

Plan 2009-2010



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS

MADAGASCAR

COMOROS

MAURITIUS

SEYCHELLES

MADAGASCAR

Executive summary

In Malagasy, there is an increasing level and severity of cyclones, drought, floods and bush fires each year. There is also a high prevalence of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and malnutrition. Malagasy Red Cross Society (MRCS) has priority goals developed in a strategy to tackle these issues through preparedness and prevention programmes as well as through action programmes both at community and national levels.

In the recent past, MRCS has had a series of internal governance crises. The Malagasy government intervened and nominated a new head. The National Society has recovered and has begun an expansion process both at organizational and programme levels.

The disaster response in 2008 proved that the MRCS is reliable and competent; The National Society, with support from government ministries and Partner National Societies (PNS) reached 64 percent of the cyclones-affected people through activities such as provision of free medical services, distribution of relief items as well as sensitization of disaster prevention and risk preparedness and water and sanitation.

MRCS has now considerably increased its visibility and competence and is now able to focus on risk preparedness, health, care and prevention, among others.

For the period 2009-2010, MRCS will focus on the four Global Agenda goals. A cross-cutting programme with an objective of reducing impact of disasters, disease and public health emergencies will be implemented in partnership with the Spanish Red Cross and the Ministry of Health. More than 1,000 volunteers will be trained in risk reduction, preparedness and response, first aid, and community health care. This will enable them to fully participate in vulnerability and capacity assessment as well as needs assessment. Ultimately, the communities will be expected to handle projects on their own.

The **disaster management** programme focus will be on disaster risk reduction, organizational and community preparedness and emergency response. The disaster preparedness component will target approximately 800 volunteers and six schools together with the communities through two projects. These projects (one in partnership with the French Red Cross and the other one with the National Office for Risk Management Coordination and the Ministry of Education) will benefit the most vulnerable people of Madagascar who are directly affected by cyclones as well as school children and their teachers. They will be taught about the main disasters and how to prepare for them. The pilot project

with French Red Cross targets six schools and their communities but will expand soon to other regions. The MRCS will also develop its organization through pre-positioning of food and non-food items.

The road safety programme will be revised and developed in the relevant areas of the island, which witness the highest number of road accidents, and specific projects will be elaborated and implemented. For first aid action, the MRCS will continue covering main events taking place in Madagascar that require medical aid stations and will train 138 more rescuers on communication skills. The whole structure of first-aid activities of the MRCS will be revised and reinforced (equipment and trainings) and a paramedical centre will be built in Analamanga Region.

The **health and care** programme seeks to develop and expand its projects such as the water and sanitation and education project supported by the French Red Cross as well as malaria project together with support from the American Red Cross. The HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis projects (with the Global Alliance and Global Fund) plans for public awareness raising and health care for more than 880,000 beneficiaries through the community approach. Raising public awareness about blood donations will also be a key focal area under health and care. This will be done through organizing events and the setting up of blood donors' clubs. MRCS will also participate in national vaccination campaigns promoting mother and child's health and collaborating with the National Office for Nutrition on the promotion, care and monitoring of undernourished children and creation of nutrition education and care centres. Finally, through the Health Initiative, the MRCS will set up new free health centres for the areas too remote from the existing ones.

Under the **organizational development** programme, National Society also seeks to build capacity of its staff and volunteers at regional, district and community levels. The capacities of the branches on the MRCS' s updated procedures, statutes and functioning will be reinforced and monitored as will the patrimony of the MRCS be regularized. Furthermore, the vacant positions for governance at the district and community level will be filled. Also, the management and organization system for volunteers will be implemented and monitored. The MRCS will also be able to focus on the search for funds for the development of first aid trainings and fundraising activities at the national and regional level.

Under dissemination of principles and values of the Red Cross, the *bill project* on the use of the emblem will be put in practice and monitored during 2009 to 2010 as will the public's knowledge of the emblem; the International Humanitarian Law and the Humanitarian Values and Fundamental Principles will be evaluated and sensitization sessions will follow. The MRCS will also continue publishing and disseminating its newsletter and continuously update its webpage.

Target Population

- Red Cross volunteers and local branch leaders for: community-based health and first aid; HIV and AIDS; and emergency health trainings.
- Vulnerable communities, for community-based health and first aid; HIV and AIDS information and communication sessions, including school children (ages 10-14, 50% female) and school teachers (100 female/200 male).

The total 2009-2010 budget is CHF 1,188,677 (USD 1,086,542 or EUR 757,119)

[<Click here to go directly to the attached budget summary of the plan>](#)

Country context

Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island is heavily exposed to tropical cyclones, which bring torrential rains and destructive floods. Madagascar is classified as a least developed country as well as a low-income, food-deficit country. The World Bank estimates that 70 percent of Malagasy live on less than USD1 per day. Many of them continue to suffer economic hardship following the application of structural adjustment policies. Purchasing power has decreased drastically, especially in rural areas where farm incomes cannot keep pace with increasing prices for basic necessities. Subsistence farming is especially risky in disaster-prone Madagascar. Over the past 35 years, at least 50 natural

disasters, including cyclones, drought, epidemics, floods, famines and locust infestations, have been reported, affecting more than 11 million people altogether¹

During the summer of 2008, Madagascar was hit by three major cyclones (Fame, Ivan and Jokwe) which left 93 people dead, 176 missing, 639 injured and 332,391 affected. Also, there was partial destruction of six hospitals, 167 health centres and 657 schools. Crops and livestock were also affected substantially. An estimated 120,000 people lost their homes. The total number of people affected by the cyclones is three times more numerous than the year 2007.

Furthermore, the amount of damage and loss caused by the cyclones in the island went up to USD 370 million² and, this did not include the impacts of the floods following the cyclone which led to chronic food insecurity and left many homeless.

The needs of the country are enlightened by this short description in terms of rehabilitation of homes, water supplies and access, food security, and health care.

In order to give vulnerable people the most sustainable assistance, MRCS' programme management needs to be strengthened; also the capacity of the National Society's governance and management structures at regional, district and community level. The whole structure of the MRCS is being revised and reinforced through the help of the Canadian Red Cross. This is a major priority for the MRCS in order to be able to work well, improve its programme management at national and branch level and develop projects in themselves.

It is also important to develop external partnerships and networks for the MRCS to be part of an international network as well as a national one, so as to improve sharing of experience and knowledge, good practice and technical expertise.

The National Society's main goal is to reduce the vulnerability of Madagascar people; priorities in terms of strategy are to build the MRCS's capacity, reducing, mitigating and preparing for risks and natural disasters, and finally combating diseases such as HIV and AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and malnutrition.

National Society priorities and current work with partners

The overall goal is to ensure that the programmes and services of the MRCS are focused on the needs of vulnerable people, and that they are responsive, sustainable and of acceptable standards. The main projects currently running are all linked to the primary priorities of the National Society which are integrated in the National Strategic Plan.

1. Disaster Response:

- A project with French Red Cross is currently running in the east coast to give assistance to the people affected by Cyclone Ivan through medical consultations, safe water, basic items distributions and the promotion of sanitation and hygiene together with emergency preparedness. The project ends in August.
- Together with the Federation, the National Society is running similar project in three regions giving basic items and promotion of hygiene services to people affected by Cyclone Ivan. The project is also building capacity of volunteers of MRCS (techniques of rapid assessment, beneficiary identification and selection, distribution, warehouse and pre-positioned stock management).

Post-emergency rehabilitation:

- Together with French Red Cross, a project targeting community members who lost their homes and land due to impacts of the cyclone will be implemented in the next six months. Land will be acquired and new homes built for them.

¹ <http://www.wfp.org>

² Source : Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et Catastrophes de Madagascar : disssoa@gmail.com (Responsable de la communication)

- The Spanish Red Cross and the United Nation Children’s Fund (UNICEF) are supporting two projects to rehabilitate wells and enhance water access in different regions, promote good hygiene and sanitation.
- A project to build a bridge and small seawalls is to be implemented in the Analamanga Region; this is supported by Holcim.

2. Disaster preparedness:

MRCS, in collaboration with French Red Cross is implementing a project in disaster risk preparedness education on the eastern coast. This is a pilot project targeting children and teachers in six schools. If successful, it will be replicated to other areas. Non-food and food items are being pre-positioned to better respond to next year’s disaster risks. This is being done in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP).

3. Health Care and promotion:

A project for monitoring the last integrated national campaign (measles and malaria) is running with the American Red Cross to follow-up the use of the insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs) that were distributed as vaccinations were being done. A survey to analyze how the campaign was done is being finalized.

A project on water and sanitation education and construction with the French Red Cross is coming to an end and the final evaluation is being set up for next July. Another project will then start based on the recommendations and lessons learnt.

Nutrition care and promotion is currently running in different regions led by MRCS regional coordinators working with the National Nutrition Office and Ministry of Health.

4. Capacity Building

Election of governance members at district and community level is ongoing. This will run for one year covering 119 districts, 1,560 communities and 17,000 areas. The procedures for resource management (material, finance and human) are being revised, updated and will be re-implemented at the national and branch level through trainings and dissemination. A volunteer management system and policy to be implemented this year at the national and branch level is being disseminated. Finally, under capacity building, a general restructuring is being done with support from the Canadian Red Cross.

5. Principles and Values dissemination

A programme to implement a law that will protect the emblem is currently running with support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and National Committee for International Humanitarian Law about the use of the emblem in the Island. A quarterly newsletter is also published and distributed; the MRCS website is updated daily with support from the Federation. A communication strategy is being developed in a two-year plan of action.

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster Management

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 1: Reduce the number of deaths, injuries, and impact from disasters.

