

# Report 2004-2008



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Federation-wide Tsunami Semi-annual Report: India

Appeal No. 28/2004

This report covers the period of 1 May through 30 September 2008, but reports cumulative totals from December 2004 onwards.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



A spice making session in progress for members of a community development group for restoring livelihood, supported by the Canadian Red Cross in Tamil Nadu.

### In brief

#### Executive Summary:

The tsunami recovery programme in India is being implemented by the Indian Red Cross Society – with support from the International Federation, American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross – at the national and state levels, primarily Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The overall programme is progressing well, with major expenditures still being taken up by the Indian Red Cross Society. During this reporting period, the International Federation gave a purchase order for the procurement of 12,000 tents to the identified supplier. An inspection of tents was carried out by an external agency on behalf of the Secretariat and a laboratory testing of the tent material was conducted.

The Canadian Red Cross is making progress in the area of community involvement and ownership, while the Indian Red Cross Society's own health and disaster management projects continue to show good progress and community participation. In the last six months, the American Red Cross has implemented its programme with a strong community involvement and commitment to ensure sustainability. The Spanish Red Cross made good progress with its livelihoods projects in Andhra Pradesh.

**[Click here for the Global Tsunami Semi-annual Report and collective Red Cross and Red Crescent financial report](#)**

**[Click here for other Tsunami Semi-annual Reports by country](#)**

**[Click here for a list of national societies currently involved in the tsunami operation](#)**

## Operational Overview

During the reporting period, India witnessed a number of security incidents. A series of bomb blasts rocked major cities of the country, including the capital Delhi, killing over 150 people and injuring over 500 people in total. Low-level disturbances of 'communal' violence and the simmering Naxalite insurgency were also seen in some parts of the country. On the economic front, the country was affected by the global turbulence in food and fuel costs which led to a significant spike in inflation, as well as fluctuations in the stock market and impact on the Indian Rupee caused by the global financial crisis, even though the economic fundamentals in India are sound and ties to the sub-prime meltdown are minimal.

This socio-political environment did not cause any major concern in the Indian Red Cross Society's tsunami programme areas and the increasing rate of inflation had a minor impact on the final stages of the tsunami recovery construction projects as these projects were already well advanced. Though the programme proceeded as planned, implementation of some activities were hampered during this period by environmental factors such as the massive monsoon floods that hit about 19 states of the country, killing approximately 2,744 people and affecting over 10 million people.

The Indian Red Cross Society continued work on its tsunami programme, with support from the American, Canadian and Spanish Red Cross Societies. The American Red Cross has been supporting the national society in implementing its tsunami-integrated recovery programme to serve the needs of the tsunami-affected population in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu state, along with a disaster management programme aimed at improving disaster management and response capabilities of both the Indian Red Cross Society national headquarters and the its Andhra Pradesh state branch. The project activities were initiated in January 2008 and will continue until December 2009.

The American Red Cross has one delegate in country and 18 national staff. There are also 42 Indian Red Cross Society staff members contracted as part of the programme implementation team. The American Red Cross personnel are supporting the capacity building of Indian Red Cross Society teams to conduct participatory community and school-based activities through the social mobilization process. This programme supports approximately 443,863 people in 75,000 households of 40 communities and also includes approximately 12,749 school students in 53 schools. The project is focused on empowering communities and schools which have been directly or indirectly affected by the tsunami. Furthermore, the project's multiple components facilitate the promotion of healthier and safer living. The impact of disasters enforced the need for a holistic approach in health and psychological interventions.

The reporting period saw the realization of several planned activities of the Canadian Red Cross, such as trainings and curriculum development, facilitated by regular reviewing of action plans, continued communication with the Indian Red Cross Society in Tamil Nadu and the incorporation of changes needed during the course of programme implementation.

The Spanish Red Cross is supporting the Indian Red Cross Society livelihood projects in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The implementation of the tsunami livelihood project in Andhra Pradesh began in December 2007 while in Tamil Nadu it started in July 2008. The projects aim to create an enabling environment for improvement of livelihoods of targeted tsunami-affected communities through the provision of basic infrastructure and equipment, especially for vulnerable fisherwomen in these communities, and were formulated with active technical inputs from the fisheries department. All activities were verified and modified according to the changing needs of the communities. In addition, two more livelihood projects are also in the pipeline in the districts of Prakasham and Nellore in Andhra Pradesh and Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu.

