

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° 7
15 August 2010

Period Covered by this Ops Update: April 2010 through June 2010

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

Appeal coverage: With 106% 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.

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:

Nine months after the tsunami, the Samoa Red Cross Society continues to support the recovery of communities and households. After conducting assessments with each of the households in the affected area, the first round of cash grants was distributed to families in May. The water and sanitation team has been intensively monitoring the government's distribution of rainwater harvesting tanks provided by the Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS) to ensure maximum positive impact for the families reached. The Disaster Management Unit participated in several capacity building exercises, culminating with a national mass casualty drill which allowed staff and volunteers to test their first aid skills.

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 Society, Monaco Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government, the government of the Republic of Korea; and USAID.

The IFRC 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 that hit the affected coastline in South Upolu Island was between 3-11m high, while the second wave in Pago Pago, in American Samoa, was measured at 1.7 metres. The official death toll is 143 people (including five missing, presumed dead). The impact from the tsunami caused extensive damage to villages along a narrow 40km stretch of coastline on the southeast and eastern corner of Upolu, and Manono Island off its west coast.

The government of Samoa has taken the responsibility for providing houses for those who lost homes along the coastline. In order to identify beneficiary families, the government assessed all affected houses and created a priority list. Approximately 450 households were identified as “priority one” households, meaning that their homes were completely destroyed. To these households, the government provided two options: The first, where the recipient household received construction materials and provided the labour to rebuild their own homes; and the second, where the recipient household will receive a house constructed by Habitat for Humanity. More than half of the families chose to receive building materials and to provide their own labor. The value of the assistance for “priority one” houses is WST 18,000 (EUR 5,384 or CHF 7,442). After meeting the identified priority needs the government has proceeded to extend its assistance to families whose homes were damaged but not destroyed. These households will receive WST 10,000 (EUR 3,000 or CHF 4,135) worth of assistance to repair their homes.

Habitat for Humanity, which was the builder for the “priority one” (P1) government houses, completed their work in June and has left Samoa. However, some families who chose the option of receiving materials and providing their own labor have not yet built their homes and are still living in traditional semi-permanent structures as they continue to work on their home or save money to pay for labor. Many of these families were the recipients of the Samoa Red Cross Society’s livelihoods assistance, intended to assist them in completing the construction of their homes.

Concerns remain about access to clean water. While there has been much investment by the Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS), the government of Samoa and other stakeholders in the different options for providing water – tanks, interim piped water, water trucking – the actual implementation of these options has been challenging, with the result that some communities still have only intermittent access to water.

Coordination and partnerships

Following the earthquake and tsunami, there was an overwhelming display of generosity from people wishing to assist in the recovery. In addition to the IFRC Appeal which was launched and raised over CHF 2.4 million, Australia Red Cross and New Zealand Red Cross received significant funds to help Samoa. Other national societies, including the French Red Cross also received funds for the Samoa operation. Many of the national societies contributed funds to the IFRC Appeal, including Australia Red Cross and New Zealand Red Cross.

All partner national societies agreed to work together in a harmonized way to support SRCS. In order to achieve a “one plan” approach, IFRC assisted SRCS in the development of an integrated plan for the use of these tsunami funds. The resulting document, *Integrated proposition for the effective application of tsunami-related funds 2010-2014 (The Integrated Proposition)*, contains a set of initiatives that will enable the SRCS to effectively use the remaining funds. The focus of the initiatives are to assist vulnerable communities, build the capacity of SRCS, and ensure that the national society is economically sustained into the future. A risk analysis and budget were also part of the document.

A partnership meeting was held in May 2010 in Apia to discuss the contents of *The Integrated Proposition* and to agree on next steps. Attendees included high level representatives from Australian Red Cross, IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and New Zealand Red Cross. The document served as the focal point for all the partners to voice their ideas about future programming and to clarify funding parameters. Overall the partners showed support for the initiatives in the proposition, and agreed to provide written feedback in June. Some issues of concern raised in the partnership meeting included: the need to keep the focus on

vulnerable communities and for this focus to be reflected in the allocation of resources; the desire to minimize risks related to investments and the use of funds for creating a sustainable operation; consensus that organizational development, including financial management and human resources development are a priority; a desire to have a strategy document which would integrate the use of tsunami funds with the overall SRCS strategic plan and concern that the SRCS Board is not fully supporting the activities of the proposition.

