

# Annual report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Viet Nam

Appeal No. MAAVN001

27 April 2011

This report covers the period  
1 January to 31 December 2010

With a family of 7 children and 11 grandchildren, this head of family had her house submerged by floods in October 2010. Her comments on the pre-positioned relief items from the Viet Nam Red Cross were that the “household kits are very timely and useful. The big container can keep rice from rat[s]. I don’t have to worry [about] mosquitoes as mosquito nets are provided. [The] other items are also useful.”

Programmes under this country plan help support the national society in preparing for disaster and ultimately benefitting communities that are affected.

Photo by Tran Quang Tuan/VNRC.



## In brief

**Programme purpose:** The 2010-2011 support programme aims to strengthen the Viet Nam Red Cross Society’s (VNRC) role as the leading humanitarian organization in Viet Nam.

**Programme summary:**

Overall, the programme progressed in activities around community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR), community-based health and first aid (CBHFA), humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P) and dengue fever mitigation planned for this year where total funding was secured. The organizational development objectives were partially met through support from the [emergency appeal \(MDRVN006\)](#). The separate objectives under the principles and values programme were dropped and mainstreamed into the other programmes.

Under the CBDRR programme supported by Japanese Red Cross Society, main activities including the plantation of mangroves and capacity building in disaster preparedness were continued as planned for 2010 -

the last year of its five-year programme. In addition to the number of beneficiaries, the project targeted (see *specific number below*), this programme has, to date, had a positive effect on communities and the Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) itself. Planted mangroves act as a buffer, protecting coastal communities from storm surges. Also, the benefit of the mangrove forest grown with Red Cross support has been acknowledged by local governments and communities where it has been planted. In many places, the phrase “Red Cross mangrove forest” is now often used among communities. Some Red Cross provincial chapters such as Ninh Binh have received support under the state budget to plan for mangrove plantation in their provinces in 2011. IFRC will provide technical support to VNRC to design a new long-term CBDRR programme which seeks more support for Viet Nam’s efforts in disaster preparedness, using lessons learnt from the impact evaluation of the current programme which will be carried out in 2011.

Interventions under community-based first aid (CBFA) with support of New Zealand Red Cross; dengue fever mitigation funded by the Rockefeller Foundation; and H2P by USAID contributed to increase health and education, contributing to saving lives in communities. The health and care programme benefits not only direct beneficiaries but also VNRC in the longer term. VNRC achievements in the H2P project enabled the Ha Nam Red Cross chapter to be appointed by the provincial people’s committee as coordinator of the H2P follow-up project financed by other organizations, which is significant, considering that pandemic or health issues are often a task of the health sector. In addition, disaster management trainers of the Quang Tri Red Cross chapter, who have high profiles in disaster management, are now equipped with expertise in pandemic situations, serving as buffers to roll-out training when funding is available.

While organizational development did not progress as planned for the first half of 2010 due to funding limitations, there was significant progress in the second half after the recruitment of a senior national staff and funding support from an existing emergency appeal. In-depth discussions with VNRC have started on improving the overall planning and budgeting process in the society, including development of a long-term strategic plan. Significantly, VNRC opened wider access to IFRC in the areas which were considered “in-house” business including the full strategic process, and its regular executive board meetings. With the VNRC strategy 2020 being introduced next year, IFRC will focus on delivering technical support to VNRC for five-year operational plans for disaster management, health and care, and organizational development.

Strengthening coordination was also a focus in 2010. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination structure was strengthened with inputs and active participation of all Movement partners. IFRC and partner national societies present in-country have also agreed to initiate technical programme coordination to move forward the programme approach with VNRC. This initiative begins in January 2011.

The lack of funding for the principles and values component in recent years led to its integration into the three above-mentioned programmes in 2011.

**Financial situation:** The revised total budget for 2010 is CHF 1,339,342 and is covered up to 95 per cent. Overall expenditure against the budget in 2010 is 69 per cent. The expenditure for the period is slightly under target and is largely attributed to the efforts in October and November for launching and managing the [emergency appeal MDRVN007](#) for people affected by consecutive flooding in central and south central Viet Nam.

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

**No. of people reached:**

The number of beneficiaries who have benefited from VNRC’s support through this appeal in 2010 include:

<b>Disaster management programme</b>	<b>28,889 people</b>
<b>Health and care</b>	<b>1,630,554 people</b>
<b>Organizational development</b>	<b>71 people</b>

**Our partners:** Main partners who have supported VNRC under this appeal include Japanese Red Cross Society (as a long-term partner under the 2006-2010 memorandum of understanding), New Zealand Red Cross, USAID and Rockefeller Foundation. Smaller contributions have also been made by American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross and Liechtenstein Red Cross. Also contributing to the work of the national society on a bilateral basis are the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross.

The total international Red Cross Red Crescent Movement support to VNRC for its development programmes in 2010 was CHF 4,430,000.

On behalf of VNRC, IFRC would like to thank all partners and contributors for their response to this appeal and other bilateral support.

## Context

The country's average population in 2010 is estimated at 86.93 million, an increase of by 1.05 per cent against 2009. Of the total population, the urban population is 26.01 million, accounting for 29.9 per cent of the country's inhabitants, a rise by 2.04 per cent against the last year; while the rural population stands at 60.92 million, accounting for 70.1 per cent, up by 0.63 per cent<sup>1</sup>.

