Pacific region

Executive summary

The Pacific region covers a vast geographical area comprising thousands of islands and atolls. The majority of Pacific island countries contend with the challenges of smallness and geographic isolation. The Pacific island countries are the most heavily aid-assisted part of the world on a per capita basis. The high rates of migration in the region are primarily a response to real and perceived inequalities in socio-economic opportunities.

A variety of hazards including cyclones, floods, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides - constitute a significant part of the vulnerability of Pacific island countries. It is well established that the frequency and intensity of the occurrence of hydro-meteorological events in the region is likely to be exacerbated by the impact of climate change.

Small island countries have fragile water resources due to their small size, lack of natural storage and competing land use, vulnerability to natural and human made hazards and urban pollution. Other important health challenges include high fertility rates, the continued prevalence of communicable diseases and the emerging threat of HIV, combined with a rising crisis in non-communicable disease prevalence. In Melanesia, the threat of gender based violence impacts all aspects of women’s lives and increases their vulnerability to HIV. Increasing unemployment and under-employment are a major concern, especially for the region’s youth, women and those with disabilities.

The fourteen Red Cross societies of the Pacific are well positioned to play an increasingly significant role in times of disasters and crisis and in helping to meet the health and social challenges of the region. Through their local volunteer-led branch network, Red Cross societies have greater reach into communities than any other civil society actor. Through their disaster management, health and risk reduction programmes the Pacific national societies contribute to achieving national development objectives, including national Millennium Development Goals and the 2005-2010 Pacific Plan initiatives.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent’s (IFRC) regional office in the Pacific, has developed its 2011 plan based on the objectives identified by its regional members. The focus of the 2011 plan is to support Red Cross societies to become better functioning and well governed civil society leaders. The IFRC in the Pacific hopes to provide regional national societies with: the ability to plan, resource and manage programmes that address the needs of the most vulnerable men, women and children.

The goals, means of delivery and strategic framework of this Pacific region plan fit within the IFRC’s wider Asia Pacific zone strategy, guided by the IFRC’s newly adopted Strategy 2020. The priorities in the coming two years are to:

- Build safer and more resilient communities through services to member national societies that increase the reach and impact of their programmes;
- Strengthen Red Cross Red Crescent mechanisms and networks that build mutual capacity, improve knowledge sharing, and increase leverage of collective voice;

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3 Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands (in formation), Micronesia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu (in formation), Vanuatu.
• Influence changes in humanitarian policies and practices through improved access to and cooperation with governments and key institutions;
• Diversify financial and human resources for the benefit of programmes at the national level through a collective Red Cross Red Crescent approach; and
• Lead and coordinate zone, regional and country planning, performance and accountability mechanisms to increase Red Cross Red Crescent effectiveness and efficiency.

In 2011, IFRC’s Pacific regional office will support Pacific national societies with their activities related to preparing and responding to natural and human-made disasters. An added dimension of this work will be their role in persuading governments to be better prepared legislatively to facilitate and regulate international disaster responses. A second axis of the support to the national societies will be in the area of primary health covering: HIV prevention, blood safety, community based health and first aid, prevention of chronic diseases, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. A third axis will be in reducing disaster risk through climate change adaptation, with the aim of preventing and reducing the underlying causes of vulnerability and bolstering community resilience.

The total budget for IFRC’s plan in 2011 is CHF 2.24 million.

Click here to go directly to the attached budget summary of the plan.

Regional context

The Pacific Islands (excluding Papua New Guinea) comprise some 500 inhabited islands spread over 30 million square kilometers with over 250 language groups. Papua New Guinea has a further 800 language groups and people living within some of the most challenging topography in the world. The majority of the country is not accessible by road.

Papua New Guinea with a population of 5.6 million is the largest country in terms of population and land mass. The remainder of the Pacific island countries total just over two million in population; and range in population size from approximately 2,000 in Niue to about 850,000 in Fiji. There are widely varying levels of population density across the countries, with land-rich countries such as Fiji; and Solomon Islands and Vanuatu having very low densities; and still others like Kiribat and Marshall Islands with high, to Nauru and Tuvalu with very high population densities. Life expectancy is in the range of 60-70 years, except for Papua New Guinea where it is below 60 years.

The Pacific island countries and territories are traditionally aggregated into three major indigenous groups: Polynesia, Micronesia and Melanesia. These three groupings are characterized by quite distinct mixes of international and internal migration patterns. Polynesia is a major point of origin of international migrants. Melanesia, a place of intense internal migration flows. Finally, Micronesia is a combination of both.

The countries are geographically fragmented and have been described as “sea-locked” because of their remoteness from centres of economic activity. Studies have shown that due to their isolation, the high cost of production in the Pacific is a major constraint for competing in most economic markets. Pacific nations pay higher transport and energy costs; the cost of travel both for tourism and business is extremely high. The region is heavily dependent on international aid, with aid per capita ranging from about USD 40 in Fiji to over USD 2,000 in Palau. The main donors to the region are Australia, China, France, Japan, New Zealand and the United States. New Zealand provides the largest percentage share of its overall aid to the Pacific region.

Population growth rates remain high in most of the Pacific nations and young people make up a large proportion of the population. This increase has not been matched with new employment opportunities and there are growing levels of youth and adult unemployment, in particular for men. The majority of the population and developing industries are concentrated in coastal regions. The United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) 2007 Human Development report notes:

“More than 50 per cent of Pacific islanders live within 1.5 km of the shoreline and are particularly exposed to accelerated coastal erosion, saline intrusion, and coral reef bleaching and flooding. Many island people rely on

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5 Pacific Islands: Development in 3D. Key findings and policy advice from World Development Report 2009 and other reports.
8 Fighting Climate Change: Human Solidarity in a Divided World.
fisheries as a source of food and income from coral reef and mangrove habitats that are threatened by warming ocean temperatures and sea level rise."

These characteristics make the Pacific island countries and their cultures extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change, hydro-meteorological and other natural hazards. The latest findings from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirm that climate change is one of the most important challenges to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Pacific island countries. Climate change is likely to have a number of kinds of impact in the region including an increase in the frequency and intensity of hydro-meteorological events such as flooding, drought and cyclones with adverse health consequences as well as long term impact such as a reduction in the availability of potable water, rising sea levels and salt-water infiltration into soil. For many countries the impact of climate change are already being felt and are expected to worsen in the coming decades.

There have been many impressive results achieved in the region since the 1970s in the health and education sectors. In recent times, however, gains in the social sector have stagnated. Enrolments at secondary levels of education have declined. Public health systems continue to face the prevalence of diseases such as malaria, leprosy, and tuberculosis, compounded with the difficult problem of non-communicable diseases and emerging communicable diseases such as HIV. Papua New Guinea has the highest HIV incidence in the Pacific and the prevalence of HIV continues to rise among the population. Key determinants include high rates of sexually transmitted infections, multiple partnering, widespread engagement in transactional sex and extensive sexual violence against women.

