

Programme Update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

China

Appeal No. MAACN001

28 December 2009

This report covers the period
from 1 July to 31 December 2009.



The International Red Cross and Red Crescent pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai Expo has officially been handed over to RCSC in September from the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination. The picture shows the artistic rendition of the pavilion.¹

In brief

Programmes summary:

The International Federation's support to the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has had many achievements in the past six months. The result of activities and efforts carried out include strengthened capacities, new initiatives, and stronger partnerships.

While both the RCSC and the International Federation continue to be focused on the recovery operation in the earthquake area since 12 May 2008, attention has gradually shifted back to other programmes, allowing for some integration of emergency and long-term development issues in the RCSC. In the earthquake affected areas, support continues in areas of psychological support, water and sanitation, livelihoods other community-based programmes for health and disaster preparedness. Disaster preparedness centres are being planned and support to the RCSC for their own disaster response units has made good progress.

The community-based disaster preparedness programme supported by the Finnish Red Cross for three years is progressing well, and structured mitigation measures have been completed in the selected communities. A joint visit to the sites with the Finnish Red Cross, the RCSC headquarters and the International Federation also took place very recently.

The community-based health and first aid approach is being widely rolled out in China, first through the earthquake recovery operation. It is envisaged that eventually other branches will join this process and efforts were made to sensitize other RCSC branches and the partner national societies on the new community-based health and first aid approach. The International Federation's office and RCSC headquarters are working towards developing a nationwide plan on community-based health and first aid, to ensure the synergies among different branches in the integration of community-based health and first aid principles and approaches into their existing community based health projects.

¹ Photo from Shanghai Expo website: <http://en.expo2010.cn/a/20090923/000002.htm>

The health programme also continues to support the scale up of HIV work in China. Unfortunately, due to a lack of funding, the HIV programme budget was revised down significantly in the second half of this year.

The health programme also supports the RCSC in other important activities in the areas of blood donor recruitment, avian influenza, pandemic preparedness, and other projects, as needed.

The International Federation supports organizational development in China through an integrated programming approach to capacity building and partnerships. A three-year intensified capacity building programme supported by the International Federation in Henan has finished its first year. The learnings from this programme will be applied to other programme sectors and branches of the RCSC.

In 2010, China will host the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai for six months. The International Federation is working very closely with the RCSC and the ICRC to provide input and support for this important international event.

Financial situation: The total 2009 budget has been revised from CHF 3,816,703 (USD 3.52 million or EUR 2.5 million) to CHF 517,775 (USD 506,957 or EUR 342,614). The total 2009 budget was revised in the second half of 2009 due to underfunding. A significant reduction came in the HIV programme budget, which was set quite high to help attract attention to the goals set forth by the RCSC to scale up to meet actual needs in the country. Coverage is 86 per cent while expenditure from January to October 2009 is 42 per cent of the total 2009 budget (*see attached financial report*). The financial report from January to December 2009 will be issued with the 2009 annual report by April 2010.

No. of people we help: The total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries in RCSC programmes supported by the International Federation is estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands, although it is challenging to count due to the sheer scope of China and the RCSC programmes. During this reporting period, branch staff and volunteers were directly benefited by support of the Federation through multiple trainings and capacity building initiatives. Indirect beneficiaries could be much higher, especially with the success of public campaigns and media coverage supported through the International Federation.

Our partners: These programmes are supported through the generous donations of partners that include the American Red Cross, British Red Cross Canadian Red Cross/ Canadian government, Finnish Red Cross/ Finnish government, Japanese Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government. 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 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/AIDS (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

In recent months, the A (H1N1) influenza virus has spread quickly throughout China. According to the Ministry of Health, this period of rapid increase in cases may last through March of next year. In the second week of November, nearly 90 per cent of flu cases in the mainland were A (H1N1).² This brings the total to over 93,000 reported cases, including 114 deaths in mainland, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan as of 17 November³. However, there is acknowledgement that these figures are likely to represent only a small proportion of the actual number of cases that may have occurred. A vaccination campaign was launched

² The A (H1N1) influenza cases accounted for 89.4 percent of all flu cases reported in the Chinese mainland the second week of November, almost 3 percentage points higher than the figure of the previous week, China's Ministry of Health.

³ Source: Ministry of Health

across the country, mainly targeting high risk groups, with up to 20.34 million people inoculated against the A (H1N1)flu nationwide as of 22 November⁴.