The agreed upon next steps are: SRCS Board to meet and endorse or modify the proposition; partners to provide written responses to the initiatives; and revision of the initiatives and integration with the SRCS strategic plan. While the timeline for completing these tasks was set as September, the target dates have not been met and so it is unlikely that an agreed upon plan will be ready by that date.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

The livelihoods team completed household assessments and analysis and developed criteria for the selection of households that will receive cash grants. The first round of grants was disbursed to 56 households, with the majority of these families using the grants to complete the construction of their homes or to invest in agricultural supplies for their plantations. The final shipment of rainwater harvesting tanks arrived and was handed over to the government for distribution. In monitoring the distribution of these tanks, the water and sanitation team has found many discrepancies between the list of eligible recipients and the actual recipients of the tanks, and has been coordinating their findings with the government to resolve these issues. The Disaster Management Unit is engaged in planning for the upcoming cyclone season through an evaluation of disaster pre-stock and participating in capacity-building activities. IFRC has provided support to SRCS in their strategic planning process.

Progress towards objectives

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	<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 volunteers

promotion activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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:

Rainwater Harvesting Tanks: The final shipments of rainwater harvesting tanks were received in April, bringing the total number received to 249. As per agreement with the government, the tanks were handed over to the Ministry of Works, who took responsibility for distributing them to all of the P1 households. The original request by the government in December 2009 was to supply 319 tanks for P1 households. The number of P1 houses has since increased and SRCS has agreed to supply an additional 100 rainwater tanks in order to cover the final number of P1 households and to have a stock of tanks available for use in future disasters. These tanks have been ordered through the Regional Logistics Unit in IFRC's Asia Pacific offices in Kuala Lumpur, and will arrive in Samoa by October 2010.

Discussions at the shelter meetings coordinated by the government led to an agreement that the tanks would only be distributed to households after the houses had been constructed, gutters installed and the work had been inspected by the Ministry of Public Works. However, there have been inconsistencies in the actual distribution including: distribution to families which have not yet constructed their homes; reports of some families receiving multiple tanks; and difficulty in verifying the inclusion of a family on the priority one list. One of the aspects of inspection before distribution was to ensure that guttering and a stand were in place before the tank was delivered. In reality, many of the tanks have been installed without guttering or stands, thereby reducing the effectiveness and longevity of the assistance. The SRCS water and sanitation team is working to look for ways to resolve this issue to help maximize the impact of the tanks as water still remains the most frequently discussed problem in the affected area and properly installed and maintained rainwater tanks could go a long way towards meeting this need.

Interim Water Supply: Work continues on the interim water supply system, which SRCS supported by providing pipes. Recent monitoring shows that the system is near completion and it is anticipated it will be running by August. The interim water supply will deliver water to communal tanks in the affected communities, thus providing a more consistent and larger supply of water to the communal tanks than is currently being provided through water trucking. SRCS is working with the Samoa Water Authority to determine the best location for the taps and communal tanks. In some instances this has required SRCS to "re-appropriate" communal tanks which have been moved from their public location to a private household.

Internal Evaluation: In order to measure the progress of the water and sanitation activities against the objectives for the first six months of the programme and internal evaluation of the programme was conducted in April 2010. This evaluation included interviews with key stakeholders (government ministries, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations) and interviews with households. The result of this internal evaluation will be incorporated into future programme planning. This internal evaluation coincided with the end of contract for the water and sanitation delegate. Some of the significant findings from the key informant interviews were:

Perceived Strengths of the SRCS's water and sanitation response:

- Quick response
- Flexible and adaptable
- Good communication and contact with people affected by tsunami
- A valuable source of information on water related matters and able to share this with other key actors

- Good advocacy effort with ability to influence
- Attendance at various meetings was valued
- Pivotal in determining plans for interim and longer-term water supply

Perceived Weaknesses of SRCS's water and sanitation response:

- At times, non-inclusive of government and lacking in consultation
- A greater awareness needed to be reached of government departmental roles and responsibilities
- Relationships with the government need to be established ahead of time together with understanding of organizational roles and mandate. This issue appears at both policy and programme levels.

