

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Samoa: Earthquake and tsunami

Emergency appeal n°MDRWS001
GLIDE n° [TS-2009-000209-ASM](#);
and [TS-2009-000210-WSM](#)
Operations update n° 5
17 February 2010

FOUR MONTH CONSOLIDATED REPORT COVERING October 2009 through January 2010

Appeal target (current): CHF 2,469,064 (USD 2.45 million or EUR 1.63 million);

Appeal coverage: With 103% contributions received to date, the appeal is fully covered and no additional support is required; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- A Revised Emergency Appeal was launched on 26 October seeking CHF 2,469,064 (USD 2.45 million and EUR 1.63 million) to assist 5,000 people (625 families) for 18 months. [<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget>](#)
- A Preliminary Emergency Appeal was launched on 6 October 2009 seeking CHF 2,888,262 (USD 2.8 million or EUR 1.9 million) in cash, kind, or services to support the Samoa Red Cross Society to assist 15,000 beneficiaries (3,000 families) for 18 months
- On 30 September 2009, CHF 325,134 (USD 313,134 or EUR 215,406) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support this operation.



Volunteers putting up final touches to the community water tank.

Photo credit: International Federation

This operation is to be implemented over an eighteen month period and is expected to be completed by April 2011. A final report will be made available by July 2011, three months after the end of the operation.

Summary: Four months after the September earthquake and tsunami, families are focussing on recovery activities. During the extended Christmas and New Year holiday season many families hosted relatives from abroad or travelled overseas to see relatives. These large family gatherings provided a time for remembrance for loved ones who died as a result of the tsunami and also provided an opportunity for extended families to be together to consider, discuss and make decisions on issues precipitated by the disaster. This year-end reflection extended to the Red Cross as well. In December 2009, the Samoa Red Cross Society held a staff and volunteer retreat to review the past year and plan for the year ahead. This was followed by a lessons learnt workshop on the relief operation held in January 2010, hosted by Samoa Red Cross Society, with participation from other Pacific national societies, the International Federation, Australian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross and the French Red Cross. Note that through the holiday season, the Samoa Red Cross Society continued to provide uninterrupted water trucking services.

Partners who have made contributions to this appeal thus far include: American Red Cross, Australian Red

Cross, British Red Cross/British government, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Red Cross Society of China, Danish Red Cross, Irish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government, the government of the Republic of Korea; and USAID.

The International Federation on behalf of the Samoa Red Cross Society would like to thank all partners for their generous contributions.

The situation

On 29 September 2009, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre reported an earthquake measuring a magnitude of 8.3 off American Samoa; which generated a Pacific wide tsunami warning. The epicentre of the quake was located 190 km southwest of American Samoa. The tsunami wave hit the affected coastline in South Upolu Island between three and 11 meters high, while the second wave which hit Pago Pago, in American Samoa, was measured at 1.7 metres. The official death toll is at 143 people. This includes five missing persons who are presumed dead.

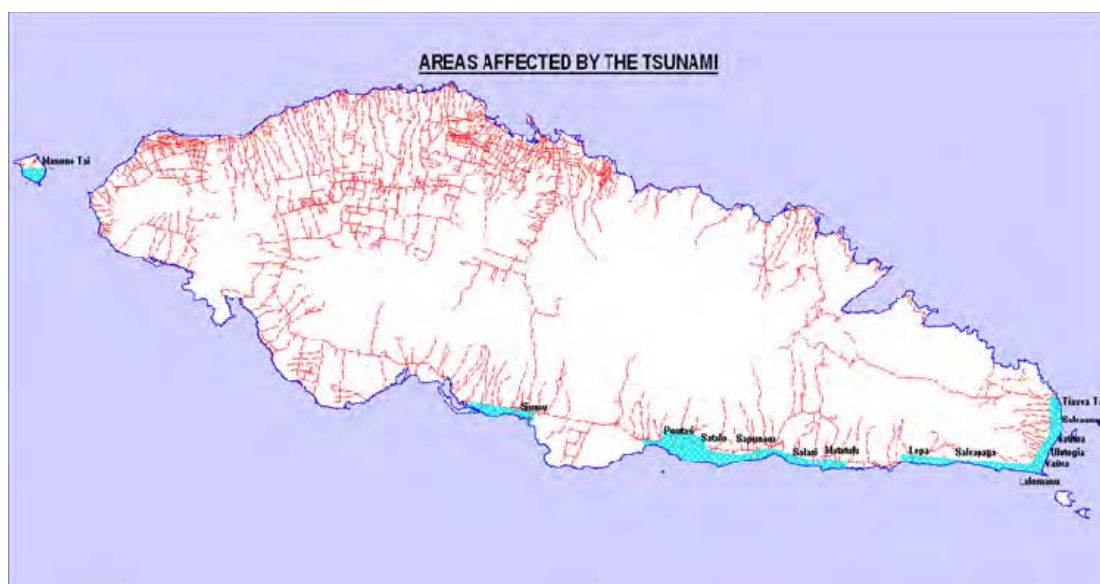


Figure 1: Tsunami affected areas in Upolu Island, Western Samoa. Source: Samoa Water Authority

The impact from the tsunami caused extensive damage to ten villages in the area from Lepa to Saleaumu, while a further nine villages were less affected along a narrow 40km stretch of coastline on the southeast and eastern corner of Upolu, and Manono Island off its west coast. The affected families relocated to host families or have constructed temporary shelters on their inland plantations whilst their permanent homes are being constructed. Access to water was an initial priority which was addressed through the distribution of water to communal water tanks.