Violence against women is a pervasive issue in the Melanesia. A 2007 AusAID study found that gender based violence against women constrains development in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu by severely limiting “women’s social, political and economic participation in their communities.” The report states “that violence represents a significant strain on national economies with escalating costs in health care, social services, policing and the justice system.” Disabled people are another disadvantaged group in the Pacific as they are often not included in state safety nets.

Priorities and current work with partners

Pacific national societies and their programmes

The Pacific national societies contribute to humanitarian action, humanitarian diplomacy, and human development in the region through the implementation of a range of disaster management, disaster risk reduction and health and social welfare programmes. These national societies reflect the diversity and differing economic levels of the region. They range from: well established, well-structured organizations; for example, Australia, New Zealand or Fiji to name a few; to very small developing national societies which are not much more than ten years old; for example, Kiribati and the Federated States of Micronesia, or national societies still in formation -- Tuvalu and Marshall Islands. The region also consists of branches and chapters of the American Red Cross and the French Red Cross.

The disaster management activities of the Pacific national societies cover preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters and crisis including:

- training and organizing community volunteers,
- maintaining contingency stocks of essential supplies (through the region wide container programme),
- establishing early warning systems,
- emergency shelter provision,
- restoring family links where these have been disrupted,
- protecting health,
- bringing psychosocial support, and
- restoring livelihoods

Through their disaster management activities the national societies of the Pacific aim to reduce deaths, losses,
damage and other harmful consequences of disasters and crisis and the restoration of community functioning.

The specific contribution of national societies to sustainable development is through bolstering community resilience. This is the ability to adapt and cope better with recurrent and prolonged disasters and crises, and so enabling people to protect and build further on the development gains that have been made in communities. The Pacific national societies do this by helping people maintain their health, be disaster prepared and know what to do in case of a disaster. Risk reduction may mean to their respective communities.

In the area of disaster risk reduction, most Pacific national societies are planning projects to address community-based disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change awareness. The Secretaries General of the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society and the Fiji Red Cross Society attended the Asia Pacific Zone gender and disaster management forum in July 2009, and the Secretary General of the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society has undertaken the gender focal person role to continue to promote gender sensitive approaches to all national society programme work. Some societies have already started to work with communities to map the most significant locally-prevalent natural and human-made hazards and the vulnerabilities connected to these. A number of societies are already participating in the consultation processes for National Action Planning for disaster risk management which is currently being undertaken by national governments in the region.

In health and social welfare, the Pacific national societies endeavour to continue their work in: reducing vulnerabilities to HIV and other infectious diseases; the promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donations, first aid training and community-based health and first aid; and support to disabled, the elderly and other marginalized and stigmatized people. The regional national societies are also scaling up their work to improve communities’ access to safe water and proper sanitation.

A number of national societies are responding to the expanded focus on migration in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, through programmes that assist refugees, asylum seekers, immigration detainees and others made vulnerable by migration. Many societies are also very active in the promotion of International Humanitarian Law.

All national societies have active partnerships with their governments and international/local non-governmental organizations. For example the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia, Tonga, Palau and Samoa Red Cross Societies each have an agreement with their ministries of health that recognizes the local Red Cross as a key player and advocate for voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment.

The American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, the Red Cross Society of China, the French Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross Society and the New Zealand Red Cross Society, along with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), are the key Red Cross Red Crescent Movement supporters in the region providing technical, material and financial resources. External support is provided by government as well as a range of donor government and international and local organizations including AusAID, NZAID, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other United Nations agencies. Other partners include the Asian Development Bank and numerous corporate organizations. Support is provided either directly to national societies or through the IFRC or ICRC regional offices.

Support from IFRC’s Pacific Regional Office
IFRC has been present in the Pacific since the early nineties. Originally based in Sydney, IFRC’s Pacific Regional Office was moved to Suva in 1998. That same year the government of Fiji recognized the international legal personality of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

IFRC’s focus over the last two decades has been: on accompanying the Pacific national societies through their formation and recognition by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement; fostering a regional Pacific national societies group; mobilizing and coordinating resources for regional and national programmes in first aid, public and emergency health; community based self reliance; and disaster preparedness and response. The regional office also provides operational support in times of disaster.

The purpose of IFRC’s 2011 plan is to continue to build strong national societies in the Pacific. This will be achieved by:

- Building safer and more resilient communities through services to member national societies that increase

the reach and impact of their programmes;
- Strengthening Red Cross Red Crescent mechanisms and networks that build mutual capacity, improving knowledge sharing, and increasing the leverage of collective voice;
- Influencing changes in humanitarian policies and practices through improved access to and cooperation with governments and key institutions;
- Diversifying financial and human resources for the benefit of programmes at the national level through a collective Red Cross Red Crescent approach; and
- Leading and coordinating zone, regional and country planning, performance and accountability mechanisms to increase Red Cross Red Crescent effectiveness and efficiency.

The International Committee of the Red Cross
There has been enhanced cooperation and joint assistance planning with ICRC to support national society development over the past years. This will be further consolidated in the new approach to overall Movement coordination, using one common national society mapping tool that will lead to harmonized support from all Movement components. The ICRC delegation in the Pacific advises governments in the ratification and implementation of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) treaties and promotes compliance with IHL among the region's armed and security forces. It also promotes IHL among academic circles, the media and civil society. The delegation assists the region's national societies in strengthening their capacity in disaster response, and the promotion of humanitarian principles. The ICRC visits people detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji and the Solomon Islands. ICRC in the Pacific remains on alert to assist victims of armed violence or conflict. The ICRC delegation in the Pacific is based in Fiji, with offices in Papua New Guinea and Australia.

Secretariat programmes in 2010-2011

Disaster management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

The disaster management programme budget for 2011 is CHF 808,404.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme component 1: Disaster management planning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome:</strong> National societies have an improved capacity to develop disaster management plans in order to reduce impact of disasters on vulnerable communities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key activities:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Provide support to at least four national societies (Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, Cook Islands Red Cross Society, Kiribati Red Cross Society and Vanuatu Red Cross Society) to develop or update disaster management plans and review the roles of the national society in national disaster management mechanisms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Where required, support national societies in negotiating and advocating their role in national disaster management mechanisms including advocating for International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL).</td>
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<td>• Assist at least four national societies with contingency planning and/or organizing internal simulations</td>
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<td>• Support the establishment of a baseline in the region by distributing and supporting the completion of the Well Prepared National Society (WPNS)-III Survey</td>
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<td>• Engage all national societies in the region on the development of a regional response framework to enhance coordination and disaster response support to national societies within the region</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop the capacity of national societies for robust monitoring and evaluation of their disaster management programmes and assist at least two national societies (Tonga Red Cross Society and the Cook Islands Red Cross Society) to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Programme component 2: Organizational preparedness</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome:</strong> National societies have increased ability to react rapidly to small and medium sized disasters requiring minimal external assistance.</td>
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<td><strong>Key activities:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• National society training needs analysis conducted in collaboration with the Disaster Management Advisory Group (DMAG) and informed by the results of the WPNS and country visits, followed by the development of a training plan for the region</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| • Provide targeted training to address national society needs in areas such as: basic disaster management (DM); national disaster response; vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA); recovery; logistics; and lessons drawn from the organizational development and volunteering in emergencies work from the wider
Asia Pacific Zone.