Programme component 1: Organizational Preparedness
Component outcome: MRCS is better prepared and coordinated for disasters through contingency plans set up at national and branch level for better response

Outputs

- The contingency plan is updated and implemented at national and branch level
- Capacity of volunteers is enhanced in disaster response (distributions and stock management) in 10 regions
- Food and non food items are pre positioned in at-risk regions and communities
- Containers and storehouses are set up in strategic regions

- The emergency communication system is improved and implemented at district level (equipment, trainings)
- Capacity of MRCS regional coordinators in early recovery and post-disaster assessment is enhanced

Programme component 2: Disaster management planning

Component outcome: Disaster management capacities of volunteers and staff are increased in 10 regions (early recovery, disaster assessment, etc)

Output

- Community members are aware and knowledgeable about disaster preparedness and mitigation

Programme component 3: Community Preparedness

Component outcome: Improved self-reliance of individuals and communities to reduce their vulnerabilities to public health emergencies and disasters.

Output

- Community based projects are set up in the regions

Programme component 4: Disaster Response

Component outcome: The impact of disasters on people's life reduced through adequate and timely emergency response measures

Output

- Increased number of disaster affected population is reached during emergency response
- Emergency responses in Madagascar meet the SPHERE standards

Profile of target beneficiaries

- The target beneficiaries for disaster responses shall be the ones corresponding to the Federation's vulnerability criteria which include: families with more than five children, families with children under five, families with pregnant women and families with elderly people.
- For risk reduction and mitigation projects the target beneficiaries are the communities.
- For Risk preparedness, the direct beneficiaries are school going children and their teachers as well as community members and families.

The families are usually poor from rural coastal areas at risk (in cyclones trajectory) especially the east coast. This forms about 1.8% of the entire population.

The targeted beneficiaries will receive non-food items such as wash kits (water purifiers, soap, buckets, basins, jerry cans,), agricultural kits (shovels, spades, pickaxes), construction kits (nails, hammer and saw), kitchen sets (beakers, portable stoves, etc) and also basic-need items such as candles, matches, blankets, LLITNs, sleeping mats, tarpaulins and also food items such as rice, seed, and oil, salt and sugar. They will also receive services such as water wells emergency sanitation, rehabilitation of water wells, free medical consultations, drugs, shelter (tents/camps) and sensitization

The beneficiaries will have immediate relief basic items to keep a certain standard of living and will benefit from awareness activities that will increase their future capacity to prepare and protect themselves from disasters' impact. The beneficiaries will participate in the contingency plan implementation, monitoring and evaluation through the cross-cutting project aiming at a community-based approach for all projects.

Potential risks and challenges

The potential risks and challenges likely to have an impact on the achievement of the programme outcomes arise from the possibility of another disaster occurring. This will compound the impacts of the earlier disaster. If the team is already in the field, then the response will be quick and more efficient.

Health and Care

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS
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Component outcome: Communities' vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through awareness raising (on preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment, and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination) among youth and girls.

Output

- Improved awareness (definition, prevention, care) of HIV and AIDS among community members

Profile of target beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries of this programme are the youth, students in schools, women and women associations, pregnant women and blood donors, vulnerable families, orphans and vulnerable children, people living with HIV and AIDS and other vulnerable groups such as commercial sex workers and street children. Youths will be trained through youth associations, journalists, local chiefs and mayors will be trained too.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge will be the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS and also the rigid cultural beliefs, way of thinking and habits in some areas of the island. These have made it difficult to accept infected people integrate them into the society. Specific approach will be developed to deal with difficult communities.

Programme component 2: Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation
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Component outcome 1: Increased and sustained country supplies of safe blood
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Component outcome 2: Functional blood donor's clubs
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Output

- Community members are mobilized to donate blood

Profile of target beneficiaries

The target beneficiary here will be the general population.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge will be to communicate and mobilize people to feel comfortable and safe in a practice they are not used to. The communication and dissemination of information integrating that aspect will be of primary importance.

Programme component 3: Community-based health and first-aid
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Component outcome 1: Increased healthy communities able to cope with health and disaster challenges achieved through community based integrated health and first aid activities
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Output

- Community members have acquired the capacity to assist during the onset of health and disaster situations in Madagascar.

Profile of target beneficiaries

The final beneficiaries of this programme will be the local communities in Madagascar and around 10,000 volunteers of the MRCS.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge will be to monitor the community-based projects. This is because of inadequate experience in monitoring and evaluation of projects and also inadequate capacity. Communication and dissemination of information will be a priority for the MRCS.

Programme component 4: Measles and Polio

Component outcome: Increased uptake of immunization services during both mass vaccination campaigns and routine immunization services
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Output

- Communities are aware of the importance of measles and polio immunization.

Profile of target beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be children under the age of five and pregnant women in the country.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge is coordination during implementation; each partner or participant has to clearly understand their specific roles for a successful implementation.

Programme component 5: Maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH)

Component outcome: Improved MNCH through National Society community-based activities, including safe motherhood and child health initiatives. Vaccination and nutrition activities

Output

- Increased access of the population to health centres.

Profile of target beneficiaries

The beneficiaries will be from urban and rural areas but who don't have (easy) access to community health centres and especially children less than five years and pregnant women.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge is not to undermine the Ministry of Health's work through the health centres and to be sure to always involve the chief doctors in the process.

Programme component 6: Malaria

Component outcome: Vulnerable populations, children under 5 years of age, pregnant women, PLHIV are protected from malaria.
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Output

- Community members have access to information related to malaria prevention and care

Profile of target beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are those of the last integrated national campaign for measles vaccination and malaria prevention: children under five and pregnant women, which represents more than 400,000 households in seven regions of Madagascar. The remaining regions (15) and their children and mothers are future targets for nets distributions.

Programme component 7: Water and Sanitation
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Component outcome: Access to safe water and sanitation services improved in the target areas.
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Output

- Improved behaviour of the Malagasy population with respect to safe water and hygiene practices

Profile of target beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are six schools in the eastern coast of the island (urban). The children will learn about hygiene and sanitation through their teachers and MRCS volunteers and then be actors for their own families and communities. The final beneficiaries are 1,500 people benefiting from water access and knowledge of good practice in hygiene and sanitation and whose health condition will improve. The

project will then expand to 12 more schools targeting more or less each the same number of beneficiaries.

Potential risks and challenges

The project assumes that no disaster will disturb the implementation of the programme. Otherwise it will have to be held up until children go back to school.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

Programme purpose
Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability

Programme component 1: Well functioning National Society
Component outcome 1: MRCS has a well functioning organization with sustainable systems, procedures and staff with desired level of managerial and technical competencies

Outputs

- Proper coordination between Governance and management
- Procedures are in place and respected and efficient
- Volunteers management system in place and respected

Programme component 2: Programme Management
Component outcome 1: Improved planning, performance and accountability of MRCS programmes

Outputs

- Reinforcement of capacities in Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
- Reinforcement of capacities in finance management and accountability
- Improvement of transversal views on project management

Programme component 3: Ensuring financial sustainability
Component outcome 1: Core costs are covered by resource mobilisation and fundraising performed at national, regional and local levels

Output

- Fundraising strategy for MRCS is created

Profile of target beneficiaries

The programme targets districts and community committees without presidents to carry out elections. The target beneficiaries will be National Society staff, volunteers and the local committee branch members and the local communities at large.

Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge would concern the patrimony regularization which might be complicated in terms of diplomatic and delicate actions to be preceded.

Principles and Values

Programme purpose
Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

Programme component 1: Promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values
Component outcome 1: Enhanced knowledge, understanding and application of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values (including non-discrimination, non-violence, tolerance, and respect for diversity) with the Red Cross

Outputs

- The MRCS logo is protected by a bill and respected
- The Principles and Values are regularly disseminated-promoted through MRCS programmes, radios and the newsletter in all regions

Profile of target beneficiaries

The capacity building programme will target the National Society's governance and management staff and employees, and local branch committee members, to then reach the communities and the civil society as a whole including the government and the state and non-state actors in the Island.

Potential risks and challenges

The challenge is to incorporate principles and values promotion in every new project and activity. This will need deploying trained and competent staff all over the country.

Role of the secretariat

Capacity and experience

The Federation and the French Red Cross/PIROI have been supporting cyclone relief interventions in Madagascar for several years. Following the last events of 2007 and 2008, the National Society has gained experience working with PNS to implement programmes at community level; it also gained experience in responding to disasters. On another level, it has proved its capability through participation in national campaigns and increased involvement with state and non-state organizations.

The governing body of the National Society has also had experience working in close collaboration with the Federation, following the setting up of the Indian Ocean Islands Sub-Zone office in Mauritius and in particular the setting up of a Federation office in Madagascar. During the years 2007/2008, the National Society has benefited from working closely with Organizational Development and Finance and Administration delegates, as well as Disaster Management delegates in emergency responses.

a) Technical programme support

The National Society is working in close collaboration with the Federation, the ICRC and PNS in order to implement its capacity development programme. More so, partnerships with the French Red Cross/PIROI (risk reduction, mitigation and preparedness, water and sanitation, emergency response), the Canadian Red Cross (organizational development), American Red Cross ("Hang up" project post-campaign), Spanish Red Cross (cross cutting programme for health, disaster and first aid capacity building), Swiss Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross, and finally the Federation (Finance and Disaster management support), have been developed and continue working.

