

Appeal 2005



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Appeal no. 05AA057

The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. The Federation is the world's largest humanitarian organisation, and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries. All international assistance to support vulnerable communities seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, according to the SPHERE Project.

This document reflects a range of programmes, objectives, and related activities to be implemented in 2005, and the corresponding funding requirements. These are based upon the broader, multi-year framework of the Federation's Project Planning Process (PPP). The PPP products are either available through hyperlinks in the text¹, or can be requested through the respective regional department. For further information please contact: In Geneva: Charles Evans/Sabine Feuglet, Southeast Asia Desk; Phone: +41.22.730.4320/4456, Fax: +41.22.733.03.95; email: charles.evans@ifrc.org or sabine.feuglet@ifrc.org; or please also access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

Click on the programme title to go to the relevant text, and the budget figure to go to the country programme budget.

| Programme title | 2004 in CHF |
|---|------------------------------|
| Strengthening the national societies | |
| Health and care | 1,312,845 |
| Disaster management | 518,043 |
| Humanitarian values | 336,219 |
| Organisational development | 825,009 |
| Implementation and management | 906,907 |
| Total | 3,899,022² |

¹ Identified by blue in the text.

² USD 3,247,832 or EUR 2,549,213.

Regional Context

The Southeast Asia region comprises a kaleidoscope of 11 countries with a total population of around 550 million people, of which more than 100 million live below the poverty line. It is a region characterised by large diversity with regard to socio economic and human development levels, political systems, cultural, religious and ethnic patterns, population sizes and geographic features.

In common with other areas of Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia is markedly disaster-prone – enduring the range of ‘natural’ occurrences, generally with the exception of cold and snow – with two countries, Indonesia and the Philippines, struck by calamity somewhere within their borders almost on a daily basis; while in Timor-Leste, which achieved nation status in 2002, poverty is endemic. Rarely a year passes without serious flooding along the Mekong River affecting tens of thousands in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, while Myanmar’s political isolation, which shows little sign of abating, provides a complex backdrop for humanitarian sector activity.

While economic stability remains prevalent in a number of Southeast Asia countries – notably Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore – with Thailand and Vietnam, in particular starting to benefit from a fiscal upswing, the ever-present spectre of terrorism has the clear potential to undermine growth and rising prosperity. Events in Indonesia during the year, coupled with outbreaks of internal unrest in Thailand and the Philippines, serve as a sharp reminder that the region remains on a knife-edge politically and therefore economically.

Disparity within and between countries has resulted in extensive labour migration in the region. In part this is a well established and regulated phenomenon, particularly with labour migration from the Philippines to countries in Southeast and East Asia and the Middle East, which constitutes a major source of national income. But much migration is considered illegal by the ‘host’ government and gives rise to vulnerability among migrants, who invariably work under unhealthy and dangerous conditions, with lack of access to health and social services and absence of legal protection. Extensive cross-border movements contribute to the spread of infectious disease in the region.

Meanwhile disease patterns are changing, influenced by socio economic transformation and possibly also by climate change. Increasingly serious dengue epidemics in many countries – including middle- or high-income countries such as Malaysia and Singapore – are just one example of epidemiological change. Although Thailand has successfully achieved a decline in HIV infection rates, other countries face an alarming AIDS outlook. In early 2004 and again towards the end of the year, outbreaks of avian flu occurred across the region, notably in Vietnam and Thailand. Those countries in economic transition simultaneously experience ill-health patterns typical of developing countries – as well as those of affluence – creating a double burden for governments.

It is against this complex and challenging background that the region’s Red Cross and Red Crescent societies must operate in the never-ending quest to improve the situation of the most vulnerable by harnessing the power of humanity. These societies, long established apart from the recently-formed Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste, are uniquely positioned in their respective countries through their extensive national networks and huge volunteer bases, to play a vital auxiliary role with their governments in addressing the humanitarian imperatives, in line with the UN’s Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially those targeting poverty reduction, gender equality and HIV/AIDS.

The data shown in the charts below is compiled from the UNDP Human Development Report 2003, the World Bank World Development Indicators 2004, and UNICEF’s report on The State of the World’s Children 2004. Related figures in Southeast Asia country appeal texts may reflect alternative/related information, gathered from official sources locally.

Southeast Asia: Human Development Indicators

1. Population/demographics

| | HDI ranking (no.) | Total population (millions) | Urban population (%) | Population growth (%) | Life expectancy (years) | Gross national income/capita (USD) |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Brunei | 31 | 0.4 | 73 | 2.6 | 76 | 24,100 |
| Cambodia | 130 | 13.8 | 18 | 2.9 | 57 | 280 |
| Indonesia | 112 | 217.1 | 43 | 1.5 | 67 | 710 |
| Laos | 135 | 5.5 | 20 | 2.4 | 54 | 310 |
| Malaysia | 58 | 23.9 | 59 | 2.5 | 73 | 3,540 |
| Myanmar | 131 | 48.8 | 29 | 1.6 | 57 | 220 |
| Philippines | 85 | 78.6 | 60 | 2.1 | 70 | 1,020 |
| Singapore | 28 | 4.2 | 100 | 2.7 | 78 | 20,690 |
| Thailand | 74 | 62.2 | 20 | 1.1 | 69 | 1,980 |
| Timor -Leste | * | 0.74 | 8 | * | 49 | 520 |
| Vietnam | 109 | 80.3 | 25 | 1.6 | 69 | 430 |

* Insufficient or nil data available/no ranking

2. Health/related

| | Maternal mortality/100,000 live births | Infant mortality/1,000 live births | People living with HIV/AIDS (estimate) | Access to safe water facilities (%) | Adequate sanitation (%) |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Brunei | 37 | 6 | 0 | * | * |
| Cambodia | 450 | 138 | 170,000 | 30 | 17 |
| Indonesia | 230 | 45 | 120,000 | 78 | 55 |
| Laos | 650 | 100 | 1,400 | 37 | 30 |
| Malaysia | 41 | 8 | 42,000 | * | * |
| Myanmar | 360 | 109 | * | 72 | 64 |
| Philippines | 200 | 38 | 9,400 | 86 | 83 |
| Singapore | 30 | 4 | 3,400 | 100 | 100 |
| Thailand | 44 | 28 | 670,000 | 84 | 96 |
| Timor -Leste | 660 | 126 | * | * | * |
| Vietnam | 130 | 39 | 130,000 | 77 | 47 |

* Insufficient or nil data available/no ranking

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

Movement Context

The International Federation's Southeast Asia regional delegation was established in Kuala Lumpur in 1991 and transferred to Bangkok in June 2000. In line with the Federation's regionalisation process initiated in 2001, during 2004, five Federation delegations and offices based in Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Vietnam) will continue to be managed from the regional delegation in Bangkok which offers support to all 11 of the region's Red Cross and Red Crescent societies – including Brunei, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore – through technical units specialising in health and care, disaster management, information and organisational development.

