Kaafu atoll.

Collaboration with the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) resulted in the approval of new International Federation Secretariat-produced guidelines for island disaster management mobilization and organization. It also promoted participation of the body in the development of a CBDM training manual for government officers. The NDMC also requested to publish the International Federation Secretariat-facilitated VCAs on its official website.

Emergency contingency and disaster risk reduction plans were drawn-up by the communities of five targeted islands, while first aid training was delivered to community volunteers in six islands and employees of two commercial companies in the capital, Male'. Responsibilities relating to coordination of the First Aid Practitioners' Network were transferred to the organizational development programme. Participation by members of the disaster management team members in regional disaster management forums increased significantly over the period.

The Maldivian Red Crescent formation process advanced during the reporting period. The interim planning group – which comprises 20 individuals tasked to steer the National Society formation process, with support of the Federation – finalized the statutes, rules of procedures and other legal documentation required for the recognition of the National Society by the government. These were submitted to the attorney general's office, and advice and/or action from the latter are being awaited.

Promotion of the fundamental principles, humanitarian values, and mandate of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement intensified. This included creating awareness about the role the Maldivian Red Crescent will be playing once it becomes operational. Dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values continued to form an integral part of all programming, and promotion of the emerging National Society throughout the country was done through close collaboration between the organizational development and information teams as well as with core programmes. The World Red Cross Red Crescent Day was marked in the capital, and in the atolls, with radio and TV interviews promoting the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and the nascent Maldivian Red Crescent.

**Financial situation:** A total of CHF 1.89 million has been received for this appeal, against the 2008 budget of CHF 1.68 million, giving a coverage of 113 per cent. However, as funding for this appeal came late in the second quarter of 2008, activities implemented over the reporting period were funded through the tsunami recovery operation. As such, no financial report is attached.

[<Click here for the donor response summary>](#)

**No. of people we help:** The integrated disaster management and health and care, organizational development and humanitarian values programmes reached a total of 2,110 direct beneficiaries, with an additional 12,500 people (communities in the islands and parents with children in targeted schools of Male') benefiting indirectly.

**Our partners:** The National Disaster Management Centre, Ministry of Atolls Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Faculty of Health Sciences, island authorities, American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, French Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

## Context

The larger operational environment in the Maldives over the six months under review has been characterized by some political tensions. In 2006, the government embarked on extensive reforms to the nation's political and institutional framework. The reforms were outlined in the 'Roadmap for the Reform Agenda' which also envisaged the revision of the Constitution prior to the country's first multi-party elections scheduled for late 2008. Constitutional reforms have proved difficult and slow and pressure is mounting to ensure that the expectations for competitive and multi party politics are met. Also pegged onto the reform process are high expectations for increased government services among the people of the Maldives. Specific to communities most affected by the December 2004 tsunami,

expectations vary from public services – including health, transport and education – to addressing needs for spacious harbours and adequate fish processing capacity.

Although significant achievements have been made in the control of communicable diseases, non communicable diseases pose a major challenge for the Maldives health services. During the period December 2007 to June 2008, sporadic cases of dengue were reported in several parts; these, however, did not reach the levels recorded in 2007 when there was an outbreak. Two of the Partner National Societies operational in the Maldives – American Red Cross and British Red Cross – continued health/hygiene promotion activities, focusing particularly on prevention of dengue and chikungunya through eradication of potential mosquito breeding grounds.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Integrated Disaster Management, and Health and Care

Utilizing approaches intended to mobilize active community engagement with integrated initiatives related to disaster management and community health, this programme seeks to enhance community capacities and skills, local ownership and resilience in reducing vulnerabilities and risks. The programme is striving towards achieving this through three components: vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCAs); guided community-based risk reduction, community-based first aid; and developing the capacity of the nascent National Society.

The programme targets communities on five islands of Raa Atoll (Alifushi, Hulhudhuffaru, Maduvvari, Meedhoo and Ungoofaaru) and six islands of Kaafu Atoll (Dhiffushi, Guraidhoo, Himmafushi, Huraa, Maafushi and Thulusdhoo).



Community members on Maafushi Island of Kaafu Atoll participate in a VCA exercise.

During the reporting period, implementation of planned programme activities in the five targeted islands of Raa Atoll progressed as planned. Community-based disaster management (CBDM), VCA and first aid training were facilitated in three of the six targeted islands of Kaafu Atoll.

