

# Annual report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Pacific

Appeal No. MAA55001

30 April 2009

This report covers the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008.



The Samoa Red Cross Society, with support from the International Federation's regional office, successfully organized a peer education session on HIV for students from a high school in Apia. International Federation.

## In brief

### Summary:

The International Federation's Pacific regional office continues to provide essential support to the region in disaster management, health and care and organizational development. A regional partnership meeting was held in Vanuatu in April 2008 with all operating and partner national societies to determine regional directions and identify priority support areas from the national society perspective.

Key achievements in disaster management in 2008 include the first regional disaster response team training organized and carried out in the Pacific, strengthening the response capacity of the Red Cross in the region to future disasters. In addition, disaster management activities continue to be carried out with National Societies including Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga and Kiribati Islands, contributing towards increased awareness in disaster risk reduction and, in the Cook Islands, assistance to communities to address challenges identified in community assessments. The Red Cross activities highlight low cost actions that communities can take to mitigate the potential impacts of climate change. Cooperation between National Societies also continues to take place, fully utilizing technical expertise and best practices available in the region. The regional office also continued to provide support to the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea Red Cross societies to respond to ongoing disaster operations in the respective countries.

In health and care, the Pacific component of the International Federation's HIV Global Alliance was launched successfully with four National Societies – Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa and Cook Islands-- joining in as members. Other achievements include the successful facilitation of a regional community-based health and first aid workshop in March, the second of its kind globally, which introduced the participants to the new 'community-based first aid in action' process, in particular the new volunteer's manual. Also, the International Federation and the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation (PIAF)

signed a memorandum of understanding which reaffirms the International Federation's commitment to work with people living with HIV as an integral component of its HIV response, and for both organizations to share resources and support each other while jointly responding to HIV in the region.

Under the organizational development programme, the regional office provided support in the different stages of revision and implementation of statutes with Palau, Kiribati and Fiji Red Cross Societies. The Federated States of Micronesia Red Cross Society has completed a draft five-year strategic plan as well as an action plan for 2009, and the other national societies have outlined their intent to instigate a revision of their respective plans. National society newsletters continue to be circulated within the region, and Pacific national societies renewed their commitment toward peer support among themselves to increase capacity and mutual support throughout the Pacific at the partnership meeting in April. Concurrently, the regional office strengthened its ties with the other regions in the Asia Pacific through the International Federation's Asia Pacific zone office to improve opportunities for support to national societies.

**Financial situation:** The total 2008 budget was revised down from CHF 3,603,911 (USD 3.17 million or EUR 2.39 million) to CHF 2,614,539 (USD 2.3 million or EUR 1.73 million). The revised budget is 64 per cent covered. Expenditure overall was 69 per cent of available income. The budget revision, which took place in December, is a result of the Papua New Guinea appeal which was absorbed into the Pacific regional appeal. Taking into consideration the allocated timeframe in which the country office in Papua New Guinea was still operational, the original budget allocated to Papua New Guinea was revised down from CHF 1,203,563 to CHF 214,181, resulting in the new overall budget reflected in the financial report attached.

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

See also: Solomon Islands: Earthquake and tsunami (MDRSB001), [Interim Final Report](#)  
Papua New Guinea: Cyclone Guba (MDRPG002), [Interim Final Report](#)  
Papua New Guinea: Floods (MDRPG003), [DREF operation update no. 1](#)

**No. of people we help:** The Pacific regional office supports a total of 14 national societies in the region.

**Our partners:** During this reporting period, the regional office worked with the 14 national societies in the region, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in two countries, the whole United Nations (UN) family based in Suva as well as national and regional organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO), the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), the Pacific Island AIDS Foundation (PIAF), the Secretariat of Pacific Communities (SPC), the Asia Foundation/ office of U.S. foreign disaster assistance (TAF/OFDA), AusAID and NZAID. Additional support from within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement include the American, Australian, French, Japanese, New Zealand and Netherlands Red Cross Societies.

The International Federation, on behalf of the national societies in the Pacific region, would like to thank the abovementioned partners for their generous support.

## Context

The status of the Fiji interim government remained unchanged during 2008. During the final quarter of the year, the acting New Zealand High Commissioner was expelled from Fiji and the New Zealand authorities reciprocated by expelling the Fiji representative from Wellington. The discussions between the Fiji interim government and the Pacific Forum Secretariat around the timing of elections in 2009 were not completed and a difference of opinion remains as we enter 2009. The Fiji Red Cross continued to work tirelessly in relief work to several small scale disasters, in addition to supporting the humanitarian work of the interim government in developing a new national disaster plan.

A new king was crowned in the kingdom of Tonga. In the run up to the coronation, human rights groups were actively advocating for change. As part of the coronation, the new king announced that he would institute changes aimed at bringing about a greater level of democracy and freedoms. Non-governmental organizations and human rights activists in Tonga agreed to give the new king time to implement changes.

At the end of 2008, the disaster response arrangements under the compact between the United States, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) changed. The old

arrangement whereby the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) would automatically provide support was changed such that any response would now be triggered by a declaration of disaster through the UN system and USAID will request support from FEMA. This was first tested at the very end of the year as there were sea swells in the Marshall Islands and FSM. There was a considerable time lag (more than four weeks) between the event and the declaration of the disaster. This is due to the distance and communication difficulties between the remote outer islands in the Pacific.

During 2008, there was a general election in New Zealand and there was a change of prime minister. While this result was not widely predicted, the impact on the wider Pacific has been limited.