- Finalize National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and the training package
- Develop/update DM induction package for new officers/ volunteers in consultation with national societies in the region
- Facilitate shelter preparedness training in close coordination with the Disaster Management Unit in the Asia Pacific Zone office and Australian Red Cross
- Support national societies and IFRC staff by ensuring participation in appropriate DM events
- Work closely with partnering and operating national societies on the implementation of the Pacific Container Programme
- Work with French Red Cross’s Plateforme d'Intervention régionale pour l'Océan Pacific Sud (PIROPS) and Fiji Red Cross Society to develop the regional framework for developing national society logistics capacity
- Facilitate the restocking and maintenance of containers
- Facilitate the delivery of logistics training in at least two national societies (Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu)
- Facilitate the attendance of Logistics/Relief training organized by PIROPS
- Support at least three peer exchanges between national societies on disaster management planning, training and/or logistics

Programme Component 3: Community preparedness

**Outcome:** National Societies have increased the quality and coverage of Community Based DM and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programming with integrated Climate Change Adaptation elements

**Key activities:**
- Provide Cook Islands Red Cross Society, Samoa Red Cross Society, Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, Tuvalu Red Cross Society (in formation) and Vanuatu Red Cross Society with support in design, implementation and monitoring of community based disaster management programming
- Support Cook Islands Red Cross Society with the implementation of an integrated DM/DRR programme
- Support Tonga Red Cross to develop and implement community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) activities
- Support the integration of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and community based health and first aid (CBHFA) programming for national societies
- Disseminate Information Communication and Educational materials (IEC) on CBHFA and VCA for promoting integrated approaches
- Work with the IFRC health and organizational development teams to promote the integrated programming approach in the Pacific Region.

Programme Component 4: Disaster preparedness for response

**Outcome:** Further strengthened capacity to respond to disasters

**Key activities:**
- Provide support to national societies on the management, maintenance and restocking of emergency relief supplies through resource mobilization, training and identification of local resources as requested
- Engage all national societies on the development of a regional DM framework to enhance coordination and disaster response support
- Establish an operational Pacific Regional Disaster Response Training (RDRT) system
- Facilitate RDRT Reference Group meetings
- Conduct RDRT training (1 Refresher + 1 Specialized) in close coordination with the Disaster Management Unit in the Asia Pacific Zone office

Programme Component 5: Communications, advocacy and coordination

**Outcome:** DM resources have been maximized to advocate for addressing specific vulnerabilities by strengthening coordination, networking and knowledge sharing initiatives within Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners and external DM/DRR agencies

**Key activities:**
- Maintain membership and active input into regional networks such as Pacific Emergency Management Technical Advisory Group (PEMTAG), Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) and the Pacific DM Partnership Network in involving IDRL delegate as appropriate.
- Develop a regional strategy on shelter preparedness including participation in Pacific cluster system and contingency planning exercises.
- Strengthen coordination and networking amongst the Pacific national societies
- Commence DM review and studies on national society DM activities
- Ensuring pro-active media outreach before and during emergencies, to include advance media advisories, planning and budgeting in emergency appeals, and improved beneficiary communications through selected societies
Globally, climate change adaptation and disaster risk management are treated as separate fields of practice with different institutional, policy and funding arrangements. One of IFRC’s comparative advantages is the understanding and treatment of climate change adaptation as an integral DRR component. IFRC’s approach makes sense in the Pacific, where resources are limited and climate change is already having an adverse impact on the livelihoods and health of communities. In addition, while some Pacific Islands face the short-term impact of climate change on weather variability in the form of increased flooding and cyclone activity. Other islands will face the longer term impact of climate change on community health; and with this access to water and food security issues also need to be dealt with. So, it is vital that IFRC responds to these challenges, by recognizing the different needs of national societies, in terms of their capacity development for disaster preparedness and risk reduction, by delivering a programme that seeks to build capacities for both simultaneously.

The DM programme strives to address these challenges at both regional and national levels and is guided by way of IFRC’s Strategy-2020, the Global and Asia Pacific Disaster Management strategies and the Hyogo Framework for Action, with a focus on mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptations.

IFRC’s current disaster management plan rests upon the development of an overarching regional cooperation framework for disaster management that identifies lead roles for national societies, partner national societies and the Secretariat that recognizes and draws upon respective strengths, expertise and available resources. This framework recognizes the need for a harmonized approach to disaster management and will be an important step in supporting the national society’s response efforts within the region in identifying the human, technical and financial resources available. The framework will see national societies and the IFRC take the lead in different areas such as logistics, water and sanitation and disaster management planning.

IFRC will continue to take the lead role in assisting national societies in developing and implementing national disaster plans and strategies for maintaining disaster risk reduction. These plans aim to meet the challenges in DRR and climate change within the region; and build upon the progress made in developing the capacities of national societies in these areas over the previous three years. Support to national societies with the identification of relevant risk information for informed decision making will be essential to the planning process as will be support to resource mobilization and the development of robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Good monitoring and evaluation will also depend on the establishment of a strong baseline that can demonstrate our progress in these areas. It is in this context that IFRC will support all Pacific national societies to complete the third edition of the baseline survey on well-prepared national societies (WPNS III).

Activities identified under the disaster management plan will also include supporting national societies to form partnerships with their respective governments in addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction. The IFRC is proactive in identifying opportunities for national societies to provide input into the development of relevant policy and directions at the national level. An example of this has been encouraging national societies to participate in consultation processes for national action planning for disaster risk management, currently being undertaken by national governments in the region. In addition, IFRC will support the national societies in identifying DM projects that support the implementation of national action plans for disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change at the community level.

A central focus of this programme will also include developing the capacity of national society staff and volunteer networks to work with communities on DM and DRR. Capacity development will focus upon training and may include but is not limited to DM, national disaster response, vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA), recovery and logistics. The engagement of national societies is essential in the development of a comprehensive training framework to guide the focus of this training. Further refinement of the VCA toolbox to the Pacific context, based on a regional sharing of experience and lessons learned will be a pivotal part of this work, as will the allocation of seed funding to national societies to address community level priorities coming out of the VCA process. Funding from AusAID through the Australian Red Cross-led Pacific disaster management partnership programme and the Japanese Red Cross Society will be instrumental in this process.

