

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Annual report South-East Asia

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA51001
30 April 2012

**This report covers the
period 1 January 2011
to 31 December 2011**

*Going the last few metres:
Thai RCS reach a cut off district in
Bangkok during the floods
(Photo: Felix Geuet Laframboise)*



In brief

Programme outcome

To coordinate support to host national societies as they scale up their humanitarian work in line with Strategy 2020.

Programme summary

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Southeast Asia secretariat team based in Bangkok:

- Supports and guides country office teams in **Cambodia/Lao PDR, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, Thailand,** and **Viet Nam**;
- Provides requested technical support to the above countries as well as national societies with no secretariat country presence (i.e. **Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia** and **Singapore**);
- Strengthens institutional memory of the membership by capturing and sharing knowledge, good practices and lessons learnt;
- Via good partner relations, coordinates International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement work in the region within the IFRC mandate;
- Leads support on the development agenda both in terms of organizational and community development;
- Represents the national societies of the region and engages in humanitarian diplomacy particularly in terms of the evolving relationship with ASEAN.

2011 was a year of transition for the regional delegation with an increasing focus on resilience as well as a more linked up and holistic approach to support towards three priorities: 1) national society capacity-building particularly in terms of youth and volunteers; 2) tools and approaches that support sustainable efforts to enhance community resilience; and 3) a better projection of the role of the Red Cross Red Crescent – via strengthened approaches in humanitarian diplomacy – in the changing field of disaster management within

ASEAN¹. This overall approach works through the six IFRC country offices and prioritizes the 11 national societies of the Southeast Asia region as well as international Red Cross Red Crescent actors, including Partner National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The scene has been set for significant progress in 2012 in terms of national society relationships with ASEAN. A cooperation framework is set to be signed that will really cement what are already excellent operational relations with a stronger strategic base in terms of disaster management and pandemic preparedness. The comparative advantage of the Red Cross Red Crescent is already apparent as the main resource in terms of the advancement of Disaster Law (formerly known as International Disaster Response Law/IDRL) as well as other preparedness expertise.

One encouraging in-house development in terms of partnership has been the growing link between national societies and indeed the IFRC secretariat with the Australian Volunteers for International Development programme. Australian Red Cross is a core partner of this Australian government initiative. One example has been the support provided to the ART² network (see Annex 1 of health and care section) from an excellent young volunteer, based in Cambodia, supported by this programme.

This partnership is relatively new, while the one with the global road safety partnership (GRSP) is more established. Having said that 2011 has proved something of a watershed in the way we work together with this hosted programme. The 2011 United Nations (UN) decade of action on road safety has been the catalyst for this burgeoning relationship.

All of the above has been progressing within a new four-year planning framework. This has helped the IFRC secretariat team in the region to challenge assumptions, analyse more closely the rapidly changing humanitarian landscape, and position the IFRC secretariat support to host national societies (and their partners) more appropriately. While this remains a work in progress, the overall direction is positive. There is underway a shift to empower and better link up regional networks (including the evolving leadership forum), to improve knowledge management and reporting (i.e. capturing and telling more of what is an excellent Red Cross Red Crescent story in Southeast Asia), and a more coherent and stronger presence in the international scene on key issues as evidenced by common pledges.

The national societies have achieved much in 2011. A significant chunk of this Red Cross Red Crescent story has been captured and is available on IFRC's public website. Please go to the following links and navigate from there to several official reports and news stories that may be of interest.

- <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/asia-pacific/>
- <http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals/>

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget is CHF 5,887,387 of which CHF 6,136,487 (104 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 4,133,787 (70 per cent) of the budget.

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

No. of people we have reached

The programme supports the 11 national societies of Southeast Asia, who, in turn, work with millions of people. The plan also supports Red Cross Red Crescent partners active in the region.

¹ Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

² Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network (ART)

Our partners

The IFRC regional office works primarily with the 11 Southeast Asian national societies. In addition the regional office liaises with relevant government ministries, such as health and disaster management bodies. There has been strong and loyal support for the regional office from multilateral supporters; in particular, Japanese Red Cross Society, New Zealand Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government.

Other partners in the region include: Australian Red Cross/Australian government, Austrian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China, Italian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian government, Netherlands Red Cross, and the disaster relief emergency fund (DREF). Outside of the Movement, Disaster Preparedness programme of the European Commission's Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DiPECHO/DG ECHO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP), World Health Organization (WHO) and several United Nations agencies are important partners in addition to non-government organizations, such as Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), CARE and Oxfam.

On behalf of the Southeast Asian national societies, IFRC would like to thank all partners and donors for their support.

Context

Tension has eased along the Cambodian-Thai border after a series of clashes earlier in the year. In December, both sides announced a withdrawal of troops from sensitive areas around a disputed temple. Elections in Thailand passed off peacefully with the younger sister of the previously ousted prime minister being elected. In Myanmar, the continuing 'wind of change' saw a high-level visit from the US secretary state that included meetings with various political leaders.

Some of the worst floods in decades swept many parts of the region: Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Up to nine million people were affected and over 1,000 were killed. While the media focused on the plight of Bangkok – which was badly affected in its outer suburbs but largely unscathed in its central business district – there were many communities in other urban as well as rural areas who were affected for months. The disaster threw into sharp light some of the key issues of IFRC humanitarian diplomacy – i.e. migration, urbanisation and climate change – and the experience waved a yellow flag for all the transitional countries of the region that some of their future risk will be linked with development and social trends in their societies. For national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, this challenge presents a tremendous opportunity on two fronts: first, to utilise their access and influence to government policy via their auxiliary role status; second, to use their local presence and acceptance to help communities build their safety and strengthen their resilience. Earlier in the year, the region's national societies responded magnificently in support of Japanese Red Cross Society after the March 2011 triple disaster (earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear leak).

The national societies of the region continued to demonstrate and communicate their ambition in a number of areas (i.e. blood services, regional disaster management, partnership). The regional delegation fully supports this growth in capacity and the need to adjust its way of thinking and working accordingly.

In Indonesia, tsunami programming officially came to a halt and in Myanmar the cyclone Nargis operation was wrapped up successfully.

Analysis: some of the big issues addressed

National societies, with IFRC support, continued to lead in major disaster response and recovery

Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) successfully completed the CHF 68.5 million cyclone Nargis operation (May 2008 - September 2011). The cyclone killed 84,500 people and left 53,800 missing. With the support of IFRC, the operation helped 100,000 households to cope, rebound and regain their dignity and livelihoods. In the aftermath of Nargis, the Red Cross saved lives, changed minds, reached further and did better than any other organisation ... by far. In post-operation surveys, 89 per cent of beneficiaries expressed strong appreciation for the support they received and 86 per cent say they are better prepared for future disasters. As the IFRC head of delegation said: 'We were always conscious we had to do better than the tsunami ... and now we are tired but proud we did it and as a result, so many partners now want to support MRCS.' Nothing breeds momentum like programmatic achievement.

National societies continued to develop in their own way, mostly with heightened ambition

Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) continued to emerge as a major humanitarian player, both domestically and internationally; a development worthy of one of the world's most dynamic countries. Meanwhile **Cruz Vermelha Timor-Leste (CVTL)**, after just nine years, is now positioned as the leading domestic humanitarian actor in this still fragile country ahead of the 2012 wind-down of the UN mission there.

National societies demonstrated great solidarity particularly during times of crises

The Japanese earthquake and tsunami was perhaps the clearest example of this. Among the donations from Southeast Asia were: VNRC USD 7.8 million, Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) USD 4 million, and Malaysian Red Crescent Society USD 1 million. This sense of solidarity continued within Southeast Asia towards the many countries affected during the floods crisis. In Thailand, for example, TRCS raised USD 35 million domestically. As was the case in Japan, the ration of domestic fundraising to internationally generated resources was 5:1 – a clear indicator of how the 'centre of gravity' in terms of community safety and resilience is shifting very much to the national (and regional) level away from the more traditional international support system. This shift puts national societies in an even more strategic position.

IFRC global advocacy positions on urbanisation, migration and climate change are the right ones

These three issues will continue to define in large part the future 'humanitarian landscape' in the region. Individually and collectively these issues were seen to have causal effects within each of Strategy 2020's strategic aims and will continue to challenge national societies to deliver on our collective goals. A combination of the three issues were very much a part of the fabric of the 2011 floods across Southeast Asia.

Regional governance in Southeast Asia is headed in a better direction

The Southeast Asia leadership collective has taken steps to improve its preparation for, content of, and follow up to regional discussions and decisions as was seen at its 2011 meeting, hosted by **CVTL**.

