

# Annual report

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## South Africa

MAAZA002

30 April 2011

This report covers the period  
01/01/10 to 31/12/10.



SARCS volunteer at a distribution site for food and non food items to OVC in Pretoria

### In brief

**Programme outcome:** In line with the strategic aims of the Strategy 2020, the desired programme outcome of the South African Red Cross Society (SARCS) is communities that are resilient to disasters and public health emergencies, with protected livelihoods and strengthened capacity to recover from disasters and crises, while practicing healthy and safe living and embracing the humanitarian values of social inclusion, non-violence and peace.

**Programme summary:** SARCS, as a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has been in existence since 1897, delivering humanitarian services through disaster management, health and care and community development. In responding to community needs whilst aligning itself to the transformation imperatives of the country, the National Society grew beyond its means and systems, and subsequently has had to cope with dwindling human, material and financial resources.

The year 2010 presented numerous opportunities for SARCS to increase its visibility through accelerated activities in communication, marketing and resource mobilisation. Developments such as the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the National Department of Health provided an opportunity for the National Society to take the lead in the provision of First Aid services during the Soccer World Cup held in June 2010. The training department received an accreditation certificate from the Health and Welfare training authority (SETA), allowing the National Society to provide accredited First Aid training to government departments and business sector as an income-generating project.

At programme level, the year 2010 marked an end of funding support from the Royal Netherlands Embassy (RNE) for the HIV and AIDS programme under the Global Alliance on HIV that is coordinated by the IFRC Southern Africa Regional Representation Office (SARRO). The programme implementation continued, albeit on a smaller scale with support from other partners. The health and care unit also concentrated on the multidrug resistant tuberculosis project (MDR-TB) that was scaled up in the Eastern Cape Province, by reaching 150 clients in the East London branch.

The disaster management unit was particularly busy, focusing on branch capacity building as well as disaster response to flash floods and storms in four provinces. With the support of SARRO, SARCS responded to an outbreak of rift valley fever (RVF).

**Financial situation:** The original 2010 budget was CHF 395,317, of which CHF 460,878 (117 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 455,563, corresponding to 99 per cent of available funds and 115.2 per cent of the original budget.

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

See also:

[MDRZA003](#) This Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation launched on 14 April 2010 for CHF 41,159 to support SARCS to assist 15,000 people affected by an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever.

**Number of people reached** Through IFRC support, SARCS directly reached over 1.5 million people with HIV prevention activities, 41,654 home-based care (HBC) clients and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and 1,400 people reached through anti-stigma and discrimination activities. The volunteer base has increased to 2,500 and the majority of them have been trained in both traditional First Aid and community-based health and First Aid (CBHFA). A detailed HIV and AIDS annual report has been submitted separately.

A total of 483 people were trained on disaster management in 9 provinces. Through Restoring Family Links operations, 171 tracing requests were received, with 61 cases closed during 2010. A total of 3,000 people were reached by the programme.

**Our partners:** SARCS Movement partners included the IFRC, ICRC, British, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish Red Cross Societies who provided in-kind or financial support. Other partners include the South African government departments, European Union (in partnership with the Finnish Red Cross), UN agencies, and many companies from private sector and the general public.

The SARCS and IFRC wish to thank partners and contributors for their response to this appeal.

## Context

The Republic of South Africa was not spared from natural and manmade disasters in 2010. The Eastern Cape and Kwa Zulu Natal (KZN) Provinces were affected by heavy storms resulting in many households requiring humanitarian assistance. Five district municipalities were affected in the KZN and King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality in the Eastern Cape. Limpopo was also affected by strong winds and flash floods.

The Western Cape and Gauteng Provinces have been identified as potential volatile provinces. Musina in Limpopo Province has high population movement, being used as an exit or temporary dwelling point for the Zimbabwean nationals who have moved into the country illegally. With the establishment of the Ubuntu project, which is made up of Red Cross Societies in South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe, it is envisaged that issues of population movement, food security and institutional development of the Red Cross will be addressed.

