

# ***PAPUA NEW GUINEA: emergency relief, rehabilitation, disaster preparedness & response and capacity building***

09 July 1999

*appeal no. 01.35/99*

*situation report no. 02/99*

*period covered: 1 March - 30 June 1999*

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*Despite slow funding, projects featured in the appeal are moving forward, notably the installation of safe water supplies, the training of health personnel and support for community health measures. Distribution of relief goods, a major logistics feat, has been almost completed. The Federation and the National Society are participating in the commemoration of the first anniversary of the Aitape tsunami disaster.*

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## ***The Context***

The peace process on Bougainville is continuing: renewed disarmament talks in New Zealand between the Resistance, the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) and the Prime Minister of PNG resulted in the Matakana-Okataina Agreement, which now needs to be translated and issued to the people. After unofficial Bougainville elections / selections, 103 representatives of the people were sworn into office as members of the new Bougainville People's Congress (BPC). This body has not been recognised by the PNG Government and official elections are scheduled for later in the year.

There are plans to move the island administration from Buka to Arawa, but before this can happen, disarmament agreements must be implemented, law and order put in place, infrastructure such as electricity and water improved, the worst social problems resolved and management systems installed.

The Peace Process Co-ordination Committee (PPCC) continues to tackle disarmament issues, including law and order, with the support of the New Zealand and Australian governments and the United Nations observer team.

## ***Latest events***

In Aitape on 17 July, survivors will gather on the beaches, their former village sites, for religious and traditional ceremonies ending the formal one-year mourning period following the tsunami disaster which struck the Aitape region on the northern coast of Papua New Guinea. A Video News Release and other

communication materials, giving an overview of the Red Cross work, have been produced by the Federation.

On Bougainville the economy is improving, with more and more goods being available in shops and markets. The New Zealand government is funding agencies and making available personnel for education and social development programmes as well as water and sanitation projects, which are implemented in close co-operation with the Red Cross. AusAID is starting or continuing extensive construction projects in road rehabilitation and community buildings. Law and order remains a major problem in and around Arawa, as young men come into town to look for non-existent jobs.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

The Red Cross team on Bougainville has distributed 33 Village Resettlement Kits (VRP) and 95 Medical Kits (MK), mainly in the southern districts of Bougainville.

The arrival of the Federation Water & Sanitation delegate has had a positive effect on relations with local authorities and donor representatives. The project will get under way once the ship arrives from Lae with all materials, tools and equipment.

The Water & Sanitation delegate conducted a needs assessment in Milne Bay Province, Aitape, for the PNG Red Cross. He is now constructing water installations for the dry season. The PNG Red Cross health team also returned to conduct another nutritional survey and has since distributed 1,250 fishing kits, 3,500 mosquito nets and 1,000 tools (axes and adzes) to make new canoes, to a total value of CHF 98,000. (Red Cross personnel from Arawa assisted with the distribution).

## **COUNTRY WIDE PROGRAMME**

### **Institutional & Programme Development and Capacity Building**

A comprehensive Institutional Development report by Country and Regional ID delegates was adopted by the PNG Red Cross council. The forthcoming ID workshop will be based to a large extent on the report's findings.

The report highlighted :the need for further branch development; a staff employment policy, the reactivation of some standing committees, (Disaster services, First aid, Fund-raising etc.) and the need for a workshop on the institutional development strategy of the National Society

The PNGRCS is progressing well in the field of ID, with regular, well run and well attended executive committee meetings, increased staff development and a demonstrated commitment to the general development of the Society.

### **Community Based Self Reliance (CBSR)**

Final touches to the project proposal for this important programme are being worked out.

## **BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND PROGRAMME**

### **Relief Distributions**

The last 29 Village Resettlement Packs (VRP) were distributed in Wisai area and part of Telei. After receiving security guarantees for the rest of Telei, the first ever Red Cross convoy by road was dispatched to Buin with four VRPs, extra nails, books etc. for schools, and medical items for the health institutions. The road, with several broken bridges, was difficult, but was managed through the expertise and experience of the local Red Cross staff. Of the 29 remaining VRPs for Telei, 13 have been distributed and more will follow. Nearby Atolls will be completed after that.

### **Primary Health Care**

This 1998 project is being continued successfully for the health centres and aid posts. In June it was integrated into the other health projects.

Six health worker training courses have been organised in Wakunai, Siwai, Bana, Telei, Buin and Arawa. A total of 166 local health personnel participated and received various training materials.

A total of 95 medical kits have been distributed to Central, Southern and North-eastern districts together with additional medical equipment -- 97 dressing kits, and 5,275 health publications and record books. The Arawa Health Centre immunisation programme is being supported by providing kerosene weekly to run the refrigerator. Further disability needs have been identified and measures taken to help the disabled.

### **Community First Aid Training**

See CBSR above.

### **Obstetric Revision for Nurses & Traditional Birth Attendant Training**

This project is waiting for the new Federation health delegate who arrived end June.

### **Medical Equipment / Minor Equipment Maintenance**

The 29 Solar refrigerators have been procured and are awaiting shipment to Arawa in order to support the Provincial Government Immunisation Programme.

### **Tuberculosis & Leprosy Officer Training**

See Obstetrics project.

### **Mental Health**

This project is under revision. Further consultations with the Bougainville Trauma Counselling Institute (BTCI) are planned, to guarantee co-ordination and sustainability.

### **Safe Village Water Supplies**

Field trips, co-ordinated with relief and health operations, have been carried out to Sovele, Rorovana, Tarara, Tinputz, Buka and all the way to Buin by road.

