

Report 2006-2007



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Eastern Africa Regional Programmes

Appeal No. MAA64001

4 April 2008

This report covers the period of 01/01/2006 to 31/12/2007 for the 2006-2007 Appeal.



Ethiopian Red Cross drought response operation 2006

In brief

Programme summary: Disaster Management programme: Special attention was given to preparedness and risk reduction in terms of training, contingency planning, partnerships and forums for information sharing and early warning. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the implementation of climate change initiatives in the Zone was concluded with the RCRC Climate Change Centre in Netherlands. In addition, a joint annual planning forum was held in collaboration with the Health and Care Department.

Health and care: In general, there was a scale up of interventions by the National Societies in the areas of public health, HIV and AIDS, and water and sanitation through support from the health and care programme. Partnerships in public health allowed a common approach to planning malaria and measles control interventions in the region, while ensuring increased and sustained coverage. The Federation's partnership with the Network of African People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAP+) improved access to anti retroviral treatment (ART) at regional level as well as stigma and discrimination reduction through anti stigma campaigns. Support from the African Caribbean Pacific-European Union (ACP-EU) Water Facility will ensure the expansion of water and sanitation programming in the region. The Eastern Africa Zonal Global Alliance on HIV programme development was initiated to be launched in February 2008. The programme involves nine National Societies in the Eastern African Zone.

Communications: Focus was on strengthening the capacity and skills of National Societies communications departments, particularly by supporting their endeavours to formulate their own communications plans, policies and strategies based on the Regional Communications Framework and the Secretariat's communications and advocacy strategy from 2006.

Needs: Total 2006-2007 budget CHF 5,387,472 (USD 4,478,364 or EUR 3,277,051) out of which 100 percent covered.

[Click the links below to go directly to the financial reports:](#)

[Report 2006](#)

[Report 2007](#)

[Report 2006-2007](#)

For more detailed information on 2006-7 activities, please refer to:

Programme Update no. 1: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA6400101.pdf>

Programme Update no. 2: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA6400102.pdf>

Report 2006-2007 (2006): <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA64001ar06.pdf>

Programme Update no. 3: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA6400103.pdf>

Our partners: The Zone worked closely with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as well as Partner National Societies (PNSs) during programme implementation across the region. Close partnerships were also fostered with United Nations agencies, development partners, and community-based, government and international humanitarian agencies.

Current context

Major disasters in 2006-2007 included floods, cyclones and epidemics such as cholera, Rift Valley Fever and meningitis. Major socio-economic challenges included conflicts in Somalia and population movements in Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi. In response to the disasters, National Societies in the respective countries supported the affected populations by launching Appeals and requesting for Disaster Relief Emergency Funds from the Federation Secretariat. The Eastern African Zone Office participated in the development of a five-year Draft (2008-2012) Food Security Programme Framework and plan of action which will be launched in April 2008 in Addis Ababa.

The implementation of the Regional Communications/Humanitarian Values (HV) programme in 2007 went according to plan despite delayed disbursement of funds and the inevitable and prolonged disruptions associated with the zonalization process. With only one full-time staff (and periodically a part-time consultant), the unit constantly needs to prioritize – which helps keep the focus on the most important and most do-able activities.

Progress towards objectives

Disaster management

Objective: To strengthen and support appropriate National Society capacities to provide quality response to common disasters facing the region (food security, political disturbances and population movements, cyclones and seasonal floods) and the lack of disaster policy plans and vulnerability and capacity assessments.

Achievements

The National Societies within the Eastern Africa Zone received varying levels of support from the disaster management (DM) department to enhance their capacities to respond to disasters, which included providing the DM focal points in the National Societies with regular technical information related to disaster management. The Red Cross Society of Eritrea was supported to conduct a six-day National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) training in Asmara, where 28 members were trained in necessary skills to respond to small and medium disasters.