The ICRC's network in Southeast Asia extends to two regional delegations (Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur) and three operational delegations (Indonesia, Myanmar and the Philippines), with Timor-Leste covered from Suva regional delegation. Across the region, the ICRC works to better promote and implement International Humanitarian Law and to support the capacity of national societies in areas mandated to the ICRC. Protection activities (detention related efforts as well as re-establishment of family links) remain much at the heart of the three operational delegations.

Overall, some 20 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies from outside Southeast Asia contribute to the work of the region's 11 national societies, either through their permanent presence in one or more countries and/or multilateral contributions of resources (financial/human/material). Realistically, the interest of many of the major donor governments is largely reflected through bilateral assistance from the respective partner national societies. Consistent with the Federation's *Strategy for Change*, sound progress has been made in recent years in the

coordination of bilateral and multilateral Red Cross and Red Crescent aid to a number of Southeast Asia countries, particularly in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The chart below details Red Cross and Red Crescent partners supporting Federation Secretariat regional programmes in Southeast Asia during 2004; participation at the country level is listed in the relevant country appeal texts.

| <i>Southeast Asia Regional Delegation: Red Cross and Red Crescent partners in 2004</i> | |
|--|---|
| Australia | Disaster management |
| Britain | Disaster management, health, organisational development |
| Denmark | Coordination, organisational development, disaster management, health |
| Finland | Disaster management |
| Germany | Coordination |
| Japan | Disaster management, humanitarian values |
| Netherlands | Disaster management |
| New Zealand | Health, disaster management |
| Norway | Health |
| Sweden | Organisational development, disaster management |

Note: 1. Includes government/agency; 2. Coordination support to Vietnam is shown in the Vietnam appeal document.

Regional strategy and programme priorities

The Federation's primary approach to Red Cross and Red Crescent priority programmes in Southeast Asia is premised on the precepts of three core documents: *Strategy 2010*, which sets the framework for the Federation's global activities through the first decade of the 21st century; the *Strategy for Change*, defining the working relationship between the Federation Secretariat and the membership with particular regard to expanding service delivery to people in need; and the *Manila Action Plan* (MAP), focusing on health population movement and disaster management, agreed at the 6th Asia Pacific Regional Conference in the Philippine capital at the end of 2002. (In mid-2004, a questionnaire was developed and circulated to all Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in Asia Pacific intended to track progress of the MAP through to the regional conference planned for 2006. Early results are encouraging.)

During 2005, therefore, the Federation will continue its support to Southeast Asian national societies and their partners in the development and implementation of quality programmes in the four core areas outlined in *Strategy 2010*, with emphasis on MAP, targeted at achieving improved volume and impact in services to the most vulnerable. The Federation will also work closely with national society senior managements and the ICRC to promote the principles and policies of the Movement regionally and internationally, including initiatives with the diplomatic community, UN bodies – the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) for instance – and major funding/grant agencies such as the Asian Development Bank.

Within Southeast Asia, implementation of the *Strategy for Change* is already bearing fruit, with a major breakthrough during 2004 on the coordination imperative in Vietnam and through ongoing HIV/AIDS work in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, managed principally by the Australian Red Cross and funded by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Indeed, across Southeast Asia – particularly in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos and Vietnam – application of the *Strategy for Change* is bringing results, with national societies and their Red Cross and Red Crescent partners collaborating directly on day-to-day humanitarian activities, with the Federation Secretariat focusing on its coordination and facilitation role, only adopting a direct operational role when necessary. Inclusiveness is the key, with the Federation Secretariat facilitating the transition of some national societies to donorship, while providing closer management and technical support to others.

An essential prerequisite to taking the *Strategy for Change* forward in 2005 is the completion by Southeast Asian national societies of their respective strategic plans to serve as the basis for the development of country assistance strategies – already in place in Cambodia (first generation), Indonesia and Laos, with a start underway in Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. From this process will emerge the Southeast Asia regional assistance strategy, which is due for review and update during 2005/06.

Strengthening the National Societies

Federation Secretariat support for Southeast Asia in 2005 is promulgated on the basis of the considerable humanitarian needs in the region, the development requirements of national societies, and the comparative advantages of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, including the Federation membership and the strong external support already being provided on a bilateral basis. Priority will be given to strengthening the capacity of the region's national societies to deliver integrated and effective programmes to the most needy, focusing on:

Health and care: the Federation will seek to ensure there is a sustainable improvement in the general health of vulnerable communities in the region, through projects and activities which focus on capacity development support for regional health networks, coordination and advocacy.

Disaster management: the Federation will provide technical support to help national societies to be well prepared and able to respond to disasters in a timely, efficient and coordinated manner, through direct linkage, as required, to the Federation's response system, thus improving the ability of communities at risk to cope with disasters.

Humanitarian values: the Federation will work to ensure national societies in Southeast Asia are motivated and able to generate a high degree of visibility, credibility, cooperation and support for Red Cross and Red Crescent activities.

Organisational development: the Federation's regional organisational development programme will assist Southeast Asia national societies to make measurable progress towards meeting the criteria defined in the *Characteristics of a Well Functioning National Society* document, thereby strengthening their capability to assist vulnerable people at the community level.

