

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

29 May 2006

In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA006; Appeal target: CHF 507,714 (USD 402,278 or EUR 321,541); Appeal coverage: 76.3%. [Click here to go directly to the attached Financial Report.](#)

Annual Appeal: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA006.pdf>

Programme Update no. 1: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA00601.pdf>

Programme Update no. 2: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA00602.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>

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Operational context

In November 2005, the **Comoros** Red Crescent was elected as the 182 member of the International Federation. The national society will need considerable capacity building support in 2006 to enable it to benefit fully from membership.

In conformity with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the International Federation and the government of **Madagascar**, a transition committee was appointed to manage the national society until its next general assembly. The committee took up office on 29 December 2005. This was a major step in reversing the institutional crisis prevailing in the national society since November 2004. The committee took over from the government appointed leadership of the Madagascar Red Cross Society and began to implement a six month plan of action which will lead to the holding of a general assembly and election of a new leadership from amongst the national society's membership. This will be preceded by regional assemblies. Other key action points will be the

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carrying out of an audit of 2004 and 2005 accounts, the drafting of a strategic plan, and the revision of the national society's legal base (statutes and Red Cross law). The Ministry of Health appointed a counterpart to work with the Federation and the transition committee in the implementation of the plan of action. Once the general assembly is held, the mandate of the transition committee and the government counterpart will end. However major challenges remain to be addressed which may require further delicate discussions with the government.

Discussions continued with the **Mauritius** government throughout the year regarding the signature of a status agreement, which would facilitate the relocation of the sub-regional office, currently based in Nairobi. Formalities were not completed by year end. However, the relocation is expected to take place in the first half of 2006. The Mauritius Red Cross Society continued to raise its profile with partners inside and outside the Movement during the year. For the first time in its history, the national society contributed to two International Federation appeals, the funds being raised from public donations. A two year cooperation agreement was signed with the Spanish Red Cross.

In **Seychelles**, much of the Federation's support to organizational development in the Seychelles Red Cross society was covered under the Tsunami Emergency Appeal. To view the Tsunami Plan of Action 2005-2010 and other reports please visit: <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/response/tsunamis/index.asp>. The national society continued to reinforce branch structures on the islands of Praslin and La Digue, and discussions are ongoing regarding the establishment of a branch structure on the main island of Mahé, where activities have been managed by headquarters to date. A general assembly was held in August, at which the outgoing President was elected for a second mandate.

The absence of an information/communications delegate since June 2005 as well as the December 2004 tsunami had a negative impact on the implementation of the planned development and capacity building activities of all four national societies' information units.

Analysis of 2005 programmes- Comoros

Organizational development

Goal: The Comoros Red Crescent maintains a high profile in responding to the needs of the 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.

Achievements

Following a year of intensive preparation the Comoros Red Crescent was elected to membership of the International Federation at the general assembly in Seoul in November 2005. National society volunteers participated in two water tank cleaning operation following the eruptions of the Karthala volcano in 2005, highlighting the important role that Comoros Red Crescent plays at community level In addition to the Secretary General seconded from the Ministry of Health (MoH), the authorities nominated three administrators; one for each of the three regional branches. Job descriptions for all salaried staff were finalized. National committee members were exposed to an increased number of Movement issues and became very motivated in becoming involved in various initiatives.

Impact

The recognition process and the number of high level discussions which the joint International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation commission had with senior government representatives underlined the regard and respect which the national society maintains in the country.

Constraint

The Comoros Red Crescent needs support in managing relationships with partners. As a newly elected member of the Federation, the national society needs support in adapting its structure to address various challenges. However, during the year the head of the sub-regional office was obliged to dedicate a significant amount of her time to the institutional crisis in Madagascar, preventing her from providing this support to the Comoros Red Crescent. This will be a priority in 2006.

Analysis of 2005 programmes- Madagascar

Organizational development

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

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

Achievements

Following a high level joint ICRC/ Federation visit and a follow up visit by senior management of the Federation, a memorandum of understanding was signed in August 2005 between the five ministries (Collège de Tutelle de la Croix-rouge Malagasy) and the Federation to resolve the institutional crisis in the national society. This involved the recruitment of a transition committee made up of three Malagasy nationals (a programme coordinator, a financial administrator and a legal advisor) and the international recruitment of a Federation organizational development delegate to accompany the process of restructuring the national society. An open and constructive dialogue was created with the government which has indicated its desire to see a professional independent leadership in the national society and to ensure that such a violation of its independence never occurs again.

Constraints

Since the government appointed leadership took over in November 2004, all Movement partners suspended their support. New funding will be required to support a complete restructuring of the national society and to assist in the scaling up of activities. As this is the fourth time the national society has lived through such a crisis since the late 80s, convincing partners to allocate funding may be a challenge.