Viet Nam's gross domestic product (GDP) growth stands at 6.78 per cent in 2010, which is considered to recover from the financial crisis. However, the high inflation of 11.75 per cent in the whole year influenced people's lives, especially regular-wage employees<sup>2</sup>. This also challenges progress in poverty reduction which reduced from 12.3 per cent in 2009 to 10.6 per cent in 2010.

The year also saw the government of Viet Nam finalize the drafts of the Social Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) for 2011-2020 and the Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) for 2011-2015. SEDS is the government's main strategy for development while the five-year SEDP lists actions needed to translate the ten-year SEDS into a reality. Two areas for focus in these documents is emphasis on "inclusiveness" of the socio-economic development (i.e. to not let certain population groups/rural areas/remote districts be left behind), and "environmental sustainability" through improved natural resource management, environmental protection measures, and measures to address climate change.

In August, the government of Viet Nam acknowledged some of challenges in future socio-economic development through its [annual report on meeting the millennium development goals \(MDG\)](#). While Viet Nam clearly has achieved some of the basic goals (i.e. basic education and poverty reduction), it still has a long way to go in achieving several other MDG targets (e.g. rural water and sanitation). Even the goals that have been achieved remain vulnerable to external shocks such as high inflation, falling level of foreign exchange reserves or a relatively high current account deficit to GDP. The year already saw one such external shock when two international rating agencies downgraded credit ratings for Viet Nam, thereby increasing the cost of borrowing capital for the country. Viet Nam's development partners however still remain committed to supporting Viet Nam with official development assistance (ODA) in the short term. At the end of annual consultative group meeting in December, partners committed more than CHF 7.5 billion in ODA for 2011.

The second half of the year in Viet Nam is usually prone to natural disaster shocks, and this year has been no exception to this trend. The period saw successive flooding ([see annex 1](#)) in October and November that affected more than 500,000 households in 12 provinces<sup>3</sup> of central and south-central Viet Nam and resulted in an estimated loss of more than CHF 500 million. On average, the annual economic loss as a consequence of natural disasters is estimated to cost some 1.5 per cent of the country's GDP<sup>4</sup>.

The country also sees increasing hazards such as tropical cyclones, heavy rainfall, floods, drought, landslides, water shortage, and heat waves as well as a rise in sea levels caused by global warming. Experts forecast an

### MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS Progress for Viet Nam, as of August 2010

1	End poverty and hunger	Achieved
2	Universal education	Achieved
3	Gender equality	Achieved
4	Child health	Achievable
5	Maternal health	Strive to achieve
6	Combat HIV/AIDS	Difficult but strive to achieve
7	Environmental sustainability	Difficult to achieve
8	Global partnership	Achievable to some extent

<sup>1</sup> [www.gso.org.vn](http://www.gso.org.vn)

<sup>2</sup> <http://english.vietnamnet.vn/en/special-report/2427/int-l-donors-worry-about-vnd-devaluation-and-high-inflation.html>

<sup>3</sup> Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Ninh Thuan, Khanh Hoa, Dak Lak, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai and Quang Nam.

<sup>4</sup> The country disaster risk management note - <http://gfdrr.org/ctrydrmnotes/Vietnam.pdf>

average temperature increase of 0.5 to 0.7 per cent in 2010 in comparison with that in 1990. Sea water levels have increased from 10 to 15 per cent. Under the mangrove project alone, the impact of severe weather has become obvious during the planting/sowing season for the mangroves. The planting of ten hectares of *avicennia* seedlings in Ky Anh district of Ha Tinh province was postponed due to hot weather that resulted in low productivity of *avicennia* seedlings for further planting. Similarly, the plantation of the *sonneratia* species in Thanh Hoa province between May-August was postponed due to the drought.

Both H5N1 and H1N1 influenza viruses continue to be present in the country but with reduced numbers of infection and fatality. H1N1 is not yet a big concern as it continues to be a mild virus with low fatality rate. H5N1 however continues to remain problematic as the virus is still circulating among poultry and infecting people. Seven new cases and two fatalities were reported during the period.



**National railways badly damaged by consecutive flooding in Ha Tinh province**  
Photo: Quang Tuan/ VNRC

Cholera cases showed a year-to-year increase with 2009 with a total of 310 confirmed cases in 18 provinces. Dengue fever too saw some increase, especially in the Southern provinces. The prolonged rainy season in the south saw dengue cases total 109,304 with 84 deaths. Apart from the Southern provinces where dengue situation worsened, some provinces in the Central region such as Hue, Phu Yen, Gia Lai which were affected by the typhoon last year, also showed a sharp increase in the number of patients admitted to hospital with dengue fever.

The HIV epidemic continues to be concentrated in high-risk groups with latest figures indicating about 181,355 people living with HIV/AIDS in the country. While new cases of infection continue to reduce, stigmatization and discrimination against people living HIV/AIDS continue to be an ongoing challenge.

VNRC also carried out its traditional activity “Tet for the poor” in February. This year, VNRC spent CHF 539,000 from its humanitarian fund to support poor people on the Lunar New Year (Tet), of which CHF 451,000 was spent on buying livestock (cows). This support was given to 43 provinces during the Tet, but VNRC has continued the “cow bank” (100 cows each) programme to support the 62 poorest districts in the country. VNRC chapters aim to raise CHF 697,000 for this programme during the year.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Patriotic Emulation Congress of Viet Nam Red Cross Society was organized on 25-26 September 2010 in Hanoi. It rewarded individuals and Red Cross units that provided exemplary humanitarian services. In November, an inter-agency agreement between the Ministry of Health and Viet Nam Red Cross was also signed to improve cooperation between the two

agencies. In December, the society opened its training centre and warehouse in Hanoi. The training centre is part of a new human resource development drive of the society and was completed with financial support from the government.

