

ANNUAL REPORT



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

INDIAN OCEAN SUB-REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

30 April 2005

In Brief

Appeal No.: 01.09/2004 – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/010904.pdf

Appeal target: CHF 555,580 (USD 417,258 or EUR 357,631)

Appeal coverage: 46.8% ([Click here to access the final financial report](#))

Appeal 2005: Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes no. 05AA006 –
http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA006.pdf

This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For further information specifically related to this Annual Appeal please contact:

- **In Comoros:** Mohibaca Baco, President, Comoros Red Crescent, Moroni; Email crco@snpt.km; Phone +269.733.516; Fax +269.730.664
- **In Madagascar:** Malagasy Red Cross Society, Antananarivo; Email crm@dts.mg; Phone +261.20.222.21.11; Fax +261.320.775.505.56
- **In Mauritius:** Gaëtan Roland Lagesse, Director General, Mauritius Red Cross Society, Curepipe; Email redcross@intnet.mu; Phone +230.676.3604; Fax +230.483.6680
- **In Seychelles:** Colette Servina, President, Seychelles Red Cross Society, Victoria; Email redcross@seychelles.net; Phone +248.324.646; Fax +248.321.663
- **In Kenya:** Susanna Cunningham, Federation Head of Indian Ocean Sub-Regional Office, Nairobi; Email ifrcke43@ifrc.org; Phone +254.20.283.5221; Fax +254.20.271.8415
- **In Geneva:** Josse Gillijns, Federation Regional Officer for East Africa, Africa Dept.; Email josse.gillijns@ifrc.org; Phone +41.22.730.4224; Fax +41.22.733.0395

Overall analysis of the programme

Floods and cyclones continued to be the main disaster afflicting the Indian Ocean islands. The 26 December tsunami devastated some coastal areas of Seychelles, and required the national society to use all its human resources to carry out its biggest operation ever. A bout of infectious diseases also affected large sectors of the population in both Comoros and Madagascar during the year.

The establishment of structures and systems to effectively manage programmes remains a priority within the field of Organizational Development. The inability of the International Federation to open a sub-regional office for the Indian Ocean Islands in 2004, mainly due to funding constraints, reduced its ability to provide consistent support to the four national societies. It has been confirmed that this office will open in early 2005.

Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes; Annual Appeal no. 01.09/2004; Annual Report

In Madagascar, the government issued a decree annulling elections held during the national society's General Assembly and appointed its own committee to organize new elections. The issue was being addressed at the highest level in the International Federation and ICRC and had not been resolved at the time of writing this report. The situation in Madagascar led to a review of the plans to open the sub-regional office for the Indian Ocean Islands in the country. Mauritius Red Cross has now offered to host the office.

In Comoros, the national society continued to move the process of recognition forward; the aim is to complete the process in time for the Federation's General Assembly in November 2005.

Objectives, Achievements, and Constraints

In conformity with the original Appeal presentation, the reporting below is presented country by country.

Comoros

Health and care

Goal: The health status of the most vulnerable communities in Comoros is improved.

Objective: Vulnerable communities are supported to address their public health needs (malaria, cholera, HIV/AIDS) in a sustainable manner using the ARCHI strategy; volunteer management structures are developed to rapidly and effectively address public health needs in emergencies (preparedness and response).

Progress/Achievements

The Comoros Red Crescent¹ launched a hygiene and sanitation programme in schools during the year. The programme comprises activities to heighten the awareness of the children and their families, the construction of latrines and water points in schools, the distribution of toiletries and the treatment of fleas, lice and other parasites frequently present in the communities. Amid term evaluation of the programme shows a marked improvement in the children's hygiene and sanitation behaviour.

The national society continued to participate in all the ministry of health programmes including immunization campaigns and activities to eliminate filariasis.

Over the past two years, the Comoros Red Crescent has undertaken information and advocacy meetings for communities and the volunteers to fight against stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS. A drama group stages plays at the village level; the national society also has a club of volunteer blood donors which also distributes condoms.

Organizational Development

Goal: The Comoros Red Crescent maintains a high profile in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable at community level.