The Movement can does does work together in times of crises ... with all components benefiting

Cooperation with **ICRC** in harmony with national society work functioned well during three different emergencies in **Thailand** over the past two years; first, the political crisis of May 2010; second, Thai-Cambodia border clashes of February and April 2011, and third, the July-December 2011 floods.

A time of great opportunity

Certain times bring great opportunities. A current case in point is **Myanmar**. The country is literally opening up and the needs there are vastly under-addressed. It has the world's lowest level of official development assistance per capita GDP (USD 7 compared, for example with Cambodia USD 50, and Lao PDR USD 67).

There remains a clear role for IFRC to support – not deliver – national society development

IFRC's experience in Southeast Asia re-enforced the fact that national society development cannot be delivered **but** that the International Movement can be a partner in change. This combination is potent, particularly if the will from both the national society and International Movement is strong and focused on the long-term.

ASEAN's growing ambition in disaster management and health emergencies is an opportunity for the Red Cross Red Crescent to project itself

How the Red Cross Red Crescent promotes its own role, contribution and principles within this relationship continued to evolve. The Red Cross Red Crescent-ASEAN relationship remains one of opportunity. Already, in an operational sense the partnership works quite well; in a strategic sense more work needs to be done.

National societies, in general, are considered a 'public good'. However, their leaderships need to reinforce respective domestic mandates so that their role – and confidence to act – is strengthened.

In such dynamic times, national societies have an excellent opportunity (NB: **not** an assumed role) to strengthen their leading position domestically. The extent to which they do so will in large part be down to leadership. A strong national society with a clear mandate and the confidence to pursue it will be very able to address existing and emerging vulnerabilities.

The IFRC secretariat cannot stand still in such a dynamic region

Relevance needs to be increasingly earned in partnership with the region's national societies. At country level, there is growing capacity, strengthening ambition and more importance placed on self-reliance. The IFRC secretariat also has to adapt to remain a key partner to national societies. At times, a gap was witnessed between how a national society **wanted** to work with the IFRC secretariat and how the IFRC secretariat **could** work with a national society.

Southeast Asia remains attractive to partners; however the mode of partnership is sometimes expensive (in terms of transaction cost) and burdensome to host national societies

Viewed as a whole, the 'delivery set-up' of the collective international Red Cross Red Crescent in many countries remains quite expensive and at times burdensome on host national societies. In short, it is not the optimum way to support their development.

National societies should continue to nurture trust in the emblem

Myanmar and **Timor Leste** are good examples where an investment in nurturing trust is increasing the reach and impact of Red Cross Red Crescent work.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Programme objective: Vulnerable communities are effectively supported by national societies through timely and high calibre disaster response operations, and guidance in reducing disaster risk to natural and man-made hazards.

Disaster management planning

Outcome 1: The existing institutional mechanisms for efficient delivery of disaster management assistance are strengthened in all Southeast Asian national societies.

The regional disaster management committee (RDMC) remained the fulcrum for disaster management planning and its deliberations and decisions the key informant for support plans from the IFRC secretariat. The RDMC's annual meeting, hosted by Thai Red Cross Society, broke new ground in several areas and saw gender, shelter, road safety and civil military relations all on the agenda.

Progress was made towards a 'one Red Cross Red Crescent' approach in terms of disaster risk reduction (DRR) support in the region. Partners active in DRR increasingly shared intentions particularly in terms of ECHO partnership. The regional delegation took a few steps towards supporting a better rhythm of sharing good practices and providing more effective support to host national societies. One meeting attracted more than 20 participants from Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, IFRC Southeast Asia regional office as well as ECHO. A mapping of all Red Cross Red Crescent disaster management tools began to avoid duplication which was wasting time, money and resources. In addition, the meeting was an opportunity for Red Cross Red Crescent - DIPECHO partners to synergize what should be collectively delivered to national societies without overwhelming their absorbable capability especially focusing on the 8th Action Plan funding decision supported by ECHO in 2012- 2013. .

There remains a need to establish better coordination among the Red Cross Red Crescent DRR technical experts at regional level, with the IFRC regional office playing an instrumental role.

Organizational preparedness

Outcome 2: Southeast Asian national society emergency response capacity is improved through strengthened national and regional disaster response mechanisms.

Regional warehousing and transportation capacity was strengthened. Training in Chiang Mai convened 15 national society representatives who shared experiences and good practices. Three of the participants were recommended for further training and to be included in the regional disaster response team (RDRT) roster. More specific support was given to Lao Red Cross to improve its preparedness for response capacity. A critical mass number of 80 branch and headquarter personnel were trained in emergency needs assessment and the development of response action plans. More than 60 were selected to be part of a future national disaster response team (NDRT).

The RDRT system remained a pillar of regional delegation support to national society preparedness. Four courses were held: one for specialised water and sanitation (in Indonesia), one for new members of the RDRT pool (Singapore), a lessons learning reflection (Brunei), and a specialized logistics course (Malaysia). A refresher course in the Pacific (Fiji) was also supported by the Southeast Asia team.

RDRT members were deployed to support Lao Red Cross during the floods and Philippines Red Cross, following the devastating impact of Typhoon Washi. In both cases RDRT members were seconded by Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) and deployed for a period of between two and four weeks as per the need on the ground. The deployment was highly appreciated by the national societies.

Following the experience of deployment of RDRTs to Lao PDR and the Philippines it was noted that the RDRT would need to undergo an evaluation in order to further improve the skills and capacities of available and active members. Since then, discussions have taken place regarding how to update the existing roster (currently there are 264 trained RDRT in SEA) that would reflect the real numbers of active members. Looking at actual responses to alerts over the last year or two and post-deployment feedback, there are areas that would need to be further developed in order to ensure better responses to alerts, improved skills needed for good field assessments, development of plan of action and reporting among other skills. This exercise would be done in coordination with the disaster management unit and other regional offices in order to ensure consistency. Another example of capturing and building on pre-existing learning occurred in Viet Nam when a

seminar on DRR built on a recent typhoon operation evaluation that said more attention should be given to the 'rights based needs' of affected people during emergencies.

Pre-season meetings took place in Lao PDR and Viet Nam with technical support from Asia-Pacific zone disaster management unit and IFRC Southeast Asia community safety resilience unit to ensure more attention should be given to preparedness for response before and during the monsoon season. The meeting was well received by national societies and Partner National Societies. However, it is suggested that this kind of meeting should be held regularly and not in an ad-hoc manner.

Community preparedness and disaster risk reduction

Outcome 3: The capacity of all Southeast Asian national societies is strengthened to support hazard-prone communities in reducing the impact of disasters through increased awareness and preparedness measures. This outcome is mainly supported by DiPECHO under the regional initiative.

This initiative is a central part of the IFRC's DRR programme in Southeast Asia. Beginning in September 2008, IFRC has focused on building the institutional and operational capacities of the national Red Cross societies of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. The initiative has received financial support from the Swedish Red Cross and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department's (ECHO) Disaster Preparedness programme (DiPECHO) in Southeast Asia.



The animated games produced to educate children in disaster risk reduction.

Under this initiative, the IFRC Southeast Asia regional office produced a series of animated games designed to teach children about disaster risk, and the steps that they can take to protect themselves and their families. These games comprise a series of animations that can be used by trained Red Cross volunteers or teachers. The benefits of these games are expected to go beyond the children themselves, and they are expected to take their lessons back home to their parents and siblings. The six animated shorts are available in seven languages: Bahasa Indonesia, Khmer, Lao, Myanmar, Tetum (Timor-Leste), Vietnamese and English. The games are well received and used by national societies not only in Southeast Asia but across Asia-Pacific and Africa. Further promotion and dissemination of the games are ongoing under the support of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID). The games are available online at <http://ifrcdr.org/> or on DVD [by request](#). In addition, a textbook in the 'comic' format, is being developed in 2012 to 2013 with financial support from DiPECHO and AusAID. This will be an educational document for children and adults about DRR.

Two DRR field sessions have been held in Southeast Asia in 2011. These sessions helped Red Cross health and disaster management practitioners to align their work to develop common understanding on approaches and to begin to adopt standard needs-assessment tools. The two events involved the national societies of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

The IFRC Southeast Asia office has been asked to introduce these field sessions into the other regions of Asia Pacific. AusAID has agreed to support another four field sessions to be held in East and South Asia facilitated by the Southeast Asia team. This approach to practical alignment was also introduced at a recent community-

based health and first aid (CBHFA) workshop in Bangkok that involved representatives from Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies across Asia and the Pacific.