## Implementation and coordination

### Cooperation, coordination and strategic partnerships

The main event during 2008 was the partnership meeting held in April in Vanuatu. All national societies were present and almost universally a member of both staff and governance from the societies. ICRC was also present. Regional directions were agreed and instructions given to the regional office around what are to be the priority support areas from the national society perspective. What was not fully explored and needs to be completed is the precise role of the regional office of the Federation. This will need to be further defined during 2009 – in particular expectations of the members of the regional office.

In part follow up to the International Conference, the international disaster response laws, rules and principles (IDRL) delegate was appointed during 2008. The role is to support both national societies and governments in crafting appropriate national legislation which will facilitate international disaster response. In August, at a SOPAC sponsored meeting of all Pacific country national disaster leaders, a presentation was made to the governments and requests were made by four countries for specific assistance.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre continues to offer support to the regional office through a local representative based partly within Australian Red Cross.

A training initiative around health in emergencies by a regional organization – the Fiji School of Medicine – was undertaken in September, jointly with WHO and OCHA. The International Federation's regional office was invited to contribute – due to concerns about beneficiary selection, the office could not take part in 2008, but is actively negotiating to be part of this in 2009. During 2008, the regional office delivered more than half a dozen regional trainings with UN or regional organizations.

### Management of the regional office

The disaster risk reduction delegate left at the beginning of 2008 and was replaced in April 2008, while the disaster management coordinator ended his mission in October and his successor arrived in November. In addition, the organizational development delegate ended her mission in December 2008 and the position will be replaced in early 2009 by a programme coordinator. In coordination with the Asia Pacific Zone office, an IDRL delegate was appointed and will join the team here in January 2009. The administrator of the regional office left and was not replaced. With these changes in place, the regional office is now set for no change for the next few years in these positions.

## Papua New Guinea

The most significant event to affect Papua New Guinea during the year was the sea swell which struck in December and affected the northern shores. A total of CHF 190,000 from the International Federation's disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) was issued to support the national society in its response to the disaster and has been reported separately; please click [here](#) for the latest operations update available, for further information.

During February of this year, a decision was made to harmonize International Federation



Up to 1,408 houses were damaged or destroyed as a direct result of the sea swells and subsequent floods in New Ireland province, Papua New Guinea. The International Federation quickly responded with support to the national society through a DREF allocation of CHF 190,000. PNGRCS.

support to the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS). For more than half the year, the national society carried out activities on their own, support by a bilateral presence of the Australian Red Cross.

Further to the decision made in February, technical support and capacity remains available to the national society upon request. Several meetings have been held throughout the remainder of 2008 in coordination with the Secretary General of PNGRCS and representatives from the International Federation, ICRC, Australian Red Cross and New Zealand Red Cross, to ensure continued and targeted support to the national society based on the needs outlined by the Secretary General.

The Secretary General has specifically pointed out that her staff will not be attending training or workshops during the latter half of 2008, as they need time as a team to complete their restructuring. The Secretary General has asserted that the PNG RCS will re-engage in 2009 as a strong member of the International Federation.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster management

#### Outcomes/Expected results

Pacific Island communities and vulnerable groups in particular, are safer and more resilient to disasters through national societies that are better prepared for effective emergency response and community risk reduction.

#### Achievements

The Pacific regional disaster management coordinator represented the Pacific region in a number of meetings throughout the year to further improve coordination, disaster response capacities and best practices. This included the annual zonal planning meeting with health and organizational development programmes to discuss cross-platform support while ensuring a unified approach towards supporting the national societies in their respective regions. The Pacific region was also represented at the disaster managers' workshop in Geneva, the first to be held since the International Federation's new operating model was introduced, as well as a follow-up meeting for the disaster management units across the Asia Pacific zone. This provided an opportunity to exchange views and improve cooperation, assess the status of funding/resources for the near future and to be kept abreast of current plans from the Secretariat in Geneva.

Throughout the year, the regional disaster management coordinator also maintained technical support to ongoing emergency operations in the Pacific, including the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society's response to the Cyclone Guba floods and the Solomon Islands earthquake and tsunami. This support included visits to the operations as well as trainings and reviews organized with the national societies to identify gaps, challenges and ways forward to improve their capacities for disaster preparedness and response.

An emergency management core group (EMCG) meeting was held prior to the Pacific national societies' partnership meeting in April. Discussions at this meeting revolved around topics and decisions to be presented at the partnership meeting, including regional and/or national disaster response team training/formation and the container programme review carried out at the end of 2007. The implications of a shortage of funds to implement a comprehensive re-stocking and refurbishment of containers were further discussed at the following EMCG meeting held in September in Suva. The Pacific regional office is currently in discussion with the Australian Red Cross with regard to the possibility of re-allocating unspent funds within other components of the strategic engagement programme budget to this work.

The Pacific national societies' partnership meeting organized by the International Federation was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu in April 2008. At this meeting (the first since 2005) there were very positive outcomes from a disaster management perspective. The current make-up of the EMCG changed to ensure that all national societies in the region have a chance to expand their experience at all levels of disaster management. All the national societies agreed to support the formation of a Pacific regional disaster response team, with full understanding that deployment would be through the regional disaster management coordinator and only at the direct request of the national society affected. A set of goals to be achieved by the International Federation and the national societies and reviewed at the next partnership meeting in 2010 was also agreed. Furthermore, a representative from the American Red Cross Society's Saipan chapter also attended the meeting. The inclusion of the American Red Cross in the meeting proved to be very positive step, with co-operation in disaster management activities discussed, and further discussion/meetings planned in the near future.

