

Programme Update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

China

Appeal No. MAACN001

30 June 2009

This report covers the period
from 1 January to 30 June 2009.



Participants of the four-day emergency assessment workshop were able to interview local villagers as part of their field exercise. The workshop was held in March in Kunming, China. International Federation.

In brief

Programmes summary:

During the first half of 2009, the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) and the country of China passed the one year mark after the devastating earthquake that hit south-western China on 12 May 2008. The RCSC and its partners have moved into recovery efforts, which include supporting the construction of thousands of homes, schools and clinics, as well as community based programmes. [Click here to access revised emergency appeal and operations updates](#)

At the same time, the 2007 floods operation has come to its conclusion with the successful closure of five community-based disaster preparedness projects in Anhui, Henan and Chongqing provinces in May 2009. [Click here to access the China 2007 floods final report](#)

The community-based disaster preparedness project in Hubei province has supported the targeted communities in the construction of an evacuation road and reinforcement of the river banks. Village level community-based disaster preparedness committees have been established, training materials were developed and the branches have conducted vulnerability and capacity assessment trainings.

A concept paper has been developed together with the RCSC to support the development of a National Disaster Response Team following the lessons learned from the Sichuan earthquake.

The RCSC's participation in the Global Alliance on HIV has entered its second year in April. Prior to that, the RCSC with support of the International Federation's HIV delegate, produced a one-year report and marketing documents that were shared with partners in the East Asia regional partnership meeting that was held in April 2009, during a half-day session on the International Federation's Global Alliance on HIV. The

RCSC's achievements in scaling up their HIV work over the past year have been remarkable and the national society continues to work closely with its partners to make improvements in the four core areas of HIV work.

The International Federation's ongoing support to avian influenza information dissemination and prevention has been focused on the provinces of Gansu, Xinjiang and Sichuan. The project in Gansu province was completed by the end of 2008 and the project in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region was finalized in the first two months of this year. The project in Sichuan province which was postponed from 2008 due to the earthquake has commenced in February 2009.

Mainly due to the enormous response of support to the 12 May earthquake in 2008, this appeal has not received adequate funding at the writing of this report. Due to restrictions imposed by the laws of China in terms of the expenditure of funds received for the earthquake, the RCSC is not able to allocate earthquake-related funds towards these programmes and non-affected earthquake areas. It is of critical importance that the RCSC continue to support other disaster prone provinces in their risk reduction work. Likewise, the scale up of HIV programming under the Global Alliance framework needs much more support in order to meet the goals put forward by the alliance one year ago. The RCSC, with support of the International Federation, will continue to seek funding support towards this total budget, but may have to consider revising the budget and slim down project activities accordingly in autumn.

Financial situation: The total 2009 budget is CHF 3,816,703 (USD 3.51 million or EUR 2.5 million), and is 11 per cent covered. Expenditure over income received up to June 2009 was 49 per cent.

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

No. of people we help: Beneficiaries of International Federation-supported projects of the RCSC include those in villages where community-based disaster preparedness projects, avian influenza and HIV prevention have been carried out. In addition, many RCSC staff and volunteers have benefited from trainings and capacity building support.

Our partners: These programmes are supported through the generous donations and support of partners that include the American, Australian, British, Canadian, Finnish, and Swedish Red Cross. The RCSC has active programmes of bilateral cooperation with other members of the Movement, including its special autonomous branches in Hong Kong and Macao, the American, Australian, Canadian, Netherlands, Norwegian, Swedish and Swiss Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The RCSC coordinates closely with the ministry of health and civil affairs at local and national levels, ensuring that Red Cross activities are focused in areas where they have greater impact and cooperation from the local governments. Local organizations and community groups are important local partners for implementing activities, as well as reaching groups that might otherwise be difficult to access, such as minority communities. The RCSC also participates in collaborative efforts with other stakeholders and organizations working in related fields, such as The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV (UNAIDS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO). The launch of a HIV Global Alliance in China will bring together many Red Cross partners, as well as non-Red Cross partners, under one programme strategy and plan of action devised by the RCSC.

On behalf of the Red Cross Society of China, the International Federation would like to thank all partners for their support.

Context

As the international economic crisis is deepening and spreading, it continues to show its negative impact on China. According to the statistics released by the General Administration of Customs on 12 May, export dropped 22.6 per cent year-on-year in April, which is the sixth month showing a decrease. The relatively sharp fall in external demand has resulted in job losses across the nation. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, as of March 2009, an estimated 23 million migrant workers have not found jobs. As many of them return to their rural hometowns, mounting pressures are surfacing, including those on the local health care systems.

