

Annual report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Lebanon

Appeal No. MAALB001

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This report covers the period 01/01/2008 to 31/12/2008.



Lebanese Red Cross youth volunteers have raised awareness to reduce stigma and discrimination among youth. **International Federation.**

In brief

Programme purpose: The overall priority of the Lebanese Red Cross (Lebanese RC) is to continue the implementation of institutional changes; strengthen quality performance of first aid and ambulance services; continue assistance through primary health care (PHC) and social centres, strengthen the volunteer base through the youth Red Cross as the future capital of the National Society and ensure quality performance of the services performed through the blood banks.

Programmes summary: The demand for services by the Lebanese RC has increased significantly over the past couple of years, in line with the country's context. The political impasse which dominated Lebanon in 2007, worsened during the first six months of 2008. The swift intervention by Arab states with a subsequent meeting in Doha, assisted in brokering an agreement on the election of a president and the distribution of ministerial seats within a new national government.

However, the situation in Lebanon remained tense during the last six months of 2008. The implementation of the programmes continued at a pace equivalent to the constraints and challenges faced in the context. The Lebanese RC maintained a high level of emergency preparedness while ensuring the momentum of institutional change. The development of a strategic plan for the National Society and the ongoing review of its legal base and statutes assured National Society members and partners of its willingness to assign roles and responsibilities more efficiently and to overcome barriers. The continuous process of developing the organisational capacity of the Lebanese RC included a review of the youth and volunteer systems and management structures which was completed during the second half of the year. In terms of support to improved structures and systems within the

headquarters, progress was made on finance and logistics development. The International Federation additionally provided support to the emergency medical services (EMS) five year strategy, in particular supporting the improved functioning of the fleet base.

The new strategy of the Lebanese RC for 2009-2011 was developed and adopted at the General Assembly in November 2008.

Financial situation: The total 2008 budget was revised from CHF 914,963 (USD 867,510 or EUR 611,361) to CHF 818,711 (USD 776,250 or EUR 547,047), and once again to CHF 848,670 (USD 804,655 or EUR 567,065). Based on the budget, the Plan is 100 per cent covered. The overall expenditure was CHF 774,747 (USD 734,566 or EUR 517,671), representing a 91.3 per cent implementation rate. The final budget increase was due to more funding being received than initially requested.

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

No. of people we help: With the International Federation's support to disaster management (EMS) and health and care activities (including the blood bank and medico-social department activities), the National Society covered 76,966 first aid missions during the second half of the year (total missions for 2008 are 194,389). Again, in the last six months of 2008, the Lebanese RC provided 40,259 (25,543 female and 14,716 male) medical consultations (total of 74,319 consultations in 2008) and delivered 7,837 blood units (total of 16,817 units in 2008). For activities related specifically to HIV/AIDS, including both prevention and stigma and discrimination, the National Society targeted 35,000 youth in a public campaign and through a specific AIDS rally. The prisons programme carried out by the youth covered 1,450 beneficiaries through its activities in 2008

In addition, the International Federation accompanied capacity building activities for the Lebanese RC headquarters and branches in the area of logistics, finance, IT, blood bank, medico-social, youth, internal affairs and planning departments.

Our partners: The partners of the Lebanese RC have been relatively consistent in 2008. Bilateral support has been forthcoming from the Belgium Red Cross, the French Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the American Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The Lebanese RC has also been able to attract non-Movement partners for short and long term programmes. These have included the American Taskforce for Lebanon, Childhood Immunization Support Programme (CISP), and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), while a close coordination for emergency situations was maintained with the government's emergency response taskforce and other state and non-state actors.

The Norwegian government and the Norwegian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, private donors from Great Britain, and Shaker family foundation have been the contributors to the International Federation Plan during 2008.

Context

As predicted in the analysis for Lebanon for 2008, the country context remained volatile also in the second half of the year due to the wide-spread clashes between rival factions. While the agreement in Doha, the process of the election of a president and the formation of a national unity government in June improved the situation, continuous security incidents were reported linked to ongoing underlying tensions particularly in the north of the country as well as from within the Palestinian camps.

