

Mid-Year report



Asia Pacific

Appeal No. MAA50001

30/06/2010

This report covers the period 01/01/2010 to 30/06/2010.



Volunteering development is a key component of the Asia Pacific zone's organizational development programme, recognizing volunteers as the backbone to the organization. IFRC

In brief

This programme update focuses on the work of the Asia Pacific zone office in the first six months of 2010 to provide leadership and guidance to the International Federation efforts to increase the impact of Asia Pacific national societies' humanitarian activities. Many societies across the zone have maintained a high level of programming in several new disaster response operations and continued comprehensive post-disaster recovery activities, while others have started reviewing their development activities in line with the International Federation's newly adopted Strategy 2020.

Financial situation: The zone office programme budget for 2010 has been revised down to CHF 3,198,939 (USD 2.95 million or EUR 2.42 million). Coverage is 89 per cent and expenditure is 36.2 per cent.

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

See also [Asia Pacific Zone Plan 2010-11](#), and the regional and country programme updates covering the period January-December 2009.

No. of people we have reached: The Asia Pacific zone office provides support to the 37 national societies, four Federation secretariat regional offices and 15 country offices in the Asia Pacific region, to help strengthen their capacity to deliver more extensive and effective humanitarian services to vulnerable groups.

Our partners: Within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, there is close cooperation with many partner national societies and with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) supporting national societies throughout the Asia Pacific region. In addition, there are partnerships with many external organizations at all levels (community, national and regional levels), community-based, national and international organizations, UN, and other developmental agencies.

The zone office would like to especially thank the following partner national societies which have contributed this year in cash or kind to the Asia Pacific zone appeal: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross/Australian government, British Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross

Society of China, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, New Zealand Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian government, Spanish Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government; the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Netherlands government, USAID and the DFID partnership grant.

Context

The socio-political and economic trends that characterised the region during 2009 have more or less remained constant in the first six months of this year. The varying degrees of conflicts and general unrest in the countries of South Asia have continued, although there has been a gradual improvement in the situation in Sri Lanka. The month of May saw the first anniversary of the end of the conflict there and, while the economy shows signs of gradually picking up, there is still much to be achieved in building a sense of national reconciliation in the country. Large numbers of people displaced by the conflict have returned to their home areas although some 90,000 still remain in holding camps. The Federation launched an appeal for CHF 3.6 million to support the Sri Lankan Red Cross assistance programme for returning IDPs.

By far the most dramatic event in this period was the widespread civil unrest in Bangkok that extended for more than nine weeks from March to May. The total number of killed was 85, while more than 1,400 were injured. Although calm returned to the streets of the city by the end of the month, the divisions that this latest and most acute period of political tensions has engendered are likely to take a long time to be healed.

There were no large scale sudden onset disasters in the region during this period, although serious floods affected several parts of South Asia (Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka), and China was badly affected by an earthquake that killed some 2,200 people in Qinghai province in April, and was then struck by very extensive flooding in 12 provinces in June. The respective National Societies responded to these different disasters largely with their own resources, and the Federation launched two emergency appeals for Mongolia (severe winter weather) and Nepal (potential diarrhoea outbreak).

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management Unit

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

Asia Pacific national societies will provide timely assistance, and build resilience among communities to prepare for and recover from disasters.

The Asia Pacific disaster management program during the reporting period has provided support to national societies working with and through regional and county offices for the implementation of various activities across disaster preparedness, disaster management planning, disaster risk reduction and disaster response and recovery.

While there has not been a single major disaster event in Asia Pacific, National Societies by themselves and supported by the DMU have responded to 47 events in the first five months of 2010. In addition the DMU has provided surge capacity to the Americas zone through the deployment of an Operations Coordinator and Shelter Delegate to support the Haiti response operation. The DMU has also used the first part of 2010 to review and define further standard operating procedures for IFRC offices supporting National Societies in their response and early recovery activities. The updated SoPs have clarified issues regarding communication and reporting lines as well as the roles of disaster management representatives at the national, regional and zone levels.

With regard to cooperation across the zone, the second Asia Pacific Disaster Management meeting was held in Brisbane Australia and hosted by the Australian Red Cross. The meeting saw more than 77 participants from 32 National Societies to discuss the current trends, challenges and lessons learnt over the past four years.

Programme component : Disaster Management Planning

Outcome: NS mechanisms for the analysis of disaster risk and delivery of disaster management assistance are strengthened

Key activity areas

- Provide oversight and coordination for the completion of WPNS phase III survey facilitated by the regional DM teams in all AP NS
- Analyse the humanitarian needs and capacities of NS drawing from international and external information sources to support effective planning and prioritisation of services to NS.
- Support the regional and national delegations in their assistance to the contingency/disaster response (NS, Government, IASC) planning processes in 5 NS through the implementation of the standardised contingency planning training module.
- Support the regional and national delegations in their assistance to the development of operational alliances in 2 NS, and DM related policies or strategic plans in 3 NS.
- Contribute and facilitate AP NS inputs in to the review process of the global DM Policy and Principles and Rules for Disaster Relief,
- Raise awareness of revised RCRC global and zone DM policies, strategies (inc. S2020) as well as disaster response tools and international DM standards.
- Monitor progress of NS achievements against the AP DM Strategy and Federation global DM strategies.
- Build on and expand awareness and understanding within Federation senior management, NS technical, management and governance representatives of the global cluster system, inter-agency standing committee (IASC).
- Advocate for and adoption of the IDRL guidelines with NS and their governments.

The DMU has provided short term technical inputs into a number of disaster management planning activities undertaken at the national level across the zone. In support of these processes and others underway the DMU is also supporting national level action through the promotion of S2020 and the transition from S2010, as well as the development of a contingency planning learning package, which is focused on assisting NS's in to facilitate contingency planning in their countries and develop contingency plans for specific hazards based on the IFRCs disaster response and contingency planning guideline. The draft learning package will be further refined through a global training of trainers workshop that is being hosted on behalf of the IFRC global secretariat DM team.

The shelter Delegate has been actively supporting NS and IFRC offices meet the Federation's responsibility to coordinate the finalisation for the shelter sector response plans under the IASC contingency planning. In particular the Nepal Red Cross is leading the way for NS to take up the national lead for the shelter sector in the IASC contingency planning. Within their DM plan the NS has included a component on building shelter capacity for engaging in coordination meetings, development of an emergency shelter plan as well as the need for prepositioning shelter kits. This work will continue in through the remainder of the year as well as raising awareness of the humanitarian reform and the Federations responsibilities within this.

As part of the preparations for the Asia Pacific DM meeting, the DMU prepared a mid-term review of the progress against the Asia Pacific DM Strategy. This update drew from secondary reports and information of NS DM work and reported against a set of tentative indicators. Through the update of the AP DM Strategy it is proposed to define robust indicators that will enable more accurate reporting on the achievements against the collective priorities of Asia Pacific NS.

In the coming period the DMU will continue working with country and regional DM representatives for the finalisation of WPNSIII in all NSs; develop a more robust quarterly monitoring and forecasting system for humanitarian and hazard trends and work towards and engage with the global processes being established for the review of the Principles and Rules for disaster relief. Work on regional contingency/disaster response plans will now not be undertaken due to a focus at national level as well as the finalisation of the Asia Pacific SoPs for disaster response and early recovery.

Programme component: Organisational Preparedness

Outcome: NS capacity to develop and maintain skilled human resources, financial and material capacity, and effective systems and procedures for the disaster management are supported.

Key activities

- Support the regional and national delegations in their assistance to NS for reviewing/developing capacity and defining roles in national early warning systems in 4 NS and wider National Disaster Response Preparedness Mechanisms (NDRPM) in 4 NS.
- Lead the development of guidance for NS and Federation Delegation in the engagement with civil-military bodies across the zone.
- Support the development of shelter capacity within NS through the facilitation of 1 general shelter

- training; 1 participatory assessment of safe shelter awareness pilot training; and the development of a training video on the use of the Federation shelter kit to accompany the booklet developed in 2009.
- Support the regional and national delegations in their assistance to NS in the development or WatSan in Emergency capacity through technical input into regional events; assisting NS that have existing WatSan ERU equipment to convert this into Disaster Response kits; and the pre-positioning or additional WatSan Disaster Response kits in accordance with the AP Water and Sanitation
- Lead the zone task force for RDRT and provide support and guidance for RDRT standard tools, training, RDRT Induction courses with technical focus (i.e. WatSan, Shelter Health, IT/Telecon etc), cross regional activities and overall integration into the global response system
- In conjunction with the regional delegations develop a pool of trainers from PNS and Federation Delegations who will support NS WatSan disaster response training at the national level.
- Facilitate development of collaborative response effectiveness, preparedness to receive international assistance and promote cooperation through key agreements such as memoranda of agreement (MOU) and standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Develop a zone wide disaster management capacity database, in collaboration with the zone organizational development and other pertinent units, with national societies and secretariat offices
- Support the International Federation Secretariat development of competency based disaster management staff development, and placement systems, which increase effectiveness of response, preparedness and early recovery.
- OD in emergencies guidelines developed, disseminated for used in future emergency response operations.
- Facilitate the implementation of the GA on DRR in Asia Pacific with 10 additional NS joining the GA; and support to the 5 existing NS who are members of the GA implementing identified programs for scaling up their DRR actions

The DMU has worked with regional delegations with regard to the ongoing development of the RDRT tool across the Asia Pacific zone. This has involved supporting the establishment of the RDRT system in the Pacific (supported by American Red Cross), finalisation input into the FACT/RDRT Handbook and supporting the preparations for various training events including the first FACT/ERU/ RDRT Team Leader course and RDRT specialised Shelter course to be held in the second half of 2010.

The DMU has also been actively supporting the ongoing review of the emergency Assessment training package through the provision of lessons from experiences across NS in Asia Pacific. Engagement in this process will continue with the DMU hosting the global emergency assessment training of trainers at the end of August.

In regards to Shelter the DMU is supporting the implementation of a Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) pilot in Bangladesh. Drawing on our best practices and looking at community driven approaches PASSA, which is similar to PHAST (Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation). Will draw on communities to address and identify their own solutions to safe and adequate shelter. The outcomes of this event planned for June will feed in to the global shelter programme. Similarly support has been provided to the Australian Red Cross with regard to the organisation of a Shelter Technical Training which is scheduled for June.

Support has been provided to the Indian Red Cross in strengthening their water and sanitation capacity through specialized emergency water and sanitation training of their national disaster response teams. In addition, in support of the Nepal Red Cross diarrhoea outbreak prevention operation, water and sanitation kit 2 has been deployed to Nepal and training was provided by Asia Pacific Water and Sanitation coordinator. Discussions are ongoing with South Asia regional delegation with regard to prepositioning some WatSan response equipment in regional and some country offices.