The MRCS will need technical support from the Federation through trainings in specialized areas and material support (more specifically in terms of emergency communication equipment, logistics and information technology). MRCS hopes that the International Federation will assist the National Society in carrying out assessments and determining their needs as well as to train the staff. After this assessment, financial support will be useful to permit MRCS to get some materials.

b) Partnership development and coordination

Non-state actors, such as UN agencies, CARE and other NGOs are active in the country and have worked with the National Society in past emergencies. The successful implementation of disaster preparedness and health programmes relies on the partnerships between the National Society and other actors. In addition, the Ministry of Health, the National Nutrition Office or the National Office for Disaster Management Coordination will all be involved in the various programmes at all stages. The functioning of the National Society will always include partnership with the Federation (disaster management and finance support) and with the ICRC specifically for the dissemination of principles and values. The Federation's support will also be needed for Planning, Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting advice and capacity building activities for that new department in order to improve the programme management of the MRCS and its credibility among partners as well as among beneficiaries.

c) Representation and Advocacy

After long internal crisis, the MRCS has regained credibility from all partners inside the Movement as well as from external partners. Because of the various actions implemented during 2007, MRCS has successfully achieved its objectives. A good work of representation was conducted by the National President and the Secretary General to represent the National Society and to promote again the emblem image in the country. Nevertheless, the functioning and the symbol of the Movement is still widely unknown in Madagascar. In that sense, efforts of representation and advocacy must be done with the Federation/ICRC's help and advice.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

During the phase of implementation of all programmes, the National Society will focus specifically on marginalized groups which include women (specifically pregnant women who are more vulnerable) and young girls. Some projects already specifically target pregnant women (nutrition and HIV and AIDS) but this will be emphasized for 2009. Encouraging women's participation (and their associations' participation) in all activities of the National Society at all levels will be an integral part of the programme. This issue will also be included in the dissemination of principles and values programme and all awareness campaigns.

Volunteer recruitment will be representative of the communities they serve and live in. As such, it will include a mix of men and women, younger and more senior people, and people of various language groups, as well as urban and rural dwellers. In that the volunteers are 'of their community,' they will also in many instances be subject to the same vulnerabilities as their neighbours. Minority groups are also heavily hit by the effects of disaster, often without the means to recover as rapidly as non-minority groups. MRCS recognizes these challenges and works with communities accordingly.

Quality, accountability and learning

To ensure that the capacity building programme is relevant and appropriate to the members of the National Society, its design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation will involve the participation of the governance and the management teams as well as staff and volunteers. This will ensure that the programme is relevant to members of the National Society at all levels.

The development of the disaster preparedness and health programmes will ensure better collaboration between other humanitarian actors, members of the National Society and members of identified communities. The National Society encourages the full participation of the targeted population to ensure that the programme is relevant to their needs. Full participation will also ensure that the programme is conducted in the local dialect using appropriate tools.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

With the help of the Federation, the National Society will ensure that financial and narrative reporting obligations are met. The National Society will also ensure that regular meetings are conducted with the target population for monitoring and evaluation purposes. A monitoring and evaluation system is being set up at the national level and will later be implemented at branch levels. This system will also be subjected to evaluation and will be regularly revised and updated according to feedback from the field and the headquarters. Its primary importance shall be the foundation of a healthy simple project management basis.

The Secretary General and his technical staff, with support from branch committees will be responsible for the various projects' monitoring through the following process:

- Collecting information data on the program's implementation quality from members of the targeted groups and final beneficiaries, but also with project staff and partners. The collection methods will include regular meetings with management, branch committees and national governance, regular field monitoring visits and meetings with the community representatives, partners and donors, and constant contact with implementation staff in the field.
- Preparing quarterly and annual narrative and financial reports.
- Distributing these reports and findings to the appropriate stakeholders in the adapted medium.

The evaluation process, mainly at the beginning and end stages, will be highly accentuated and prioritized in order to ensure qualitative plans and strong foundations for new projects to come, through the lessons learnt, good practice and recommendations focus.

Implementation and management arrangements

The capacity building programme will be overseen by the Secretary General and implemented by technical staff with the support of the Federation, ICRC and PNS. Their tasks will be to ensure the development of the programme, its good design, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The others programmes will be overseen by the Program Director and implemented by each Chief of Department and team.

The Delegates will be responsible for providing technical support to MRCS and ensure that there is proper financial accounting and reporting. The Delegates will be involved in providing continuous coaching and support to National Society counterparts as well as in the development of all programmes.

Sustainability

The capacity building programme is designed to ensure strong governance and managerial functions. This is compulsory to the implementation of sustainable projects. Successful implementation assumes:

- The management team is competent and has established appropriate policies and strategies in line with the principles and objectives of the Movement;
- The National Society has established itself as part of a viable network of regional humanitarian actors;
- Well developed and appropriately resourced local branches (with personnel and office equipment) which are receiving appropriate guidance and support from headquarters.

The MRCS team is well trained, the Strategic Plan is well understood and adopted by each and everyone who uses it as the basis for all actions, the branches are also fully equipped and trained as well. While the MRCS has had the opportunity to prove its ability to develop and start efficient programmes and thanks to the growing number of partners who have confidence in the National Society's abilities, the latter can effectively focus its project management on viability and sustainability with the interest to considerably reduce the vulnerability of living conditions of Madagascar people on a long term basis.

Budget Summary

Programmes	2009 budget (CHF)	2010 budget (CHF)	Total budget (CHF)
Disaster Management, Health and Care, Capacity Development, Humanitarian Values and Framework for Action	714,180	474,497	1,188,677³

³ This budget includes CHF 187,167 for Malaria programme

How we work

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:

- **In Madagascar:** Ratsimbazafy Fanja Nantenaina, Secretary General, Malagasy Red Cross Society, Antananarivo; email: crm@wanadoo.mg; telephone + 261.20.222.21.11; fax + 261.20.226.67.39
- **In Mauritius:** Susannah Cunningham; Head of Sub-Zonal Office for the Indian Ocean Islands; Rose Hill; email: susanna.cunningham@ifrc.org; Telephone: +230 454 6934; Fax: +230 454 7531
- **In Kenya:** Dr. Asha Mohammed, Federation Head of Zone, Eastern Africa, Nairobi; Email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org; phone +254.20.283.51.24
- **In Geneva:** Sabine Feuglet, Federation Europe and Eastern Africa Management Support Officer, Geneva; email: sabine.feuglet@ifrc.org; telephone + 41.22.730.43.49; fax + 41.22.733.03.95

Plan 2009-2010



COMOROS

Executive Summary

The Comoros Union is part of the Developing Small Island States⁴ with a total population estimated at 575,660 according to data obtained during the 2003 population census. The population is unequally distributed among the three islands with 269,177 people settled in Ngazidja, 243,732 in Ndzuwani and 35,751 in Mwali. The Comorian archipelago offers tourism potentials that have not yet been fully exploited.

According to the 2005 national report titled '*Objectifs du Millenaire pour le Développement-Union des Comores/Nations Unies*', the socio-sanitary and economic circumstances in the Comoros are characterized by deteriorating living conditions of the local populations and difficulty in access to basic social services including education, health and water as well as trends towards poor resource capacity for food production exemplified by circumstances involving children of less than 5 years suffering from retarded growth, gender disparities in all levels of education and the absence or under-representation of women in all the levels of political and economic administration and management in the country. Meanwhile, the HIV situation is characterized by an overall low prevalence, but marked by issues of serious concern including a sharp fall in the use of protection among the youth aged between 15 and 24 years by almost 50 percent (35.7% in 1996 to 19.5% in 2003). In addition, recent trends also show that less people have regular access to water points with treated water.

Aiming at improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable, the Comoros Red Crescent (CRC) has outlined 4 priority areas which include strengthening the capacities, improving the health conditions of the populations, mitigating the impact of disasters and promotion of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values of the Red Cross/Red Crescent. These priorities reflect the needs of the local populations and also put the capacities of the National Society into consideration.

The beneficiaries targeted directly by the plan include on one hand, members of governance bodies, staff and volunteers of the National Society and the communities or groups within the communities who are the most vulnerable on the other hand. The overall objective of the 2009-2010 plan is to contribute to the reduction of poverty among the populations in Comoros.

It is expected that by the end of this plan's implementation, the International Federation will have contributed to the development of the capacities of the Comoros Red Crescent to deliver high quality services to the most vulnerable as well as to enable the local communities take control of their circumstances.

This plan is expected to contribute to the realization of the Global Agenda Goals through strengthening of the capacities of the National Society and the communities, health programmes, disaster management and promotion of Humanitarian Values in consistency with the objectives.

⁴ In French: Petits Etats Insulaires en Développement (PEID)

The total 2009-2010 budget is CHF 82,674 (USD 75,570 or EUR 52,659)

[<Click here to go directly to the attached budget summary of the plan>](#)

Country context

The Comoros archipelago, locally referred to as 'the islands of the moon' is located at the northern entrance of the Mozambique Channel between Eastern Africa and the North-Western part of Madagascar.

The following statistics summarize the country's population status:

- An explosive demography with an average birth rate of 2.1% per annum from 1991 to 2003;
- An average population density of 309 habitants/square km;
- A youthful population, mostly rural-based, grouped in villages and which 50.4% are women.



The present rate of development is as a result of performance of an economy with a weak growth potential due in part to the nature of investment opportunities which is insufficient in terms of productivity. The investment ratio compared to the GNP is estimated at 21% in 1990 stabilizing at around 14.6% from 1999, down to 10.1 per cent of GNP in 2004. The slow progress witnessed in terms of macroeconomic stability is also linked to numerous structural disequilibrium factors as well as natural and external constraints.

