

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

MYANMAR: OVERVIEW

23 February 2007

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

Overview: This report covers the period of July-November 2006 of Myanmar Red Cross achievements as a result of Federation support under the tsunami programme. This main document provides an overview and there are links under each programme heading to more detailed information if required. These combined documents are more detail focused compared with the two-year tsunami programme overview for Myanmar, which was released recently. [<click here to view this report>](#)

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

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

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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Summary

Record rainfall was recorded in many parts of the country causing flooding and forcing people from their homes. State media reported that heavy rains had damaged sections of the Mawlamyine-Dawei Railway and had caused the Hngatpyawtaw dam in Kawlin Township in Sagaing Division to burst.

Htamanthi Dam, the biggest dam in Myanmar, will be built on the Chindwin River. The completed dam is expected to create a reservoir with a surface area of 540 square miles. It is hoped that the electricity generated from this project will support the country to address its power needs with the surplus reportedly to be sold to India.

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) has announced that it will introduce genetically modified flood-resistant rice to Myanmar for trial use by the end of 2006. IRRI claims that the seasonal monsoon flooding in lowland areas results in losses of 10 to 100 percent of rice yields a year in some areas, with annual losses amounting to about US\$1 billion. IRRI claims that this variety will assist in food security for 70 million of the world's poorest people.

The United Nations Security Council requested a formal briefing from UN envoy, Ibrahim Gambari, following the first high-level visit of the UN envoy to Myanmar in two years. In September the Security Council also put Myanmar on its formal agenda for discussion. This move attracted wide international coverage.

Disturbing reports regarding hundreds of Myanmar IDPs arriving at camps along the Thai border continue to be reported in the international media. Approval for access to this area for humanitarian organisations to make assessments has been very difficult with the authorities citing concerns regarding security as the major issue.

Ministry of Health officials are hopeful that with community participation they will maintain Myanmar's polio-free status. A campaign to provide polio vaccination to 2 million children was announced following a case of the polio-virus being detected in Mandalay. International support has been offered to assist in addressing the issue.

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries followed the advice of 'international avian influenza experts' by selling mobile phones at reduced rates to poultry farmers in areas previously affected by the avian influenza. This strategy was reported to be designed to allow information regarding virus outbreaks to be distributed with maximum speed.

In 2005 the Global Fund withdrew from Myanmar citing reasons related to imposed travel restrictions impeding the delivery of medical supplies and services. Six donors have since established the "Three Diseases Fund" to assist the national response to AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Whilst this will not provide "extra" funding it will go some way in addressing the shortfall created following this withdrawal.

Mingalar Byu Har (a religious organisation) held its 86th blood donation ceremony in August attracting some 700 donors, about 60 % of whom had sufficiently high haemoglobin to give blood. It is reportedly one of the biggest blood-donating organisations in Myanmar, and has provided about 22,000 units since 1980. The needs of the country require a great deal more donors.

A symposium hosted by the Myanmar engineering society has highlighted the need to take steps to mitigate the hazards of earthquakes in Myanmar. The society's president said cooperation among government departments was needed to reduce the potential loss of life and property in the event of a major earthquake. He proposed more earthquake research despite limited resources and incomplete data calling for educational campaigns about earthquake hazards and a credible seismic zoning system for the country. The most seismically active areas in Myanmar are the Coco and Andaman Islands, Sagaing, Kachin and Shan states.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Coordination

In September the Japanese Red Cross (JRCS) paid a visit to the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) confirming their interest in investing a partnership with MRCS over several years. The JRCS discussed possibilities for supporting first aid initiatives.

The Finnish Red Cross also visited the MRCS to formalize support for an expansion of the community based health programming to include Magwey. This project site will be developed using lessons learned from the MRCS

projects supported by both the Australian Red Cross and the Danish Red Cross. MRCS is seeking ways to encompass these various project sites into a broader programme approach, discussed at its partnership meeting in October 2006.

The MRCS head of the communication division attended the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) forum hosted by the Philippines National Red Cross Society.

The Norwegian Red Cross 'roaming' construction delegate worked with the Federation delegation and the National society on plans to renovate the dilapidated head quarters building which has suffered from lack of any significant maintenance work since it was built in 1959. The investment in this asset will support the national society over the long term and will potentially provide income from rental of office space for the MRCS to become more self sufficient. MRCS currently relies heavily on external support and sees this as an opportunity to create income to support the MRCS to develop quality responses to the needs of the countries many vulnerable communities.