Most of Samoa's infrastructure for transport (roads), and electricity has been restored by the government along the coastal road; although, these services do not yet reach the majority of displaced people further inland. The Government of Samoa has taken the responsibility for providing houses for those who lost homes along the coastline.

The government of Samoa endorsed an early recovery framework that has been the key plan for basing all discussions regarding donor support between the government, and local and foreign donors. With housing construction progressing well, and the interim water supply project secured, the focus has now moved to supporting the recovery of the affected population through livelihood interventions. Several agencies active in recovery programming, including UNDP and the Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS) have reviewed their initial

livelihoods strategies developed soon after the tsunami, with the aim to more effectively meet the needs identified through verification assessments.

Coordination and partnerships

An eight person field assessment and coordination team (FAC Team) and regional disaster response team (RDRT) with expertise in assessments, specifically in: relief, logistics, health, water and sanitation (watsan), shelter, restoring family links (RFL) and psychosocial support (PSP) were deployed and arrived on 1 October 2009 to support ongoing assessment and coordination. The teams were also to provide assistance in specialized sectors, where SRCS had no existing capacity. The team was made up of delegates from the: Australian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, French Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Tuvalu Red Cross as well as the International Federation's Pacific regional office and the Asia Pacific Zone office's disaster management unit.

Preliminary assessments were completed in a coordinated way, led by the government of Samoa with support from the United Nations and other agencies. The results of these assessments determined a prioritized and coordinated plan of action from supporting agencies in the form of the early recovery framework, which was submitted to the Prime Minister in October 2009 and was approved soon after.

The inter-agency cluster system was activated for this disaster and established the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); health and nutrition; education, protection, early recovery and information management clusters. The clusters were officially de-activated on 30 November 2009.

With support from the International Federation, SRCS is coordinating the inputs of different Red Cross and Red Crescent and non Red Cross partners including Australian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, French Red Cross, Fiji Red Cross, Cook Islands Red Cross and private donors. Key activities supported during this reporting period include a learning workshop; a partnership meeting; and governance training for SRCS' Board. SRCS drafted a consolidated operational plan which integrates their five-year strategic plan with the earthquake and tsunami appeal operation and other recent programme proposals. Based on the outcomes of a meeting attended by SRCS' board, the Australian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, French Red Cross and International Federation, SRCS' board will be reviewing the activities and budget developed for the operation. This comes as a part of a broader process of reviewing the overall strategic plan of the organization in light of the recent changes in resources and activities resulting from the earthquake and tsunami.

The coordination between partners regarding operational issues continues to take place from the International Federation's office in Samoa, while coordination on strategic issues is being facilitated through the International Federation's Pacific regional office in Suva with support from the disaster management unit (DMU) from the Asia Pacific zone office.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

In the early stages of the response, SRCS volunteers and staff had the most significant presence in the field and distributed water and relief items including food, blankets, cooking pots, mosquito nets and tarpaulins. Relief distributions continued for the first eight weeks, with continuous monitoring to address any changing needs as they emerged. In addition, the national society registered affected people and supported the restoration of family links (RFL).

During the last six weeks, the focus has been on supporting the affected communities through providing water and sanitation, specifically the continued trucking of water and assisting with building latrines. The focus on water and sanitation activities have reduced with the end of water trucking in January 2010 and the completion of assistance for construction of latrines. SRCS is analyzing how best to incorporate the skills and experience learnt by the water and sanitation team into ongoing programming. While water and sanitation will be gearing down, the livelihoods programme will be gearing up in the coming months.

More generally, SRCS is looking at how to prioritize its work plan in order to ensure a multi-sectoral approach at the community level. Initial support has been provided to SRCS' board in the form of governance training and further technical support has been requested in the areas of strategic planning and legal base.

For SRCS, the recent retreat and learning events have provided an important opportunity for staff and volunteers to reflect on the experiences of the past four months as well as look forward with regard to planning the implementation of recovery focused activities. The internal focus of the organization during the recent months has been on answering the questions: "What have we accomplished?" "What have we learnt from these past three months?" "Where do we go from here?". The process of reflection, culminated in a learning workshop held in January 2010, which included representatives from the Pacific Red Cross societies. By looking at the experience from a regional perspective, the goal is to utilize SRCS' experiences to help build the overall capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters throughout the region.

Progress towards objectives

RELIEF DISTRIBUTION (NON-FOOD ITEMS)	
Objective: The needs of up to 5,000 people (625 families) along the affected area (including the districts of Aleipata, Falealili and Manono island) are met over one month, based on assessment results	
Immediate actions	
Expected results	Activities planned
Essential non-food items are provided to up to 625 families in accordance with their identified needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a needs assessment in the affected area to formulate a distribution plan • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance • Distribute relief supplies from point of dispatch to beneficiary • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide daily reporting on distributions to ensure accountability to the donors

Progress

During the first days following the tsunami, two joint assessments were completed. These included a joint qualitative survey focusing on health issues, livelihoods and environmental concerns. While the second joint assessment was a quantitative assessment which examined environmental health issues, including water, waste, shelter, living conditions, family numbers and locations in all 19 damaged villages in east Upolu. The surveys were led by the Samoan government ministries and included the United Nations, the SRCS and other non-governmental organizations. Preliminary findings of the assessments were used to inform the Red Cross in the distribution of relief items and were also used by the government in developing the recovery framework.