Support to NS with regard to understanding issues related to engaging with military bodies is ongoing with promotion of RCRC at various events and dialogue on civil military relationships at regional networking events. Further work is identified in supporting NS understand their auxiliary position when asked to join government – to – government bilateral assistance missions.

National Society commitment to the Framework for community Safety and Resilience through conducting DRR baselines assessments and five year plans has continued in 2010. Building on the success in 2009 India RC was supported in developing their DRR baseline while Cambodia Red Cross have been successful in identifying funding support from the Finish Red Cross to support their plans. The Cook Islands Red Cross have also imitated partnerships with the German Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross through a global DRR fund. Support from the DMU will continue in assisting NS adopt common indicators for measuring DRR

impact as well as refining longer term plans that works to strengthen organisational structures and systems of NS in support of scaling up their disaster management action.

Looking to the remainder of the year, the DMU will work with NS in capturing their strengths and resources through the rolling out of the Asia Pacific DM Mapping exercise which is currently being tendered. This will provide NS with an effective tool to capture their existing capacity and analyse areas to strengthen. In line with the updated SoPs for disaster response and early recovery the DMU will work with up to six NS in undertaking pre-disaster meetings aimed at reviewing disaster preparedness and awareness of the global disaster response system.

Programme component: Community Preparedness
Outcome: Capacity of national societies to support community preparedness and mitigation and adaptation actions is strengthened and harmonized across Asia Pacific
Key activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support the regional and national delegations in their assistance to NS for the development of community based DRR proposals for scaling up NS actions.- Drawing on NS experiences support regional delegations enhance NS understanding and inclusion of historical and future hazard data (i.e. influence of climate change) into their VCA, education and awareness, mitigation and adaptation actions.- Look to adapt our experiences and tools to meet the needs of newly forming 'communities' such as urban populations and those which have arisen due to issues of migration and economic hardship.- Guide the incorporation of cross-cutting issues, such as gender, into DRR programming.- Contribute towards the development of a sustainable programming approach for community level programming together with OD and Health units- Support regional and national delegations through the provision of technical inputs, harmonisation and linkages in the development and dissemination of guidelines, tools and manuals (CBDRR and DRR Advocacy from SA; village level DP training from EA; DRR Education and EWS from SEA) for application across AP.

During the reporting period activities under this programme component have focused on establishing a baseline on the food security and livelihoods situation across the Asia Pacific zone from which NS and the IFRC are in a better position to initiate discussions with regard to the food security and livelihood situation within Asia Pacific countries. The study specifically looked at

- The current actions being undertaken by National Societies, within emergency interventions and longer-term programming.
- The current and future areas of greatest need requiring food security and livelihood interventions in which National Societies may commence or enhance activities.
- The capacity and desire of National Societies (human, financial and technical) for engaging in food security and livelihood interventions.
- Possible partnerships that National Societies may pursue to support the identified recommendations.
- Identified areas of critical need, currently unmet, where National Society interventions would make a significant difference

The study is currently being reviewed by NS and regional networks from which possible interventions will be identified and then incorporated into future planning.

Together with the zone Organisational Development unit and Asia Pacific National Societies, A practical guide to Gender-sensitive approaches for Disaster Management has been finalised with support from the AusAID. The guidelines are to assist the IFRC and its member National Societies to incorporate effective gender sensitive and inclusive approaches into their disaster management strategies when assisting communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

The Preparedness for Climate Change phase two programme commenced during the reporting period with the NS of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal Papua New Guinea and Timor undertaking the initial steps of the programme. This will be further supported during the remainder of the year with a short term consultant being placed in the DMU to undertake some analysis of the availability of climate data and how best to utilise this for disaster response preparedness actions at zone and national levels. In addition work related to urban disaster management will be undertaken over the remainder of the year linked to the launching of the World Disaster Report which has is focused on urban risk.

Programme component: Disaster response
Outcome: National societies' response operations effectively mitigate the loss of life and impact on livelihoods from disasters and health emergencies through the leadership and rapid provision of disaster management services.

Key activities:

- Maintain a 24/7 disaster monitoring system linked to national societies and Federation offices.
- Ensure effective information management for all disaster response operations undertaken by NS including the use of the disaster management information system (DMIS), information bulletins, disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) bulletins, emergency appeals, and operations updates.
- Provide disaster management support and human resource surge capacity to initiate emergency assessments, support emerging operations, bridge gaps in operation staffing and support ongoing operations technical sector needs.
- Provide technical guidance for operations in relief, assessment, health in emergencies, water and sanitation, shelter (including Emergency Shelter Cluster), and early recovery.
- Coordinate disaster response across the zone through the approved disaster response working modalities.
- Review and update as needed, the AP disaster response working modalities and operation protocols; and raise awareness and alignment through their dissemination.
- Monitor the quality of the disaster response across the zone inline with the Principles and Rules for Disaster Relief, Code of Conduct for the RCRC and NGOs in disaster relief, Sphere and other international standards
- Coordinate and ensure evaluations and reviews are conducted for all internationally supported disaster response operations undertaken by NS within AP.

As mentioned above, there have been mega disasters occur during the reporting period. While this has been welcomed much work has been undertaken at the country and zone level to support NS response and recovery operations through provision of technical advice, awareness through DMIS and information bulletins, distribution of DREF and launching of emergency appeals. The table below outlines events NS have responded to and the support facilitated by the DMU during the reporting period. Reviews and evaluations have also been supported in a number of operations including Bangladesh Cyclone Sidr, China: Sichuan earthquake, Myanmar: Cyclone Nargis, and Vietnam Floods and Storms.

Country	Operation	Month	National Action	Info Bulletin	DREF	Emergency Appeal
Afghanistan	Floods	JAN	✓			
	Floods	APR	✓			
	Earthquake	APR	✓			
	Floods	MAY	✓			
Australia	Floods	MAR	✓			
	Local storms	MAR	✓			
	Cyclone	MAR	✓			
Bangladesh	Cold wave	JAN			✓	
	Civil unrest	MAR	✓			
	Tropical Storm	APR			✓	
China	Cold wave	JAN	✓			
	Qinghai earthquake	APR	✓	✓		
	Drought	APR	✓			
	Storms	MAY	✓			
Cook Islands	Cyclone Oli	JAN	✓			
	Cyclone Pat	FEB		✓	✓	
Fiji	Cyclone Thomas	MAR	✓			
India	Nor'wester	APR	✓			
	Cyclone Laila	MAY	✓	✓		
Indonesia	Earthquake	JAN	✓			
	Landslide	FEB	✓			
	Dengue	FEB	✓			
	Floods	FEB	✓			
	Earthquake	MAR	✓			
	Floods	MAR	✓			
	Earthquake	APR	✓			
Mongolia	Cold Wave	JAN		✓	✓	
	Severe Storms	MAR				✓
Nepal	Civil unrest	MAY	✓			
	Diarrhoea	JUN		✓		✓
Pakistan	Landslides	JAN	✓	✓		
	Landslides and floods	MAY		✓	✓	
	Cyclone Phet	JUN		✓	✓	
Papua New Guinea	Floods	JAN	✓			
	Cholera	MAY	✓			
Solomon Islands	Earthquakes	JAN	✓			
	Floods	JAN	✓			
	Cyclone Ului	MAR		✓	✓	
Sri Lanka	IDPs	APR				✓
	Flash Floods	MAY		✓		
Thailand	Civil unrest	APR-MAY	✓			
Timor Leste	Floods	JAN	✓			
	Flash Floods	MAY	✓			
Tonga	Cyclone Rene	FEB	✓			
Tuvalu	Cyclones	MAR	✓			
Viet Nam	Drought/Forest fire	APR	✓			
	Cholera	MAY	✓			

In total CHF 1.7 million has been disbursed from DREF and CHF 5.4 million is sought through emergency appeals to meet the needs of over 320,000 beneficiaries during the reporting period.

The DMU has also supported the global secretariat DM team through the provision of surge capacity to the Americas zone with the deployment of an Operations Coordinator and Shelter Delegate for one month missions each. In addition the DMU has updated the working modalities for IFRC within the Asia Pacific zone, defining communication and reporting lines, process for developing response strategies, facilitating external assistance and emphasising the need for pre-disaster meetings.

A standard methodology has been developed by the AP DMU to undertake an evaluation within DREF operations. The methodology includes analysis of goals, objectives and expected results of the DREF operations; assessment of key achievements, challenges and areas of success or improvement; and lesson learnt and good practices for sharing.

In the coming period the DMU will continue working on raising awareness and understanding of the global disaster response system as well as assisting NS to identify areas for further development in line with Federation standards and policies.

<p>Programme component: Recovery</p> <p>Outcome: National Society and International Federation representatives will have increased capacity to effectively plan for and participate in recovery processes which support disaster affected communities.</p> <p>Key activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide recovery expertise to support NSs during disasters in developing emergency appeals, needs assessment, planning, identifying key roles, implementing, reviewing and evaluating recovery processes. - Develop tools that support NSs to achieve a stronger understanding of their possible role in recovery processes. - Raise awareness of recovery processes through knowledge sharing to reinforce the institutional commitment for recovery programming. - Expand knowledge and practice of recovery through providing relevant training within the zone including Relief to Recovery, Livelihoods, PSP, Cash Programming, FERST etc. - Further develop the workforce capabilities of AP zone to be able to provide effective early recovery services. - Maximize integration of recovery programs and ability to coordinate recovery activities within the Movement through cross sector planning with OD, DRR, health, water and sanitation, PSP, and shelter. - Further develop linkages, relationships and potential partnerships for mutual support in recovery processes. Support the prior establishment of key relationships and partnerships between NSs and relevant PNS, key government departments, private sector, and non government organisations etc. - Maintain close technical coordination and collaboration with the Secretariat Disaster Response and Early Recovery unit.
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Work in the area of recovery has been limited with a gap between Recovery Delegates in the DMU. However support has been provided to the assessment of recovery needs in Mongolia, ongoing recovery operations in emergency appeals - particularly the integrated recovery sheltering project within the Padang earthquake operation, the partnership with Development Workshop France in Viet Nam for the owner driven construction of housing and safe construction awareness, and the review of past recovery initiatives in the Cyclone Nargis emergency appeal. In particular under the Cyclone Nargis review the Myanmar Red Cross and the IFRC sort to identify the effectiveness of the accountability and recovery framework specifically for the shelter and livelihoods programmes. The review team comprised of representative each from British, Japanese and Netherlands Red Cross as well as the DMUs Recovery Delegate.