## Performance Table

Programmatic Performance Indicators for India	Total
Overall estimated number of persons reached by International Federation and partners	695,000
No. of persons served by the health care centres	16,400
No. of persons trained in community-based first aid	800
No. of people served by crèches or schools	12,700
No. of households reached by asset replacement or enhancement	1,590
No of community development groups formed for thrift livelihood activities	94

*The above programmatic indicator table shows cumulative achievements up to 30 September 2008.*

[Click here for table showing quantitative analysis of the tsunami operation by performance indicators](#)

## Health and Care

The Indian Red Cross Society partners continued to engage in primary health care, disease prevention and health promotion as part of community development. Specifically, 120 trained and certified health promoters disseminated first aid knowledge to all households in their 12 villages. A training of master trainers on maternal and child health was carried out for all national society project staff to prepare them to conduct training of health promoters, based on a felt need to increase the number of health promoters to adequately cover the target villages.

As a follow up to the rapid health assessment carried out in the 17 former 'short-term recovery needs' project villages from the first phase of the tsunami recovery programme, 15 new village coordinators were recruited in the three districts of Cuddalore, Tiruvarur and Pudukottai in order to scale-up and expand activities in these villages as part of the ongoing second phase roll out. In addition, water and sanitation programme planning was initiated with the gathering of basic target area data from the 29 programme villages for the development of a construction and support plan for the 'water and sanitation-in-schools' project (comprising school latrine refurbishment and building of child-friendly toilets, along with hygiene awareness and a software component for the maintenance of the above hardware).

The American Red Cross supported trained staff from the Indian Red Cross Society Kanyakumari branch, who had been designated as integrated programme specialists to visit targeted areas and schools for community mobilization and facilitation of the self-selection process of community volunteers known as integrated programme technicians. The selected technicians underwent an eight-day training to initiate the project in their respective communities and facilitated a community level training for selected community facilitators. All integrated programme technicians have been trained in community based first aid in action through a learning-by-doing approach and utilization of health needs assessment tools in the community. As of end-September 2008, 22 integrated programme specialists, 318 integrated programme technicians and 1,710 community facilitators have been trained in 40 communities. This voluntary workforce has completed community mapping, formation of community committees and health needs assessment, based on which small projects to improve community resilience and health activities for the improvement of community health have been initiated in the communities.



Community mapping underway in Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu.

During this period, folk media performances were carried out in 20 targeted communities to promote healthy behaviour in these communities. Similarly, school activities were initiated to implement a “child-friendly” and “safe school” approach, as part of which 283 school teachers from 51 schools were trained in psychosocial, health and hygiene promotion activities, along with the distribution of school chest, recreation kit and first aid kit in 53 schools. In addition, groups of college students have been trained as community volunteers, as a part of the Youth Red Cross, and called Gandhi Brigade volunteers. A total of 368 of these volunteers have also been trained on first aid to enable them to in turn provide first aid and facilitate disease prevention and health promotion in their communities. The project saw a high level of involvement of the Kanyakumari branch’s leadership in project planning and decision making, a good rapport between the branch and communities and volunteers and an enthusiastic participation in capacity building activities by the women and youth in targeted communities.



Net distribution in a target community in Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.

The American Red Cross facilitated the process of the Indian Red Cross Society Kanyakumari branch being awarded 20,000 insecticide treated nets as donation from a UK-based charity ‘Against Malaria Foundation’. These nets are being distributed to households within the project area.

## Livelihoods

During the reporting period, construction of the following community assets supported by the Canadian Red Cross were completed - one fish auction hall, one alternate trades skills institute<sup>1</sup> in Cuddalore district and one combination net mending shed/multipurpose community hall in Tiruvarur district. Also, CAD 50,000 (CHF 48,025) worth of fishing nets were procured and distributed to 600 identified fisher families in nine villages of Pudukkottai district, two tractor-pulled water tankers were handed over to the identified community development groups (40 women beneficiaries) for restoring livelihood (CDG-RL) in Nagapattinam district and 80 ice boxes were handed over to the owners of 40 Canadian Red Cross-funded fishing boats. Regular follow-ups and improved monitoring of livelihoods activities has contributed to continuing progress in the ongoing implementation of activities. Additionally, the asset replacement grants that were given to 25 CDG-RL groups were utilized to set up several small businesses for income generation. Other than the inauguration and handing over of these community assets, this reporting period also served as a period of knowledge transfer and information dissemination with livelihood refresher trainings delivered to project staff who subsequently conducted livelihood trainings for the executive office bearers (each group’s president, secretary and treasurer) of 25 CDG-RL to ensure accountability and transparency in group’s financial management.