The Chinese government will spend CNY 850 billion (CHF 141.13 billion or USD 124.26 billion) in the next three years to provide accessible and affordable healthcare to the country's 1.3 billion people, among which some 400 million people do not have any kind of healthcare cover, according to the ministry of health.² The State Council approved the final draft of the reform at its executive meeting on 21 April 2009.

The second session of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, closed in March in Beijing noting the challenges the country currently faces, especially within education, social security and health care systems. In this 60th year since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the government is committed to coping with the difficulties posed by the economic crisis with a CNY 4 trillion stimulus package to be used towards the social security system, and the creation of jobs for migrant workers and college graduates, etc.

Also in the session of the NPC, 30 delegates from Chengdu, Sichuan province, raised a motion on a draft of a *Volunteer Service Promotion Law of the People's Republic of China* to secure the rights of volunteers and the actions they take, with an aim to regulate the mobilization of resources more efficiently according to the lessons learnt in the response period of last year's earthquake. The volunteer response to last year's earthquake was unprecedented in China's history, and their contribution has been well received. However, there were challenges of coordination within and amongst volunteer groups and problems arose around the protection of volunteer rights due to a lack of clear related laws and regulations.



A psychological support drawing activity was held in Minzhu Hongda Middle School in Shifang County on 27 April by the RCSC and International Federation. International Federation.

One year after the 8.0 magnitude earthquake hit southwest China on 12 May 2008, which claimed an estimated 87,000 lives, the country has rapidly moved into recovery phase. The RCSC is providing support, through the International Federation and its partners, to thousands of people in the area for the construction of housing, schools, clinic and disaster preparedness warehouses. As of the end of April 2009, CHF 153.4 million has been raised, which represents a 92 per cent coverage of the International Federation's emergency earthquake appeal of CHF 167.1 million. The RCSC and its partners will continue providing services in the areas of psychological support, water and sanitation, livelihoods other community-based programmes throughout 2009 and 2010. [Click here](#) to access the emergency appeal and the latest operations updates.

² China Daily 22 January, 2009, http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2009-01/22/content_7418929.htm

After the first confirmed case of influenza A (H1N1) virus in Hong Kong on 30 April, China has 69 confirmed cases as 3 June 2009. With the 2003 severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) experience not far behind, the government has started to raise public awareness of prevention and control of the new disease. Strict identification of those with fevers at clinics and hospitals, and medical quarantine for suspected cases and observation of those who have been in close contact with confirmed cases, are some of the measures the Chinese government is taking at this stage. The RCSC is closely monitoring the situation, in coordination with the government. The RCSC also sent support to the Mexican Red Cross, in response to A (H1N1), worth USD 10,000 (CHF 10,856).

With the second large HIV population in Asia³, China faces multiple challenges in coping with the trends of transmission from high-risk groups to the general population, and it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of people living with HIV are not aware of their health situation. This poses a threat in prevention measures throughout the nation. The RCSC, with the International Federation's and other partners' support, continues to work on raising awareness, health and care, and reducing stigma and discrimination under the frame of the International Federation's Global Alliance on HIV.

The spread of the avian influenza virus resulted in seven human cases in January 2009. The ongoing outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease in March and April throughout China resulted in a total number of 267,148 cases. Although the numbers are high, the severity of the outbreak is less than last year. With the support of the International Federation, the RCSC continues prevention and awareness raising on avian influenza and hand, foot and mouth disease.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Component outcome
1. Disaster management planning	Improved ability to plan for disasters to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities, and improved ability to respond to and effectively cope with disasters' consequences.
2. Organizational preparedness	Improved capacity in skilled human resources, and financial and material capacity for effective disaster management.
3. Community preparedness/disaster risk reduction	Improved self-reliance of individuals and communities to reduce their vulnerabilities to public health emergencies and disasters.
4. Disaster response	Improved disaster response assistance to meet the needs of people affected by disasters.

Achievements

The International Federation's regional disaster management team began the year by organizing and facilitating a two-day community-based disaster preparedness working group meeting in mid-January, in Beijing. Representatives from the International Federation, RCSC headquarters, Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China and Australian Red Cross attended the meeting. During the meeting, all parties further shared community-based disaster preparedness experiences and consolidated the Red Cross Society of China's community-based disaster preparedness model which was developed in 2007. Partners all agreed to maintain coordination with each other in the future, especially when community-based disaster preparedness is introduced in the recovery phase of the earthquake operation. During the community-based disaster preparedness working group meeting, village-level training was identified as an area needing further strengthening in the current model. The International Federation then developed a training curriculum for village-level training on behalf of the group, including an early warning and contingency plan at the village level. An external disaster management consultant was contracted afterwards to finish this task. The consultant worked from 23 February to 31 March to finish a community-based disaster preparedness training manual and will conduct a pilot workshop to further consolidate comments and suggestions from relevant staff of the RCSC at all levels and villagers.