In Cambodia, learning from the field sessions, disaster management and health practitioners came together to design a common framework to work with vulnerable communities that are facing both natural hazards and health-related risks. A five-day event on vulnerability and capacity assessment: 'common approaches toward community safety and resilience' was carried out in Prey Veng province. A total of 24 participants from national headquarters and branches running community-based health and DRR programmes attended. The group agreed to put forward a position paper to the Cambodia Red Cross leadership to consider adopting vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) as the common tool/approach toward community safety and resilience.

Gender reinforcement and sensitization is a priority under a cross-cutting theme in the Cambodia Red Cross strategy 2011-2020. There is growing recognition that women and children are more vulnerable to many disasters. A one-day interactive seminar focused on the importance of gender in DRR. The meeting had two objectives: (1) raise awareness of gender and its implication in DM; and (2) explore practical gender sensitive interventions. Twenty participants from five branches and headquarters team took part. Participants ranged from field officer to branch director and deputy director to reflect the gender issue from both planning/policy to field application.

Similar to Cambodia, Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) organized a two-day gender workshop attended by 25 participants from headquarters. The seminar aimed to: (1) raise awareness about gender and gender mainstreaming concept; and (2) why and how to integrate it into ongoing programmes. Though participants are aware of some basic concepts, much needs to be done to ensure better approaches.

Furthermore, IFRC together with national society representatives from France, Indonesia, Germany, the Netherlands, and Myanmar attended a regional workshop on good practices and policies in CBDRR in Chiang Mai, Thailand. It was organised by Malteser International, Action Aid and UNDP in Myanmar, with financial support from ECHO-DIPECHO. Around 70 DRR managers and practitioners from governmental agencies, non government organizations, and civil society organizations in South and South East Asia shared good practices to reduce risks. The seminar also made recommendations on implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) (2011- 2015) including: rights-based approaches to DRR; climate change adaptation and DRR; gender and DRR; inclusive CBDRR; and integrating CBDRR into development programming and policy.

Under the regional DRR project supported by DIPECHO, to achieve the strategic planning 2009-2014 for a safer and resilient community to disasters and health risks, Indonesian Red Cross/PMI's mission is to develop community based activities in order to (1) increase the ability of local communities, and (2) improve and empower local community leaders to deal with and reduce risk from various natural disasters, potential disease outbreaks/epidemic and environmental health problems derived from human activities.

PMI has implemented many community-based programmes to build-up capacity of the communities in order to reduce their vulnerability and risks to the natural disasters and health, including Disaster Preparedness in School Programme, Community Based Health and First Aid Programme (CBHFA), Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction Programme (ICBRR), Water and Sanitation Programme, Psychosocial Support Programme (PSP), HIV Programme and Pandemic Programme.

A workshop “Development of Community Based Framework” was carried out with the following objectives:

- Have common understanding on disaster risk reduction framework
- Identify characteristics of a safer and resilient community
- Identify different level of implementation of the community based programmes
- Use VCA as an entry point in the community based programmes

The workshop has come up with several concrete points and recommendations such as:

- To build safer and more resilient communities, PMI needs to improve on its institutional capacity building in disaster risk reduction to support those stronger communities through the exit and sustainability strategies and managing volunteers. The capacity-building for both PMI and communities should be done in parallel.
- Interventions in community based programmes have to support risk reduction, and increase the capacity of communities, to reduce their vulnerability. This is crucial for the integration of risk reduction into health and disaster management sectors.
- All community-based programmes such as CBHFA, HIV/AIDS, water and sanitation, ICBRR, disaster prevention in School, PSP, etc will be integrated and focus on community-based risk reduction (for both disaster and health risk reduction).

The regional DIPECHO DRR project ended in September. An internal review gathered perspectives from several stakeholders, including national society DM managers. It concluded the following priorities for a phase 3 ‘Enhancing Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to build safer and more resilient communities in Southeast Asia’:

- Create a teaching guideline or reference for the DRR games
- Generate relevant DRR learning for all regional national societies and ASEAN
- Support lateral knowledge and skills exchange
- Strengthen RDMC networking
- Continue support to enhance national society capability and performance

Phase 2 focused support on seven national societies (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam) to enhance operational capability to support community safety and resilience. The new proposal embraces support of Mongolia Red Cross and DPR Korea Red Cross to improve cross-learning and sharing. It covers 18 months (May 2012 - October 2013) and also includes further dissemination and institutionalization of the community safety and resilience concept with a focus on strengthened networking, coordination and regional exchange and knowledge. The proposal also looks at strengthening relations between RCRC and ASEAN through sharing resources, such as case studies and practices.

National society programming

Outcome 4: Lao Red Cross develops to more effectively support vulnerable communities to build resilience to disaster risk.

Lao Red Cross’ CBDRR programme, supported by the Japanese Red Cross Society through the IFRC’s regional office since 2007, has addressed institutional issues regarding preparedness for response. In addition, the French Red Cross also worked with Lao Red Cross on a similar programme with support from DiPECHO. The programme resumed after a suspension due to the floods, which hampered the operational capabilities of Lao Red Cross. The programme focused on six vulnerable communities of Molaphamouk district in Southern province of Champasak.

Support to increase the awareness of a sustainable livelihoods concept was requested from the onset of the initiative. The programme is rolling out to more and more vulnerable areas. Based on actual VCA processes in Lao PDR in the past few years and considering damage to people's livelihood is becoming a major problem many concerns are raised. Lao Red Cross is looking to strengthen people's coping mechanisms in the face of such vulnerability. A one-day seminar came up with suggestions for a way forward:

- Livelihoods alternatives should be discussed and considered during VCA processes as part of community awareness and empowerment.
- The best way to improve/strengthen community sustainable livelihoods is through community based approach such as VCA and CBDRR.
- Continue to support Lao Red Cross in rolling out VCA and livelihood analysis during the whole process.
- Network with other stakeholders to support this area technically and financially.

An emergency needs assessment took place in the Vientiane province, Laos PDR, on 15- 17 March, 2011 where there were 20 participants of Lao Red Cross (6 NHQs and 14 from branches). The main objective of the training was to strengthen the capacities and methodologies of Lao Red Cross staff to undertake emergency needs assessment; as the lessons learned from the Ketsana Typhoon operation pointed out that Lao Red Cross had no significant capacities (both human and technical resources) or knowledge of the methodologies involved.

The training was carefully designed and consulted with the French Red Cross in Laos and IFRC's guidelines in emergency assessment. In addition, the training was received some distance support from IFRC's disaster management unit (DMU) based in Kuala Lumpur.

The training has created a hands-on opportunity for all participants to go through the methodology and simulation, covering both information collection and coordination. In addition, the training was conducted in local language with a Thai-Lao speaking facilitator from regional disaster management unit and Lao Red Cross RDRT-trained members. Initial observations were that the training achieved the expected results, and trained participants would be potential staff capable of undertaking assessments, where needed, in the country. At the same time, regional DMU is considering continued support to enhance this batch further, with more solid tools such as National Disaster Response Team's standards operating procedures (SOP), Disaster Response SOP and Contingency Planning as well.

Following up on the deployment of the RDRT members to assist with impacts of Haima Typhon and consequent release of DREF to support the relief efforts an evaluation/review was conducted in December in order to measure the impact of assistance provided and identify possible areas for improvement for the future interventions.

The review team consisted of six people including two representatives from Federation, four representatives from LRC both from NHQ and Branch level.

In conclusion, the DREF operation was implemented in line with the action plan taking into consideration the delivery of items procured and planned dates for the relief distributions – both being met in accordance to the original plan. The beneficiaries were satisfied with the assistances provided by Lao Red Cross as a sole agency that provided any assistance to Typhon affected population. Rice was the only item that was delivered the last. The rapid and detailed assessment required more time and more explanation and clarification on the beneficiary selection criteria. The hygiene promotion conducted on household basis together with follow up activities brought more benefit to the beneficiaries in forms of behaviour change. Identification of beneficiary, selection criteria still remains a challenge for the Lao Red Cross.

One of the main recommendations was to increase the basic response capacity of Lao Red Cross for better preparedness focusing on:

- To strengthening assessment teams at branch, district and sub-district level,
- Revised the assessment form, beneficiary selection criteria,
- Develop disaster response standard operating procedure,
- Establish coordination mechanism and
- Secure pre-positioning stock at all level.