The regional office will continue to support the maintenance, management and restocking of national societies’ pre-positioned stock systems with the financial support of Japanese Red Cross Society. Recent disasters in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea have shown that while adequate for minor disasters, a much larger stock and logistics system for distribution are required for a more efficient response. This plan will see specific cooperation with the French Red Cross’s Plateforme d’Intervention régionale pour l’Océan Pacific Sud (PIROPS) and Australian Red Cross, recognizing their expertise and contribution in this area. The successful and efficient distribution of relief items during disasters will also be dependent upon the establishment of logistics management systems and ongoing training of logistics personnel. As part of the overarching cooperation framework with national societies and in recognition of their leadership in providing logistics training in the Pacific in the last two years, the Pacific regional office will work with the French Red Cross’s PIROPS to develop standardized logistics training that meets regional needs.
An essential focus of the strategic approach for the disaster management programme will be integrating programmes and building partnerships at regional and national levels. Both disasters and climate change have the potential to cause considerable damage to fresh water supplies and can cause extensive health issues. Recognizing this potential threat, the disaster management plan identifies technical support to national societies for the development of gender sensitive projects that recognize these linkages as well as addressing community priorities in development as entry points for building community resilience. This in turn will encourage greater integration of disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation and community based health programmes within national societies. It is essential that projects targeting vulnerable communities are supported by the development of public awareness programmes that deliver key messages on disaster management and risk management. IFRC will support national societies in this endeavour.

IFRC is an active participant in a number of formal and informal networks for DM, including climate change at the regional level. These include the Pacific partnership for disaster risk management, the Pacific humanitarian team and the Pacific emergency management training and advisory group. These networks facilitate coordination with humanitarian partners and provide an ideal platform for advocacy on a number of issues with focus on the work of the Pacific national societies. IFRC will also use other avenues to advocate for the work of Pacific national societies in the region including the development of case studies promoting best practices.

IFRC coordinated and organized the DM forum with input from national societies across the region. The DM forum receives significant financial support from AusAID through the Australian Red Cross Pacific disaster management partnership programme. This forum has a number of functions including: ensuring that national societies are informed of emerging issues; providing national societies with the opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned; and driving disaster management policy and making decisions on regional priorities. These regional meetings also provide opportunities for national societies to discuss the implications of and ways forward for meeting the commitments made by the IFRC at the global level. Such commitments include those made at the 2007 International Conference, those made under the Hyogo Framework for Action and more recently through the Humanitarian Reform Process. In addition, the regional disaster management programme plans to continue to organize exchange support visits between national societies in the event of a disaster or for further training to increase the capacity of the national societies to respond to disasters rapidly and efficiently.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The intended beneficiaries of the programme are Pacific communities made vulnerable by their location in disaster-prone areas. The programme will be responsive to the fact that the vulnerability of communities across the region can be exacerbated by a diverse range of factors that vary from country to country, and even within countries, including rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, poverty, climate risk, political instability and conflict. The beneficiaries of the regional DM programme will also be staff and volunteers from thirteen Pacific national societies.

Our collaboration with other agencies through the Pacific humanitarian team, the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), UN agencies, and international non-governmental organizations and national non-governmental organizations will also benefit these actors.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The scale of disasters and the relatively small population size of Pacific island countries, compared to other regions, have resulted in limited interest in funding disaster management in the Pacific. As a result there is little diversity in funding options within the region, outside a handful of traditional and long-time supporters. This presents serious resource mobilization challenges for the programme. Other notable risks and challenges to the disaster management programme include the loss of skilled human resources due to competition from higher paying (mostly) international agencies, sizeable disasters that may overwhelm national societies and the difficulty in accessing remote areas due to the challenging geography of the region. IFRC recognizes that disasters are also a window of opportunity to improve the skills and expertise of national society staff as well as the profile of all Pacific national societies with local national authorities and civil society. In order to address issues of capacity and limited resources, the DM programme aims to encourage stronger partnerships and coordination between the national societies in the region and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to support each other and increase capacity in the region.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies</td>
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The health and care programme budget for 2011 is CHF 738,675.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme component</th>
<th>HIV</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Component outcome 1</strong>: National societies contribute to preventing further HIV infection in the region</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support the Cook Islands Red Cross Society, Samoa Red Cross Society, Kiribati Red Cross Society and Micronesia Red Cross Society in incorporating IFRC’s Peer Education standards and HIV Prevention Guidelines in their HIV interventions</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support the Cook Islands Red Cross Society, Samoa Red Cross Society, Kiribati Red Cross Society and Micronesia Red Cross Society to organize appropriate IEC and social activities including dramas/puppet shows/candle light campaigns to educate target population groups on HIV and sexually transmitted illnesses (STI) prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support the Cook Islands Red Cross Society (CIRCS), Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS), Kiribati Red Cross Society (KRCS) and Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) to integrate CBHFA and HIV related activities and condom distribution in the target population groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Work in partnership with Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation (PIAF) on reducing stigma and discrimination activities, and support CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS to build partnerships with the country positive organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Component outcome 2</strong>: National societies contribute to reducing stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV (PLHIV)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conduct training for CIRCS’s, SRCS’s, KRCS’s and MRCS’s HIV staff on IFRC’s community based HIV prevention, care, treatment and support manual</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS to adopt and implement IFRC’s anti-stigma and discrimination campaign for the Pacific region</td>
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<td>• Support the CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS to develop HIV in workplace policy and conduct HIV trainings for other organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS to conduct special annual activities to mark World AIDS day every year</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Component outcome 3</strong>: National societies contribute to blood safety in the region through the recruitment of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors (VNRBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS NSs to develop and implement VNRBD interventions including Club/pledge 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conduct VNRBD training for CIRCS’s, SRCS’s, KRCS’s and MRCS’s staff and volunteers based on IFRC’s “Making a Difference” manual</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS develop and adopt VNRBD IEC materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS, MRCS, Vanuatu Red Cross and Palau Red Cross with activities on World Blood Donor Day on June 14 every year</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme component</th>
<th>Community based health and first aid</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1</strong>: Enhanced capacity of the target communities to manage common ailments, and injuries through improved quality of national society commercial and community based health and first aid training and interventions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key Activities</strong>:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support national societies in promoting first aid and the role of their volunteers and raising their profile on World First Aid Day (WFAD) in September</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support national societies to scale up their CBHFA activities in target communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conduct national/regional training on CBHFA programme planning for national societies’ staff and volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support national societies in conducting advocacy and awareness raising campaigns on Global Road Safety Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 2</strong>: Improved preparedness and response mechanisms in national societies and communities to better respond to public health emergencies and epidemics (or pandemics) of infectious diseases, especially Avian/Pandemic Influenza</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key Activities</strong>:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Work jointly with regional DM team in supporting national societies for conducting VCA in target communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support national societies in developing their pandemic influenza/epidemic preparedness and</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
response plan in collaboration with DM