<p>Programme component: Coordination and Advocacy</p> <p>Outcome: active engagement with Movement and external partners for the exchange and adoption of best practices, peer learning, awareness and advocacy actions to benefit from our shared values, experiences and capacities.</p> <p>Key activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and disseminate together with regional delegations 5 new technical guides and best practice outlines through narrative and visual media per year on DM work - Translate global shelter practical booklets and guidelines in to 6 national languages - Promote greater integration of health, volunteer and OD into regional disaster management programming and emergency operations - Facilitate an Asia Pacific wide NS DM workshop in preparation for the AP regional conference. - Strategic support for AP regional networks and promotion of cross regional network lessons and best practice
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- Provide guidance and support to NS in their engagement with National Platforms and promote NS role through the ISDR Asia Partnership
- Identify and develop joint program activities with ICRC including mechanisms for greater cooperation in disaster response and preparedness
- Continue the development of relationships with regional governmental bodies, UN agencies, International NGOs and development banks in the area of DM
- Engage in joint ISDR missions for supporting the scaling up of DRR and UNDAC disaster preparedness missions for enhancing national response preparedness
- Engage in the 4th Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR

The second Asia Pacific Disaster Management Meeting was hosted by the Australian Red Cross and supported by the AusAID. The meeting brought together senior management and disaster management representatives of 32 national societies from Asia Pacific, representatives of the IFRC's Asia Pacific zone and regional offices, representatives of the ICRC, as well as two external partners. This meeting was held four years after the first Asia Pacific Disaster Management Meeting which took place in Tokyo in June 2006, hosted by the Japanese Red Cross and provided an important forum to take stock of what has been achieved during the four years since the first Asia Pacific Disaster Management Meeting, as well as providing a platform for experience and knowledge sharing between national societies. The meeting also took the opportunity to review the current Asia Pacific Disaster Management Strategy, making recommendations for its update and revision and presentation at the 8th Asia Pacific Regional Conference. In conclusion, some of the most important key points from the discussions in the meeting included:

- the realisation for the need to change mindsets as we rise to today's humanitarian challenges.
- the need for greater awareness of Red Cross Red Crescent systems and resources.
- the understanding of the importance for national societies to engage across the disaster management cycle.
- commitments to engage in the "one response system" of the Federation.
- the wish to work in more effective partnerships.
- an understanding for the need of analysing strengths and areas for advancement across Asia Pacific

In addition to the pan-Asia Pacific meeting, regional network meetings were also undertaken in South-East Asia and East Asia providing opportunities for Ns to identify areas of priority and exchange practical lessons on their disaster management work.

Engagement with external organizations and platforms has also been strong during the reporting period with representation being facilitated at International Recovery Forum 2010, and Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2010, the Asian Metrocities Conference and the Asia Regional Consultation Committee.

Engagements with inter-governmental associations has picked up pace with an initial meeting being held with SARRC and further work on the development of and MoU with ASEAN moving forward. Engagement in the IASC and ISDR networks across Asia Pacific has also continued.

Looking to the future the DMU will focus on preparations for the 8th Asia Pacific Regional Conference and the 4th Asia Ministerial Conference on DRR both to be held in October 2010. As well as moving forward with the development and updating of technical guidelines to support National Society disaster management programming.

International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (refer to global IDRL plan for details)

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
The International Federation's International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL) Programme seeks to reduce human vulnerability by promoting legal preparedness for disasters.

The IDRL programme aims to improve legal preparedness for disasters and the effective application of existing international legal tools in disaster management. Through a field-focused structure, it acts in three main areas:

- cooperating with national societies to provide technical assistance to governments on implementing the guidelines, through country-level technical assistance projects and the development of a detailed handbook and model legislation;

- building the capacity of national societies, International Federation staff and humanitarian partners to promote and use the guidelines and related international instruments through the finalization of an advocacy manual, training workshops and other materials; and
- disseminating and promoting the IDRL guidelines and related instruments with governments, humanitarian partners, and inter-governmental organizations as well as fostering new collaborative research on domestic legislative issues in disaster management designed to strengthen the Movement's approach to DRR in applicable law.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component 1: Technical assistance to governments
Outcome: Policy-makers understand and make use of the IDRL Guidelines to strengthen legal and policy frameworks for disaster response.

IFRC, working with national societies and other partners, is providing intensive technical support on IDRL to interested governments in several countries.

Achievements

In **Cambodia**, at the request of the Cambodian National Committee for Disaster Management, the IDRL programme continued to support the development of new disaster management legislation in line with the comprehensive legal study completed in 2009. It engaged a local consultant in 2009 for six months to support up to two consultation workshops on the draft disaster management law for Cambodia. A draft law is now under review for presentation to the Cambodian government.

In **Nepal**, a modified version of the full technical assistance project is being prepared by Nepal Red Cross's legal unit, which commenced in October 2009. A first draft report of the legal review is now completed. A national workshop is planned to present the findings later in 2010.

In **Indonesia** the Indonesian Red Cross has followed up on a Federation-led workshop of August 2009, providing support to the government in development of DM regulations and guidelines which are nearing formal endorsement.

In **Vanuatu**, initial approval for a modified technical assistance project was received by the government's national disaster management office and Vanuatu Red Cross in late 2009. A formal endorsement has been delayed, but the project is expected to commence in August with Vanuatu Red Cross and NDMO. The IDRL programme has provided technical input into ongoing SOPAC support government Disaster Risk Management review processes in PNG, Tuvalu and Kiribati.

A number of national societies have expressed interest in organizing IDRL workshops with their governments this year. This will be followed up by discussions/ to finalise the Terms of Reference for a Technical Assistance Project. In **Mongolia**, the Mongolian Red Cross is planning an IDRL workshop in the autumn, and together with the Government's National Emergency Management Authority has agreed to host a national IDRL workshop in October 2010, and a dialogue has started with other national societies on similar initiatives.

Programme component 2: Training and capacity building
Outcome: Interested National Societies and humanitarian partners are empowered to use legal tools and advocate for strengthened legal frameworks for disaster response

Achievements

On 1 April and 2 April, IFRC held a sub-regional IDRL training workshop for Southeast Asia, gathering 38 representatives from national societies, IFRC, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN agencies and NGOs.

In the **Solomon Islands**, a dialogue with the National Society on IDRL issues has resulted in June in a Forum on Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster response. It was held in collaboration with national disaster authorities, and participants included representatives from government ministries, civil society, international development actors and the Red Cross Red Crescent.

The IDRL programme and the zone disaster management unit was approached by Malaysian Red Crescent to develop a 10-hour curriculum for IDRL/DM subject for its Executive Diploma in Humanitarian Affairs in conjunction with the International Islamic University of Malaysia. Materials are currently being gathered and developed in close cooperation with Malaysian Red Crescent.

In addition to ongoing bilateral briefings for development partners, and national societies, the IDRL programme ran a training session on IDRL for health and disaster officer from Pacific national societies in June.

Programme component 3: Dissemination, advocacy and research

Outcome: The IDRL Guidelines are well known, partnerships are developed and the knowledge base of the Movement on legal issues in disaster response is deepened.

Achievements

The IDRL unit has been involved in conferences, workshops and seminars in Asia and the Pacific, making a presentation at UN/ISDR Partnership Meeting 24-26 March and joining IDRL Geneva at the Inter-parliamentary Union Assembly in Bangkok 31 March. A training session given for OXFAM's regional humanitarian officers 16 March indicated growing interest from humanitarian partners in the region.

Within the movement introduction/update sessions were conducted, including a presentation to ICRC Regional Legal Advisers, for an audience of government representatives and NGOs in Seoul, and an update for the Southeast Asia Regional Disaster Management Committee (RDMC) meeting in Jogjakarta.

IDRL Unit continues to seek development of links/cooperation with regional organisations, including ASEAN, SOPAC, PIF, UNOCHA and SAARC through meetings, discussions, including potential MoUs with SOPAC and ASEAN. A policy brief document has been successfully developed for the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) on 'Disaster Response and the Role of Immigration'. The unit is also exploring potential academic collaboration with the University of South Pacific Law Department in the areas of disaster law research and of public lectures.

Constraints or Challenges

There is a question of the unit's capacity in meeting growing demand on IDRL in the zone. With only a programme coordinator, a programme officer and a Pacific delegate, the unit's capacity is increasingly stretched, even if some IDRL presentations/update are being conducted by the zone's DM unit.

Identifying qualified local consultants, able to provide quality research and present reports in English, remains a challenge. Increased use of *pro bono* lawyers will be explored in conjunction with IDRL Geneva.

In the Pacific, the introduction of a new concept and programme continues to be a challenge in a region where small national societies, and government agencies, are already juggling multiple priorities. A particular challenge has been addressing barriers to the initiation of the model country-level technical review projects. In an effort to address this challenge, the IDRL programme has developed a modified approach to the technical assistance model, involving prior preliminary research and less time consuming involvement of government counterparts, and is focusing more on enhanced collaboration with regional and international organizations, in particular through including awareness raising and technical input into their programming activities.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
National societies in Asia Pacific have strengthened capacity to deliver effective and sustainable health and care programmes that respond to national public health priorities.

Outcomes/Expected results

Program component	Outcomes/expected results
Zonal health capacity support	National societies have improved emergency health and public health programming.
Zonal coordination, partnerships and resource development	National societies' health programs are further improved through coordination, partnerships and resource mobilization actions with relevant partners.

Humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P)	National societies implement health activities that enable vulnerable communities to prepare for and respond to the threats of influenza pandemics.
Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion	Respond to acute needs in disaster preparedness and response as well as meet chronic needs by maintaining, improving and scaling-up capacities in community-based water and sanitation / hygiene promotion programmes.

Achievements

Zonal health capacity support

Until the end of 2009 the Asia Pacific health and care programme was managed through the network of four regional health coordinators based in the four regional offices (Delhi, Bangkok, Beijing and Suva). The health and care unit was created in January 2010 to fulfil the coordination, representation, partnership and resource mobilisation priorities of the health sector. The zone health coordinator is leading the delivery of the emergency health (EH) component in close collaboration with DMU and supporting the public health programs through the regional offices.

The unit consists of the coordinator, a water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WatSan/HP) Coordinator, a WatSan /HP delegate based in Bangkok, a humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P) coordinator and a program assistant. The H2P component will close in September. The current H2P coordinator will continue in the health unit as Emergency health coordinator due to the increasing challenges in this area.

During the reporting period the zonal health priorities were mapped and strategies started to firm up. Cooperation with regional health coordinators as well as key national societies, country delegations and partner national society representatives was essential in this process. Ongoing communication with managers, other technical units, and support services assisted in positioning the new unit in the zone office. Connection with the health and social services department in Geneva was well established.