CBDRR Project in Thailand

A community safety and resilience building and analysis project implemented through the Thai Red Cross, although it started well in 20 villages in five provinces with recruitment of the project staff and the introduction of projects to selected communities and key partners in each implementing province. However, with the onset of unprecedented floods in Thailand and majority of country being affected including the provinces targeted under this project, slight delays in implementation were experienced. In December, once the flood situation stabilized and flood waters started to recede the Thai Red Cross resumed the full implementation.

Coordination and cooperation

Outcome 5: Strengthened and improved cooperation, coordination and support mechanisms within national societies and IFRC.

2nd ISDR Asia Partnership meeting – The agenda focused on the Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR, HFA progress review and regional stocktaking. In addition, there were discussions on child-centred DRR and climate change adaptation (CCA) led by UNICEF and the Education Task Force as well as opportunities for IAP member organizations to share their experience. The seminar enabled the regional delegation to build relationships with key stakeholders to better position IFRC and national societies with the ASEAN and ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM). Constructive discussions were held with ECHO-DiPECHO representative, the Thai department of disaster prevention and mitigation (DDPM) representative, UN ISDR focal person for Southeast Asia among others.

An open session of the 18th Meeting of the ACDM – Over 60 participants from ASEAN member state representatives, donors, UN, international organizations, various governments' representatives attended. UNOCHA, APG, governments of Australia, Japan, New Zealand and USA made presentations with a focus on support to the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA).

An AADMER (ASEAN's disaster management work plan) Partnership Group (APG) meeting in Jakarta, was attended by six NGO members with OXFAM in the chair. Representatives from IFRC and ICRC were present as observers. The main objective was: *“Regional consultation on spaces, roles and mechanisms for civil society's participation in the implementation of AADMER.”*

Integration with health, disaster management and humanitarian values

Outcome 6: Increased integration of organizational development and capacity building aspects within health and disaster management programmes

The DRR approach to “building safer communities” seeks to place vulnerable people at the heart of national society programming through building capacity and ownership at the local level. This requires an organizational development mindset to achieve sustainability.

In line with the above, the regional office made a strategic decision to integrate the disaster management and health units into one: community safety and resilience unit (CSRU) – with the aim to provide more holistic support to national societies.

Instead of looking at new areas of work the CSRU will build on existing possibilities. That means enhancing and adapting what national societies have already been doing. Greater emphasis will be placed on what communities can do for themselves rather than only concentrating on their vulnerability to disasters or their needs during an emergency.

The CSRU is currently analyzing and reviewing existing practices/approaches that have proven to work. In line with this, support is being provided to national societies to develop and strengthen their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters, community health needs and population movement through integrated and sustainable approaches.

Support to Thai Red Cross Society during the floods

Outcome 7: Thai Red Cross Society is supported to assist those communities most affected by the flooding and be better prepared for future disasters.

A total of 65 provinces in Thailand and 36 districts in Bangkok were inundated between July and December 2011. 816 people died and 13.5 million people were affected. At the peak of the crisis, 113,000 people took refuge in 1,700 temporary evacuation centres. The old international airport (Don Muang) was flooded resulting in a double embarrassment with the flood control office, which was also located there, being forced to move. 73 highways and 225 rural roads were cut off. The Chao Phraya river in Bangkok reached a record high of 2.53 metres. The Government announced a short and long term flood reconstruction plan, called the New Thailand scheme, expected to cost USD 26 billion. Agriculture and business – much of which is linked into the globalised economy – was hard hit.

Thai Red Cross Society provided support to millions of people. This included 440,000 meals (including ready to eat meals and dishes from mobile kitchens), 3.5 million bottles of water, plus 5.1 million litres of water from five purification units during the peak of the floods, 344,000 family relief kits (comprising 26 items, including food and medicine), 2,448 shelter kits, and medical assistance from mobile teams. In-need migrant communities, particularly in outer Bangkok suburbs, were among those who received support. Thai RCS raised almost USD 35 million domestically and was supported by international partners through IFRC with another (approximately) USD 5 million.

Please see: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual11/MAA51001PU2.pdf>

Constraints or Challenges

The scale and impact of the unprecedented floods in Thailand and the consequent support of the regional office to the Thai Red Cross diverted resources and attention. Support in terms of planning, budgeting, external relations, national level coordination, fund raising and reporting had an impact on other 'regular' programming.

In terms of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into thinking and actual programming much progress has been made but a key constraint is lack of specific and easy-to-understand information at the field level.

Health and care

Programme objective: Strengthen national societies to deliver relevant and effective health services to vulnerable communities.

Community based health and first aid, and emergency health

Outcome 1: Increased capacity of communities and volunteers which are prepared and able to respond to health and injury priorities in the communities, and improved access to health services in emergencies in target areas.

There was significant progress in community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) - see tables below. Technical support was provided to the CBHFA in action approach. Seven national societies completed a monitoring questionnaire disseminated. The struggle to collect programme data and information from national societies persists; this process needs to improve considerably to be of value for reporting and feed into the overall global picture. Information related to activities and their outcomes is still missing.

Activities	CRC	CVTL	LRC	MRCs	PMI	PRCS	VNRC
Conduct community assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community plan of action		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conduct baseline survey	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Conduct volunteer training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Volunteer topic training	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Community action/services	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Conduct midterm review		✓			✓	✓	
Conduct end line surveys					✓	✓	

Description	CRC	CVTL	LRC	MNRC	PMI	PRC	VNRC
Programme started	2009	2009	2010	2010	2008	2010	2010
Years of implementation	2	3	3	3	3	2	2
Number of communities targeted	8	20	86	30	28	55	10
Number of implementing communities	8	10	In process	In process	28	25	4
Number of targeted beneficiaries	20,363	14,507	20,000	60,000	34,892	55,000	20,000
Population reached	10,817	14,507			28,413		8,000
Staff involved in programme	9	27	18	31	66		40
Active staff at NHQ	2	6	14	12	12	11	17
Active staff in programme	5	7	16	12	12	11	20
Number of facilitator workshops	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Number of participants in WS	30	27	31	24	18	30	23
Number of targeted volunteers	115	200	248	600	727	100	200
Volunteer trainings	5	9	8		52	5	4
Number of volunteers trained	115	199	197		618	100	100
Active volunteers	108	155	197		509	100	100
External partners	5				9		

The most common health issues identified were diarrhoea, malaria, dengue, respiratory infections and road traffic accidents. Most national societies had conducted baseline knowledge, attitude and practices surveys on the identified priority health issues on which to base their action plans. Volunteer capacity was built in all national societies. Trained volunteers provided health promotion, social mobilization and immunization, environmental sanitation, and door-to-door education on malaria prevention. The CBHFA planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) toolkit was highly rated with the monitoring section regarded as the most relevant. A need for regional support with adaptation and translation of the tools was reported.

Sustainability of the CBHFA programme remains a challenge even though community capacity and ownership was evident. The creation of community funds was discussed and needs to be looked at.

A CBHFA Asia-Pacific workshop - lessons learnt, behaviour change communication and integration - in Bangkok (supported by Finnish Red Cross) drew 13 host national societies, seven Partner National Societies and eight IFRC delegates. The group recommended to: simplify the calculation and data analysis descriptions in the toolkit; develop a module on non-communicable diseases; put community priorities and needs in focus;



Philippines Red Cross enabled vast community reach in the Measles Initiative. (Photo: PRC)

and develop volunteer management guidelines and alternative methods for volunteer recruitment and retention.

IFRC support to the Philippine Red Cross in social mobilization in the 2011 measles - rubella vaccination campaign enabled 119,289 eligible children to be reached, exceeding the target of 45,000 by 265 per cent. Aside from carrying out immunization, the Philippine Red Cross conducted a rapid coverage assessment after the immunization phase, hence was able to participate in a monitoring activity that showed whether the immunization reached the targeted 95 per cent and above coverage.

The year 2012 is to be declared the year of intensification of routine immunization in all countries in the Southeast Asia/WHO³ region that has adopted the World Health Assembly goals from May 2010 concerning measles vaccination: vaccination coverage > 90 per cent nationally in all countries, incidence < 5 per million, and mortality reduction of 95 per cent compared to year 2000 estimates. Indonesia, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Timor-Leste will have to increase the coverage by 12 to 15 per cent in order to reach the 95 per cent coverage goal. The continued efforts in combating measles resulted in an overall reduction in measles mortality by 42 per cent from 2000 to 2007 in the Southeast Asia/WHO region.