ICRC remains unable to implement its protection programming as it does not have access to places of detention. Negotiations continue with the relevant authorities. In 2007 in line with the further downsizing of the ICRC delegation the ICRC will no longer have a full time cooperation delegate. This position has been reduced to 50% with the responsible delegate being responsible for the communication and cooperation roles.

Working with Government, UN agencies and other actors

The measles campaign in Myanmar is currently being coordinated by Ministry of Health with the support of UNICEF and WHO. American Red Cross provided unilateral direct funding to UNICEF to support this global initiative. Negotiations on the implementation plans continue after suffering some delays. MRCS remains interested in supporting the campaign confirming this position to UNICEF. Exact details of the support to be requested from MRCS are still being discussed between UNICEF, WHO and the concerned authorities.

The Burnet Institute met with the Federation delegation, the head of the health division and MRCS representatives to further discuss the potential of the ongoing partnership with MRCS. The Federation delegation has also initiated talks with UNICEF regarding the HIV programme that it conducts through the MRCS networks. Illustrative examples of the potential of such collaborations were built into the agenda of MRCS third partnership meeting in October.

Health and Care [<click here for more detail>](#)

The health and care programme now consists of three projects rather than four as previously planned: emergency health care including psychosocial support and water and sanitation; community based health care (CBHC); and community based first aid (CBFA). Water and sanitation responses and psychosocial support are integrated into public health in emergencies (PHiE) and community based health programmes. The community based health projects include HIV/AIDS, TB, prevention of malaria and voluntary blood donor recruitment. Capacity building support to MRCS' health division is included in the community based health project.

The health division together with the finance delegate and MRCS finance division reviewed the health projects and funding issues. Both divisions revised the budgets and plans of activities, including the shifting of some activities to 2007 due to delayed approval by the Ministry of Health (MoH).

Divisions prepared extensively for the third partnership meeting in October as the operational plan has been developed and approved by MRCS executive committee. A review workshop on the 2002-2006 strategic health direction and planning for 2007 will be conducted in December 2006. In addition, MRCS has decided to host the regional workshop on voluntary blood donor remuneration (VBDR) programme for blood safety also in December.

Public health in emergencies:

- MRCS public health in emergencies task group was initiated in 2005. The task group has met several times focusing mainly on the avian influenza response. MRCS has participated in the monthly Federation teleconferences of avian influenza.

- Following an avian influenza outbreak in Myanmar, MRCS worked closely with the Ministry of Health. The head of the health division has also participated as a representative of MRCS in inter-sectoral coordination meetings on avian influenza led by MoH, Nay Pyi Daw and international organizations invited by the WHO. MRCS conducted avian influenza core disseminator training, which was attended by 35 Red Cross volunteers from 17 states/divisions in August. Training of trainers (ToT) for volunteers will continue in the next quarter.
- The regional psychosocial support programme (PSP) delegate visited Yangon to support a workshop for staff and volunteers in July.
- MRCS water and sanitation activities were included in CBHC. PHAST training (participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation) was to be conducted in October

Community based health care:

- MRCS conducted an HIV/AIDS strategic planning workshop in February and is now in the process of developing the document which was already approved by MRCS- executive committee (EC). The MRCS strategic plan is currently waiting for the outcome of NSP workshops to be integrated and finalized.
- The MRCS TB programme has been expanding. Existing activities will be maintained through support to existing RC volunteers.
- MRCS CBHC project in Keng Tung (supported by Australian Red Cross) is being extended one year. The CBHC project, based on lessons learnt from the Keng Tung experiences, is starting in Magway division in two townships. The advocacy meetings for Magway were completed during the reporting period and the proposal for a 3-year implementation plan was approved by MRCS-EC and is awaiting approval from the MoH. Some project preparatory activities will be conducted in the fourth quarter.