Table 1: 2007 DREF Allocations to National Societies in Eastern Africa Zone

Country	Disaster	DREF allocation (in CHF)	Beneficiaries	Intervention strategy
---------	----------	--------------------------	---------------	-----------------------

Comoros	Cholera	139,000	150,000 people	Medical Health/IEC
Ethiopia	Acute Watery Diarrhoea	99,654	6,000 people	IEC and Medical Health
Ethiopia	Floods	941,088	42,200 people	Relief/IEC/
Kenya	Drought (January '06)	16,369,585	329,000 beneficiaries	
Madagascar	Cyclones CHF households	98,000	500 households	Preparedness and non food
Rwanda	Floods	188,899	5,100 people	Relief
Sudan	Meningitis	219,497	900,000 people	Medical Supplies and IEC
Sudan	Floods	7,498,940	200,000 people	Relief/shelter/health
Regional	Drought for 6 countries	250,000	East and Horn of Africa	Relief
Tanzania	Floods	93,000	500 households	Shelter & Health
Uganda	Meningitis	69,000	500,000 people	IEC
Uganda	Marburg Fever	129,275	1.32m people	Medical Health and IEC
Uganda	Floods	8,900,000	100,000 people	Relief/shelter/IEC
Uganda	Ebola	152,756		IEC

The Federation Climate Change Centre and Eastern Africa Zone Office signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for implementation of climate change initiatives in the Zone.

A Zonal climate change meeting was conducted in 2007. Seven NSs from the Eastern Africa Zone and a Climate Centre Consultant attended. Awareness raising on environment and climate change issues was made RC-Net and Zone management. Facilitation support to identify and establish a linkage between ERCS and a Trainer Consultant on SPHERE Minimum Standards, training was accomplished in 2007. Technical support was provided in the disaster management plan of DFID IS III support for Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia.

The disaster management department collaborated with the health and care department to hold a joint Annual Planning forum from 14 to 16 November, 2007 in Nairobi. The forum was attended by representatives from all the 14 National Societies, Eastern Africa Zone and Geneva Federation representatives and the Federation/DFID ISP representative. The purpose of the meeting was to enhance joint planning efforts to deal with the complex emergency environment and find ways to strengthen programming during health emergencies.

Food security

Objective: The capacity of the National Societies in the region is enhanced to conduct vulnerability capacity assessments (VCAs), situational analysis, early warning and develop, implement, monitor and evaluate food security projects.

Achievements

The Red Crescent Society of Djibouti was supported in monitoring the drought situation in Djibouti. The National Society staff participated in food security training organized for francophone countries in Senegal. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society was assisted in the finalization of ERCS ECHO floods recovery proposal and DFID IS III plan of action 2007.

The food security unit coordinated a post-floods recovery assessment in four districts in Kenya. In addition to the recovery Appeal, technical support was provided to the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) during the drafting of the longer-term food security/livelihood project proposal. Almost two days training facilitation was done to KRCS NDRT training participants.

The Uganda Red Cross Society was supported in finalizing its food security plan for 2007, which was subsequently submitted to Japanese Red Cross. The Zone office facilitated the submission of a food security concept paper to ECHO.

A total of 25 Rwanda Red Cross staff and volunteers were trained on food security assessment. In Burundi, a total of 22 National Society staff and volunteers were trained on food security assessment.

Follow up was made on the recruitment of a consultant to develop a food security proposal in Ethiopia and Rwanda. The work has started in Rwanda and a draft proposal was sent to the consultant.

A generic job description for National Society food security officer position was drafted and communicated to National Societies in the Eastern Africa Zone as well as the Zone Offices in West & Central and South Africa. Fifteen staff members were trained in different food security trainings abroad: four participated in food security assessment in West & Central Africa, one participated in VCA in Turkey, 11 participated in food security programming and proposal writing in Tanzania.

The zone office participated in the development of the five-year Draft (2008-2012) Food Security Programme Framework and plan of action which will be launched in April 2008 in Addis Ababa. An Eastern Africa food security peer meeting was conducted from December 03 to 07 2007. Eight National Societies; Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda attended the meeting. Eritrea and Madagascar couldn't attend due to different problems. Presentations were made on some thematic issues and different modalities of food security interventions. Participants shared their National Societies experiences. A two and half days field visit was delete organized to learn from the Rwanda Red Cross food security experiences.