Meanwhile, the spread of HIV continues to be public health concern in China. On 24 November, UNAIDS released the "2009 Report of the Global AIDS Epidemic" in Shanghai. The report shows that sexual contact is becoming the main way of HIV transmission in China. In a conference in Shanghai, China's health minister announced that the country will have an estimated 740,000 people living with HIV on the mainland by the end of 2009. The number has increased from the 700,000 estimated in 2007⁵. The number of infections keeps rising in the nation but at a lower speed compared with previous years⁶.

Additionally in this second half year, China has been hit by a series of disasters, including floods, typhoons, earthquakes, drought and heavy snow. The RCSC headquarters and their provincial branches were actively engaged in the responses to these disasters. The regional office in Beijing is closely working with the RCSC disaster management department to monitor the disasters, and a number of internal updates through the International Federation's disaster management information system (DMIS) and information updates have been issued.

Floods From the end of June to the first half of August, torrential rains and floods in southern and central China have left more than 300 people dead, 100 missing, 67 million affected in nearly all the provinces in the country. At least 260,000 houses have collapsed and the direct economic loss is estimated at more than CHF 7.7 billion (CNY 46.00 billion)⁷. The downpours have not only destroyed houses, but also flooded crops, cut power, damaged roads and caused rivers to overflow.

The International Federation released an information bulletin on 8 July, and worked closely with the national society to monitor the situation. The RCSC headquarters and the local branches sent relief goods including disinfectant for water and the environment, quilts, mosquito nets, family packs and other relief items as soon as the disaster happened.

Typhoon Morakot This devastating typhoon hit both Taiwan and the mainland. It made landfall in Taiwan on 7 August, killed nearly 500 people and forced the evacuation of thousands, resulting in economic losses of approximately CHF 440 million (NTD 14.5 billion) in the agricultural, forestry, fishing and herding sectors, according to a report released by Taiwan's agricultural authorities. It was the worst typhoon to hit Taiwan in nearly 50 years, and caused havoc across the island's central and southern regions.

In the mainland, it killed eight people, toppled more than 10,000 houses and flooded up to 449,600 hectares of cropland according to the statistics of the Ministry of Civil Affairs. More than 11 million people in Fujian, Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Anhui and Jiangsu provinces were affected by Typhoon Morakot, including 1.57 million people that had to be relocated during the disaster.

While this disaster made significant impact on the people on both sides of the straights, it also provided an opportunity to rebuild connections. A delegation led by the former executive vice president of the RCSC paid a visit to the typhoon-hit area in Taiwan. Before this visit, the RCSC transferred CNY 21.85 million raised for disaster relief. The total public donations raised for Taiwan in mainland was CNY 968 million as of September 18, according to the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council.

The International Federation issued two information bulletins and closely monitored the situation to be ready at any time to offer support.

Yunnan earthquake On 9 July, a 6.0-magnitude earthquake hit southwest China's Yunnan province. More than 300 people were injured and more than 10,000 houses collapsed, 30,000 others were damaged in six counties in Chuxiong. The RCSC headquarters, Yunnan province and Guangdong province Red Cross branches allocated relief goods including tents, quilts, disinfectant sprays and food to the affected areas, with the first goods arriving within 24 hours after the disaster happened.

⁴ Source: Ministry of Health

⁵ China updates the estimated figure of the HIV positive population only once every two years.

⁶ Source: Chinadaily

⁷ The numbers is estimated based on the statistics of Office of State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters released on July 30, 2009: there are 29 provinces/cities/areas affected by floods, 5.335 million hectare crops destroyed, 67.36 million affected, 307 killed, 113 missing, 260,000 houses collapsed, the direct economic losses is estimated CHF 7.75 billion (RMB 46.5 billion). (These figures covers the period from Apr. 1 to Jul. 30, most of the floods happed during the end of June to July.)

Drought After the rains subsided, in October and November, the southern and eastern regions of China started to face drought due to high temperatures and a sudden lack of rain since late August. The people in Hunan, Hubei, Guangdong, Fujian and Jiangxi provinces were badly affected. Hundreds of thousands of people were facing drinking water shortages. Thousands of hectares of rice crops were stunted from a lack of water. Dozens of ships were blocked in the Gan River in Jiangxi province due to low water levels, some for up to two months.

Heavy snow storms Early and heavy snow storms in northern China in November killed 32 people, destroyed nearly 300,000 hectares of winter crops, and caused nearly CNY 7 billion (about USD one billion) of direct economic losses as of 15 November according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs. Some 10 million people have been affected by the storm and more than 15,000 buildings collapsed in the eight storm-hit provinces as of 15 November.