Challenges:

Access to safe water remains a primary concern for households affected by the tsunami. In this phase of the operation the Samoa government has the primary responsibility for providing water to the communities. Yet many times communities turn to SRCS when the government response falls short of their expectations and needs. In these instances SRCS must consider what are gaps and how best use their resources to fill these gaps. In the case of access to water, SRCS both responds directly to the needs while also turning more frequently to using advocacy as a tool to address these gaps. In one scenario this means linking the community with the appropriate government body which can address the gaps and monitor the response. In another scenario, it has required requesting the intervention of the Ministry of Social Affairs to facilitate a meeting between two village councils to end a conflict which resulted in the barrier of water trucks to one of the communities. The use of advocacy as a tool to resolve issues is new to the national society, which has relied heavily on their mandate as an independent organization to directly remedy problems and which takes longer to effect but has more potential to be sustainable.

LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT	
Objective: Up to 5,000 beneficiaries (625 families) 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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
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Progress on Cash Grants:

Assessment: The livelihoods delegate of the field assessment and coordination team (FACT) recommended that the livelihoods assistance take the form of a cash grant to vulnerable households. This recommendation was evaluated by the livelihoods delegate who arrived in February and it was determined to proceed with cash grants.

To determine assessment methodology, it was important to ascertain the optimal means by which to work with affected communities. Samoan villages have a social structure commonly comprised of: a village council, village mayor, matais' and women's committees. Matais represent the family on the village council. Church groups, pastors and priests also have a high social standing in the village.

SRCS's Secretary General and other senior staff members advised the programme team to make initial contact with pastors and priests of the village with follow-ups at individual household levels. SRCS has a history of working at a household level and carries concern over bias by the various village groups and leaders. Additionally, the local village council requests payment to meet.

Where possible, priests and pastors were contacted in villages and they advised that the best way to determine need was to visit each household. Overall, they were reluctant to advise on factors that may be indicative of vulnerability.

Criteria for vulnerability/assistance: Criteria were determined using information obtained during the assessment in association with livelihood data previously collected by the livelihood consultant.

Selection was not based on a single criteria but a combination of factors that together indicated a more complete picture of need. This included:

- Household composition: Available household labour, especially to work in plantation or rebuild fale (usually adult men); dependency ratios; disabilities or other health issues
- Plantation size: A small plantation was considered to be fewer than 2,000 plants. Note, that a large plantation did not necessarily exclude households from assistance as other factors were also considered. Plantations are major sources of cash generation for most households
- Remittances: Most households report financial assistance from abroad, which is reportedly used by the household to meet customary obligations (funeral, wedding, church). Remittances vary widely in value and regularity between households. No attempt was made to quantify household remittances; record was only made of receipt of remittances
- Income diversity: are there multiple sources of household income which includes plantation, salary or other business (carpentry, unskilled labour works)
- Livestock: most households have chickens and pigs for household consumption yet cows generate income
- Visible household assets: such as electrical items or car. Families in possession of many household items are usually in receipt of larger remittances
- Type of housing/ complete or incomplete construction? Incomplete housing is usually related to insufficient finances to pay labour or households waiting on finances (provided by family) to purchase additional materials (above those provided by the government) to rebuild their fale of choice.

Households who met vulnerability criteria were invited to apply for the cash grant programme.

Conditional Cash Grants: Based upon the assessment and applying selection criteria households were invited (targeted) to apply for a conditional cash grant. Three levels of grant were offered to selected households:

- a) WST 500 (EUR 151, CHF 209) to support and protect a variety of productive assets: fence for livestock, plantation tools and other inputs, livestock, and fishing equipment. This grant may also be spent on school education expenses and miscellaneous construction needs required to complete housing (such as transportation for sand); or

- b) WST 1,500 – 3,000 (EUR 452 – 905, CHF 627 – 1,254) to support labour costs associated with house construction or plantation works; or
- c) A grant to support business development or alternative income generating activity.