Objective: Networking with other food security key players enhanced in order to achieve effective partnership and advocacy for food insecure communities and to promote the work of the RC/RC movement.

Achievements

The Zone food security unit is represented in the Regional Food and Nutrition Working Group steering committee. Good partnerships were also created with the Kenyan Government's Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Arid Lands Project, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), Food Early Warning Systems Network, ICRC and Spanish Red Cross.

Objective: Innovative practices and lessons learned are captured, documented and replicated.

Achievements

A review mission was conducted to six African National Societies to evaluate their food security programmes' implementation. These National Societies included Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda and Zambia. As a follow up to this, a long term food security planning workshop was held in August 2007 in Uganda. The food security unit played a significant role in organizing the review as well as the workshop. Some pictures of good practices in these countries are documented.

A two and half days field visit was done by the food security peer meeting participants to learn from the Rwanda Red Cross food security experiences. In addition, food security-related thematic issues and reports from different organizations were communicated to NSs focal persons. Food security best practices and news from RC/RC Movement or external partners were also communicated to NSs food security focal persons and disaster management managers.

Constraints

National Societies should enhance their commitment to communicating food security related information. Due to late disbursement of funds, certain activities were not accomplished during the first half of the year. New funding opportunities are being explored to ensure that the food security programme is not at risk.

Health and Care

Objective: To support National Societies in the region and consequently vulnerable communities to address their public health needs in a sustainable manner using the ARCHI strategy and the Algiers Plan of Action (2004) priorities, while at the same time building upon the capacities of National Societies to rapidly and effectively address public health needs in emergencies (preparedness and response).

Achievements

The 14 National Societies in the Zone benefited from targeted support in the areas of public health, HIV and AIDS as well as water and sanitation (WatSan). Activities in public health included mass immunization for Polio and Measles, the expansion of the *KEEP UP* strategy for Malaria control and the integration of sexual and reproductive health interventions in humanitarian emergencies programming. An estimated 8,336,623 children aged under five years were reached during mass immunization campaigns in 2006 and 2007. This will go a long way in improving child survival in the region. In addition, a regional contingency plan on the Avian Influenza threat was developed for the region.

Household water treatment products were distributed to 31,200 vulnerable people, including People Living with HIV (PLHIV) under the home-based care programmes. Community-based information, education and communication (IEC) activities on Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) reached 246,476 people in the region, adding to their existing knowledge. The synergy between the WatSan and HIV and AIDS programmes will significantly improve the quality of life of PLHIV.

The expansion of WatSan programming in the region, made possible through the African Caribbean Pacific-European Union (ACP-EU) Water Facility support to the Eritrean and Kenyan National Societies, will increase access to safe drinking water in the beneficiary populations whilst reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases.

Public health

The National Societies of Comoros and Ethiopia received support in developing their health programme strategies for 2006-2007. Volunteer toolkits were developed for use in IEC activities following the Chikungunya outbreak in the Indian Ocean islands countries of Mauritius and Seychelles, and in response to Meningitis outbreaks in Kenya and Uganda. A volunteer training manual on the Somali Red Crescent Society's psychosocial support programme was finalized and will be integrated into the National Society's community-based first aid (CBFA) manual.

An anti female genital mutilation advocacy training workshop was facilitated for the Red Cross Society of Eritrea staff as part of the anti female genital mutilation campaign, integrated in the community-based health development programme. A training workshop on sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS in humanitarian emergencies was organized for the National Societies from the region. The RC-Net Health and Care Working Group meeting was held in Kampala, Uganda in March 2006 and in Dar es Salaam in February 2007, bringing together 14 National Societies to share progress, challenges and lessons learned in health programming.

The National Societies of Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda received a total of 13,000 LLITNs in 2006, and Uganda received 14,500 LLITNs in 2007 from World Swim for Malaria. These were distributed to children aged under five years, pregnant women and PLHIV. This contributed to the reduction of Malaria incidence amongst these groups of people.