In addition, the annual disaster management forum was held in Nouméa in June 2008. The focus of this year's forum was upon disaster risk reduction. The forum, which was a mixture of training and interchange between national societies, contained sessions on food security, gender, shelter, restoring family links and climate change. There was also a focus on planning for risk reduction. The forum was immediately followed by a week-long training session in logistics in emergencies sponsored by the the Plate-form d'Intervention Regionale Ocean Pacific Sud (PIROPS). Holding the annual disaster management forum in Nouméa enabled selected national society staff to attend the PIROPS training. The curriculum was jointly developed by the French, Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies, as well as the International Federation's regional logistics staff. The training enabled national society staff from the Pacific to see firsthand the warehouse facilities and stocks available for deployment from Nouméa in the event of a disaster in the region which required further assistance. The training also had the benefit of building relations between national society staff and PIROPS volunteers.



The disaster management forum organized in New Caledonia in June 2008 included a session on shelter, where participants were invited to exchange cultural perceptions of shelter and were provided with a better understanding of adequate shelter in an emergency context. This was followed by the opportunity to gain hands on experience using a basic shelter kit to construct their own shelters. International Federation.

Cooperation in disaster management activities between national societies continued, with Vanuatu Red Cross (VRC) approaching the Fiji Red Cross (FRC) for support in undertaking vulnerability and capacities assessment-related work. The disaster risk reduction delegate also facilitated an exchange between the Solomon Islands Red Cross and the Tonga Red Cross (TRC), during which the Solomon Islands Red Cross climate change officer spent one week working along side the Tonga Red Cross climate change officer and branch manager of Hapaii island to assist in developing their skills in community assessments and planning. Further community work was supported in the Solomon Islands where community assessments were undertaken on Niuleni Island. The assessments have resulted in the identification of some community-level projects in the area of water and sanitation that have been identified in the Solomon Islands risk reduction plan. Tuvalu Red Cross also undertook a climate change awareness programme with outer island communities that assisted communities to identify low cost measures to address issues relating to climate change.



The first Pacific regional disaster response team training was held in Suva in August. The training's objective is to strengthen the disaster response capacity in the region and included practical exercises in emergency water supply and telecommunications. International Federation.

The first Pacific regional disaster response team training was undertaken in Suva in August, with generally positive feedback. This training, with agreed to and supported by all national societies at the Pacific partnership meeting held in Vanuatu in April. The standard of participants selected by the national societies for the RDRT training was uniformly high - a tribute to the qualitative improvement of disaster management capabilities that has occurred across the Pacific during the last five years.

Throughout the year the International Federation also facilitated a range of disaster risk reduction activities. A number of national societies undertook activities to mark international days during the year. In the two weeks leading up to World Environment Day on 5 June, the Tuvalu Red Cross held a poster and essay competition in schools and a climate change workshop featuring a screening of *An Inconvenient Truth*. On International Disaster Day, five national societies carried out activities to mark the day.

The Cook Islands Red Cross assisted the Muri community on Rarotonga to address the problem of flooding streams, identified during a community assessment earlier on in the year. The community spent the day clearing debris and excess foliage from their streams to prevent flooding during the wet season. The activities carried out in the community were widely promoted to show that communities can take low cost actions to mitigate the potential impacts of climate change. In addition, the Vanuatu Red Cross conducted promotional activities for disaster preparedness and supported a government-led awareness workshop on health risks associated with disasters in Torba province. Activities conducted by other national societies on International Disaster Risk Reduction Day included coordinated planning with government for climate risk in Kiribati and community radio spots on cyclone preparedness and testing of communications equipment in preparation of the cyclone season in Tonga.

Continued technical support was provided to the three national societies involved in the Climate Centre's 4 Steps for Preparedness for Climate Change programme. By the end of 2008, all three national societies were nearing completion of the fourth step. The International Federation also provided financial support to a youth forum on climate change in the Solomon Islands. The forum, which was organized by the Solomon Islands Red Cross Climate Change officer, aimed to raise awareness among youth in the Solomon Islands about climate change and motivate them to mobilize for adaptation activities in their own communities.

In December, there were several tidal flooding events in the Pacific region. The most serious were the floods which hit northern Papua New Guinea as a result of sea swells. With support from the International Federation and partner National Societies (including the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies), the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society responded quickly to the needs of the affected communities. The International Federation released disaster response emergency funds (DREF) amounting to CHF 190,000 to support the national society in providing relief and to re-stock exhausted pre-positioned stocks in the country. For further information, please click [here](#) for the latest information on the DREF operation (Papua New Guinea: Floods, MDRPG003).

In addition, the Solomon Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Kiribati all experienced flooding from unusually high sea swells. Red Cross assessment missions were undertaken in all countries apart from the Marshall Islands. Regional coordination of the disaster assessments was undertaken by UNOCHA and supported where possible and necessary by the International Federation's Pacific regional office.

### Constraints or challenges

Funding available through the International Federation no longer matches demand for projects being conceptualized by National Societies – money is being spent faster than it can be replenished with the risk of halting programmes in some countries at a pivotal point in their development. In an attempt to address this issue, further discussions are taking place with donors in an effort to secure ongoing multi-year funding. Efforts are also being made to develop the capacity of climate change and disaster management officers working on risk reduction to raise funds with in-country donor support.