Community based first aid

- First aid refresher courses for CBFA trainers of upper and lower Myanmar were conducted in July-August. In total, 58 Red Cross volunteer trainers from all states and divisions participated in these first refresher courses organized by MRCS training division.
- A psychosocial support training workshop jointly organized by facilitators from the SE Asia regional Federation delegation in Bangkok, MRCS and Yangon University psychological department was held from 24th to 27th July 2006. 33 participants from 17 states and division and MRCS headquarters departments (training, health, and DM) attended.
- Community based first aid multipliers courses monitoring and evaluation trips were made for five townships in East Bago in August, for five townships in Rahkhine/South in September and for five townships in Sagaing in October 2006.
- Commercial first aid courses for an airline company were conducted in July and August.
- In commemoration of world first aid day, first aid promotion documentary films on burns, fractures and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on drowning victims were made and telecast on Myanmar TV channels. First aid promotional materials, such as triangular bandages, small towels and plastic fans were supported for all 17 states and divisions. All states and division were aware of world first aid day and prepared various first aid promotional activities. Commanders, local authorities NGOs, community representatives and Red Cross volunteers attended. A first aid instructor course in commemoration of world first aid day was conducted at the Young Women's Christian Association from 9 September to 22 September 2006. 47 participants from 17 states and divisions, and MRCS headquarters staff attended.
- Japanese Red Cross (JRCS) visited MRCS in September 2006 to see first aid activities of MRCS training division. They attended the opening ceremony of world first aid day instructor training and observed CBFA multipliers in Khayan township. After presentations of MRCS first aid trainings, skills and materials the JRCS representatives discussed with Federation delegates and training team about the support of first aid projects for three years.
- A community based first aid consultative workshop in Kathmandu (25 – 28 Sept 2006) was attended by the head of training division and the training delegate of the Federation health team. The head was selected to the working group preparing the revision of first aid volunteers manual.

Disaster Management [<click here for more detail>](#)

- Ongoing monsoon season, with high rainfall, has affected several areas with flooding. Myanmar Red Cross has responded during the third quarter to flooding in Taungyi (South Shan State), Kengtung (Eastern Shan State), Thandwe (Rakhine State) and Ingabu (Ayearwady Division). Ingabu flood assessment was supported by HQ disaster assessment and response team (DART). Three other operations were carried out by the state/division level response teams. A total of 460 families were assisted with non food relief items (clothing, hygiene items, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, and household items). Due to a lack of communication means and the continued traditional way of operating, local RC branches do not report all of their response/assistance operations to headquarters. This causes a “real time” delay in the account of operations. MRCS national reporting is done twice yearly and a large part of monsoon season field level operations are forecast to appear in the end of year report.
- A second disaster response team trainer training took place at Yangon and included participants from six states/divisions. Training of trainers builds the existing capacities of township and division team leaders to be able to train and exercise their teams as well as merge and utilize knowledge from other programme areas such as health, training and organizational development.
- The MRCS logistics manager, together with warehouse staff, has worked on pre-positioning of non-food relief items at regional warehouses. During the first half of 2006 relief material procurement was initiated and was planned to finish in October. Logistic review visits took place at Mandalay and Kengtung. MRCS logistic plan for 2006-2007 includes Mandalay warehouse renovation and establishment of second (upper Myanmar) logistic hub.
- The community based disaster management (CBDM) programme of MRCS started in the third quarter with a facilitators training. Training focused on four divisions: Sagain, Rakhine, Ayeyarwady and Thanintayi. Programme implementation approvals and material reviews will take place towards the end of the year and MRCS has moved the start of the implementation phase to the first quarter of 2007.

Recovery

- A seawall construction plan has been reviewed by the irrigation department and newly recruited construction manager at Yangon and work on site should be able to start after the peak of rainy season since part of the materials have already been purchased and transported to the site. The school renovation plan is still under review and will be ready for a tendering process after approvals from respective authorities and MRCS governance

Organizational development [<click here for more detail>](#)

- MRCS took a step further in relation to its strategic plan 2007-2010 by engaging all the NHQ divisions, with the participation of some branch leaders, in the drafting of the MRCS operational plans 2007 and indicative plans for 2008 until 2010.
- Advocacy meetings for the 2007 branch development programme pilot branches occurred during this quarter to five Red Cross branches and five state Red Cross supervisory committees. The branch development programme review confirmed that this was an effective process of ensuring local support.
- Four branches were financially supported in their income generation initiatives. Income from these projects will be utilized to support local Red Cross activities and the funding support will be repaid by the branches to NHQ at a predetermined time. This will enable other branches to also access funding support from NHQ.
- Three meetings of the branch coordinators were held. These served as a forum for support and mentoring in the areas of reporting, relationship building with the branch leaders, financial accounting and monitoring.
- Of the three approved proposals for construction of branch offices, one is being constructed. Planning for the renovation of the MRCS HQ has also started.