“Action month for Agent Orange Victims 2010” was held at all levels from 18 August to 10 September 2010. According to reports made by 52 of 63 provincial/city chapters, the campaign mobilized CHF 2.5 million, of which CHF 2.3 million provided support to 192,503 people affected by Agent Orange. The balance amount was set aside to support long-term needs.

In blood donation, VNRC achieved 80 per cent of the national annual goal for voluntary non-remunerated blood units, collecting 683,000 blood units from 1,750,000 individual donors. In November, VNRC also signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and the Youth Union which will further improve cooperation with these agencies in mobilizing youth in voluntary blood donation. Lessons learnt on the country’s progress towards the achievement of 100 per cent voluntary non-remunerated blood donation were presented by the VNRC head of department at the Southeast Asia blood donation meeting in December.

# Progress towards outcomes

## Disaster management

**Goal:** Reduced deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

**Objective:** VNRC and targeted communities are better prepared to cope with the aftermath of disasters and reduce their impact.

### Outcomes/expected results

- Impact of storms and floods in Viet Nam are reduced through timely distribution of life-saving assistance to the affected populations.
- Communities in Viet Nam are aware of disaster hazards in their region and have the capability to act effectively during times of disaster.
- Vulnerability of communities in storm-prone areas is reduced by implementing mitigation measures (mangrove plantation) and improving their livelihood options.
- VNRC at all levels and communities have developed and updated their annual contingency plan and shared it with other relevant stakeholders.

### Achievements

In 2010, the community-based disaster risk reduction (mangrove plantation) programme (CBDRR) entered the last year of its five-year cycle. The project activities have been nearly completed to achieve expected outcomes despite some standstill between January and February with VNRC implementing their annual activity of “Tet for the poor” which includes delivering Lunar New Year gifts and small amounts of cash to the poor and the people affected by Agent Orange.

Progress of this component in 2010 includes:

- *Plantation of mangroves:* Some 102 hectares of mangroves, 21,000 clumps of bamboo, and 40 hectares of casuarina species were planted in the provinces of Nam Dinh, Ninh Binh, Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Hai Phong, Nghe An, and Ha Tinh.
- *Training on plantation techniques:* Up to 15 training courses on plantation techniques were also organized during the reporting period for 374 people in Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Nam Dinh, Ninh Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces.

In addition to plantation training, training was also organized on disaster management concepts in the eight project provinces. Main contents included disaster preparedness planning covering key topics of vulnerability and capacity assessment; disaster preparedness and response plans, disaster response training covering first aid, search and rescue and evacuation skills; and disaster preparedness induction.

**Table: Number of people receiving disaster preparedness training in 2010**

Province	No. of commune members receiving disaster preparedness planning	No. of school teachers receiving disaster preparedness training	No. of school students receiving disaster preparedness training
Ha Tinh	175	134	2,671
Hai Phong	200	130	2,478
Nam Dinh	200	100	4,470
Nghe An	24	226	3,474
Ninh Binh	60	0	0
Quang Ninh	250	136	4,760
Thanh Hoa	225	125	3,271
Thai Binh	180	114	5,081
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,314</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>26,205</b>

Source: VNRC provincial chapters

Public awareness activities promoting the benefits of mangroves in protecting communities from disaster impact also continued through public dissemination using public announcement systems, newspapers and television. Up to 41 news articles were published or broadcast on television.

One focus of the 2010 plan was impact evaluation of the programme. Given the workload generated by the need for emergency response towards the floods in 2010, the evaluation will start in January 2011. Outcomes of this evaluation will contribute to designing of a new long term CBDRR programme that fits with the upcoming VNRC strategy (2020) and the national CBDRR programme of the government.

In order to strengthen VNRC chapter capacity on disaster risk reduction, a three-day workshop on contingency planning and relief operations was organized for 31 staff from ten Red Cross chapters in the northern mountainous provinces. The workshop was conducted in March in Lao Cai province by IFRC and the VNRC's training centre. One of the outcomes of this training has been that Red Cross provincial chapters of Lao Cai, Tuyen Quang, Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Lang Son, Son La and Ha Giang have submitted their disaster preparedness and response plans for 2010. Even though national society capacity in terms of material, financial and human resources has been presented well in these plans, deployment of these resources in case of emergency remains an ongoing challenge.

VNRC also completed the one-year emergency operation for [2009's Typhoon Ketsana](#) in ten provinces. In 2010, VNRC distributed rice to 191,420 people affected in ten provinces by January 2010; rebuilt new storm- and flood-resistant homes for 650 families by mid-October; and provided healthy livestock for income generation purposes to 300 families in the same month.



**Mangrove plantation in Hai Phong, July**  
Photo: Hai Phong chapter, VNRC

A [new emergency appeal](#) for CHF 1,034,754 was launched in October 2010 for the floods to assist 120,000 beneficiaries for six months. During the emergency phase between October and November, VNRC distributed 120 tonnes of rice to 7,300 families, 3,500 household kits, and 3,000 boxes of water purification tablets under this appeal. Allocation of cash grants for food and livelihood options are planned for early January 2011. Activities around capacity building in psychosocial support (PSP) and provision of water in emergencies coupled with the provision of water purification units will take place next year.