The DM team leader participated in a community consultation on CBDM organized by the British Red Cross in Veymandoo island of Thaa Atoll. The team leader also provided technical support for a cross-regional community-based disaster risk reduction 'lessons learned' workshop held in Kathmandu, Nepal. Members of the DM programme team participated in a regional strategic planning workshop and the regional disaster management working group (DMWG) in India.

### Community-based disaster management

**Expected result:** Risk and vulnerability to the effects of disasters are reduced, through a community based approach focused on developing disaster management and first aid skills and capacities of community members.

#### Achievements

CBDM training was provided to a total of 77 volunteer members of island task forces in Raa Maduvvari, Raa Hulhudhuffaru, Kaafu Guraidhoo, Kaafu Thulusdhoo and Kaafu Huraa, while VCA exercises were successfully facilitated in the targeted island communities of Raa Hulhudhuffaru, Kaafu Guraidhoo, Kaafu Thulusdhoo and Kaafu Huraa with the active participation of 86 people. The

exercises allowed the islands to draw up disaster emergency and risk reduction plans that include contingency provisions for a population of 5,639 people.

Continuing collaboration with the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) resulted in the approval of new International Federation Secretariat-produced national guidelines related to island community disaster management organization. The NDMC requested to publish the programme's VCA reports on its official website.

## Infectious diseases prevention and control

**Expected result:** Increased awareness, preparedness and involvement of community in health risk reduction.

### Achievements

No specific activities were conducted by the International Federation Secretariat in this context, since comprehensive training had been conducted and completed among local authority staff, teachers and volunteers in all targeted communities and schools in 2007. Though sporadic cases of dengue cases were reported in some of the targeted islands, they did not reach epidemic levels and island communities responded well, utilizing the knowledge gained in 2007. With support of the American Red Cross, the community of Kaafu Maafushi conducted a follow up dengue prevention clean up campaign. The initiative mobilized 200 residents to clean up the beach of over 1,000 dead fish, and collect empty plastic and other types of containers which were potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Elsewhere, the British Red Cross – in collaboration with the department of public health, Thaa Atoll hospital and Thaa Buruni health post – conducted a four-day mosquito control and prevention training on Thaa Buruni Island. A total of 40 volunteers participated. The participants were able to identify different types of mosquitoes, their breeding habits and sites. They also learned the importance of volunteering and working together. Later, these volunteers and an additional 10 others participated in a clean up exercise on the island. [This island is outside the atolls targeted by the DM programme].

In the long-term, issues related to infectious disease control will be addressed in the context of a more comprehensive approach to public health, through the development of community-based first aid (CBFA) as an integral component of disaster risk reduction.

## First Aid

**Expected result:** A first aid programme for community and commercial scope is developed to increase first aid knowledge and skills.

### Achievements



The DM team and the First Aid Practitioners' Network conduct first aid demonstration during the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day celebrations in Male'.

Ongoing delivery of first aid training resulted in the award of standard qualifications to a total of 93 volunteers on Raa Maduvvari, Raa Alifushi, Raa Hulhudhuffaru, Kaafu Guraidhoo, Kaafu Thulusdhoo and Kaafu Huraa islands. Potentially, these community volunteers have the capability to provide emergency first aid services for 8,723 people. Additionally, 14 locally-engaged Red Cross Red Crescent staff in Male' were trained in standard first aid techniques.

With regard to commercial first aid training, 80 employees of *Wataniya* – a mobile telephony service provider – and 15 staff of the Sate Electric Company (STELCO) were trained in basic first aid. These trainings were conducted in collaboration with the First Aid Practitioners'

Network – a group formed in 2007 with the support of the International Federation Secretariat as a mechanism for exploiting increasing opportunities to deliver first aid training as an income generation exercise in support of the nascent Maldivian Red Crescent.

During the period under review, a total of 64 comprehensively stocked, custom-built emergency first aid kits, together with guidelines for their allocation and use as well as incident record logbooks were handed over to the island disaster management committees (IDMCs) of Raa Alifushi, Raa Ungoofaaru, Raa Meedhoo, Raa Maduvvari, Raa Hulhudhuffaru, Kaafu Guraidhoo, Kaafu Thulusdhoo and Kaafu Huraa islands, respectively; each island received eight kits.