Implementation and management: the Federation is committed to delivering effective and efficient management and coordination of its programmes and activities as reflected in this Appeal, working with the region's national societies, ICRC and partner national societies to help ensure that external support is provided in the best long-term strategic interests of the membership in the region.

1. Health and Care [<click here for logframe>](#)

Background

Over the past decades, Southeast Asia has seen substantial progress in disease prevention and control, with a regionwide decline in communicable diseases. However, there are still large disparities from one country to another and endemic diseases, such as malaria and gastrointestinal infections, remain widespread. The last few years have seen emerging diseases pose increasing threats in the region.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a clear and present danger, with the Asia Pacific region now accounting for one in every three new HIV infections worldwide. The outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in 2003 and the recent cases of human infection with avian influenza are other examples of how the emergence of new infectious diseases can suddenly endanger the world. While communicable diseases are still prominent, many countries are also experiencing a development-linked transition in the disease pattern with increased incidence rates of accidents and non-communicable diseases, creating a double burden for governments and other healthcare providers.

This context places an enormous challenge on Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies constantly to redefine their role and adapt to the external conditions in order to continue serving the most vulnerable in their communities. The main role of the regional health unit is to assist and support the national societies in this process through a combination of technical assistance, capacity building activities, networking, resource mobilisation, coordination and advocacy. The programme components outlined below are derived from the specific context of the region, the MDGs, and the needs and priorities of the national societies. Close cooperation is planned with other delegation units, including the disaster risk management, organisational development and information units, in order to ensure cohesiveness and consistency in the regional support to national societies.

Overall goal

There is a sustainable improvement in the general health of vulnerable communities in the region.

Programme objective

The region's national societies deliver quality health and care programmes that address the needs of the most vulnerable communities.

Expected results

1. *Strategic Planning*: There is increased capacity in the region's national societies for effective design, planning, implementation and management of quality health and care programmes.
2. *HIV/AIDS*: There is increased capacity in the region's national societies to deliver effective HIV/AIDS programmes that reduce the vulnerability to HIV/AIDS in the region.
3. *Water and Sanitation*: There is increased capacity in the region's national societies to deliver integrated water sanitation/Community-Based First Aid (CBFA) projects, utilising the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) approach.
4. *Health in Emergencies*: There is increased capacity in the region's national societies to respond to public health emergencies and to attend to health needs in disaster situations.
5. *First Aid*: There is increased recognition of the region's national societies as being lead agencies in the provision of first aid training.
6. *Blood Donor Recruitment*: There is increased capacity in the region's national societies to manage effectively and implement blood donor recruitment and retention programmes.
7. *Coordination*: There is improved coordination of health and care activities within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and with relevant external agencies.

2. Disaster Management [<click here for logframe>](#)

Background

The overall purpose of the Federation's disaster management programme in Southeast Asia is to strengthen the capacity of the region's eleven national societies in disaster preparedness and response, at the national, regional and global level.

In 2001, a regional disaster management cooperation framework agreement was drawn up with – and formally endorsed by – Southeast Asia national societies and a regional disaster management committee (RDMC) formed. The agreement outlines four strategic objectives and associated strategies and activities, and establishes an organisational framework and activity procedures for the cooperation mechanism. Over the past three years, working with the regional disaster risk management unit (RDRMU), the region's Federation membership has made significant progress towards the implementation of the agreement.

During 2005, the regional disaster management programme will be targeted towards greater integration with the health and organisational development programmes through a pragmatic approach to sharing resources and the implementation of joint activities, including working together with health in emergencies, undertaking capacity building initiatives for disaster management staff, and creating closer ties on water and sanitation work.

Continued support will be provided by the RDRMU to national societies to implement activities agreed in the 2002 MAP in disaster management and population movement. The programme will also raise awareness of the MDGs and support national societies in their endeavours to achieve these.

Overall goal

National societies are: well prepared and able to respond to disasters in a timely, efficient and coordinated manner; clearly linked to the Federation's response system; and improving the ability of communities at risk to cope with disasters.

Programme objective

The disaster preparedness and response capacity at national and regional levels are substantially improved and the linkages to the Federation's global response system assured, through a comprehensive, integrated regional disaster management approach.

Expected results

The regional disaster management programme is based on the four interlinked strategic objectives agreed by national societies in the regional framework document and seeks to achieve the following overall results:

1. All national societies are systematically addressing their disaster management development needs, based on well developed plans and through strengthened regional cooperation.
2. The disaster response and response preparedness capacity within the region is further strengthened, at both individual national society and regional levels, and the understanding of and linkages to the Federation's global response system are assured.
3. The linkages and mechanisms for disaster management information and knowledge sharing between the national, regional and global levels are substantially improved.
4. The Federation's regional disaster management cooperation framework is further developed, maintained and sustained.

3. Humanitarian Values [<click here for logframe>](#)

Background

Although marked progress has been made in raising the profile of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Southeast Asia, as evidenced by the number of items from the region posted on the Federation website and a higher media presence, the communications assets of the region's national societies remain limited, as many national societies are able to maintain just one information officer at national headquarters, whose general role is to service all communication needs on a national level.

The work of the Federation's regional information unit continues to be guided by the recommendations reflected in the 2003 review of the Asia Pacific communications strategy. Key activities/achievements during 2004 included:

- The establishment of an extensive photo archive of more than 1,000 high-resolution digital images – many of which illustrate the Movement's focus on MDGs – shot by a volunteer documentary photographer from Iceland. Managing and expanding the archive during 2005 is essential to maintaining this powerful tool for profiling the membership in Southeast Asia.
- Publication through the year of the email/web-based *Southeast Asia Link*, with increasing national society input – a trend to be encouraged in 2005 and beyond.
- Missions by information unit staff to help national society counterparts identify priorities, transfer skills and work on projects together.
- Production of a video news release prepared for the International AIDS Conference in Bangkok (July 2004), widely aired by global networks, while associated initiatives ensured anti-stigma messages reached large audiences.
- Conducting training sessions at disaster management courses in Malaysia and the Philippines.
- As part of the regional delegation's integrated approach to programme implementation, project management of information materials commissioned by colleagues in Bangkok.