The disaster management department has also been involved in training local committees in First Aid and access to health care. The purpose of the training was to increase the capacity of branches to be able to respond to any disaster in their community and at the household level. Early in February 2010, Rift Valley Fever (RVF) was detected in the Free State Province in the Bultfontein area. Since then outbreaks have been detected in the rest of Free State, Northern Cape, and Eastern Cape, as well as in Babsfontein in Gauteng and Potchefstroom in North West Province. The SARCS volunteers worked closely with the farmers in the affected areas on the awareness campaign and in helping the affected to access treatment.

With special focus on branch development and volunteer mobilisation, SARCS was actively involved in national events by providing First Aid, specifically during the 2010 Soccer World Cup in South Africa. It was motivating and exciting for SARCS to be selected by FIFA in establishing one of the 20 FIFA Football Centres in Africa "Football for Hope" as a legacy for the 2010 World Cup. The centre will be built in Limpopo Province and SARCS offices will be part of this establishment.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster Management

#### Programme Component: Disaster Preparedness

**Outcome 1: The capacity of SARCS is improved in terms of a skilled human, financial and material resource base for effective disaster management in South Africa.**

##### Achievements:

The partnership between SARCS and Eskom provided the National Society with resources to train staff members and volunteers from its branches in preparation for disaster responses including the anticipated xenophobic attacks/violence following the FIFA 2010 World Cup. Three provincial office staff and volunteers were trained in Gauteng, Western Cape and Musina in Limpopo. Eskom donated ZAR 1.5 million towards disaster response and preparedness. The funding was used to train 483 people, including personnel from district municipalities and community members. Some funds were allocated to the pre-positioning of relief items in case of emergency, purchasing of First Aid kits and refills.

**Outcome 2: SARCS capacity for the delivery of quality service for refugees and IDPs in South Africa has increased.**

##### Achievements:

A meeting between SARCS and Zimbabwe Red Cross counterparts took place in July 2010 to discuss and prepare for possible emergency situations surrounding elections to be held in 2011. South Africa will hold municipal elections and Zimbabwe will hold presidential, parliamentary and municipal elections.

To address problems related to regional population movements, a meeting in Swaziland in November 2010 established the Ubuntu partnership between Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland Red Cross Societies. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a joint plan of responding to migration, population movement challenges and sharing of resources. The plan is currently being finalised for submission to Southern Africa Partnership of Red Cross Societies (SAPRCS) for approval.

#### Programme Component: Restoring Family Links (RFL)

**Outcome 1: The capacity of SARCS RFL infrastructure is enhanced to better serve the needs of victims of armed conflict and displaced people living in South Africa.**

## **Achievements**

The number of tracing requests increased to 171 in 2010 from 64 in 2009 and the number of closed files in the same period has also increased to 61. The RFL coordinator was also involved with series of meeting with the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) and UNPWG pending deportation of non-documented Zimbabweans. The Department of Home Affairs announcement that new measures will be introduced to regularise Zimbabwean citizen's stay in South Africa, caused a wave of panic and fear, and an outcry by the humanitarian sector, because of the early cut off date. There has been contact and networking with other refugee organizations in particular the Africa Diaspora and Somali Association for the delivery of Red Cross Messages (RCM).

Ninety volunteers were trained and exposed to RFL activities through DREF funds for Urban Violence. The RFL coordinator is working closely with the Musina branch to establish the RFL programme because of the strategic location of the Branch.

## **Constraints or challenges**

The relocation of SARCS headquarters to Pretoria resulted in some RFL files being lost. Additionally, not having access to the population register of the country hampers the work of the RFL programme. The SARCS needs to keep an electronic case management system in order to safeguard information, especially requests from ICRC.

# Health and Care

## **Programme Component: Community-based health**

### **Outcome 1: Psychosocial support is provided to the community-based care facilitators, primary caregivers, and OVC**

#### **Achievements:**

Amongst key developments of the community-based programme components has been on employee support through the team building activities and wellness day celebration. The main purpose of the wellness day was to enhance the psychosocial well being of employees and volunteers through strengthening, protecting and supporting their physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual health. The wellness day celebration was one of the recommendations from the psychosocial support (PSS) integration approach where the first draft of SARCS Wellness Policy was developed.