2008 earthquake recovery and reconstruction In the Sichuan and other earthquake-hit areas, the RCSC and its partners continue to provide services in the areas of psychological support, water and sanitation, livelihoods other community-based programmes throughout 2009 and 2010⁸. *Click [here](#) for the emergency appeal and the latest operations updates.*



Psychological support activities on 13 September were conducted in Texi Village primary school, a school affected by the Sichuan earthquake, in Meigu Yi Autonomous Prefecture. Drawing, paper folding and games with balloons brought out many happy and smiling faces. International Federation.

Red Cross Society of China organizational developments A significant organizational change came for the RCSC in October when a restructuring of the headquarters and newly instated leadership was introduced. The 9th National Convention of the RCSC was held from October 27 - 28 in Beijing at the Great Hall of the People. China's President, Premier and three top leaders of the political bureau all attended the opening ceremonies during which accomplishments of the past five years were highlighted and the next five-year strategy was unveiled.

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.

⁸ The 8.0 magnitude earthquake hit southwest China on May 12, 2008, claiming an estimated 87,000 lives, the country has rapidly moved into recovery phase. The RCSC is providing support, through the 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, CHF 153.4 million has been raised, which represents a 92 per cent coverage for the Federation's emergency earthquake appeal of CHF 167.1 million.

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

During this reporting period, the regional disaster management team of the International Federation supported the RCSC headquarters and branches affected by the 2008 earthquake to develop plans to further reduce the risks in disasters. Due to the scope of this project, the disaster management delegate has focused much of his time on these activities in close collaboration with the RCSC headquarters relief department and local branches. An assessment was conducted in Gansu and Shaanxi provinces on the construction of Disaster Preparedness Centres and community-based disaster preparedness programmes under the earthquake recovery operation. An introduction to the community-based disaster preparedness concept was held for Gansu and Shaanxi branches of the RCSC, and risk mapping was conducted together with local Red Cross branches at the selected counties to identify the 30 targeted communities for the community-based disaster preparedness programme. Around 15,000 people living in disaster prone communities will benefit from this project, as well as local Red Cross staff, volunteers and local government officials. The overall objective of the community-based disaster preparedness program is to improve the resilience of local community against local disasters through construction of local adopted natural disaster risk mitigation measures, education and advocacy of disaster preparedness knowledge and skills, and through the development of local mechanisms for community disaster preparedness.

During the week of 10-13 September, the International Federation organized a vulnerability and capacity assessment and project management workshop in Shiquan, Shaanxi. A total of 27 project and financial management staff from identified provincial, prefecture and county level Red Cross attended this workshop.

The International Federation's regional disaster management officer oversaw the workshop. The main facilitators were from the Hubei and the Chongqing branches of the RCSC. Both of them were trained by the International Federation as vulnerability and capacity assessment trainers in 2007 and have a rich community-based disaster preparedness project experience.



During focus group discussion, villagers in Changyang Village voted for their most concerned vulnerability, facilitated by Red Cross trainees. Shiquan Red Cross.

The International Federation's finance manager from the East Asia office delivered a 2.5 hour financial management session in this workshop. The financial management part was well received and proved necessary to pass financial management guidelines to project and financial staff from the very beginning of community-based disaster preparedness planning. The workshop has achieved the following positive results:

- Participants were chosen because of their strong experience in Red Cross relief work. The workshop introduced these participants to disaster risk reduction and disaster management concepts through vulnerability and capacity assessment and community-based disaster preparedness methodologies. It is the RCSC's initiative to get branch staff to think beyond only distributing relief items in the emergency period, and do more community-based disaster preparedness projects to help communities prepare for future disasters and improve the local people's awareness about disaster preparedness.
- The financial management component was important to set up clear guidelines for community-based disaster preparedness projects at the very beginning of the project.
- This participatory style training was well received and it also encourages Red Cross staff to bring a participatory working style into the project.
- Using experienced RCSC trainers improved RCSC's confidence in training and project management. It is a good indicator that RCSC already has ownership of the knowledge and skills of community-based disaster preparedness.
- This workshop helped to clarify the roles and responsibilities of different levels of Red Cross branches in the community-based disaster preparedness management cycle.

- The vulnerability and capacity assessment field exercise was conducted in five local villages and the vulnerability and capacity assessment report was drafted by the end of the workshop.
- Through the combined training of theory and field exercise, all 27 participants learned vulnerability and capacity assessment tools and practiced how to conduct vulnerability and capacity assessment in local villages.