Disaster preparedness activities such as the development of standard for procedures (SoPs) for a national disaster response team (NDRT), logistics development and the

development of a pre-disaster season agreement among VNRC and other humanitarian aid partners were initiated under the Typhoon Ketsana emergency operation appeal; all of which contribute to the enhancement of overall disaster preparedness and response capacity within VNRC. The standard operating procedures (SOPs) and equipping of NDRT were completed by end-November 2010, while the emergency protocol on which VNRC, IFRC and Spanish Red Cross are currently working, should be finished by early 2011. VNRC's efforts to develop logistics capacities was given a boost in June 2010 with the arrival of a Federation logistics delegate who, working directly with VNRC, helped to take stock of existing goods; warehousing capacity and conditions; management; and conformity to Federation logistics standards. A pre-disaster agreement defining operational responsibilities, coordination mechanisms, acceptance of international assistance, and agreement of specific standards was drafted following a meeting between VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies with support from the Asia Pacific zone disaster management unit. The agreement will be finalized in first half of 2011 for signatures by VNRC and its Movement partners.

## Constraints

One of the challenges during the year has been the unpredictable weather with its impact on the planting/sowing season. The plantation of ten hectares of *avicennia* seedlings was postponed in Ky Anh district of Ha Tinh province due to hot weather that resulted in low productivity of *avicennia* seedlings for further planting. Similarly the plantation of *sonneratia* specie in Thanh Hoa province between May and August was postponed due to the drought. Further to that, the plantation of 90 hectares of *kandelia* specie was cancelled due to mud flows.

In addition, floods in October and November have also impacted the growth of trees planted by destroying 3,000 mangrove trees in Ha Phong province and 20 hectares of *casuarina* species in Nghe An province. Since the planting season is already over, further surveys will be needed to identify if the area is still suitable for replanting.

Overall, the disaster management programme was challenged by the fragmentation of technical depth and skills rather than the necessary concentration in one unit.

## Health and care

**Goal:** Strengthen the capacity of target communities to reduce deaths, illness and impact from diseases and public health in emergencies.

**Objective:** VNRC delivers quality health and care programmes and services that address the needs of vulnerable people in Viet Nam

### Outcomes/expected results

- The awareness of people on the dangers of avian and human influenza in five target provinces and the preparedness/response capacity of VNRC to public health emergencies is enhanced.
- Injuries caused by accidents are reduced through the active participation of VNRC first aid trainers and volunteers in community-based first aid.
- Improved dengue prevention by understanding the impact of climate change on health issues at community level.
- Vulnerability to HIV and its impact is reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment, and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination.
- The system of non-remunerated voluntary blood donor recruitment is strengthened in VNRC.

### Achievements

In 2010, VNRC, with support of IFRC, carried out three interventions on health and care programme: humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P); community-based first aid (CBHFA); and dengue fever mitigation.

#### *The Humanitarian Pandemic Preparedness (H2P):*

The project, part of the global programme financed by USAID, was implemented from August 2009 to July 2010. This support was integrated into the country plan from January 2010. While the project challenged VNRC in terms of its capacity to coordinate with different key mass organizations, it provided an opportunity for active representation in the national coordination mechanism. The national society achieved the project objectives, mainly in 2010 after preparation activities in the previous year, with substantial support of IFRC. Key documents that will enable VNRC as well as key civil organizations to effectively coordinate and respond in the face of pandemic threat were developed including an inter-agency pandemic preparedness plan between VNRC headquarters and key mass organizations. Multi-sectoral pandemic plans for the two project provinces of Ha Nam and Quang Tri, and a contingency plan of VNRC for pandemic were also developed.



**Participants work together at community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) training in Bentre City in November 2010.**  
Photo: Du Hai Duong, VNRC

VNRC benefited from the outcomes of this project in the longer term. With achievements of this project, Ha Nam Red Cross chapter was appointed by the provincial people's committee to become coordinator of the H2P follow-up project financed by another organization,

which is a significant achievement considering business around pandemic or health issues is often tasked to the health ministry. In addition, disaster management trainers of Quang Tri Red Cross chapter, who have a high profile in disaster management, are now equipped with expertise in pandemic preparedness, will serve as a buffer to roll out training when a funding source is available.

In terms of capacity building, under this project VNRC had 38 national and 316 provincial trainers from 63 provinces trained in pandemic preparedness and response in 2010. These trainers in turn delivered a series of training sessions on pandemic preparedness and community planning, reaching 2,200 community leaders and first responders in 47 communes in nine provinces. In total, the project reached 1,628,000 direct beneficiaries including community members who benefited from community pandemic planning.

### *Community-based health and first aid (CBHFA):*

CBHFA is the only component under the health and care programme where funding has been secured for the last four years. Activities under this component were picked up in the second half due to prioritization given to the H2P project during early of the year. The first pool of 20 trained CBHFA facilitators from four Southern chapters was certified. Vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA) were conducted in four communes of Can Tho and Ben Tre provinces, with local plans of action made. In December 2010, the two provincial chapters trained 80 CBHFA volunteers and facilitated community level interventions in behaviour change communication for disease prevention, injury prevention and building basic first aid skills. CBHFA training for volunteers will be scaled up to achieve the targets planned by end of 2011.