The regional delegation continued to be part of the IFRC global working group on non-communicable diseases in the development of a module and community tools to be added to the CBHFA package. Noncommunicable diseases are the leading cause of preventable morbidity and premature mortality and a development threat in all countries of Southeast Asia accounting for 54 per cent of all deaths. A working relationship for better understanding of the community approach in dealing with non-communicable diseases was established with the Thai Red Cross College of Nursing that has ample experience of community projects on prevention of non-communicable diseases. The risk factors and diseases to be included in the module are in line with the WHO strategy and recommendations.

³ World Health Organization (WHO)

HIV

Outcome 2: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination

The 10th International Congress on AIDS in Asia Pacific (ICAAP) in Busan, South Korea called for 'Diverse Voices, United Action'. More than 2,500 people (including 32 Red Cross Red Crescent representatives) from 64 countries joined this bi-annual gathering. A technical review team composed of the Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network (ART) management team members and the regional HIV officer supported national societies to present various abstracts. National society representatives from China, Cook Island, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Timor-Leste, ART network and IFRC East Asia presented 18 posters. Mongolian and Cambodian Red Cross made presentations on 'Cross border HIV prevention' and 'Transforming young drug users to meaningful drug educators'. A joint IFRC/ART booth in the global village forum showed Red Cross Red Crescent films and multimedia as well as HIV information, education and communication material. Three representatives from the people living with HIV (PLHIV) networks in Thailand, Indonesia and Lao PDR participated in the congress with the objective to strengthen the Red Cross Red Crescent network and to link it with other stakeholders and global partners.



Material from national societies were presented in the ICAAP booth (Photo: IFRC)



The joint IFRC/ART booth at the meeting in South Korea (Photo: IFRC)

The ART network continued to provide a link between national society HIV programmes in East and Southeast Asia. A special session on 'capacity building on HIV and tuberculosis (TB)' was conducted during the ART meeting that was held in connection to the ICAAP. HIV fuels TB and TB is a major HIV-related opportunistic infection. About half of the new TB infections globally are in Asia-Pacific and the high burden countries include Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. A Myanmar Red Cross project focused on case detection, defaulter/contact tracing and awareness raising, whereas the Thai Red Cross project related to public health messaging and treatment adherence support.

The Cambodia Red Cross HIV programme manager was elected chair for the network for the next two years, and the secretariat will be hosted by the Cambodian Red Cross. The ART members were concerned about the reduced financial support and are exploring different strategies of operating and maintaining the network, including seeking greater contributions from member national societies. An Australian Red Cross volunteer on communication and IT arrived in August 2011 and his focus was on developing and establishing a resource hub for the ART network to improve communication and sharing between members and building the capacity of the ART secretariat officer.

The regional capacity to support and implement quality harm reduction projects was increased through the participation of five Southeast Asia national societies staff (from Thai, Cambodia, and Lao Red Cross) and the regional HIV programme officer in the training on “Harm Reduction Approaches to Drug Use Treatment” by Italian Red Cross, in Rome. Harm reduction is a good way to contact hard-to-reach drug users. Peer education and active involvement of drug users are proven methods to reach people who use drugs in their own environment. Drug users should be involved in programme development and implementation i.e. ‘nothing about us without us’. A follow up of how the national societies implemented the knowledge and skills gained from a 2009 workshop was carried out. The workshop was attended by 21 people from nine national societies. Four national societies had conducted in-country workshops and are now implementing care and support programmes. Two of these planned further training.

World AIDS Day (WAD) promoted the theme ‘Getting to Zero’ with Lao, Thai and Vietnam Red Cross all enthusiastically engaging in associated campaigns.

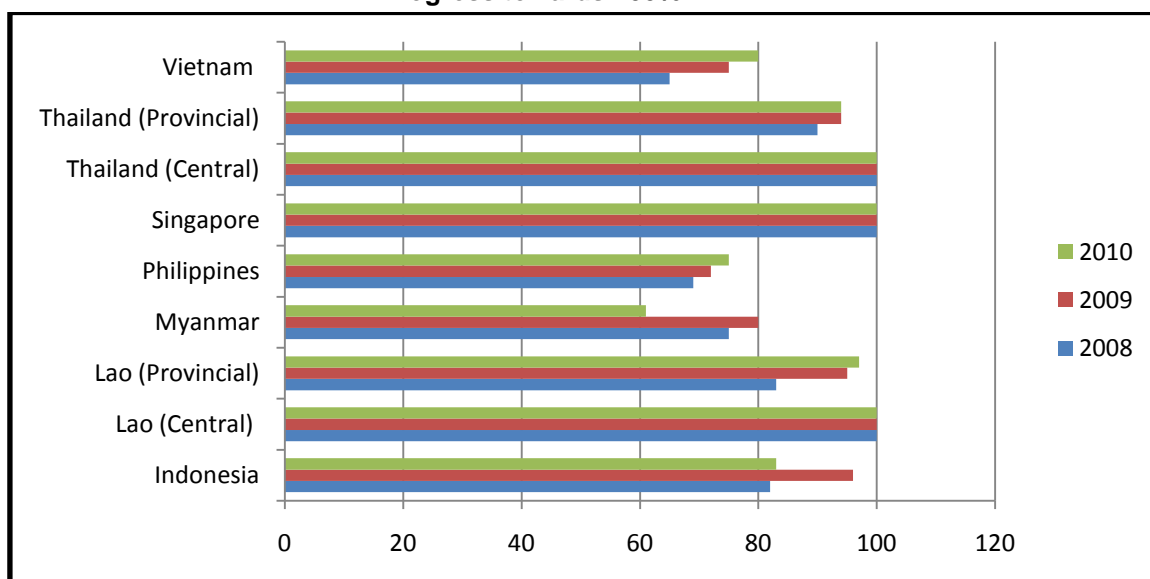
Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation

Outcome 3: Increased number of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors recruited

Club 25 in Viet Nam developed very fast during the year from 70 members to 1,280 members by October, mainly college and high school students. The Club 25 activities attracted many young people in Hanoi and were recognized by local leaders and authorities. Club 25 members have also contributed to various activities of Viet Nam Red Cross. A Philippine Red Cross Pledge 25 training camp with support from the Singapore Red Cross Club 25 was a venue for planning activities and strategies, and the development of blood donor recruitment skills with health promotion components.

The 9th regional workshop on voluntary blood donor recruitment in Southeast Asia was hosted by the Viet Nam Red Cross and co-funded by Norwegian Red Cross. More than 30 participants representing 12 national societies including Partner National Societies, and the IFRC regional office attended. Attention was given to the development of the Club 25 concept and the follow up of the special sessions on “Building a pool of voluntary blood donors” and “Fostering a culture of voluntary blood donation” from the 2010 workshop. The regional progress towards the Melbourne Declaration goal “100 per cent voluntary non-remunerated blood donation” by 2020 was discussed and it was noted that there is still work to do to reach this goal (see table).

Progress towards 100% VNRBD



Lao Red Cross community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) in action programme

Outcome 4: Increased capacity of Lao Red Cross volunteers and communities who are prepared and able to respond to health and injuries prevention in targeted communities.

The Lao Red Cross has been implementing commercial first aid (CFA) intermittently since October 2007 with financial support from New Zealand Red Cross and technical support from Thai Red Cross Society and IFRC. The project aims to increase income generation through strengthened capacity of staff and volunteers in providing quality first aid services. After a good start, income dropped dramatically after a couple of years. Refresher first aid training was conducted, business and marketing plans and a monitoring system for trained persons were developed. However, the concept of income generation as a means of sustaining the project needs further clarification from the Lao Red Cross if it is to continue. The CBHFA approach continued to be implemented successfully in Bokeo district supported by the Austrian Red Cross.

Up to 700 people attended the World First Aid Day celebration in Vientiane on 9 September. There was plenty of energy and media coverage at this event.

Lao Red Cross had several opportunities during the reporting period to increase its capacity in health through participation in workshops such as emergency health, behaviour change communication, blood donor recruitment and participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST).

Coordination and cooperation

Outcome 5: Strengthened and improved cooperation, coordination and support mechanisms within national societies and IFRC.