Arawa and surroundings have been visited frequently. The project will start with the installation of 5 water tanks, in Arawa Health Center, Oria and Lehu Sub Health Center, Kalula Aid Post and Torau Aid Post. The project includes training local labour teams, mostly young men, who will carry out the installation under the supervision of the Federation Water & Sanitation delegate.

### **HIV/AIDS Awareness project**

Dissemination materials, including posters and 120 information booklets have been distributed to 60 Health Centres and Aid Posts. Field visits included HIV prevention training for 102 health workers.

## **AITAPE TSUNAMI POST DISASTER PROGRAMME**

### **Water & Sanitation**

Aitape area:

In Barupu and Arop I villages, latrine construction and training was carried out under the guidance of a Red Cross latrine construction facilitator. In addition to a further 30 family latrines installed, eight fibreglass pedestal toilet fixtures were distributed to modify the conventional pit latrine design for use by eight families with a member who had a leg amputated as a result of the tsunami disaster. Also, a

pilot initiative for child-friendly latrines was begun. Working with a group of mothers who have young children, a dozen miniature and shallow pit latrines with a small floor hole were installed.

Rubbish disposal practices were evaluated and discussed with community leaders. The current practice of putting trash in family-maintained shallow pits and periodically burning it has proved adequate. The amount of trash generated has decreased with the phasing out of packaged food and the return to traditional food sources. Separating organic materials from non-degradable trash for composting was recommended.

Eleven corrugated galvanised steel road culverts are being installed in Arop 1 village as road cross drains or vehicle turnouts. In Barupu, the Red Cross assisted village leaders in implementing a drainage canal maintenance programme, whereby residents are responsible for weed control along their property boundary and uninhabited canal sections are cleaned by volunteers on community work days.

Two protected shallow wells have been completed in Arop I village. In Barupu, Wauroin and Arop I village, the installation of a further seven protected shallow wells has begun.

Six rainwater catchment tanks (9,000 litres) have been installed and completed in Pou, Ramu and Arop villages.

### **Community Health Promotion and Awareness**

As part of the community health awareness project, several mini-projects were identified and were well received. The PNG Red Cross team in cooperation with Federation Delegates distributed 1,251 fishing kits, 1,000 tools to construct new canoes, 635 Sago palm beaters (to extract the pulp), and 3,500 mosquito nets to 2,256 families across 14 villages. In June, an additional 2,220 individual rolls of nylon string (1,332 Kgs) were distributed, to be converted into fishing nets by local women.

Health education has included four courses held at PLES Vocational school for 60 selected women from all villages, working with Aid Post staff, and the provision of reading/teaching material to the local schools for their health programmes.

### **Nutrition Assessment**

A nutrition survey was carried out in May to see what impact the re-opening of fishing in the Sissano lagoon has had. The findings will be ready in mid July. People have established small vegetable gardens around their houses in recent months.

### **Community Based Self Reliance Training**

See CBSR above.

### **Disaster Response and Relief Center (Lae)**

The Logistics base in Lae took over the PNG Red Cross warehouse on 19 March. It has sourced and procured all equipment and tools for Water & Sanitation and Medical projects for Arawa, Bougainville, representing close to 500 m<sup>3</sup> of goods, for a value of CHF 500,000. These will be shipped across to ??? soon.

### **National Headquarters Office Space and Storage Facilities**

The renovations are progressing well and the work, half-way completed, is on schedule.

### **Strengthening PNG Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Capacity**

see CBSR above.

## ***Outstanding needs***

The Aitape post-disaster programme is now well covered, but response to the 1999 appeal for general assistance and Bougainville programmes has been limited. The Federation is holding discussions with some donor national societies on raising additional funds for the remaining part of the 1999 activities, as well as for the year 2000.

## ***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

New Zealand ODA and AusAID representatives have visited the delegation on several occasions, both on Bougainville and at the Headquarters, for informal consultations, and the relationship remains very good.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

The Federation team is now well established, which will facilitate the final distributions next month of Village Resettlement packs on Bougainville, the start of delayed projects in the health sector, final distributions in Aitape area, and the implementation of Water & Sanitation projects on Bougainville.

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**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

ANNEX 1

**APPEAL No. 01.35/99**

**PLEDGES RECEIVED**

07/09/99

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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**CASH**

REQUESTED IN APPEAL----->				4,807,775	01/01/99	32.53%
AMERICAN - RC		200,000	USD	283,300	02/09/99	
BRITISH - RC		76,420	GBP	182,193	06/22/99	WATER AND SANITATION
HONG KONG - RC				7,210	01/18/99	
ICELANDIC - RC		200,000	ISK	4,066	03/27/99	
JAPANESE - RC		5,000,000	JPY	60,980	02/25/99	
JAPANESE - RC		40,000,000	JPY	494,520	04/21/99	AITAPE PRG
NETHERLANDS - RC		10,000	NLG	7,255	03/25/99	AITAPE PRG
NEW ZEALAND - RC				89,848	01/28/99	
SINGAPORE - RC		10,488	SIND	8,442	02/02/99	
OFDA - USAID		250,000	USD	366,125	36,291	AITAPE PRG
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>				1,503,939 CHF		31.28%

**KIND AND SERVICES (INCL. PERSONNEL)**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AUSTRALIAN - RC				60,000	07/01/99	HEALTH DELEGATE
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>				60,000 CHF		1.25%

**NOT REQUESTED IN APPEAL**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED</b>				0 CHF		