While there is no doubt the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is seen as a valued partner in disaster response in the region an ongoing constraint relates to limited recognition and acceptance as a valued partner in climate change and longer-term disaster risk reduction initiatives at regional and global levels. While substantial progress on this front has been made through the implementation of country programmes, there is still work to be done to raise the profile of the Movement and improve prospects for National Society access to in-country funding. At the regional level efforts have been made to raise the profile of the movements risk reduction and adaptation work. However, the uncertainty of funding remains a threat to planning through 2008 and beyond.

The reconciliation of balances of funding between the Australian Red Cross, the Suva regional office and the Asia Pacific zone office has been a challenge which will hopefully be overcome in time for the programme to hit its targets before the end of the first phase of the strategic engagement programme (SEP) concludes in June 2009. With regard to the disaster risk reduction programme, cash income has been provided only by the Japanese Red Cross. Its contribution covers approximately five per cent of the planned budget, while the Australian Red Cross provides in-kind support in the form of a delegate. In 2009, the regional office plans to integrate the risk reduction within the mainstream disaster management programme.

## Health and care

### Outcomes/Expected results

1. Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment, and support, reducing stigma and discrimination and enhanced national society capacity to deliver effective HIV interventions.

2. Targeted communities are sufficiently self reliant and lead a healthy lifestyle through effective and evidence-based national society community based health and first aid (CBH&FA) interventions

### Achievements

In 2008, the regional health unit facilitated a regional community-based health and first aid workshop in March, the second of its kind globally, with the aim of introducing the participants into the new 'community-based first aid in action' process, in particular the new volunteer's manual. The workshop, hosted by Cook Islands Red Cross, was attended by 19 participants from six Pacific national societies and facilitators from the health and care department in Geneva. During the subsequent partnership meeting of the Pacific national societies, all national societies reaffirmed their commitment to initiate and scale up their respective community-based health and first aid programmes.

The International Federation also supported the participation of two representatives – one each from Solomon Island and Kiribati Red Cross Society-- to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> International Colloquium on Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donation (VNRBD) in Egypt in January as part of strengthening voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment interventions in these two national societies.

The Pacific component of the International Federation's HIV Global Alliance was launched successfully in August by the Federation's special representative for HIV with four National Societies – Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa and Cook Islands joining in as members, with extensive coverage in the local and regional media. In addition, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the International Federation and the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation (PIAF), which is the only regional people living with HIV (PLHIV) organization in the Pacific. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) reaffirms the International Federation's commitment to work with PLHIV as an integral component of its HIV response, and calls for both organizations to share resources and support each other while jointly responding to HIV in the region. The four member national societies were supported in developing their HIV plans and budget which were submitted to the HIV unit in Geneva for review and were subsequently approved. These plans will be reviewed again in 2009 as part of the annual planning and review meeting of the Pacific HIV Global Alliance members. It is expected that the head of the Global HIV unit in Geneva will attend this important meeting.

A concept note on the regional water and sanitation programme was finalized and shared by the regional health delegate with regional partner national societies including the Australian, French and New Zealand Red Cross societies along with the members of the Pacific water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) coalition – a body comprising of organizations working regionally on water and sanitation, including World Health Organization, SOPAC, United Nations Children's Fund and others. The Pacific regional office will work with the Australian and French Red Cross societies in early 2009 to finalize the Red Cross water and sanitation proposal which shall be a component of the overall Pacific regional water, sanitation and hygiene coalition proposal. It is expected that members of the WASH coalition will jointly develop and submit a Pacific regional water and sanitation proposal to AusAID early next year.

Aside from regional initiatives, the regional health delegate also supported Samoa Red Cross Society to carry out a peer education session on HIV for high school students in Apia as well as a training of their volunteers on the new 'community-based first aid in action' toolkit in the year. Kiribati Red Cross Society received technical support on the development of their HIV Global Alliance work plan for 2008-09, while both Kiribati and Vanuatu Red Cross Societies were also provided assistance in their respective community-based health programmes. The regional office's health unit will also work with Cook Island Red Cross Society to develop interventions on road safety and chronic diseases as part of national society's community-based health and first aid programme in 2009. The regional health delegate facilitated a three-day workshop on voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment in Cook Islands with the joint participation of Cook Island Red Cross and the local ministry of health. The workshop led to the development of a draft plan for VNRBD for Cook Islands for 2009, to be jointly implemented by the Cook Islands Red Cross and the ministry of health.



Samoa Red Cross, with support from the International Federation's regional health delegate, conducted a training on community-based health and first aid in 2008. International Federation.

## Constraints or challenges

The lack of adequate funding continued to be a constraint during the first half of the year, with affected projects including initiating a regional project on chronic diseases as part of the community-based health and first aid programme. To address this issue of lack of funding, the regional health unit is trying to link up with the SPC to explore potential funds that may be available in the region for addressing chronic diseases. In addition, national societies will have to strongly consider including chronic disease prevention interventions into their respective community-based health and first aid plans and are encouraged to look to access funds available in their countries, particularly with their respective ministries of health, with technical support made available by the regional health delegate.

The Global Fund/SPC funding was delayed by nearly three months due to various procedural issues and as a result some of the planned HIV activities were delayed and will be now conducted in 2009.

A lack of proper reporting from the national societies continues to be a challenge and the regional health delegate will be working with a greater focus on this issue with the HIV Global Alliance member national societies. As a start, the regional health delegate has worked with the four Global Alliance members in developing detailed HIV work plan and it is hoped that the new Global Alliance reporting formats will be better utilized by the regional national societies. A regional training on participatory project planning and monitoring and evaluations is also planned by the regional office in February 2009 as a way of strengthening national societies' capacity on monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

## Organizational development

### Outcomes/Expected results

- Increased national society institutional capacity when coordinating and responding to disaster and public health emergencies.
- Strengthened national society capacity in emergency preparedness and post emergency response.
- Strengthened community capacity in preparedness and post emergency response.