Activities planned for 2005 reflect a key tenet of the Federation's *Strategy for Change* on making the voice of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement heard as an advocate for the vulnerable. The unit will continue the momentum developed through 2004, producing a steady flow of written and audio-visual material for use by donors, national societies, the Federation Secretariat and international media. Working with national society counterparts, contacts with media organisations across the region will be developed. Linkages within the regional delegation and with professional colleagues throughout Asia Pacific will be strengthened to expand and seize opportunities for dissemination, advocacy and profile building.

Overall goal

The awareness and application of humanitarian values is enhanced across the region.

Programme objective

National societies in Southeast Asia are motivated and able to generate a high degree of visibility, credibility, cooperation and support for Red Cross and Red Crescent activities.

Expected results

The programme is based on three key projects that will have the following overall results:

1. Expanded strategic links with local and international media will be further strengthened to secure sustained and high profile media coverage for the activities of the Federation membership in the region, particularly in times of emergencies.
2. There will be integration of communications components into all regional/national programmes.
3. The capacity and communications skills of Southeast Asia national society publicity departments and the regional information unit are sustainably expanded.

4. Organisational Development [<click here for logframe>](#)

Background

The Southeast Asia regional organisational development plan is framed in direct response to the requests of the national societies during their twice yearly regional organisational development forum which has been active since 2002. The forum was established in response to recommendations of the Federation's 2001 study review of its Southeast Asia regional organisational development programme, essentially the bedrock of subsequent organisational development activities in the region, first introduced in 1998.

The ensuing years have seen a range of notable achievements – in addition to the establishment of the organisational development forum, of which all 11 Southeast Asia national societies are members – including the start-up of an extensive youth programme, support to the Federation membership through various training interventions (project planning, management and leadership, for example) and guidance on finance development, gender mainstreaming, volunteering and resource mobilisation. The focus on governance and management has proved pivotal and the criteria defined in the core Federation document, *Characteristics of a Well Functioning National Society*, continue to provide a relevant road map for the organisational development framework for Southeast Asia national societies.

In summary, the overall approach to the organisational development imperative in Southeast Asia remains as follows:

- Increased focus on country level support and linking national and community activities.
- Prioritisation of national societies without a permanent Federation Secretariat presence.
- Promoting ownership of national societies in the organisational development and capacity building process.
- Development of organisational development as a cross-cutting issue within all programmes.
- Generation of local resources both within and outside the Movement.
- Strengthening the regional organisational development forum and the youth cooperation team as an institutionalised framework for sustainable regional cooperation.
- Stepping up activities in the development of finance, information and reporting skills in the region.
- Continuing gender mainstreaming work as a focus and priority in all interventions, especially in human resource development.

Overall goal

There is a significant improvement in the lives of vulnerable people through the humanitarian services and intervention of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in the region.

Programme objective

Southeast Asia national societies are organisationally strong and have the capacity to deliver relevant and effective services to the most vulnerable people.

Expected results

1. National societies in the region achieve significant improvements in capacity building and organisational development through regional cooperation, coordination and a strong network of organisational development practitioners.
2. Planning, reporting, communications and fundraising skills and capacity building are enhanced in selected national societies in the region.
3. The capacity of Southeast Asia national societies in human resource development grows.

4. The organisational capacity of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies with no permanent Federation Secretariat coordination presence – Brunei, Malaysia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore – is strengthened.
5. Selected Southeast Asia societies improve financial regulations, skills in financial planning, budgeting and reporting.

5. Implementation and Management [<click here for logframe>](#)

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Through its network of five country delegations and offices, the regional delegation works with more than 20 Red Cross and Red Crescent partners in Southeast Asia, of whom around half have a permanent presence in the region. In addition, there is close collaboration with the ICRC and a growing number of external agencies and international funding organisations.

As reflected in the Southeast Asia action plan for 2004/05, the development of a regional Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) is high on the agenda for the forthcoming year. This defining document will be based on country level agreements, already in place in Cambodia (first generation), Indonesia and Laos. An essential prerequisite for starting the CAS process is the preparation of national society strategic plans, under development in Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Vietnam, which should be completed in 2005, readying these societies for CAS.

In Laos, a sound model is emerging through the CAS office innovation and a lessons learnt evaluation together with the partners should be undertaken during the second year (2005). The Secretaries-General Forum, whose membership comprises the relevant post holders from all 11 Southeast Asia national societies, will have a key role in reviewing the outcome of the evaluation. A regional partnership meeting is planned for the second half of 2005.

Cooperation with the ICRC, especially in the Mekong countries, will be intensified based on recommendations of a recent study undertaken by the Committee in three countries. Collaboration with the ICRC across the region will be strengthened, especially in countries where there is no Federation country delegation/office. Closer cooperation with, and support to, bilateral partners present in the region has been achieved in recent years, but more can still be done on all sides. The regional delegation will actively pursue opportunities to integrate the regional offices of partner national societies into the Federation Secretariat's Bangkok office.

Effective representation and advocacy

Building on the extensive efforts of recent years, closer cooperation is developing between the Federation (on behalf of the membership) and the range of international bodies represented in Southeast Asia, including ESCAP, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the ASEAN bureau. This cooperation will not only contribute to a better understanding of the strategic direction of the Federation in supporting Southeast Asian national societies and their partners, but, in time, should open up new funding opportunities for regional and country-based Red Cross and Red Crescent programmes.

The major role of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as a leading humanitarian player in the civil society of all Southeast Asian nations, will be keenly promoted to the diplomatic community, the UN family and other relevant organisations. In particular, the specific contribution of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in the battle against HIV/AIDS – especially through prevention, anti-stigma and anti-discrimination activities – and other emerging health challenges will be highlighted in all international forums where the Federation is represented.

Since their commitments in 2002, the national societies are developing and implementing programmes in line with the MAP. The Federation will also encourage national societies to give higher priority to gender balance and diversity to bring about greater representation of women and minority groups among volunteers and staff.