**VNRC's first aid responders provide on-the-spot service for an injured community member in Hochiminh City. (Photo: VNRC)**

As a continuation of the previous year activities (as the VNRC funding cycle is July to June), a pedagogic methodology book, and a small number of handbooks for volunteer and community practitioners were printed and distributed to the 63 Red Cross chapters in 2010.

### *Dengue fever mitigation:*

Dengue prevention and control activities were included as a new component in the health and care plan of action for 2010. This is a part of a wider health risk management in the changing climate project coordinated by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. The project progressed well in 2010 with focus on researching knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) of community members in dengue fever and climate change. A team of 20 VNRC project staff was trained to conduct data collection in target communities in Ho Chi Minh City and Tien Giang province while the study was technically supervised and supported by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and IFRC. The study used both quantitative and qualitative methods and will serve as baseline information for designing behaviour change communication materials on dengue fever and climate change education for community members. VNRC also held meetings with local health authorities to negotiate areas of cooperation around information sharing and early warning for dengue fever in selected communities.

In HIV/AIDS, after the finalization of the five-year plan, assistance from IFRC has largely been around coordination and information sharing with partners toward implementation of the plan. In late November, VNRC worked with several groups of people living with HIV/AIDS to organize a Lights4Rights event in Hanoi. About 1,000 people including people living with HIV/AIDS, youth and blood donors participated in the event and helped raise awareness in others about the global campaign to improve access to public services for people living in HIV/AIDS.

### **Constraints**

Even though healthcare is now a prioritized sector under VNRC's operations and for different partner support, the short cycle in terms of planning, finance and programming as well as a shortage in technical depth to provide guidance continue to challenge the national society when implementing the healthcare programme. On the other hand, a gap remains between the healthcare services provided by VNRC and the changing situation in Viet Nam with an increased health burden on non-communicable diseases and addressing the need for equal access to quality health services for poor, ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups. Committed in its support toward the implementation of Strategy 2020 at country-level, IFRC will focus its assistance and service to VNRC in the formulation and implementation of a number of strategic operational plans in 2011 in cooperation and coordination with other partners of the same interest. Efforts will also be made around researching, developing databases, reporting in order to inform programmes and in scaling up.



**Strategy planning discussions in Hanoi, October 2010  
Photo: VNRC**

## Organizational development

**Goal:** Increased local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

**Objective:** The VNRC is a strong, relevant and well-functioning society that is more effective at all levels, thus providing better service to vulnerable people.

### **Outcomes/expected results:**

- The capacity of VNRC to implement sustainable programmes through the headquarters and branch levels is increased
- Volunteer management is enhanced
- The capacity of branches to design, implement, evaluate and fundraise for their projects with vulnerable communities is increased

### **Achievements**

The programme had slow progress in the first half of the year due to lack of funding and programme staff. However, significant progress was achieved in the third quarter when IFRC supported VNRC in its development of Strategy 2020. Technical support to VNRC was rendered by the head of country office, backed up by a new organizational development programme officer, who arrived in August and is funded from the emergency appeal.

During the third and fourth quarter, the VNRC working team on strategy development reviewed various relevant national and international documents, policies and strategies, including studying IFRC's Strategy 2020. Similarly various internal meetings were organized to develop a final outline for the new VNRC strategy in which key staff from various departments at headquarters participated. The outline and draft developed from these meetings was later shared with participants at two regional workshops held in October and November. Up to 56 of the total 63 Red Cross chapters participated in these workshops. The remaining seven chapters were unable to participate due to ongoing emergency response operations for floods in the central provinces of Viet Nam. The outcomes of these workshops contributed to defining VNRC core areas of work and priorities for the period 2011-2020. A final draft from this process was ready by end-December for submission to the executive committee meeting in January 2011 for approval.

VNRC capacity building on financial management has also continued. Training on finance management and auditing was provided to 15 finance staff from Nam Dinh, Thua Thien Hue, Phu Tho, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai chapters. VNRC has also continued to work on the revision of its financial manual with technical support from yjr Federation's regional finance development delegate in Bangkok. In addition, VNRC and IFRC signed an agreement on consolidating working advance management and liquidation. The purpose of this new system is to strengthen the capacity of VNRC in financial planning and become proactive in the financial management of its projects.

Discussions on revisions of VNRC cost norms were also held as part of finance development work. VNRC with support from IFRC is promoting a new approach on cost norm structure that applies basic cost accounting principles and ensures minimum costs for all appropriate cost heads in VNRC budgets. This will ensure that budgeting and disbursement of programme expenditures is harmonized and reduces inter-project subsidies of overhead costs. However, the consensus between VNRC and the Movement partners has not yet been achieved as various partners continue to maintain their own cost structures and their own basic minimums for these cost categories. Support will be provided to VNRC to help them explain their rationale to various partners.

In September, VNRC issued official instruction papers to provincial chapters for organizing the Viet Nam Red Cross congress at all levels to prepare for the 9<sup>th</sup> Viet Nam Red Cross National Congress (2012-2017). The communal-level Red Cross congress will be a one-day meeting held within the first quarter of 2011 while district/town level congress will be a one-day or one-and-a-half day meetings held in second or third quarter of 2011, and the provincial-level congress will be conducted over two days during the fourth quarter of 2011 or first quarter of 2012.