The annual regional health team forum in Bangkok hosted health representatives from host national societies, partner national societies and the IFRC. The meeting provided a platform for discussion, the sharing of learning, and updates on recent developments. Topics such as climate change and health, road safety, CBHFA, PMER were addressed. Non-communicable diseases (NCD) was the main theme as this is the leading cause of preventable morbidity and premature mortality and a development threat in all countries of SE Asia accounting for 54 per cent of all deaths. Representatives from WHO and the Thai Red Cross Nursing College facilitated the NCD day. Overviews of the non-communicable disease situation and the WHO global strategy action plan were presented, risk factors discussed, and experiences from prevention projects at community level shared.

In an attempt to capture national society contributions to the overall global picture key indicators related to health programmes were collected. Key figures for 2010 are presented in the table below*.

Indicator/NS	Cambodia	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Myanmar	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Timor-Leste	Viet Nam
Health beneficiaries	311,317	4,597,973	230,669	864,089	1,751,414	92,684	3,874,399	73,049	588,902
Volunteers in health	2,066	1,223,547	24,074	5,473	304,977	350	105,000	1,167	16,562
Health staff	81	432	101	171	322	45	8,200	68	994
Expenditure in health USD	1,841,497	11,115,090	579,039	1,404,505	1,228,103	3,400,000	1,295,828 (community healthandrelief)	862,454	2,123,818
Health funding source USD	1,881,750	11,115,090	708,015	1,472,085	1,228,103	3,400,000	11,333,000	1,131,495	2,174,788
Inside RC/RC Movement	1,332,321	7,856,823	452,682	1,035,740	861,400			886,987	717,957
Outside RC/RC Movement	549,429	2,943,231	30,333	436,345	59,488		1,065,302	244,508	1,456,831
Government portion			225,000		2,149	2,506,000		21,082	
Own funding		315,036			305,064	894,000	10,267,698		

*No data available for Brunei and Malaysia RC

The regional office continued to be one of the core group members for the Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Preparedness Forum together with USAID/RESPOND, USAID PREVENT, ADPC and FAO. The forum objectives were to share information, best practice, research and coordination support on EIDs with potential for high impact and those with national and global significance among inter-agency working groups. “Use of Mobile Technologies for Health and Disaster Response” was one of the topics discussed. IFRC presented “Mobile telecommunications and humanitarian assistance: a Red Cross Perspective”. In the community outreach programme in Aceh after the Tsunami SMS, radio broadcasts to over 40 communities, and live TV show broadcasts were used. Through mobile telecommunications in Haiti 26.6 million individual SMS were sent, 1.2 million people reached, 837,000 calls made to free Red Cross information line. During a three day campaign addressing sexually-based violence 1.1 million SMS were sent to 360,000 people and 37,000 calls made to information line.

The regional delegation was instrumental in preparations for the 10th ICAAP (see above)

Support to Thai RCS during the floods

Outcome 6: The risk of waterborne and water related disease is reduced through promotion of safe water, adequate sanitation, garbage disposal, and health and hygiene promotion.

Please see: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual11/MAA51001PU2.pdf>

Constraints and challenges

Capacity limitations at national society and regional levels remain a challenge. The competition for both financial and human resources is getting harder and therefore quality programmes are essential. The capacity to plan, implement, monitor, evaluate and report on programmes continued to be a challenge. The ability to undertake representation with external partners is limited in a number of societies which has a direct impact on resource mobilization in-country.

Many national societies are slowly moving from a project to programme approach but are still being caught up in project view and support from partners for various reasons. Long term planning and integrated programme approaches need to be strengthened, as does collaboration between the disaster management, health and organizational development sectors. There are fewer funding options and interest in stand-alone projects from donors and partners.

Organizational development

Programme objective: Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

Tailor-made organizational development and capacity building initiatives

Outcome 1: Organizational issues have been addressed in individual national societies through tailor-made organizational development and capacity building initiatives.

Lao, Myanmar and Viet Nam Red Cross completed their respective strategic planning processes in alignment with Strategy 2020. It is anticipated that Brunei Red Crescent will also initiate their strategic planning process early next year. The national society has requested to work on first draft of strategic planning before calling on IFRC support on the road to adoption of the plan. Philippines Red Cross initiated its strategic planning process in 2010 and developed a draft strategic plan for 2011 to 2020 which is still to be approved by the leadership.

The Cambodian Red Cross, which revisited its youth policies and procedures in 2010, has now taken up a review of its volunteer management policies, due to be in place in 2012.

Thai Red Cross is implementing a database software to help manage volunteers and youth. The system is having teething problems but the software should be operational in 2012.

Thai Red Cross has begun restructuring its human resources management systems and procedures. The review covers development of a staff performance management system, a standard recruitment system and restructuring towards a more coherent payroll system. In this regard Thai Red Cross organized a 'HR restructuring with coherent payroll system' seminar in Bangkok. Thai Red Cross HR staff gave their views on the proposed new HR system. The work should accelerate in 2012.

Finance development activities have also been progressing steadily. National societies have begun to take new initiatives and interest in finance development and are keen on strengthening their financial management and reporting systems for more consistent transparency and accountability.

Philippines Red Cross (PRC) has fully implemented the 'Navision' accounting software in headquarters. There are still some remaining issues related to inventory management of the blood bank. PRC now plans to implement the software in chapter branches which will pave the way for real time financial information from branches to headquarters (and vice versa). There are plans for workshops for PRC chapter staff to orient them on the system and Navision software. In the first phase, PRC will implement Navision in the five pilot chapters in 2012.

As a next step towards transparent accounting systems and procedures, PRC is reviewing its current financial policies, procedures and regulations to align them with the international financial reporting standards. A draft model finance manual has been provided to the finance department for comment. It is expected that a new comprehensive finance manual would be in place by June 2012

Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) has also moved forward on developing its financial management systems. The leadership decided to compile the financial statements for the last two years of 2009 and 2010 and to have the financial statements of the last two years audited by independent auditors. The VNRC has engaged an audit company to conduct external audit for these two years. It is a welcome step as the Viet Nam accounting law does not require VNRC to compile yearly financial statements. This initiative shows the commitment of VNRC leadership towards financial transparency and accountability. The regional office is providing technical support to VNRC in compiling their financial statements. Once the audit is completed, efforts will be made to reconfigure the software system to facilitate financial statements through the system without affecting the legal provisions of the Vietnamese accounting law. The accounting policies may also need to be revisited and agreed by VNRC for adopting the international accounting standards.

The finance manual that was developed for the VNRC is still being considered by the national society. This will be taken up once the audit of the financial statements is completed by the external auditors.

Myanmar Red Cross (MRCS) successfully completed its financial close of cyclone Nargis operation which was supported by the finance development work initiated by MRCS with support from the regional finance development delegate. Finance development in MRCS will now focus on headquarters. As per the plan finalized with the treasurer and the head of finance, new accounting software Navision will be implemented in 2012 for strengthening the financial management systems. Finance procedures and regulations for Myanmar Red Cross township branches that were drafted have since been approved by the national society. It is expected that these will help in strengthening the financial management at township branches implementing the community based programmes.

Finance development work is also progressing satisfactorily in Timor-Leste. The audit of 2010 has been completed. Progress has been made on the financial reconciliation with the donors. In order to take the finance development process further to the branches, the guidebook on branch financial and administrative procedures developed by the regional finance development delegate was approved. It is now expected that the process of finance development flowing down to the branches will speed up in 2012.

Integration with health, disaster management and humanitarian values

Outcome 2: Increased integration of organizational development and capacity building aspects within health and disaster management programmes

The organizational development team is progressing in integrating better the organizational development and capacity building efforts into the health and disaster management programmes. During the four-year planning discussions, this need came out clearly. This move toward harmonized programme integration is reflected in the regional delegation's emerging strategy of building a new CSRU encompassing both disaster management and health units.

Information sharing and knowledge management

Outcome 3: Lessons learned and best practices are shared across the Movement in Asia-Pacific in addition to skilled national society practitioners providing peer support in organizational development and capacity building.

To disseminate knowledge on the Thai Red Cross and Red Cross Red Crescent Movement as well as the use of the Red Cross emblem to volunteers and partners, two training of trainers (TOT) were organized. Topics included training participants on presentation techniques, Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, Red Cross emblem and its protective use and history of Thai Red Cross, its structure and activities.

The Southeast Asia regional office supported the national society youth forum hosted by Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent. Ten national societies participated. The forum discussed many topics related to youth as agents of behavioural change (YABC) and youth empowerment in decision making as well as sharing inspiring initiatives for strengthening the role of youth volunteers in service of the most vulnerable.