³ Source: World Health Organization

Branch disaster management managers of RCSC's eight most disaster-prone provinces and headquarters disaster management staff have participated in the emergency assessment workshop organized by the East Asia disaster management programme. The workshop was conducted on 16 – 20 March in Kunming, China. The workshop followed the 2008 version of the *Emergency Assessment Guideline*, combining classroom training and field exercises, in which the participants learned methodologies of team work, coordination, interviews, information collection and writing situation reports, etc. During the five-day training, participants of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross, Mongolian Red Cross and RCSC also shared emergency assessment experience which brought a wealth of regional knowledge from the National Society's together and provided an opportunity to understand each other's specific country context in which every National Society has developed its own assessment practices and strategy.

A concept paper has been developed together with the RCSC to support them in developing a national disaster response team following the lessons learned from the Sichuan earthquake. In the coming two years, the International Federation will support the RCSC to establish and train the national disaster response team with a focus on certain specific areas such as relief, water and sanitation, health and logistics. This will help to promote an effective utilization of the emergency response unit (ERU) equipment which were handed over to the RCSC after the emergency phase of the Sichuan earthquake operation.

The community-based disaster preparedness project in Hubei province, supported by the Finnish Red Cross and American Red Cross, has been going since October 2008. The RCSC project management office, in charge of this project's overall management at headquarters, conducted a quarterly monitoring visit to the relevant communities. The second 50 per cent cash transfer has been transferred to RCSC headquarters in March 2009 after receiving the project management office's monitoring report. So far, the project has been implemented according to plans, as defined in the project document, and has achieved some positive results. The communities, with support of their local Red Cross branch, has constructed an evacuation road and reinforced the river banks, formed the village community-based disaster preparedness committees, developed training materials and conducted vulnerability and capacity assessment trainings. The village community-based disaster preparedness committees have played a crucial role to ensure active participation of the local communities in the project. These committees have carried out the activities, as outlined in the project document, and the activities have been well received by villagers in the two project areas.



Villagers supported by the Federation's community based disaster preparedness programme worked on reinforcing a river embankment to reduce their risks in future floods. January 2009. Hubei branch of the RCSC.

The editing of six standard International Federation disaster management books into Chinese versions has been finished in April 2009. For every book, there will be a set of 1,000 Chinese copies distributed to RCSC headquarters and branches. These six books are: *What is Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment? – An Introduction to Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment*, *How to Do A Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment*, *Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment Toolbox*, *Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment Training Guide*, *Introduction to The Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance*, *Disaster Response and Contingency Guide*. This is the first time the entire set will be made available to branches for usage and guidance in community-based disaster preparedness, as well as for other programmes as well.

In addition to the support the International Federation disaster management team gives to the RCSC for annual programmes, the team continues to support programmes related to recent emergency and recovery appeals, namely the 2007 floods operation and the 2008 Sichuan earthquake.

The disaster management team has discussed with the RCSC plans to support the construction of nine prefecture-level Red Cross warehouses in the earthquake-affected provinces, as part of the International

Federation's contribution to the RCSC's earthquake operation. At this time, it has been determined that six of the nine prefecture-level Red Cross warehouses will be in Sichuan, two will be in Gansu and one will be in Shaanxi. Further discussions are underway regarding design, utilization, and allocation of funds. [See revised emergency appeal and operations updates for more information.](#)

The 2007 floods operation has come to its conclusion with the successful completion of five community-based disaster preparedness projects in Anhui, Henan and Chongqing provinces in May 2009. The community-based disaster preparedness projects were once postponed due to two major disasters in 2008: the south-central region's snow disaster in February and the May earthquake. The final stages of the floods operation resumed in September 2008. During the implementation between September 2008 to May 2009, following the community-based disaster preparedness model, five project villages composed their village disaster preparedness committees, conducted a series of training on first aid, local disaster prevention and response. They were also able to recruit local Red Cross volunteers and set up local disaster response teams with basic equipment. Basic mitigation measures such as bridges, wells, small scale barrages, and irrigation channels were constructed locally to help villagers protect life and property loss from seasonal floods and drought, which has been another major disaster in many flood-prone areas of China.