### **National Society and community DM capacity building**

**Expected result:** The capacity of the future Maldives National Society is developed in community disaster preparedness and post-disaster response through an integrated approach for the formation and building the National Society capacities at the branch level.

#### **Achievements**

In the continued absence of a National Society in the Maldives, locally employed staff of the programme team has increasingly come to be regarded as putative staff of the nascent Maldivian Red Crescent. Given this, institutional capacity building initiatives during the reporting period focused on the development of the programme staff. In such a context, two members of the programme team participated in a regional 'Learning-by-doing VCA practitioners' training workshop held in Bangladesh.

As part of ongoing endeavours in support of the establishment of a National Society in the Maldives, the DM programme team provided orientation in key disaster management issues for members of the interim planning group, which has been tasked to steer the Maldivian Red Crescent formation process. Exposition of the fundamental principles and humanitarian values continued to form an integral part of all CBDM and first aid trainings, VCA exercises and awareness raising events.

#### **Challenges and constraints**

There were challenges in engaging the community of Raa Hulhudhuffaru Island. This was overcome through a new approach that linked the development aspirations and concerns of members of the settled community with recovery initiatives targeting tsunami-displaced families residing in temporary shelters on the island.

Members of IDMCs and associated task forces tend to be drawn from a small local pool of professionals, each of whom has many competing demands on their time. Their participation in disaster management activities continued to be afforded a low priority, a contingency that frequently required re-scheduling of programmed training. To a significant degree, the programme's explicit requirement to establish separate IDMCs [and associated task forces] in each community compounded and exacerbated the problem.

Institutional and organizational relationships and authorities within local government administration tend to inhibit opportunities for meaningful community engagement with disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities intended as development initiatives. Island administrations relate to the Ministry of Atolls Development and have no direct linkage with the NDMC. Given this – and in line with International Federation's global initiatives to re-focus community-based disaster management more effectively toward community risk reduction – all targeted islands will be revisited and encouraged to submit DRR project proposals based on the priority findings of VCAs conducted in their community during recent months. It is intended that these projects will be implemented through the support of the islands' principal and most significant representative agencies – the island development committees. Technical inputs will then be provided by the respective IDMCs.

Heavy reliance on the services and resources of the small programme team to deliver commercial first aid training on behalf of the First Aid Practitioners' Network (FAPN) conflicted with the interests and needs of this essentially community oriented programme. Given this, responsibilities related to support

for the FAPN and its commercial activities have been transferred to the resource mobilization element of the organizational development component.

The programme's historical emphasis on traditional first aid training has limited its utility and value in a community context. Like government health institutions (focused primarily on curative services) in the islands, the programme's approach to community health issues (such as the 2007 dengue and chikungunya outbreak) tended to be informed by a single-issue approach. This resulted in a lack of cohesion between the different elements of the programme's work in the community. Given this, and in line with current International Federation efforts to roll out the revised CBFA, the programme will adopt a CBFA approach directly linked to improved public health as a disaster risk reduction endeavour in future work in the islands.

Given the maritime island configuration of the Maldives, water safety and search and rescue are key issues related to risk reduction. The International Federation delegation in the Maldives currently lacks the technical capacity to address these issues and is seeking to overcome this through collaboration with the Sri Lankan Red Cross in a joint training exercise, with support from the International Federation regional office for south Asia.

## Capacity and Organizational Development

The Maldives is one of the few countries in the world without a National Society, and prior to the tsunami many of the locals had never heard of the Red Cross. Tsunami recovery programme provided an opportunity for the Red Cross Red Crescent work to be visible to the Maldivian community, thus establishing goodwill and better understanding about its humanitarian nature. This understanding opened the way to support the formation of a Maldivian National Society, a process which has been going on since September 2005.

### National society development

**Expected result:** A Maldives National Society is formed, recognized and functioning.

#### Achievements

The interim planning group (IPG) – which is tasked to steer the Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) formation process – has been working consistently since January 2007. With support of the International Federation Secretariat, this group has finalized on the statutes, rules of procedures and other legal instruments required for local recognition of the National Society by the Government of Maldives. The finalized documents have been passed on to the attorney general's office.