- Support national societies to arrange emergency health and pandemic preparedness trainings at country level

**Outcome 3: Enhance national societies’s profile and scale up health promotion and prevention interventions in target communities**

**Key Activities:**

- CBHFA trainings for regional Red Cross volunteers and communities using IFRC’s CBHFA training material focusing on a healthy life style to prevent non-communicable diseases, drug/alcohol abuse, hygiene and health promotion and HIV prevention

**Programme component Capacity building**

**Outcome 1: Enhanced capacity to plan, deliver and monitor effective health interventions, raise resources and form partnerships with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders**

**Key Activities:**

- Visit countries to work jointly with the national societies to develop and implement CBHFA plans including HIV
- Help CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS to establish a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system and support M&E officers
- Coordinate regional sharing of human resources
- Conduct annual planning and review meeting of CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS, MRCS and Pacific HIV Global Alliance partners
- Ensure national societies’s and regional staff attend international conference/trainings on relevant health topics
- Conduct regional M&E training for NS staff
- Attend health coordination meetings at Zone and global level
- Support NS to develop branch and community structure for integrated community based programmes using participatory approaches like CBHFA and VCA

From 2010-2011, under the first health and care programme component IFRC will continue to support SRCS, CIRCS, KRCS and MRCS to reduce vulnerability from HIV and its impact through four programme outputs: preventing further infection; expanding care, treatment and support; reducing stigma and discrimination; and strengthening the capacities of national societies to deliver and sustain scaled up programmes.

These are interrelated objectives. Effective prevention requires the development of life skills, more information, and social mobilization to counter the stigma and discrimination that hampers access to treatment. In turn, effective treatment and care eases stigma and boosts prevention through, for example, motivating people to accept voluntary counselling and testing (VCT). People living with HIV and their families are a central focus as their interaction within society both contributes towards, and reflects the success of, our collective efforts.

A system of voluntary and regular non-remunerated blood donation is widely recognized as a critical factor in blood service delivery. Blood coming from family or replacement donors, especially paid donors, is known to have a higher incidence and prevalence of transfusion-transmissible infections. Blood coming from a voluntary system is, in general, less likely to contain HIV, hepatitis B and C or other infections. In the Pacific, the IFRC will support four national societies CIRCS, SRCS, KRCS and MRCS, to implement VNRBD interventions.

The Movement is a leading first aid promoter and provider globally. It advocates that first aid is a proven cost effective, safe and simple way to save lives during disasters and in day-to-day emergencies. First aid remains a core activity for a majority of Pacific national societies. The IFRC in collaboration with the New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC) will support the: Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS), Tuvalu Red Cross Society (TRCS (in formation)), Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS), Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS), Palau Red Cross Society (PRCS), MRCS, SRCS, KRCS and CIRCS with first aid instructor training courses. With the ICRC, IFRC will support the Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS), the Tonga Red Cross Society (TRCS), SIRCS and the PNGRCS to incorporate “first aid in conflict” into their curriculum.

CBHFA is an integrated community-based approach in which Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) volunteers work with their communities in disease prevention, health promotion, first aid, disaster preparedness and disaster response. The goal of CBHFA is the creation of a healthy and resilient community. The IFRC aims to train: SRCS, MRCS, KRCS, CIRCS, PNGRCS, VRCS and FRCS in this approach and support them with planning and implementation in target communities.
Chronic diseases are a major health priority in the region and can be addressed through CBHFA. National societies in the Pacific play an important role in recognizing the threat of chronic diseases by advocating for policy and environmental changes and influencing community and individual norms and behaviour. IFRC is seeking long term, multi-country funding for chronic disease interventions implemented through CBHFA.

Another area of focus will be water and sanitation interventions through CBHFA. IFRC is supporting bilateral water and sanitation projects in CIRCS, VRCS and SIRCS in coordination with Australian Red Cross and French Red Cross.

In the area of health in emergencies, IFRC will provide technical support to eleven societies to integrate health in emergencies and epidemic elements into their disaster management plans. IFRC will work with national societies to address the health needs of victims from rapid and slow onset disasters (floods, high winds, and climate change) and to be better prepared for the health consequences of emerging disease epidemics such as avian/pandemic influenza. The regional health programme will augment national society capacity to implement and sustain scaled up programmes through coordination and support to organizational development at branch and headquarters levels. This enabling output will provide necessary branch and volunteer structures for efficient and effective health programme management and build national societies’s capacity to work with communities using their own resources and with less dependence on external support.

b) Profile of target audience and final beneficiaries
The intended beneficiaries of the regional health programme are high-risk communities, community groups with poor socio-economic structure and other factors leading to poor health and vulnerability to infectious diseases including HIV, waterborne diseases, poor nutrition, poor access to health and other social services. In addition, the programme is responsive to the vulnerability of communities across the region that can be aggravated by a diverse range of social and demographic factors including a young population, rapid urbanization, social barriers and practices, environmental degradation, poverty, climate change, political instability and conflict.

c) Potential risks and challenges
Potential risks include: A high turnover of staff that leads to a loss of institutional memory. This then makes it difficult for national societies to maximize their potential as self-sustaining national societies. There is also a risk that the regional office is: unable to have sufficient resources; or unable to match correct resources for the health and care programme. To overcome some of these risk factors, the Pacific office will continue to promote peer exchanges and to engage national society staff in regional activities with the hope that this will contribute to the motivation that will them to remain within the Movement.

Organizational development/Capacity building

a) The purpose and components of the programme
The organizational development and capacity building programme budget for 2011 is CHF 504,469.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme component 1 – Tailor made organizational development and capacity building initiatives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome:</strong> Organizational issues have been addressed in individual national societies through tailor-made organizational development and capacity building initiatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key activities:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide targeted organizational development support to Pacific national societies through in-country missions against mutually agreed organizational development deliverables and output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Conduct regional analysis to identify strength and challenges in volunteering development in the Pacific with tailor made action plans to improve volunteering systems in two to three national societies using technical visits or peer practitioner support from the Asia Pacific Zone’s organizational development and the Volunteering peer practitioner network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promote and strengthen good governance and management culture and system of national societies in Pacific through the regional ‘knowing governance-knowing leadership’ initiative and actions agreed by the Pacific Regional Governance Working Group (PRGWG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Develop and implement a strategy for finance development in the region and provide advice, training and support to national societies to improve and develop financial management systems, procedures, skills and structures with: SIRCS, VRCS, KRCs and PNGRCS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • Support and facilitate the strategic planning processes of two to four national societies (KRCs, VRCS,
MRCS, PRCS) aligned with IFRC’s Strategy 2020 (S2020) using trained facilitators from the Asia Pacific pool of S2020 facilitators.