It was difficult to determine the most appropriate value of the grant for labour and business. In Samoa, labour for housing can be paid in the 'Faa Samoa' way, which means settled at the end of the works through combined payments such as fine mats, tinned fish and money. Beneficiaries of the larger business grants were required to specify use of the money and in most cases exaggerated the true costs and therefore project staff revised the final amount given.

A total of 478 households were assessed and 169 households invited to apply for a conditional cash grant. The application process was made very simple and required households to indicate what they use the money for and provide a signature. Field officers clearly explained the purpose of the grant. All communications (written and oral) were in Samoan. The grants were provided on the basis the money would be utilized for certain items.

Conditional Grant in WST (Samoan Tala)	# House - holds Targeted	# People Reached	Total in WST	Intended Purpose
500 (EUR 151; CHF 209)	139	1,112	69,500 (EUR 20,960; CHF 29,049)	Variety of productive assets: fence for livestock, plantation tools, seeds, sprayer and other inputs, livestock, fishing equipment also school education expenses, low cost housing materials such as transport for loads of sand
1,500- 3,000 (EUR 452 – 905; CHF 627 - 1,254)	11	88	32,000 (EUR 9,651; CHF 13,375)	Labour costs: housing/plantation/garden, or housing materials
2,000- 10,000 (business grant) (EUR 603 – 3,015; CHF 836 – 4,180)	18	144	72,000 (EUR 21, 714; CHF 30,094)	Tourist fale, small shop, home bakery-pancake, buns, buying and selling of coconuts, business, vegetable gardens NB: several these grants were provided in two smaller instalments
Other	1	8	12,000 (EUR 3, 619; CHF 5, 016)	To purchase a boat
Total	169	1,352	185,500 (EUR 55,944; CHF 77,532)	

Cash transfer payment process: The cash grant transfers were made in two rounds, one in May and the other to be made in July. The first round was provided to beneficiaries using Western Union. It is anticipated that both Western Union transfers and bank transfers will be used in the second round of grants.

As of the end of June, a total of 56 cash grants had been distributed with a total value of WST 47,500 (EUR14,325; CHF 19,853). The remainder of the grants will be distributed in July.

Challenges:

This was the first time that SRCS has implemented a cash grant programme so there was a steep learning curve for staff and volunteers to understand the underpinnings of cash as a methodology. In addition, being able to communicate the purpose and methodology effectively to communities and households was also a challenge.

The timing of the programme was delayed from what was first anticipated and this resulted in a targeted approach and assessment rather than a lump sum distribution to all families, which would have been more appropriate in the first few weeks after the tsunami. Moving to a targeted assessment required greater analytical skills in determining vulnerability and also in more sophisticated community engagement skills to explain why some people received grants and others did not. However, opening up these kinds of discussions to the national society as a whole has had a positive effect as it has generated dialogue about the meaning of vulnerability and how this changes according to context.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (DP) / DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (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 • 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's disaster preparedness container stock • Procure two vehicles for SRCS to increase their response capacity • Refurbish SRCS's 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 workshops for SRCS staff (logistics/relief/emergency assessment) • SRCS staff attend regional/international trainings (including logistics, Regional Disaster Response Training (RDRT))

Progress:

A new 4WD ambulance, funded by Australia Red Cross and procured through the Regional Logistics Unit in IFRC's Asia Pacific offices in Kuala Lumpur arrived in June 2010. The new ambulance will allow the organization to expand its reach in disaster response, blood donor recruitment, first aid training in communities and workplaces and first aid services at sporting matches and community events. Previously the organization relied on one ambulance, purchased in 1990, to support its work in these areas. With the mixture of new and pre-tsunami vehicles, including an older pick-up, van ambulance, and passenger van, the national society now has a fleet of eight vehicles.