In Xian Yuan village of Anhui, seven small scale barrages were built up along the slopes of Mountain Wan Jin Ling, by which 580 householders, or a total of 2,262 local villagers and their 200 hectare crops, will be protected from flash floods. In Xiao Qiao village of Anhui, a big barrage was built up along the river, with 148 households, or a total of 665 villagers and their 600 hectare crops, will benefit from this mitigation measure. In Henan, community-based disaster preparedness projects supported Huang Shan village and Xin Feng village to build up 12 wells and four bridges, of which a total of 843 villagers (424 men, 419 women) and their 1,532 hectare crops have benefited. Up to 60 per cent of the villagers from these two villages received Red Cross first aid and disaster knowledge training. In Huang Jin village of Chongqing, 1,597 villagers and their 600 hectare crops have benefited from the local irrigation systems supported by the community-based disaster preparedness programme of the emergency appeal. All five villages have set up their local disaster response teams, which mainly consists of local villagers.

Constraints or Challenges

The local Red Cross branches have reported that one of the biggest challenges in the community-based disaster preparedness programme is getting adequate participation from the local villagers. This is often due to the high level of migration to the big cities for temporary work. Those left behind are the elderly, children or disabled people, and the able bodied men and women still living in the villages are often very busy supporting their families through tiring labour and farming.

While the provincial Red Cross always play the role of technical support in project implementation, when there is a local training on disaster preparedness or health, it is often difficult to find good local expertise in that particular area of knowledge and experience. Local Red Cross branches usually have to recruit some external consultant, which is costly. It would be important for more branch staff to gain knowledge in this area, but considering the size of China, and the scope of disasters and health concerns, this is always a challenge.

Beyond the support given by either partners or the International Federation, the local Red Cross branches lack funding for disaster preparedness activities including mitigation measures, maintenance of the function of hardware such as local irrigation systems, and for local Red Cross's training and advocacy. Again, there is no limit to the immense need for the roll out of community-based disaster preparedness projects across the nation to help communities cope with annual disasters of all types, but funding from various sources is still limited in this area. While the RCSC is advocating for more support on these very important prevention programmes, much of their support is for disaster relief and cannot be allocated to projects such as these.

Health and care

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Component outcome
1. HIV Alliance	Reduced vulnerability to HIV and its impact in China through the following four outputs: preventing further HIV infection; expanding HIV care and support; reducing HIV stigma and discrimination, and strengthening RCSC capacities to deliver and sustain scaled-up HIV programmes.

2. Voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment	Capacity of the Red Cross Society of China to manage nationwide nonremunerated, voluntary blood donor recruitment programme has increased.
3. Avian influenza prevention	Vulnerability to avian influenza outbreaks of at-risk communities is reduced through mainstreaming of avian influenza activities into existing RCSC health activities, increasing the level of knowledge on avian influenza prevention among the targeted communities and increasing RCSC capacity to carry out an avian influenza prevention programme.

Achievements

HIV

One of the major activities during the first half of 2009 was a half-day meeting on Global Alliance on HIV, organized during the East Asia partnership meeting in April. At this meeting, the RCSC shared its annual Global Alliance report, which provides a comprehensive picture of Global Alliance HIV key achievements in 2008, and plans for how to overcome future challenges in scaling up and improving the quality of the HIV work in 2009 and beyond. The report highlighted that during the past one year, the RCSC reached more than 6 million people and scaled up its HIV prevention, care and support work to new provinces. However, mobilizing resources remains the major challenge for the Global Alliance. The China HIV delegate provided support to the RCSC in preparing the above mentioned report and developing a marketing document, which includes a 2008 programme snapshot and four case studies as programme guidance. In March, the China HIV delegate visited the Shandong branch of the RCSC, as part of regular programme monitoring.



China HIV delegate briefed Global Alliance on HIV in China in 2008 in the meeting on Global HIV Alliance during the East Asia partnership meeting in April. International Federation.

With the International Federation's technical support and funding from the Luxemburg government, the Mongolian Red Cross and RCSC have started a joint cross border project on HIV prevention in two border areas in the west and southern provinces of Mongolia and northern China.

Voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment

Blood donor promotion is an important part of the RCSC's work in China. Support from the International Federation has been mainly technical over the past years, but cooperation is being stepped up between the two. The regional health officer will be attending the International Conference on Club 25 and health promotion on June 23-26 in Kenya. At this forum, a special display featuring the work of the RCSC on blood donor promotion among youth, among others, will be organized.