During the last twenty years, the growth rate of revenue per capita has been consistently negative. On the social platform, the situation is characterized by substantial improvement of the principal indicators along the social

dimension of development but which still remains unstable. According to the 2005 World Report on Human Development, the human development indicator for the Comoros is at 0.547 corresponding to life expectancy at birth of 63.2 years, an adult literacy rate of 56.2 per cent and a percentage of both children and adults in full-time education of 47 per cent. Therefore, on average, the Comoros Union presents a level of human development at $HDI > 0.500$ and occupies 132nd place among the 177 countries. The socio-sanitary indicators of the Comoros are shown as follows:

Social indicators

- Population: (2008 projection, RGP2003) : 633,607 inhabitants;
- Life expectancy for women: 60.3 years (2002);
- Life expectancy for men: 58.3 years (2002);
- Birth rates: 35.6% (2003);
- Death rates for infants/juveniles: 74% (2000);
- Maternal death rates for 100,000 live births: 381 for every 100,000 (2003);
- Fertility indicators: 5.3 children for every woman;
- Gross literacy rates: 56.5% (2004);
- Gross percentage of children and adults in full-time education: 47.0% (2003);
- Part of population with access to potable water: 69.9% (2004);
- Rates of access to latrines: Urban-51.1%; Rural-32.2% (2004).

Sanitation indicators

- Child mortality rates linked to malaria infections: approximately 400 to 500 per year (source; PNLP 2004);
- HIV infection rates: 0.025% (2003);

- Rates of BCG vaccine cover: 53.2% (2004);
- Rates of Measles vaccine cover: 73% (2004);
- Percentage of women getting at least one pre-natal consultation: 72.7% (2004).

Since its attainment of independence on 6 July 1975, the Comoros has experienced constant political instability. Prominent among the changes reported in the political landscape was the shift in political leadership from Anjouan following military involvements of 25 March 2008. This change was aimed at facilitating interventions of development actors and support of funding agencies. Other than internal political concerns, the Comoros archipelago is also exposed to risks from natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions, epidemics such as Chikungunya, Cholera and Measles, food insecurity, floods, hurricanes and cyclones, tsunamis, road accidents and the effects of climate change.

Founded in 1982, and recognized as an auxiliary of public authorities in the humanitarian domain by the Comoros state in September 1985 and internationally in September 2005 by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Comoros Red Crescent is the youngest National Society in the Indian Ocean islands. The National Society enjoys a good reputation following its rapid interventions conducted to assist the most vulnerable even when faced by challenges including limited resources.

Priorities of the National Society and coordination

The priorities of the Comoros Red Crescent at present are those documented in its strategic plan which includes the following:

Strengthening local capacities

In order to perform at its best, the CRC must improve its capacities at headquarters, local and regional branches in management of human, financial and material resources, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of programmes as well as resource mobilization. In order to ensure sustainability of its interventions, the CRC must equally enhance capacity development for the most vulnerable groups and communities.

Improving health conditions of the local populations

Despite some encouraging results following recent Government and CRC interventions as well as other humanitarian and development partners, the epidemiological indicators for the Comoros are still dominated by prevalence of diseases such as malaria, water-borne diseases such as cholera, infections preventable through vaccination and/or application of simple hygiene measures, HIV and AIDS and malnutrition.

To improve its score-card in the area of health, the CRC plans to work closely with other humanitarian agencies by concentrating on the main health challenges such as malaria, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and reproductive health, diarrhoeal diseases, malnutrition among children of up to 5 years, and diseases that are preventable through vaccination.

Mitigation of impact from disasters

The Comoros is an archipelago exposed to various risks and disasters with the most predominant being cyclones, tsunami, epidemics, volcanic eruptions, severe droughts, risks related to petroleum production and chemical waste disposal and risks related to aerial and sea transportation as well as fire accidents.

In order to effectively address these disasters, the CRC aims to strengthen its capacities as well as those of the communities and to continue working in partnership with the other humanitarian agencies in disaster management.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Coordination

During the 2008-2009 period, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has supported the CRC in different domains as shown in the table below:

Movement Partners	Areas of Support
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulating information on the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values as well as First Aid programmes.
International Federation (IFRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational capacity development, preparation and hosting the ordinary general assembly and covering expenses related to running of CRC operations.
French Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster management through the Rapid Intervention Platform for the Indian Ocean islands (PIROI) as well as health promotion in schools.
Spanish Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and disaster management as well as branch development.
Canadian Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster management through PIROI; sensitization projects on the associated risks of Karthala volcano and capacity building of the CRC as well as contribution to strategic stock-piling

During the 2009-2010 period, the CRC plans to strengthen its cooperation with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners as well as with other humanitarian agencies by adopting a common strategy of cooperation agreement and developing of operational alliances.

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 1: Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Programme component: Disaster Preparedness/ Organizational Preparedness
Component outcome 1: The capacity of the Comoros Red Crescent to effectively manage disasters is improved.

Outputs

- Members of staff and volunteers of 60 local branches are trained in different domains of disaster management and 3 disaster preparedness kits are pre-positioned at the 3 regional branches;
- The renovation project of telecom network of the CRC is improved at the branch level.

Programme Component: Disaster Preparedness/ risk reduction by the communities.
Component outcome 1: The capacities of local communities to manage disasters are improved.

Outputs

- Information, education and communication strategy in preparedness and response to disasters is developed and implemented in 60 local branches;
- 60 village committees in disaster management are set up;
- A food security project is developed and put to practice.

b) Profiles of targeted beneficiaries

The beneficiaries targeted under the Disaster Preparedness/Organizational Preparedness include 3,500 volunteers in the 3 regional branches. The ages vary from 16 to 60 years with female volunteers representing 65 percent of the total. The majority of the volunteers are students and the youth who are easier to mobilize in preparedness and response to disasters facilitated by their closer group ties in the society. Part of the programme incorporates general and specialized training sessions for volunteers in the domain of disaster management, monitoring and coaching in their fields of activities as well as provision of First Aid kits. Therefore, the volunteers will acquire skills through technical support offered to them to improve their competency to give quality services in the villages and towns.

The direct beneficiaries of preparedness and disaster risk reduction by communities programme include villages and communities exposed to risks and natural disasters as well as populations affected by natural and man-made disasters. The programme is relevant in view of challenges resulting from difficulties in access to basic services and high rates of illiteracy in the country (with only 39% of children and adults in full-time education). Through the programme, targeted populations will be able to adopt effective attitudes and behaviors that enhance disaster preparedness and response.

To be able to maximize the impact of the programme, the participants will actively participate in evaluating their vulnerabilities and capacities at the start-up and through the project by monitoring and evaluating the activities.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Political instability and the economic crisis are the main factors that are likely to affect the implementation of the programme. In addition, large scale disasters such as the tsunami, cyclones, epidemics and volcanic eruptions are also likely to slow down or momentarily stop the implementation of the 2009-2010 programmes given that the country is insufficiently prepared in the domain of disaster management.

In order to face these challenges, the CRC needs to deploy sufficient and competent personnel at headquarters and regional levels as well as receive technical support and financial support from Movement partners. The CRC equally plans to conduct more dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in addition to peace messages to political leaders and the general populations.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 2: Reduce the prevalence and impact of diseases and public health emergencies.

Programme Component: Community based Health Care
Component outcome 1: The capacities of National Societies to manage community-based health and care programmes are strengthened.

Outputs

- The permanent health management teams at headquarters level as well as the three regional branches are put in place;
- The teams in managing health programmes at the headquarters level and at the regional branches are trained in management of programmes;
- 600 community volunteers have the capacity to identify priority health problems and to effectively manage social mobilization campaigns;
- 600 volunteers are equipped with intervention materials.

Programme Component: Malaria, HIV/AIDS, diarrhoeal and protein-calorie malnutrition.
Component outcome 1: The capacities of targeted communities to manage health-related challenges (Malaria, HIV/AIDS and STDs, diarrhoeal diseases and protein-calorie malnutrition are strengthened.

Outputs

- Access to potable water and hygiene facilities near educational institutions is improved;
- A social mobilization strategy for prevention of health-related challenges in the communities is developed and put in practice;
- 1,200,000 condoms are distributed to the youths of between 12 and 24 years;
- 30,000 impregnated mosquito nets are distributed to 10,000 targeted households.

b) Profile of targeted beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the National Society capacity building to effectively manage community-based health programmes include staff at the headquarters and regional branches as well as community volunteers who will be trained to understand the functions of the programme.

The direct beneficiaries of the community-based programme for prevention of infections such as malaria, HIV/AIDS and STIs, diarrhoeal diseases and malnutrition linked to protein-calories include the following:

- The Comoros population in general;
- Children with less than 5 years and pregnant women;
- The youths aged between 12 and 24 years.

Potential risks and challenges

Similar to the other programmes, political instability, economic insecurity and natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions and tropical cyclones make up the major risks with the potential to delay the implementation of the programme. Other factors include high turnover of volunteers and delays in cash transfers that could also affect the functioning of the programme.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Global Agenda Goal 3: Increase the capacities of local communities, civil societies and the Red Cross and Red Crescent to respond to the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

Programme Component: Strengthening the institutional capacities.
Component outcome 1: Increased capacities in governance and management of the National Societies to develop and formulate strategies in order to ensure best performances and responsibility.

Outputs

- 30 local committees and Red Crescent youth clubs understand the principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, governance and management, the Movement's ideals and other specific domains;
- The statutes, internal regulations of the Comoros Red Crescent are circulated at local and regional committee levels;
- The code of conduct for governance members is circulated at the level of regional and local committees;
- A self-assessment system for national, regional and local committees is put in place and is operational;
- Regular statutory meetings are held.