The community-based disaster preparedness programme supported by the Finnish Red Cross is progressing well, with structural mitigation measures completed in the selected communities. Hubei provincial Red Cross together with the bureau of education has developed a school safety initiative. The training of school teachers has been conducted and the activities will be expanded to all the schools in the targeted county in Hubei province. A monitoring visit took place on 23 – 27 November together with the RCSC, the Finnish Red Cross and the International Federation. This three-year project supported by the Finnish Red Cross will conclude by the end of 2009. The Finnish Red Cross has indicated interest to support the RCSC on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption in the coming years. Discussions and assessments are ongoing with the Finnish Red Cross for programme support in 2010.



Disaster risk reduction workshop held in Beijing in November. 40 participants from RCSC, Vietnamese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and the government attended the workshop.

The regional office of the International Federation supported the RCSC in this reporting period to conduct a disaster risk reduction feasibility study funded by the Norwegian Red Cross, to help the RCSC to scale up its efforts in the field of disaster risk reduction in China. A draft project proposal was developed and submitted to the Norwegian Red Cross. A three-day workshop was held in Beijing together with the RCSC, the Vietnamese Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross to share their experiences in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption, and to review the findings from the feasibility studies from both China and Vietnam.

A strategic meeting on the RCSC emergency response team development was held on 8-9 December in Hunan, China. At this meeting, six provincial branches of the Red Cross, which have successfully deployed their response teams to disaster areas in the country, met together with the RCSC headquarters and the International Federation to discuss the RCSC emergency response team strategy. From this, an action plan will then be developed and supported through the International Federation's earthquake appeal.

Constraints or challenges

A lack of technical resources to support project implementation at the RCSC headquarters level leads to a heavier workload for the International Federation's office in Beijing in order to support the project implementation. In addition, the headquarters of the RCSC has multiple departments that share interest in disaster management programmes, all of which have heavy workloads. Better integration and strategic planning on these levels would benefit these long-term programmes. This has been acknowledged by the RCSC headquarters and considerations of possible solutions are underway, with support of the new leadership.

The International Federation has also identified that better coordination of Movement support, and clarification of strategic priorities would benefit all stakeholders. To this aim, the International Federation is already discussing with the RCSC headquarters, the ICRC, and major partner national societies about holding a planning meeting in early 2010 to discuss better partnership and coordination options.

While the achievements for the RCSC in disaster management have been impressive in recent years, especially through built up capacity in disaster risk reduction through the implementation of community-based disaster preparedness/disaster risk reduction programmes in many disaster prone provinces, a major challenge in sustainable funding remains a threat. Almost all funding for these programmes are still coming from external partners. There is a need to look at the disaster management strategy within the RCSC to include disaster risk reduction in the comprehensive disaster management strategy and develop a funding strategy to support sustainable disaster risk reduction activities in China.

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 Alliance

In August, five RCSC representatives attended the International Conference on AIDS for Asia & Pacific held in Indonesia, a major regional HIV forum, and presented on their HIV programming experiences. At the concurrent Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network meeting, the RCSC was elected by its fellow Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network members to the network's management team, which was a significant achievement for the RCSC as it is the first time to be elected to this team.

At the request of the RCSC, the regional office has been translating into Chinese the newly released International Federation's HIV youth peer education guidelines. This will be an important tool for branches in standardizing these key activities commonly planned in HIV programming in China.

The RCSC has successfully celebrated World AIDS Day. A mass campaign organized at the railway station square with information, education and communication materials distributed by Red Cross volunteers. Red Cross volunteers and trained staff worked together to give a knowledge quiz on the trains through radio and TV for sharing knowledge among the passengers. Meanwhile, a variety of activities are held in all 31 branches for raising public awareness of HIV prevention and reducing the stigma and discrimination towards HIV.

Voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment

In December, the RCSC organized a national blood donor recruitment workshop with the participation of all its branches and the regional health programme has supported the RCSC's blood donor programme staff with standard International Federation guidelines.

In December, a representative from the RCSC presented the RCSC's plan of action for blood donor recruitment activities at the annual meeting of the regional blood donor recruitment network of Southeast Asian national societies in Indonesia. Even though the RCSC is not part of that region, it was a good opportunity to share experiences and learn from another region within Asia Pacific.

Community-based health and first aid and health in emergency

The scheduled water and sanitation in emergencies regional workshop planned in the last quarter of 2009 was not conducted to avoid overlapping with the zone water and sanitation workshops which took place in August in Kuala Lumpur. The adjustment allowed water and sanitation in emergencies issues to be incorporated, and benefit the larger number of national societies throughout Asia Pacific.