In the first half of 2009, jointly with the local governments, the Red Cross branches of Tianjin, Jiangsu, Fujian, Guangxi, Guangdong and Shandong provinces organized a series of activities to award Red Cross units, individual staff and volunteers who made outstanding contributions to promoting voluntary blood donation. The RCSC actively encourages its branches to establish 'youth voluntary service teams' - youth clubs that promote the concept of voluntary blood donation among youth.

With guidance from the regional office, the RCSC is celebrating World Blood Donor Day (14 June) nationwide. This year, the RCSC is celebrating this special day to highlight the involvement of young people in blood donor promotion among youth. The nation-wide celebration will kick off with an event on June 12 in Shenzhen city of Guangdong province. The International Federation has been invited to the event as well.

Avian influenza

In 2008, the Federation's support in this area has been focused on three provinces (Gansu, Xinjiang and Sichuan provinces). The project in Gansu province was completed by the end of 2008 and the project in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region was finalized in the first two months of the year. The project in Sichuan province, which was postponed from 2008 due to the earthquake, commenced in February.

In Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the project trained a total of 22 facilitators, 15 of whom came from the minority groups, and organized some 99 avian influenza awareness sessions, reaching over 3,008 farmers. Since the farmers in the project areas typically have a low level of literacy, the interactive nature of the sessions organized by the Red Cross volunteers appealed to them greatly and made it easier for them to understand the messages. All the information, education and communication materials from the project (brochure, leaflets, posters and video compact discs) were produced in Chinese and also in Kazakh and Uygur, the ethnic minority languages commonly spoken in the project areas. Some 12,570 copies of information education and communication materials were distributed in the area.

In Sichuan, the training of facilitators and volunteers has been completed and in the coming months, an estimated 645 households will be reached with key messages on avian influenza prevention.

The regional health delegate and officer provided support to the RCSC national headquarters on planning for a national master facilitator training on community-based health and first aid, to take place in early July in Chengdu, Sichuan province. The workshop will be conducted in Chinese and will involve 25 participants from different provinces and earthquake areas.

The regional office has been regularly monitoring ongoing hand, foot and mouth disease outbreak in China and provided technical support in developing key public risk communication messages. Due to the staffing changes in the RCSC headquarters and also new priorities concerning Influenza A/H1N1, this work has temporarily been suspended.

Constraints or Challenges

Due to funding constraints, the China HIV delegate's position was phased out starting from mid-May 2009. This position was created in March 2008 and during the past 14 months, the delegate who was officed at the RCSC national headquarters provided technical support to the RCSC in scaling up its nationwide HIV programme under the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV.

Also considering a lack of funding towards this appeal for the RCSC's HIV programme, the International Federation and RCSC are in discussions about revisions to the budget and planned activities for 2009. This will be determined later this fall, and in consideration of what direction the RCSC will take on HIV programming in 2010.

While the RCSC re-structuring was in place starting from 1 April, it will take some time for the programme to follow up joint activities previously agreed upon with the RCSC. In the new structure, the health portfolio is divided between three different departments and they are still clarifying the responsibilities on some key health sectors such as water sanitation, health in emergencies and community based health. This has required close coordination and follow-up by the regional health staff with all three departments to complete planned activities.

The health programme component of the International Federation's 2009 support plan for China had been developed before the China earthquake hit. Due to the time constraints in the aftermath of the emergency, those plans were only slightly adjusted and the additional workload required to fulfil the health technical back-up role for the earthquake operation was not adequately reviewed. In addition, the phase out of the China HIV delegate's position meant that those functions had to be absorbed by the two remaining two staff in the first part of 2009, stretching their capacity to support the RCSC even more.

In response to the evolving global spread of Influenza A (H1N1), programme staff had to re-focus its priorities on support to the countries and national societies in pandemic preparedness. This resulted in an implementation delay of programme activities scheduled for May and June.

Organizational development

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Component outcome
1. National society capacity development and organizational development (branch and headquarters)	Selected RCSC provincial branches have strengthened capacity to support newly independent local (country level) branches in Red Cross organizational development and programme management issues
2. Financial management	RCSC finance and programme staff at headquarters and branch levels have acquired increased knowledge and skills in project financial management
3. Volunteer promotion and development	RCSC volunteer base strengthened

Achievements

In March, a six month narrative report on the RCSC's intensified capacity building grant was submitted to the International Federation covering the project activities taken from September 2008 to February 2009. The Henan branch of the RCSC held a vulnerability and capacity assessment workshop in two villages from 30 March to 3 April, which enabled Red Cross staff to help the two communities make an analysis of their core problems and existing risks, such as issues surrounding access to safe drinking water, HIV patients' care and emergency response unit training. Throughout spring, the RCSC headquarters has been actively working closely with the Henan branch to make the following six months budget and activities plan to improve their working methodology through building better capacity, better documentation, regular monitoring and reporting. From the headquarters level, the impact of the intensified capacity building project is remarkable considering that other projects have also successfully enhanced their documentation and working methodology, due to the concepts used in this intensified capacity building project. For instance, the Norwegian-supported organizational and water and sanitation project successfully updated their reporting and management system according to the well-developed intensified capacity building project management memorandum of understanding between RCSC headquarters and the Henan branch of the RCSC. This exhibits the strength of rolling over lessons learned from one project area to another within the organization, a goal of this project.