In Andhra Pradesh, the Spanish Red Cross tsunami livelihood project intends to improve the livelihood capacity of the fisher folk community affected by the tsunami in East Godavari and Srikakulam districts. The main activities include: providing office equipments to the national society state and district branches, training of staff and volunteers, baseline study, trainings for fisher folks on use of smoking bins, curing tubs, ice boxes, fish drying platforms along with the hygienic way of handling fish and distribution of ice boxes to the fisher folks. So far, 470 ice boxes have been distributed in East Godavari and Srikakulam districts. Other main activities are as follows: distribution of 200 (100 cylindrical and 100 rectangular) fish curing tubs to fisherwomen through self help groups and cooperatives, distribution of 60 smoking bins to fisherwomen through self help groups and cooperatives, construction of 22 fish drying platforms, construction of 20 dry fish storage sheds, impact assessment of the project.



Distribution of ice boxes in Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh by the Spanish Red Cross

<sup>1</sup> Due to certain developments, this facility is being reconsidered as the disaster management hub, subject to discussion and confirmation from TNB

In Tamil Nadu, the tsunami livelihood project intends to improve the livelihood capacity of the fisher folk community affected by the tsunami in Thanjavur district. The main activities of this project are as follows: baseline study, training of staff and volunteers, construction of three multipurpose net mending sheds, procurement and distribution of 900 ice boxes and impact assessment of the project.

## Disaster Management

Under the disaster management/disaster risk reduction programme, construction of a 24-seater emergency operations centre, supported by the Canadian Red Cross, is well underway at the disaster management centre at the Indian Red Cross Society national headquarters. During this reporting period, discussions were held with other in-country partner national societies to explore synergies for disaster management programming. At the field level, a Canadian Red Cross staff member was invited to be part of the newly created state disaster response team in Tamil Nadu.

Similarly, the American Red Cross also continued to provide support to the Indian Red Cross Society at both national headquarters and state (Andhra Pradesh) level to: strengthen the disaster management centre with supplies of communication and networking devices, build capacities of key staff and volunteers involved in disaster response and develop standard operating procedures and protocols for emergency communication and response. While required equipment has been purchased, recruitment of staff at national headquarters and training programmes are in the process of being carried out. The assessment of the Andhra Pradesh state branch has been completed and the project is ready to be launched soon. School safety is another area of intervention in the project areas of Kanyakumari, under which the initial training of trainers (teachers) on school safety has been completed.

During this reporting period, the International Federation gave a purchase order for the procurement of 12,000 tents to the identified supplier. An inspection of tents was carried out by an external agency on behalf of the Secretariat and a laboratory testing of the tent material was conducted. The process of delivering tents began in September 2008 and of the first batch of 3,500 tents for the national society's Arakonam warehouse in Tamil Nadu, funded by the American Red Cross, so far 1,660 tents have been delivered. There was a delay in delivery of tents due to the following reasons:

- Multiple logos, which led to confusion regarding which one to use and their locations on the tents;
- Malfunctioning machinery in supplier's factory; and
- Quality of tents not matching the initial sample shown by the supplier, as per the inspection carried out.

## Humanitarian Values

'Creating safe environments for children' has been taken up as the theme under the humanitarian values area supported by the Canadian Red Cross. Accordingly, a programme design for the child protection initiative for India was conceptualized and shared with a technical expert visiting from the Canadian Red Cross (Canada). Community consultations were carried out for this programme by the technical expert, together with a Canadian Red Cross officer, in four sample villages in Tamil Nadu. Consultations were carried out with 203 individuals to re-validate needs and to guide programme design. The initial concept for "Lets make our children safer", which is the Canadian Red Cross (India) name for the adapted child protection programme, was discussed with the national society's leadership. The Indian Red Cross Society national headquarters stressed on the integration of an accident prevention module into the programme design to make it comprehensive.

## Cross-cutting Issues

In its partnership with the Indian Red Cross Society, the Canadian Red Cross' approach to the creation of community development groups in Tamil Nadu integrates several cross-cutting initiatives. Its health programme delivery follows a cascading approach, whereby project staff members are first trained as master trainers who in turn train community development groups (health promoters) and mobilize them to conduct the outreach door-to-door knowledge dissemination sessions in target communities. This cascading approach has led to a much more inclusive and pervasive contact at the community level while at the same time building capacities at that level too.

Similarly, in its work on the livelihood project with the national society, the Spanish Red Cross tries to involve communities in project designing. Several personal interviews and focus group discussions have been conducted with target communities, their leaders and the fisheries department officials to identify the most vulnerable people and their needs for the project through exploratory visits.