During the first two months following the disaster 582 families spread out through 41 villages received non-food relief items through more than 322 distributions. This included the following items: 1994 blankets; 1323 tarpaulins; 793 mosquito nets; 2177 boxes of clothes; 928 hygiene kits and 507 jerry cans.

A logistics hub was established in the grounds of a public hospital close to a tsunami affected area and served as a coordination center for relief distribution in the early days. The positioning of the center allowed for good communication between SRCS and government field staff. This logistics hub was closed at the end of January 2010 with volunteer coordination being resumed in Apia again.

SRCS will be conducting a beneficiary satisfaction survey in March 2010. The intent of the survey will be to look at the relevance and applicability of the assistance provided from the perspective of those most affected by the disaster. The hope is that this analysis will provide insight into cultural perceptions and the appropriateness of the relief assistance provided, which will help inform SRCS and its partners in preparing for future disasters.

Challenges

The first agencies responding to the tsunami, including the SRCS, faced challenges in completing the assessments in a timely and accurate manner. The quality and completeness of the assessment were uneven and depended upon the skill and training of the volunteers. Furthermore, communication difficulties caused

delays in detecting this problem, which made it more difficult to remedy. One of the key points from the learning workshop held in January 2010 was to review of the current process for undertaking the needs assessments and to build on the existing capacity within SRCS' staff and volunteer base.

Another challenge was in managing the distribution of relief goods and volunteers. SRCS has developed an extremely good volunteer base and at one point, the number of volunteers swelled to over 500. The level of organizing and scheduling for this volume of volunteers proved overwhelming at times. In addition, the communication lines were challenging and in some cases getting feedback from the field to the appropriate department was thwarted. In these cases some vulnerable families and individuals did not receive the specific assistance required by their circumstances.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE PROMOTION	
Objective: The risk of waterborne and water and sanitation-related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene promotion to 5,000 people (625 families) along the coastal area from Lepa to Saleaumua for six months.	
Immediate actions	
Expected results	Activities planned
Safe water is provided for up to 625 families for an estimated period of six months until damaged water supply systems in the affected area are restored and new systems are established, in coordination with the Samoa Water Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the immediate and longer term water supply needs of the population • Distribute jerry cans (two per family) to meet emergency water needs • Provide potable drinking water to households through water trucking for up to three months • Assess the requirement for communal water storage facilities • Procure, distribute, monitor and assist households and communities in the installation of individual rainwater and communal water tanks (and bases and shelters)
Appropriate sanitation, including excreta disposal and solid waste management is provided to approximately 1,700 displaced people in the area between Lalomanu and Saleaumua for six months, in coordination with the ministry of health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the immediate need for emergency excreta disposal facilities primarily with the displaced population • Assist families with constructing emergency ventilated improved pit latrines in the target area in accordance with government standards • Use community-based participatory methodologies to design and construct appropriate sanitation facilities and waste management
The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design a simple programme and conduct emergency hygiene promotion activities in the targeted communities and affected schools through the trained community based health and first aid (CBHFA) volunteers • Develop and produce water and sanitation information, education and communication materials for hygiene promotion and education • Train SRCS staff and volunteers in participatory hygiene promotion methodologies, knowledge of excreta disposal facilities as well as water supply in emergencies • Conduct hygiene promotion activities in conjunction with community based health and first aid
Longer-term actions	
The scope and quality of SRCS water, sanitation and hygiene promotion capacity in emergency response and CBHFA is improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train SRCS staff on the water treatment in emergencies equipment, including storage of equipment and ongoing maintenance • Replenish water and sanitation emergency items for SRCS • Assist SRCS with developing a water and sanitation strategy and policy under their health and disaster management strategy • Develop an exit strategy and complete evaluation of the programme

Progress

A detailed assessment was completed by the ministry of health, with participation from the International Federation and other international agencies. Based on this assessment, water and sanitation was identified as a priority need in the tsunami-affected area. The water supplies for much of the area were damaged and families which had relocated inland were living in areas without access to the potable water infrastructure. SRCS, was one of the key participants in the water, sanitation and hygiene cluster (WASH) which met to coordinate immediate assistance and to develop an intermediate solution for water for the affected communities. Cooperation between agencies in supplying water was based on the assessments and the capacities of the agencies to respond to the identified needs. Initial inputs from SRCS included the distribution of jerry cans so that families could take water from distribution points to their living spaces.

Initially, two small trucks each with a 5,000 litre bladder were used to assist the Samoa Water Authority in delivering water to 69 communal water supply tanks located throughout the affected area. In December 2009, these two trucks were replaced by a single 10,000 litre tanker truck, which continued to deliver water until the end of January 2010, when SRCS ceased supplying trucked water. During the water trucking phase, over 1.8 million litres of water have been delivered to the communal tanks providing potable water supply to the families in the affected areas.