International disaster response

The regional disaster risk management unit will continue to support the Federation's mandates aiming to provide international disaster response assistance to all national societies in Southeast Asia. This will be achieved through developing clearer understanding of the developing capacities of the region's national societies in ensuring effective disaster response operations. Especially during periods when no major disaster has occurred in the region, the dissemination of an integrated approach to disaster response, including local, regional and international response tools, will be pursued to ensure a comprehensive intervention should disaster strike. This will include negotiations with governments (to ensure fully defined roles and responsibilities for the national societies vis-à-vis

the government), and knowledge sharing and helping with the development of international disaster response law. Increased effort will be made to assist national societies develop pre-agreements with the relevant government ministries for the deployment of the Federation's global response tools (Regional Disaster Response Team/RDRT, Field Assessment and Coordination Team/FACT and Emergency Response Unit/ERU) in the event of a major disaster and a subsequent international appeal. To underline this approach, the RDRMU will actively participate and support a range of regional Asia Pacific meetings that include government representatives and other disaster management stakeholders.

Governance support

Currently there are no members of the Federation's governing board drawn from Southeast Asia; a governor of the Philippine National Red Cross chairs the development commission. The main governance support for the role of the Federation's regional delegation at present focuses on assisting board members and senior representatives of the International Federation in fulfilling their respective missions in the region; for instance during the 2004 International HIV/AIDS Conference in Bangkok where several board members represented the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Delegation management

For 2005, the Federation Secretariat's regional network in Southeast Asia is budgeted to comprise a regional delegation in Bangkok, spearheaded by four technical units (health and care, disaster management, information and organisational development), three country delegations (Indonesia, Myanmar and Timor-Leste) and representative offices in Cambodia and Vietnam, whose reporting lines are all through the head of regional delegation. This group, together with the Geneva-based Southeast Asia desk, forms the core management coordination team, which meets regularly throughout the year.

This approach to field management is very much in line with the main precepts of the Federation's *Strategy for Change*, increasingly being applied across the region, though implementation with less core resources than envisaged continues to present challenges. In addition to its country delegation/office management role and carrying out extensive regional programmes, the regional delegation is also charged with providing technical and operational support to the six countries in the region without a permanent Federation coordination presence: Brunei, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. During 2005, there will be particular emphasis on:

- Strengthening the impact of the regional delegation in coordinating and managing all activities in the region, with focus on more clearly defining the relationship and interaction within the Federation delegation/office network.
- Support for the Lao CAS office pending full integration into the national society's organisational development/international representation unit.
- Exploring opportunities for greater integration of Red Cross and Red Crescent partner national societies present in Southeast Asia with the regional delegation.
- Reflecting the *Strategy for Change*, reorganising and enhancing the regional delegation's human resources and reporting functions and continuing the emphasis on local/regional recruitment.
- Advancing the CAS process towards the preparation of a regional CAS.

Entering 2005, multi-tasking of the regional delegation continues to grow, coupled with expanded expectations from the membership and the Geneva Secretariat alike. While the regional delegation managed to balance its core budget in 2003, a similar outcome in 2004 is proving much more difficult, despite some welcome direct partner national societies' support. Strict adherence to Federation procedures and fiscal discipline will be the basis for covering infrastructure/service delivery costs, though a more rigorous and interpretive approach to programme reallocation and the earmarking of contributions can be expected if deficits are to be avoided.

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BUDGET 2005

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 05AA057

Name: SOUTH EAST ASIA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME:

| | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Organisational Development | Coordination & Implementation | Emergency | Total |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF |
| Shelter & construction | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Clothing & textiles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Food | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Seeds & plants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Water & Sanitation | 75,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75,000 |
| Medical & first aid | 45,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45,000 |
| Teaching materials | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Utensils & tools | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other relief supplies | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SUPPLIES | 120,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120,000 |
| Land & Buildings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Vehicles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Computers & telecom | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,670 | 7,200 | 0 | 8,870 |
| Medical equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other capital exp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CAPITAL EXPENSES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,670 | 7,200 | 0 | 8,870 |
| Warehouse & Distribution | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transport & Vehicules | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21,820 | 0 | 21,820 |
| TRANSPORT & STORAGE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21,820 | 0 | 21,820 |
| Programme Support | 85,335 | 33,673 | 21,854 | 53,626 | 58,949 | 0 | 253,436 |
| PROGRAMME SUPPORT | 85,335 | 33,673 | 21,854 | 53,626 | 58,949 | 0 | 253,436 |
| Personnel-delegates | 324,000 | 132,000 | 132,000 | 287,796 | 514,320 | 0 | 1,390,116 |
| Personnel-national staff | 84,000 | 140,600 | 132,000 | 74,120 | 139,100 | 0 | 569,820 |
| Consultants | 28,000 | 0 | 0 | 62,500 | 0 | 0 | 90,500 |
| PERSONNEL | 436,000 | 272,600 | 264,000 | 424,416 | 653,420 | 0 | 2,050,436 |
| W/shops & Training | 391,500 | 110,500 | 0 | 196,799 | 36,000 | 0 | 734,799 |
| WORKSHOPS & TRAINING | 391,500 | 110,500 | 0 | 196,799 | 36,000 | 0 | 734,799 |
| Travel & related expenses | 157,500 | 50,040 | 44,365 | 74,910 | 24,800 | 0 | 351,615 |
| Information | 75,000 | 4,000 | 6,000 | 34,500 | 0 | 0 | 119,500 |
| Other General costs | 47,510 | 47,230 | 0 | 39,088 | 104,718 | 0 | 238,546 |
| GENERAL EXPENSES | 280,010 | 101,270 | 50,365 | 148,498 | 129,518 | 0 | 709,661 |
| TOTAL BUDGET: | 1,312,845 | 518,043 | 336,219 | 825,009 | 906,907 | 0 | 3,899,022 |

Annex 2

Southeast Asia Country Summaries

Brunei Darussalam

National context

Brunei is a constitutional sultanate with an economy almost totally supported by exports of crude oil and natural gas. It is situated on the northwest coast of the island of Borneo and the economy is a mixture of foreign and domestic entrepreneurship, government regulation and welfare measures, and traditional village activities. In September 2004, the sultanate announced the resumption of parliament, which has been in abeyance for nearly 20 years.