The regional office has been closely monitoring the A (H1N1) pandemic situation in East Asia and provided support to the RCSC in their pandemic mitigation measures and business continuity planning. The RCSC has applied for additional A (H1N1) funding from its government and if granted, it will mobilize its nationwide network of branches and volunteers to compliment the ongoing public pandemic risk communication activities of the government.

The RCSC successfully organized its annual first aid conference in Suzhou, Jiangsu province, in September. This is a major gathering of first aid instructors and leaders from all branches to report on their progress in first aid, share experiences and discuss the next steps, strategies and policies. At this conference, the regional health delegate shared the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's global experiences in standardization of first aid standards. Following the discussions and requests from the branches, the RCSC national headquarters decided to develop nationwide Red Cross first aid standards in the coming two years and requested technical assistance from the International Federation. The plans of assistance in this regard are being drawn up with the support from the International Federation's health and care department.

While the roll out of the community-based health and first aid programme in China will start off from the earthquake areas, it is envisaged that eventually other branches will join this process and efforts have already been made to sensitize other RCSC branches and the partner national societies on the new community-based health and first aid approach. The International Federation's office and RCSC headquarters are working towards developing a nationwide plan on community-based health and first aid, to ensure the synergies among different branches in integration of community-based health and first aid principles and approaches into their existing community based health projects.

In November, the RCSC organized a community health and volunteer workshop in Beijing. This three-day long workshop brought together 70 health officers and leaders from all provincial and municipal branches to discuss the key priorities and challenges in conducting community health programmes. The regional office facilitated three sessions at this workshop and introduced the key concepts of community-based health and first aid to the participants and shared global experiences of the Movement in community health.

This year's impressive celebration by the RCSC of the World First Aid Day was widely featured in the Chinese media. The RCSC estimates that nearly 15 million people received its key messages how first aid can save lives in everyday and crisis situations and prevent injuries during that week. Thousands of Red Cross staff and volunteers were actively involved in celebrating this event across the nation. Bolstered by this success and the growing popularity of this special day in China, the RCSC plans to organize its next World First Aid Day celebration in conjunction with the Shanghai Expo 2010.

In September, the regional health delegate attended the earthquake health coordination meeting in Chengdu and psychological support toolkit testing workshop. *For more information on the psychological support toolkit and other health programmes in the earthquake operation, click [here](#) for operation updates.*

Avian influenza prevention

The International Federation's support in avian influenza has been focused on the three provinces of Gansu, Xinjiang and Sichuan provinces. The project in Gansu province was completed at the end of 2008 and the project in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region was finalized in the first two months of this year. Sichuan province, which remains affected by the earthquake recovery operation, has been slower to complete its activities in 2009. A final report is expected in 2010.

Organ and tissue donation

In August, the RCSC headquarters, branches, the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders held a meeting on human organ and tissue donation. In this meeting, some good experiences were shared. It was decided that a cooperation project between the Red Cross and the health department in ten provinces/cities/areas would be piloted. The role of the RCSC in this cooperation is to recruit voluntary donors, conduct awareness raising campaigns and train related coordinators and volunteers. In the ten cities, there would be offices and staff specialized for this task in each Red Cross office⁹.

Constraints or challenges

Over the last year, the RCSC was mandated by the government to promote public organ and tissue donations and conduct voluntary registrations of potential donors, in a bid to address the acute shortage of organ and tissue donations in China. On 25 August this year, together with the government, the RCSC launched a national database for registering organ donors. The issue of organ and tissue donation is a very contentious issue by its nature in any country and currently, the International Federation does not have either a clearly stated mandate or expertise to provide support in this area. The lack of any clear position paper in this field from the International Federation to disseminate to its members has been challenging for the field staff as the RCSC has repeatedly requested support from the International Federation on this issue.

⁹ Average 1.5 million people need organ transplanting per year in China, but only 10,000 of them could make it.

Organizational development

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Component outcome
1. National society capacity development and organisational 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

At the RCSC's 9th National Convention, the headquarters announced the draft development plan for the next five years. One of the key objectives out of seven is to further develop management systems and reinforce its management base. This is especially important in branches at municipality level and lower. The national society will concentrate on supporting county and prefecture level branches to have clear staffing plans, assigned leadership and full-time (part-time) staff, along with a fixed working place and independent accounts.

Another key working area for the coming years is voluntary service. The RCSC supported development in this area in recent years with its volunteer management guidelines and policies. In the past year, the RCSC has pushed for branches above county level to have a stable contingency of volunteers and a standard management system. The RCSC noted it will continue to carry out a wide range of voluntary service activities, which will be integrated with the establishment of Red Cross grassroots units, community service and Red Cross organisational development.