The agreement in Doha created the foundation for more positive investments in the country - in particular linked to tourism, increased construction, trade and finance. Having said that, as elsewhere around the region, the Lebanese economy faced rising fuel and general consumer prices, which - with

little increase in basic salaries – have affected middle to lower income families. While the country was not as severely affected as some of its regional neighbours, there were increasing concerns for the most vulnerable in the suburbs of large towns and in rural and remote areas.

In the meantime, for the first time in 50 years, the country witnessed a series of earthquakes in the south which brought increased attention to this growing vulnerability. A deterioration in the situation in the country resulted in the Lebanese RC having to consolidate the need to maintain a high level of emergency preparedness while ensuring the momentum of institutional change, as well as addressing new vulnerabilities.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Disaster Preparedness Institutional Level

Outcomes/Expected results

- The capacity of the Lebanese RC to respond to disasters is increased through the creation of coordination mechanisms at the regional and local level.
- Delivery of emergency response is enhanced through the implementation of the recommendation of a local level capacity assessment.
- Disaster management plan of action is adapted according to the national situation analysis.
- Development and standardisation of logistics procedures at a national level are consolidated and transferred to the regional and local level for warehousing, procurement and fleet management.

Achievements

The demand for services by the Lebanese RC increased significantly over the past couple of years whether in terms of emergency delivery or other related services. The newly established Lebanese RC disaster management committee kept the faith and dedicated commitment to having weekly meetings and conducting on-going negotiations and discussions to enhance the roles and responsibilities of all departments at the headquarters.

Operational Task Force

A task force representing the operational departments of EMS, medico-social, youth, blood bank and logistics was established. All departments have taken the responsibility for executive decisions on disaster management issues and have followed up by being a part of the strategic planning.

Workshop for Disaster Management Coordinators

A workshop was conducted for disaster management coordinators present at the local level (60 volunteers). This was to get them acquainted with the disaster management development issues and to give them greater ownership of the preparedness plan while highlighting their capacities in the field. In addition, various areas that were considered necessary for coordinators were identified. These areas were then addressed and strengthened by implementing relevant training workshops and sessions.

Integrated Disaster Management Plan of Action

A disaster management plan of action was revised with the assistance of the International Federation, and a road map for implementation was developed, based on the discussions and participation of the Lebanese RC disaster management coordinator.

Logistics Mid-Term Evaluation

A mid-term evaluation of the logistics development project was conducted in the presence of the logistics coordinator from the International Federation's regional logistics unit (RLU). The Lebanese RC attended the evaluation as observer while the ICRC attended as a main partner. The evaluation

resulted in positive recommendations for future cooperation. In addition, as part of logistics development, task force committees were established for warehousing, procurement and fleet management. A series of activities were conducted and set as part of an integrated plan of action that is a synergized part of the tripartite agreement between the International Federation, ICRC and Lebanese RC.

Warehousing

In warehousing, services were divided between three operational departments - EMS, logistics and medico-social. Basic equipment is still needed. Supported by the Norwegian RC, practical training on rub hall erecting was conducted for 30 volunteers as part of the emergency preparedness plan. In addition, basic equipment and a forklift were provided for the warehouse at the national headquarters. These purchases are aimed at providing a sustainable backup system for planned contingency stock that will be made available in 2009.

Fleet Management

In fleet management, logbooks and inspection documents for 300 vehicles for one year were developed and printed as a nominal requirement. Workshops were conducted for all departments and local branches to engage them in the whole process by facilitating fleet management development.

Procurement

In procurement development, policies and procedures were finalised as part of the procurement guidelines for the Lebanese RC and discussions were held at the governance level. Work is still ongoing with selected departments who are essential for the establishment of a holistic logistics system with shared responsibilities and cross-cutting procedures. Negotiations have reached the highest levels and will be continued during the beginning of 2009. It is expected that the revised procurement policies and procedures will positively influence the work-flow of all relevant departments and that their capacity will be continuously optimised.

Disaster management development is essential and Lebanese RC will take further action to implement the relevant plans. The disaster management plan of action is almost ready for implementation. This will involve all departments at the national headquarters.

Constraints or Challenges

The implementation process is gradually moving, although it is acknowledged that a centralized approach for disaster management is facing some challenges, mostly related to the roles and responsibilities between the different operational departments.

Although the Lebanese RC has gathered over many years an impressive body of disaster management knowledge, it is important that the human resource capacity is strengthened, and more experienced and trained disaster management experts should be positioned at the headquarters.