Objective: The national society's institutional capacity and its progress towards operating as a well functioning national society is enhanced through Secretariat support

Progress/Achievements

A Secretary General (Secrétaire Exécutif) of the Comoros Red Crescent was appointed in June; this has led to a better overall management of the national society and more consistent communication with the regional delegation. Job Descriptions for all staff were drawn up and lines of responsibility were clarified. Reporting is more consistent and has improved in quality. Support from the Headquarters to the Regional Committees on all three islands has improved.

¹ Comoros Red Crescent – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=186>

Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes; Annual Appeal no. 01.09/2004; Annual Report

The Movement's Joint Commission on Statutes gave its feedback to the national society's draft Statutes in November. By the end of the year, the national society was making the necessary revisions and expects to table the revised document at its General Assembly scheduled for March 2005. Approval of the final document by the Joint Commission will complete the dossier that the national society has worked intensively to develop throughout the year to support its case for recognition by the ICRC and the International Federation.

Constraints

The Comoros Red Crescent continues to be totally dependant on members of the Movement for all its activities. Some funding can be accessed locally, but this is generally for short-term health initiatives which rarely have a capacity building component. The President of the national society resides on the island of Mohéli and nominates the three Vice-Presidents to act in rotation. However none has been specifically made responsible for external relations; this has meant that the Comoros Red Crescent does not have the capacity to liaise and develop relations with potential new partners.

Further, the specific political sensitivities in the country which relate to the representation of all three islands in every aspect of decision-making are replicated in the national society. This is costly and slows down the implementation of programmes.

Madagascar

Health and care

Goal: The health status of the most vulnerable communities is improved.

Objective: Vulnerable communities are supported to address their public health needs (malaria, cholera HIV/AIDS) in a sustainable manner using the ARCHI strategy to rapidly and effectively address public health needs in emergencies (preparedness and response).

Progress/Achievements

The Malagasy Red Cross Society² participated in the mass measles campaigns covering 12 districts in which 94% coverage was achieved. The national society is also piloting a project for routine immunisations (EPI) together with the ministry of health, UNICEF and WHO.

Community based first aid training was provided to 40 branches so far; however the national society has only been able to retain about 30% of the trained volunteers

Organizational Development

Goal: The Malagasy Red Cross maintains a high profile in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Objective: The Malagasy Red Cross has the necessary structures and systems in place to respond to clearly identified community needs

Progress/Achievements

The involvement of the Malagasy Red Cross in the Cyclone Gafilo operation and the measles mobilization campaign significantly raised its profile in the country. (Refer to the Final Report for Emergency Appeal no. 08/2004, Madagascar: Cyclone Gafilo – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/0804fr.pdf).

² Malagasy Red Cross Society – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=109>

Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes; Annual Appeal no. 01.09/2004; Annual Report

For the first time in many years the national society was a member of Government operational steering committees. Used clothes donated by the Swedish Red Cross were also distributed in four locations in southern Madagascar under the operation.

The national society also succeeded in attracting local donations including from the diplomatic community. This was evidence of an improved confidence in the national society's ability to manage and report on activities. Programme Coordinators were appointed at the provincial level, allowing for provincial committees to provide systematic support to local branches. This was a key contributor to success in reaching isolated communities during the Cyclone operation and the measles campaign. Provincial and General Assemblies were carried out in the period from August to October in conformity with the national society's Statutes.

Constraints

The decree issued on 10 November 2004 by the Government, annulling the elections held during the General Assembly, was a major setback. This is the third time in a decade that the government has taken such action. It has seriously damaged the confidence of partners in the Malagasy Red Cross and has resulted in a decision by Movement partners to suspend funding to the national society for the early part of 2005, at least. Although the highest level of the Movement is addressing the issue with the Malagasy government, there is so far no indication that the situation will be resolved quickly.

NB. The following section on Disaster Preparedness is additional to the original Appeal, and is derived from the completed Cyclone Gafilo operation under Emergency Appeal no. 08/2004.

Disaster Preparedness

Objective: Disaster preparedness capacity of Malagasy Red Cross is strengthened in terms of disaster preparedness planning, logistics capacity and information management.

Progress/Achievements

A disaster preparedness (DP) planning exercise was held during the year and attended by the regional disaster management coordinator, senior management and technical staff of the national society, members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Coordinators from 6 provinces. The workshop developed a draft DP plan, draft DP policy, key objectives for a DP programme for 2004-2008 and outlined disaster response procedures.