- Support the ongoing revision process of statutes of selected national societies in collaboration with ICRC and in liaison with the Joint Statutes Commission (JSC)
- Support the recognition process of Tuvalu Red Cross in collaboration with ICRC

**Programme component 2 – Integration with health and disaster management**

**Outcome:** Increased integration of organizational development and capacity building aspects within health and disaster management programmes.

**Key activities**

- Support national societies with harmonized and integrated Movement planning processes and initiate new processes where relevant
- Develop common understanding of organizational development and capacity building within the Secretariat team and among key regional Movement partners
- Support the integration of organizational development and capacity building components into emergency operations plans for national societies
- Ensure that organizational development is an integrated part of NDRT and RDRT training

**Programme component 3 – Information sharing and knowledge management**

**Outcome:** Sharing of lessons learned, best practices, and skilled national society practitioners providing peer national society support in organizational development and capacity building across all Movement components in Asia Pacific.

**Key activities**

- Develop Pacific human resource database as part of the wider Asia Pacific zone organizational development and volunteering peer support database
- Support national societies to update their basic information profiles
- Continue to develop best practice materials for shared document library of organizational development and capacity-building resources within the wider Asia Pacific
- Collect and share new resources developed by Pacific national societies and contribute to AP wide and global learning and sharing
- Conduct organizational impact review in two national societies to assess improved services to beneficiaries
- Support Pacific Organizational Development Working Group (PODWG) initiatives in the region
- Promote two to three peer mentoring support missions on organizational development priorities as identified by PODWG
- Support leadership and management development for two national society leaders
- In consultation with the zone communications manager, develop communications and marketing materials on organizational development activities

Over the last year, IFRC’s Pacific Regional office has taken stock of the status of national society needs and priorities. This information has reconfirmed the importance of providing country level tailored organization development support. In a number of national societies, short term support is required whilst in others longer term consistent inputs will be critical to achieving positive change. Legal base revision; inducting and training governing bodies; support for strategic planning and finance development have emerged as important needs throughout the region.

**Legal base development**

IFRC and ICRC are currently providing support to four societies in the development of their legal base. A further three national societies are planning to update their statutes over the next 12 months. The two international bodies act as a liaison point with the Joint Statutes Commission and also provide in country support to the development of legal base revision plans of action and drafting support.

**Strengthening governance**

In 2010, the IFRC with the support of the membership launched the “knowing leadership, knowing governance” initiative. The aim of the project is to develop culturally cognisant processes for building good governance practice across Pacific national societies. Following a thorough baseline consultation with the leaders of each national society (March-July 2010), a sample group of past and present leaders were invited to a design workshop in August 2010 to explore options for supporting good governance. The national society representatives identified a capacity strengthening model based on a training as the most appropriate and sustainable option. They have established their own "working group" to run this year long pilot. This Pacific Governance Working Group has the active backing and strong support of the IFRC and ICRC. The main elements of the pilot are: adapting the Well Functioning Governing Board Checklist to Pacific needs, updating the Pacific IFRC governance training modules, selecting governance trainers from the Pacific region, piloting the updated training for the CIRCS and rolling out
the training in two to three national societies based on their own assessment (using the adapted checklist) of governance needs. Funds sourced from Australian Red Cross, Japan Red Cross Society, NZRC and ICRC will support this membership led initiative.

In addition to the training pilot, the IFRC will continue to provide tailored support to national societies in the areas of: governing board self assessments and development plans, policy development, preparation for general assemblies, strategic planning in line with Strategy 2020, clarification on board/management roles and resolution of integrity issues.

Financial Development
Good financial management is essential to effectively manage and maximize limited resources for the benefit of vulnerable people. For national societies who are struggling in this area, improved financial management brings greater transparency and accountability, allowing for quality and timely reporting to beneficiaries, members and local and international donors. In turn this fosters greater confidence and increased support.

ARC, NZRC and IFRC currently provide finance management and development support in the Pacific region. This support is primarily short term (two weeks to four months) and centres on programme financial management, in particular support to clearing working advances, financial reporting and preparation for external audits. In some national societies financial management, health checks and finance development action plans have been produced; but there has not been ongoing support for implementing these plans. Some national society exchanges (through visits or sharing of manuals) on financial development have also taken place within the context of the Pacific Organizational Development Working Group and on a bilateral basis. Therefore, finance development is seen as a priority but the focus has been on short term technical advisory inputs rather than longer term comprehensive support.

In 2011, IFRC is looking to revitalize the work undertaken in 2006-07 by the then Regional Finance Delegate. This work will focus on 1) updating the finance development strategy for the Pacific 2) providing intensive finance development technical support to four national societies 3) progressing regional finance development initiatives such as the implementation of minimum standards 4) training a national organizational development-finance development officer in Fiji.

Harmonized Movement Support
Better coordinated and harmonized Movement support to Pacific national societies is essential for sustainable programming and organizational development. The Pacific Regional Office will continue to support the country level Movement harmonization processes which in 2009 and 2010 were initiated and revitalized in over half of the Pacific national societies. Through these processes the Pacific Secretariat Team will continue to promote the implementation of the new organizational development approach for national society development agreed in the Brisbane Forum of December 2008.

Regional Networks
The Pacific team will support the work of the membership led Pacific Governance Working Group and the Pacific OD Working Group.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries
Direct beneficiaries of this programme are volunteers and staff of Pacific national societies. The purpose of enhancing capacity of national societies is to enhance the scale and/or effectiveness of service delivery to vulnerable men, women and children.

c) Potential risks and challenges
Potential risks include: A high turnover of staff that leads to a loss of institutional memory. This then makes it difficult for national societies to maximize their potential as self-sustaining national societies. There is also a risk that the regional office is: unable to have sufficient resources; or unable to match correct resources for the organizational development programme. To overcome some of these risk factors, the Pacific office will continue to promote peer exchanges and to engage national society staff in regional activities with the hope that this will contribute to the motivation that will will them to remain within the Movement.