The compliance with the new policies and procedures and the alignment of all departments in the preparation for disasters and the action during times of disasters requires further planning and training sessions.

Emergency response

Outcome/Expected result

- Support to EMS five year strategy is consolidated to improve emergency service delivery.

The Lebanese RC, which is mandated by the authorities as the national provider of ambulance services, fully mobilized its ambulance fleet and volunteers for continuous internal disturbances throughout 2008. The unique position of the Lebanese RC as an organization with access to all areas and recognized by all parties has placed it at the forefront of any emergency response in the country. The conflict-related activities during the reporting period were in addition to the Lebanese RC's normal

peace-time mandate, which covers 80 percent of all emergency calls in the country. All operations are run by the EMS department through four operational call centers and 43 stations across Lebanon consisting of a total of 2,600 volunteers nationwide.

The number of missions¹ completed by the EMS in the last three years:

Year	Number of Missions
2006	166,109
2007	177,053
2008	194,389

Ambulance Reconversion

In line with the priority to improve the ambulance fleet through the conversion of ambulance vehicles to newly set standards, the Canadian RC donation was targeted towards the reconversion of 10 ambulances including the provision of equipment. The tender process was completed and the reconversion of all ambulances was completed by the end of 2008. All equipment identified by the ambulance procurement committee was procured and handed over to the stations.

The following is a table of the ambulances and their operational location in Lebanon:

Vehicle Brand	Original Donor of Non-Standard Vehicle	Lebanese RC EMS Station
Nissan (2)	United Arab Emirates Red Crescent	Kornet Chehwan, Beit Mery
VW Syncro (4)	Norwegian Red Cross	Jbeil, Mreije, Halva, Tebnine
VW 2003 (4)	Kuwait Red Crescent	Aley, Falougha, Hermel, Chebaa

Constraints or Challenges

The process of reconversion took longer than expected primarily as a result of the selected company's difficulties in importing certain items and high demand on their services. In addition, the process of having a joint purchasing committee between the partners, while assuring standards and appropriate coordination of all activities, has also resulted in a lengthier implementation process. Initially, the dialogue needed to focus on defining the standard equipment list and then proceed into the procurement process; therefore, the actual procurement was only able to start in the middle of 2008.

Health and Care

Psychosocial Support Programme

Outcomes/Expected results

- Access to civilians in need of psychosocial support programme (PSP) during crises is improved.
- The PSP team capacity of Lebanese RC is strengthened and ability for rapid interventions improved.
- Capacity of volunteers to cope with stress is improved.

Achievements

Establishment of a PSP committee

After several discussions, the medico-social department has agreed to include the PSP programme in their structure. A PSP committee has been established within the department involving volunteers and staff from three operational departments of the National Society - the EMS, the youth, and the medico-social department.

¹ The missions are broken down into medical emergencies, wounded and medical transport, first aid in mobile stations and centres, first aid at home, transportation of blood units and materials.

Constraints or Challenges

The main challenge of this programme was to get the support and the consensus within the National Society. A big share of PSP volunteers' time was lost trying to solve issues related to the position of the programme in the National Society. Since one of the main target groups of the programme was the National Society volunteers and staff, this consensus of all the departments around the mission and the plan of the PSP were crucial to move on.

Community Based First Aid

Outcomes/Expected results

- Capacity of Lebanese RC community based first aid (CBFA) team is improved to implement activities in communities in the north, south and east of the country.
- Health education is provided to vulnerable communities in Lebanon with specific focus on issues covering hygiene, vaccination and HIV/AIDS.

Achievements

An agreement was done with the National Society to move the CBFA programme from the teaching department to the medico-social department which decided to consolidate its activities towards more community based activities rather than pure curative based services. A process of developing a three years health strategy as part of the National Society strategy was completed based on an internal assessment of the capacity and challenges of the medico-social department. The process was facilitated by the International Federation representation and the health advisor from the Norwegian RC headquarters.

To support the follow-up of the strategy, a planning training was prepared for 25 employees of the medico-social department all over Lebanon, allowing them to actively participate in writing the plan of action of the department. In the meantime, the strategy was introduced and discussed with all the local committees (branches) to get their agreement and support for the implementation phase.