Technical support was provided to National Societies in response to Ebola, cholera and Marburg fever outbreak in Uganda, acute watery diarrhoea outbreak in Ethiopia, Rift Valley Fever outbreak in Sudan and cholera outbreak in Comoros.

HIV and AIDS

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea's HIV/AIDS programme document and budget was updated based on a three year proposal with support from the Netherlands Red Cross. Draft publications on the reduction of stigma and discrimination implemented by the Kenyan and Ugandan National Societies through their home-based care programmes were finalized. The publications are also linked to the promotion of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement's Humanitarian Values.

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society branch staff capacity in HIV/AIDS programming was strengthened in coordination with the Netherlands Red Cross. This was part of the National Society's four year HIV/AIDS programme to scale up prevention and stigma reduction among young internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities in Khartoum and Kassala as well as in selected IDP camps in Darfur.

The Eritrean, Ethiopian, Kenyan, Sudanese and Ugandan National Societies were assisted in preparing proposals for integrated HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment and support projects in their countries. The French Red Cross, the German Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross participated in this process.

A youth exchange workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention, attended by the Tanzanian, Haitian and Nigerian National Societies, was hosted by the American Red Cross. A regional training of trainers on the Inter Agency Steering Committee (IASC) guidelines on HIV/AIDS in emergency settings was attended by the Sudanese and Ugandan National Societies. Such peer education programmes in the region have contributed greatly to reducing the prevalence of HIV and AIDS.

The HIV/AIDS unit provided varying levels of technical support to the Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS (NAP+) within the framework of the Eastern Africa Zone's partnership with NAP+ and the International Federation's role as the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) collaborating centre. This collaboration extended to joint programming, promotion of the 'Ambassador of Hope' concept, development of anti-stigma campaigns in the region as well as partnerships between National Societies and national PLHIV associations.

The Uganda Red Cross Society applied and received support from the Masambo fund to support ART access for a volunteer. Furthermore, URCS has signed an MoU with the Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) which allows needy clients referred from URCS to access free anti retrovirals (ARVs) including free CD4 tests, in branches where JCRC is in operation. The Kenya Red Cross Society has initiated HIV prevention programmes in prisons.

The Rwandan Red Cross orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) programme was evaluated, with support from the British Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross. Technical support was also provided to Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) on the OVC strategy development.

As a process in adaptation of the Federation HIV prevention, treatment, care and support training package for community volunteers and to enhance greater access in the Eastern Africa Region, the document translation into Swahili was completed. The dissemination of the

package at country level jointly by National Societies and the World Health Organization (WHO) country offices with ministries of health is on course. In addition, a ToT workshop on HIV prevention, care treatment and support, community volunteers training package was held for the 14 National Societies in the Zone.

In September 2007, a HIV stakeholders meeting was held in Nairobi to discuss the adaptation of the HIV community volunteers training package and the Global Alliance on HIV Zonal programme development. Nine National Societies, namely: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda developed their respective HIV programme drafts. The Global Alliance on HIV programme for the Zone was launched on 15 February 2008 in Entebbe, Uganda, during a partnership meeting that saw the participation of National Societies in the Zone, Movement partners as well as other donor organizations.

Water and sanitation

Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) support activities and training, including Children Hygiene and Sanitation Training (CHAST) were provided to the Somali Red Crescent Society (WatSan project in Somaliland), the Djibouti Red Crescent Society, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the Kenya Red Cross Society. In Djibouti, 100 WatSan community-based volunteers were trained as trainers of trainers. A water and sanitation baseline survey was undertaken in six villages (bomas) of southern Sudan, the results were used to undertake a planning exercise that identified WatSan hardware activities as well as software aspects. In Juba County of Southern Sudan, 25 people from Sudanese Red Crescent Society with support from Netherlands Red Cross were trained in PHAST methodology application.