Principles and values
a) The purpose and components of the programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity</td>
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</table>
### Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian values and Fundamental Principles

**Outcome 1:** Enhancing understanding and sharing of best practices  
- Collect and share best practices to feed into the zone for dissemination  
- Promote new policy and guideline developments to national society leadership

**Outcome 2:** Capacity-building in principles and values/gender of national societies' staff and volunteers  
- Distribute global modules to improve existing dissemination and training of staff, volunteers, youth, and governance

**Outcome 3:** Raising public awareness with a view to changing behaviour in society  
- Disseminate existing humanitarian values sensitization and campaign materials for use by national societies

**Outcome 4:** Advocacy and international representation  
- Support societies to take on more focused humanitarian diplomacy work to influence decision makers to take into consideration the interests of the most vulnerable

### Programme component 2: Integration of humanitarian values and gender into operational disaster management and health programming

**Outcome 1:** Further development of tools and mechanisms to enhance principles and values-based programming  
- Work with FRCS and SIRCS to share their learning from the gender and disaster management workshop in 2009, with other Pacific societies  
- Integrate principles and values into disaster management programmes to strengthen equity and non-discrimination by enhanced participation of the vulnerable; efficient beneficiary selection; culturally sensitive operations; and beneficiary accountability  
- Coordinate with zone health and in particular HIV global alliance programmes to disseminate best practices in non-discrimination and principles and values work

**Outcome 2:** Further development of gender requirements or materials into programming  
- Disseminate the globally developed gender requirements into programming guidelines (2009)  
- Liaise with the Solomon Islands secretary general as the gender focal point for the Pacific to define best ways for promoting the integration of gender in programming

### Programme component 3: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention/reduction programmes

**Outcome:** Mapping of national society programmes which target discrimination, marginalization or exclusion of communities who fall outside the traditional health and disaster management programme areas  
- Promote more effective programmes aimed at prevention/ response to discrimination/violence, uplifting and empowerment of vulnerable groups.  
- Exchange of information and identification of good practices between national societies and at zone level  
- In consultation with the zone communications manager, develop communications and marketing materials on activities related to principles and values

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**b) Profile of target audience and final beneficiaries**

The target audience will be leaders and programme managers from national societies; IFRC core programme delegates and managers, and communications personnel. The key recipients of the dissemination materials and shared best practices will also include volunteers, members, and Asia Pacific national societies.

**c) Potential risks and challenges**

Potential risks include: A high turnover of staff that leads to a loss of institutional memory. (Knowledge stays within a small group of people who are trained, then they leave). This then makes it difficult for national societies to maximize their potential as self-sustaining national societies. There is also a risk that the regional office is: unable to have sufficient resources; or unable to match correct resources for the principles and values programme. To overcome some of these risk factors, the Pacific office will continue to promote peer exchanges and to engage national society staff in regional activities with the hope that this will contribute to the motivation that will will them to remain within the Movement.

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**International disaster response laws, rules and principles (IDRL)**

**a) The purpose and components of the programme**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Programme purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td>IFRC’s international disaster response laws, rules and principles (IDRL) programme seeks to reduce human vulnerability by promoting legal preparedness for disasters.</td>
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</table>
In 2010-2011, IFRC’s IDRL programme will continue to fulfil its mandate from the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to disseminate and promote the use of the guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance (“IDRL Guidelines”), in order to reduce unnecessary restrictions, delays and expenses in international disaster relief operations and to increase their quality, coordination and complement domestic efforts. It will also assist national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to build their capacity and knowledge of legal issues in disaster management (both international and national) to enable them to provide more effective advice to their governments, consistent with their humanitarian mandates and auxiliary roles.

The IDRL programme in the Pacific, as a part of IDRL Asia Pacific and in accordance with the global programme objectives will act in three main areas:

- Cooperate with national societies to provide technical assistance to governments on implementing the guidelines, through country-level technical assistance projects and the development of a detailed handbook and model legislation;
- Build capacity of national societies, IFRC staff and humanitarian partners to promote and use the guidelines and related international instruments through the finalization of an advocacy manual, training workshops and other materials; and
- Disseminate and promote the guidelines and related instruments with governments, humanitarian partners, and inter-governmental organizations as well as foster new collaborative research on domestic legislative issues in disaster management designed to strengthen the Movement’s approach to disaster risk reduction in applicable law.

**Programme component 1: Technical assistance to governments**

**Outcome:** Policy-makers understand and make use of the IDRL guidelines to strengthen legal and policy frameworks for disaster response.

In the Pacific, this will be achieved through undertaking on IDRL technical assistance projects which will advise interested governments on ways to enhance legal preparedness for international disaster assistance and make optimal use of the IDRL guidelines in relevant national contexts. The IDRL programme in the Pacific will also contribute towards the development of an IDRL legal model.

**Programme component 2: Training and capacity building**

**Outcome:** Interested national societies and humanitarian partners are empowered to advocate for strengthened legal frameworks for disaster response.

The IDRL Pacific programme will contribute towards the development of a capacity-building manual for national societies, in line with the wider Asia Pacific zone initiatives, and will organise once a year regional legislative advocacy training events for national societies. Additionally the programme will provide training annually on legal issues in disaster management to national societies, Federation personnel and humanitarian partners.

**Programme component 3: Dissemination, advocacy and research**

**Outcome:** IDRL guidelines are well known, partnerships are developed and the knowledge base of the Movement on legal issues in disaster response is deepened.

The IDRL Pacific programme will disseminate the guidelines and accompanying information and assist IFRC personnel and national societies in the region to do the same. Opportunities will be seized to make introductory presentations on the guidelines at appropriate national and regional meetings and conferences. The programme will also advocate for legal preparedness at a regional level, highlighting the usefulness of the IDRL guidelines will continue and intensify partnerships with the UN, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and research institutions. It will also foster the development of academic interest and a regional pool of expert networks within the region to generate more ideas and energy toward finding to solutions for IDRL issues. Support will be provided for research projects to examine the key legal issues in disaster risk reduction.

**Role of the secretariat**

**a) Technical programme support**

Secretariat support is available to the Pacific region through the IFRC’s Pacific regional office in Suva, Fiji. The regional office is represented by a head of regional office, regional delegates and local staff working in
organizational development, disaster management, health programming and legislative advocacy on IDRL. The support services team (administration, human resources, logistics and finance) comprises of five national staff members. The key membership services provided by the Pacific Team are in coordination and programming.

Further support is also made available through the Asia Pacific Zone office based in Kuala Lumpur. Additional technical expertise in all core programme areas including: logistics; security; finance; human resources; and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting are available through the Asia Pacific Zone office.

Identifying additional short, medium or long term technical resources from the wider IFRC network, Movement or externally, in response to specific national society priorities, is a key component of the Team’s coordination role.

On one hand, the Pacific team’s capacity has grown rapidly. In the early 1990s, IFRC’s support to the Pacific consisted of one person based in Sydney. As of 2010, there are 14 staff in the Pacific Regional office in Suva. This has enabled better relationship building by way of more visits; more robust coordination and becoming more responsive to requests. On the other hand, our ability to offer close and tailored accompaniment to the members remains a challenge, particularly given the large geographical area we must cover.

Funding availability and rigid targeting can lead to fluctuating areas of focus, and a lack of a consistent research and learning capacity. We are committed to working in a more integrated way to provide the support we give, and to encourage this in others. This will require us to find ways to be able to demonstrate the longer term and wider benefits of donor funding that includes organizational development and capacity building components. We will continue to develop our support to help members build their own sustainable capacities alongside shorter term programme delivery.