Formally started from last October, the three-year intensified capacity building programme continues in Zhumadian, Henan province. Based on the five objectives of the project, the local branch is building up the capacity of Red Cross staff, the grassroots level Red Cross branches and developing volunteer management mechanisms, communication channels and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems through a series of activities in the second half of the year:

- Conducted volunteer recruitment and management training for volunteers, grassroots staff, and volunteer recruitment staff
- Held trainings on HIV prevention and anti-stigma
- Established more school level Red Cross organizations
- Conducted youth peer education in piloted counties
- Developed an HIV prevention team; members are volunteers from CDC, the HIV prevention office and the health and hospital system, which is providing regular care and service to families of people living with HIV
- Offered volunteers with a service certificate, name tag and hat, which promoted pride and ownership in programme objectives
- Conducted public dissemination about the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement



Youth peer education conducted by Shangcai County Red Cross in Wenlou village on 22 July 2009. Zhumadian Red Cross

A finance workshop mainly for earthquake affected areas including Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi provinces, co-organized by the RCSC headquarters and the International Federation, was held on the third week of August in Chengdu. A total of 40 participants including project managers and finance staff attended this workshop. Knowledge including Federation cash transfer systems, procurement, planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, RCSC headquarters finance, RCSC online financial information system, and NC systems was shared with the participants.

The Finance/administration manager of the regional office was invited by the RCSC headquarters to attend its annual nationwide finance workshop on 20 November in Beihai, Guangxi, and shared information on the cash transfer systems to participants from all provincial and prefectural finance departments.

In order to facilitate the process of financial reporting and enhance project officers' understanding about the International Federation's financial reporting requirements, a finance training was incorporated as part of the vulnerability and capacity assessment training and was conducted for county level Red Cross in Shiquan, Shanxi in September.

Discussions on setting up an International Federation chart of accounts at the RCSC headquarters online accounting system with access to this system to get real-time financial reports is still underway.

For the first time in China, different components of the Movement were able to jointly conduct a Red Cross knowledge dissemination workshop at branch level. Initiated and supported by the Australian Red Cross, the RCSC headquarters worked closely with the Tibet branch of RCSC to develop a two-day workshop plan that included presentations given by both International Federation and ICRC delegates. This effort was greatly supported by the zone organizational development coordinator, as well as the regional office. The success of this workshop has paved the way for similar activities in the future.

Constraints or challenges

The organizational development component of the International Federation's appeal to support the RCSC is greatly under-funded, yet it is one of the most important elements in Federation support. Although the regional office does not have an organizational development delegate, the planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting delegate works closely with the zone organizational development coordinator to provide ongoing assistance to the national society. Coordination on these issues is done through close cooperation with the head of regional office, the regional financial manager, the ICRC, partners and various offices at the RCSC headquarters.

If adequately funded, the support and further coordination by the International Federation in this area could have significant long term impact on the RCSC and all of its branches. It is expected that the regional office will work closely with partners and the RCSC in 2010 to discuss and assess the application of the new approach to capacity building and partnership as introduced in Nairobi by the Australian Red Cross.

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 programmes. The Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and 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

Following on from a successful campaign to attract media visibility around the one year anniversary of the Sichuan earthquake, the focus for communications shifted to other topics. The communications delegate travelled extensively in the months of June and July to document the implementation of community based disaster preparedness projects. Project areas visited included Anhui, Henan, Hubei and Guangxi.

This afforded valuable opportunities to look at how these projects actually impacted on work to protect communities from flooding which took place in July, yielding some pertinent material for web stories. Contacts with the local branches involved in the community based disaster preparedness projects also proved useful in obtaining timely and valuable photographs to document their prevention and relief work internationally.

The most severe of the summer's weather events was Typhoon Morakot, which lashed the island of Taiwan and several coastal provinces of mainland China, including Fujian, Zhejiang and Guangdong. The communications delegate was in the forefront of a very high level of media interest and visibility, focusing on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. The delegate travelled with the RCSC to Zhejiang province to see conditions on the ground and was able to respond to media inquiries about Taiwan by monitoring the response of the Taiwan Red Cross Organization (TRCO) through its website and DMIS inputs. But the lack of direct contact between IFRC and TRCO in the communications sphere remains a challenge which would loom even larger in the event of a mega-disaster on the island.