While the regional programme updates give a more detailed description of the health activities in the national societies, the following intends to give an overview of the main achievements in the zone.

Emergency health (EH) activities include both contributing to ongoing emergencies and developing long term aspect of the EH concept in the zone. During the reporting period three emergency appeals with emergency health component were launched. The first one was for Mongolia cold wave in March (following Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, DREF). Secondly an appeal "Support for internally displaced people" targeted to the returnees to the previous war areas was launched in Sri Lanka in April. Health and care services, including water, sanitation and hygiene interventions and psychosocial support will be offered to the returnees. Increase in acute diarrhoea in Nepal triggered an emergency appeal "Potential diarrhoea outbreak" in May. The purpose is to curb the epidemic in the beginning as it seems to follow the same pattern as last year. Profound changes in water and sanitation and health services are needed, hence the need for an appeal rather than a DREF. The WatSan coordinator supported the Nepal appeal on site (see below).

Several DREF -operations were supported during the reporting period: Cook Island and Solomon Island tropical cyclones, Pakistan Hunza landslides and cyclone Phet as well as Papua New Guinea cholera, dysentery and influenza outbreaks. The latter is supported currently in an assessment to define the immediate and long-term actions of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross in cholera prevention and control efforts.

Most ongoing disaster management operations have a significant health/ water, sanitation and hygiene aspect. Operation updates were commented in the health unit accordingly.

Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRTs) need a solid base of national health professionals to provide, advice and direct technical aspects of disaster relief and recovery operations. The training of a health-specialised RDRT member is twofold: RDRT Induction course and Emergency Health training (formerly known as Public Health in Emergences or Health in Emergencies – training). The IFRC Emergency Health training curriculum was updated in the end of 2009 and will be used in a zonal Emergency Health workshop planned for November 2010.

In May Emergency Health was discussed in an open forum during the Asia Pacific Disaster Management Meeting in Brisbane with 15 national society representatives. The intention is to develop health-specialised RDRT concept further. Currently there is no consolidated roster on the health trained RDRT members. According to a quick mapping about 220 persons have taken part in the Emergency Health training. The health unit is in a process of collating a database on them, especially concerning their availability for

deployment. This is not to duplicate the DMU resource mapping template but rather used as a tool until that is available.

In addition an RDRT specialised water and sanitation training curriculum has been developed and is being used as the foundation for enhancing WatSan specialised RDRTs capacity across Asia Pacific.

Community based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach is spreading steadily in the zone after it was introduced 2 years ago. Many National Societies (notably Indonesia, Timor Leste, Philippines, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and some Pacific national societies) are already implementing CBHFA-based programs, some of them in a very innovative way. Small national societies in the Pacific are integrating CBHFA with other core areas like DM and others are using it as an approach in more detailed programs (HIV, WatSan). Nonconventional needs are also addressed like social care, youth (Mongolia) and non-communicable diseases (Sri Lanka).

The CBHFA indicators were developed in a workshop in Jakarta in October 2009 and a baseline study designed by the British RC in May 2010. The Health and Social Services department of the Secretariat asked the zone to assist in developing CBHFA monitoring and evaluation tools further. The baseline study will be piloted in Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Indonesia from June on. The lessons learned from the piloting and other country programs will discussed in a zonal CBHFA M&E workshop in October 2010.

As an income-generating activity commercial **First Aid (FA)** is at the core of many national societies' programming. Some national societies (China, Bangladesh) are in process of harmonizing their first aid guidelines, and are waiting for the IFRC FA guidelines to get published this year. Road safety messages can be incorporated in the FA guidelines.

Asia Pacific region has a low prevalence of **HIV**, but owing to the region's large population the HIV burden is second to Africa. Asia's epidemic has long been concentrated in sex workers and their clients, men who have sex with men and injecting drug users. However, the epidemic is steadily expanding into lower-risk populations through sexual transmission to the partners of those most at risk.

Since 2008 there has been an attempt to have a uniform RCRC approach to HIV through Global Alliance. It has encouraged national societies to seek funding from major donors like Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (GFATM) and shifted the focus in HIV from mass education to risk groups. However, due to the different contexts and funding bases a zonal view to HIV is still lacking.

Some national societies keep on implementing mainly weak-impact programs with HIV prevention messages for general public or Youth Peer Education and rely on short-term funding, whereas others have embraced the challenge of accessing risk groups and diversified funding. An example of the latter is China, where RCSC HIV program is funded by national government, international donors, PNSs and GFATM.

The Swedish RC supported the South Asia regional HIV/AIDS program from 2004 to 2009. The final evaluation was performed during the reporting period. The evaluation team's findings are valuable for other national societies. As the program national societies were not accustomed to tackle a socially challenging problem like HIV, the program gained ownership slowly. The lack of baseline studies and impact indicators as well as weak exit strategy are problems frequently encountered in RCRC programs. However, in countries where the program was most successful (Nepal, India) it has made a difference especially in the lives of PLHIV and reducing stigma and discrimination and will probably continue even without outside funding.

The South Asian national societies had a functioning HIV network and HIV delegate during the regional program. The future of the network is now unsure. The existing Asian Red Cross & Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network (ART, established in 1994) is a regional network for South East and East Asia, although there are plans to invite participants from South Asia and Pacific as well. The network activates the members to engage in HIV programming and work with PLHIV and provides technical assistance in delivering HIV/AIDS related programs.

Preparations for the biannual World AIDS conference continued throughout the reporting period. Six scientific abstracts will be presented in the conference: three from China, one for East Asia delegation and one from Nepal and Timor Leste. The pre-conference RCRC Global GA Meeting offers a possibility to share views on HIV programming globally and review the relevance of Global Alliance.

IFRC promotes **voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD)**. South East Asia region has been arranging technical blood recruitment workshops annually for the last 7 years. The objective is to encourage participation from South and East Asia as well. Singapore RC has facilitated the VNRBD activities and the next workshop will be held in conjunction with the biannual VNRBD Symposium in November.

Many national societies with large blood banks (notably Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Nepal) are major blood service providers in the country. GAP Secretariat in Hong Kong RC collaborates with the RCRC transfusion activities.

Even though preventive health is the focus in IFRC programs, **curative care** remains a core area in countries where national societies are filling a gap in primary health care services (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, DPRK, and Pakistan). Health posts and mobile clinics are increasingly starting to address more chronic health problems through CBHFA and serve also as emergency health units in time of disasters.

Asia has the highest burden of new **tuberculosis** (TB) cases in the world. The national societies' interest to get involved in tuberculosis is slowly increasing. USAID is supporting Indian RC in 3 states to improve adherence to TB retreatment regimens with 200 vulnerable patients since November 2009. The program will be evaluated in June. The TB program in Myanmar RC *increases community awareness of TB and follows up defaulters*. *China RC (RCSC) is in process of starting its own USAID-backed adherence program.*

Some national societies address **malaria** by mosquito net distribution. Indonesia RC (PMI) gets Netherlands RC support until 2011, RCSC is funded from GFATM and Myanmar and Solomon Islands through IFRC.

Afghanistan, Pakistan and India are the only endemic **polio** countries in the zone. All national societies are involved in polio eradication activities e.g. vaccination campaigns.

Zonal coordination, partnerships and resource development

The zone health coordinator participated in all the **regional health meetings** during the reporting period. The March East Asia meeting in Beijing and the South East Asia one in Bangkok had a focus on Road Safety whereas the South Asia meeting in Dhaka concentrated in Nutrition and CBHFA in June. The Pacific health strategy meeting was held in Suva in May, the focus being in First Aid and CBHFA and integrated programs with DM. The Community Resilience Forum in Fiji in June united DM and health/WatSan representatives to talk about best way of working together for resilient communities and was facilitated by the zone WatSan coordinator.

The zone health team organized and hosted a **zonal health team meeting** in Kuala Lumpur in April. For two days the four regional health delegates and three country delegates (from DPRK, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan) discussed about the health programs, identified focus areas, planned next meetings/trainings and identified possible sources for future program funding for national societies. The meeting was an excellent forum for the new zone health coordinator to get an overview of the priorities in the zone.

The second Asia Pacific Zone **Water and Sanitation Coordination meeting** was held in Kuala Lumpur 18-19th May. This meeting has contributed to improving coordination amongst the RCRC movement in support of national societies in Asia Pacific with water and sanitation and will continue to be held annually. One outcome from the WatSan Coordination meeting in 2009 was a case-study on Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) being implemented by the Cambodia RC, with support from the Swiss RC and French RC. The discussion paper was finalised during this reporting period and the case-study will be finalised during the next reporting period.

In all the above mentioned meetings **Strategy 2020** was introduced and discussed. In the April meeting an eye-opening mapping exercise was done using a grid representing all Strategic aims and Enabling actions. The health programs in the zone, whether implemented by national societies alone or supported by national societies or IFRC, were placed in a grid. The health activities were concentrated in SA1 and 2 but spread through all the fields. This is a practical example of the wide aspect of health activities and the integration which is happening in the program level.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was drafted between the Zone office and World Health Organization (**WHO**) Western Pacific Region Office (WPRO). To date no action plan is attached to the MoU, which is still waiting to be signed by the Head of Zone and Regional Director for WPRO. The MoU between South East Asia Region Office (SEARO) and SEA delegation is a process of renewing.

The Rockefeller foundation is supporting a **climate change** program (dengue prevention) for 18 months in Vietnam and Indonesia. The RCRC climate centre is facilitating the process and appropriate MoUs were signed. As both implementing national societies are in SEA it was agreed that the MoUs were signed in the SEA regional office in April.

Measles Initiative is a partnership led by the American Red Cross, the United Nations Foundation (UNF), CDC, the WHO, and UNICEF since 2001. As a result measles deaths have fallen 78% globally. The national

societies are involved in this initiative through social mobilisation. During the reporting period Vietnam joined the initiative, the following national societies are already implementing a measles program: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal and Timor Leste.

The **R3C** is web based platform and resource centre for VNRBD. Name comes from (1) donor Recruitment (2) donor Retention (3) donor Recognition, which stand in a Circle. Saatchi and Saatchi Singapore office has offered to support Singapore RC R3C Resource Centre to develop VNRBD announcements which could be placed in the web for use by participating national societies. Resource centre could therefore become a global centre instead of the current regional one.

Bloomberg Philanthropies offers 5-year funding in **road safety** programs, the eligible countries in the zone are Cambodia, China, India and Vietnam. To date it is still unsure how many of them are able to tap into this funding to continue their road safety programs.

The Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (GFATM) is a major **financing** institution for title diseases. National societies can access the funds easiest as a sub-recipient. With the increased focus on long-term developmental health programs GFATM needs to be considered more widely and in more innovative ways. The Pacific regional HIV funding is a good example of that. Other possible sources for funding are local offices for governmental agencies (USAID, DFID, EUaid), GAVI for measles and polio, corporate funding (e.g. Eli Lilly grants for TB, ADP). The trend in health is towards long-term developmental programming which sets new demands for funding.

Humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P)

Twelve national societies in Asia Pacific¹ continued to receive operational support and guidance from the zone in the implementation of their H2P projects. This included technical and project management coaching through actual visits or remote interaction, particularly in the further development of pandemic preparedness and response plans, the organisation of simulation exercises, the coordination and working with external partners, or operational planning for the implementation of the training and risk communication components. Periodic reviews of all project workplans and budgets were also facilitated, including budget reviews/reductions to prevent potential program deficits. Narrative and financial reporting of all seven accelerated projects which completed in April 2010, and H2P long projects of Indonesia and Philippine Red Cross which finished in May 2010 and Nepal Red Cross in June 2010, were also closely followed up. The communication campaign of the Tuvalu Red Cross also finished in April 2010. *For details of key achievements of national society projects, please refer to the respective country program updates.*

In an effort to integrate and mainstream pandemic preparedness in ongoing national society programs, the zone health and care unit worked with the health units of East, South and Southeast Asia in facilitating sessions during regional health meetings which reflected on national society experiences, lessons and practices through the H2P program and response to influenza pandemic H1N1. It also worked with the Southeast Asia health unit in exploring the integration of pandemics and emerging diseases in disaster planning together with members of the regional disaster management committee (Yogyakarta/May 2010); it also served as technical resource in the discussion of international disaster response in influenza pandemic events during a regional international disaster response law (IDRL) workshop (Bangkok/April 2010).

Building on the increasing recognition as a key player in pandemic preparedness in communities, the zone continued to contribute in the ongoing H2P program review through the engagement of the zone coordinator as member of the review team, the participation of national societies in an on-line survey, and the conduct of review visits to Indonesia and Philippines in April, and to Nepal in June. During the UN System Workshop on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (Bangkok/Jan 2010), the experience of national societies in community pandemic preparedness was presented during a panel discussion on the 'whole of society approach' to pandemic preparedness and response. The unit also collaborated with Vietnam Red Cross and the Federation country office in exhibiting H2P tools and materials and in conducting a side-meeting on community pandemic preparedness during the Inter-ministerial Conference on Animal and Pandemic Influenza (Hanoi/April 2010). The zone also participated in the review and updating of rapid containment (of a new influenza virus) guidelines organised by WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (Manila/June 2010).

¹ Asia Pacific national societies which are part of the program include: *India, Indonesia, Philippines, Nepal and Vietnam* which have pandemic preparedness projects lasting at least one year, and which are expected to produce preparedness plans, to train and prepare community leaders and responders, to adapt and disseminate prevention messages, and to coordinate and support networks (or the so-called H2P long projects); and *Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Mongolia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka* which have six-month-long projects which focused on risk communications and training (also called H2P accelerated projects).

In the third quarter, the projects in India and Vietnam will be completed. The unit will focus support to H2P national societies in the completion of narrative and financial reports. Efforts will also be continued to integrate program tools and guidelines into health and disaster risk reduction programs.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

Six (6) Asia Pacific national societies responded to disasters during the reporting period with their own water and sanitation trained staff and emergency response equipment². To continue to build the capacity of national societies in water and sanitation response, support was provided by the AP Zone to three Water and Sanitation emergency response trainings, two at national level (India and Nepal) and one at the regional level. For the first time, a Pacific regional water and sanitation emergency response training was held in Samoa, 22-26th March, with 21 participants from 8 Pacific national societies. This training has led to increased interest from these national societies to conduct their own national level training as well as to identify additional water and sanitation response equipment gaps (i.e. Water quality testing).

Support was provided to Fiji RC and Nepal RC in response to disasters. A WatSan kit 2 was deployed to Nepal RC from the warehouse in KL for the first time and rapid 2 day training on the WatSan kit 2 was held on 3-4th June, facilitated by the AP Zone, so that the equipment can be utilised by the Nepal RC for their diarrhoea response operation.

During the reporting period, eight (8) hygiene promotion boxes were donated to national societies³ to improve their hygiene promotion emergency response capacity. An additional two (2) hygiene promotion boxes have been identified also for Vietnam RC and Thai RC. These will be incorporated into future water and sanitation emergency response training. Mongolia RC have already utilised this equipment for conducting campaigns in response to hand, foot and mouth outbreak. Two Delagua kits were also donated to Samoa RC and India RC to improve their ability to test drinking water quality in emergencies.

An agreement was signed with the Netherlands RC and NORIT for a donation of four (4) WatSan kit 5s for the Asia Pacific Zone. Discussions are continuing with the NLRC on incorporating the prepositioning and training of these to best utilise them to meet water and sanitation needs in an emergency.

Support from the AP Zone office continues for the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) with a joint review conducted in June in three branches to continue the development of their water and sanitation Emergency Response Team. The RCSC responded to the earthquake in Qinghai for the first time with a WatSan ERT.

The AP Zone office supported a long-term water and sanitation proposal for Pakistan RC in response to a call for proposals from AusAID. Unfortunately the proposal was not successful. Support has also been given to Austrian RC in the development of a water and sanitation proposal for Timor-Leste RC (CVTL) in response to a call for proposals from the EU-ACP Waterfacility.

The AP Zone WatSan delegate undertook a joint WatSan/shelter assessment with Vietnam RC to provide recommendations to the detailed plan of action for the cyclone Ketsana appeal. Water and sanitation monitoring support visits were conducted by the AP Zone office with Laos RC, Bangladesh RC and Samoa RC in order to complete their respective water and sanitation programs.

World Water Day was celebrated globally on 22 March and support was given to national societies with their water and sanitation activity preparation as well as to promote their activities with media to highlight chronic water and sanitation needs.

Constraints or Challenges

The funding shortfall experienced by the global H2P programme limited the capacity of the secretariat to fulfil its obligations to national societies, not only in Asia Pacific but globally. A funding review between April and May prevented deficits, but resulted to substantial budget reduction in all H2P long-term projects in Asia Pacific, and the premature completion of accelerated projects (which could have been more meaningful if given at least a month-long no-cost extension. This has also affected efforts to integrate and mainstream national societies' ground-breaking work in pandemic preparedness.

Funding the health delegates is a challenge as the positions are not core funded. There is plenty of brain power currently in the zone to design sustainable, long term health programmes in the national societies

² Indian Red Cross, Pakistan Red Crescent, Solomon Islands Red Cross, Cook Islands Red Cross, Thai Red Cross, Red Cross Society of China

³ Pakistan Red Crescent, Nepal Red Cross, Indian Red Cross, Mongolian Red Cross, Myanmar Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross, Philippine Red Cross, Samoa Red Cross

using the experience gained in sister societies. Unfortunately the use of this opportunity is hindered by unsecure funding for non-partner national society delegates.

Organizational Development

a) The purpose and components of the programme

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

Outcomes/Expected results

i) Organizational development (OD)

Programme component 1: Tailor-made organizational development and capacity building initiatives
Outcome: Organizational performance issues addressed in individual national societies through tailor-made organizational development and capacity building initiatives.

The programme continues to benefit from the kind and strategic support from the Swedish, Australian and Japanese red Cross Societies, with new funds pledged from New Zealand Aid as well in the first half of 2010. Outputs from country level missions NS have included a new Constitution and enhanced transformation process re-empowering Branches and participatory strategic planning in New Zealand Red Cross; new Strategic Plans following Strategy 2020 directions and integrated with the “New OD approach” resulting in harmonised Movement support plans in Papua New Guinea and East Timor Red Cross Societies; work with Singapore Red Cross on representing youth focussed capacity building work to be showcased at the global Youth Olympic Games to be held in August; and Sri Lanka Red Cross in their strategic “re-engineering” process as a result of the SLRCS leadership visit to the Zone Office.

A significant Joint Mission with ICRC to follow up on the August plan of action agreed with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Chairman to address longstanding integrity issues in the Society was postponed from May till June. Distance OD support has been facilitated in a wide range of environments including support for legal base strengthening in Tuvalu and Cambodia Red Cross Societies; use of OD consultants in strategic planning exercises in line with new Strategy 2020 directions in Philippines, Samoa, Maldives, and Pakistan Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies; support to Mongolian Red Cross on reviewing their Strategic Plan; and OD in emergencies support through an experienced OD consultant to PMI Chapter in Padang. Some impact of previous OD support is evident in updates such as the appointment of a new Marketing manager in Mongolian Red Cross; an invitation to finalise new organisational cultural processes and procedures as a result of the Nepal Red Cross internal workshop on accountability and Operational Alliance process on OD; the setting of specific measurable numbers of vulnerable people to be benefitted during strategic plan drafting processes; and follow up on the harmonised Movement support plan in Afghanistan Red Crescent having led to clearer local level impact at Branch service level.

Follow up has also been initiated to track the impact on new services of the Spanish Red Cross contribution of Euros 100,000 allocated to 8 societies by the Pacific NS Secretary General's OD Working Group against the collective mapping of OD priorities of each society to strengthen OD work.

Contents guidelines were agreed and circulated to all Asia Pacific and Middle East National Societies to invite papers on the topic of “Culture of Volunteering and Greater Youth Participation” for the forthcoming Asia Pacific Conference in October 2010.

Two significant reviews were initiated with the kind support of the Swedish Red Cross. The first “Finance Development Review” will evaluate the long term impact of Finance Development work in 6 National Societies, particularly measuring the impact of strengthened finance systems on new services which reached vulnerable people as a result. The second “OD Impact Study” will review the impact of ongoing OD work in 8 societies to measure the impact of effective OD work on improved services to measurable numbers of vulnerable people, and as such will also contribute to the global study on OD and Capacity Building Approaches launched by the Secretariat's OD department and which will be conducted in China, Afghanistan, Indonesia, and Nepal Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

A pioneering meeting was facilitated between the Zone and all ICRC Cooperation colleagues responsible for Asia Pacific from both Geneva and all regional and country locations across the Zone. The output of the meeting was an agreement to explore several more practical ways to harmonise planning, support and operational work including harmonised country plans, common approaches to volunteering development led by the AP Zone OD & Volunteering Unit, improving contingency planning at country level, and developing procedures for transition planning to move from conflict sensitive to recovery programming and change of lead agency status. All of these will lead to more synergetic National Society development support.