During the reporting period, two International Federation and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) legal experts visited the Maldives and met with the attorney general (AG) to fine-tune the statutes and Presidential Decree. Issuance of a Presidential Decree will signal the formal recognition of the new National Society by the legal government of its country on the basis of the Geneva Conventions and of the national legislation as a voluntary aid society, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field. Already this thinking has been appreciated, with the Ministry of Health assigned as the line ministry that will lead government coordination with the new National Society.

The head of the International Federation delegation in the Maldives – who also chairs the IPG – paid a courtesy call on the President of Maldives and updated him on the progress made in tsunami recovery programming in general, and National Society formation in particular. Discussions with relevant government authorities are ongoing and there are hopeful indications that the process will be concluded soon.

In addition to preparatory legal work, plans for the inaugural General Assembly of the new Maldivian Red Crescent are at advanced stage. Members who will participate in the assembly were elected through two separate processes; 62 representatives from the atolls were selected in 2006 while elections for 18 Male' member were held in November 2007. Induction of these 80 members – covering

all the 20 atolls of the country – will be conducted in advance of the assembly. The first governing board and president of the new National Society will be elected during the General Assembly.

Furthermore, a plan for promoting the formation of a new National Society throughout the country was developed with assistance from the regional communications manager for South Asia. Implementation is underway; by a consultant seconded to the IPG [but attached to the OD team] in collaboration with the OD, information and DM teams as well as with the FAPN. The promotion work aims at ensuring that community leaders, members and opinion leaders understand the role the Maldivian Red Crescent will be playing once it becomes operational. [Additional progress is reported under the Humanitarian Values Programme].

## National society and community capacity building

**Expected result:** Capacity of the National Society is developed in community disaster preparedness and post-disaster response, through an integrated approach for the formation and building the Maldivian Red Crescent capacities at the branch level.

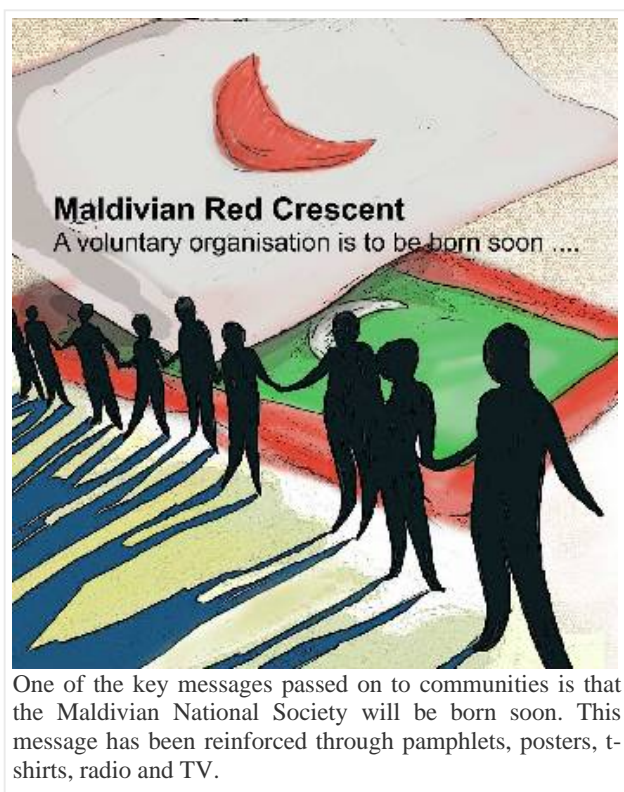
### Achievements

The IPG formed a 'programme and service sub-committee' to engage with all Red Cross Red Crescent partners involved in tsunami recovery activities in the Maldives with the aim of identifying potential future activities of the Maldivian Red Crescent. Based on those engagements, the new National Society will not be expected to take on additional burden of tsunami recovery work; instead it will focus on traditional Red Cross Red Crescent programming at the community level. However, specific 'software' components could be taken on by the MRC as determined on a case-by-case basis – especially where they are viewed to provide the in-route to engage communities.

More specifically, core programmes (disaster management, health and care, and humanitarian values) are currently being implemented by the International Federation Secretariat in support of the National Society formation process. These will become some of the core programmes of the new National Society once it comes into formal existence. Achievements attained to date under these programmes have been reported under specific sections in this update [please refer to those sections for more details – the DM and health and care programmes are integrated].