In recent months, a key focus of attention in China has been working in partnership with the RCSC and ICRC to plan the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's role in the World Expo to be held for six months, starting in May 2010 in Shanghai. The areas in which the International Federation and ICRC are keen to support the national society include providing audio visual material for the display which will give visitors to the pavilion an insight into the whole Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. The International Federation's communications delegate and his ICRC counterpart are also looking at ways of supporting a planned Red Cross Forum at the Expo, with an urban focus, in accordance with the "Better City Better Life" theme of Expo 2010. There will be a series of other events which we hope to be able to support with input and participation – possibly from partner national societies.

In the Sichuan earthquake operation, while there have been challenges on the ground, the communications delegate has played a constant role in giving communications support to those facets of the operation which have been moving ahead, such as health and physiological support. Support has included editing text and photos for community-based health and first aid training report, working with a cameraman to improve presentation of material and sharing examples of online video from training courses elsewhere in the Movement.

As the shelter support programme moves ahead, the delegate plans further coverage in terms of text, video and photos. Other programmes including water and sanitation and livelihoods are anticipated to form part of the focus for coverage of the two-year anniversary of the quake next May 12. This will coincide with National Disaster Day, which is one of the events at the Expo, into which the International Federation is looking to have an input.

Working in partnership

At the local level, the regional office in Beijing, in support of RCSC, continues to build partnerships with local government and community organizations through project engagement, including sharing Red Cross experiences on the grassroots level, especially training of communities and local governments on the use of vulnerability and capacity assessment tools.

At the national level, the regional office in Beijing has established partnerships with the ministry of civil affairs, UN agencies, embassies and academic institutions in China. The regional office actively participates in experience sharing in the field of disaster management and has had many unique opportunities to network and discuss lessons learned about the 2008 earthquake relief and recovery activities.

There are many partner national societies supporting various programmes, capacity building and earthquake recovery activities of the RCSC. The International Federation's East Asia regional office hosts the American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and the Global Road Safety Programme. In addition, the regional office continues to seek opportunities to engage with the partners on their support to RCSC programmes, and to help coordinate and collaborate where appropriate.

In recent months, a monthly tripartite meeting has been held between the RCSC headquarters, the ICRC and the International Federation. This has provided an opportunity for all three components to carefully coordinate and collaborate on various Movement issues. Dissemination, restoring family links, and other cross-cutting issues have benefitted from these in-depth discussions.

In October, the ICRC regional office in Beijing conducted the first ever HELP course in China for the health professionals from the RCSC, government and other agencies. The course was offered in Chinese language. As a special invitee to the course, the regional office introduced to the participants the Federation's role, global health emergency tools and other relevant topics.

A new avenue for Movement-wide partnership was initiated by a request from the Australian Red Cross to jointly plan and facilitate a two-day dissemination workshop in Tibet. Supported by the Australian Red Cross, which supports programmes in this province, and co-organized by the RCSC headquarters, the International

Federation's East Asia office and the ICRC's East Asia delegation, the workshop was held in Lhasa in November. A total of 25 participants including Red Cross staff and volunteers from the Tibetan branch of the RCSC and all the six local branches attended this Red Cross Red Crescent Movement knowledge workshop. Organizational development officers of the Federation both from the regional office and Asia Pacific zone office supported this activity by presenting two sessions on Red Cross Red Crescent Movement history and structure. This was a good opportunity for the provincial and prefecture level Red Cross staff and volunteers to have a more holistic view on the Movement, and to pass on the knowledge to the general public. The success of the event also highlighted potential opportunities to continue such collaborations at branch levels in China.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The activities supported by the International Federation this reporting period have helped to build the capacity of the national society, strengthen ties to partners and stakeholders, provided opportunities for better collaboration and resulting in better impact through the Movement's reach within the China context, and beyond.

A number of RCSC provincial Red Cross branches have developed the human resources and capacity to facilitate vulnerability and capacity assessment training on their own, which shows a great boost in confidence and capacity at the local level. Likewise, the knowledge about good international standards for implementation, monitoring and reporting on programmes such as community-based disaster preparedness/disaster risk reduction will strengthen the RCSC's ability to track progress and systematically learn from these experiences.

The International Federation continues to look for opportunities to provide technical guidance and tools that are useful to the national society, while also providing networking and learning opportunities. This is particularly valuable to the national society as they have many strengths and are clear about what support is most needed at this stage in their development. Shared experiences and tools have become a valuable input as the national society forges its own path in the China context.

The involvement of both the International Federation and ICRC for the World Expo 2010 will provide a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the strength of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, and further share Movement knowledge with a wide audience.