(i) Increased integration of OD and CB aspects within Health, P&V and DM programmes

Some significant outcomes have been evident in cross-sectoral between National Society, as well as country, regional and Zone level Federation DM and OD practitioners that link OD and DM work. These include the first draft of an “OD in emergencies” which is underway on new evidence-based approaches to strengthening NS capacities while responding to disasters; the publication of the new “Gender and DM Guidelines” with its accompanying CD Rom toolkit as a result of the Gender and DM forum co-hosted with Nepal Red Cross in 2009; and five comprehensive NS case studies on effective gendered approaches to DM at local community levels.

Work continued with the Zone Humanitarian Diplomacy (HD) Coordinator on characteristics of “organisational readiness” in National Societies when undertaking HD work; with the Zone PMER/Resource Mobilisation delegate and Communications Coordinator on strengthening fundraising and communications peer support and an AP Handbook of best practices agreed by the societies attending the AP Fundraising Hui meeting hosted by New Zealand Red Cross; and initial work with the IDRL team to try and harmonise legal base revision processes with new DM and/or Red Cross/Red Crescent Laws in selected countries.

(ii) Sharing of lessons learned, best practices, and skilled NS practitioners providing peer NS support in OD and CB across all Movement components in Asia Pacific

The first meeting of the AP Fundraising Network, organized by the National Society led Steering Group, was held New Zealand Red Cross. The outputs of the meeting included a report with clear recommendations on strengthening the sustainable characteristics of the network into the future, commitments for societies to work together in technical working groups to produce outputs to help each other, and an update of the Federation’s “Resource Mobilisation Handbook” for all societies. Peer support mechanisms were also activated including a mapping of existing resources and needs that can guide appropriate mentoring and coaching visits.

The Asia Pacific Youth Network (APYN) invited a representative from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Youth Network to their planning meeting in February, which was also kindly attended by the Federation’s Asia Pacific Vice President as well as by the Federation Governing Board Member from Malaysian Red Crescent. This resulted in active plans for a Joint Youth Summit with the MENA Youth Network in such a way that youth delegates to the Summit will then attend the Federation’s Asia Pacific Statutory Regional Conference being held in the same place as part of the full delegate team of the respective NS. Further mainstreaming of the youth agenda has been agreed through some dramatic resolutions of the Asia Pacific and Middle east National Society leadership, including a representative of the APYN being the third Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Conference, and invitation for the APYN to Chair sessions in the Conference itself, and for the Youth networks to submit youth focussed papers for deliberation in the Conference. All these activities demonstrate a strong implementation of many of the Solferino Declaration recommendations across the Asia Pacific and Middle East National Societies, a contribution which has been warmly welcomed by the Federation’s global Youth Commission.

Support has been given to the pioneering “Knowing Governance, Knowing Leadership” peer mentoring programme between senior governance leaders of selected Pacific National Societies, developed together with an external governance trainer. Progress to date has successfully led to the final stage of developing the meeting for self-nominated members of governance to receive the first orientation and contribute to appropriate governance development tools in the Pacific context.

(iii) The specific work of the Volunteering Development programme

In the first quarter of 2010 saw a Knowledge sharing exchange/visit arranged for volunteer managers of Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) and Philippines Red Cross Society (PRCS). Terms of Reference (TOR) developed set objective for both society volunteer managers to be exposed to volunteer management and development practices within respective societies. Another cross regional sister society Peer support initiative was arranged between Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) and Indian Red Cross(INRCS) society. MRCS was to provide technical support in organising a national Youth Camp for INRCS.

Further support given to Philippines Red Cross Society (PRCS) Volunteer Services unit which planned to review the unit's existing plans and map out activities for rest of the year. Plans include updating PRCS Volunteering Policy to meet needs and requirements of present day volunteers. This process includes reviews of a few sister society's Volunteering policy and as well at Federation's Volunteering policy (presently being revised). A PRCS Code of Conduct for volunteers is to be developed. These two draft documents will be circulated to Chapters requesting for feedback and suggestions. Simultaneously it is planned that a draft Volunteer Management Manual be developed and ready for distribution within 3rd quarter of the year.

In further breaking down the emergency scenarios to natural disasters, conflict areas and sub IHL (i.e. inter community violent in localised context). This unit along with Philippines RC held focus group discussions with volunteers and program managers in the southern region - Mindanao. Key issues raised were personal security of volunteers, insurance protection, safer access awareness of volunteers and accessibility of psychosocial support services to volunteers and staff.

In late April, Red Cross Society of China held a National Volunteering Workshop to launch and distribute the National volunteering manual which was approved by the governing board in Jan 2010. A web-based volunteer management database was introduced and in a consultative process branch representatives were asked to provide feedback and suggestions. RCSC will soon commence on drafting out the next four year plan on volunteering development within the society. RCSC has invited Hong Kong branch and IFRC to contribute to the planning, implementation process and resources.

Afghanistan Red Crescent (ARC) IP volunteering project involving all movement members ie ARC, IFRC & ICRC. A ICRC delegate focusing on volunteering issues has taken office and will work closely with Federation & ARC OD counterparts in coordinating an assessment review on ARC's practices in managing volunteers and standards which are in place. Technical advice was given on the review's TOR, sample assessment sheets and review questionnaires were shared with this team.

Requests and interest on Volunteer Database has increased. Technical feedback provided on Sri Lanka's new/to-be launched web based Volunteer Database SLRC's OD team. In Delhi, SARD office initiated discussions on a possible regional solution on a volunteer management database which may be either regionally supported and or a database template. At AP Zone, working closely with Zone IT manager in preparing a draft guiding paper for NSs who are considering developing a national volunteer database system. Globally, the volunteering team is working towards a global coordinated resource (similar to the Global Accident Insurance resource). The team is looking into long term sustainability, including sourcing, assessing & evaluating existing resources available in the market. Working together with the two zone volunteer managers, who are to identify NSs within respective regions where a volunteer database is being used.

Initial discussions on-going between Australian Red Cross Volunteer Programme and IFRC on this programme structure. Key queries and support offered to ARC, mainly on methodology on how these volunteers will be assigned to NSs and specific objective based assignments.

Support extended to the IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support. The centre is conducting a survey on psychosocial support to volunteers. Invitations were extended out to all National Societies (globally) in completing a short online questionnaire and further specific questions on Psychosocial support to select few societies.

SharePoint platform is being pilot tested by the global Volunteering Team i.e. Geneva, Panama and KL. Sharing of documents, presentations, working/draft documents or a final paper ready for distribution. Updating baseline information of each National Society within regions on their progress in volunteering development. Key areas updated are for example: a) number of people volunteering with a National Society; b) National Society with a volunteering policy; c) National Society providing insurance coverage to volunteers (country insurance provider or IFRC's global insurance policy) and more.

Another collaborative work with Global Volunteering team is development on issues pertaining to Volunteering in Emergencies(ViE) following the 2007 review. Regionally initiatives to develop guidelines were in South Asia regional office and attempt by SEA national societies OD & DM practitioners on a ViE toolkits suitable for South East Asia society context. Cross zonal support extended to Panama office in the initial development of a Guideline for volunteer management in emergencies.

Constraints or Challenges:

The previous funding constraints have been overcome to some extent and new funds pledged now enables the targeting of 2-3 Secretary Generals who would like to benefit from the senior executive coaching support initiative, and also for supporting some selective country level OD processes in high priority environments such as the pilot external outsourcing of management training for all Branch Secretaries and NHQ programme managers in Mongolian Red Cross before they engage in developing the new MRCS Strategic Plan.

It is still proving challenging to mobilize donor support to resource key OD positions at country and regional level (such as in South East Asia regional Delegation). This continues to put significant pressure on the Zone OD Coordinator and AP Volunteering Development Manager to scale up technical assistance to respective NS. This trend has slowed down the work to strengthen coordinated deployments of existing NS peer practitioners, and Federation and PNS OD delegates across the Zone to strengthen multi-country support roles in a measured set of time bound negotiated initiatives.

Principles and Values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

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

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component 1: Promotion of tolerance and respect for diversity
Outcome 1: Enhancing understanding and sharing of best practices.
Outcome 2: Capacity-building in principles and values/gender of national society staff and volunteers.
Outcome 3: Raising public awareness with a view to changing behaviour in society.
Outcome 4: Advocacy and international representation.

Achievements

One of the specific achievements is the completion and distribution of a best practices DVD on “Gender and Diversity”, which was part of a set of five thematic DVDs. It contains excellent examples of mainstreaming these perspectives in work which is seldom recognized across the Movement. The DVDs are being widely used in planning and partnership meetings and will reinforce strongly the cross-cutting themes of gender, social inclusion and anti-discrimination, and branch and volunteer development as holistic concepts. This DVD is also being uploaded on YouTube where it can be easily reached by a global audience.

Programme component 2: Integration of humanitarian values and gender into operational disaster management and health programming
Outcome 1: Further development of gender into programming.

Achievements

A meeting on gender and disaster management was co-hosted between Nepal Red Cross, the zone disaster management and OD units, and the secretariat’s principles and values department from Geneva in Kathmandu. A total of 14 men and 23 women participants from nine Asia Pacific national societies, four partner national societies, respective regional and country delegations, and ICRC shared knowledge and best practices from across a full spectrum of disaster management preparedness, response and recovery operations. The practical outputs include tools, checklists, and guidelines to ensure improved approaches to gender equity in disaster management work in all components and at all levels of the Movement in future.

Programme component 3: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention/reduction programmes
Outcome 1: Mapping of national society programmes which target discrimination, marginalization or exclusion of communities who fall outside the traditional health and disaster management programme areas.

Achievements

The unit is working with the global principles and values department on a quantitative baseline survey which will examine National Society standalone principles and values programming as well as its integration into operations. Ten national societies from Asia Pacific will be selected to contribute to a global sample, from which it aims to highlight the strong societies, as well as those seeking to be stronger, and also highlight the varying sizes and scales among them. The baseline survey questionnaire was managed by the zone OD unit,

and is now completed. This initiative will serve as a baseline mechanism to identify national societies with good practices of social inclusion and anti-discrimination in their programming, while also recognize national societies that have identified communities not affected by health or disaster management programmes, yet are still vulnerable and marginalized. It is hoped that lessons can be learned from these good practices and applied into programming.

Communications, Advocacy and Knowledge Sharing

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

To influence changes in humanitarian policies and practices through improved engagement and cooperation with media and externally focused associations, and to enhance Red Cross and Red Crescent programme impact and effectiveness through expanded national society domestic visibility and increased global International Federation brand identity.

In order to deliver outcomes expected from Strategy 2020 and the global communications and advocacy strategy, the Kuala Lumpur-based communications programme will pursue the priorities and actions identified in this plan for the Asia Pacific zone, building on communications and knowledge sharing activities carried out in 2008/2009 and prior years.