While SRCS has ceased its water trucking activities, they are still engaged in supporting the access to potable water supply through the provision of rainwater harvesting tanks, which are being supplied by for relocated families who will be eligible to receive a new house funded by the government. According to government records, nearly 350 households are on a 'priority one' list, and will receive a government funded house. SRCS will support 250 of the priority one families with 5,000 litre plastic rainwater tanks. The remainder of the tanks will be supplied by Oxfam and Caritas. The procurement for the rainwater tanks has commenced following International Federation procedures,

SRCS continues to work together with the Samoa Water Authority to establish a timely solution for an interim water supply for the affected households which have relocated to areas outside the pre-existing reticulation system. Upon completion of the system design in December 2009, SRCS initiated a procurement process for 17km of 63 diameter polyethylene pipe. Tenders were received and analyzed by a tender committee. The pipes have now been ordered and are expected to be in-country by the end of February 2010. The Samoa Water Authority will be responsible for the installation of the pipes and the commissioning of the new water supply system and has commenced surveying the pipe route.

SRCS' water and sanitation team worked together with the ministry of health to complete a sanitation assessment of the relocated families. This assessment was an opportunity to undertake health and hygiene promotion through house to house dissemination on: hand washing, water conservation, nutrition, and appropriate sanitation methods such as ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines. An outcome of the assessment was a list of over 70 families which required follow-up visits to help them construct VIP latrines, or improve their existing latrines. The SRCS water and sanitation team has continued to work on improving the sanitation condition of affected families, and where required, has distributed materials for latrine construction to nearly 50 families.



Children being educated on how to prevent illness and diseases related to water and sanitation; and hygiene.

Photo credit: International Federation

Plans are underway to hold training on emergency response in the water and sanitation sector for SRCS staff and volunteers as well as participants from other Pacific national societies. The training, to take place in March 2010, will also provide an opportunity for networking with the goal of strengthening the capacity of Pacific national societies to respond to disasters within the region.

A key focus of the health and hygiene education has been to provide education to students in the tsunami affected areas. In total, SRCS has reached 1,466 students with information on how to prevent illness and diseases related to water, sanitation and hygiene.

The base of this programme has been the development of four sets of bilingual (Samoan and English) modules and visual teaching modules which address: 1) hand washing; 2) vector control; 3) water conservation;

and 4) personal hygiene. The students also received personal hygiene items such as soap, a toothbrush and

toothpaste. Twelve schools received hand washing posters to support the continuation of water and sanitation activities after the programme has finished. In line with World Aids Day more than 450 students, teachers, and community members from the tsunami-affected area of Lalomanu took part in activities on HIV/AIDS awareness, skits, musing and a poetry competition.

Challenges

Water trucking has been challenging as there has been an increased demand on water supply over the Christmas period when the number of people in the affected area increased due to family members returning for the holiday period. Water conservation and consumption rates also continue to be a challenge, with some families using large amounts of water for washing clothes. SRCS staff and volunteers are continuing to encourage water conservation, and SRCS is also expected to start a health promotion campaign which encourages water conservation soon.

The implementation of family latrines was hampered when some families were incorrectly assessed with high needs, which resulted in a review of the list of families set to receive sanitation assistance. The sanitation programme now continues with an increased focus on ensuring vulnerable families are being assisted, and household participation.

HEALTH AND CARE

Objective: The long-term health of the affected population is improved through community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) activities.

Expected results	Activities planned
The scope and quality of the SRCS health and care services are improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the existing SRCS CBHFA programme to incorporate the tsunami affected population, concurrent with new branch development. SRCS CBHFA staff and volunteers have their skills scaled up in conducting CBHFA programmes.

Progress

The water and sanitation programme continues to bring water, sanitation and hygiene education to the tsunami-affected communities to improve hygiene behaviour, prevent diarrhoeal diseases and encourage community management of water and sanitation facilities. (The progress in this area has been reported under the water, sanitation and hygiene section above).

The SRCS has also responded to reports from the Head Nurse at Lalomanu Hospital that 22 cases of diarrhoea were diagnosed in late December 2009. SRCS tried to confirm these reports with the ministry of health (MOH). However, no formal report has been submitted from Lalomanu Hospital to the ministry of health.

The SRCS water and sanitation team has responded to these reports by visiting each of the families to provide information related to disease prevention and distributing soap and related materials to each of the families. The team is also implementing basic water and sanitation activities at the community level to address issues related to 'how diseases spread', and 'how to prevent the transmission of diseases'.

Topics include: hand washing, food preparation, water storage and treatment; and the risk of diarrhoea in infants and children. The water and sanitation team will be following the community based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach of "learning by doing" to encourage community participation.

The programme will commence with two separate village assessments. The first assessment will measure the knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of families related to water, sanitation and hygiene issues. The second assessment will observe families and living environments. The programme will initially begin in the village of Satitua where eight of the 22 cases have been reported. This will also be expanded to reach all 29 tsunami-affected villages to prevent future outbreaks.

Challenges

The ministry of health has no baseline data or diarrhoea case management therefore it is hard to determine if these reports are abnormal.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (PSP)

Objective: Address the immediate psychosocial needs of the population by providing psychosocial support related relief through psychosocial support training of SRCS volunteers and local key persons in psychosocial support.