National Society priorities

A former branch of the British Red Cross, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) was formed and recognised by the Movement in 1997. The society's priority programmes and activities for 2005 include manpower development and the establishment of systematic processes for disaster preparedness/response and volunteer management. The society is presently preparing for its next general assembly and is developing a strategic plan covering the four core areas of health and care, disaster management, humanitarian values and organisational development.

Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities

The BDRCS, while fairly active as a branch of the British Red Cross, has seen its activities reduce in recent years. Support is greatly needed to help the society strengthen itself into a well-functioning national society, to clarify its role vis-à-vis the government and also to raise its profile in Brunei.

Partnerships

In 2004, the BDRCS has participated in the Red Cross and Red Crescent regional network meetings in disaster management, organisational development and the Southeast Asia secretaries-general forum. The society is entering a partnership with Help Age Korea to promote and implement a project for the elderly. For this project, it has the cooperation of the government's welfare department.

Federation Secretariat support

Through 2004, the regional delegation in Bangkok has tried to establish dialogue with the BDRCS to gain a deeper understanding of the society's priorities and activities and also to test its fundraising potential. The society has approached the delegation for support in manpower development and the Bangkok regional delegation plans to put in place arrangements for more regular coverage of BDRCS over the coming year.

Lao PDR

National context

The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is a landlocked country surrounded by Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam and southern China. The economy is mainly agricultural, with 85 percent of the population working in farming but forestry, hydroelectricity and tourism are also significant income sources. Approximately half the population of 5.2 million belongs to diverse ethnic groups with their own languages and culture. The government plan for 2005-2020 is in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and focuses on poverty reduction.

National Society priorities

The Lao Red Cross was recognised by the Movement in 1957. In the 1980, it became a department of the Ministry of Health, transferring to the Ministry of Social Welfare in 1990. The Politburo Decree of December 1992 and the Prime Ministerial Decree of December 1993 officially recognised the LRC as being an independent national Red Cross society. As a social organisation, the LRC has a role as an auxiliary to the government to alleviate poverty, help victims of disaster, promote public health, and participate in humanitarian activities.

The society has developed a strategic five-year development plan (2001-2005), which is undergoing revision in the last quarter of 2004. This strategic plan provided the foundations for the first country assistance strategy (CAS) which was signed by LRC and its partners (the Red Cross societies of Australia, Austria, Denmark, France, Japan, the Netherlands and Switzerland and the Federation and ICRC) in 2002. Priority programmes for the Lao Red Cross in 2005 are:

Health: In the area of health and care in the community the Lao Red Cross health division is contributing to the development of an effective national health system in keeping with the Federation strategic directions outlined in the Strategy 2010. The activities are primarily focused on promoting capacity building within the LRC health division – particularly skills and human resources development and enhanced networking – and are conducted in close cooperation with the Federation regional health unit.

The LRC is implementing programmes covering HIV/AIDS prevention and care, health awareness and capacity building in conjunction with the health ministry and with the support of its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. The main focus is on continuous health awareness education through volunteers training, campaigns, mobilisation of high risk villages and distribution of first aid kits. The overall CBFA programme which includes water and sanitation is another LRC priority. The Lao Red Cross has assiduously carried out its blood programme since 1995 to provide adequate and safe supply of blood to people in need. With technical and financial support of the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) over nine years, the programme was established in eight provinces throughout the country, managed from Vientiane. With the conclusion of direct financial support from JRCS, the major challenge is to secure long-term funding to guarantee continued viability.

Disaster preparedness: The emphasis of this programme is to establish a realistic and sustainable community based disaster management programme. To achieve this, the Federation is assisting the LRC to create a disaster management capability throughout the society, with effective links to the state system and strong interaction within Federation's global and regional framework. The programme's two main objectives are:

- To create a disaster response capability in every branch of the LRC; and
- To build a national disaster preparedness system with effective links to the state network and sister societies in the region.

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The LRC regularly trains its volunteers in disaster management techniques and provides emergency assistance during natural disasters.

Organisational development: In recent years, there has been steady progress in significant areas of organisational development especially in governance matters and the re-launch of the youth programme at headquarters. LRC continues to focus on building management capabilities at headquarters and across the branch network. The society will implement a comprehensive human resource development policy, with particular emphasis on practical resource development including a realistic fund raising plan drawing on successful experiences from the branches and local expertise. Training in monitoring seeks to equip the society with clear procedures for managing finances, relief supplies and information.

Further priorities for 2005 include the strengthening of an integrated LRC annual planning process and the development of the new strategic plan 2006-2010 involving all levels of the society. LRC will significantly expand dissemination efforts with support from the ICRC. Gender awareness will continue to be a cross-cutting issue in all training and programmes.

Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities

Following the closure of the Federation country representation at the end of 2003, the LRC Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) office was established in January 2004, with the support of Federation, ICRC and PNS. The CAS office has four overall objectives, intended to:

- assist in coordination and cooperation of the partners;
- improve the reporting standards of the national society;
- facilitate exchange and strengthen the LRC technical departments' monitoring/evaluation capacities.

A CAS committee, which includes all stakeholders, meets on a quarterly basis gives advice and provides support to the chairman and the management of the CAS office.

Partnerships

The Lao Red Cross has participated regularly in the range of regional network meetings covering disaster management, organisational development and the secretaries-general forum. The society is entering a project for the elderly, in cooperation with the social welfare ministry.

| <i>Red Cross and Red Crescent partners – activities/support in 2004*</i> | |
|--|--|
| Australia | Capacity building for HIV/AIDS prevention and care in eight provinces |
| Denmark | Primary health care in three provinces |
| France | Capacity building, health education, community-based first aid and water-sanitation |
| ICRC | Dissemination, international humanitarian law, tracing |
| Japan | Blood programme |
| Netherlands | Community-based first aid, water-sanitation, micro-credit projects |
| New Zealand | Support for water-sanitation and community-based health programmes |
| Switzerland | Organisational development, community-based activities, income generation, education |

* Including: 1. Direct with Lao Red Cross; 2. Government/agency

Federation Secretariat support

The Bangkok regional delegation will continue to support LRC through regular visits and tailor-made programmes from the technical units, with special emphasis on organisational development and, reflecting one the three key precepts of the Manila Action Plan, population movement. As part of the CAS committee the regional delegation will contribute to CAS office financially and with management advice. It is planned that the CAS office model will undergo a thorough evaluation at the second quarter of 2005.