A final field monitoring mission was conducted for the Somaliland WatSan project of Somali Red Crescent, as preparatory step to the final evaluation by a consultant. Much change has been observed in relation to hygiene behaviour and general programming at both the National and community levels. WatSan evaluations were conducted for the Nugal General Hospital in Puntland, Somalia as well as a WatSan project in Kenya, with support from the Norwegian Red Cross and partners. The Uganda Red Cross Society's PHAST case study was documented.

The development of the Regional Water and Sanitation Strategy and community-based tools have reached a first draft stage that has been shared with Geneva WatSan team, Regional WatSan units of West and Southern Africa, Participating National Societies and Operational National Societies for input. The draft was compiled after long consultations with National Societies of Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Together with Geneva WatSan unit, the Zonal WatSan team conducted a technical training on WatSan equipment in Terekeka in Southern Sudan targeting the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and other WatSan players operating in Southern Sudan.

A joint field mission with EU, Spanish Red Cross, German Red Cross, the International Federation and Kenya Red Cross Society was conducted in Machakos and Makueni districts. The aim was to acquaint the members with proposed sites for WatSan interventions in the EU-funded WatSan projects. A follow up two-day induction training for the project staff of the two districts was organized by KRCS and facilitated by the Zonal WatSan unit.

The WatSan team attended two Emergency Response Unit (ERU) trainings as facilitators in Austria, and the Zonal WatSan (software) officer attended a similar training in Germany. The skills acquired will be used to beef up the zonal disaster response capacities in disaster management.

Challenges and constraints

- Delayed disbursement of funds.
- Changing National Society working environments and plans heavily impacted on the implementation of the Health Unit's planned activities.

- Inadequate country level partner coordination mechanisms that made it a challenge for the National Societies to plan/confirm participation in meetings/forums/workshops in time.
- National Societies lacked adequate funding to enable them to be fully involved in the immunization campaigns.
- Limited HIV programme interventions in the Indian Ocean Islands and Djibouti

Recommendations

- Diversification of resource mobilization bases and strategies.
- Proper coordination with the MoHs and other partners to ensure activities are planned accordingly as well as full participation of all interested parties.
- Scale up the scope of HIV programming to include harm reduction in the high risk countries in the Zone.

Organizational development

Objective: National societies in the region have the necessary structures and system in place to respond to clearly identified needs.

Achievements

Regular general assemblies were held in a number of National Societies. Governance and management workshops were conducted for Sudanese Red Crescent Society's and Tanzania Red Cross National Society's newly elected board members. Governance training was also carried out at local levels in some National Societies with support from the organizational development unit.

The newly elected senior National Society leaders from the region attended a leadership course organized by the Secretariat in Geneva, equipping them with more in-depth understanding of how the Movement functions, thereby empowering them to participate actively in National Societies' decision making processes.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society has effected a new, slimmer structure at the headquarters level with a more compact span of control for effective programme and service delivery as well as better communication with the branches.

The RC-NET members held meetings and discussed a number of issues including the steering committee's term of office as well as reorganizing and developing new terms of reference for the organizational development and resource mobilization working group. A decision was passed to create an organizational development and resource mobilization working group. An RC-NET annual meeting was convened in July 2007 and elections were held; the Secretary General of Burundi Red Cross was elected as the chairperson.

Humanitarian Values

The Regional Communications/Humanitarian Values programme sees its role as providing various support to both National Societies and the Federation's structures in the region, as well as globally. Through the capacity-building efforts of the programme, the National Societies are becoming better able to plan ahead and see communications as a part of their overall development and structures, thus becoming better at responding to the needs of the most vulnerable and reducing discrimination and intolerance (GA goals 3 and 4). With the current level of funding allocated to communications/HV, however, the Federation in Eastern Africa is not able to live up to its commitments and provide the needed and necessary support in this area, particularly in relation to Humanitarian Values.

Objective: The development and capacity building of at least five National Society information units to meet minimum technical, professional and human resources standards (as approved by RC-Net) has been completed by the end of the appeal period.