Programme Component: A Well Functioning National Society (WFNS)
Component outcome 1: The CRC is a well functioning organization, with systems, reliable procedures, adequate facilities and personnel with high levels of technical and management competence.

Outputs

- An administrative and financial management system is put in place at the regional and local levels.
- The staff and volunteers at the regional and local branches have the capacity in terms of administrative and financial management;
- A reliable communication system and regular exchange between the headquarters and regional branches, regional and local branches is put in place;
- Three regional offices are rehabilitated and equipped with facilities;
- An extension of the headquarters office block is realized.

Programme Component: Financial Sustainability
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Component outcome 1: The National Society is assured of financial viability
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Outputs

- The commission tasked with appeal for funds is set up;
- A resource mobilization strategy is set up;
- Resource mobilization is done through the Movement partners, donors and the wider public;
- Regular financial auditing of the CRC is done.

Programme Component: Programme Management
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Component outcome 1: The capacities of staff and volunteers of the CRC in development and management of its programmes are strengthened.

Outputs

- A system for planning monitoring and evaluation of the programmes as well as elaboration of reports is put in place;
- Staff and volunteers of the CRC at headquarters, regional and local branches are trained in planning, monitoring, evaluation and elaboration of reports;

b.) Profiles of targeted beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the programme are constituted as follows :

- Members of the National Committee;
- Members of the 3 regional committees;
- Members of the targeted local committees;
- Staff at the headquarters;
- Staff at the regional branches;
- CRC volunteers from targeted local branches.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Political instability and economic insecurity constitute the main factors which are likely to negatively affect the outcomes of the programme. Other factors such as volunteer availability/turnover, late transfers of cash earmarked for the programme could equally delay the implementation of the programme.

Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

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

Programme Component: Promotion of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

Component outcome 1: The politico-administrative and military authorities, medical personnel, journalists and elected representatives of the islands of the Comoros Union and other categories of the population recognize, understand and adhere to the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Outputs

- A communication strategy of the CRC exists;
- Quarterly bulletins, promotion materials, brochures and calendars are distributed to the targeted population;
- A programme of broadcasts through the radio and television in the Comoros exists;
- The Fundamental Principles are integrated in all the programmes operational within the CRC including health and disaster management.

Programme Component: Re-establishment of family links

Component outcome 1: The capacities in circulation and re-establishment of family links for at least 2 to 3 local branches for adults and Red Cross youths are strengthened.

Outputs

- Training in tracing and re-establishment of family link is conducted;
- Sensitizations on re-establishment of family links are conducted.

b) Profiles of targeted beneficiaries

The targets of the programme are constituted as follows:

- The youths and adult members of the CRC;
- The politico-administrative and military authorities;
- Medical personnel;
- Journalists;
- Elected representatives within the islands of the Comoros Union;
- Other categories of the population.

c) Potential risks and challenges

This programme shares similar risks as those of other programmes proposed by the CRC. The implementation of the programme can equally be affected by such factors as outlined below:

- Lack of recognition of the National Society's adherence to the Independence Principles;
- Assimilation of the CRC with other organizations among the population;
- Interference of National Society operations by political authorities.

For effective implementation, the CRC plans to address the following challenges:

- Protecting the image of a National Society respected by the vulnerable populations, people who have experienced violence and discrimination;
- Respect to the norms and procedures of management of the National Society;
- Respect and create awareness on respect of positive discrimination.

Role of the Secretariat

a) Technical support to the programme

Presently, the International Federation does not have a delegate present in Comoros. Technical support from the Federation through deployment of delegates or consultants for brief missions and to support the creation of a document-keeping centre through the zonal office is necessary for the implementation of the 2009 to 2010 plan.

b) Development of partnerships through coordination

The CRC works in partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, French Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, the ICRC and the PIROI. The coordination of these partnerships is managed by the Federation's Indian Ocean sub-office in Mauritius.

For the next two years, the CRC plans to focus more on developing its coordination structures with other Movement partners intervening in the Comoros islands with the aim of having a more stable and long-term cooperation. At the moment, there is no clear strategy and policy directly relating to how the CRC is expected to handle Movement coordination.

Continued support of the CRC by the International Federation will in this context contribute to the overall development of technical and financial capacities as well as strengthen the coordination within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. This will also contribute to the advancement of five main areas of programming as follows:

- Elaboration of a partnership/cooperation strategy as outlined in the National Society strategic plan;
- Creation of an operational alliance on health activities (malaria and efforts to address HIV/AIDS) as well as disaster management;
- Strategic streamlining of partnership meetings;
- Emergency planning among Movement teams operating in the Comoros islands;

- Training and conducting refresher courses for National Society staff and Red Cross volunteers in line with Seville Accord and supplementary measures.

c) Representation and Advocacy

The living conditions of the populations in the Comoros islands have been of deep concern over the last number of years. Despite active mobilization efforts undertaken by in-country authorities, funding agencies have responded below expectation in the development process. With this circumstance in mind, the national authorities have higher expectations from the Red Cross and Red Crescent in offering support and assisting the most vulnerable populations.

The International Federation is therefore well placed to extend its support toward the CRC initiatives in the area of advocacy. During the 2009 to 2010 period, the Federation's role will consist of representation and defending the interests of the CRC at the international level, sensitizing other humanitarian actors to the conditions of vulnerability of the Comoros population in general, and particularly of the populations in Anjouan. Two main objectives highlighted below will guide the prioritization process:

- Strengthen the technical capacities of the leadership and management teams of the CRC in the area of advocacy;
- Facilitate the development process as well as formulation of advocacy strategies and CRC partnerships.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

Generally, women are under-represented in key functions of the CRC inspite of their majority count as members of the National Society. Furthermore, the women are also less visible within other key decision-making organs in the socio-professional fields of the National Society. To address the problem on one hand, ground-breaking efforts will be deployed to sensitize parents to promote high quality education for the girl-child in Comoros. On the other hand, the CRC will continue to encourage women to compete in recruitment for key posts in governance as well as management of the National Society. The electoral code of the CRC will therefore be updated in a way that enhances gender equity in the composition of governance organs at all levels. A recruitment strategy targeting the most qualified members in relevant socio-professional fields will be developed and put in practice. In addition, the CRC will embark on training to enhance gender balance among volunteer and ensure that gender is promoted and respected.

Quality, accountability and learning

To enhance quality in management of programmes, plans to set up a follow-up committee that checks implementation of the plan of action have been advanced. This committee will be tasked with giving guidelines on the setup and implementation, monitoring the performance according to the plan and giving directives on measures and necessary adjustments to attain best practices. The follow-up committee will also be expected to hold periodic meetings to assess the pros and cons. The monitoring and evaluation strategy outlined in the plans is expected to guide the following planned activities:

- Review of programme implementation reports;
- Field monitoring visits;
- Monthly and quarterly meetings to discuss the programme management progress;
- Periodic meetings by the programme follow-up committee.

Regular studies will be conducted to evaluate the initial situation, as well as the programme's pertinence, efficiency, effectiveness and impact. Evaluation studies planned within the context of the programme include the following areas:

- Baseline surveys;
- Mid-term evaluation of the programme;
- Final evaluation.

Particular attention shall be given to preparation and circulation of narrative and financial reports that will be shared with the relevant groups involved in the plan implementation. The lessons learned in the course of the project implementations will be shared with all the concerned at different levels and

particularly with the affected communities targeted for support, local and regional CRC branches, the Federation's Secretariat and other organizations working in related domains through knowledge sharing during programme M/E meetings, publication of best practices in the National Society's bulletin as well as the Federation's web site.

Budget Summary

Programmes	2009 budget (CHF)	2010 budget (CHF)	Total budget (CHF)
Disaster Management, Health and Care, Capacity Development, Humanitarian Values and Framework for Action	46,524	36,150	82,674

How we work

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Comoros:** Ibrahima Ahamada: Executive Secretary, email: crco@comorestelecom.km or ibrahimaissilam@yahoo.fr, Telephone: +269 7 73 06 64 or +269 3 33 34 54; fax: +269 7 73 06 64.
- **In Mauritius:** Susannah Cunningham; Head of Sub-Zonal Office for the Indian Ocean Islands; Rose Hill; email; susanna.cunningham@ifrc.org; Telephone: +230 454 6934; Fax: +230 454 7531
- **In Kenya:** Dr. Asha Mohammed, Federation Head of Eastern Africa Zone, Nairobi; email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org; Telephone: +254.20.283.51.24; Fax: +254.20.271.27.77
- **In Geneva:** Sabine Feuglet, Federation Europe and Eastern Africa Management Support Officer, Geneva; email: sabine.feuglet@ifrc.org; telephone + 41.22.730.43.49; fax + 41.22.733.03.95

Plan 2009-2010



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAURITIUS

Executive summary

Mauritius Red Cross Society's (MRCS) programmes are in line with the Federation's four Global Agenda goals. The National Society programmes target vulnerable communities including communities living below the poverty line and who are vulnerable to natural disasters such as cyclones, flash floods, tidal waves, Tsunamis and food insecurity, as well as people living with HIV (PLHIV) and non-communicable diseases.

The **disaster management** programme seeks to create a disaster recovery stock and an emergency fund to meet the immediate needs of the vulnerable. Eleven communities (in Mauritius and Rodriguez) are targeted for enhanced disaster response.

The **health and care** programme is working towards increasing community awareness on HIV and AIDS and non-communicable diseases. Emergency health and psychosocial support are the other priorities for the health and care pr.