Malaysia

National context

Malaysia comprises Peninsular Malaysia and the states of Sabah, Sarawak and the Federal Territory of Labuan on the island of Borneo. Its population of 25 million represents three main ethnic groups - Malays, Chinese and Indians - as well as various indigenous groups. In 2004 the ruling coalition pushed for an anti-corruption drive and with focus also on combating terrorism after winning its biggest ever general election victory. The government enjoys healthy foreign exchange reserves, relatively small external debt and aims at achieving developed nation status by 2020.

National Society priorities

The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS), founded in 1948, was recognised by the government in 1957, and by the Movement in 1963. It has a website accessible at <http://www.redcrescent.org.my>. The society has developed a five-year organisational development plan for 2004-2009, which designates MRCS priorities as follows:

Health and Care: The MRCS already maintains first aid, ambulance and community health services and manages a blood donor recruitment programme. These services and programmes will be upgraded and intensified during the coming years to better meet increasing needs.

Disaster management: The society has an official mandate in the country's national disaster plan. It is active in training staff and volunteers in first aid and other disaster related skills, in order to prepare them to respond effectively. Further strengthening and reorganisation of the present structures are in train, targeted at improving the credibility and reliability of the society's staff and volunteers as a professional entity and to provide state-of-the-art equipment. Increasingly the society is developing teams of professional volunteers to assist and engage in international relief operations.

Organisational Development: The MRCS understands that organisational development is essential to achieving the objectives set out in its five year plan. Therefore the society will focus on developing its branches and chapters, improving fund raising and managing youth and volunteer programmes. The appointment of a communications manager in 2004 is already enhancing publicity activities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities

Both the International Federation secretariat and ICRC have developed a significant presence in Malaysia in recent years, through the establishment of regional delegations focusing on resource development and communications (ICRC) and the Asia Pacific Service Centre, which offers finance, reporting and organisational development skills for Federation delegations and national societies across the region.

Partnerships

The MRCS is an auxiliary to the government and works closely with a number of non-governmental organisations. It is a partner to several government ministries including the Ministry of National Unity and Social Development, which reimburses the society's ambulance service. The society collaborates with government organisations in efforts to fight HIV/AIDS.

Federation Secretariat support

The regional delegation's disaster management unit liaises with the society and offers assistance, if required, in: specialised training, equipment provision and logistics, as well as guidance in the management of response operations. The MRCS is working with the regional organisational development unit in fund-raising (resource development), youth and volunteer management and branch and chapter development.

Philippines

National Context

The Republic of the Philippines, an archipelago of more than 7,100 islands covering an area of 1,600 km, comprises three main islands - Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The Filipino population is basically of Malay race and predominantly Christian. Population density is high, with more than half of the Filipino people residing in urban areas. In June 2004, the Philippine president was re-elected for a new six-year term in office. Government reforms are targeted towards privatisation, revising the tax system and promoting additional trade integration within its region. The Philippines suffers from the effects of rapid deforestation, frequent cyclones and periodic volcanic eruptions. Sporadic armed fighting in some areas in the south has been a socio-political concern.

National Society priorities

The Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC), formerly a chapter of the American Red Cross, was declared an independent national society and recognised by the Movement in 1947. The PNRC website can be accessed at <http://www.redcross.org.ph>. The society's priorities are:

Health: The PNRC complements the government's primary health care programme by training volunteer health care workers, implementing health activities and providing medical supplies and services to health centres. The society will continue to focus on public health emergencies, HIV/AIDS programmes in cooperation with the Asian regional network on HIV/AIDS. The PNRC blood programme is the major provider of volunteer-sourced blood. The PNRC national, regional and chapter blood service facilities conduct non-remunerated blood donation drives and the national centre has a registry of rare blood types. In 2005, the society's priority is to strengthen the blood programme, improve its quality and increase the number of volunteer repeat donors. The psychological support programme offers counselling to those affected by disaster and HIV/AIDS. In 2005, PNRC social services will focus on training more 'debrief' volunteers. Road safety is another concern the PNRC is addressing by training drivers on first aid.

Disaster management: The PNRC regularly trains its volunteers in disaster preparedness and response and provides emergency assistance during natural disasters and armed conflicts. The society's key disaster preparedness programme centres on integrated community disaster planning. The society also intends to include medical evacuation as a part of its disaster management programme and assist in response operations to maritime disasters.

Humanitarian Values: The PNRC promotes the Movement's Fundamental Principles and International Humanitarian Law largely through its youth programme. The society's priority is continuously to increase the visibility of the PNRC as a leading humanitarian organisation that saves lives without discrimination.

Organisational Development: The PNRC and the delegation's regional organisational development unit work in close collaboration to assist the society achieve greater financial strength and independence.

Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities

The society receives support from several sister societies including the Danish Red Cross (disaster preparedness and street children), the Japanese Red Cross (youth programme/artesian wells with toilet components), and the Spanish Red Cross (primary health care, disadvantaged women and relief).

Partnerships

The PNRC collaborates with the Rotary Club of Pasig to maintain a registry of rare blood types, and with the Philippine Blood Coordinating Council for professional education. Red Cross and Red Crescent societies from the following countries contributed to a Federation appeal following landslides and floods

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in Southern Leyte at the end of 2003: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Britain, Denmark, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand and Sweden.

Federation Secretariat support

In 2005, the regional delegation will continue to support PNRC with technical advice and funding for projects in emerging and re-emerging diseases (measles, SARS and avian flu). The regional health unit will also provide the necessary assistance for the development of health-in-emergency guidelines. When required, the unit will support the society in liaising with sister societies and the Geneva technical department on blood issues. The unit will try to support the society's programmes on psychological support and road safety.