In April, the RCSC headquarters released guidelines on strengthening Red Cross grassroots organizational development. In the guidelines, the RCSC divided grassroots Red Cross organizations into nine sections, such as urban community Red Cross, rural village Red Cross, Red Cross in companies and organizations, etc. The guidelines further provided working directions for each of the sections according to their different contexts. Guidelines for developing a sustainable grassroots working mechanism and how to raise the awareness of Red Cross services also can be found in the guidelines.

The RCSC headquarters is further working on regulating volunteer management. This has come to the forefront of RCSC's attention due to the overwhelming response from the public to become volunteers during the first few days and weeks after the earthquake struck. The headquarters circulated regulations on the usage of volunteer certificates, name tags, clothes and codes in April. The RCSC is taking the opportunity of the China 60th anniversary to promote first aid, community and youth service to accelerate the volunteer activities and the public awareness regarding Red Cross actions in China.

In May, together with Guangxi branch of the RCSC, the International Federation's regional finance manager provided a one and a half day finance training to project officers and financial staff for those overseeing the Australian Red Cross community-based disaster preparedness project in Nanning, with the aim of increasing finance knowledge and quality of project financial reports. About 35 staff from Guangxi provincial Red Cross, five from prefecture Red Cross branches and 11 from county Red Cross branches participated in the training.

At the end of May, the International Federation's regional finance manager also organized a half-day finance training for Deyang branch of the RCSC, with a special focus on the International Federation's financial reporting requirements and relative project running procedures, including procurement and logistics, in order to provide high quality donor reports.

Discussion of setting up an International Federation Chart of Accounts on RCSC headquarters online accounting system and access to this system to get real-time financial reports is ongoing.

Constraints or Challenges

The RCSC is a strong national society with great fundraising ability for certain types of activities, such as the provision of disaster relief supplies and certain medical needs in the country. However, both headquarters and branches recognize the great value of organizational development, especially in terms of volunteer management, grassroots strengthening, and financial management. These areas of growth and importance do not get allocated funding from core donors, nor does the International Federation receive any support for this component of the support plan. In the coming months and years, the International Federation will begin looking at creative ways to support the national society in these areas with the help of partners and technical experts.

Humanitarian values

Outcome/Expected result

Programme purpose
Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

While the national society's plan does not have a specific programme focusing on this global agenda goal, the programmes supported through the International Federation already encompass these values in the strategies and objectives of the other programmes. The Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement guide the RCSC and International Federation in the design and implementation of the programmes.

Furthermore, the principles and humanitarian values of the Red Cross are promoted through the work of the regional communications delegate.

Achievements

Promoting the visibility of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the Sichuan earthquake operation has been the main priority for the communications delegate in recent months; the one year commemoration on 12 May provided a focus for media attention. Coverage focused on the RCSC reconstruction programme and on the Hong Kong Red Cross Rehabilitation and Prosthetic and Orthotic Centre in Deyang. This was covered by international media including Al Jazeera International and Reuters TV; it also received prominent coverage in Chinese state media including the People's Daily, when it was visited by the Chinese President as part of a tour of the earthquake zone. In order to express his thanks for international assistance, the President took with him to the epicentre a delegation of Beijing-based diplomats and representatives from international organizations, including the head of the International Federation's East Asia regional office.

Other media coverage during this time period included ABC (US), AFP print and TV, BBC radio and TV, CNN, CCTV International, China Radio International, Daily Telegraph, NHK, Reuters, Swiss radio, and Times of London.

As part of continuing earthquake communications activities, the communications delegate contributed an article on the International Federation's psychological support in Sichuan to "Coping with Crisis" and also wrote an article for the Australian Red Cross website on its Federal Foreign Affairs Minister's visit to a Red Cross hospital reconstruction project.

The communications delegate was involved in providing media support during the visit of the International Federation's Secretary General to Sichuan in February. This included working with the state broadcaster CCTV on the production of a live interview on CCTV channel 9 which is widely available internationally. The International Federation provided an extensive video for the programme, which was shown as a backdrop to the Secretary General's interview.