VNRC organized a workshop on drafting a human resource strategy and training curriculum for Red Cross staff from 13 to 15 October 2010. The report on the two-year training needs survey was shared at the meeting, and plans were discussed for the new training centre to take forward the recommendations.

## Constraints

For the last several years, the organizational development programme has been modified to minimum activities around capacity building due to budget limitations. Given the increasing internal and external demand for improving VNRC's several key organizational functions (including finance, human resources, volunteer management and resource mobilization) for improved efficiency and effectiveness as an organization, IFRC is looking for urgent support in this area and encourage partners to use the opportunity provided by the development of the new 2011-2020 strategy of VNRC.

## Principles and values

**Goal:** Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion

**Objective:** The Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent are promoted among VNRC

**Outcome/expected result:**

VNRC leaders, staff and volunteers fully understand the mandate and role of Red Cross that helps to promote humanitarian values.

**Achievements:**

Similar to organizational development above, the principles and values programme faced funding constraints; therefore, in July, activities planned for this component were integrated into the disaster management and health and care programmes. For example, training activities designed under the humanitarian pandemic preparedness project have included orientation and induction on the Movement's Fundamental Principles. During this period, 354 trainers and 950 volunteers in nine Red Cross provincial chapters including Ben Tre, Ca Mau, An Giang, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Hoa Binh Hai Phong, Ha Nam and Quang Tri were provided with knowledge on humanitarian values, and the Movement principles.

No activities are budgeted for in the 2011 revised plan for Principles and Values; instead, this is being addressed by integrating PV into all the three programmes outlined above.

## Working in partnership

VNRC maintains its partnership ([see Annex 2](#)) with IFRC and partner national societies including American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross (through Federation representation), Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross (based in southern Viet Nam). Monthly coordination meetings co-chaired by VNRC and IFRC remain the key information sharing platform. Some changes have been made to the format of the coordination meeting, including introduction of a more formal reporting format on activities in writing prior to the meeting, which gives more time to present issues for problem-solving.

The present head of country office joined the Federation office team in March. One of the focuses of the country office is to improve the representational role of VNRC and advise the national society on strategic engagements with the key institutional donors directly. The country office analyzed cooperation models and shared the results of this analysis with VNRC leadership to help them better understand the implication of various choices.

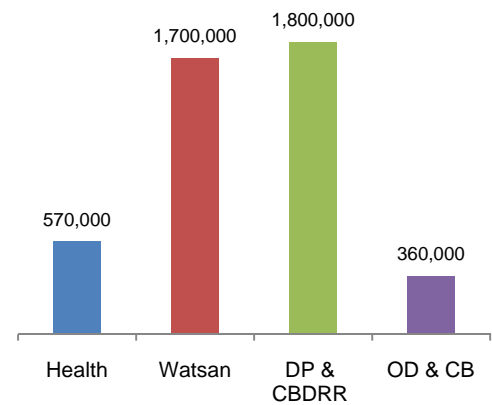
Ideas on the development of a long-term partnership between the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and the government agency-in-charge was initiated by the IFRC country office, in which all parties have shown interest. A meeting between VNRC, IFRC and the disaster management committee (DMC) of the ministry of agriculture and rural development was held last September. It was agreed that a working group composed of VNRC, IFRC and DMC is established to prepare a concept paper for a more structured CBDRM programme. This paper will be submitted to VNRC and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) leadership for their discussion. The IFRC country office will take this process forward in 2011.



Children draw health risks during community-based health and first aid training in Can Tho province.  
Photo: Nguyen Trong Nghia, VNRC

Some key Red Cross Red Crescent visits took place in 2010, such as:

- On 22-28 January, the French Red Cross president visited Viet Nam and made a field visit to Bac Kan, Binh Dinh and Phu Yen provinces. A Memorandum of Understanding between French Red Cross and VNRC for the recovery phase of Ketsana emergency operation was signed during this visit.
- In early February, Republic of Korea Red Cross society visited VNRC headquarters and VNRC leadership was invited to visit the Republic of Korea to sign on a bilateral cooperation programme in near future.
- Two youth delegations from Republic of Korea Red Cross visited to exchange experiences with Viet Nam Red Cross youth and to take part in community activities in Ho Chi Minh City, and Vinh Phuc province.
- The Swiss Red Cross president visited Viet Nam in September to discuss bilateral cooperation
- The Sri Lanka Red Cross president visited in December with a team to exchange experiences on their national society's development.
- Desk officers from French and German Red Cross also made monitoring visits to Viet Nam during this period.
- In December, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross visited Viet Nam to observe how to conduct vulnerability and capacity assessments in communities.



Movement support to VNRC, 2010 (CHF)

In the last week of August, VNRC also hosted the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual ART meeting in Hanoi. It focused on sharing experiences between regional national societies on improving and strengthening national society activities on HIV/AIDS prevention in the coming period. It was attended by over 20 people representing 11 national societies, including a representative from the European Red Cross/Red Crescent Network on HIV AIDS and TB (ERNA) and Standard Chartered Bank in Viet Nam.

Viet Nam Red Cross also successfully organized the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of leaders of Viet Nam, Lao and Cambodian Red Cross societies on 13 November 2010 in Ho Chi Minh City. Up to 22 delegates (including from the IFRC country offices from Cambodia and Viet Nam) participated in the meeting that reviewed the cooperation agreement (2006-2010) signed to strengthen ties among the three countries on promoting humanitarian values, disaster preparedness, health care, epidemic disease prevention and capacity building of respective national societies.