### Achievements

In 2008, overall progress has been achieved through the provision of tailored support in increasing institutional capacity within several national societies. Furthermore, meetings were held with national societies and with the International Federation Asia Pacific zone office to identify, coordinate and harmonize organizational development support and directions in the Pacific region and the Asia Pacific zone overall,

With support from the organizational development delegate based in the Pacific regional office, Palau Red Cross Society has instituted a process to revise their statutes, Kiribati Red Cross Society has completed a revised draft while Fiji Red Cross Society has adopted their approved statutes and continue to revise their accompanying rules and procedures into 2009. The Federated States of Micronesia Red Cross Society has completed a draft five-year strategic plan as well as an action plan for the coming year, and the other national societies have outlined their intent to instigate a revision of their respective plans. Supported by the International Federation, a Board member of the Cook Islands Red Cross Society has provided governance training to the newly elected Board of the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, and considerable efforts have been made to strengthen ties between the Northern Mariana Islands chapter of the American Red Cross and the north Pacific national societies. In addition, Pacific national societies have also renewed their commitment toward peer support among themselves to increase capacity and mutual support throughout the Pacific at the partnership meeting in April. Concurrently, the regional office strengthened its ties with the other regions in the Asia Pacific through the International Federation's Asia Pacific zone office to improve opportunities for support to national societies. Each of these approaches increase national society capacity to prepare for as well as coordinate and respond to emergencies.

Under financial development, an International Federation finance expert (formerly the finance officer from the International Federation's Papua New Guinea country office) provided financial training to a new finance officer and to the incumbent finance assistant in the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society to ensure that progress in the financial development of the national society was maintained during and beyond this transition period. The Micronesia Red Cross Society undertook an external audit as part of its ongoing financial monitoring.

In line with past tradition and in response to partnership meeting desires, national society newsletters continue to be shared within the region with all partners on a regular basis. The newsletters provide both an opportunity to learn what other Pacific national societies are doing and to share lessons learnt, best practices and experiences with one another.

In 2008, the Kiribati Red Cross Society, supported by the Pacific regional office, applied to the International Federation secretariat's Intensified Capacity Building Fund, whereby funds are made available to support national societies address particular constraints and build their capacity to scale up agreed programmes. The Kiribati Red Cross was shortlisted after its initial application and developed a draft strategic plan after an intensive review of their directions was undertaken as a part of an intensified capacity building process. Through this process, the Kiribati Red Cross Society considered how it could upscale support to vulnerable communities in Kiribati and what capacity building would be required to achieve this. Additional support was provided by the secretary general of the Cook Islands Red Cross Society who gave leadership support and training to the Kiribati Red Cross Society. This is perceived by the Board and the secretary general to be highly motivational and beneficial, providing a new range of knowledge and depth of understanding of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and a national society's position within it.



Under the organizational development programme, peer support between national societies in the region was successfully utilized to enhance learning and knowledge sharing, such as when the secretary general of the Cook Islands shared her national society's experience with the Kiribati Red Cross Society as part of the KRCS's intensified capacity building process. International Federation.

Volunteering development was highlighted as the greatest organizational development need for national societies at the 2008 Pacific partnership meeting in April. In response to this, a regional training in volunteering development was provided to the national societies, including representatives from Samoa, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The training was co-facilitated by the Asia Pacific zone volunteering development manager, the Secretariat's senior officer from the organizational development department in Geneva and the regional organizational development delegate. A report back from the attending national societies on follow-up and implementation is overdue as of December 2008. Following on from the volunteering development workshop, the Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tonga Red Cross Societies developed plans of intent and made a joint application for the specific organizational development support (SoS) funding to further improve volunteering development within their respective national societies. This has been supported by the regional organizational development delegate and the Asia Pacific Zone organizational development unit in Kuala Lumpur.

The Fiji and Tonga Red Cross Societies and Tuvalu Red Cross Society-in-formation held specific volunteering activities on World Volunteer Day on 5 December 2008. Tonga Red Cross Society held youth development workshops as a part of its plans to build the capacity of its volunteering base and gender awareness raising and training was provided at the mid-year regional disaster management forum.

### **Constraints or challenges**

A key challenge facing the organizational development programme is providing adequate support from a regional base with limited resources to twelve developing national societies. Efforts to address this are being made both internally and externally to the International Federation. Internally, the focus is greater emphasis on working through and in alignment with other regional programmes both in the regional office and across the Asia Pacific zone, to improve sustainability of organizational input and increase efficiency of support. Externally, the strategy is threefold: enhancing partnerships between national societies, improving coordination mechanisms between support agencies, and increasing the pool of support agencies to and for the national societies.

## **Working in partnership**

### **Disaster management**

At the regional level, the International Federation continued to contribute to regional mechanisms such as the Pacific Partnership Network for Disaster Risk Management, supporting Pacific Island governments in the implementation of the regional adaptation of the Hyogo Framework and the Pacific Emergency Management and

Training Advisory Group. The International Federation has also been actively engaging with humanitarian actors in the region, led by UN OCHA, on the functioning of the cluster system in the Pacific region.

The Cook Islands, Solomon Islands and Fiji Red Cross Societies have been leading the way in applying the standard International Federation vulnerability and capacity assessment tool in the Pacific context – all in quite different environments but in partnership with other humanitarian actors.