The American Red Cross, in its work on HIV and AIDS with the Indian Red Cross Society, has included HIV and AIDS awareness and prevention messages in the trainings for integrated programme specialists and integrated programme technicians and is addressing HIV and AIDS at the community level as part of health plan implementation. Progress has also been made in the area of monitoring and evaluation. A volunteers management system (for integrated programme technicians, community facilitators and the Gandhi Brigade) has been developed and distributed for use, which will help in tracking volunteer hours and their involvement in project activities. Further, a Microsoft Access-based package has been developed in house to manage project data called "IRP Information Management System". The data can be retrieved by time, community and activity, among others. The plan is to generate monthly progress reports automatically through the system. With regard to evaluations, a baseline household survey, covering approximately 2,000 households, has been completed. The project review was done by a technical team from Bangkok and showed that the project had achieved most of the benchmarks set for this quarter.

## Host National Society Development

In accord with the memorandum of understanding signed with the Indian Red Cross Society, the Canadian Red Cross's efforts towards streamlining procedures for cash requests was realized with the implementation of the new cash requisition formats at the state and district branches. A progressive step towards streamlining financial systems was initiated with the opening of separate IPCD project bank accounts for the state branch and each district branch, as well as individual salary bank accounts for project staff. One outcome of the "Canadian Red Cross college" planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting workshop was an increase in information sharing between the Canadian Red Cross and the Indian Red Cross Society Tamil Nadu state/district branches, along with the district government.

The American Red Cross is also working closely with the Indian Red Cross Society Kanyakumari district branch in building the capacity of staff and volunteers to conduct community based interventions. The Gandhi Brigade (Youth Red Cross) volunteers have been trained in community based first aid and will shortly begin to provide direct services to their respective communities. The American Red Cross and the national society are also closely working with district health and education departments.

The Spanish Red Cross and the Indian Red Cross Society have been working together in formulating projects that have given the host national society, at the national and state level, an insight into the project management cycle and its formulation.

In the case of Andhra Pradesh, the interaction between the affected communities and the national society state branch was further improved as a result of regular field visits related to the formulation and implementation of the project, jointly undertaken by both teams. The communities have been an integral part of the planning process and have identified priority activities, based on their needs and the problems they want to address from these projects. The state and district branches have also been supported for effective, results oriented project implementation.

## Working as a Movement

Effective efforts have been made by the Canadian Red Cross to leverage coordination and partnership with the ministry of health and family welfare to:

- 1) discuss Indian Red Cross Society-Canadian Red Cross health programme planning components for the districts covered under the current IPCD project;
- 2) seek linkages with accredited social health activists in Tamil Nadu as an integral part of the Red Cross mandate as auxiliary to the government and;
- 3) collect information, education and communication materials and other relevant reference materials to continue building the Indian Red Cross Society Tamil Nadu health programme body of work.

The American Red Cross meets periodically with Movement partners to share information related to the project.

The Spanish Red Cross is also coordinating with Red Cross Red Crescent partners to avoid duplication of activities.

Other coordination mechanisms during the reporting period include the following:

- Collaboration with the department of education in implementing the programme in 53 schools. This includes signing of memorandums of understanding with the 53 schools.
- Against Malaria Foundation donated 20,000 insecticide treated nets to the Indian Red Cross Society for distribution in target areas of Kanyakumari district. There is a proposal for donation of 10,000 more nets.
- Collaboration with the Youth Red Cross in colleges offering first aid training (Gandhi Brigade).

A semi-annual gathering of the HIV Consortium hosted by the national society also took place during the period under review. Red Cross Red Crescent partners working with the Indian Red Cross Society on youth peer education programming as well as HIV care and support had an opportunity to review current related activities.

## Looking Forward

The Canadian Red Cross supported livelihood activities will continue to expand and the second grant for the livelihood sector will be disbursed, based on the business plan proposal submitted by the 25 CDG-RL members. Other key focus areas will be: needs assessment study for Phase I roll out of 'water and sanitation in schools' programme, HIV/STI curriculum development, and completion and handing over of the emergency operations centre located at the disaster management centre at Indian Red Cross Society national headquarters.

The American Red Cross will continue to provide technical assistance to the national society by building the capacity of its staff and volunteers in Kanyakumari. Trainings for integrated programme technicians and community facilitators have already been completed and now integrated programme specialists undertake regular supportive supervision visits at the community level to further enhance the capacity of integrated programme technicians and community facilitators. Training material has been developed in the Tamil language and the platform has been set for community participatory activities. During the coming months, small community (to enhance community resilience) and school projects (to make school better place for interaction) will be initiated. Activities supporting these projects will include community health, vector control, and hygiene and sanitation promotion. Trainings for integrated programme technicians will also be conducted in areas such as community-based first aid in action.