Constraints or Challenges

The main challenge of the strategy development was the lack of reliable resource of information in relation to community health challenges. It was decided to undertake mini assessments on the level of villages and cities when starting the community based health and first aid in 2009, and to use the information in designing the health interventions of the concerned health centre in the village/city.

Health and Care in Emergencies

Outcomes/Expected results

- Reproductive health and mother and child care in emergencies is integrated into the Lebanese RC health centre services.
- Awareness on avian influenza within local communities is improved.
- Capacity of Lebanese RC to respond to public health in emergencies is improved.

Achievements

In order to improve the capacity of the Lebanese RC to respond to health in emergencies, and to improve the communication and the coordination between the operational departments, four workshops were organised for 150 participants from EMS, youth and medico-social departments of Red Cross centres all over Lebanon.

The three days training package was designed to cover public health in emergencies aspects and social mobilisation, health promotion and especially reproductive health in emergencies.

Based on collaboration between the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the medico-social department, the Lebanese RC assisted in the national measles campaign with its main function to provide vaccines in schools and through RC dispensaries in April and May 2008. Some 50 doctors and nurses from 22 dispensaries vaccinated 19,851 children (9 months to 15 years of age) of which 11,344 were female and 8,507 male.

The objective to increase the number of voluntary blood donations was achieved through nine blood campaigns held in May and June as part of the World Blood Donation Day. In addition, with the financial support of the International Federation, a public awareness campaign was launched through the placement of eight large billboards on the main highways between Beirut and the north, south and Bekaa valley.

Constraints or Challenges

The main constraint of the programme was the lack of a clear division of roles and responsibilities within the operational departments. It was difficult from that perspective to set the criteria of the workshops' participants or to train them on their responsibilities in case of emergencies.

Capacity Development

Capacity Development at an Institutional Level

Outcomes/Expected results

- The legal and volunteers base of Lebanese RC is strengthened.

Achievements

Having prepared a revised draft of the Lebanese RC statutes in the first half of the year, the drafting commission held several meetings with the executive committee as well as the central committee to explain the new draft and discuss it with them in order to facilitate the endorsement process that was supposed to take place in the yearly General Assembly in December 2008.

The discussions proved many internal and external challenges for the new statutes and demanded longer period than expected. Thus, the statutes were not able to be sent to the General Assembly.

The internal affairs department trained two local committees on governance and management issues focusing on the amendments necessary to the present statutes as well as the elections of 2009.

In the first half of the year, the development of a volunteer and membership database was initiated with all the necessary data collected by the internal affairs department. The implementation which was planned for the second half of the year is still ongoing and will be finalised in early 2009.

Constraints or Challenges

The drafting commission faced internal and external challenges in its work. The group is now considering a second draft that takes into consideration the comments of the governance.

Capacity Development at an Operational Level

Outcomes/Expected results

- Capacity of the Lebanese RC to respond to vulnerability is improved through programmes, projects, human resources and financial management.

Achievements

The strategic planning process of the National Society was finalised and the new strategy for the next three years was adopted by the General Assembly in December 2008. The process started with an extended strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and treats (SWOT) analysis for all the departments. The new strategy main streamed the role of the National Society in two main core areas: emergency response and community development. It also defined the roles of different departments.

The International Federation arranged four workshops with the senior management team and the executive committee (the top governance), with the aim to develop a shared vision and joined ownership of the Lebanese RC leadership for the new strategy. In order to translate the strategy into action, a plan of action will be developed for 2009 and each following year.

The planning department continued to support the other departments in developing their planning skills. Three project planning workshops were organised for 25 medico-social employees and 20 employees in the National Society who had not participated in last year's trainings.

The review of the youth structure and programmes was completed with the assistance of an external consultant by the end of the first half of the year. The recommendations were taken further with representatives of the 34 youth centres aiming at being validated and at identifying more areas where the youth department needs support. The workshop concluded six strategic directions that should be followed by the youth department when planning and designing their activities. The main strategic direction was to support the youth centers, encourage their creativity, and focus on activities in order to promote Humanitarian Principles and Values within children and young adults.

In the same context and after identifying some communications challenges between the youth in terms of managing their meetings and discussions, two communication workshops where organized for 36 youth coordinators and supervisors focusing on team management systems and communications preferences.