The Cook Islands Red Cross is in the final stages of planning a new headquarters building which will double as a cyclone shelter. This is mainly funded by the Cook Islands government – supported by the New Zealand government. The relationship between the Cook Islands Red Cross Society and its government is a possible model for other countries. Part of the national budget for disaster management activities (partly funded by donors) is earmarked for the National Society so that it can carry out its auxiliary role.

Some concrete approaches have been taken by the International Federation and national societies to share lessons learnt, best practices and quality standards in and across programmes by having national society staff work for each other – either in an exchange visit format or through deployment in disasters. This will hopefully encourage national society replication of successful elements of programmes.

In the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Fiji, the Red Cross disaster responses have resulted in opportunities for the national societies to champion the use and implementation of a Code of Conduct in practice. The government coordination bodies have all agreed in principle prior to disaster to use such tools.

The emergency management core group (EMCG) meeting held in Suva at the end of September discussed recent RDRT training and related deployment issues. These provided the subject for much debate, which included issues related to strategic positioning of equipment and insurance concerns. In addition, a draft standard operational procedures (SOP) deployment paper, based on the one in use in Southeast Asia and including suggestions from this EMCG, will be presented at the next meeting of the EMCG in 2009.

The International Federation/UNDP/SOPAC supported Pacific Disaster Net finally came fully on-line in September 2008. While this has taken longer than originally planned, it now provides a Pacific-wide internet-based disaster management information source and later will provide an information exchange forum for all stakeholders. Utilization of Pacific Disaster Net by the Pacific national societies will be discussed at the next EMCG in 2009.

### Health and care

The regional health delegate has regularly coordinated the sharing of information with the four HIV Global Alliance partners in the region. The regional health meeting provided an opportunity for in depth discussions in the future of each member national society scale up plans on HIV. As part of the process to date, the regional health delegate visited three of the four members (except the Federated State of Micronesia Red Cross Society) and supported them in developing their HIV scale-up plans.

A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation to continue developing and expanding the Pacific regional campaign against HIV-related stigma and discrimination together. Both organizations aim to share their resources and combine forces in adding depth to regional HIV efforts. The regional health delegate attended the second regional meeting of the Pacific non-governmental alliance on HIV, hosted by the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation in September. The meeting allows the establishment of partnerships between National Societies and relevant non-governmental organizations at country-level while strengthening links between the International Federation and Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation.



The International Federation's special representative for HIV, on behalf of the International Federation, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation, further strengthening and formalizing the working relationship between both organizations in the Pacific region. International Federation.

The Pacific water, sanitation and hygiene coalition has proved to be an effective forum for the regional partners to share information and resources on water and sanitation initiatives. With the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission in the lead, it is expected that the water, sanitation and hygiene coalition partners will be able to submit a long term, multi-county water and sanitation proposal to AusAID next year.

The regional health delegate attended the second Pacific regional meeting of the Pacific Avian and Pandemic Influenza Task Force (PAPITaF) in November, and advocated strongly with the government and non-governmental organization/civil society organization representatives to include the Red Cross in their national action plans on avian and pandemic influenza. The International Federation is now a member of PAPITaF and the regional office will explore further opportunities with regional partners, in particular, SPC on working jointly in this issue. Subsequently, the regional health delegate made a presentation on avian and pandemic influenza at the Australian Red Cross's annual meeting in Brisbane with a positive response from all regional National Societies.

### **Organizational development**

In liaison with the chairperson of the organizational development forum, the organizational development unit has continued to work towards agreements and strategies for the establishment of the new Pacific organizational development advisory group. Further to the approval from the secretaries general of the Pacific national societies, the group will have its first official meeting in 2009.

A partnership between the International Federation and ICRC allowed the provision of financial training and support in the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society. This support was coordinated with the Australia Red Cross Society which also offers strong bilateral support to the Solomon Islands Red Cross finance team.

The Geneva-based intensified capacity building fund provided funding to the Kiribati Red Cross Society to develop a proposal for its organizational improvement.

The Japanese Red Cross Society continues to be a strong and valued financial contributor to the organizational development programme, allowing for the ongoing development of national societies, with support of the International Federation's Pacific regional office.

## **Contributing to longer-term impact**

### **Disaster management**

The regional disaster response team training has been one of the key planks of building safer communities in the Pacific. By bringing this training to the region, National Societies are further developing essential disaster management skills and independence in their people, which will allow for rapid response requiring less external technical assistance in the future.

### **Health and care**

The establishment of the Pacific HIV Global Alliance and access to the five-year Global Fund money lays a strong foundation for the Pacific National Societies to contribute to regional and national efforts on HIV as part of the Pacific Regional HIV Strategy Implementation Plan (PRSIP) Phase II. The PRSIP Phase II has been endorsed by all Pacific island countries and serves as the framework for all governments and non-governmental organizations/civil society organizations to function within.

In line with the National Societies' HIV plans, the Pacific regional office successfully applied for and will receive funding from the Global Fund round 7 amounting to USD 805,000 (CHF 850,000) over a period of two years as part of Phase 1 of funding (July 2008- June 2010). Of this amount, USD 201,000 was received for implementing HIV interventions in the four Pacific HIV Global Alliance member countries for the period of July to December 2008. The Pacific HIV Global Alliance members, with support from the International Federation's Pacific regional office, have initiated the scale-up of their respective HIV interventions as a component of their community-based health and the first aid programmes. This long-term funding will also support the cost of the regional health delegate in the region, further contributing to a more effective support in health programming for the regional National Societies including those who have not yet joined the HIV Global Alliance. The funds have also contributed in the recruitment of health coordinators in the four National Societies.