The formulation of the Spanish Red Cross projects in Prakasham and Nellore districts of Andhra Pradesh is expected to commence towards the end of this year. With regard to the procurement of tents by the International Federation, following the completion in delivery of the first batch of 3,500 tents to the national society's Arakonam warehouse (in Tamil Nadu), 1,605 tents (funded by the Hong Kong Red Cross) will be purchased for the national society's regional warehouse in Kolkata (in West Bengal) and another 2,000 tents will be purchased by the national society itself for its Kolkata and Bahadurgarh (Haryana) regional warehouses. The balance amount of tents will be procured through the International Federation appeal, for the national society's regional warehouse in Virangam (Gujarat). By end-August 2009, all deliveries of tents should be completed.

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*Figures represent progress achieved up to 30 September 2008*

**FIGURE 1: Analysis of programmatic performance indicators for India**

Indicator No.	Programmatic Performance Indicators	Total	
1.	Overall estimated number of persons reached by International Federation and partners (using coverage methodology only, not by sector)	695,000	
<b>Health and care</b>			
2.	No. of pre-school crèche children receiving <b>emotional wellness support</b> <sup>1</sup> through Play Intervention	400	
	No. of teachers skilled in providing emotional support to young children through play programmes	300	
3.	No. of primary health care centres built or rehabilitated	2	
4.	No. of persons served by the health care centres	16,400	
5.	No. of persons trained in CBFA	800	
<b>Shelter &amp; community construction</b>			
5.	Permanent houses built	Occupied	0
		Completed	33
		Under construction	7
		In planning phase	4
	<b>Total number of houses to be provided</b>		44
6.	Schools built or rehabilitated	Operational/In Use	2
		Completed	3
		In progress	2
		In planning phase	0
<b>Total number of schools to be provided</b>		5	
Crèches built or rehabilitated		14	
No. of people served by crèches or schools		12,700	
7.	% completion of 1 sewage treatment plant	100% but under trial	
8.	No. of people to benefit from the sewage treatment plant	14,000	
9.	% completion of 121 solar electricity units	100%	
	No. of people to benefit from the solar electricity plant	50,000	
<b>Livelihoods</b>			
10.	No. of households reached by asset replacement or enhancement	1,590	
11.	No of community development groups formed for thrift livelihood activities	94	
	No. of persons involved in thrift and income generation activities	1,160	
	Range of grant size (in local currency)	INR 50,000 – 60,000	
12.	No. of people served by additional facilities, equipment and vehicles that contribute to better livelihoods	20,200	

<sup>1</sup> Emotional wellness support (EWS): This includes special programmes such as reclaiming personhood, motivation, and stress management along with other psychological programmes. Staff and facilitators will be trained in these areas to support young children through a 'play'-based programme capitalizing on the natural affinity of the child for play and the therapeutic value of play. The focus of this module is to support the natural resilience and learning capacities of children through environments that enable children to experiment and play safely and creatively. In the aftermath of traumatic experiences such as the tsunami, play is used therapeutically to help children heal psychologically.

Disaster Management		
13.	% of population covered by International Federation early warning interventions	50%
	No. of people served by operational disaster management centres	10,000
14.	No. of families covered by pre-positioned stocks	50,000
Programme support and coordination		
15.	# of Red Cross Red Crescent organizations working/operational in country	5
	# of Red Cross Red Crescent organizations contributing programme data to this report	5
Beneficiary & Community Participation		
16.	Estimated PERCENTAGE of projects with one or more forms of local participation <sup>2</sup>	100%
Sustainability		
17.	% of projects with a sustainability plan or documented exit strategy	50%

**Other data points to be included:**

**No./List of Red Cross Red Crescent organizations working/operational in country:**

1. American Red Cross
2. Canadian Red Cross
3. Spanish Red Cross
4. Indian Red Cross
5. International Federation

**No./List of Red Cross Red Crescent organizations contributing programme data to this report:**

1. American Red Cross
2. Canadian Red Cross
3. Spanish Red Cross
4. Indian Red Cross
5. International Federation

<sup>2</sup> Degrees of beneficiary participation are defined as follows:

(1) Gather information – Beneficiaries provide information to project planners; (2) Consult – Beneficiaries comment on different project options; (3) Actively participate – Beneficiaries design the interventions and participate in implementation; (4) Empower beneficiaries to participate – Beneficiaries design the interventions, participate in implementation, assess performance and are trained and encouraged to continue to act on their own in the future.

