

# Programme Update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Papua New Guinea

Appeal No. MAAPG002

27/08/2008

This report covers the period 1 January to 30 June 2008

### In brief

**Programme purpose:** The appeal launched in support of Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRC) for 2008 and 2009 had three standard components to its purpose: in the areas of disaster management (DM), health and organisational development (OD). It has not been a great success, with coverage at 16% - and all contributions are earmarked for in-kind personnel. Additionally, the National Society has undergone a change of leadership at the very beginning of the period and a restructuring of operational capacities has been undertaken – in part leading to very low implementation rates of programmes.

**Financial situation:** The total 2008 budget is CHF 1,203,563 (USD 1.15 million or EUR 736,000), of which 16 per cent is covered. Expenditure overall was 9.1 per cent.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

[See also Guba Cyclone Appeal No.MDRPG002 launched in November 2007.](#)

**No. of people we help:** The National Society has been the main target beneficiary during the evolving work of 2008. The approximate number of people assisted is 250.

**Our partners:** The Australian Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are the main Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners of the PNG RC. The National Society also works with government agencies, members of the UN family, AusAid (active throughout PNG), commercial companies and NGOs.

### Context

A meeting was held in February at the National Society headquarters in Port Moresby to discuss the way forward for the partnership, comprising the Federation, Australian RC, the New Zealand RC and the ICRC, which acts as a support group to the PNG RC. It was a mini Cooperation Agreement

Strategy (CAS) process with the aim of having the PNG RC leadership at the centre of managing its relationship with partners. During the meeting a number of factors were examined. These included:

- The need (or otherwise) for a full time Federation delegation as counterpart to the new Secretary General (SG) and her technical staff;
- Difficulties in fundraising for PNG through the Federation mechanism – which has been showing a diminishing return for a steady period of more than five years; and
- The absorptive and operational capacities of the PNG RC during a time of restructuring – programme implementation levels were extremely low toward the end of 07 and during the first quarter of 2008.

The PNG RC managed the Oro disaster response well. The impact on the National Society as a whole,, coming at the same time as the appointment of a new SG, with the associated restructuring and a renegotiation of the programmes and relationship with Australian RC was traumatic. The National Society emerged at the end of July with a clear plan for the rest of 2008 and 2009 – which includes a general assembly in the second half of this year. The support group comprising the Federation, Australian RC, the New Zealand RC and the ICRC will meet with the leadership regularly over the next two years.

A decision was subsequently made to support the PNG RC from the Federation regional office in Suva, Fiji, in the same way as support is provided to all the other National Societies in the region. Currently, there is no technical need for full time expatriate staff in health, DM or OD as the PNG RC has good staff who have been trained extensively during the ten years that the Federation delegation has been present in the country. Remaining needs can be met in a tailored way from Suva. The support will be provided based on requests from the PNGRC and will have a specific terms of reference and be time-bound - in all, a much more flexible and efficient approach than having a full time country presence. In terms of additional support, there is the support group for the SG and the wider leadership, while the Australian RC and the ICRC have a country presence. Federation regional training and coordinating events will also continue to include PNG RC technical staff.

With the decision to discontinue the Federation country office, the PNG RC appeal will be absorbed into the broader Pacific Regional Appeal for the remainder of 2008 and reported on accordingly. As such, this will be the final programme update for the PNG 2008-09 Appeal. For 2009 and beyond, PNG will be included in the Pacific Regional Plan.

## Progress towards outcomes

### **Outcome(s)/Expected result(s):**

During the reporting period, a number of outstanding reports were completed and posted on the Federation web page. This included the final report on the response to the Manam earthquake operation which has been outstanding for some time. As part of the OD programme, responsibility for assets and decision making has been formally placed in the hands of the National Society leadership, which is a great step forward. Report on the DM outcome is included in the report on the response to cyclone Guba.

## Looking ahead

The major events in the first half of 2008 revolve around the restructuring of Federation support to PNG RC, which resulted in a greater role for the Suva regional office and the winding down of the disaster response in Oro province. The plan for the second half of 2008 and for 2009 is for the regional office to be an active member of the support group and continue with the technical training of PNG RC staff and volunteers. The regional office will work with the leadership of the PNG RC to monitor developments and decide when a greater role for the Federation is needed in PNG, in addition to the support already provided.

## How we work

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 disease 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.

## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:

- In Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society: Ms. Esme Sinape (Secretary General), email: [hqpngrcs@online.net.pg](mailto:hqpngrcs@online.net.pg), phone +675 325 2145.
- Pacific regional office in Suva, Fiji: Mr. Frank Kennedy (Head of regional office), email: [frank.kennedy@ifrc.org](mailto:frank.kennedy@ifrc.org), phone: +91 11 2411 1122, fax: +91 11 2411 1128
- Federation zone office in Kuala Lumpur: Jagan Chapagain, Deputy Head of Zone, email: [jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org](mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org); phone: +60 3 9207 5702; fax + 60 3 2161 0670

[<Click here to return to title page>](#)