Expected results	Activities planned
Psychosocial support is included into the emergency programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networking and liaisons with national and international organizations to coordinate responses to identified psychosocial support needs Adapt key psychosocial support messages and tools to the Samoan context
Psychosocial support is included into recover programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the skills of a small group of volunteers to provide sensitization on personal support Identify ways to integrate psychosocial support with ongoing recovery programmes as well as existing SRCS programmes, particularly the Pacific disaster management partnership programme. Provision of psychosocial support through individual and group sessions

The family and church are front line psychosocial support providers with the churches and the pastoral care they provide being well linked into the national coordination of psychosocial support services. SRCS played a key role in the national psychosocial response team by linking people and communities to available services immediately after the disaster. SRCS volunteers also joined counselling outreach teams and provided transport and other practical assistance (e.g. meals). In line with cultural practices that encourage personal and community resilience by supporting the natural grieving process, the outreach teams focused on encouraging mutual support by utilizing small informal groups to undertake personal and psychosocial support. This is most notable in the areas of communicating with beneficiaries and self care. In total, SRCS mobilized 30 volunteers who provided psychosocial support to those affected by the disaster parallel to relief distributions.

In addition to the above support provided to the affected population, a small group of volunteers within SRCS undertook informal 'training' from their colleagues who have been actively working to meet the needs of the affected population. While a small team of volunteers undertook a process of adapting selected psychosocial support resources to the Samoan culture.

SHELTER

Objective: The emergency shelter needs of up to 4,000 people (500 families) identified through targeted assessments along the coastal area from Lepa to Saleaumua are met with an appropriate planned programme within six months of the tsunami.

Expected results	Activities planned
Up to 100 families that have relocated inland from the affected coastal area or have severely damaged homes and are staying on the coastal area have emergency shelters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a needs assessment in the affected area to formulate a distribution plan Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. Distribute emergency shelter items, such as tarpaulins, community tools and tents to beneficiaries according to need Monitoring, evaluating and reporting on distributions as well as additional needs for longer-term recovery
500 families have basic tools (tool kits) to enable them to enhance their emergency shelters and build safe and adequate outbuildings suited to the cultural, social and climatological conditions in Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a needs assessment in the affected area to formulate a distribution plan Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. Distribute shelter tools and control supply movements from point of dispatch to delivery to the end user and developing an exit strategy Train SRCS volunteers and provide safe shelter awareness training in the communities Monitoring and evaluation, providing reports on shelter progress and tools distributions

Progress

The strength of the extended family system that is inherent in Samoan culture was demonstrated by the quick and pro-active building of temporary shelters for families in need. Emergency shelter supplies: tarpaulins, ropes, and tools which were provided by SRCS were immediately used to construct temporary shelters. These items were supplemented by goods brought and sent by Samoan families and relatives both in Samoa and overseas. Because of the structure of land ownership and customary land rights, families were able to relocate to family land and many were able to start rebuilding immediately after the tsunami.



SRCS volunteer shares information with a community member
Photo credit: International Federation

In order to support this immediate building of shelters, 1,040 tarpaulins and a number of tents were distributed by SRCS. An additional 500 household shelter kits were procured with the assistance of Australian Red Cross and 366 of the kits were distributed in 20 villages. In distributing the kits, SRCS targeted the most vulnerable households, as identified through the social mapping exercise completed in the tsunami-affected areas in October 2009. Based on this data, the kits were distributed to families affected by the tsunami and who had relocated. Distributions were made directly to beneficiaries at their homes, rather than from a central distribution site.

The Samoa government has taken up the responsibility of providing permanent shelter to affected households and developed an “option” plan where families could chose between receiving materials or having a home constructed for them. In close cooperation with stake holders, the permanent shelter was designed based on the traditional Falio, which builds on the traditional open design, with a raised concrete floor and separate enclosed wet bathroom, enhanced with cyclone/earthquake/tsunami engineering. Many of the families have selected to receive materials as this allows for flexibility in design. Housing construction is well underway, though obstacles remain with sourcing construction materials in the quantities required.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS (RFL)

Objective:

To re-establish contact between families who have been separated by disaster SRCS has the capacity to operate efficiently and effectively to deliver services to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in accordance with their strategic plan.

Expected results	Activities planned
Families who have been separated are reconnected and information from authorities on the deceased is collated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train SRCS volunteers in administration of registering sought persons and conducting local search avenues to locate sought persons, including media. • Consultation with local authorities, beneficiaries and international authorities to ascertain RFL needs and lists of deceased and missing • Train SRC staff and volunteers in the field to provide beneficiaries with RFL services of “Safe & Well Red Cross Messages” and phone calls to inform of health, location, and new contact details. • Establishment of an RFL hotline operated by SRCS with notification to the international and domestic public via the SRCS website

Progress

In the first six weeks after the tsunami, the SRCS received a total of 70 enquiries to reunite families separated by the disaster. These included 55 for Samoa and 15 for American Samoa. To reunite these families the SRCS worked closely with the local authorities, the Australian Federal Police, the Samoan Police, the New Zealand Police, the New Zealand High Commissioner, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the

Samoan Immigration and Australian Disaster Victim Identification agency to coordinate information pertaining to persons missing.

SRCS was also active in the field through undertaking visits to displaced persons to offer "Safe & Well Messages & Phone Calls". Information on SRCS tracing services was also provided in both Samoan and English. Additionally, support has been provided with the transport of bodies (deceased and injured) to the local hospital.

Building on the extensive work during the immediate weeks following the tsunami, SRCS identified a wish to develop its RFL capacity further. As such 25 volunteers were trained in RFL services and procedures during a four day workshop held in Apia, Samoa the second week of December 2009. An international RFL advisor from the Australian Red Cross provided technical support for the training, with additional funding provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation. A core group of Red Cross volunteers assisted as facilitators in the workshop. (This was because the workshop followed a week of facilitation skills training conducted the week before the workshop).