Among the other activities to promote humanitarian principles and values, the communications delegate has:

- Provided support to the RCSC communications department on planning the presentation by the International Federation for World Red Cross Red Crescent Day;
- Provided support to Shanghai TV for sending a team to Italy, resulting in a report on the Italian Red Cross earthquake relief role;

- Worked with the International Red Cross Museum and the International Federation in Geneva to access Federation archive photos for a series in a RCSC newspaper;
- Worked with the RCSC and media services in Geneva to help coordinate the sending of photos for an exhibition requested by the RCSC;
- Worked with Lifeweek Magazine (Chinese publication) and the International Federation's office in Jakarta to coordinate a visit to Indonesia by a Lifeweek reporter as part of a Red Cross Red Crescent Movement cover story by the magazine;
- Provided documentation support (video) for both the first community-based first aid sensitization workshop and psychological support workshop to develop capacity building tools that will be used in other provinces;
- Provided media trainings and briefing to delegates in the International Federation's Chengdu office.

Working in partnership

The RCSC programmes supported by the International Federation have been strengthened through cooperation with many partners, both local and international.

Experiences from community-based disaster preparedness projects have integrated programming and cooperation with local authorities, which have an effect on the appropriateness, efficiency and sustainability of community-based disaster preparedness programming. Integrated programming refers here to programming which integrates components from traditionally separate sectors, such as health, livelihoods and disaster management. Cooperation with local authorities looks at ways in which the government and local authority involvement can enhance programme implementation and results. Local government's support on many sides including finance, technical staff for mitigation measures, project management etc.

Established contacts with Eli Lilly (China), a major multinational pharmaceuticals company, supports the International Federation's global tuberculosis programme. The RCSC and the regional health delegate will join their two-monthly partnership meetings, as an opportunity for RCSC to explore and establish contacts in private-public collaboration.

The regional office also held discussions with the UNAIDS China office, to understand how the RCSC can benefit from expected increased funding commitments for HIV in China from the government and the Global Fund.

Contributing to longer-term impact

Through community-based disaster preparedness projects and a series of Federation trainings, human resources of the RCSC have been trained and the capacity of the RCSC has been improved. This will benefit disaster management activities and programmes and has built the resilience of the communities that have been targeted.

During the implementation of community-based disaster preparedness projects, county level Red Cross branches are doing daily project coordination with local governments, villages and villagers, conducting local trainings and general project management. The RCSC provincial branches conducted monitoring trips to project sites and helped branches on local trainings to villagers. The International Federation's regional office provided technical support and conducted monitoring trip as well. Through project implementation, county level Red Cross branches practiced their project management and coordination skills and improved local communities' understanding about Red Cross.

Through the implementation of community-based disaster preparedness projects, the local Red Cross branches have also gained more understanding about participatory working approaches. Local Red Cross branches also have learned to identify vulnerability from various angles. Branches and their staff have improved their capacity in terms of project management and coordination; evidence of this could be seen from the improved quality of reporting, organized trainings and number of mobilized local Red Cross volunteers.

Regional events such as disaster management meetings and emergency assessment workshops provide RCSC an opportunity to present their experiences to other National Societies and thus foster learning and exchange.

The RCSC's HIV alliance has made great contribution towards RCSC's overall work on HIV. With the new and improved partnership with HIV stakeholders and donors, the RCSC is better prepared to improve and scale up its overall HIV prevention and support work in 2009 and beyond. The good practices, lessons learnt and experiences achieved through the successful implementation of HIV work across the country has equipped the RCSC HIV team with practical knowledge and understanding to approach future HIV work holistically. The framework, tools, format introduced by Global HIV Alliance are the key instruments to the overall improvement of the future HIV work programme in China. *For more information, please contact the East Asia regional office for a copy of the recent annual RCSC HIV Global Alliance report. Click [here](#) for contact information.*

The technical support given by the International Federation towards strengthening RCSC's voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment programme provides an opportunity for better information sharing between the RCSC, the International Federation and other national societies.

Considering the rapid spread of A(H1N1), it is ever more critical that key health messages associated with the avian influenza project also continue to be disseminated to the public. As there is concern about the mixing of the two viruses, and China continues to have outbreaks of avian influenza in its bird population, the project remains of high priority.

Looking ahead

Besides the ongoing community-based disaster preparedness in Hubei, a community-based disaster preparedness project will be developed in both Shaanxi and Gansu provinces with the aim to help a total of 20 most vulnerable villages to improve their resilience. In Shaanxi and Gansu, the Federation will help each province build up a prefecture level disaster preparedness warehouse which will strengthen provincial Red Cross's response capacity.