On request, the delegation's regional disaster management unit can offer technical support to help the society set up a communications system, assist with procurement of rescue equipment and arrange for specialised training. A member of the disaster management unit is positioned in the Philippines to provide ongoing support in disaster management.

The regional information unit will continue to work with the communications department in PNRC to promote the work of the society with the media and the development sector.

In 2005, the regional organisational development unit will continue to facilitate the financial resource development and volunteer management of the PNRC. The unit will also assistance in maintaining adequate administrative and management structures, in PNRC headquarters and in the branches.

Singapore

National Context

This island city state is the region's financial, information technology and life sciences hub. Following a vote by the ruling party members in parliament Singapore welcomed its new prime minister in August 2004. Although not prone to sudden-onset disasters, environmental concerns in Singapore include industrial pollution and limited natural fresh water resources.

National Society priorities

First established as a branch of the British Red Cross in 1949, the Singapore Red Cross Society (SRCS) was incorporated by an act of parliament in 1973. It has an online presence through its website available at <http://www.redcross.org.sg>. The society's priorities are:

Disaster preparedness: SRCS has a designated role in the country's national disaster plan. The society continuously trains staff and volunteers in first aid and other skills, preparing them to respond during emergencies and disasters. In 2005, the society intends to continue to develop a team of volunteers with the skills and capacity professionally to assist and engage in international relief operations.

Health and care: The society has managed a blood programme since 1984 and remains the country's authorised national voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment agency. More broadly, SRCS aims to become a training hub for blood donor recruitment and associated health related matters in the region.

Organisational Development: SRCS aims to establish a regional training centre and offer courses in organisational development, human resource management and in the Movement's basic training course.

Coordination and Management: The society intends to make its professional staff available for short-term mission/international assignments to Federation delegations and national societies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities

The SRCS has participated in major emergency appeals launched by the Federation and ICRC, significantly: the 1990s Balkans crisis, the Turkey (1999), Gujarat (2001) and Iran (2003) earthquakes, China floods (2002), humanitarian crises in Afghanistan (2002) and Iraq (2003), and the Bali bomb blast (2002). The national society has also been involved in bilateral programmes with the Red Cross societies of Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

Partnerships

The SRCS cooperates with a number of corporate organisations as well as civic and community organisations to bring humanitarian services to the disadvantaged, both at home and abroad. This includes partnerships with corporate, civic and community organisations to organise blood drives with employees, members and the community; collaborations with relief organisations such as Singapore International Foundation and Mercy Relief to provide aid to victims of conflicts and disasters abroad; and teaming up with corporate organisations in raising funds for both local and international humanitarian services.

Federation Secretariat support

For 2005, the regional health and organisational development units are in dialogue with SRCS on co-funding arrangements and technical and organisational know-how for promoting the society's blood donor recruitment facilities in the region. The regional disaster management unit will continue to liaise with the society and offer assistance, if required, in specialised training, provision of equipment and logistics and management of response operations. The delegation will also liaise with the society on opportunities for international assignments and provide the necessary terms and conditions.

Thailand

National Context

Thailand is a middle income developing economy with relatively good social indicators and strategically poised in the centre of Southeast Asia. Increased consumption and investment spending pushed GDP growth up to more than five percent in 2002 despite a sluggish global economy. There is disparity in income levels between segments of society, especially between the capital, Bangkok, and outlying rural areas. A high incidence of HIV/AIDS, population movements within and across its borders and unrest in southern Thailand are some of the nation's main humanitarian challenges. The next parliamentary elections are due in early 2005.

National Society Priorities

Established as the Red Unalom Society in 1893, the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) was recognised by the ICRC in 1920 and became a member of the Federation in 1921. Its work is furthered through their website accessible at <http://www.redcross.or.th>. The society's priorities include:

Health and care: The TRCS manages two modern hospitals, a college for nursing and 12 primary health care stations in remote areas. It also operates several other medical centres, including a first aid and health education training centre for the public. The society is a lead agency on prevention, testing, counselling, treatment and research on HIV/AIDS in Thailand, including the management of a much respected research centre as well as implementing an extensive blood programme and is involved in vaccine development. Priorities for TRCS include establishing a 24/7 call centre offering the public advice and assistance on a range of problems. The society remains a centre of excellence for the Red Cross and Red Crescent regionally, available for guidance on health matters especially in the implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes.

Disaster management: TRCS maintains a stockpile of essential relief goods and telecommunications equipment for emergency situations. During disasters, the relief and community health, and volunteer bureau of the society – in close coordination with the government – respond to the needs of people, including those living in remote areas. Overall, the society's response system, through its relief stations, is efficient and self-sufficient.

Humanitarian values: The society has an effective profile in fundraising for important events. The society also has an important information role in community-based disaster preparedness.

Organisational development: TRCS sees youth as the key for building well-functioning communities and is establishing an independent and comprehensive Red Cross youth programme. This is a major achievement as all other youth activities in the country are being managed by the education ministry. Further, given its success in fundraising, the TRCS is keen to share its fundraising strategies with sister societies in the region.

Partnerships

The Netherlands/Australia/Thailand cooperative HIV research project (HIV-NAT) comprising the TRCS AIDS Research Centre and similar institutions in partnering countries provides an excellent example of external collaboration. The society also works with various universities and government hospitals in the country and conducts training courses in several areas of competence for the World Health Organisation (WHO) and sister Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies.

Federation Secretariat support

The regional delegation's priorities for the Thai Red Cross depend on its needs and requests for support. The delegation's regional health unit will support the training and development of health staff and will

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continue to use this skilled group as resource persons in the region. The health unit continues to collaborate with TRCS in its lead role in HIV/AIDS prevention and care. From 2001-03, TRCS provided the secretariat for the Asian Regional Taskforce for HIV/AIDS. A priority for the regional disaster management unit will be to continue supporting the Thai Red Cross initiatives in community based disaster management. The regional organisational development unit prioritises support for the Thai Red Cross in youth activities and would welcome approaches in other areas. The regional delegation's information unit will continue its efforts further to highlight the TRCS as an effective humanitarian organisation, through web and media stories and regional publications.