Prior to the annual typhoon season proper, VNRC and the IFRC country office organized a pre-disaster season meeting on 5-6 August 2010, with support from the Asia Pacific zone disaster management unit. Based on the recent evaluation findings and recommendations, VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies discussed and decided on concrete action to be taken before, during and after a disaster. By doing so, VNRC together with its Red Cross Red Crescent partners clearly identified their common objective: *to be better prepared to cope with future disasters, and be able to provide a more efficient, faster and even better coordinated support to those affected by such events in Viet Nam.* Coordination mechanisms between VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies to expedite rapid and effective emergency response are currently being consolidated in a pre-disaster agreement which will be completed and signed by all parties in the first half of 2011.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

Despite impressive gains in poverty reduction, Viet Nam continues to face challenges in reducing underlying risks its communities confront. This challenge will only grow with the fast pace of urbanization and the lack of robust safety nets. In this context, the international support of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners to Viet Nam Red Cross in expanding clean water supply, improving sanitation, planting mangroves to protect from storm surges, building skills for primary health care and expanding knowledge on road safety contributes to building a level of resilience where external shocks will have reduced impact.

## Looking ahead

VNRC's Strategy 2020 is expected to be adopted in its executive board meeting in early January 2011. Planning for 2011 will be adjusted to this Strategy. Priority is given to support VNRC in developing five-year operational planning focusing in three areas of community-based disaster risk reduction, health and care, and organizational development. In order to ensure sustainability, IFRC will advocate and support VNRC in developing programmes rather than using the project approach. Technical coordination between IFRC and partner national societies

present in the country will be taken forward in 2011 to further strengthen the holistic approach in one sector of mutual support to VNRC.

Some of the key activities in first half of 2011 are as follows:

- a) Disaster management:
  - Lead operational planning (2011-2015) for disaster risk reduction and management after the overall VNRC strategic plan for 2011 to 2020 is approved.
  - Finalize impact evaluation of the long-term CBDRR programmes and use the evidence to design a new long term CBDRR programme that is inclusive and attractive for investments by interested partners/donors.
- b) Health and care:
  - Lead operational planning (2011 -2015) for the health and care after the overall VNRC strategic plan for 2011 to 2020 is approved.
  - Explore new funding to implement the newly-developed HIV/AIDS programme plan.
  - Expand the number of trained volunteers in Can Tho and Ben Tre and other southern chapters to widen the CBHFA network of facilitators and increase local actions on primary health.
  - Finalize communication materials for facilitators, volunteers and community members in dengue fever and climate change.
- c) Organizational development:
  - Support finalization and publication of the VNRC strategic plan, and support development of operational plans (2011-2015) for different technical departments.
  - Promote use of the VNRC training centre and lead discussions on draft human resource development strategy.
  - Continue to finalize the finance manual of VNRC and align finance development to improve programme management and reporting.
- d) Coordination:
  - Support VNRC in the negotiations with partners on cost norms and reduce the burden from international support mechanism currently in place.
  - Improve IFRC-partner national society coordination to expand the scale of overall support to VNRC.

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

IFRC's vision is to:

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

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

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

## Contact information

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

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  - Federation Asia-Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur
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- Please send all pledges of funding to [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org)

[<financial report and annexes below; click to return to title page>](#)

Table: Summary of damages caused by successive flooding in October-November, 2010

No	Provinces	Dates	Deaths	Houses		Agricultural losses	Estimated financial losses (VND billion)
				Destroyed	Flooded/damaged	Rice/crops (hectares)	
1	Nghe An	1- 6 and 14-19 Oct	41	NA	>50,000	5,300	1,713
2	Ha Tinh	1- 6 and 14-19 Oct	31	343	>200,000	10,369	5,200
3	Quang Binh	1- 6 and 14-19 Oct	72	357	>150,000	6,916	1,900
4	Quang Tri	1-6 Oct	3	1	11,897	5,258	205
		14-20 Nov	1	NA	NA	451	NA
5	Thua Thien Hue	1-6 Oct	0	NA	7,200	1,845	42
		14-20 Nov	7	NA	11,366	1,732	NA
6	Quang Ngai	29 Oct – 10 Nov	1	1	368	NA	1,567
		14-20 Nov	7	42	9,970	5,143	NA
7	Binh Dinh	29 Oct – 10 Nov	7	46	4,132	2282	513
		14-20 Nov	4	66	14,732	NA	NA
8	Phu Yen	29 Oct – 10 Nov	7	21	10,601	1,639	152
		14-20 Nov	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
9	Khanh Hoa	29 Oct – 10 Nov	7	161	10601	3,200	300
		14-20 Nov	1	12	346	NA	NA
10	Ninh Thuan	29 Oct – 10 Nov	5	1701	12,601	11,570	1000
11	Dak Lak	29 Oct – 10 Nov	2	3	701	1,576	120
12	Quang Nam	14-20 Nov	5	NA	8,346	11,462	NA
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>202</b>	<b>2,754</b>	<b>&gt;502,861</b>	<b>68,743</b>	<b>12,712</b>