Oogramme. The National Society seeks to improve access to curative and preventive health services in the target areas. Also, improved access to quality and gender-sensitive health services for women, men and young people with special attention on the most vulnerable groups is another target outcome. Under emergency health, the National Society seeks to enable people have access to social and mental health services to reduce mental health problems, disability and social problems.

The **organizational development** programme seeks to enhance the financial sustainability of the National Society by creating links with donors for more programmes especially under health and care programme. The programme will also improve the MRCS programme/project management capacities for staff and volunteers through training. Recruitment of additional professional staff at the headquarters will be done to assist in overall administration. Branch development focusing on a wider network and volunteer management for motivation and retention are priorities as well.

Overall, successful implementation of MRCS programmes will ensure:

- Strengthened capacity to formulate and develop strategic plans for disaster preparedness at community and national levels;
- Communities educated to develop a responsible attitude towards a healthy lifestyle and health risks.
- Increased number of sustainable projects implemented by the National Society

Successful implementation will require that the National Society works in close collaboration with Partner National Societies (PNS), especially the Spanish, French and Canadian Red Cross Societies who have been active bilateral partners as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation.

Target Population:

Vulnerable communities (in Mauritius and Rodrigues) are targeted for enhanced disaster response. Staff, volunteers, community members, general public especially children, disabled and the elderly from disaster prone areas will be the target beneficiaries. The target beneficiaries of the health and care programme are the youth, children in schools, women and women associations, pregnant women and blood donors, vulnerable families and children, orphans, people living with HIV and AIDS and other vulnerable groups like commercial sex workers and street children. The OD programme will target the MRCS staff, management team and volunteers for capacity building.

The total amount requested through this appeal is CHF 72,964 (USD 66,695 or EUR 46,474)

[<Click here to go directly to the attached budget summary of the plan>](#)

Country context

Mauritius has maintained to be one of the developing countries with the most successful democracies, and has enjoyed years of constitutional order. The island has preserved its image as one of Africa's social and economic success stories, being a sugar and clothing exporter and a centre for upmarket tourism. Current reforms aimed at raising the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are having a negative effect on the livelihood of many people in Mauritius⁵. In particular, a high inflation rate of 8.9%, which is the highest in 13 years, is largely the result of reduction in food and fuel subsidies; reduction in subsidies on staple food items such as rice and milk are starting to have severe effects on marginalized groups.

Seasonal cyclones and heavy rainfalls causing flash floods are a recurrent threat in the Indian Ocean Islands and have severely affected Mauritius. Cyclone Gamede hit the island in February 2007. Although it did not cause any deaths, it caused extensive damage to people's homes. Cyclone Gamede demonstrated that the National Society needed to improve its disaster response capacity. In November 2007, tidal waves hit the south west coast of the island and heavily affected fishing families living on the coastline.

In March 2008 heavy rainfall across the island caused severe flooding in certain regions, resulting to the death of five people. Eleven regions have thus been identified as prone to flash floods.

Successful implementation of the National Society's disaster management programme will ensure the creation of disaster recovery stock and an emergency fund to meet immediate needs of the affected population. Eleven communities (in Mauritius and Rodrigues) will be better prepared to respond to disasters. New warehouses shall be constructed. The capacity development programme will enhance the National Society's capacity to raise funds to meet the financial requirements of its disaster management and health and care programmes

During the period 2009-2010, MRCS's capacity to manage its own development, including through improved external partnerships and networks will be encouraged. Increased capacity of the National Society will allow it to be a part of an improved national and regional network, which will enable sharing of knowledge, resources and technical expertise.

National Society priorities and current work with partners

Mauritius Red Cross Society is a well-established humanitarian organization in Mauritius. Since the 2004 Tsunami, there have been increased bilateral and multilateral activities in the country and the National Society has benefited a lot of international exposure. Through bilateral support from the French, Spanish and Canadian Red Cross Societies as well as ICRC support, MRCS has successfully recruited programme, logistics and information dissemination officers. Further funding has been committed for the construction of a regional disaster stock warehouse.

⁵ Source: Economic Intelligence Unit

The National Society provided significant support to the International Federation in the setting up the Indian Ocean Islands sub-zone office in Mauritius. This has resulted in increased visibility of the Movement in the country.

The increase in activities means additional reporting and recording responsibilities. The National Society will work towards building its workforce. Two officers will be recruited – a finance and administration officer to meet its financial reporting requirements and administration at the headquarters; and a branch coordinator to spearhead administration at branch level and also volunteer management.

The International Federation, the French Red Cross (PIROI⁶) and the Spanish Red Cross have been supporting the National Society in the areas of capacity building and disaster preparedness for several years.

In addition to the French Red Cross and the Federation, the Canadian Red Cross is working with MRCS in capacity building, organizational development and disaster preparedness. The ICRC is also supporting the MRCS in information dissemination and communication.

The programmes will continue to encourage and work towards such collaborations and the National Society welcomes all technical and financial support that Movement partners have to offer.

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster Management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Programme Component: Organizational preparedness
Component outcome 1: Improved capacity in skilled human resources and financial and material capacity for effective disaster management

The programme seeks to create a disaster recovery stock and emergency funds to meet the immediate needs of the vulnerable people. Two warehouses shall be constructed in Mauritius and Rodriguez.

Programme component: Disaster preparedness (Community Level)
Component outcome 1: Improved self-reliance of individuals and communities to reduce their vulnerabilities to public health emergencies and disasters.

Programme component: Disaster Response/Recovery
Component outcome 1: Improved assistance to restore or improve pre-disaster living conditions and reduce the risk of future disasters.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

Vulnerable communities (in Mauritius and Rodriguez) are targeted for enhanced disaster response. Staff, volunteers, community members, general public especially children, disabled and the elderly from disaster prone areas will be the target beneficiaries.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The general public of the island may not respond to the programme with interest as this is common with the Mauritian population; their response to disaster preparedness has not always been good. The National Society will however mobilize the public through its wide volunteer network.

⁶PIROI: In English; Indian Ocean Regional Intervention Platform – In French; Plate-forme d'Intervention Régionale pour l'Océan Indien

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
Programme component: HIV and AIDS
Component outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impacts reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination.
Programme component: Non-communicable diseases
Component outcome 1 : Increased awareness of non-communicable diseases in the target population
Programme component: Emergency health
Component outcome 1: Access to curative and preventive health services improved in the target area
Programme component: Psychosocial support
Component outcome 1: People have access to social and mental health services to reduce mental health morbidity, disability and social problems

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries of this program are the youth, children in schools, women and women associations, pregnant women and blood donors, vulnerable families and children, orphans, people living with HIV and AIDS and other vulnerable groups like commercial sex workers and street children. They will be trained through youths and volunteers. Campaign messages will be run over television and radio programmes.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The major challenge will be the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS; and also the rigid cultural beliefs, way of thinking and habits in some areas. These have made it difficult to accept infected people integrate them into the society.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
Programme Component: Capacity Development
Component outcome 1: Increased capacity for programme development and management
Component outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of NS and/or communities in disaster preparedness and post-disaster response
Component outcome 3: Increased institutional capacity of NS in coordinating and responding public health emergencies
Programme component 1: Branch development and/or volunteer management
Component outcome 1: Increased nation-wide coverage of grassroots units and services
Component outcome 2: Increased capacity of staff and volunteers to reach to vulnerable population
Component outcome 3: National Society's volunteer network is strengthened.

Programme component 2: Well functioning National Societies

Component outcome 1: MRCS has a well functioning organization with sustainable systems, procedures and staff with desired level of managerial and technical competencies

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The programme will target the MRCS staff, management team and volunteers for capacity building. Successful implementation of the programme will ultimately benefit vulnerable groups affected by natural disasters, food security, PLHIV and people with non-communicable diseases.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The biggest challenge is viability of the programme in terms of financing. For the success of this programme, new partners to support this programme will be sought.

Role of the secretariat

a) Technical programme support

The Federation, through its Indian Ocean Islands Sub Zone office, has been providing technical support to the MRCS. During the period 2009-2010, the Federation will give support in capacity building in disaster management and health and care. The Federation will also provide capacity building in monitoring and evaluation upon request.

b) Partnership development and coordination

The Federation will work closely with the National Society to improve and sustain partnerships with existing partners and new partners to continue funding its programmes. Internal and external coordination meetings shall be organized periodically by the MRCS and the International Federation respectively to ensure continuity of programmes and improved capacity to respond to needs of the most vulnerable in the country.

c) Representation and Advocacy

The Sub Zone office will continue to work closely with the MRCS to ensure the Movement is well represented in inter-agency and other international forums that take place in the country, either by a National Society representative or by a Federation representative depending on the context.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

The National Society is conscious of the need to keep a gender perspective in all its programmes. Focus will be on women, children and other vulnerable groups who will be encouraged to participate in the programmes at all levels. In the initial stages, the programme coordinators will be required to keep a gender perspective and encourage women to participate actively in the National Society activities.

In the drafting of the revised National Society Statutes, emphasis has been placed on rotation of mandates, and the importance of diversity in human resources. The Statutes emphasise that the National Society should appropriately reflect gender equity and diversity. Volunteer recruitment will also reflect all groups in the community.

Quality, accountability and learning

The National Society will put in place a monitoring system to ensure better management, learning and improvement of programme. With support from the Federation, the National Society will ensure that financial and narrative reporting is done as per the guidelines. Evaluators from the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) will ensure monitoring and evaluation is done regularly to report implementation progress, achievements and lessons learned. This will ensure effective implementation.