Analysis of 2005 programmes- Mauritius

Organizational development

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

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

Achievements

The deputy director general of the Mauritius Red Cross Society participated in a new national society leadership course (organized by the organizational development department in Geneva). The deputy also represents the sub-region in the Red Cross Red Crescent Network for East Africa (RC-Net) and continues to support the regional delegation in its initiatives.

A review process to revise the national society's disaster response strategy, involving representatives of the National disaster committee and the meteorological services, was launched. Additionally, a two year cooperation agreement was signed with the Spanish Red Cross. The agreement focuses on general capacity building issues as well as disaster preparedness, and provides for the recruitment of a programme coordinator, an important addition to the staff.

The national society hosted the RC-Net foods and cyclones working group meeting. It also took over the chair of the communications forum of the RC-Net in October and will host the annual meeting in 2006.

Impact

Within Mauritius, the national society is increasingly being seen as a key partner with other actors in the area of disaster preparedness. New partners from within the Movement are also being attracted, as the signature of the agreement with the Spanish Red Cross testifies.

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Constraint

The national society has limited capacity to deal with more than one partner. While discussions were ongoing regarding the cooperation agreement with the Spanish Red Cross, no concrete proposals came forward to the International Federation regarding other funding opportunities that had been communicated.

Analysis of 2005 programmes- Seychelles

Organizational development

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

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

Achievements

- A dissemination officer and a disaster management officer were recruited.
- A general assembly was held in August, at which the outgoing President was elected for a second mandate.
- The national society received an allocation from the capacity building fund for a three year period to support branch and youth development. A youth committee was established on Praslin and La Digue islands.
- A review process of the national society's strategic plan was launched late in 2005, and a revised draft document is expected to be presented to partners in March 2006.

Impact

Since the tsunami of 26 December 2004, the national society has made great strides in building up its capacity at both headquarters and branch levels. The Seychelles Red Cross Society is increasingly recognised nationally as a key actor in both the humanitarian and social spheres.

Constraint

The very swift transformation of the manner in which the national society operated in 2005 (i.e. from being an organization managed by committed volunteers and one staff member to one with a more solid staff management base) created some challenges. In 2006 some time will need to be spent in clarifying governance and management roles in order to ensure that the national society functions with optimal efficiency.

Analysis of 2005 programmes- Sub-regional office

Disaster management

Goal: To support Indian Ocean Islands national societies' capacities in terms of human resources, materials, systems, procedures, information and partnerships at sub-regional, country and local levels to predict and prevent disasters, mitigate their impact and to respond and cope with their consequences.

Objective: To strengthen and support national societies' capacities to assist vulnerable communities against common disasters facing the region; cyclones and seasonal floods, droughts, volcanoes and the lack of disaster policies, preparedness plans and strategies.

Achievements

- In March 2005, the Indian Ocean islands national societies and PIROI met with the regional disaster management coordinator in *La Réunion* to review sub-regional plans for 2005-2010. The meeting, whilst focused on post tsunami recovery programmes, resulted in a clear definition of roles between all the partners. Close and fruitful collaboration is being strengthened with PIROI for better coordination of synergies to achieve better support to national societies in disaster management, disaster response and capacity building.

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- The RC-Net's floods and cyclones working group was revived in order to promote greater collaboration between countries facing the same threats and for more exchange of information and expertise between Indian Ocean islands.
- A review process of disaster preparedness strategies began in Comoros and Mauritius. This exercise is being accompanied by a capacity building process. Training on vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) and planning for emergencies, focusing on flood and cyclones, was conducted in Mauritius in November 2005.
- The regional delegation is supporting a network of all Indian Ocean islands' disaster management focal points. Extensive consultations are ongoing between the International Federation, partner national societies and UN agencies on how to better support national societies and avoid overlaps. Joint projects have been developed with the French Red Cross and close contacts maintained with potential partners willing to support early warning systems and preparedness activities. A strong relationship has been established between national societies and governments' disaster management structures as well as scientific institutions involved in early warning systems.

Impact

- Good working environment and collaboration within the Movement and with major partners outside the Movement resulted in the exchange of technical information which led to good and appropriate decisions.
- Comoros and Mauritius national societies are seen as credible partners in disaster preparedness and response by their respective governments and partners.

Constraints

- National societies' capacities are not strong enough to allow the development of ownership in disaster preparedness processes and coordinate disaster response interventions.
- A framework for the coordination of resources and activities related to tsunami funds must be discussed with national societies and partner national societies to find the best way to use these funds complementarily and rationally. It is generally difficult to mobilise funds for disaster risk reduction, while funds for relief are easily available.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

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

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

Achievements

- The head of the sub-regional office worked closely with the head of the ICRC mission in Madagascar to ensure that a common Movement approach to the Malagasy Red Cross Society situation was maintained. In the absence of an International Federation office in Madagascar, ICRC put its facilities at the disposal of both the International Federation and the transition committee members recruited in the last quarter of the year.
- Close cooperation, between the International Federation and the French Red Cross was maintained throughout the second half of the year, particularly following the Karthala volcanic eruption on the Comoros Islands.
- Constructive dialogue was maintained with the Malagasy government which facilitated the handover from the '*Délégation Spéciale*' to the transition committee of the national society at the end of December 2005.