A new disaster preparedness/logistics officer and an information and dissemination officer were recruited during the year. Both officers received briefing, induction and technical support by the regional disaster management unit and information delegate, respectively, during a visit to the regional delegation in Nairobi. The information officer together with other national society participants also benefited from technical support during the annual PIROI³ training in Reunion Island.

Impact

A case study of the response to cyclone Gafilo was produced and presented during the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe January 2005. The disaster preparedness/logistics officer and the NDRT continue to operate effectively as witnessed in their state of preparedness and communication regarding cyclone Ernest during the fourth quarter of 2004.

The used clothes distributed during the cyclone Gafilo gave much relief to the affected communities. This was confirmed by the distribution team and earlier reports from the relief delegate that the families identified were in an extreme state of poverty and highly appreciated the clothing.

³ PIROI – Indian Ocean Regional Disaster Response Platform

Constraints

The change of leadership of the national society presented difficulties in conducting information visits, logistics assessment and follow up on the disaster preparedness planning.

Mauritius

Organizational Development

Goal: The Mauritius Red Cross maintains a high profile in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Objective: The Mauritius Red Cross has the necessary structures and systems in place to respond to clearly identified community needs.

Progress/Achievements

The Mauritius Red Cross Society⁴ continued to develop its profile in the region; the appointment of the Deputy Director as the sub-regional representative to the RC-NET Committee has exposed the national society to broader Movement issues and widened horizons.

Mauritius Red Cross provided significant support to the International Federation Secretariat in advance of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) meeting which took place in the country in January 2005. This involved regular contact with the government; this contributed to developing the profile of the Red Cross Movement in Mauritius.

The Mauritius Red Cross has offered to host the sub-regional office for the Indian Ocean which the regional delegation will build on given the current crisis with the interference of the government in the affairs of the Malagasy Red Cross.

Constraints

While the national society carries out its activities competently, the leadership continues to adapt a cautious approach to taking on new initiatives. As the strongest economy in the Indian Ocean sub-region, there are opportunities which do not exist in other island states. This will be a challenge to be addressed by the incoming Head of the Indian Ocean sub-regional office.

Seychelles

Organizational Development

Goal: The Seychelles Red Cross maintains a high profile in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Objective: The Seychelles Red Cross has the necessary structures and systems in place to respond to clearly identified community needs.

Progress/Achievements

The positive impact of the appointment of a programme coordinator for the Seychelles Red Cross Society⁵ continued to be felt; funding for continued support to the position was secured until August 2005. Branch Committees were firmly established on the islands of Praslin and La Digue. Newly recruited volunteers received significant training in Movement policies and systems. New local branches on the main island of Mahé were also established. The presence of structured branches with trained volunteers and a 'Call-Out' system enabled the national society to respond swiftly when the Tsunami struck on December 26.

⁴ Mauritius Red Cross Society – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=115>

⁵ Seychelles Red Cross Society – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=151>

Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes; Annual Appeal no. 01.09/2004; Annual Report

The profile of the national society continued to develop at regional level with the deployment of the Programme Coordinator to support disaster assessments and training in Madagascar, Eritrea and Somalia. The Executive President of Seychelles Red Cross, who is currently President of the Association of Francophone National Societies (ACROFA), provided extensive moral support to the President and Board of the Malagasy Red Cross both before the General Assembly and after the Government decree in November 2004.

Constraints

The growing profile of the Seychelles Red Cross has attracted new partners. The issue of absorption capacity needs to be carefully monitored. The national society continues to operate with very limited staff and relies heavily on the availability and goodwill of volunteers. The tsunami operation has highlighted some gaps in decision making processes and management capacity which will need to be addressed quite urgently.

Indian Ocean sub-regional office

Coordination, Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships

Goal: The Federation coordination role is accepted and respected by all partners in the Indian Ocean sub-region with a view to enhancing good cooperation and successful partnerships.

Objective: Through constant dialogue, good coordination is achieved with various partners, with a view to building the capacity of the newly created sub-region for Indian Ocean Islands and the four national societies.

Progress/Achievements

The Federation through the regional organization development delegate as the focal point for the four national societies provided support and liaison as necessary

Effective Representation and Advocacy

Goal: The Federation has a high profile as a key humanitarian actor and advocate in the region with the added advantage of a network of national societies able to deliver services at community level.

Objective: The Federation is an effective and reliable partner in support of the four national societies in the Indian Ocean and in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable.