Volunteers worked steadily during this time period to sort the remaining containers of unsolicited goods. These goods, mostly used clothing which was donated following the tsunami are taking up a considerable portion of the warehouse space available to the national society, making it difficult to stock high-priority items needed for

responding to disasters. The disaster management team has intensified family welfare assessments and are distributing these unsolicited goods according to these assessments.

A large warehouse tent, funded by New Zealand Red Cross, arrived in May 2010. This tent will be used to assist in organizing the warehouse and for staging of distributions. Six smaller tents are expected to arrive in July.

SRCS staff and volunteers continually participating in local, national and regional trainings and drills aimed at increasing their disaster management knowledge and skills. These activities included:

Mass Casualty Drill (tsunami) on Savaii Island: The mass casualty drill was organized by the government and included participants from all of the responders included in Samoa's Disaster Management Plan. SRCS, as per their role outlined in the Disaster Management Plan provided first aid service during the drill. 30 SRCS first aid volunteers participated in a First Aid Refresher Course in the days before the drill and then provided first aid service to over 200 community members who were recruited as actors during the drill.

Logistics Training: The SRCS finance officer, logistics assistant, logistics volunteer and water and sanitation officer participated in warehouse management training in May 2010. In June 2010, 32 SRCS staff and volunteers participated in a two day logistics training session, focussed on general logistics, warehousing and procurement.

Asia Pacific Disaster Management Meeting (Brisbane, Australia 25-27 May 2010): The SRCS's Secretary General and Disaster Management Coordinator, along with senior representatives and Disaster Management (DM) practitioners from all 37 Asia Pacific National Societies met three days to discuss and exchange experiences on key hazard and vulnerability trends, challenges and advances in disaster management practice in the region. They also reviewed advances of Red Cross and Red Crescent global policy and strategy with a focus on Strategy 2020 in preparation for the VIIIth Asia Pacific Regional Conference scheduled for later in 2010.

Community Resilience Forum (Nadi, Fiji, June 14-19, 2010): SRCS staff and volunteers from both the DM and health units participated in the IFRC sponsored community resilience forum. This provided a venue for participants from the entire Pacific to share experiences and discuss the meaning of vulnerability, resilience and best practices for an integrated approach to working with communities.

Future DM programming was an important part of the *Integrated proposition for the effective application of tsunami-related funds 2010-2014* and during discussions at the partner's meeting held in May 2010. The proposition outlined three areas of focus: disaster response and preparedness training; storage and stock management; and DM resourcing and proposals to use 24 per cent of the tsunami funds for this sector. Further negotiations regarding the proposition are still underway.

Challenges:

There several new initiatives being developed related to DM at SRCS. However, these initiatives will not be launched until further discussion and agreement is reached between SRCS and partners. The human resources and leadership capacity of the Disaster Management Unit needs to be strengthened in order to support the new initiatives which have been developed.



First aid volunteers showing the lessons they learnt from the First Aid Refresher Course. Photo credit: IFRC

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 mandates of SRCS
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 Island Red Cross National Society staff members 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:

SRCS took the opportunity during their World Red Cross Red Crescent Day event to have a re-commitment ceremony and re-signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the government of Samoa and SRCS. The original Memorandum of Understanding was signed in 1983.

Financial and personnel documents for the years 2006 and 2007 were collected, organized and sent to the auditor. Catching up on audits from 2006-2009 was deemed a high priority during the May 2010 partners meeting. Documents for 2008 are currently being reviewed by the SRCS's finance staff and will be submitted to the auditor in August, with 2009 to follow soon after.

Building the systems, human resources and organization capacity of the Society figures strongly in the *Integrated proposition for the effective application of tsunami-related funds 2010-2014*, with 14 per cent of funds being requested for this area. In particular, the national society has noted a need for technical assistance in human resource management, including performance management, training, and orientation.

Two SRCS staff took part in a *Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Training Workshop* in Suva, Fiji from 26-29 April 2010. The workshop, which was facilitated by IFRC provided participants with a better understanding of the planning process, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and reporting.