The regional office also organized a meeting of national society treasurers and finance personnel with the theme 'finance development – a way forward to do more, do better and reach further'. Nine national societies participated. Discussions included advantages and pre-conditions of moving to a cash transfer from a working advance system, finance management indicators, ratio analysis and their relevance to financial independence, and linkage of the new Federation framework and principles for building strong national societies (Strategy 2020 enabling action 1) with the finance self-assessment questions in the new Organizational Capacity Assessment Certification (OCAC) tool to be launched early 2012. A review on finance development work was also presented with a focus on lessons learnt and recommendations to guide such work in future. National societies also presented their finance development plan for 2012 which will guide support in the ensuing year.

The organizational development forum saw the participation of ten national societies. It focused on building stronger national societies and started off with a presentation on global resource mapping (GRM) linked with other web-based social networking technology as a way to better identify needs of the vulnerable and link them with resources. An interactive half day session on integrated organizational development focused on how to better harmonize organizational development/capacity building into existing programmes and avoid standalone organizational development initiatives. OCAC was presented as a new standardized tool for national society development with a good deal of enthusiasm from participants. Each national society presented their "inspiring" organizational development stories, and 2012 organizational development plans. In the concluding session on how to strengthen the organizational development forum, participants nominated a steering committee, agreed that agendas should be more focused and participatory, and that the follow up on the meeting's outcomes would be responsibility of steering committee.



**Group work at the organizational development forum
12-14 December 2012 in Jakarta (Photo: IFRC)**

Constraints and challenges

IFRC organizational development work in the region this year was supported mainly by two committed donors namely Swedish Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross. The Swedish Red Cross has supported the full cost of the regional finance development delegate. For most of the year, the finance development delegate carried a

large part of the organizational development portfolio. With arrival of national society development coordinator in September supported by Swedish Red Cross, the newly-named national society development unit is strengthened. In addition, a national society development officer has been recruited.

The United Kingdom Department for International Development DFID also provided support. However, assistance from other donors is needed to continue the important work of organizational development in the 11 countries of Southeast Asia.

The development of trusting relationships with national society leadership has been a key feature of the progress of organizational development work, which is an ongoing process that takes considerable time and focus in addition to often substantial technical support. The significant amount of time to understand the various cultural and organizational dynamics cannot be underestimated. Without this, it is difficult to get an accurate 'read' on how progress can be made.

In conclusion

It is heartening to note that the Brunei Red Crescent Society is further engaging in various regional initiatives. Further discussion is set for various issues, including statute revision and strategic planning.

The national societies are increasingly looking for support on finance development issues. PRC and VNRC are good examples. The PRC which implemented the Navision software at headquarters is now set to implement the new software in five chapters on a pilot basis to strengthen financial management capacity of chapters. PRC initiatives on revisiting the current financial procedures and policies for greater transparency are also heartening.

VNRC also took initiative on the external audit of the financial statement by independent auditors was also a welcome step in making a move to financial transparency and accountability.

Myanmar Red Cross has also decided to replace its present accounting software (as it does not address the Myanmar Red Cross needs) and planned implementation of Navision Software in 2012 for their headquarters to strengthen their financial management capacity. To strengthen the financial management in branches, the financial regulations have already been approved and the national society has planned training of the finance and non-finance staff in early 2012.

To collect timely information on key health issues and monitoring data from the national societies in order to feed into the global picture continues to be a challenge.

Communications

Knowledge and information management

Outcome 1: The knowledge and information management (KIM) project has taken significant strides. The project aims to support the IFRC to capture and capitalize on experiences, successes and challenges with the ultimate goal of ensuring better services and support to national societies.

An on-line KIM platform has been developed, making available a wide range of analysis and reports covering different periods, countries and issues. Beta-testing of this platform has begun, with feedback solicited from a network of IFRC staff working in both the regional office and country offices. This process will need to continue into the new year as insufficient feedback has been received thus far.

The progress of the KIM project needs to be consolidated. A survey of knowledge and information management needs will be disseminated in early 2012. Testing will continue and the platform will be finalized within the first three months of 2012. Protocols and guidelines for gathering content (both written and audio-visual) will also be finalized and shared.

The regional delegation maintained its long-standing support and engagement of the global Barefoot Guide initiative that now has two free online booklets: Working with Organizations and Social Change; and Learning Practices in Organizations and Social Change. The IFRC is proud of its contribution and in turn fellow organisations have helped IFRC ponder its own learning challenges. See www.barefootguide.com

Communications and advocacy

Outcome 2: As is often the case, the final third of the year was dominated by emergencies across the region with storms and flooding in the Philippines, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand. The flooding in Thailand in particular garnered significant global media attention. The regional communications and advocacy unit provided support to each of these countries. A regular flow of communication products were developed in collaboration with country offices and National Societies and then disseminated throughout the Federation communications network and to international and regional media, as well as being posted on www.ifrc.org. Proactive media engagement generated significant and positive coverage of Red Cross emergency response activities in each affected country. Examples include:

- In Thailand: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhCm-7-Fldc>
- In Cambodia: <http://australianetworknews.com/stories/201111/3355341.htm?desktop>
- In Viet Nam: <http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/asiapac/stories/201111/s3363197.htm>

Support was also provided to Lao Red Cross to develop a straightforward communications plan in support of a disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) funded relief operation in late July. The plan, wholly implemented by the National Society, generated significant national media coverage. Similar support has been sought by the Viet Nam Red Cross.

The disasters provided an opportunity to reinforce relationships with major international news outlets based in Bangkok – relationships that will have ongoing benefits for the IFRC and National Societies. That said, the immediate goal of the communications and advocacy unit is to break the tyranny of emergency communications and to ensure that the predictable disaster season does not hijack longer-term strategic efforts. To this end, the new year will see the arrival of two new members: an emergency communications officer and an advocacy and campaigns officer. Both these positions will be focused on supporting National Societies to build their capacities in these key areas, as well as contributing to the strengthening of internal-IFRC processes.

Support was provided to the regional and zone health and care teams in the lead up to September's 10th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) and to the zone and global humanitarian diplomacy teams during the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness.

Seven Southeast Asian national societies (Myanmar, Viet Nam, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines) participated in the IFRC's global communications forum in Geneva – making Southeast Asia the most-represented region in the world.

Constraints and challenges

- Disasters: Perhaps not unexpectedly, the biggest hindrance to planned communications and advocacy activities was the series of disasters that plagued Southeast Asia throughout the second half of 2012. These disasters diverted focus away from longer-term, advocacy-orientated initiatives. This was particularly pertinent for planned advocacy around operations in Myanmar which will now be done to tie-in with the fourth anniversary of cyclone Nargis in May 2012. In a broader sense, the arrival of the two new members of the communications and advocacy unit at the beginning of 2012 will naturally help overcome this challenge during the next disaster season.

- The disasters had an impact as well on the roll-out of the KIM platform. Participants for the beta-testing of the platform simply did not have the time to engage with the platform and provide feedback. Again, this is entirely understandable, but has had a clear impact on the roll-out of the project.
- The disasters also revealed a need for increased internal clarity within communications in Asia and the Pacific on specific roles and responsibilities. Although not particularly severe, the confusion that still exist between country offices, the zone office and the regional office need to be clarified quickly.

Working in partnership

The nature of partnership in the region (and for IFRC globally) is changing. Partner National Societies retain huge sources of competence and resource particularly at country level (i.e. nine active in Viet Nam). French Red Cross remains active in Bangkok as does American Red Cross, the global road safety partnership (GRSP, a hosted IFRC initiative) and an Australian Red Cross representative engaged in the Australian government's Australian Volunteers for International Development programme. Danish Red Cross relocated their regional office to Phnom Penh.

More and more though (again in line with Strategy 2020) it is 'external' or 'non-traditional' partnerships that represent the present way of working as well as the future.

The 2011 meeting of the leaders of the Southeast Asian national societies in Timor-Leste in July was an important milestone in many regards: for the hosting national society itself (CVTL), which has developed so well over its relatively short life, to showcase its often cutting edge work to sister national societies from around the region; for the leadership forum itself, which translated ambitions to be more active, rigorous and engaged with the common humanitarian issues of the region into more substantive action; and for this regional delegation, which is increasingly more engaged and responsive to the leaders themselves via this forum.

Contributing to longer-term impact

In 2011 – and to be continued over the next four years – the regional delegation has aimed to:

- Strengthen relationships with national society leaders and managers
- Support Red Cross Red Crescent partners with an interest in Southeast Asia
- Act as the focal point for the development of the Southeast Asian national societies' collective relationship with ASEAN
- Promote joint learning, knowledge exchange and aligned programming within the region
- Act as a present and informed supporter of national society development
- Represent the IFRC and its national societies in the vibrant humanitarian hub of Bangkok and as such be more active and strategic in its advocacy

IFRC's four-year planning will seek to strengthen performance in these strategic functions.