Humanitarian values [<click here for more detail>](#)

- Staff capacity building within the communications division continued for this quarter with the information officer attending a *Microsoft Access* class, an *IEC production workshop*, and a *workshop on strategies to promote utilization of media*. The dissemination officer is currently participating in a *course on writing effectively*.
- Collaborating with the training division, communications division the three new first aid TV spots were aired four times on Myawaddy TV to mark “World First Aid Day” in September. The MRCS president also accepted a TV interview enabling him to share humanitarian values of RC/RC Movement.
- Myanmar Red Cross news journals were printed and distributed to branches. IEC materials on the 7 fundamental principles, emblem, Movement brochures and comics were distributed to Magway division during the on-going MRCS trainings.
- The communications division continues to collaborate with ICRC and as a result conducted dissemination workshops for 82 Red Cross leaders, civil servants and military officers in Magway division from 28 September to 4 October 2006. Also with ICRC support, the head of the division attended the first Southeast Asia forum on international humanitarian law (IHL) in August 2006 in Manila and thereafter made a study visit to PNRC communication and IHL department for learning IHL dissemination activities in the Philippines.

HEALTH AND CARE

Project PMM400: PHiE (Public health in emergencies)

Objective: Myanmar Red Cross Society's capacity to carry out emergency health care with the integration of psychological support and water and sanitation activities is increased and appropriate services are implemented in the vulnerable communities.

Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
Public Health in Emergency (PHiE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emergency health care is provided to affected communities and potential epidemics are prevented and adequately addressed ▪ Psychosocial support is properly integrated in to MRCS health and disaster preparedness activities. ▪ MRCS water and sanitation activities in vulnerable communities are assessed and enhanced in relation with PHiE activities and health projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 Red Cross volunteers in affected townships and 7 staff from HQ, in total 35 participants were trained in PHiE core disseminators w/p in August. • IEC developed & printed: Avian influenza posters – 3,000 Hand washing posters - 3,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To conduct PHiE programme formulation Workshop in November, 2006. ▪ To purchase 5000 PPE ▪ Training Curriculum Development for PHiE and AI. ▪ To train selected 8 townships RCV in PHAST ▪ Field Monitoring visit to selected township ▪ Emergency task force training, PHiE ToT and Community level training shift to 2007. ▪ To attend Regional PHiE Workshop in November

Project PMM401: Community based health programme

Objective: The Myanmar Red Cross Society has an improved capacity to carry out activities to support the healthy life in communities and prevent communicable diseases through volunteers of local branches

Focus/Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
<p>I. Impact on sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS is reduced in relation to communities affected and infected</p> <p>Truckers Project</p> <p>Three townships Mandalay, Monywa, Lashio</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the organization of HIV/AIDS strategic planning workshop for MRCS stakeholders • Provide orientation workshop for project staff and local volunteers in targeted areas • Undertake community assessment and base line survey in target areas with the support of volunteers • Establish coordination and advocacy meeting with partners and local branch • Training of volunteer in counselling, peer education, home based care, and life skills development for community mobilization in targeted areas • Mobilization of community volunteers for the HIV prevention and awareness promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy Meeting in (Lashio) was conducted on 18 July 2006. Local authorities, health authorities, terminal authorities, Red Cross Supervisory Committee, NAP, representatives, from INGOs and NGOs, RCV, targeted group and local stakeholders (50) participants attended. • ToT training (Lashio) was conducted from 18 to 22 July 2006. 15 RCV and 5 persons from target group attended the training. • Quarterly project review meetings were conducted at Monywa (9.8.2006) and Mandalay (25.9.2006). Project steering committee, project staff, RCV and NAP attended and discussed achievements, constraints, lesson learned and next plan. • Small group discussion was conducted (418) SGD sessions in 3 Townships. 	<p>Field assistant from Monywa resigned (to work as teacher as government staff)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of care and support to identified PLWHA, orphans and families • Provision of outreach services for highway bus and truck drivers in high risk areas • Setting and maintaining youth centres and youth-based services • Condom promotion and distribution for high risk target groups organized by volunteers • Development, printing and distribution of information, education and training materials • Field monitoring visits and supervision by headquarters and with local project volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total no of (4130) targeted people were given health education (bus drivers 512, bus assistants 763, truck drivers 706, truck assistant 869 and others 1280). • IEC, condoms, incentive with health messages were distributed. Pamphlets 8,260, towels 4,130, caps 4,130, ball pens 4,130 and condoms 12,390. • VCCT and STD Management; VCCT Services 158, VDRL testing and STD referral 320 cases. • 30 condom boxes were placed at bus terminals in Mandalay. 	
<p>Prevention of HIV/AIDS among young people</p> <p>Eight townships</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 Advocacy meetings with community, youth and parents were done. • Increased awareness on high risk of HIV/AIDS transmission among young people and involvement in HIV/AIDS prevention and control in local community. • Existing Youth centres activities continued by YC Working Committee and Staffs/Red Cross volunteer in 8 project townships • Myitkyina, Lashio, Meikhtila YC staff / member and RCV organized ‘A safe blood donor recruitment team’ to assist the blood requirement of hospitals in their townships. • After Township Coordination meeting and parent session, youth centres showed the effective coordination and cooperation between local authorities/communities and MRCS (HQ) • As all of STD teams are willing to cooperate and coordinate with MRCS HIV/AIDS prevention and controlling programme, they contributed technical support and shared their experiences in health talk sessions. • NAP, ACT, MCH, TB teams and UNICEF resources cooperate and coordinate and contribute technical support and sharing experience. • In ToT training: 25 township trainers from 5 townships (M=10, F=15), • PE supervision training:40 trainers from 8 townships (M=19, F=21) • Project management training: 15 staffs form 8 townships and HQs staffs. (M=10, F=5) • 840 youth from urban and rural area of 5 townships attended in ToY sessions and 177 peer educators involved in PE activities • 204 PE sessions in 3 townships attended by 1505 youth. • 150 peer educators attended experience sharing meetings in 3 townships 	
<p>Outreach programme on promotion of safer sex project</p> <p>Three townships</p> <p>Hpa-an</p>		<p>Advocacy meeting for community youth and parents and quarterly assessment in 3 townships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34 cases of STI counselling and 32 cases of STI referrals • 17 Follow up visits to health services • 135,666 condoms distributed • 11,087 IEC distributed in 373 outreach group discussions attended by 3,711 youth educators. 	<p>To conduct quarterly assessment in 3 townships</p> <p>To select and replace drop out youth educators</p> <p>To conduct Health information and education activities ca</p>

