

Appeal 2008-2009



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Myanmar

Appeal No. MAAMM002

19 December 2007

This appeal seeks CHF 5,565,968 (USD 4.97 million or EUR 3.37 million) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009. The overall budget is CHF 5,764,156 (USD 5.16 million or EUR 3.49 million). [<Click here for budget summary>](#)

This appeal document sets out briefly the main outcomes the programmes seek to achieve over the next two years. More detailed information is provided in the [2008-2009 Programme Support Plan](#) and [Summary Matrix](#).

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



Nice drop: Myanmar Red Cross with its national reach provides clean water and other essentials to many isolated and vulnerable communities.

[Click here for a map of Myanmar](#)

Current context

Myanmar is struggling with many socio-economic indicators related to poverty, health and education. The latest UNDP Human Development Index ranks the country 129 out of 177. The context is characterized by extensive humanitarian needs coupled with lack of funding to support effective programmes. Overseas development assistance per capita for Myanmar was a meagre \$2.4, compared to \$22 in Viet Nam, \$35 in Cambodia, and \$47 in Laos¹.

Life expectancy at birth	57.8 years (men) and 63.5 years (women)
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	75
Under five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	105
Net secondary school enrolment ratio	38% (boys) and 37% (girls)

¹ 2004 figures

Fixed line and mobile phone subscribers (per 1000 people)	13.1
Internet users (per 1,000 people)	1.5
Ranking on Human Poverty Index	50
Gender-related development ranking	130 out of 177 countries

Sources: UNDP: Human Development Report 2006; UNICEF: The State of the World's Children 2007; The World Bank: World Development Indicators Database, April 2007.

Through its nationwide network of 325 branches, Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) will identify the most effective opportunities to address vulnerability. It will mobilize communities based on an analysis of the available epidemiology, locally identified risk factors, other agencies working in the area and an understanding of local capacities.

Selected branches will receive intensive support to address Myanmar's three health priorities: malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB). Myanmar has the highest malaria mortality rate in Southeast Asia with 70 per cent of the population living in malaria endemic areas². Pregnant women and young children are at high risk due to their biological vulnerability. The country is also estimated to be in the top 22 nations with the highest TB burden³. Limited support for prevention measures and drug-resistant strains of TB and malaria exacerbate this problem.

According to the latest official estimates by the NAP⁴, 200,000 to 550,000 people in Myanmar are infected with HIV. Some estimate that this figure may be even higher with Myanmar having the third highest prevalence rate in Asia. Unlike some other countries that are seeing a decrease in prevalence, the opposite can be said for Myanmar. It is a priority country for UNAIDS and has a critical mass of infection which may soon be so great that the epidemic will be self-sustaining.

Government figures for 1997 indicate 73 per cent of households consume less than the recommended daily allowance of calories. The average household spends about 70 per cent of income on food. Poorer more remote communities in disaster prone areas are particularly vulnerable with limited room to cope with the inevitable extra burden of natural disasters or emergencies.

Programme summary

Disaster management

Global Agenda Goal 1: Reduced deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

The impact of major hazards will be reduced through more effective disaster response based on evaluations and reviews of current practices. Community emergency response capacities will be strengthened through support of national disaster preparedness and response mechanisms based on effective decentralized monitoring and evaluation that informs leadership policy and decision-making. There will be increased disaster hazard awareness in communities to maximize ability to take effective action during times of disaster. Emergency response capacity will be improved by pre-positioning relief stocks in strategically located warehouses and strengthening logistics capacity.

Target population: 250,000 people in terms of preparedness and risk reduction

Health and care

Global Agenda Goal 2: Reduced deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health

A strengthened headquarters and nationwide network of volunteers will support communities in prioritizing health needs and responding more effectively. This will be demonstrated through: reduced

² National Malaria Control Programme Report (2005)

³ Estimates for incidence of TB are based primarily on prevalence survey conducted in 1994.

⁴ National AIDS Programme

risk of impact on community health in emergencies; reduced HIV vulnerability and its impact upon at-risk communities; reduced malaria morbidity and mortality among vulnerable populations; and reduced TB transmission and impact on communities with high defaulter rates. MRCS will also contribute to safe blood supply and selected communities will have improved access to safe water and sanitation.

Target population: 91,800 (avian influenza), 10,000 (basic health care), 21,000 (HIV), 158,588 (malaria), 2,400 (TB), 160,000 (health development), 4,060 (blood), 22,200 (water and sanitation), 20,500 (first aid), and 2,400 national society staff, volunteers from various capacity building initiatives.

Capacity development

Global Agenda Goal 3: Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

MRCS's branches will be strengthened to take a leadership role in implementing programmes that reflect the Movement's principles and values and in accordance with the Statutes of the Movement. Headquarters capacity will be strengthened to assist branches in delivering community-based services in partnership with vulnerable people. Volunteer and financial management will be strengthened leading to more sustainable programming to reach the most vulnerable communities.

Target population: 2,000 staff at HQ and branches as well as 600 leaders, members and volunteers at the branch level.

Principles and values

Global Agenda Goal 4: Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

An improved MRCS image will be promoted through better reporting of participation of the diverse communities in MRCS activities. The communication division will continue to conduct dissemination workshops for branch leadership, volunteers and communities highlighting the nature of Red Cross work and the principles and values of the Movement. This will lead to a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of MRCS, its branches and the activity of its volunteers.

The local inspiration reflected in these four programme areas also draws on the Federation's global vision: striving through voluntary action for a world of responsive communities better able to address human suffering and crises. Much multilateral support was generously provided following the tsunami and has been channelled through the Federation's country delegation. Three national societies have provided support directly to MRCS and a variety of other partnerships with UN and NGOs have also supported HIV programming in particular.

Target population: 60,000 Red Cross staff, members, volunteers and community members.

Needs

Programmes	2008 budget in CHF		2009 budget in CHF		Total budget in CHF	
	Total Budget	Required	Total Budget	Required	Total Budget	Required
Disaster Management	570,625	570,627	574,381	574,383	1,145,010	1,145,010
Health and Care	1,209,205	1,091,010	1,222,435	1,142,434	2,431,638	2,233,444
Organizational Development	1,145,195	1,145,196	859,163	859,168	2,004,363	2,004,363
Humanitarian Values	70,129	70,128	113,023	113,023	183,151	183,151
Total	2,995,154	2,876,961	2,769,002	2,689,008	5,764,156	5,565,968

Working in partnership

Bi-annual meetings of the MRCS Central Committee with representatives from Myanmar public authorities provide MRCS leadership an opportunity to update and advocate. The MRCS works closely with the Fire Brigade in relation to disaster management. MRCS also has long-standing programmes with UNICEF and UNHCR and has recently engaged with UNFPA. These relationships provide considerable technical expertise especially in HIV and sexual health as it relates to community development with extremely vulnerable communities. In 2008-09, MRCS seeks support to work with the other components of the Movement to review roles and responsibilities, and develop coordination mechanisms for working together. The Federation will continue to play a major coordination role in terms of MRCS in its relationships with multilateral and bilateral partners.

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

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[Map below, click here to return to the title page](#)