The plan of action developed from the workshop includes follow-up action on the open files related to the 2009 earthquake and tsunami. There are 45 open cases many of which have been informally resolved, but need a final follow-up. These cases are scheduled to be completed during the month of February 2010.

Discussions are still underway regarding the feasibility of establishing an RFL hotline for future disasters and the logistics needed to support this service.

LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT

Objective: Up to 625 families (5,000 beneficiaries) who have lost their pre-tsunami livelihood assets and capabilities, will be assisted in recovery and in building resilience for a period of up to nine months

Expected results	Activities planned
Selected households will be able to overcome economic insecurities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the capacity of SRCS to deliver a variety of livelihoods initiatives such as cash systems and other recovery initiatives for vulnerable families to reinforce economic and social security • Conduct rapid livelihoods and social mapping of affected area using local volunteers to further define the selection of beneficiaries for distribution of livelihoods resources • Develop beneficiary selection strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance • Finalize the modalities and means of providing cash grants and/ or vouchers addressing the immediate needs for the first set of families within the next three months • Provide cash grants and / or vouchers to selected families • Monitor and evaluate the activities
By the end of the operation, SRCS staff and volunteers are provided with relevant on-the-job training skills to carry out all relevant aspects of the recovery programme and are able to transfer this knowledge and experience to other Pacific national societies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit recovery coordinator and livelihood officer for SRCS and enlist a core team of volunteers • Provide training for volunteers to understand and support livelihoods programme • Carry out an integrated participatory assessment which incorporates holistic nature of tsunami-affected household needs in light of their vulnerabilities and capacities for the longer-term • Finalize beneficiary selection group and mechanism for providing additional livelihoods assistance to enhance the food and agriculture production base, replacement of livestock and other livelihood assets • Provide support to identified selected groups and community • Monitor and evaluate the impact of interventions in supporting livelihood recovery of the affected population • Develop an exit strategy • Undertake lessons learnt exercise and share with other Pacific island national societies to support effective disaster preparedness and possible programme interventions

Progress

The livelihoods activities supported by the tsunami appeal are intended to assist communities and households to recover from the shock of the disaster and to reduce vulnerability to future disasters.

A livelihoods specialist supported by the British Red Cross, arrived in Samoa in the first weeks following the tsunami to assess the needs and possible interventions in the livelihoods sector. The assessment included gathering and analyzing data on the households from both before and after the disaster. One of the techniques introduced to SRCS during this period was that of “social mapping”. Social mapping is a participatory exercise which encourages communities to “map out” their village and in the process to identify vulnerable households in their communities. The immediate use of social mapping data was in targeting distributions of items such as the shelter kits and will also be utilized as primary information that will be built upon to implement livelihoods activities.

Furthermore, by understanding the vulnerabilities of specific households, SRCS was able to enhance the provision of assistance based on actual needs. Previously, the kinds of assistance provided was assumed, without extensive understanding and information concerning actual needs. The social mapping approach has provided SRCS with a new understanding of vulnerabilities within communities.

Based on the analysis of data gathered in the livelihoods assessment the conclusion was reached that cash grants would be the most effective form of assistance. Factors which predict the success of cash programming, such as the availability of goods; access to markets; secure transfer of funds have been evaluated and found to be positive for initiating livelihoods assistance through a cash programming approach. A basic framework for the programme has been developed, which draws on the experience of other agencies, who have pointed to the following factors as relevant to the success of their cash programmes. These include:

- Clear understanding of the objectives of the assistance and the appropriateness of cash to meet those objectives.
- Clearly established guidelines and criteria are developed before socializing the programme to the community, for example in cash for work programme: rate of pay; hours of work; type of project; how participants selected.
- Level of participation by households in programme set-up and monitoring.

With the livelihoods programme gearing up, a livelihoods specialist with expertise in cash interventions has arrived to support the SRCS. The livelihood delegate will build on the basic framework by gathering recent information from other agencies on their experience in cash programming in Samoa. This includes the learning’s from cash programming within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which will be used to inform the modalities of the cash grant programme.

Challenges

Cash programming for humanitarian assistance is new to the SRCS and has not commonly been used in the Pacific region. The universal questions and concerns that come up with the use of cash are being discussed within the SRCS as well as by the other agencies in Samoa who have used cash interventions. Both SRCS and the communities will need to increase their understanding as the programme is implemented to ensure community participation and that the programme is developed in a culturally appropriate manner.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/ DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DP/DRR)	
Objective: SRCS branches and volunteers are better prepared to respond to future disasters and the population along the affected area (villages located in Aleipata and Falealili) has reduced its risk to cyclones/earthquakes/tsunamis within the next 18 months	
Expected results	Activities planned
Up to 625 families have access to emergency preparedness information and are informed on the most appropriate actions to take in case of a disaster (cyclone/earthquake/tsunami)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the DRR programme to the affected area through tools such as vulnerability capacity assessments and risk mapping • Implement community level identified initiatives (including early warning systems) • Develop contingency plans • Identify opportunities for further expansion of DRR activities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct evaluation of DRR programme
SRCS is prepared to respond to future disasters with relief stock capacity and storage facilities for up to 250 families, based on identified previous needs and lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct lessons learned workshop and revise processes accordingly • Replenish SRCS disaster preparedness container stock • Procure two vehicles for the SRCS to increase their response capacity • Refurbish SRCS disaster preparedness facility and training centre • Conduct emergency response team training for SRCS staff and volunteers • Conduct national disaster management training for SRCS headquarters • Conduct training workshop for SRCS staff (logistics/relief/emergency assessment) • SRCS staff attend regional/international trainings (including logistics, RDRT)

Progress

Organizational learning was a strong focus during December 2009 and January 2010, with a multi-stakeholder learning workshop taking place in January 2010. The activities associated with the learning workshop included; contracting a learning consultant to collect and analyze information before the workshop event; online questionnaires for staff, volunteers, and partners; key informant interviews with a cross-section of tsunami operation staff and non Red Cross stakeholders; a lessons learned report; a draft learning framework document; and finally the learning workshop itself.