Samoa Red Cross integrated the HIV interventions as part of their CBH&FA programme, thus strengthening the programme using the HIV funds and delivering more to the community in the process. With more national societies adapting the community-based health and first aid approach in delivering interventions in the community, it is expected that the target communities will be enabled to lead healthy and self-reliant lifestyles.

Participating in the VNRBD Colloquium in Egypt in January had a positive impact on the two Pacific national societies, with Solomon Islands Red Cross establishing a Club 25<sup>1</sup> and working closely with their ministry of

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<sup>1</sup> Club 25 is a youthful concept, promoting the value of saving lives by giving blood. Through Club 25 young people are encouraged to attend a blood centre, learn about healthy lifestyles and to give blood regularly, aiming for about 20 blood donations by age of 25 years. For more information, please click [here](#).

health on VNRBD, on the basis of a signed MoU between them. The Kiribati Red Cross has integrated the VNRBD component as part of its HIV peer education and outreach interventions in partnership with the national blood bank, also on the basis of an MoU signed with the ministry of health. It is expected that these two national societies will scale up their efforts on VNRBD and will be seen as an important partner by their respective governments in the coming year.

The regional office will share the new community-based health and first aid training manuals with the national societies and try and raise resources for implementing and scaling up community-based health and first aid interventions in the region. As part of this strategy, the regional health unit will submit a multi-country proposal on water and sanitation to AusAid so as to secure long-term funding for community-based health and first aid programme with an integrated component on water and sanitation. The same strategy will be used for the four HIV Global Alliance National Societies who will be encouraged to use the HIV funds to scale up their community-based health and first aid interventions integrating HIV into their programme.

### **Organizational development**

Throughout the year, the regional organizational development unit provided relevant support towards the organizational development components of the disaster management and health programmes, including the disaster management forum, where participants were guided through gender awareness learning and exercises.

The Pacific organizational programme also uses a regional approach to share national society newsletters between all national societies. Regional meetings were also used to encourage and support national societies to share experiences, lessons and peer support.

The volunteering development workshop provided an opportunity to national societies to rapidly improve their volunteering development systems and approaches, with new knowledge and processes developed at this workshop.

## Looking ahead

### **Disaster management**

The disaster management delegate's mission concluded in October and a new disaster management coordinator joined the regional office towards the end of November. Further funding is needed for disaster risk reduction work in the region and it is hoped that the implementation of activities based on the recommendations of the container review will be carried out in 2009 - pending funding. In addition, the regional office aims to continue the promotion and integration of various aspects of disaster management, as well as improve integration with the health and organizational development programmes.

### **Health and care**

The regional health delegate will continue to work with the HIV Global Alliance partners in the coming months in implementing planned interventions. Priority areas include participatory project planning and monitoring and evaluation; a regional training is planned in February 2009 for the same. Other priority areas include HIV-related stigma and discrimination, HIV in workplace trainings and chronics disease interventions. In addition, the HIV interventions will be scaled up as per the regional work plan.

The regional health delegate will also support Samoa Red Cross Society in conducting national-level training for its volunteers on the revitalized 'community-based first aid in action' as part of strengthening regional community-based health and first aid approaches along with a three-day training on VNRBD.

### **Organizational development**

The new organizational development group will hold its first meeting in 2009. This group will provide a much stronger focus on organizational development, coordination and monitoring within the Pacific region, modelled upon the emergency management core group (EMCG).

Volunteering development will also continue to be a focus area of national societies in the region. In the coming year the regional office will provide tailored support in the area of volunteering development for up to four national societies.

The planned governance evaluation is currently awaiting discussion at the next regional coordination meeting. As partnering societies are interested in an evaluation of organizational development in general it may be appropriate to combine the processes.

Support in the area of financial development will shift from financial management to fundraising.

<b>How we work</b>	
<p>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".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li><li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li><li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li><li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li></ul>
<b>Contact information</b>	
<p>For further information specifically related to this appeal, please contact:</p> <p>In Suva: Pacific regional office, phone: +679.331.1855; fax: +679.331.1406</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manish Pant, Acting head of Pacific regional office; email: <a href="mailto:manish.pant@ifrc.org">manish.pant@ifrc.org</a></li><li>• John Bales, Regional disaster management coordinator; email: <a href="mailto:john.bales@ifrc.org">john.bales@ifrc.org</a></li><li>• Ruth Lane, Regional disaster risk reduction delegate; email: <a href="mailto:ruth.lane@ifrc.org">ruth.lane@ifrc.org</a></li></ul> <p>In Kuala Lumpur: Asia Pacific zone office, phone: +60 3 9207 5700; fax + 603 2161 0670</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jagan Chapagain, Deputy Head of zone; email: <a href="mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org">jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org</a></li><li>• Penny Elghady, Resource mobilization and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting coordinator; email: <a href="mailto:penny.elghady@ifrc.org">penny.elghady@ifrc.org</a></li></ul> <p>For pledges of funding, please email: <a href="mailto:rm.asiapacific@ifrc.org">rm.asiapacific@ifrc.org</a></p>	