Communications development and capacity-building

Extensive support and facilitation was provided to the National Societies of Rwanda, Sudan, Seychelles and Somalia in formulating communications strategies and policies, as well as work plans, using as a blueprint the Regional Communications Framework which was developed by regional National Societies communicators in 2006. These exercises have had the participation of the National Societies' top leadership and volunteers as well as programme managers, which has helped increase awareness in the National Societies on the role more structured and planned communications work can play.

The Communications Forum's Task Force met three times in 2006 to report on progress regarding the Communications Framework and plan for the 2007 Forum held in Nairobi in early July. The 2008-2009 Appeal was the main focus of the 2007 Forum, enabling the Zone (communications unit) to base its plans and strategies on actual requirements and needs of the National Societies in the field of communications and advocacy.

Final distribution of communications equipment procured for the National Societies' communications departments, which was started during last quarter of 2006, was completed. As of July 2007, all regional National Societies have been provided with basic equipment, including computers, projectors, printers, flash disks, cameras and video cameras.

A comprehensive communications training kit for use in National Societies' training (media relations, news writing, photography, videography, making publications, making presentations, crisis communications, emergency communications, internal communications, internet use, etc) has been finalized and is expected to be used for capacity building in communications as detailed in the 2008-2009 Appeal. This kit is available on DVD to any Federation delegation and to National Societies following the initial training sessions.

Three communications officers (from Sudan, Seychelles and Ethiopia) were supported to participate in a long-distance writing course organized by the Federation. All three have shown considerable skills improvement and have been satisfied with the course.

Objective: Cooperation between at least five National Society information units at bi-lateral, sub-regional, regional and international level is operational.

Regional cooperation

Information-sharing between the regional communicators (formal and informal) significantly increased. Three regional communicators took part in the Regional Internship Project by spending time with the American, Danish and Norwegian Red Cross Societies and the Secretariat's Media Unit. This project is funded by the Zonal Communications Unit in cooperation with the receiving PNSs. The Kenya Red Cross Society communications manager supported the Ugandan Red Cross Society communications team during the floods in late 2007.

Constraints

Not all PNSs that had initially committed to participating in the Internship Project are honouring their pledges.

Objective: RC/RC responses to emergencies have been professionally promoted and have received appropriate coverage at national, regional and international levels.

Disaster Response

Web stories have been produced on a number of other Federation/National Society operations around the region, some of which have been picked up by regional media.

Communications support was provided to the Malagasy Red Cross Society during the cyclone season early in 2007, resulting in relatively good media coverage across the region and beyond, thus increasing donor response to the revised emergency appeal.

Electronic publications – ‘Bulletin from the Field’ – were produced and distributed to targeted audiences to highlight Federation and National Society role in major emergencies.

Constraints

While more and better visual materials coming from Eastern Africa National Societies with the provision of quality equipment were provided by the Zonal Office, new guidelines for submissions to the Federation’s web site have unfortunately limited the possibility of posting these materials on www.ifrc.org.

Objectives

1. RC/RC campaigns, events and regional programmes have been given consistent visibility through an integrated and well-structured approach.
2. Draft Fundamental Principle and Humanitarian Values programme has been developed in cooperation with regional National Societies and Federation staff.

Advocacy

A number of web stories were produced to profile programmes and activities; publication on the Lake Victoria Programme and production of ‘CBFA in Action’, in cooperation with the regional Health and Care Unit. Three case studies on the effects of climate change in the region (Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia) and how/if National Societies are tackling the issue have been published. The case studies were done in cooperation with the regional Disaster Management Unit and the Red Cross Climate Change Centre in the Netherlands.

A regional profile on the RC/RC in Eastern Africa, highlighting regional programmes and the expanded role of the Zone, National Societies, PNSs and other partners was published. A regional Humanitarian Values programme 2008-2009 was developed in cooperation with regional National Societies and Federation staff. This was shared with National Societies to facilitate/initiate systematic Humanitarian Values programming across the region in 2008-2009. A pamphlet on risk reduction ‘DM begins in school’ was produced (in French and English) in cooperation with the Regional Disaster Management Unit. The pamphlets were distributed to National Societies in the region as well as various interested parties in the region.