Looking ahead

Codifying national society relations with ASEAN remains a priority. As indicated above, the regional delegation is best positioned to support the evolution of this relationship and has been empowered by the host national society to play this role.

The regional delegation team is continuing its evolution in 2012 with the community safety and resilience unit as the catalyst for change. A new head of that unit has settled in since August. Progress is continuing to integrate regional programming around the established Southeast Asia community resilience and safety framework. In addition, a new communications manager is now well established (since June) as is a new national society development coordinator (since October).

April 2012 also marked a significant and more than symbolic milestone with the visit of the national society leadership collective to the Bangkok office. This event added sentiment and substance to what is a more mature partnership between the national societies and the secretariat office. The nature of the IFRC presence in Southeast Asia will continue to evolve so that it adapts to the environment and remains a relevant supporter of the national societies. The strength of the relationship with the leaders will help steady this voyage of change.

With a four-year plan in place (2012-2015), the regional delegation is looking to strengthen its community development agenda, in line with Strategy 2020. That is not to say the regional delegation can ‘do’ community development from Bangkok; it is to say that the team seeks to set an example of good practice here (in large part based on its role as a knowledge collector, sharer and broker) and work through the networks of host national societies and their partners.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

IFRC’s vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



IFRC’s work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

Contact information

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

- **Southeast Asia regional office, Bangkok**
 - Anne Leclerc, head of regional office, email: anne.leclerc@ifrc.org, phone: +662 661 8201, fax: +662 661 9322
- **Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur**
 - Al Panico, head of operations, email: al.panico@ifrc.org; phone: +603 9207 5700.
 - Alan Bradbury, head of resource mobilization and PMER, email: alan.bradbury@ifrc.org; phone: +603 9207 5775, fax: +603 2161 0670Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

Development Programme Financial Report

MAA51001 - Southeast Asia

Annual Report 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/9998
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Programme	MAA51001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget	4,517,465	434,876	468,957		466,090	5,887,387	
B. Opening Balance	751,143	66,413	115,879	0	224,690	1,158,125	
Income							
Cash contributions							
American Red Cross	155,334					155,334	
Ammado Foundation	5,530					5,530	
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (from Asian Development Bank)		8,939				8,939	46,670
Australian Government	1,191					1,191	32,756
Australian Red Cross	14,537	46,973				61,510	
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	714,351					714,351	
Brazilian Government	46,852					46,852	
Canadian Government	828,763					828,763	60,265
DFID Partnership grant		33,046	44,002			77,049	171,218
European Commission - DG ECHO	1,141,636					1,141,636	687,638
Finnish Red Cross		3,032				3,032	
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)		17,179				17,179	
Japanese Red Cross Society	74,658	31,996	53,327		0	159,981	
Norwegian Red Cross		12,233				12,233	
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)		74,098				74,098	
OCHA - UN Office for coordination of Humanitarian	86,335					86,335	
On Line donations	3,184					3,184	
OXFAM	90,091					90,091	
Spanish Red Cross	15,000					15,000	
Swedish Red Cross			21,085			21,085	
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	167,624		128,940			296,564	
The Canadian Red Cross Society	707,967					707,967	136,623
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Rockefeller Foundation)		-455				-455	
C1. Cash contributions	4,053,053	227,041	247,354		0	4,527,449	1,135,169
Inkind Goods & Transport							
Australian Red Cross	23,241					23,241	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	165,823					165,823	
C2. Inkind Goods & Transport	189,064					189,064	
Inkind Personnel							
Australian Red Cross		7,800				7,800	
Swedish Red Cross	54,600					54,600	
C3. Inkind Personnel	54,600	7,800				62,400	
Other Income							
Balance Reallocation	-108,720		108,720			0	
IFRC at the UN Inc allocations	21,942					21,942	
Programme & Services Support Recover	12,183					12,183	
Sales					1,688	1,688	
Services Fees					163,635	163,635	
C4. Other Income	-74,595		108,720		165,324	199,449	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	4,222,122	234,841	356,074		165,324	4,978,361	1,135,169
D. Total Funding = B +C	4,973,265	301,254	471,953	0	390,014	6,136,487	1,135,169
Coverage = D / A	110%	69%	101%		84%	104%	

Development Programme Financial Report

MAA51001 - Southeast Asia

Annual Report 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/9998
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Programme	MAA51001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	751,143	66,413	115,879	0	224,690	1,158,125	
C. Income	4,222,122	234,841	356,074		165,324	4,978,361	1,135,169
E. Expenditure	-3,225,922	-235,884	-304,762		-367,219	-4,133,787	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,747,343	65,370	167,192	0	22,795	2,002,700	1,135,169

Development Programme Financial Report

MAA51001 - Southeast Asia

Annual Report 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/9998
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Programme	MAA51001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		4,517,465	434,876	468,957		466,090	5,887,387	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	396,635	297,269					297,269	99,366
Medical & First Aid		11	1,363				1,374	-1,374
Teaching Materials		975					975	-975
Utensils & Tools	365,417	52,017					52,017	313,400
Other Supplies & Services	1,750,116	14,456					14,456	1,735,660
Total Relief items, Construction, Su	2,512,168	364,728	1,363				366,091	2,146,077
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	229,931	4,781					4,781	225,150
Computers & Telecom	7,763	30,997				1,177	32,174	-24,411
Office & Household Equipment		75,145					75,145	-75,145
Others Machinery & Equipment	5,000	110	30	63		-203	0	5,000
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	242,694	111,033	30	63		974	112,101	130,593
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage		11,778				369	12,147	-12,147
Distribution & Monitoring		3,720	113				3,833	-3,833
Transport & Vehicles Costs	152,716	2,567	874	229		9,026	12,696	140,020
Logistics Services	49,128	12,637					12,637	36,491
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	201,844	30,702	987	229		9,395	41,313	160,531
Personnel								
International Staff	940,314	337,269	15,331	119,313		44,730	516,643	423,671
National Staff	329,745	132,082	52,105	9,415		157,702	351,304	-21,559
National Society Staff	18,327	18,443	3,016				21,459	-3,132
Volunteers		64	152	1,243			1,460	-1,460
Total Personnel	1,288,386	487,859	70,605	129,971		202,432	890,866	397,520
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	42,450	27,188	316	2,767			30,270	12,180
Professional Fees	1,854	220	85			2,713	3,018	-1,164
Total Consultants & Professional Fe	44,304	27,408	400	2,767		2,713	33,288	11,016
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	640,789	199,325	81,324	84,089		2,772	367,509	273,280
Total Workshops & Training	640,789	199,325	81,324	84,089		2,772	367,509	273,280
General Expenditure								
Travel	164,194	74,589	20,335	21,134		16,887	132,945	31,249
Information & Public Relations	97,715	36,027	16,353	3,731		2,176	58,287	39,428
Office Costs	232,736	8,842	3,060	3,090		126,632	141,624	91,112
Communications	38,950	10,046	1,435	1,595		20,849	33,925	5,025
Financial Charges	64,283	14,465	715	653		33,675	49,508	14,775
Other General Expenses		39,986	14,073	13,733		-73,943	-6,150	6,150
Total General Expenditure	597,878	183,955	55,971	43,936		126,277	410,139	187,739
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		1,603,377	7,741	22,962			1,634,080	-1,634,080
Total Operational Provisions		1,603,377	7,741	22,962			1,634,080	-1,634,080
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	359,324	191,890	13,690	18,461		22,397	246,438	112,886
Total Indirect Costs	359,324	191,890	13,690	18,461		22,397	246,438	112,886
Pledge Specific Costs								
Pledge Earmarking Fee		21,005	1,882	2,056		20	24,963	-24,963
Pledge Reporting Fees		4,641	1,892	228		239	7,000	-7,000

Development Programme Financial Report

MAA51001 - Southeast Asia

Annual Report 2011

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/9998
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Programme	MAA51001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
	A						B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		4,517,465	434,876	468,957		466,090	5,887,387	
Total Pledge Specific Costs		25,646	3,773	2,284		260	31,963	-31,963
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,887,387	3,225,922	235,884	304,762		367,219	4,133,787	1,753,600
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,291,543	198,992	164,195		98,870	1,753,600	