*<Final financial report below; click here to return to title page>*

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA55001 - Pacific

Annual report 2008

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Appeal	MAA55001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	<b>1,196,478</b>	<b>678,411</b>	<b>386,791</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>352,849</b>	<b>2,614,529</b>
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>176,222</b>	<b>23,156</b>	<b>105,723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>331,021</b>	<b>636,121</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
Asia Foundation	12,964					12,964
ATM Global Fund (to Fight Aids, Tb, Malaria) (from Global Fund (ATM))		-1				-1
Australian Red Cross					26,925	26,925
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	22,202	0				22,202
Capacity Building Fund			-24,176			-24,176
Global Fund (ATM) (from Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC))		224,623				224,623
ICRC					20,000	20,000
Japanese Red Cross	70,000	90,001	60,000		100,000	320,001
Korea Republic Red Cross			0			0
Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)	7,083					7,083
New Zealand Red Cross		0	43,082		-0	43,082
Other	986	-0	-0		-0	985
Unidentified donor		75,000				75,000
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>113,235</b>	<b>389,623</b>	<b>78,906</b>		<b>146,925</b>	<b>728,689</b>
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	116,560	-1,390				115,170
Global Fund (ATM) (from Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC))		-26,958				-26,958
Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)	-7,484					-7,484
<b>C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>	<b>109,077</b>	<b>-28,348</b>				<b>80,729</b>
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Australian Red Cross	108,500				42,500	151,000
New Zealand Red Cross			74,400			74,400
<b>C4. Inkind Personnel</b>	<b>108,500</b>		<b>74,400</b>		<b>42,500</b>	<b>225,400</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>	<b>330,812</b>	<b>361,275</b>	<b>153,306</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>189,425</b>	<b>1,034,818</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>507,033</b>	<b>384,431</b>	<b>259,029</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>520,446</b>	<b>1,670,939</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>#DIV/0</b>	<b>147%</b>	<b>64%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>176,222</b>	<b>23,156</b>	<b>105,723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>331,021</b>	<b>636,121</b>
<b>C. Income</b>	<b>330,812</b>	<b>361,275</b>	<b>153,306</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>189,425</b>	<b>1,034,818</b>
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	<b>-368,995</b>	<b>-287,670</b>	<b>-181,746</b>		<b>-315,814</b>	<b>-1,154,224</b>
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	<b>138,039</b>	<b>96,761</b>	<b>77,283</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>204,633</b>	<b>516,715</b>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA55001 - Pacific

Annual report 2008

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Appeal	MAA55001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>1,196,478</b>	<b>678,411</b>	<b>386,791</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>352,849</b>	<b>2,614,529</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Construction - Housing		498					498	-498
Construction Materials	24,000	3,158					3,158	20,842
Clothing & textiles		8,270					8,270	-8,270
Food	1,050		26				26	1,024
Water & Sanitation	1,510							1,510
Medical & First Aid		187					187	-187
Utensils & Tools		7,303					7,303	-7,303
Other Supplies & Services	44,920	13,977					13,977	30,943
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>71,480</b>	<b>33,393</b>	<b>26</b>				<b>33,420</b>	<b>38,060</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	65,451					3,498	3,498	61,953
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	3,977							3,977
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>69,428</b>					<b>3,498</b>	<b>3,498</b>	<b>65,930</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	18,000					131	131	17,869
Distribution & Monitoring	22,500	212				883	1,095	21,405
Transport & Vehicle Costs	11,064	5,613	1,504	774		5,010	12,901	-1,837
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>51,564</b>	<b>5,825</b>	<b>1,504</b>	<b>774</b>		<b>6,025</b>	<b>14,127</b>	<b>37,437</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	546,376	157,812	105,751	108,566		57,992	430,120	116,256
National Staff	35,466	5,379	12,521	58		7,380	25,338	10,128
National Society Staff	162,382	28,619	7,679	7,417		4,017	47,731	114,651
Consultants	10,000	990		1,226			2,216	7,784
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>754,224</b>	<b>192,800</b>	<b>125,951</b>	<b>117,266</b>		<b>69,389</b>	<b>505,405</b>	<b>248,818</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	862,446	18,459	6,764	4,031		13,837	43,091	819,356
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>862,446</b>	<b>18,459</b>	<b>6,764</b>	<b>4,031</b>		<b>13,837</b>	<b>43,091</b>	<b>819,356</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	191,369	135,255	44,662	38,044		190,903	408,864	-217,495
Information & Public Relation	236,723	4,675	5,925	4,561		663	15,823	220,900
Office Costs	150,364	16,469	2,986	1,545		3,708	24,708	125,655
Communications	32,757	8,615	4,069	886		4,378	17,947	14,810
Professional Fees	16,129			2,735		1,012	3,747	12,382
Financial Charges	3,238	847	3,336	125		3,972	8,280	-5,042
Other General Expenses	4,861	689	230	925		111	1,956	2,905
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>635,442</b>	<b>166,550</b>	<b>61,208</b>	<b>48,821</b>		<b>204,747</b>	<b>481,326</b>	<b>154,116</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	169,944	18,353	20,872	7,111		18,319	64,655	105,290
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>169,944</b>	<b>18,353</b>	<b>20,872</b>	<b>7,111</b>		<b>18,319</b>	<b>64,655</b>	<b>105,290</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		-66,385	71,345	3,742			8,702	-8,702
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>-66,385</b>	<b>71,345</b>	<b>3,742</b>			<b>8,702</b>	<b>-8,702</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>2,614,529</b>	<b>368,995</b>	<b>287,670</b>	<b>181,746</b>		<b>315,814</b>	<b>1,154,224</b>	<b>1,460,305</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>827,483</b>	<b>390,742</b>	<b>205,045</b>		<b>37,035</b>	<b>1,460,305</b>	