The coordination budget for 2011 is CHF 193,404.

b) Humanitarian diplomacy
In line with the new priorities of Strategy 2020, humanitarian diplomacy will be a high priority in the Asia Pacific zone and the regions. Humanitarian diplomacy is persuading decision makers and opinion leaders to act, at all times, in the interests of vulnerable people, and with full respect for fundamental humanitarian principles. Humanitarian diplomacy is a tool to enhance and further develop the work of national societies and IFRC. IFRC’s Humanitarian Diplomacy Policy, which was adopted in May 2009 by IFRC’s Governing Board, is an overarching policy which recognizes that our diplomacy involves all aspects of our work and is exercised in different ways as required by the objective: advocacy, negotiation, communication, formal agreements, fundraising and other measures.

In the Pacific Regional office, our ambition is to develop existing and new relations with a number of major international and regional organizations and key governments active in the humanitarian field. The goal of the work is to ensure that agreements and partnerships with such organizations realize their operational potential, adding real value for national societies, IFRC and the programmes. It also supports the strengthening of national society capacity to use auxiliary roles for the benefit of vulnerable people. Humanitarian diplomacy also improves overall humanitarian access; maintains humanitarian space for national societies and IFRC; and strengthens the ability of national societies to pursue their own national objectives.

Many Pacific members have a limited ability to commit resources to joint policy development and advocacy positions. Getting leaders together in the Pacific is expensive, common positions can be time-consuming to develop, and additional capacity for such work is difficult to create. Making the most of already scheduled regional events and drawing on the existing expertise within the membership, the Pacific Regional Office will over the next 12 months consult and work with the Pacific national societies on the development of a common humanitarian diplomacy strategy. Support will also be provided to national societies to enhance their advocacy skills through health and disaster management programming support.

We will continue to work on achieving observer status with the Pacific Island Forum and in maintaining our existing relationships with the Pacific Humanitarian Team, SOPAC, World Health Organization, Pacific Island AIDS Foundation, Worldwide Fund for Nature, the Asia Foundation and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

The advocacy themes which the Pacific Secretariat Team will focus on in 2011 will be: climate change as a key driver of risk and the importance of risk reduction through development centered approaches, community based first aid and health as a proven and cost effective way to save lives, national society comparative advantage in contributing to a safer blood supply through VNRBD, HIV prevention and promoting the reduction of stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV and their families and the need for governments to prepare disaster laws and plans for the common regulatory problems in international disaster relief operations.
c) Partnership development and coordination
The Pacific national societies have always worked together on common issues. Working together allows members to benefit from the experiences of their peers. It encourages the evolution of common solutions to general problems. And it creates a sense of cohesion and community that binds the IFRC of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies tightly together.

The Pacific Regional Office is fully committed to its specific role in facilitating cooperation between Movement components in the region. Peer exchanges are an important approach and have been integrated into programme plans. Country based partnerships and harmonized planning processes involving the different Movement partners will continue to be a priority in 2011. The Pacific Regional Office will support the newly created Pacific Governance Working Group, the Disaster Management Advisory Group, the Pacific Organizational Development Working Group and the Logistics Working Group.

We will work closely with partner national societies; American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, the French Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross and the Japanese Red Cross Society; and other regional partners; ICRC and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Change Centre based in the Netherlands. In 2010, the Pacific Office facilitated two coordination meetings for Movement partners. Good progress has been made since then and strategic cooperation with the American Red Cross branch of the Northern Mariana Islands with the aim of providing more consistent support to our northern Pacific members; has been strengthened. More work will be required in 2011 to ensure that this approach bears fruit.

The May 2011 regional partnership meeting; its objectives, agenda and methodology will be based on the lessons learned and identified in the session on past regional partnership meetings at the Auckland 2009 gathering as well as on member identified priorities.

The Pacific Regional Office continues to develop the disaster management cooperation framework with the aim of fully utilizing disaster management capacities which exist in the region. The Pacific Humanitarian Team has introduced a regional cluster approach to disaster response. This approach encourages improved cooperation and coordination between humanitarian actors. IFRC as key humanitarian player in the region will ensure that future engagement and development in the Pacific Humanitarian Team is within the capacity of the region and national societies. IFRC will also ensure that a neutral and independent status is maintained in the process.

The Pacific Monthly email newsletter, launched in August 2009 has proven to be an effective mechanism for sharing information and exchanging knowledge across the region. More national societies are contributing to the newsletter and actively use the events register as part of their planning. The Pacific Regional Office will continue to produce this newsletter on a monthly basis in 2011. Only on this occasion, the newsletter will be shared with external partners.

Promoting gender equity and diversity
All programmes supported by the regional office will strive to be gender equitable. The stress will be on community based planning that will help identify some gender issues which will be reflected in the national societies’ action plans. The SIRCS’s secretary general has agreed to play the role of gender focal point and as such will continue to advocate for gender-sensitive programming and organizational development approaches.

National societies are encouraged to consider how they can internalize concepts of gender equity and diversity within their organizations and how they can encourage communities to be aware of gender issues in their communities. The former shall occur through revision and development of statutes and strategic plans and the latter through programmatic action planning and community based planning. All will be monitored for implementation and effectiveness.

One of the components of the DM programme is focused on building the capacity of the national societies to consider cultural diversity, age and gender aspects in needs assessments and in the design and implementation of DM activities.

The Pacific Regional Office aims to ensure a balanced gender representation in the events it supports. For instance, we have initiated a practical measure to ensure a balanced gender representation in RDRT and NDRT/PDRT training.

Quality, accountability and learning
The team at the Pacific Regional Office takes its responsibility seriously given its mandate to cost effectively manage resources in the Pacific region. The team are: committed to continuous improvement in planning,
monitoring, evaluation and reporting back to members, partners and donors.

The Pacific Regional Office will strive to learn from past experiences so as performance can be improved.

The Pacific Regional Office will also support the membership with strategic thinking and operational planning approaches and tools. In supporting the national society planning processes, the Pacific Team will endeavour to promote the mainstreaming of improved local level quality and accountability frameworks and indicators.

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".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Agenda Goals:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact information

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

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- Alan Bradbury, Head of Resource Mobilization and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting; email: alan.bradbury@ifrc.org

For pledges of funding, please email: zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org
## MAA55001 - Pacific region

### Budget 2011

**All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Disaster Management</th>
<th>Health and Social Services</th>
<th>National Society Development</th>
<th>Principles and Values</th>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transport &amp; Storage</td>
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<td>Workshops &amp; Training</td>
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<td>Contributions &amp; Transfers</td>
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<td><strong>Total Budget 2011</strong></td>
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<td><strong>738,675</strong></td>
<td><strong>504,469</strong></td>
<td><strong>193,404</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2,244,952</strong></td>
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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation, SOUTH PACIFIC.mxd