Objective: The cooperation with the ICRC in the field of dissemination and promotion of HV has increased.

Movement Cooperation

The Communications Unit continued excellent cooperation with the ICRC’s regional delegation in Nairobi, particularly through the Communications Forum, where ICRC is a full and enthusiastic partner. ICRC delegations in Sudan, Somalia and Rwanda have participated in the formulation of national communications strategies and helped lead the formulation of dissemination strategies, as well as being instrumental in defining the roles and responsibilities of RC/RC communicators in areas of tension and conflict.

Constraints

Low level and late arrival of funding, which came in the middle of 2007 seriously affected timely implementation of the programme.

Working in partnership

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners played a leading role in supporting National Societies’ activities. The table below shows the Partner National Societies which supported the Zonal programmes.

Regional Programme	Partner
Health and Care	British Red Cross Norwegian Red Cross Swedish Red Cross Japanese Red Cross
Disaster Management	British Red Cross Canadian Red Cross Finnish Red Cross German Red Cross Irish Red Cross Netherlands Red Cross Swedish Red Cross
Organizational Development	Norwegian Red Cross Swedish Red Cross
Humanitarian Values	Swedish Red Cross
Food Security	British Red Cross

The disaster management department's logistics unit built up the logistics capacity of the Juba sub-delegation and the Yirol Consortium 2 in requisition management systems and developing standard operating procedures. The sub-delegation is now poised to provide more efficient services to the Sudanese Red Crescent Society as well as Partner National Societies operating in Southern Sudan.

A strategic partnership was formalized between the Federation and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ISDR) focusing on the promotion of basic risk reduction concepts in schools (primary and secondary) implemented at country level in collaboration with ISDR national platforms within the overall framework of the Global Alliances.

The DM department played a major role in putting in place the Inter Agency Working Group (IAWG) to create a forum for non-governmental organizations and UN agencies to discuss disaster preparedness and response issues in the Eastern Africa Region. The department was represented in the Tsunami Inter Governmental Coordination Group meeting and gave a presentation on the role of the Federation in the Tsunami Early Warning System Initiative (TEWSI). Within this framework, the UN office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is providing funding to Tanzania Red Cross National Society through the Federation to fund community awareness and evacuation in the event of a tsunami.

The relationship between Federation's Eastern Africa Zone Food Security Unit and the ICRC ECOSEC and Spanish Red Cross is strengthened.

The Health Unit participated in the RC Net health and care working group meeting held from 28 February to 1 March 2007 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The main aim of the meeting was to bring together health and care coordinators from the region, to discuss the progress of Health and care programmes and to chart the way forward.

The annual disaster management and health planning meeting was held in Nairobi and attended by National Societies in the Zone in October 2006 and November 2007. During the meetings, updates and recent developments in the WatSan sector response mechanism, public health and HIV were shared with participants.

The Health Unit participated in meetings with Eastern Africa Roll Back Malaria Network (EARN), the inter-agency RVF task force, Inter Agency Standing Committee (Health Action in Crisis) on meningitis, the East Africa community meeting on HIV and the Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS Service Organizations (EANNASO) third General Assembly.

The Annual WatSan continental meeting was organized and held in Nairobi in mid-June 2007. Participants from the West and Southern African regions attended, together with PNSs active in the Eastern Africa Region. This new approach to continental meetings rather than global ones is seen as the appropriate way to focused discussions. In addition, a stakeholders' biannual meeting for EU WatSan-funded organizations, the EU Nairobi office and Ministry of Water and Irrigation was hosted by the Eastern Africa Zone office in October 2007.

A NAP+ meeting was held in Nairobi, with the participation of the UNAIDS inter country team (based in Johannesburg). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss on partnership and collaboration in strengthening nutritional networks of PLHIV as well as to establish partnership for resource mobilization.