As reported in an earlier section of this update, delivery of commercial first aid training by the FAPN was transferred to the resource mobilization element of the organizational development component during the reporting period. The transfer was necessitated by an apparent need for the former to remain an essentially community-oriented programme and for the latter to build on commercial first aid as one way of mobilizing resources for the new National Society.

To support the new National Society from the onset, Red Cross and Red Crescent partners have included in their exit strategies plans to hand over some of their assets to the nascent Maldivian Red Crescent. Additionally, they continue to advocate for support within targeted communities and encourage direct beneficiaries and community members at large to consider themselves as potential



One of the key messages passed on to communities is that the Maldivian National Society will be born soon. This message has been reinforced through pamphlets, posters, t-shirts, radio and TV.

Maldivian Red Crescent members and volunteers. For instance, volunteers who were recruited to assist with the psychosocial support programme of the American Red Cross [as well as with other community programmes being implemented by Red Cross Red Crescent partners] are an important part of developing a firm foundation for the Maldivian Red Crescent. Already, there is a pool of over 2,000 such volunteers who have expressed their interest to join the new National Society.

### **Challenges and constraints**

The National Society formation process has been going on for over two years now and some members of the IPG – which comprises of volunteers who have given their invaluable time to work towards the MRC formation – have begun getting discouraged by the slow pace. While their concern is genuine, it should be appreciated that the process was bound to take time because prior to the tsunami the Maldives had not had any contact with the Red Cross. This demanded extensive engagement with relevant government ministries (such as Ministry of Health) and departments (such as the attorney general's office) as well as with other key stakeholders to enlighten them on the auxiliary role of National Societies. Naturally, such a process is not driven by deadlines.

Given the series of meetings held in recent times, the acknowledgement of receipt of the statutes by the attorney general's office, the comments on the same from that office and the Ministry of Health, and the incorporation of recommendations in the final version, there are hopeful indications that the process will come to a successful conclusion soon.

### **Humanitarian Values**

The humanitarian values programme in the Maldives is integrated with the information component. The overall purpose of the programme is to promote an understanding of the mission, fundamental principles, and humanitarian values among key stakeholders as well as across all atolls of the Maldives. This programme is also directly supporting the Maldivian Red Crescent formation process since dissemination of the principles, values, mission and mandate of the Movement is indispensable if the nascent National Society is to be perceived as an impartial, neutral and independent actor.

### **Promotion of Principles and Values**

**Expected result:** Awareness of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the fundamental principles is increased.

### **Achievements**

Exposition of the fundamental principles and humanitarian values formed an integral part of core programmes and tsunami recovery programming. Internally, promotion of principles and values has been integrated into staff orientation and induction programmes.

To create awareness of the principles and values among future members of Maldivian Red Crescent, dissemination of the same to atoll and Male' representatives of the nascent National Society is ongoing. This work is in line with the Maldivian Red Crescent promotion plan whose implementation is being done by a consultant seconded to the IPG [but attached to the OD team] in collaboration with the OD, information and DM teams as well as with the FAPN.

External dissemination of information on the formation of the Maldivian Red Crescent as well as on the work and principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent also continued through monthly and quarterly newsletters, a monthly radio programme as well as special campaigns, promotions and interviews on print and electronic media. One significant dissemination campaign during the reporting period was the marking of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May. This year, the main event was a Red Cross Red Crescent fun run which was followed by dissemination of general information on the Red Cross Red Crescent to the larger public in Male' and in atolls where tsunami recovery work is still ongoing. Participants who would like to become members or volunteers of the nascent Maldivian Red Crescent were requested to register their details in provided forms. Names of interested people – both young and old – have been entered onto a database; they will be contacted once the National Society is formally established and encouraged to register as members or volunteers.



School children from Ungoofaaru IDP camp marked the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day on Dhuvaafaru Island.

Prior to the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day celebrations, copies of an animated video of the fundamental principles were distributed to several schools and faculties in Male'. Teachers and principals agreed to show the videos to their students – a gesture which will go a long way in making the principles and values known amongst young people.