Some of the learning themes that came to light during the workshop included: the need for improved vulnerability assessments; the swift establishment of a Pacific regional disaster response team; the need to review the relief distribution and monitoring systems and ensure that staff have been trained on these systems; the opportunities for increasing awareness on protection and gender issues in emergency responses; and the need for good communication in all directions and to all stakeholders. Key themes regarding volunteers included: importance of good communication and management of volunteers; the need to provide psychosocial support to volunteers and staff; the need for a focal point for information that volunteers receive from beneficiaries in the field; and the need for a volunteer registration system.

Key findings and recommendations were developed for the International Federation, SRCS, other Pacific national societies, and partner national societies (PNSs). It was agreed that each organization would review the recommendations, develop a management response and ensure that lessons learnt are fed back into concrete plans for improved practice.

SRCS has initiated the process of re-evaluating the fleet of vehicles available to the society. The pre-tsunami vehicles, including a pick-up, van ambulance, and passenger van have had many years of use and are in need of repair. Immediately after the tsunami a large truck was purchased and used for the delivery of relief items, while other transport needs were provided through a fleet of rental vehicles. There are several sources of funds available for the purchase of vehicles and SRCS has begun to determine which vehicles will be needed for the implementation of planned programmes for the next five years. Purchase of the vehicles are expected to take place in February and March 2010.

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Objective: SRCS has the capacity to operate efficiently and effectively to deliver services to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in accordance with their strategic plan.	
Expected results	Activities planned
By the end of the early recovery period, SRCS staff and volunteers are provided with relevant on-the-job training skills to carry out all relevant aspects of the recovery programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing and coaching of SRCS volunteers and staff on recovery programmes. • Short orientation sessions will be given to all new spontaneous volunteers to explain the principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement and SRCS' mandate

SRCS mobilization, registration, support and retention system will have been developed to transform spontaneous volunteers into long term ones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer registration and database will be updated • Regular meetings with volunteers will help them to convey information from community level, and also to receive recognition and collective support when dealing with their difficult roles • Groups of spontaneous volunteers will be asked to become regular volunteers • Peer developments for four Pacific islands Red Cross personnel • New volunteers will be engaged in CBHFA and DRR programmes
A new branch in the tsunami affected area is established and managed by volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers ideas for establishing a branch in the affected area to respond to community needs in the short, medium, and long term will be sought • New branch office established in tsunami affected area
SRCS systems and procedures will have been strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing finance and administration systems will be enhanced to enable efficient recording of rapidly scaled up donations and reporting back to local and international donors
SRCS governance is strengthened to guide the future development of SRCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance workshop conducted with SRCS board and management
SRCS has increased financial self-sufficiency through income generation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRCS accommodation facilities are refurbished for income generation purposes • New disaster preparedness facilities are expanded to include the capacity for income generation • SRCS procurement, supply chain management, warehouse, transport and distribution systems are understood and implemented to ensure tracking and reporting.

Progress

The International Federation considers the capacity building of SRCS as a long term essential goal of the operation. From the middle of October 2009 through the middle of December 2009 an organizational development delegate provided support to the operation. Based on daily consultations with the SRCS, an implementing structure for programmes was developed; job descriptions for new positions were drafted; and a capacity building plan was developed which took into consideration both short term and long term capacity building needs of SRCS.

The scaling up of activities and resources also provided SRCS' Board with motivation to review their five year plan and strategies. The response to the disaster tested the ease of implementation of the current statutes and exposed areas of the statutes which need to be modified in order to make them relevant. This review will be done over time and with mentoring and support provided by the International Federation as needed.

Progress in institutional capacity building was also achieved in the following ways:

- SRCS held a review and planning session from December 18 till 20, 2009. Each programmatic unit presented highlights from the past year and plans for 2010.
- Recruitment for newly created positions is almost complete with the exception of the finance officer and livelihoods officers. Most of the recent staff positions have been filled from the volunteer pool.
- The accounting software, Mind Your Own Business (MYOB) was re-vitalized. Use of the system had lapsed since before the tsunami. Using the system will make financial analysis and reporting easier.
- The tsunami operational branch at the public hospital in Lalomanu will be downsizing as of the end of January 2010. This site, which was temporarily granted for use by the ministry of health due to the tsunami operation, was used for distribution of relief items, coordination of water trucking, and other relief activities. An assessment is being made about the need for a field office and the best location for such an office.

LOGISTICS

Logistics support will be provided following procedures from the International Federation to source and procure relief items needed, and to ensure the efficient and timely delivery of these items for the success of the operation.

Logistics actions are being supported through the close cooperation with the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) at the International Federation's Asia Pacific zone office; the Australian Red Cross and the New Zealand Red Cross.