The unit will be collaborative, including both input and supportive actions by fellow department heads, colleagues in regional and country offices, and communications leaders in national societies. Activities will be focused on enhancing the image and resource mobilization capabilities of the organization as a whole. They will also be focused on building skills and capacities through hands-on learning opportunities and peer-based mentoring.

Programme component 1 : Enhanced emergency communications capability

Outcome: National societies and the International Federation are the leaders in providing accurate, timely information to domestic and international press during major disasters.

Achievements:

All new Asia Pacific emergencies were met with a consistent “leaning forward” posture, helping to ensure that beneficiary populations received lifesaving information, that donors and National Societies received vital information to help promote and support new operations, and affected National Societies had their domestic communications capacities developed as well. The emergency communications have been widely disseminated and are in frequent and effective use. Commemorations of large scale disaster were used to boost IFRC and National Society profiles.

Programme component 2: Integration of effective communications into programme and resource mobilization activity, planning and budgeting

Outcome 1: Increasingly successful programme awareness at the donor and beneficiary/end user level.

Outcome 2: Increasingly successful resource mobilization through enhanced communications, planning and implementation

Achievements:

At the zone and regional level, comprehensive planning alongside programmes and unit has led to dramatically increased collaboration. In health, disaster management and organizational development, mutual communications projects, such as support for the DM Meetings in Brisbane, have been successfully completed. In support of Humanitarian Diplomacy, a well-regarded set of *HD in Action* profiles has already boosted the interest in IFRC led HD initiatives. Linkages between ADB and IFRC have been strengthened through a marketing partnership. All documents and legal aspects of the relationship between Jet Li and the IFRC have now been finalized, awaiting signatures and a specific calendar for face to face engagement.

Programme component 3: Communications capacity and team building at the zone, regional/country office and national society level

Outcome: Expanded knowledge and experience at the zone, regional/country office and national society level in successful communications and media programme planning and implementation in support of global and localized priorities.

Achievements:

The recently developed and approved Asia Pacific Capacity Building Framework has placed National Society communicators in the lead role for mutual capacity development and training design, well supported by the IFRC. The new Asia Pacific Communications Network *Steering Group*, made up of seven National Society representatives, is shaping the future of the 2010 communications forum and joined up networking subsequent to that gathering. Skills building sessions in photography, writing and graphic design have been hosted at the regional level.

Programme component 4: Increased knowledge sharing and capture of institutional successes from and between national societies and all other Movement components
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Outcome: Increased input to knowledge sharing systems by Movement partners and increased usage of those systems by key customers/audiences.
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Achievements:

The Asia Pacific zone has remained heavily engaged in the design and roll-out of the new FedNet and IFRC.org, which has been delayed in its global launch until September 2010. In the meantime, a comprehensive review of current knowledge sharing pages has been conducted, with minor updating taking place on an ongoing basis. The Asia Pacific Communications Network helped to establish a Resource Mobilization Facebook interface to enable the sharing of best practices and tools for fundraisers.

Resource Mobilization and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Unit

a) The purpose and components of the programme**Purpose**

The performance and impact of Red Cross and Red Crescent programmes in Asia Pacific zone is enhanced through effective resource mobilization, planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

Outcomes/Expected results**Component 1: Resource Mobilization**

Purpose: Red Cross and Red Crescent programmes in Asia Pacific are well resourced.

Outcome 1: All Asia Pacific annual plans/appeals and emergency appeals are at least 80 per cent covered (aiming for 100 per cent coverage) and all funding is well managed.
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Outcome 2: Support Asia Pacific national societies to diversify their funding sources and secure long term funding.
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Achievements

The zone RM/PMER unit provided coordination of resource mobilization for all IFRC annual plans/appeals and emergency appeals in Asia Pacific. As of the end of June 2010, the total income for all 20 annual plans/appeals was CHF 43.7 million, representing a total coverage of 84.7 per cent. The total income for all current/ active emergency appeals was CHF 481.3 million (91.8% coverage) and CHF 1.2 billion including the tsunami, with an overall coverage of 97 per cent. A total of 136 pledges of funding were received and processed by the unit in the first six months of 2010.

In capacity building in resource mobilisation, the most important initiative has been the holding of the first meeting of Asia Pacific Fundraisers' Network, hosted by New Zealand Red Cross in April 2010. The event was attended by over 30 participants from 18 national societies of Asia Pacific, and was important in providing the forum for the establishment of the network, a very exciting new initiative. The main objectives of the network are to enhance fundraising skills in national societies, to share best practice of successful fundraising tools, techniques and learnings between national societies, and to increase the income of national societies.

Component 2: Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Outcome 1: Asia Pacific IFRC appeals, plans and reports meet required quality standards, and are 100 per cent compliant in meeting all deadlines.
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Outcome 2: Quality of Asia Pacific Red Cross Red Crescent programmes is enhanced through robust planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems.
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Achievements

During the first six months of 2010, the unit has finalized and validated a total of 282 reports/plans/appeals. Working with the regional and country offices, the unit has succeeded in continuing to achieve 100 per cent compliance in meeting all reporting deadlines every month, with no reports overdue.

In capacity building in planning monitoring evaluation and reporting (PMER), the unit has continued to provide support at country / regional level, including a PMER workshop in the Pacific, and country support visits have been made to Pakistan, Indonesia, Philippines, Viet Nam and Cambodia, and to Southeast Asia, East Asia and Pacific regional offices. An ongoing important initiative is the database on FedNet for all Federation evaluations/ reviews taking place in Asia Pacific, and also a calendar for planned reviews/evaluations. This is now being expanded to become a global database. The aim is to have a more strategic and systematic approach to reviews/evaluations, and to ensure improved dissemination of lessons learnt, including lessons learnt from the 2004 tsunami disaster.

Regional Logistics Unit

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
To increase Red Cross Red Crescent logistics capacity in terms of disaster preparedness, response and recovery through higher quality logistics services, including human resources, systems, tools and procedures, in order to be able to provide adequate response and support to all International Federation activities in the Asia Pacific zone.

The budget of the regional logistics unit (RLU) is mainly covered by the cost recovery mechanism, and a small part of the budget is covered by the core budget. For further information, please also see the Global Logistics Programme plan.

Outcomes/Expected results

The 1st half of 2010 has been another busy period for the Kuala Lumpur Regional Logistics Unit (KL RLU). Support was provided early in the year to the emergency operation in Haiti through the deployment of two staff from the KL RLU team and through the provision of procurement of air charter services for PNS dispatching stock from Asia suppliers. Otherwise the team has remained stable with only the addition of a new Regional logistics delegate during this period. Additionally the Head of KL RLU was deployed two months to Dubai after the departure of the Head of the Dubai RLU.

Operationally there has been no major operation in Asia Pacific during this period but increasingly we are seeing requests for stock mobilization, despatch from the KL warehouse and replenishments of NS stock for ongoing and new small to medium scale operations across the region including a number of National Societies in the Pacific & South Asia. ICRC stock is now in place in the KL regional warehouse and discussions continue with a number of other national societies on prepositioning stock in the region.

Ongoing work on logistics capacity building continues with a number of National Societies including Thailand RC & CVTL. A South East Asia warehouse and transport workshop was conducted in February with participants from five national societies. Additionally planning for logistics assessments with Pakistan RC and Philippines RC are underway. The trainee logistics delegate programme continues successfully with both trainee procurement (Australian RC) and logistics (Japanese RC) delegates working within the KL RLU during this period.

Finance Unit

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Professional and technical support is given to the International Federation offices in improving the standard of financial management in the region.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component 1: Monthly returns
Outcome: Technical support to field finance staff in ensuring timeliness and accuracy of monthly returns compliant with financial procedures.
Programme component 2 : Financial management information and support
Outcome: Provide financial management information and support to technical managers periodically and on an ad-hoc basis when deemed necessary.
Programme component 3 : Awareness raising and direct support
Outcome: Continue to raise the level of financial awareness in the Asia Pacific region and support the financial management of Asia Pacific operations that have no International Federation presence.

Achievements

The following achievements and impact have proven that the support provided by ZFU has improved the overall financial management of the region:

1. Three (Suva-Jan, Delhi-Mar and Kuala Lumpur-May) programme managers training for delegation and national society staff was provided, these training had improved the overall financial accounting, management and reporting of federation and national society funds - total participants 22 delegates, 28 national staff and 1 national society staff.
2. Timely Monthly Financial Analysis report was circulated periodically to ensure managers are kept informed on the financial issues and risk so that immediate action can be taken to improve the financial situation and eliminate the risk or financial exposure.
3. ZFU have maintained and to a certain extent improved the finance infrastructure by training, location skilful human resource and filling the gap when needs arise.
4. Involved in the interview, selection, training and closing of Maldives office for 2 months.
5. Analyst conducted two country visits (Indonesia-May and China-Jun) for reviewing the finance and perform field mission.

The above is reflected through these measurable impacts:

1. The overall understanding of financial management and progress monitoring of activities has proven that the International Federation has improved and developed the financial skills of all personnel.
2. Expenditures have been in line with planned budgets and activities with approved expenditure ceilings. There are no exposures on the funding plans.
3. Timely financial reporting to donors and continuous monitoring of pledge-based financial statements.
4. Smooth monthly cash transfers of funds to regional and country offices, enabling timely implementation of activities.

Informations Systems Unit

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Increase Red Cross Red Crescent information technology and telecommunications capacity to provide adequate support to all International Federation activities, including disaster situations.

This unit provides information technology (IT) and telecommunications services and support to the International Federation Asia Pacific zone, regional and country offices as well as national societies in the zone. The zone information systems unit's budget is part of the core budget allocated to the zone.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component 1: Customized IT and telecoms service support systems
Outcome: Increased productivity and efficiency of International Federation field secretariat offices and operations, and improved response time for solving all information systems problems.

Achievements

Following up previous challenges, standardizing the IT and telecommunication equipment in Asia Pacific International Federation offices is no longer an issue as the organization as a whole now understands and accepts the benefits of standardized equipment. The current challenge is to connect these independent country IT systems into a single coherent system that would deliver seamless integration and location-

independent transparency to support working in a global manner within a single global IT system. Technical skill sets are therefore essential to plan and deliver a proper system that has minimal glitches.

Programme component 2: Information sharing and knowledge management

Outcome: Sharing of lessons learned and best practices in providing peer support across Asia Pacific and more efficient teamwork across the seven zones and Geneva to provide better services.

A new collaboration tool, WebEx, was tested and made available for all International Federation zone, regional and country offices to host virtual online meetings, conferences, and presentations with any party anywhere with an Internet or phone connection. This move aims to reduce traveling and meeting costs through the use of technology.