The partnership mechanism of the Regional Communications Forum is proving to be an effective way of increasing professional communications work in the National Societies in the region, particularly with the consistent inclusion of secretaries-general and other senior management staff of the National Societies. The continued good relationship with the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Eastern Africa also helps profile both the National Societies and the International Federation as an important humanitarian partner in the region. The relationship between the Federation's delegation and the ICRC's delegations in the region continues to be productive and is increasing the cohesion of the Movement's work and profile. However, there is still limited organized cooperation between the Zone Office and the PNSs operating in the region.

Contributing to longer-term impact

National Societies' strategic plans and capacity building initiatives are designed taking into consideration their respective countries' national policies and strategies to ensure that National Societies' programming is aligned with countries' timelines for achieving the Millennium Development Goals as well as poverty reduction strategies.

The disaster management department has scaled up its effort in promoting disaster risk reduction. It circulated leaflets on the 'Disaster Risk Reduction Begins in Schools' global campaign to all the National Societies within the Eastern Africa Zone as well as other interested African National Societies, aimed at creating awareness and sharing information on how to minimize the effects of disasters in communities.

The Eastern Africa Zone contributed to the reduction of stigma and discrimination in the region by implementing the Greater Involvement of People Living With AIDS (GIPA) principle. Capacity building for National Society staff on sexual and reproductive health in emergencies has been instrumental in promoting planning for and protection of women, girls and other vulnerable groups. In Eritrea, an anti female genital mutilation advocacy training conducted for the Red Cross Society of Eritrea staff examined harmful cultural practices that put women, girls and boys at risk, and the creation of shelters for victims of gender based violence.

Looking ahead

The *disaster management* department will continue monitoring the implementation of the DFID-funded Institutional Strategy III project and will explore other resource mobilization efforts to improve the financial situation of the disaster management programme. For the period 2008-9, the department's key areas of support to National Societies will lay more and more emphasis on disaster risk reduction at the community level and guide National Societies more into pre-disaster interventions than before.

Health and Care: Progress was made in 2006 and 2007 with regard to enhancing the quality and scale-up of National Societies' HIV programmes. However, these gains need to be strengthened and implementation increased in low prevalence countries. Moreover, the risk of HIV infection from injecting drug use is increasingly noted in the Indian Ocean Islands and

coastal areas of the region. Comprehensive prevention including voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) as well as prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) and positive prevention needs to be built up.

The focus for support to National Societies will also be on strategic integrated programming, embracing community-based health interventions. The development of relevant health strategies and capacity building initiatives for the National Societies will be very important in 2008 and 2009. Strengthening WatSan capacity in disaster response through support for building up teams with equipment at National Society level will also be critical.

In 2008 and 2009, National Societies will be supported to develop their strategies in health and care, specifically in HIV/AIDS, WatSan and Public Health (Health in emergencies). The Global Alliance on HIV framework provides an improved way of working for more efficient utilization of resources, ensuring greater impact, and efficient monitoring and evaluation of programmes. In HIV programming, key areas of focus will include supporting National Societies to develop strategic plans within the framework of the Global Alliance on HIV.

Communications: While the first six months of 2007 were in many ways productive, the funding situation necessitated a serious reduction in planned activities for the rest of the year. The focus of the work in 2007 continued to be on strengthening the capacity and skills of National Societies communications departments, particularly by supporting their endeavours to formulate their own communications plans, policies and strategies based on the Regional Communications Framework and the Secretariat's communications and advocacy strategy from 2006. After thorough consultation with the National Societies in the region, this will continue to be the focus of the Communications Unit's work in 2008-2009.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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 on this Appeal, contact:

- **In Kenya:** Dr Asha Mohammed, Federation Head of Eastern Africa Zone, Nairobi; email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org; telephone: +254.20.283.5124; fax +254.20.271.2777
- **In Geneva:** Sabine Feuglet, Federation Entry point for East Africa, email: sabine.feuglet@ifrc.org; Telephone: +41 22 730 44 27; Fax: +41 22 733 03 95

[<Click here to go back to the title page>](#)