Kawkareik Thaton		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six life skill trainings of PE conducted for 180 peer educators • 723 peer education sessions attended by 3,554 participants • 3 Experience sharing meeting for peer educators • 8 project staff conducted over sea study tour to Lao & Thailand • One training of refresher for youth educators (36 participants) • Regular monthly meeting • Quarterly project coordination meeting 	To conduct planned regular group discussion sessions among the youth lead by peer educators Follow up and continue condoms distribution, STI counselling, referral service and life skills training for peer educators
Community based care and support project One township Thaton		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy meeting with local authorities to organize supportive group • Coordination with health services to provide medical follow up in medical support to PLWHA • Provide regular follow up medical support to [65] PLWHA through the network of public & private health services • Provide home- based care including health education, counselling and home treatment to [64] PLWHAs through the volunteer care givers • Provide nutrition to [64] PLWHAs , social support to [61] PLWHA and support Blood test services to [19] persons • PLWHAs gathering meeting held in Thaton twice a month <p>Coordination meeting with supportive group members and networking with MNA for basic nursing care discussion, home base care activities and referral services</p>	To continue advance counseling training, regular follow up medical treatment for PLWHA and home-based care to PLWHA. To continue counselling, blood services to PLWHA and their families social benefit package and PLWHA gathering meeting. Constraints High morbidity rate of PLWHA and high attrition of volunteers
Reproductive health project Four townships		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of youth peer educators was conducted from 28/8/06 to 1/9/06 and attended 44 participants. • Sustainability planning and reviewing existing income generation workshop was conducted on 3 /8/06 attended by 30 participants • The following activities were achieved during 3rd quarter : Peer education sessions (240), participants (2538), client counselling (814) participants, client referral (766), outreach youth (9400), condom distribution (3579) 	Plan Activities for 4th quarter : Peer education sessions (60), participants (600), client counselling (900) participants, client referral (900), outreach youth (1200), condom distribution (2000)