In the first half of the year, the finance department of the Lebanese RC finalised the development of new finance policies and procedures such as revenues and donations, financial reporting, budgeting, cash and bank accounts management, fixed assets, accounts payables, payroll and tax procedures. To support the implementation, Microsoft Navision was selected to be installed and implemented in the finance department because of a special price guaranteed through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the International Federation secretariat and Microsoft and the compatibility of the software with the characteristics recommended by the external consultant. In the same context, the International Federation has supported the finance department in training five of its staff on different computer levels.

Constraints or Challenges

The main challenge of the strategic planning process was the lack of information with regards to the community needs - this was similar in various contexts such as health and disaster preparedness programmes. The idea of conducting a major community needs and capacity assessment will still be advocated within the National Society.

The capability of management reporting and project implementation monitoring/reporting needs to be further developed. It is essential that all departments are making use of the good services and training sessions of the planning department and adopt standardised systems and modern tools in reporting.

The youth review process included programmes, structures, roles and responsibilities. By the end of the year programme recommendations have been reflected in the strategy, while decisions regarding the adoption of other recommendations are still pending.

The finance department needs to develop the technical skills and the capacities of its staff and ensure the full application of all policies and procedures taking the latest revisions into account. The department is already over-charged with the high amount of day to day activities and needs more time

to concentrate on the change of the new technical and procedural system. In 2009, on-the-job coaching will be used to facilitate this process.

Humanitarian Values

Anti-discrimination, Marginalisation and Stigmatisation

Outcomes/Expected results

- Stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV and AIDS is reduced among the youth.
- Prisoners in prisons and reformatory (rehabilitation) schools demonstrate improved adaptation to prison conditions as well as developed life skills and self esteem preparing them for the life outside the prisons.
- Criminal activities of youth are reduced as a result of targeted awareness and prevention activities in vulnerable communities.

Achievements

The youth department is actively working on reducing stigma and discrimination among Lebanese youth. In the second half of the year, the AIDS programme organised a two days rally in Hasbaya – south Lebanon for 45 youth aiming at changing their perception and behaviour towards people living with HIV/AIDS. Training on stigma and discrimination was organized for 22 participants from the Catholic relief services. At the same time another 63 youth volunteer from three different areas in Lebanon were trained as youth peer educators for anti-discrimination and behavioural change. The programme focused on training peer educators on life skills such as self esteem, decision making and facing peer pressure in relation to HIV/AIDS awareness. The World AIDS day was celebrated through a campaign that focused on stigma and discrimination accompanied by the distribution of 10,000 information kits to young adults in the Lebanese schools.

A similar rally was held in the first half of the year, for 70 youth, to reduce misperception and increase awareness on HIV/AIDS related topics. In addition, the youth volunteers had initiated an awareness campaign on the topic of sexually transmitted diseases and distributed condoms together with an information kit at key nightlife areas during the valentine's celebration.

In order to improve the coping mechanisms of prisons inmates and youth in the reformatory schools, the prisons programme in the youth department organised two days camp for 33 adolescents in the reformatory schools including entertainment activities and hygiene and nutrition awareness. Alternatively, the programme worked with the inmates of six small prisons in different areas of Lebanon tackling skin diseases awareness and hygiene awareness as well as regular visits and two iftars during the month of Ramadan. Two libraries were opened in Zahleh and Rachaya prisons to enable the inmates to access reading material.

Also, in the first half of the year, the Lebanese RC youth volunteers had conducted awareness sessions on the prevention of respiratory diseases assisted by the distribution of hygiene kits. A total of 715 male and 19 female prisoners were targeted by 33 volunteers.

Constraints or Challenges

The youth department showed strong interest to start a project to decrease the criminality among youth; however, was not possible to initiate due to strong engagement of the department in many other activities and the need for specialised technical support in designing and planning for the project.

Promotion of Fundamental Principles

Outcome/Expected result

- The population is more aware of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) principles and activities of the Lebanese RC.

Achievements

The Lebanese RC was not yet able to focus on developing a new marketing tool, due to the limited capacity of the public relations (PR)/communications department in terms of human and financial resources. The web site which was funded and developed under the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis Emergency Appeal came online during the first quarter of the year and was used to promote the activities of the Lebanese RC during the clashes in May. For this, funding was provided for an additional staff member.