Progress/Achievements

It was not feasible to open the sub-regional office for the Indian Ocean Islands in Madagascar during 2004 as planned due to lack of funding. However, the Federation through the regional organization development delegate as the focal point for the four national societies, continued to ensure support.

Delegation Management

Goal: The Federation structure is streamlined to effectively support the implementation of the decentralization process.

Objective: To maintain an efficient, flexible and service oriented infrastructure coordinated with all partners.

Progress/Achievements

The December 26 Tsunami and the ensuing worldwide call for an Early Warning System (EWS) will significantly influence and speed up plans which the Federation previously did not have the means to implement in the Indian Ocean Islands. The growing understanding and appreciation by governments and humanitarian actors of the role

Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes; Annual Appeal no. 01.09/2004; Annual Report

that national societies have in extending EWS to the most remote communities will provide a better incentive for cooperation locally.

The sub-regional office will be established in Mauritius in the first half of 2005. The developing interest in the sub-region from non-traditional partner national societies and the lack of experience of Indian Ocean national societies in dealing with multiple donors has highlighted the importance of a Federation coordination role in the sub-region. The sub-regional approach to supporting national societies in identifying their niche within national EWS will facilitate the design of a Regional Assistance Strategy. The first steps in this process are expected to be taken before the end of 2005.

Constraints

The national societies in the sub-region - with their limited human resource capacity - run the risk of their activities being derailed by increased donor interest. It will be important that the Federation assists the national societies and their prospective partners to work within the framework of national society strategic plans.

[Final financial report below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2004/1-2004/12
Appeal	M04AA009
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
Budget (A)		0		322'713	232'866	555'580
Opening Balance (B)		0		130'067	0	130'067
Income						
Cash contributions						
Capacity Building Fund				130'000		130'000
Other				0	0	0
Cash contributions (C1)				130'000	0	130'000
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Norwegian Red Cross		35'000				35'000
Reallocations (C2)		35'000				35'000
Total Income (C) = SUM(C1..C5)		35'000		130'000	0	165'000
Total Funding (B + C)		35'000		260'067	0	295'067

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
Opening Balance (B)		0		130'067	0	130'067
Income (C)		35'000		130'000	0	165'000
Expenditure (D)		-21'410		-135'499		-156'909
Closing Balance (B + C + D)		13'590		124'568	0	138'158

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2004/1-2004/12
Appeal	M04AA009
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance A - B
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)		0			322'713	232'866	555'580	
Supplies								
Water & Sanitation	32'000							32'000
Total Supplies	32'000							32'000
Capital Expenditure								
Computers & Telecom			2'440		1'749		4'189	-4'189
Total Capital Expenditure			2'440		1'749		4'189	-4'189
Transport & Storage								
Storage			135				135	-135
Distribution & Monitoring			936				936	-936
Transport & Vehicle Costs	18'080		1'732		1'180		2'913	15'167
Total Transport & Storage	18'080		2'803		1'180		3'984	14'096
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	144'000							144'000
Delegate Benefits			3'050		1'875		4'925	-4'925
Regionally Deployed Staff	41'120							41'120
National & National Society Staff			840		1'431		2'271	-2'271
Consultants	31'500							31'500
Total Personnel Expenditures	216'620		3'890		3'306		7'196	209'424
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	79'150				21'509		21'509	57'641
Total Workshops & Training	79'150				21'509		21'509	57'641
General Expenditure								
Travel	102'977		4'562		21'435		25'997	76'981
Information & Public Relation	26'815		837		1'481		2'318	24'497
Office Costs	43'825		37		8'425		8'462	35'363
Communications			50		9'579		9'629	-9'629
Financial Charges			2'270		-5'157		-2'887	2'887
Other General Expenses			6		650		656	-656
Total General Expenditure	173'617		7'762		36'413		44'174	129'443
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies					43'332		43'332	-43'332
Total Federation Contributions & Transfers					43'332		43'332	-43'332
Program Support								
Program Support	36'113		1'392		8'807		10'199	25'914
Total Program Support	36'113		1'392		8'807		10'199	25'914
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			3'123		19'203		22'326	-22'326
Total Operational Provisions			3'123		19'203		22'326	-22'326
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	555'580		21'410		135'499		156'909	398'670
VARIANCE (C - D)			-21'410		187'214	232'866	398'670	