<p>II. Communities have improved ability to respond to common local endemic health issues including TB, malaria and diarrhoea.</p> <p>Keng Tung township CHBP</p> <p>Magway division CBHP</p> <p>Two townships Pwintphyu Natmauk</p> <p>Mandalay division CBHP</p> <p>Three townships Mogoke Thabeikkyin Singu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish coordination and advocacy with local partners and volunteers. • Conduct community assessment, baseline data collection and analysis in new targeted areas. • Facilitate programme management orientation and training for project staff and volunteers in new targeted areas. • Setting up and maintaining project office in project townships • Conduct training workshop for local volunteers on different health issues for the implementation of community- level health services. • Facilitate and organize promotion and awareness campaigns on different health issues in local branches with trained volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for Keng Tung project staff, Red Cross volunteers (RCV) and peer groups and community mobilization activities have been carried out according to the plan of action both in urban and rural areas. • People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) social support continued. • 3 CBFA training has been conducted in this quarter (99) participants attended. • Coordination meeting with other NGOs and project steering committee established. • One year extension period of project: September 2006 - 31 October 2007 • Health and health related situation in selected villages had been explored to include in the project implementation proposal • 30 Red Cross volunteers from two townships attended. These participants will become core trainers for project activities and also potential project staff for project implementation • The implementation phase proposal has been developed and approved by MRCS Executive Committee and already submitted to the Ministry of Health in September • 142 small group health education sessions on priority issues in mines and villages by Red Cross volunteers. • Reprinting of existing pamphlets on HIV/AIDS, STD, malaria, TB and coping with stress. • Meetings continued to be held with the township project steering committee in order to have the approval for the project activities. • 12,200 condoms and 3,500 pamphlets on priority health issues were distributed at the health education sessions. • 34 referred and supported for VCCT at divisional health department and township GPs • Red Cross volunteers conducted home visits to TB patients to ensure compliance with DOTS treatment regime by 2 days per month to each patient. 	<p>Advocacy and coordination meeting with Local Authorities and Red Cross Supervisory Committee will be in next quarter</p> <p>Implementation phase will commence in the fourth quarter with establishment of office and recruitment of project staff in collaboration with the Magway Divisional Red Cross supervisory committee.</p>
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Amputee referral project (MRCS/ICRC joint programme)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot training on outreach prosthetic programme was conducted from 26 to 28 September 2006 in Yangon and attended by 25 Red Cross volunteers from prioritised states and divisions. 	
Prevention and management of TB project In targeted townships strengthened through the mobilization of Red Cross-trained volunteers. Five township in Yangon division: Thaketa Mayangone Hlaing Dala Twan-tay		Monitoring field visits: Ten visits by each volunteer x 150, (8) visits by each project staff and (2) supervisory visits. Monthly coordinating meeting: at HQ with (150) Red Cross volunteers from (5) townships. July(17-18) / August(21- 25)/ September(18-22) The following activities were achieved: Awareness campaign: 34457 (patients / family / community) and 45,710 IEC materials distributed. No: of cases referred 620, No: of defaulters traced 92 and patients referred for sputum microscopy 710 -	Supplying 300 support kits to each township has been delayed until a more appropriate distribution system is developed and agreed.
Voluntary blood donor recruitment programme		World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) commemorative occasion was held at institute of nursing (IoN) in 14 June 2006. Voluntary blood donors and active townships Red Cross were recognized with prize awarding by Commander of Yangon and Executive Committee members of MRCS.	Regional workshop on VBDR programme for blood safety and national ToT for donor recruiters

<p>Capacity building for staff</p>		<p>Nearly 200 participants (both RCVs and special guests) attended The ToT on Youth Blood Donor Recruitment from universities in Yangon Division was held from 15-17 June 2006. IECs reprinted (1 booklet + 1 pamphlet + 4 blood group badges) and developed 2 pieces of posters for voluntary, non remunerated blood donation. Mass blood donation was taken place from township Red Cross and students of institute of nursing (IoN) 30 participants from 9 Universities were trained as blood donor recruiters in their respective universities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 staff from health division attended Managing community-based HIV programme in Asia in Thailand on 24-29 July, 2006. • 1 PFO had participated in “Seminar on developing voluntary blood donor recruitment programme for blood safety” in Thailand on 17-22 September, 2006. • Deputy HoD, health division attended SPHERE ToT in Thailand from 18 to 25 Sept. 2006. 	<p>will be conducted in the next quarter.</p> <p>Briefing sessions for health staff will be conducted in the 4th Qr.</p>
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Project PMM402: CBFA and First Aid training Objective: Myanmar Red Cross Society's capacity and action to implement an expanded CBFA and First Aid training programme are increased through the nationwide network of trained volunteers from the local branches			
Focus Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
First Aid and Community Based First Aid training programs are implemented nationwide through the network of trained volunteers from local branches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish coordination and advocacy meetings with local authorities and Red Cross leadership for the promotion and implementation of first aid training programme. • Conduct CBFA multipliers training for volunteer at the community level in first aid dissemination and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). • Psychological support as well as First Aid refresher training for active volunteer trainers from Upper and Lower Myanmar. • CBDM /DART/ CBFA cooperation • Curriculum development for psychosocial support programme of MRCS and the printing and distribution of teaching set materials for volunteer trainers in local branches including facilitators' manual, certificates and guidelines, • Procurement of advance first aid kits for Red Cross townships and the small first aid kits for CBFA multiplier courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives and background of CBFA ToTs was discussed with supervisory committee members, local authorities and in respective states/divisions of Mandalay; East Bago; and Yangon (Khayan), Southern Rakhine state. • CBFA multipliers in East Bago (30-07-02.08.06); Rakhine state (Southern) (20.08-1.09.06); Yangon division (Khayan)(10-09-06) • CBFA volunteers manual and stress management brochures and posters were printed. 	
First aid awareness and local Red Cross branch support increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support "World First Aid Day" awareness campaign in cooperation with local states and divisions through organizing first aid competitions, printing and distribution of information, education and promotional materials and the initiation of first aid media programme for nationwide broadcast. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jointly developed and telecasted first aid promotion on burns; fractures and CPR for drowned victim for Myanmar television network MRTV and Myawaddy MRCS communication division to take the lead on development of TV campaign. • Distribution of triangular bandages; small towels and plastic fans to 17 states and divisions for "World First Aid Day" ceremonies. • Distribution of CPR training manikins 	
Improved capacity of the MRCS training division to plan and manage effective training programmes in support of headquarters and local branches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of personnel support at headquarters. • Support to MRCS training division with assistance from the Federation health training delegate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan of action 2006 -2007 meetings with MRCS divisions, Federation, and ICRC held to plan monthly activities and monitoring trips. • Terms of reference are currently being developed, scheduled later this year. • Head of training division attended CBFA Consultative workshop at Kathmandu in September. • Preparation of programme review workshop in Bagan • Discussions and planning meeting held with Burnet Institute for facilitation skills • No further recruitment during the quarter. • Team building workshop, regular meetings, training plan with other divisions including health, DM and DC unit 	