The International Federation, jointly with ICRC, funded the Lebanese RC newsletter aiming at promoting the activities of the branches and the departments within the RC.

Constraints or Challenges

The identified challenges include the limited technical know-how within the human resource base and limited finances.

The challenge in the second half of the year was mainly to recruit and maintain the staff for the position of a web journalist. The position was advertised internally through the RC centres and externally through many newspapers ads, but very few candidates met the criteria.

Working in partnership

A new three years strategy for Lebanese RC was developed in close cooperation and coordination between Lebanese RC, the ICRC and the International Federation.

The Lebanese RC's leadership has actively sought to engage with other actors although at all times maintaining a principled distance. The National Society is represented in a national emergency response taskforce developed by the authorities in whom the roles and responsibilities of state and non-state actors have been identified.

The Lebanese RC has a yearly contract with the MoH to support the three operational departments - EMS, blood bank and medico-social department. Efforts have been made to further increase the input of the ministry towards the given mandate of the Lebanese RC as a provider of emergency and health services.

Due to the nature of the context and the fact that the Lebanese RC is the key humanitarian actor in Lebanon permeating all levels of the society, a continuous exchange of information has been established especially in health related issues with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Cooperation with the ICRC has focused on ensuring complimentary activities with regards to capacity building support to the Lebanese RC. A tripartite MoU between Lebanese RC, ICRC and the International Federation was developed in 2008, and is expected be signed in early 2009.

Within the Movement, close coordination has been maintained between the Lebanese RC, the ICRC and the International Federation through joint meetings and open information exchange. Monthly movement coordination meetings were held with partner National Societies (PNSs) engaged in short or longer term either directly through the Lebanese RC or through the International Federation and ICRC. This includes representation from the four permanent PNSs - the Belgium RC, the Iranian Red Crescent, the Netherlands RC and the French RC.

The Norwegian RC has been for many years the main donor to the International Federation operations in Lebanon.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The programmes presented above details Lebanese RC's contribution to the International Federation's Global Agenda goals within Lebanon. Lebanese RC is one of the few actors in Lebanon working on reducing discrimination towards marginalized people in the community.

The ongoing commitment of the National Society to concentrate on its systems, structures and strategic direction at a national and local level aims to ensure a longer term vision and approach to address the changing needs and vulnerabilities within the context. This can be seen through its initiative to create a development plan² and drawing on resources from the International Federation and others, ultimately aiming for improved longer-term performance and accountability. A strategic process addressing its mandate, role, vulnerabilities and needs takes into account the fact that the National Society is the only organisation in the midst of a large number of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), which can claim in Lebanon to transcend all political and confessional boundaries. The gender, religious and general diversity within its network of 4,000 volunteers promotes respect and tolerance within a highly polarised society. This is achieved through its EMS teams and the network of youth centres and medical dispensaries.

Looking ahead

Due to the increasing demand for services to the population provided by the Lebanese RC, the International Federation needs to continue its support to the Lebanese RC in order to maintain its commitment to capacity building and consequent improvement in programming. The supported programmes will continue to maintain an approach linked primarily to facilitate the ongoing strategic process of the National Society (defining its role and responsibility as a key civil society organisation as well as maintaining and increasing the diversity of its current disaster management and health and care portfolios). The process of developing a new strategy for Lebanese RC for the years 2009-2011 was given priority in 2008. Supported by the International Federation and the ICRC, the National Society finalised the strategy which was approved by the General Assembly in November 2008. Based on the new strategy, a Lebanese RC plan of action will be developed in January 2009.

The process of the youth review and the medico-social capacity analysis will continue as a key component to improving the added value of the Lebanese RC in vulnerable communities. Defining the necessary tools and training to support the strategic process will be a priority in 2009. Attention will be placed on the continued application of new or amended internal systems and improved skills base at a local level.

Due to the volatile security situation, staff and volunteers of the Lebanese RC continue to work in a high risk environment. The population sincerely hopes that a more peaceful situation will evolve and that they can live in a stable country without civil strife and cross-border conflicts. The Lebanese RC contributes its part to stability and hopes for enduring peace. In the meantime, the safety and security of Lebanese colleagues needs to be protected by all means.

² The strategy of Lebanese RC has two main core areas - development and disaster management. The development area is where the development plan fits in.

How we work

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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