Challenges:

One of the issues that came to light during the May 2010 partners' meeting was that there is a lack of common vision and understanding between the SRCS Board, Management and Staff. The differences include disparate views on the delineation of roles between board and management in the area of human resource management, and financial control of funds. There is also a lack of a common vision for the future of the national society and for the use of the funds available from the tsunami.

The impact of this is that certain areas are stalled. The SRCS's Board understanding is that all human resources issues, including recruitment of staff are under the direct control of the Board, with the result that several staff have been suspended without due process and key positions have remained unfilled for several months. In addition, partners are cautious to fund the budget proposed in the *Integrated Proposition* until they have clear confirmation that all stakeholders agree and commit to the plan.

Technical and mentoring assistance, both locally and internationally sourced, are being offered to the Board and Management with the hope that through assisted dialogue these issues of conflict can be ameliorated.

LOGISTICS

Logistics support has been provided following IFRC procedures 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 have been supported through the close cooperation with the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) at IFRC's Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur; the Australian Red Cross and the New Zealand Red Cross. During this reporting period SRCS received support from RLU in the following ways:

- Procurement of new 4WD ambulance, funded by Australia Red Cross
- Procurement of six multi-purpose tents and a large warehouse tent, funded by New Zealand Red Cross
- Procurement of 350 kitchen sets for replenishing disaster pre-positioning stock

Progress:

Warehousing of stock through containers on the SRCS office property and on property across the street from the office. However the adjacent property is only available short-term and another solution needs to be found for long term warehouse needs.

SRCS logistics and DM staff are assessing the need for depots across the island. Prior to the tsunami, there were several small cement depots around the island, each containing a small number of items to be used in disasters. However, when the tsunami struck it was found that many items in these small depots had been ruined by leaks or pests and that the small number of stock in these depots was not adequate. Because the island is small and the furthest points can be reached from the office in under two hours, SRCS is analyzing different warehousing options, including consolidating all of the warehousing on the island of Upolu into one location, with separate depots reserved for placement on inaccessible points, such as on other islands.

Challenges:

The logistics delegate will complete his eight month contract in July. While there have been many achievements reached during these eight months, the key position of Logistics Officer remains vacant as per the SRCS's Board directive that all hiring decisions rest with the Board. Without this key position, the long-term sustainability of logistics procedures and practices is doubtful.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

SRCS, with the support of an Australia Red Cross bilateral communications delegate, has engaged in several media events during this reporting period, including handover of water tanks to the Samoa government and

media coverage of the re-signing of the MoU during World Red Cross Red Crescent Day activities. An article profiling the recovery of a family in the tsunami-affected area was also featured on the IFRC website.

While in the past SRCS has “filled the gaps” by providing direct assistance, the national society is beginning to utilize advocacy as another way to address the needs of vulnerable populations. Access to water remains a priority concern for many of the tsunami-affected communities and the national society has quickly responded to these needs through providing rainwater tanks, trucking water, and assisting the government to implement an interim water supply. During recent months, the national society has also taken on an advocacy role to encourage the government to fulfill their commitments in providing trucked water. And in another instance worked with the government and village leaders to resolve a conflict between two communities which was preventing one of the communities to have access to water.

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 (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 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:

Samoa

- Samoa Red Cross Society, Ms. Tautala Mauala, Secretary General, email: secretary_general@redcross.org.ws; phone: +68523686.

IFRC: Samoa

- Ms. Erin Cornish, Samoa Earthquake Tsunami Recovery Coordinator, email: erin.cornish@ifrc.org; phone: +685 725 0385.

IFRC: Pacific Regional Office, Suva:

- Ms. Aurelia Balpe, Head of Pacific Regional Office, email: aurelia.balpe@ifrc.org Phone: +679 331 1855.

IFRC: Asia Pacific Zone Office, Kuala Lumpur:

- Mr. Jagan Chapagain, Head of Operations; email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org.
- Mr. Daniel Bolaños González, Operations Coordinator: email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org Phone: +603 9207 5728, fax +603 2164 1857.
- Mr. Jeremy Francis, Regional Logistics Coordinator; email: jeremy.francis@ifrc.org; Phone: +603 9207 5753, fax: +603 2168 8573.
- Mr. Alan Bradbury, Resource Mobilization & PMER Coordinator; email: alan.bradbury@ifrc.org; phone: +603 9207 5775, fax +603 2164 1857.