Furthermore, capacity building was also highlighted by selecting a pool of identified master trainers from all the provinces to be trained on PSS. A total of 25 people were trained from all provinces, with the training process completed by end March 2011. SARCS has been working towards building technical capacity of its staff and volunteers to ensure that skills are transfer in the National Society and to promote sustainability.

Effective networking with other organizations in the same field has also received attention, e.g. during an OVC conference held in Africa and at the PSS Roster meeting in Denmark. The latter was an annual event focused on lessons learned and future needs of PSS at programme level. The objective of the PSS Roster meeting was to re-draft the PSS Roster in line with developing PSS needs of Red Cross /Red Crescent movements.

The year ended up with the documenting of the PSS impact through a DVD, a coffee table book and calendars. These tools will be used to share lessons learned and for informational exchange. Furthermore, these tools will be shared with government departments, partners and potential donors in the Republic of South Africa and internationally. The DVD and book will be formally launched in February 11.

### **Outcome 2: Women, men and children are protected from tuberculosis (TB) through adequate surveillance, preparedness and response measures**

## **Achievements**

The achievements for the TB project are as follows for all the provinces;

- Total number of TB clients beginning of year – 5,438
- New registration 235
- Died 61
- Discharged 133
- Total of 5,469 end year

MDR and XDR TB:

- Total number of MDR-TB at beginning of year – 445
- New registration 14
- Died 11
- Discharged 52
- Total of 396 at the end of the year

## **Rift Valley Fever (RVF) and pandemic preparedness:**

During the response operation to RVF outbreak, SARCS trained 38 volunteers and facilitators in two provinces i.e. Free State and Northern Cape. The aim was to raise awareness and educate the communal farming communities and surrounding areas affected or vulnerable to this kind of fever. A total of 250 farms with more than 1,100 farm workers and 3,000 families (over 15,000 beneficiaries) were reached. Information talks in 18 informal settlements reaching 1,096 homes with over 3,000 people were also held.

## **National Society Development (NSD)**

### **Programme Component: Well-functioning Organisation**

#### **Outcome 1: Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER):**

SARCS drafted a standardised reporting tool through a consultative process with provincial management and programme staff members. On a quarterly basis, reports are submitted following the agreed standardised format.

A pilot project was conducted in the Soweto branch with regard to utilization of cellular/mobile phones as a method of data collection. The report was shared internally for the organisation to discuss further the practical implementation of this tool in various projects. Another tool called the Development Manager Programme (Devman) continues to be used by National Office staff for reports and tracking of donors and donations.

#### **Outcome 3: SARCS has well defined policy and guidelines in place on human resource development by December 2010**

## **Achievements**

With the appointment of a new HR manager on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2010, HR activities have been reinforced in various areas, which amongst others include implementation of HR strategies and processes; effective and efficient HR administrative services; and compliance with applicable labour legislation.

The Performance Management System was effectively rolled out in this financial year followed by quarterly performance reviews in order to encourage individual continuous performance. Several policies and guidelines have been revised and where necessary new ones developed and introduced e.g. staffing policy, guidelines for interns, guidelines on acting allowance etc.

Restructuring and rightsizing of the National Society as a result of programme funding cuts, (particularly those that were supported from RNE) were successfully coordinated and implemented throughout the provinces, and did not result in lawsuits. The exercise involved non-renewal of contracts, voluntary early retirements and termination on operational requirements.

## Programme component: Youth Development

**Outcome 1: SARCS youth development programme is developed and is strong on leadership, life skills, self-development and gender mainstreaming.**

### Achievements

The youth programme had many initiatives during the course of the year, which included the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup legacy project in Limpopo, strengthening of youth local committees and branch local committees and the development of a Youth Policy.

Negotiations over land for the building of the Football for Hope Centre in Limpopo were carried out with the municipality. The municipality has followed all the necessary statutory requirements and the lease agreement is still to be signed. The process of strengthening relations between the youth at branch level and branch local committee has revealed the need for capacity building by providing CBHFA.