Impact

The coordinated approach of the Federation, ICRC and the French Red Cross has been well received by the national societies and agendas for meetings are more frequently designed to facilitate joint visits/approaches.

Constraint

Progress in resolving the crisis in Madagascar was slower than anticipated. However, an important breakthrough was made at the end of December 2005.

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Effective representation and advocacy

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

Achievements

Since 26th of December 2004, the Mauritius government has hosted two international meetings that gave the Mauritius Red Cross Society an opportunity to profile itself amongst national and international players. The first was the conference of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which a member of the Federation's governing board addressed. During that meeting the Mauritius government made a donation of USD 50,000 to the Federation's tsunami appeal. The second was the UNESCO/IOC meeting on the establishment of a tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean. The Mauritius government underlined its willingness to sign a status agreement with the International Federation. A formal response is expected to be sent to the International Federation's Secretary General in 2006.

The memorandum of understanding signed with the government in Madagascar makes provision for the signing of a status agreement. The government of Seychelles indicated its willingness to begin discussions on the signing of a status agreement

Regular dialogue and exchange of information was maintained with the United Nations Resident Representative for Mauritius and Seychelles as well as with the UN-OCHA representatives in Pretoria and Madagascar during the year.

Impact

The governments of Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles increasingly see the importance and value of signing status agreements with the Federation.

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.

Achievement

The availability of funds, together with the January decision to open a sub-regional office in Mauritius, has been welcomed by all four national societies of the sub-region.

Constraint

The fact that the Indian Ocean sub-regional office was unable to establish itself in Mauritius during the year meant that there was no Federation representative in country on a regular basis to follow the issues through.

To visit profiles of national societies covered by the Indian Ocean Island sub-regional office, visit the Federation website on the following pages:

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

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

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

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

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA006
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
A. Budget		50'267		210'784	246'663	507'714
B. Opening Balance		13'590		124'568	0	138'158
Income						
Cash contributions						
Canadian Red Cross Society				135'289	33'822	169'112
Capacity Building Fund				26'894		26'894
Irish Red Cross Society					5'577	5'577
C1. Cash contributions				162'183	39'399	201'583
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Canadian Red Cross Society					0	0
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)					0	0
Inkind Personnel						
Irish Red Cross Society					65'700	65'700
C5. Inkind Personnel					65'700	65'700
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		0		162'183	105'099	267'283
D. Total Funding = B + C		13'590		286'751	105'099	405'441

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		13'590		124'568	0	138'158
C. Income		0		162'183	105'099	267'283
E. Expenditure		28		-132'769	-78'198	-210'940
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		13'618		153'982	26'901	194'501

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Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
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All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)		50'267			210'784	246'663	507'714	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles					4'788		4'788	-4'788
Total Supplies					4'788		4'788	-4'788
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom					551		551	-551
Total Land, vehicles & equipment					551		551	-551
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring					258		258	-258
Transport & Vehicle Costs	15'980				2'758	47	2'805	13'175
Total Transport & Storage	15'980				3'017	47	3'063	12'917
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	102'000					138	138	101'862
Delegate Benefits	72'000				4'500	69'431	73'931	-1'931
Regionally Deployed Staff					2'820		2'820	-2'820
National Staff	52'672				1'654		1'654	51'018
National Society Staff					7'223		7'223	-7'223
Consultants					9'155		9'155	-9'155
Total Personnel Expenditures	226'672				25'352	69'569	94'921	131'751
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	89'476							89'476
Total Workshops & Training	89'476							89'476
General Expenditure								
Travel	96'588				49'279	3'728	53'007	43'581
Information & Public Relation	10'915				1'138		1'138	9'777
Office Costs	16'204				4'464	67	4'531	11'673
Communications	18'878				7'897	1'260	9'157	9'721
Professional Fees					442	298	740	-740
Financial Charges					725		725	-725
Other General Expenses					448	-1'576	-1'128	1'128
Total General Expenditure	142'585				64'393	3'777	68'170	74'415
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies					25'253		25'253	-25'253
Total Federation Contributions & Transfers					25'253		25'253	-25'253
Program Support								
Program Support	33'001		-2		8'630	4'805	13'433	19'568
Total Program Support	33'001		-2		8'630	4'805	13'433	19'568
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			-26		786		760	-760
Total Operational Provisions			-26		786		760	-760
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	507'714		-28		132'769	78'198	210'940	296'775
VARIANCE (C - D)		50'295			78'015	168'465	296'775	