Budget Summary

Programmes	2009 budget (CHF)	2010 budget (CHF)	Total budget (CHF)
Disaster Management, Health and Care, Capacity Development, Humanitarian Values and Framework for Action	35,263	37,701	72,964

How we work

The MRCS activities are aligned with its Strategic Plan, which set out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:

- **In Mauritius:** Patrice Pellegrin, Director General, Mauritius Red Cross Society, Curepipe; Email redcross@intnet.mu; Telephone: +230.676.36.04; Fax: +230.483.66.80
- **In Mauritius:** Sussannah Cunningham; Head of Sub-Zonal Office for the Indian Ocean Islands; Rose Hill; email; susanna.cunningham@ifrc.org; Telephone: +230 454 6934; Fax: +230 454 7531
- **In Kenya:** Dr. Asha Mohammed, Federation Head of Eastern Africa Zone, Nairobi; email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org; Telephone: +254.20.283.51.24; Fax: +254.20.271.27.77
- **In Geneva:** Sabine Feuglet; email: sabine.feuglet@ifrc.org; Telephone: +41 22 730 4349

Plan 2009-2010



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

SEYCHELLES

Executive summary

Following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and the devastating effect that it had on the islands of Seychelles, the Seychelles Red Cross Society (SRCS) is faced with the need to continue strengthening its capacity and level of disaster preparedness and response. The **disaster management** programme is geared towards improving the level of readiness and preparedness of the National Society (NS) as well as local communities through sensitization and public awareness campaigns. During the period 2009-2010, the NS will continue to train staff, volunteers and members of the local community to be better prepared so that they can respond to small and medium scale disasters. One of the National Society's main objectives is to establish warehouses at its regional branches and equip them with relief and support items, facilitating more effective disaster responses. These warehouses could meet the immediate needs of an estimated 7,000-9,000 people vulnerable to Tsunamis and torrential rains.

The SRCS also aims to establish functioning water rescue teams in the three branches of Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. The objective of the programme is to provide volunteer life guard services during monsoon seasons and beach/water events throughout the year.

The SRCS is now in the process of reviewing its disaster management committee. The new committee will conduct activities such as the review and adoption of the new disaster management policy, completion of National Society offices and development of new local partnerships - with local donors and government agencies.

The **health and care** programme will continue to focus on HIV and AIDS, non-remunerated blood donation, emergency health and psychosocial support the National Society's HIV and AIDS activities will continue.

During the period 2009-2010, SRCS will strive to further improve its capacity to implement effective and efficient programmes as per Global Agenda goal 3.

The National Society's headquarters were damaged during the 2004 Tsunami. Lack of well-equipped office buildings at the headquarters, branches and warehousing space is affecting the National Society's capacity to deliver effective and efficient programmes. The Government of Seychelles has given the National Society land for construction of new headquarters and warehouse facilities.

The OD programme will focus on improving its governance and management structures, diversify and improve its fundraising activities, strengthen its volunteer management system and develop/strengthen its youth programme and local branches.

The National Society will work in close collaboration with the International Federation, German Red Cross, French Red Cross/Indian Ocean Regional Intervention Platform (PIROI⁷), the Government of Seychelles and local corporate partners during the implementation of all its programmes.

Target Population

The SRCS disaster management programme will target communities living on the coastal zone, primary, secondary, post-secondary school children, drivers and swimmers and other members of the community. Ministry of education, ministry of health and the general community will be targeted for the health and care programme. The OD programme will target SRCS staff, the national committee members and volunteers, the youth and ultimately all vulnerable groups who will be assisted through better quality programmes and services.

The total amount requested by the SRCS is CHF 102,193 (USD 93,412 or EUR 65,091)

[<Click here to go directly to the attached budget summary of the plan>](#)

Country context

The Seychelles consists of an archipelago of about 100 islands in the Indian Ocean northeast of Madagascar. The total land area is 455 square kilometres. Since independence in 1976, per capita output has expanded to roughly seven times the pre-independence, near-subsistence level, moving the island into the upper-middle income group of countries. Growth has been led by the tourist sector, which employs about 30% of the labour force and provides more than 70% of hard currency earnings, and by tuna fishing. The government has moved to reduce the dependence on tourism by promoting the development of farming, fishing, and small-scale manufacturing. Economic growth slowed in 1998-2002 and fell in 2003-04, due to sluggish tourist and tuna sectors, but resumed in 2005-07. Real GDP grew by 5.8% in 2007, driven by tourism and a boom in tourism-related construction.

There is a need to review the nature of risks that exists in the country. Despite a growing economy, there are many marginalized communities who are vulnerable to disasters. In this respect, there is a need to raise public awareness as regards disaster such as flooding and tidal waves.

The Seychelles, whilst facing the usual problems of small island states, have become more vulnerable to both natural and non-natural disasters over the last years. The number of floods, landslides, domestic and general fire outbreaks has increased over the past years causing deaths, injuries and damages to property and loss of income. The tsunami disaster in December 2004 caused major damage to housing, livelihoods and infrastructure on the country's two main islands, Mahe and Praslin. Two people died in the tsunami and 950 families were initially displaced. The tsunami disaster was also followed by three days of intense rainfall and flooding on the 29th December 2004, which raised public concern and public awareness that the country was not sufficiently prepared in disaster prevention, mitigation, response and relief. The Government of Seychelles therefore rapidly responded by creating a Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM)⁸.

HIV and AIDS in Seychelles represent a concentrated epidemic. It presents a real and surmountable challenge for Seychelles. The Ministry of Health leads the HIV and AIDS fight since the detection of the first case of HIV infection in 1987. Prevention, treatment, care and support programmes are national concerns. The National Policy on HIV and AIDS as well as the National Strategy call for coordinated action on the part of government, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, community groups and the general population. However, currently the fight is still mainly perceived as a health issue and the need for a significant move to a multi-sectoral approach cannot be overemphasized.

⁷ In French: Plate-forme d'Intervention Régionale pour l'Océan Indien (PIROI).

⁸ http://un.intnet.mu/UNDP/html/mauritiu/crisis_prevention_recovery.htm

National Society priorities and current work with partners

At the time of the 2004 Tsunami, the SRCS was a small but active community-based organization. Despite its limited capacity, the National Society responded quickly to the Tsunami. Since then, the National Society has grown steadily, both in terms of technical staff and volunteer base. In the period 2009-2010, SRCS will expand the coverage of its network of branches in order to support delivery on its programme components, such as life guard services, blood donation and emergency health and psychological support, on the different islands.

The SRCS capacity to manage its own development, including through improved external partnerships and networks will be encouraged. Increased capacity of the National Society will allow it to be a part of an improved national and regional network that will enable sharing of knowledge, resources and technical expertise.

Actions will be taken to further develop and review the human resource policy for SRCS staff, which was initiated in 2006-2007. The volunteer management policy will be finalized and initiatives will be made to put in place the necessary support structures. There are plans to formulate a resource mobilization strategy in relation to the construction of head office buildings and warehouse.

In 2006, the Seychelles Red Cross Society was headed by a programme coordinator but after his resignation towards the middle of the year, the National Society remained without overall management/leadership; the National Committee was obliged to take on this responsibility.

Towards the end of 2006, the National Society recruited its first Secretary General in order to provide strategic and operational coordination in the implementation of the National Society's policies and objectives. One of the Secretary General's immediate tasks was to build on the existing strengths and identify areas of weakness and initiate improvements. As SRCS had also been without adequate financial management for a long period of time, a qualified and competent financial coordinator was also recruited in 2007.

In 2007, attempts were made to give the National Society renewed dynamism and substantial resources were invested in order to build new headquarters to house regional and local warehouses; great efforts were made to re-launch the youth programme, which was almost being neglected after the departure of the youth coordinator in 2005. Much emphasis was also put on mobilization of funds, branch development and improving volunteer management.

The table below outlines the partners that the Seychelles Red Cross Society is currently working with to meet its current priorities.

Partner	Programme component
German Red Cross	Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (2005-2010).
International Committee Of The Red Cross (ICRC)	Dissemination of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values
PIROI	Warehouse development, logistics and pre-positioning of emergency stock
Spanish Red Cross	Health and Care and Disaster Management
The International Federation	HIV and AIDS programmes, blood donor recruitment drive, first aid training, participatory training in nutrition in emergency as well as construction of new NS headquarter building

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster Management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, injuries, and impact from disasters.

Programme component: Disaster Planning Management
Component outcome 1: The Red Cross Society of Seychelles is more efficient and effective at reaching vulnerable communities

To enhance the capacity of volunteers in disaster response, the National Society will train volunteers in water rescue. The SRCS also plans to improve its communication system to also reach the district level. Staff will be trained on the new system and an emergency system of communication will also be established.

Programme component: Disaster risk reduction
Component outcome 1: Increased awareness on disaster risk reduction for communities living in coastal villages

The Seychelles Red Cross Society will strengthen the skills in operational life guard services by training volunteers in life guard skills. The National Society will also conduct sensitization sessions on climate change as well as erect billboards in several regions and distribute road safety packs so as to prepare community members, school children and swimmers and help them understand climate change issues. Upon request, First Aid trainings will be offered to organizations

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The SRCS disaster management programme will target communities living on the coastal zone, primary, secondary, post-secondary school children, drivers and swimmers and other members of the community.

With regard to reaching the vulnerable communities and strengthening lifeguard services, the programme will target the general population. The Seychelles Archipelago is spread over many islands with three most inhabited islands; Mahe, Praslin and La digue, where the SRCS is also well equipped with telecom facilities and ambulances and vehicles.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The potential risk and challenges that SRCS foresees involves volunteers, as the SRCS relies largely on them to implement its activities. Convincing employers to release volunteers to attend both disaster management training and participating in activities is a challenge.