These include:

- SRCS coordination, and between programme managers and RLU for the most timely and cost-efficient sourcing option for the items required for the operation.
- Coordinate the mobilization of goods and reception of incoming goods still coming as part of the response to the tsunami.
- Maintain a close relationship with other key actors in logistics
- Review and improve storage, warehousing, transport, procurement and distribution procedures of SRCS
- Support logistics requirements of programme implementation

Progress

A logistics delegate from the International Federation remains in Samoa to support SRCS with ongoing logistics activities. During January 2010 a workshop on basic International Federation logistics procedures and documents was conducted for 11 people.

In order to ease the congestion of full containers at the office compound, an interim plan for warehousing has been developed. Decisions regarding permanent warehousing include deciding on a location and the possible purchase of land were almost made. Until these decisions have been reached, the interim plan calls for the purchase of containers that will be stored at a site apart from the office. In addition, large tents will be procured to enable the organization of goods. The space now occupied by containers at the office compound will be used for much needed extra office space and space for volunteers.

Challenges

SRCS does not have formal written lease agreements for either the office space, which is rented from the government, or for warehousing space. These issues will be resolved before moving ahead with major renovations or construction begins.

COMMUNICATIONS – ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

SRCS utilized radio spots and newspaper advertisements to promote good hygiene practices after learning about and responding to a report from the field regarding cases of diarrhea in the tsunami-affected areas.

SRCS, with support from the Australia Red Cross has been developing a communications plan. The plan has three objectives:

- To build the capacity of SRCS to develop and implement communication strategies, particularly in the event of natural disasters;
- To improve internal SRCS processes with respect to reporting and communications to ensure it is well placed to respond to future emergencies; and
- To build on the positive image of SRC both domestically and internationally, particularly in the lead up to the first anniversary of the tsunami;

How we work

All International 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.

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

[<Financial statement attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRWS001 - Samoa - Earthquake & Tsunami

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/9-2009/11
Budget Timeframe	2009/9-2011/4
Appeal	MDRWS001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	2,469,064					2,469,064
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	102,997					102,997
Australian Red Cross	774,071					774,071
British Red Cross	81,314					81,314
British Red Cross (from DFID - British Government)	159,439					159,439
Canadian Red Cross	47,353					47,353
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	236,774					236,774
China Red Cross (from China - Private Donors)	388					388
Danish Red Cross	37,697					37,697
Great Britain - Private Donors	1,130					1,130
Irish Red Cross	12,090					12,090
Japanese Red Cross	95,300					95,300
Korea Government (Republic of)	101,153					101,153
Monaco Red Cross	30,216					30,216
New Zealand Red Cross	187,050					187,050
On Line donations	3,522					3,522
Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	72,509					72,509
Swedish - Private Donors	829					829
Switzerland - Private Donors	1,290					1,290
United States - Private Donors	709					709
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	1,000					1,000
C1. Cash contributions	1,946,832					1,946,832
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
Australian Red Cross	134,901					134,901
New Zealand Red Cross	180,675					180,675
USAID	251,509					251,509
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	567,085					567,085
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
New Zealand Red Cross	8,800					8,800
C4. Inkind Personnel	8,800					8,800
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	2,522,717					2,522,717
D. Total Funding = B + C	2,522,717					2,522,717
Appeal Coverage	102%					102%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	2,522,717					2,522,717
E. Expenditure	-61,989					-61,989
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	2,460,728					2,460,728

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRWS001 - Samoa - Earthquake & Tsunami

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/9-2009/11
Budget Timeframe	2009/9-2011/4
Appeal	MDRWS001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		2,469,064					2,469,064	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	48,500	6,588				6,588	41,912	
Construction Materials	118,000	785				785	117,215	
Clothing & textiles	26,650	2,120				2,120	24,531	
Water & Sanitation	528,905	1,368				1,368	527,536	
Medical & First Aid	43,908						43,908	
Teaching Materials	15,000						15,000	
Utensils & Tools	48,987						48,987	
Other Supplies & Services	304,000						304,000	
Total Supplies	1,133,950	10,861				10,861	1,123,089	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	80,000						80,000	
Computers & Telecom	12,500						12,500	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	20,000						20,000	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	112,500						112,500	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	80,000	41				41	79,959	
Distribution & Monitoring	21,600						21,600	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	58,800	3				3	58,797	
Total Transport & Storage	160,400	45				45	160,355	
Personnel								
International Staff	426,000	22,294				22,294	403,706	
Regionally Deployed Staff	24,150	404				404	23,746	
National Society Staff	66,075	1,110				1,110	64,965	
Consultants	29,000	6,493				6,493	22,507	
Total Personnel	545,225	30,300				30,300	514,925	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	147,000						147,000	
Total Workshops & Training	147,000						147,000	
General Expenditure								
Travel	45,000	12,993				12,993	32,007	
Information & Public Relation	38,000	1,453				1,453	36,547	
Office Costs	86,500	740				740	85,760	
Communications		634				634	-634	
Professional Fees	40,000						40,000	
Financial Charges		90				90	-90	
Other General Expenses		32				32	-32	
Total General Expenditure	209,500	15,942				15,942	193,558	
Programme Support								
Program Support	160,489	4,204				4,204	156,285	
Total Programme Support	160,489	4,204				4,204	156,285	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		638				638	-638	
Total Services		638				638	-638	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,469,064	61,989				61,989	2,407,075	
VARIANCE (C - D)		2,407,075				2,407,075		