Programme component 3: National society information systems capacity building

Outcome: Standardized and increased information systems capacity in national societies.

The unit provided basic IT and telecommunication training to para-IT staff members in the regional and country offices of Mongolia, Timor-Leste, Fiji, Sri Lanka, and China, enabling them to provide immediate support in day-to-day operational IT and telecommunication issues. It is expected that this will help reduce the costs of outsourcing support and build capacity to provide self-sustained support.

Additional Units

In addition, the Asia Pacific zone office has units covering important work in human resources and administration. Information on the activities of these units during the reporting period can be provided on request.

Working in partnership

Please refer to the Partner mapping tool for further information.

Promoting better and more effective cooperation within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and with external organizations remains a key objective of the International Federation within the Asia Pacific zone. A number of events were organised during the first half of the year within the zone to further this aim. Partnership meetings were organised on behalf of the National Societies in East Asia and Myanmar at the beginning and end of March respectively, and for Timor Leste at the very end of April. These events contribute significantly to maintaining the international partnerships that help these Societies continue a number of their well established developmentally oriented programmes benefitting millions of beneficiaries each year. The ICRC organised a week long meeting in Kuala Lumpur in April for all its cooperation delegates working in Asia Pacific, and one day was dedicated exclusively to discussions with representatives from the Federation's zone office. This dialogue helped create a much better sense of awareness about the work that each organisation is carrying out in their respective areas of capacity building support to Asia Pacific National Societies, and reinforced the importance of making greater efforts at more joint planning to maximise the effectiveness of such assistance.

When it comes to external partnerships, relatively good progress has been made in taking forward the initiatives launched last year related to developing relations with two important regional bodies – the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). With guidance from the Federation zone office and ADB's headquarters, a first round of country level consultations has taken place in seven identified national settings where there is potential for practical collaboration in the field of disaster risk management. Plans to place a staff on loan inside the Bank to help foster closer ties in this area have however not progressed so far due to difficulties in identifying suitable candidates.

Prospects have moved forward for establishing a broad Memorandum of Understanding with ASEAN. The intention is to use this MOU as an umbrella agreement under which individual National Societies may develop more specific workplans with their governments, and the Federation will be able to build on the collaboration it already has with ASEAN in areas such as disaster management and IDRL. A draft text has been shared with senior representatives of the Thai and Indonesian Red Cross, who have provided valuable advice on the text and the processes required to build this collaboration. This MOU will be circulated to all Southeast Asian National Societies in advance of their leadership meeting in July.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The various programmes and activities described in this programme are all designed to ultimately contribute to helping Asia Pacific National Societies improve their performance in line with the strategic aims set out in the International Federation's Strategy 2020 that was adopted at the end of 2009. Collectively the work of the region's National Societies, some of it supported by partners from within and outside the Movement and much of it carried out with their own financial and volunteer resources, assists millions of people each year. And while the most visible part of this work is represented by the disaster related activities that are reported on through the Federation's regular updates on its emergency appeals, equally important are the countless risk reduction, public health and humanitarian programmes that are implemented on an ongoing basis by volunteers working at community level across the entire region.

Looking ahead

Among the key priorities for the rest of 2010 will be working with national societies to support them in adapting their programmes in line with the International Federation's newly adopted Strategy 2020. Particular attention will be given to the three "enabling actions" of the Strategy (namely stronger national societies, humanitarian diplomacy and an effective International Federation). It is recognised that national societies must be in the forefront of identifying their own priorities and developing their own action plans but in line with the broad aspirations and identified outcomes of these enabling actions.

The coming six months will see the holding of a number of events designed to provide opportunities for Asia Pacific national societies to come together to learn and build commitment to achieving these goals. Amongst these will be the launching of a process to better understand the role of good governance in the Pacific, a leadership meeting of the societies of Southeast Asia, and the holding of back to back meetings of the Asia Pacific youth summit and the Asia Pacific regional conference both in Jordan in October – the first time Asia Pacific wide events of this scale will have been held in the Middle East.

How we work

All Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to:

Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

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

International Federation Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia: fax + 60 3 2161 1210; phone: +60 3 2161 0892

- Alistair Henley, director of Asia Pacific zone, email: alistair.henley@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 2161 0892,
- Jagan Chapagain, head of operations, email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 2161 0892
- Michael Annear, head of disaster management unit, email: michael.annear@ifrc.org, phone +66 81 753 9598
- Olav Ofstad, IDRL programme coordinator, email: olav.ofstad@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5764
- Al Panico, head of tsunami unit, email: al.panico@ifrc.org; phone: +60 3 9207 5700
- Jim Catampongan, avian and human influenza coordinator, email: jim.catampongan@ifrc.org; phone +603-9207 5779
- John Gwynn, organizational development coordinator, email: john.gwnn@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 92075760
- Jason Smith, communications manager, email: jason.smith@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 92075780
- Penny Elghady, resource mobilization & planning monitoring evaluation and reporting coordinator, email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5775
- Igor Dmitryuk, head of regional logistics unit, email: lgor.dmitryuk@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5750
- Umadevi Selvarajah, zone finance manager, email: umadevi.selvarajah@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5740
- Letty Sparrow, human resource coordinator, email: letty.sparrow@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5735
- Jonathan Chua, information systems manager, email: jonathan.chua@ifrc.org; phone +60 3 9207 5733
- Iswana Ishak, administration manager, email: iswana.ishak@ifrc.org; phone: +60 3 9207 5710

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA50001 - Asia Pacific Zone

Mid-year Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAA50001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,252,919	1,263,946	393,520	15,975	272,579	3,198,939
B. Opening Balance	348,506	0	133,775	10,976	129,254	622,511
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross	285,649					285,649
Australian Red Cross	42,777					42,777
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	-5,470	50,309				44,839
British Red Cross	19,349					19,349
DFID - British Government		23,534				23,534
DFID Partnership grant	14,174					14,174
Finnish Red Cross		8,665				8,665
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)		49,103				49,103
Japanese Red Cross	141,764		0		0	141,764
Netherlands Red Cross	53,780					53,780
Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)	6,952					6,952
New Zealand Government		49,972	49,972			99,944
New Zealand Red Cross		31,971				31,971
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	77,439					77,439
Swedish Red Cross					58,652	58,652
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)			44,774		22,387	67,161
C1. Cash contributions	636,414	213,554	94,746		81,039	1,025,754
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
American Red Cross	46,593					46,593
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	332,542					332,542
DFID Partnership grant	13,937					13,937
Finnish Red Cross	41,255	8,665				49,920
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)		49,103				49,103
Japanese Red Cross	29,224		48,707		43,836	121,767
Netherlands Red Cross		13,416				13,416
Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)	-7,439					-7,439
New Zealand Red Cross		35,429				35,429
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)			47,282			47,282
United States Government - USAID		215,793				215,793
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	456,111	322,406	95,989		43,836	918,342
Income reserved for future periods						
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)		-29,892				-29,892
DFID - British Government		360				360
Finnish Red Cross	-18,549					-18,549
United States Government - USAID		-31,206				-31,206
C3. Income reserved for future periods	-18,549	-60,737				-79,287
Inkind Personnel						
American Red Cross	37,200					37,200
Australian Red Cross	62,000	26,400				88,400
Finnish Red Cross	26,400	35,133				61,533
Netherlands Red Cross	26,400					26,400
New Zealand Red Cross		37,200			26,400	63,600
Spanish Red Cross	26,400					26,400
Swedish Red Cross					27,487	27,487

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA50001 - Asia Pacific Zone

Mid-year Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAA50001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

C5. Inkind Personnel	178,400	98,733			53,887	331,020
Other Income						
Services					33,545	33,545
C6. Other Income					33,545	33,545
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	1,252,376	573,955	190,736	0	212,307	2,229,374
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,600,882	573,955	324,510	10,976	341,562	2,851,885
Appeal Coverage	128%	45%	82%	69%	125%	89%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	348,506	0	133,775	10,976	129,254	622,511
C. Income	1,252,376	573,955	190,736	0	212,307	2,229,374
E. Expenditure	-536,540	-377,031	-90,205	-10,974	-142,731	-1,157,481
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,064,342	196,924	234,305	2	198,831	1,694,403

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA50001 - Asia Pacific Zone

Mid-year Report 2010

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/12
Appeal	MAA50001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		1,252,919	1,263,946	393,520	15,975	272,579	3,198,939	
Supplies								
Water & Sanitation	200,000							200,000
Total Supplies	200,000							200,000
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom			1,561	1,604			3,164	-3,164
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.			962				962	-962
Total Land, vehicles & equipment			2,523	1,604			4,126	-4,126
Transport & Storage								
Storage			15				15	-15
Distribution & Monitoring			2				2	-2
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,100	769	1				770	1,330
Total Transport & Storage	2,100	769	18				787	1,313
Personnel								
International Staff	1,407,575	301,057	238,963			76,283	616,303	791,272
Regionally Deployed Staff	14,450							14,450
National Staff	229,374	1,818	51,176	22,667			75,661	153,713
National Society Staff	36,000		112				112	35,888
Consultants	110,000	17,673		14,347	7,690	2,055	41,764	68,236
Total Personnel	1,797,399	320,547	290,251	37,013	7,690	78,338	733,839	1,063,560
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	615,572	146,545	6,925	15,904	1,552	8,142	179,068	436,504
Total Workshops & Training	615,572	146,545	6,925	15,904	1,552	8,142	179,068	436,504
General Expenditure								
Travel	188,848	40,845	16,540	22,974	954	24,865	106,177	82,671
Information & Public Relation	133,395	328	21,595	230		6,457	28,611	104,784
Office Costs	31,895	7	10,918	96		4,764	15,785	16,110
Communications	15,295	7,114	7,299	558		926	15,897	-602
Financial Charges		443	55	48	12	104	662	-662
Other General Expenses	12,343	-0	62	159		143	363	11,979
Total General Expenditure	381,776	48,737	56,468	24,065	966	37,260	167,496	214,280
Programme Support								
Program Support	193,092	22,810	17,583	5,636	766	5,936	52,731	140,361
Total Programme Support	193,092	22,810	17,583	5,636	766	5,936	52,731	140,361
Services								
Shared Services	9,000		3,264	3,264		13,056	19,584	-10,584
Total Services	9,000		3,264	3,264		13,056	19,584	-10,584
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-2,869		2,719			-150	150
Total Operational Provisions		-2,869		2,719			-150	150
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	3,198,939	536,540	377,031	90,205	10,974	142,731	1,157,481	2,041,457
VARIANCE (C - D)		716,379	886,915	303,314	5,001	129,848	2,041,457	