### Challenges and constraints

As with other programmes, promotion of the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values across the country is being affected by the continued absence of a Maldivian National Society. This is compounded by the fact that all promotional material targeting island communities has to be translated from English to the local language – Dhivehi – and the actual promotion has to be conducted in the local dialect. Whereas National Society staff and volunteers would be the ones doing actual promotion, the small International Federation Secretariat OD and information teams have assumed this implementation role. To enable them deliver on this efficiently, the information and reporting officer and the consultant engaged to support the IPG in communications and promotional issues visited the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society for a four-day induction.

While good support for the National Society information is being received from partners in order to implement core activities, reaching the entire country territory with Red Cross Red Crescent messages is a daunting task, given the geographical distribution of the 199 inhabited islands and the logistical challenges involved in covering all. The information and OD teams are working very closely with other programmes to ensure that community leaders, members and opinion leaders understand the principles, values and mandate of the Movement, and in turn pass them on. The promotion plan has been re-drawn. From now on, work already underway will be implemented on island-by-island basis; starting with the northernmost and southernmost islands then slowly reaching to the central islands. In the next reporting period, only islands that have not been covered by tsunami recovery programmes will be prioritized.

Even so, implementation of activities at the island level may be scaled down during the election campaign period as the country gears to hold its first elections under a multi-party system. The scaling down will prevent potential politicization of small and focus group discussions due to diverse political opinions.

### Working in partnership

Through the tsunami recovery programmes, the Red Cross Red Crescent has been appreciated by the Government of the Maldives as a major humanitarian partner. Tsunami recovery and long-term programming work is being done in close partnership with the government and the affected communities. Such cooperation is essential for the longer-term programmes and continues to be strengthened.

Coordination with the relevant ministries and the NDMC continued during the reporting period. With regard to disaster management knowledge and experience, the International Federation Secretariat disaster management team is now regarded as a well-informed source of excellence by the NDMC. The NDMC requested International Federation support in promoting VCA methodologies and developing disaster management training manuals and teaching materials.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

The new National Society will inherit the goodwill that Red Cross Red Crescent tsunami recovery work as well as collaboration with the NDMC has generated. This goodwill will ensure that it will receive support from key stakeholders and thus position it in the delivery of services.

Prior to the tsunami operation, Maldivian communities had not been exposed to participatory methods and programmes. In general, communities tend to have a more “dependent” relationship with their government, rather than proactive self-help or community-centred approach to solving problems. By using good participatory methods [such as VCA], the DM programme is involving them in planning and implementing activities. Island-level disaster management committees have been formed to draw island-level plans and undertake disaster risk reduction activities. This will go a long way in empowering communities to take a community-centred approach to solving problems.

## Looking ahead

Completion of tsunami recovery programmes will see the task of the International Federation delegation shift from an “implementer” to “facilitator”, focusing effort on nurturing the new National Society.

Over the next reporting period, first aid training will be re-oriented through adoption of the wider concept of CBFA. This will be accompanied by CBFA sensitization of Federation staff, engaged government ministries and island authorities. CBDM training will also be re-focused toward the principals and imperatives of community-based disaster risk reduction, together with the promotion and encouragement of community-developed and implemented disaster risk reduction initiatives linked to VCA priorities in all 11 targeted islands. This will be strengthened by the participation of two members of the DM team in a community-based disaster risk reduction training course to be organized by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. Water safety/search and rescue training will be provided for members of the DM team and selected representatives of targeted island task forces, in collaboration with South Asia regional office and Sri Lanka Red Cross Society.

How we work	
<p>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".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
Contact information	
<p><b>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federation country office in the Maldives: Per Jensnaes (head of country office), phone +960.332.1987; fax +960.332.1951, email: <a href="mailto:per.jensnaes@ifrc.org">per.jensnaes@ifrc.org</a>;</li> <li>• Federation regional office in India: Al Panico (head of regional office), phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128, email: <a href="mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org">al.panico@ifrc.org</a>;</li> <li>• Federation zone office in Kuala Lumpur: Jagan Chapagain, Deputy Head of Zone, email: <a href="mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org">jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org</a>; phone: +60 3 9207 5702; fax + 60 3 2161 0670</li> <li>• Federation secretariat in Geneva: Lesley Schaffer, (regional officer for Sri Lanka and Maldives); phone: +41.22.730.4854; fax +41.22.733.0395, email: <a href="mailto:lesley.schaffer@ifrc.org">lesley.schaffer@ifrc.org</a>.</li> </ul>	

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