In addition, the focus on integrated and holistic organizational development and capacity building at both grassroots and national levels has allowed for some unique learning opportunities in this past year. The International Federation prioritizes this element of our work, although there are many challenges to carry it out as envisioned with our lack of resources. Still, the International Federation strives to bring a Movement-wide approach to partnering and coordination in China. This will continue to be strengthened in coming years.

Looking ahead

In the coming year, the disaster management programme will focus on building on the RCSC capacity in the areas of emergency response, taking the lesson learned from Sichuan earthquake, utilizing the emergency response unit equipment donated to the RCSC and will continue to develop their skills and human resources.

Furthermore, the disaster management programme will continue to develop community-based disaster preparedness/disaster risk reduction activities and ensure that RCSC has prioritised their resources to support branches in implementation. It is also of highest importance to coordinate partner national societies interest to support RCSC disaster management programmes, in-line with the overall RCSC development plan for the next five years.

Support for health programmes and integration of health issues in disaster management, volunteer and community-based activities around the country will continue to take a high priority for the International Federation's East Asia regional office. The roll-out of the community-based health and first aid approach to a holistic programming of health and risk reduction activities will continue into the next year.

International Federation support to the RCSC's HIV programme will be continued, with a fresh look at partnerships and resource mobilization to better enable the RCSC achieve its goals in the alliance strategy.

While the RCSC has been charged to carry out blood donor recruitment activities nationwide, in recent years, the RCSC's role in this area has been diminishing steadily, as the general capacity of the country's

blood services has increased enormously and donor recruitment activities are increasingly being undertaken by the blood centres. Therefore, with support of the International Federation, the RCSC will further clarify its role in this area and focus more in general awareness raising about blood donation and predisposing and enabling youth to become blood donors, through Club 25 and other youth-friendly initiatives.

In the next year, to take an advantage of the fact that the region is a host to a very high-profile global event (Shanghai Expo 2010 from May through October) and its potential global media outreach, the regional office will be coordinating closely with the RCSC on the planning of celebrations of two important health issue days which are widely celebrated by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, such as the World First Aid Day and World Blood Donor Day.

As noted before, the International Federation looks forward to the next year as a year of improving Movement partnership and coordination amongst all partners towards a stronger and more focused support for the RCSC. This will be done through partnership meetings and discussions, and an improved platform for information sharing amongst all partners supporting the RCSC.

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 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

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[<interim financial report below; click here to return to title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAACN001 - China

Interim Financial Report Jan-Oct 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/10
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	127,711	20,321		0	517,775
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	21,794					21,794
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	123,501					123,501
Japanese Red Cross	38,345					38,345
New York Office (from Lehman Brothers Foundation)	57,950					57,950
Sweden Red Cross		0				0
Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	22,149	0				22,149
C1. Cash contributions	263,740	56,876				320,616
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
Canadian Red Cross		-20,700				-20,700
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		-20,700				-20,700
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	263,740	36,176				299,916
D. Total Funding = B + C	357,643	56,664	31,576		0	445,883
Appeal Coverage	97%	44%	155%		#DIV/0	86%

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	263,740	36,176				299,916
E. Expenditure	-157,275	-54,298	-4,279			-215,852
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	200,368	2,366	27,297		0	230,032

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAACN001 - China

Interim Financial Report Jan-Oct 2009

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Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/10
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	127,711	20,321	0	517,775		
Supplies								
Other Supplies & Services	165,000							165,000
Total Supplies	165,000							165,000
Personnel								
International Staff	81,250		16,195			16,195		65,055
National Staff	12,000	1,225	11,922			13,147		-1,147
Consultants		3,535				3,535		-3,535
Total Personnel	93,250	4,761	28,117			32,877		60,373
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	180,600	363	-812	272		-178		180,778
Total Workshops & Training	180,600	363	-812	272		-178		180,778
General Expenditure								
Travel	18,100	3,568	2,309	1,370		7,246		10,854
Information & Public Relation	16,350	9,391	91	2,359		11,841		4,509
Office Costs	6,000		309			309		5,691
Communications	2,610		133			133		2,477
Professional Fees	2,210	4,782	418			5,200		-2,990
Other General Expenses		9	4			13		-13
Total General Expenditure	45,270	17,749	3,265	3,729		24,743		20,527
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	33,655	11,680	3,529	278		15,487		18,168
Total Programme Support	33,655	11,680	3,529	278		15,487		18,168
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	517,775	157,275	54,298	4,279		215,852		301,923
VARIANCE (C - D)		212,468	73,413	16,042		301,923		