DISASTER MANAGEMENT			
Project PMM161: Disaster Preparedness and Response			
Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myanmar Red Cross disaster management activities are recognised among stakeholders and cooperation partners. MRCS actions promotes overall knowledge of disaster monitoring, early warning and cooperation • Provide MRCS DP/DR division with essential equipment for disaster management. (faxes, phone lines, computers, printers) • Participate in relevant training and meetings such as for FACT, RDRT, Federation's standard logistic system and RDMC (regional disaster management coordination) • Organise one disaster-related publicity event a year. Publish disaster-related information in collaboration with communications division • Provide salary support for MRCS DP/DR Division as required. • IFRC delegation support through DM delegate and local DP officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy head of the health division and programme coordinator of DM division participated on SPHERE induction course in Bangkok, Thailand • MRCS DP programme officer position was filled by MRCS internal re-arrangement of staff 	<p>Federation DP officer is participating in international master of advanced studies in development studies (IMAS) at Asian institute of technology centre in Vietnam (AITCV). He will commence a research of "Developing community resilience in disaster prone areas of Myanmar" related to the study programme.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS has a well functioning integrated training programme for disaster management based on a community based approach. 	<p>CBDM facilitators training took place on 24.-28.7. targeting prone, coastal regions including Rakhine, Sagain, Thanintayi states and Ayeyarwady division.</p>	<p>Further scaling down for CBDM facilitator trainings was done by MRCS HQ due to their lack of staff resources and slow</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue CBDM programme and expand to further disaster prone areas • Trainer trainings (6*20 pers/6days) • Community trainings (20 village tracks) • Develop, update and upgrade the society's disaster management training manuals (DART, CBDM), guide book and teaching aids with a disaster preparedness and response plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material collection and selection for MRCS DM manual has started and key materials are being translated to Myanmar 	<p>development of CBDM implementation plan.</p> <p>Pilot townships have been selected by state/division RC and headquarters DM division will assist them in advocacy meetings with local authorities for their approvals.</p> <p>CBDP pilot programme together with Townships and villages included will be integrated to CBDM programme</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS has trained, registered and supported emergency response volunteer network. • DART trainer training *2 (5days/30pax) • Review standard operating procedures (SOP), • Registration form and database for DART members at NHQ and provincial level • Materials (stationary, forms) • Scale up mobilization and training of MRCS volunteers in disaster prone areas – with focus on response preparedness. DART group training (48 courses) • Remaining state/division DART trainings (36pax/7days) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DART ToT 2 took place at 7-11 August in Yangon. Course was participated by 30 volunteer group leaders from 6 divisions. • Manual database of DART members and trainers is compiled and updated by DP/DR division of headquarters. 	<p>SOP review is planned to include development of DM guideline to assist practical implementation of DM policy and strategy.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of response equipment, such as shovels, axes, helmets, rubber boots, gloves, aprons and rescue boats. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS has increased capacity to identify appropriate risk reduction activities • Pilot branches have basic knowledge to assess risks and capacities to create local preparedness (contingency) plan that is in line with government plans Support and monitor risk reduction activities through ongoing facilitation by branch leaders and NHQ staff – support for branch development program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS basic training was held by external consultant. Two program officers from MRCS HQs and two of IFRC delegation local staff participated in the training. Course gives good basic knowledge in creation and updating of GIS based datasets. • MRCS disasters database was designed and 	<p>Detailed monitoring and evaluation system/plan including reporting format is to be prepared by DP/DR vision at HQ (2 M&E trained staff)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess hazard and map disaster prone regions and organize appropriate training for NHQ staff, branch leaders, and Red Cross volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Base map design, planning ○ GIS training, ○ Software 	created in relation with GIS training	GIS database and disaster databases are two separate projects (systems) to enable enough flexibility in mapping and graphic presentation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS' water safety and life guarding training project is expanded to additional flood-prone areas, river valleys and coastal zones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second water safety ToT is scheduled for December 2006. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS NHQ and prioritized branches possess strong communication network for disaster relief operation. • Hand over of DSL connection for MRCS use by equipping IFRC delegation with Vsat connection. • Train local staff in IT support and maintenance of computers and software • MRCS NHQ staff and Red Cross volunteer relief workers are well trained on the use of modern communication equipment. • Training of IT officer • IT officer personnel/maintenance costs • Assess the telecom needs particularly in disaster-prone areas • MRCS staff and relief workers are able to use radio communication in affected areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT telecom purchase plan is still in process of MRCS administration and finance divisions. • Due to costs of VSAT-connection Federation delegation is planning an option to provide MRCS with local broad band connection. Survey of local provider options in going on. • MRCS' application for radios to Ministry of Telecommunication has not received response during reporting period. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply for radio licenses & provide VHF/HF radios for MRCS with the goal to establish a VHF network in HQ for possible use in disaster operations.• Provide adequate training on radio communication to MRCS Recruit short term IT/telecom delegate.		
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Project PMM162: Logistics and Construction			
Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS has adequate space and standard environment for pre-positioned stock for emergency relief items A) Rent a clean, dry and standard warehouse in Yangon to replace the existing NHQ inadequate central warehouse. B) Utilize and equip the new logistic centre • Initiate long-term hazard mapping and logistics capacity assessment across the country • Visit 17 warehouses • Based on this assessment, initiate upgrading of the regional warehousing and logistics capacity through refurbishment of existing warehouses, storage, packing and loading equipment Refurbishment Packing material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental and renovation of permanent warehouse is waiting Ministry of Agriculture/Commerce approval. • MRCS construction coordinator has made renovation plan to be implemented as soon as approval comes. • Warehouse assessment trip to Mandalay and Kengtung was done at end of August. 	Recommendation from assessment trip is to go on with planned renovation/modification of Mandalay warehouse to enable Mandalay to serve as upper Myanmar logistic hub. Granted land right for Kengtung RC building is located near local river and the neighbourhood was flooded immediately after assessment visit. State RC is advised to seek alternative sites for RC centre.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS has improved logistics management system in accordance with the Federation's standard procedures. • Revise, update and provide training on MRCS logistic procedures and relevant documents to make them compatible with the Federation's standard logistic system. (17pax/4days) • Establish twice yearly stock report cycle. • Conduct training to personnel responsible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activities implemented towards logistic management development during the reporting period. 	