Table 2: Current areas of support from various Red Cross partners to VNRC

Partners	Disaster response	Disaster risk reduction	Health and social care	Organizational development
American Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	
Australian Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	
French Red Cross	✓		✓	
German Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓
ICRC				✓
Japanese Red Cross Society (IFRC)		✓		
New Zealand Red Cross (IFRC)			✓	
IFRC (others)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Italian Red Cross			✓	
Netherlands Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	
Norwegian Red Cross		✓	✓	✓
Spanish Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	
Swiss Red Cross	✓	✓		

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAVN001 - Viet Nam

Annual Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/9998
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAAVN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	634,899	404,444	50,000	0	250,000	1,339,342
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	149,643	34,262	851	0	85,413	270,169
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>					497	497
<i>Australian Red Cross</i>					3,734	3,734
<i>DFID - British Government</i>		10,123				10,123
<i>European Commission - DG ECHO</i>	0					0
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	539,177					539,177
<i>Liechtenstein Red Cross</i>		3,000				3,000
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Rockefeller Foundation)</i>		115,544				115,544
<i>New Zealand Red Cross</i>		50,000				50,000
<i>United States Government - USAID</i>		268,181				268,181
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>539,177</b>	<b>446,848</b>			<b>4,231</b>	<b>990,256</b>
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Services Fees</i>					17,182	17,182
<b>C4. Other Income</b>					<b>17,182</b>	<b>17,182</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>	<b>539,177</b>	<b>446,848</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21,413</b>	<b>1,007,438</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>688,820</b>	<b>481,110</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,826</b>	<b>1,277,607</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>108%</b>	<b>119%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>#DIV/0</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>95%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	149,643	34,262	851	0	85,413	270,169
<b>C. Income</b>	539,177	446,848	0	0	21,413	1,007,438
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-573,171	-354,162	0		4,843	-922,489
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	<b>115,649</b>	<b>126,948</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>111,670</b>	<b>355,118</b>

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Appeal	MAAVN001
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## III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>634,899</b>	<b>404,444</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>1,339,342</b>	
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Construction Materials	7,951							7,951
Seeds & Plants	94,889	83,579					83,579	11,310
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,300							6,300
Medical & First Aid	1,200							1,200
Teaching Materials	1,000							1,000
Utensils & Tools	4,589							4,589
Other Supplies & Services		1,180	638				1,818	-1,818
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>115,929</b>	<b>84,758</b>	<b>638</b>				<b>85,396</b>	<b>30,533</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	13,069					1,952	1,952	11,117
Office & Household Equipment		12,349	847			598	13,795	-13,795
Others Machinery & Equipment		1,020	255			-2,550	-1,275	1,275
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>13,069</b>	<b>13,369</b>	<b>1,102</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>14,472</b>	<b>-1,403</b>
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage		26					26	-26
Distribution & Monitoring	36,894	42,696					42,696	-5,802
Transport & Vehicle Costs	41,710	14,799	2,610			-92	17,318	24,392
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>78,604</b>	<b>57,521</b>	<b>2,610</b>			<b>-92</b>	<b>60,040</b>	<b>18,564</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	141,890	14,162	2,316			26,994	43,472	98,419
National Staff	126,882	71,362	18,993			-315	90,040	36,843
National Society Staff	99,473	28,757	35,422				64,180	35,293
Volunteers			233				233	-233
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>368,245</b>	<b>114,282</b>	<b>56,964</b>			<b>26,678</b>	<b>197,924</b>	<b>170,321</b>
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>								
Consultants	71,899		7,945				7,945	63,954
Professional Fees	10,000	11,403				13,190	24,592	-14,592
<b>Total Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>	<b>81,899</b>	<b>11,403</b>	<b>7,945</b>			<b>13,190</b>	<b>32,537</b>	<b>49,362</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	434,068	184,639	226,104			265	411,008	23,060
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>434,068</b>	<b>184,639</b>	<b>226,104</b>			<b>265</b>	<b>411,008</b>	<b>23,060</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	21,756	7,877	3,762			5,959	17,597	4,159
Information & Public Relation	68,237	3,030	8,333			3,083	14,446	53,791
Office Costs		3,671	1,818			36,951	42,440	-42,440
Communications		8,247	1,528			6,033	15,807	-15,807
Financial Charges		-9,201	-5,472			-2,424	-17,096	17,096
Other General Expenses	71,539	40,760	25,747			-94,277	-27,770	99,310
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>161,532</b>	<b>54,383</b>	<b>35,716</b>			<b>-44,675</b>	<b>45,423</b>	<b>116,109</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		11,565	561				12,126	-12,126
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>11,565</b>	<b>561</b>				<b>12,126</b>	<b>-12,126</b>
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Service Support	85,996	34,575	21,740			-301	56,013	29,983
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>85,996</b>	<b>34,575</b>	<b>21,740</b>			<b>-301</b>	<b>56,013</b>	<b>29,983</b>
<b>Pledge Specific Costs</b>								
Earmarking Fee		5,277	781			92	6,150	-6,150
Reporting Fees		1,400					1,400	-1,400
<b>Total Pledge Specific Costs</b>		<b>6,677</b>	<b>781</b>			<b>92</b>	<b>7,550</b>	<b>-7,550</b>

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MAAVN001 - Viet Nam

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**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
A		B						A - B
BUDGET (C)		634,899	404,444	50,000	0	250,000	1,339,342	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,339,342	573,171	354,162			-4,843	922,489	416,853
VARIANCE (C - D)		61,728	50,282	50,000	0	254,843	416,853	