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	2009/9-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2011/4
Appeal	MDRWS001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
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	927,185					927,185
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
Hilton worldwide	142					142
Irish Red Cross	12,090					12,090
Japanese Red Cross	95,300					95,300
Monaco Red Cross	30,216					30,216
New Zealand Red Cross	187,050					187,050
On Line donations	3,522					3,522
Republic of Korea Government	101,153					101,153
Swedish - Private Donors	829					829
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	72,509					72,509
Switzerland - Private Donors	1,290					1,290
United States - Private Donors	813					813
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	1,000					1,000
C1. Cash contributions	2,100,191					2,100,191
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
New Zealand Red Cross	194,709					194,709
United States Government - USAID	271,916					271,916
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	466,625					466,625
<u>Income reserved for future periods</u>						
United States Government - USAID	-1,450					-1,450
C3. Income reserved for future periods	-1,450					-1,450
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Australian Red Cross	22,293					22,293
New Zealand Red Cross	30,800					30,800
C5. Inkind Personnel	53,093					53,093
<u>Other Income</u>						
Services	-7					-7
C6. Other Income	-7					-7
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	2,618,452					2,618,452
D. Total Funding = B + C	2,618,452					2,618,452
Appeal Coverage	106%					106%

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Interim Financial Report

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Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2011/4
Appeal	MDRWS001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	2,618,452					2,618,452
E. Expenditure	-1,202,752					-1,202,752
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,415,700					1,415,700

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRWS001 - Samoa - Earthquake & Tsunami

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
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Appeal	MDRWS001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		2,469,064					2,469,064	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	48,500	18,398					18,398	30,102
Construction Materials	118,000	901					901	117,099
Clothing & textiles	26,650	18,779					18,779	7,871
Water & Sanitation	528,905	386,738					386,738	142,167
Medical & First Aid	43,908	1,332					1,332	42,576
Teaching Materials	15,000	10,113					10,113	4,888
Utensils & Tools	48,987							48,987
Other Supplies & Services	304,000	36,098					36,098	267,902
Total Supplies	1,133,950	472,359					472,359	661,591
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	80,000	40,759					40,759	39,241
Computers & Telecom	12,500	13,904					13,904	-1,404
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	20,000	20,263					20,263	-263
Others Machinery & Equipment		1,458					1,458	-1,458
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	112,500	76,384					76,384	36,116
Transport & Storage								
Storage	80,000	32,262					32,262	47,738
Distribution & Monitoring	21,600	11,218					11,218	10,382
Transport & Vehicle Costs	58,800	41,797					41,797	17,003
Total Transport & Storage	160,400	85,277					85,277	75,123
Personnel								
International Staff	426,000	282,577					282,577	143,423
Regionally Deployed Staff	24,150	643					643	23,507
National Society Staff	66,075	31,076					31,076	34,999
Consultants	29,000	34,220					34,220	-5,220
Total Personnel	545,225	348,516					348,516	196,709
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	147,000	31,935					31,935	115,065
Total Workshops & Training	147,000	31,935					31,935	115,065
General Expenditure								
Travel	45,000	12,647					12,647	32,353
Information & Public Relation	38,000	5,724					5,724	32,276
Office Costs	86,500	28,047					28,047	58,453
Communications		8,818					8,818	-8,818
Professional Fees	40,000							40,000
Financial Charges		39,625					39,625	-39,625
Other General Expenses		4,040					4,040	-4,040
Total General Expenditure	209,500	98,901					98,901	110,599
Programme Support								
Program Support	160,489	78,602					78,602	81,887
Total Programme Support	160,489	78,602					78,602	81,887
Services								
Services & Recoveries		9,462					9,462	-9,462
Total Services		9,462					9,462	-9,462
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		1,316					1,316	-1,316
Total Operational Provisions		1,316					1,316	-1,316
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,469,064	1,202,752					1,202,752	1,266,312
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,266,312					1,266,312	