Completion of the SRCS warehouse and other branch offices on the two other islands is another major challenge. With the completion of the Spanish project, the SRCS needs to find new partnerships in addition to the International Federation and PIROI, who are their main partners for the disaster management programme. The National Society also needs to establish a new planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) team to be able to plan as well as keep track of the existing disaster management activities.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, illness and impact from disease and public health emergencies

Programme component: Community-Based First Aid (CBFA)
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Component outcome 1: Increased healthy communities which are able to cope with health and disaster challenges achieved through community based first aid activities

Programme component: HIV and AIDS

Component outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment, and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination

Programme component: Non-remunerated blood donation

Component outcome 1: Increased number of blood donors through strengthened communication with the Ministry of Health and other bodies

Programme component: Emergency health

Component outcome 1: Access to curative and preventive health services improved in the target area

Programme component: Psychosocial support

Component outcome 1: People have access to social and mental health services to reduce mental health problems, disability and social problems

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

Ministry of Education: All secondary schools on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue have peer educators who are between the ages of 12-16 years with the roles to educate their peers on all issues concerning young people, including HIV and AIDS. More peer educators will be trained and supported by peer counsellors.

A resource pack on road safety has been developed and distributed in the schools to assist teachers with teaching road safety to primary and secondary students on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. The resource packs have been endorsed by the Ministry of Education, which will benefit both teachers and students.

Ministry of Health: The SRCS runs a Blood Donor Recruitment Programme which acts as a helping hand to the Ministry of Health in ensuring an adequate and safe supply of blood at all times. The Ministry of Health benefits through recruitment of new donors done by Blood Donor Recruitment Officers, who are trained by the SRCS. The Blood Transfusion Unit (BTU) of the Ministry of Health is solely responsible for blood collection, screening and banking. More blood donors will be recruited to boost the blood bank.

The community: Most SRCS health activities are targeted towards the community, which include schools, workplaces and the districts. These activities include HIV and AIDS awareness, first aid, blood donation and road safety awareness. The target population includes parents, young people, teachers, workers, community leaders, women, orphans and other vulnerable groups. During this period, targeted groups will be sensitized on prevention of HIV and other health emergencies. Volunteers will be trained in first aid while road users and the youth will be sensitized on safe usage of the road.

Others: The SRCS provides first aid training and services to different ministries, organizations and businesses upon request. The SRCS receives on average, two requests per month for training for approximately 15 persons per session. On average, the SRCS trains approximately 290 persons per year.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Although the SRCS is providing first aid training and services to the community and its clients, there is a lack of training tools such as dummies, projectors and laptops to efficiently respond to all requests. As a result, the SRCS cannot market its services until it has the capacity to efficiently respond to the increased demands for first aid.

Although evaluation and follow-up of implementation of activities are being carried out, it is not adequate. This is due to a lack of human resources and poor commitment of volunteers. The SRCS is planning to come up with possible solutions to ensure that health activities are properly evaluated and monitored. This will probably be through the PMER team that the National Society plans to establish.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Improved capacity of the SRCS to implement effective and efficient programmes

Programme component: Well functioning National Society
Component outcome 1: SRCS has a well functioning organization with sustainable systems, procedures and staff with desired level of managerial and technical competencies

Actions will be taken to further develop and review the human resource policy for SRCS staff, which was initiated in 2006-2007. The volunteer management policy will be finalized and initiatives will be made to put in place the necessary support structures. There are plans to formulate a resource mobilization strategy in relation to the construction of head office buildings and warehouse.

Programme component: Capacity development
Component outcome 1: Increased capacity for programme development and management
Component outcome 2: Strengthened capacity of NS and/or communities in disaster preparedness and post-disaster response

Programme component: Branch development and/or volunteer management
Component outcome 1: Increased nation-wide coverage of grassroots units and services
Component outcome 2: Strengthened National Society's volunteer network
Component outcome 3: Increased capacity of staff and volunteers to reach to vulnerable population

In the period 2009-2010, SRCS will expand the coverage of its network of branches in order to support delivery on its programme components, such as life guard services, blood donation and emergency health and psychological support, on the different islands.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The National Society will further strengthen its volunteer management system, increase its youth development programmes and promote branch development. The target population includes SRCS staff, the National Committee members and volunteers, the youth and ultimately all vulnerable groups who will be assisted through better quality programmes and services. The NS will also develop capacity of its staff in programme development, implementation and management.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The challenge is availability of funding for the total cost of construction. Furthermore, the cost of construction has increased dramatically during the past six months and this has had negative implications. Donors are harder to locate both locally and internationally.

Principles and Values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

Programme component: Promotion of Humanitarian Principles and values programmes
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Component outcome 1: Enhanced knowledge, understanding and application of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values (including non-discrimination, non-violence, tolerance and respect for diversity) with the RC/RC

Component outcome 2: Marked change in behaviour by community or target population as a result of awareness on humanitarian values

The image of the National Society still remains one of their top priorities and it lies with volunteers, members and staff. It is the desire of the SRCS to bring about greater respect for the principles and values of the Red Cross Movement, through the different dissemination activities. In this context, the SRCS will increasingly strive to bring about an effective dissemination programme both nationally and internationally.

Programme component : Information and Communications Development

Component outcome 1: SRCS has a strong communication capacity and good linkage with local and international media houses.

The Seychelles Red Cross Society overall aim is to ensure that by 2010, at least 75% of the Seychelles population (age group 10 years and above) are aware of the Red Cross Movement and its Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values. Specifically, the National Society hopes to:

- Provide consistent communications support to advocacy initiatives for the needs of society's most marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- Systematically increase closer cooperation with programme departments to make the Movement's advocacy work more effective.
- Increase its capacity to respond to disasters with effective and proactive communications network through provision of comprehensive communications support to risk reduction activities in local communities.
- Have a well functioning communications department which has the necessary staff, skills and capacities to provide quality communications services to the community at large, working effectively with all programme departments.
- Have strengthened capacity and skills of communicators in the advocacy and promotion of humanitarian values work of SRCS.

The major activities that will be carried out to ensure that the National Society achieves its results include:

- Production and dissemination of their quarterly newsletter to the community as well as their partners
- Dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values through training workshops and sensitization sessions, television programmes
- Production and dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials
- Maintenance of SRCS website.

To be effective, the SRCS needs the attention and support of public opinions, volunteers and decision-makers. Their ability to communicate the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values and the action they take to alleviate the plight of vulnerable people in Seychelles is crucial to the SRCS's success in protecting human life and dignity.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The principles and values programme involves working alongside different groups of people from various backgrounds including the elderly, the youth, children, people living with HIV, government officers, SRCS volunteers/members/staff, military personnel as well as prisoners.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Communication and dissemination of the principles and values still is one of the key components in the perception of our National Society; how people see SRCS and how the NS wants the people to see it. The National Society will strive to promote its activities at all levels. However, the greatest challenge is funding.

The SRCS aims to improve coordination of their activities and have better interaction between management staff. Regular monitoring of implementation of activities will also be conducted with Programme Coordinators to ensure that activities planned are implemented effectively. This will in turn promote the National Society and increase their visibility.

Role of the secretariat

a) Technical programme support

The SRCS will receive technical support from the start of programme development, marketing of the programme for funding, development of guidelines, tools, and appropriate system for addressing disaster management, health and care, organizational development as well as principles and values programmes in the country. The Secretariat will also provide relevant training whenever required to ensure technically sound interventions for all programmes.

b) Partnership development and coordination

The SRCS will work with the Secretariat to improve its partnership with existing partners to continue funding its programmes. Internal and external coordination meetings shall be organized periodically by the SRCS and the International Federation respectively to ensure continuity of programmes and improved capacity to respond to needs of the most vulnerable in the community.

c) Representation and Advocacy

The Secretariat will also support the National Society in management, control, coordination, policy making and advocacy of the SRCS programmes in order to achieve its goal, mission and objectives. The Secretariat will also work as an intermediary between SRCS staff and Governance.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

All programmes of the SRCS aim to address the issues of discrimination, intolerance and respect for diversity. Beneficiaries of SRCS programmes are predominantly women and children, as they are the most vulnerable groups of the population.

Quality, accountability and learning

In order to monitor and evaluate the impact and quality of programmes, field monitoring visits will be undertaken; regular visits and meetings with the branches will also be undertaken, monthly management meetings will be held and the National Committee meetings will take place, at least, once every two months. The society also plans to establish a PMER unit at its headquarters so that PMER functions are conducted in a coordinated manner.

Budget Summary

Programmes	2009 budget (CHF)	2010 budget (CHF)	Total budget (CHF)
Disaster Management, Health and Care, Capacity Development, Humanitarian Values and Framework for Action	46,845	55,348	102,193

How we work

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:

- **In Seychelles:** Colette Servina, President, Seychelles Red Cross Society in Victoria; email: cservina@yahoo.com; Telephone: + 248.32.46.46, +248 52.04 45; Fax: +248 32 16 63
- **In Mauritius:** Susanna Cunningham, Head of Indian Ocean Islands Sub-Regional Office in Rose Hill; email: susanna.cunningham@ifrc.org; Telephone: +230 454 69 34
- **In Kenya:** Dr. Asha Mohammed, Federation Head of Zone, Eastern Africa in Nairobi; email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org; Telephone: +254-20-283 51 24; Fax + 254 20 271 27 77
- **In Geneva:** Sabine Feuglet, Zone Management Support Officer for Europe and Eastern Africa; email: sabine.feuglet@frc.org; phone: +41.22.730.4349; fax: +41.22.733.0395.