The Youth Policy was also drafted and agreed upon by the youth structures and was submitted to the SARCS Governing Board for ratification. One of the key inputs in the Youth Policy is the granting of full membership and voting rights for youth in the governing board. Another is adding Young Woman Development as a fifth component in the youth structure.

## Programme Component: Resource Development

**Outcome 1: SARCS resource base is improved and ensures sustainability of programmes**

### Achievements

The Tele Fundraising Pilot project was successfully launched and is set for completion in 2011, before rollout countrywide. The project was piloted in the Gauteng Region in 2010 and the results are satisfactory.

The communications department served on a number of planning committees including Dream, Believe, Achieve, 2010 World Cup First Aid Training, Editorial Committee, Urban Violence 2010 and eLearning. This has increased interaction with other organisations and sharing of information and good practices.

### Constraints or Challenges

- SARCS has experienced difficulty with some potential donors as a result of qualified audit reports.
- Lack of funds budgeted for purposes of launching a viable fundraising plan.
- The National Society is still without a file server, which is a major risk especially for data management.
- The limited number of personnel made it difficult to carry out viable fundraising, whilst maintaining sound internal and external communications.

## Working in partnership

The Movement counterparts i.e. IFRC, ICRC, and Partner National Societies continued providing technical and operational assistance to SARCS, particularly in procurement logistics, distribution of relief materials, communications, media liaison and reporting. The National Society bilaterally partnered with British Red Cross on capacity building in resource mobilization and financial support for fundraising activities, management salary and leadership development over the next three years.

In strategic networking and partnering with other institutions, SARCS is in a position where resources can be shared and assistance made accessible. For instance, the 2010 FIFA World Cup has placed SARCS on the global map for social services. Efforts to partner with government departments, donors, other NGOs, other Red Cross National Societies, corporate sector, media, individuals and other bodies in all provinces were rigorously pursued. Most SARCS Provinces Offices have

established a good networking with Provincial Municipalities, Social Development department and Independent Electoral Commission.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

Activities are designed and presumed to contribute to long term impacts. All training workshops were aimed at building community response capacity and to help communities sustainably address their own needs in the future. Awareness campaigns and other activities are also considered to have contributed to behaviour change and to reducing the spread of diseases such as RVF, HIV, and tuberculosis.

SARCS is in the process of reviewing the Strategic Development Plan, taking into consideration the priorities in the Johannesburg Commitments of 2008 Pan African Conference. The annual plans of action for 2009-2010 have been aligned with the IFRC Strategy 2020 and United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

## Looking ahead

Since SARCS has received its full accreditation from the health and Welfare SETA to be a national Training provider especially in First Aid, all provinces and branches involved in the training initiatives will be able to generate funds for programme sustainability in the long term. Branches and provinces have been requested to submit their sustainability plans, and to ensure that training is in the centre of such plans.

While there is advocacy to scale-down the HIV and AIDS programme due to the limited funds, the needs are still prevalent. As such, SARCS is looking at integrative ways of service delivery and for sustaining the programme such as increasing focus on fighting intolerance, stigma and discrimination, and to improve local capacity to respond to disasters and public health emergencies.

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

The 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.

The 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:

- **In the South African Red Cross Society:** Mandisa Kalako-Williams, Secretary General; Email: [mandisak@redcross.org.za](mailto:mandisak@redcross.org.za); phone: + 27.12.431.2000/02/04/05; fax: + 27.12.431.2006.
- **In the Southern Africa Region:** Ken Odur, Regional Representative, Email: [ken.odur@ifrc.org](mailto:ken.odur@ifrc.org), Phone: +27.11.303.9700, Fax +27.11.884.3809
- **In the Africa Zone:** Dr Asha Mohammed, Head of Operations, Africa Zone, Email: [asha.mohammed@ifrc.org](mailto:asha.mohammed@ifrc.org), Phone: +27.11.303.9700, Fax: + 27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

*For Resource Mobilization and Pledges enquiries*

- **In the Africa Zone:** Ed Cooper; Resource Mobilization and Performance and Accountability Coordinator; Johannesburg; Email [ed.cooper@ifrc.org](mailto:ed.cooper@ifrc.org); Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230