For the first time, a comprehensive report for the HIV programme for China using the Global Alliance reporting format has been collected. Based on its analysis, adjustments will be made in the Federation's appeal planning for 2010 – 2011 in the next two months. In conjunction with the global roll out of the community based first aid and health toolkit in 2009, together with the China earthquake team, the regional health programme will provide extensive support to the RCSC in facilitating the adaptation of the community-based health and first aid tools in the Chinese context.

Organization of a finance workshop, mainly for earthquake-affected areas including Sichuan, Gansu and Shanxi provinces, is being discussed with RCSC headquarters and is expected to be carried out in July. Discussions with RCSC on how to build financial and narrative reporting capacity at headquarters and in project areas is also under discussion for the remainder of 2009.

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>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Cross Society of China: Mr. Wang Xiaohua, director of external relations department; email: rcsc@chineseredcross.org; phone: +86.10.6404.8366, fax +86.10.6402.9928. • International Federation East Asia regional office in Beijing: phone: +86 10 65327162, fax: +86 10 6532 7166. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Carl Naucler (head of East Asia regional office); email: carl.naucler@ifrc.org - Mr. Gu Qing-Hui (regional disaster management delegate); email: qinghui.gu@ifrc.org - Ms. Amgaa Oyungerel (regional health delegate); email: amgaa.oyungerel@ifrc.org - Ms. Nicole Lafleur (regional planning, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting (PMER) delegate); email: nicolle.lafleur@ifrc.org • International Federation Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur: phone: + 603 9207 5700; fax: +603 2161 0670. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Jagan Chapagain (deputy head of zone); email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org; - Ms. Penny Elghady (resource mobilization and planning, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting (PMER) coordinator); email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org • Please send pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org 	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAACN001 - China

Mid-year report 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/6
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAACN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	369,743	3,237,753	194,866		0	3,802,362
B. Opening Balance	93,904	20,488	31,576		0	145,968
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		7,100				7,100
British Red Cross		14,742				14,742
Canadian Red Cross		20,693				20,693
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)		14,341				14,341
Finnish Red Cross	10,987					10,987
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	62,262					62,262
Japanese Red Cross	38,345					38,345
New York Office (from Lehman Brothers Foundation)	57,950					57,950
C1. Cash contributions	169,545	56,876				226,421
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
Canadian Red Cross		-20,700				-20,700
Finnish Red Cross	10,855					10,855
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	61,510					61,510
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	72,364	-20,700				51,664
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	241,909	36,176	0		0	278,085
D. Total Funding = B + C	335,813	56,664	31,576		0	424,053
Appeal Coverage	91%	2%	16%		#DIV/0	11%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	93,904	20,488	31,576		0	145,968
C. Income	241,909	36,176	0		0	278,085
E. Expenditure	-150,711	-53,911	-3,755			-208,378
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	185,102	2,753	27,821		0	215,675

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAACN001 - China

Mid-year report 2009

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Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAACN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		369,743	3,237,753	194,866		0	3,802,362	
Supplies								
Other Supplies & Services	165,000							165,000
Total Supplies	165,000							165,000
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	2,000							2,000
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	2,000							2,000
Personnel								
International Staff	170,400		15,936				15,936	154,464
National Staff	22,800	991	9,465				10,456	12,344
National Society Staff	10,800							10,800
Consultants	30,500	219					219	30,281
Total Personnel	234,500	1,210	25,401				26,611	207,889
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	2,832,100							2,832,100
Total Workshops & Training	2,832,100							2,832,100
General Expenditure								
Travel	32,000	54	1,895	580			2,529	29,471
Information & Public Relation	32,700	9,391	91	2,931			12,413	20,287
Office Costs	27,600		309				309	27,291
Communications	6,000		22				22	5,978
Professional Fees	223,309	6,136	2,168				8,304	215,005
Other General Expenses			4				4	-4
Total General Expenditure	321,609	15,581	4,490	3,511			23,582	298,027
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		122,723	20,199				142,922	-142,922
Total Contributions & Transfers		122,723	20,199				142,922	-142,922
Programme Support								
Program Support	247,154	11,197	3,504	244			14,945	232,208
Total Programme Support	247,154	11,197	3,504	244			14,945	232,208
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			318				318	-318
Total Operational Provisions			318				318	-318
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	3,802,362	150,711	53,911	3,755			208,378	3,593,984
VARIANCE (C - D)		219,032	3,183,842	191,111			3,593,984	