	for warehouse management (NHQ and branches) in Federation's standard logistic system		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS HR capacity of DM/logistics is strengthened. • Logistics group at NHQ to receive requests and deliver relief items and other resources to distribution points in a timely manner. • Lease two 4WD vehicles for Federation/MRCS DM division. Maintain one owned vehicle • Recruit/hire temporary international technical support staff (trainings, equipment) • Logistic delegate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS HQs logistic staff has implemented requested relief replenishments for Shan and Rakhine States and Ayeyarwady Division warehouses 	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relief stocks in the MRCS HQ and regional warehouses are ready to be used in future relief operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request, purchase and transport shelter and non-food items for replenishment and additional pre-positioning in MRCS regional warehouses (for approximately 10000 families) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistic staff of MRCS has initiated procurement process of non-food relief items to be included in the family kits. Requirements for the items were reviewed by MRCS senior governance. 	Second procurement round is planned to take place in 4 th quarter

	<p>2. MRCS has adequate space and standard environment for pre-positioned stock for emergency relief items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of plot of land for warehouse and possible training center and headquarters • Construction of central warehouse & logistics center and workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to build new warehouse were revised when MRCS did not receive permission from authorities to purchase land for planned projects. However plans have now been revised to include renting of available warehousing space in Yangon and renovation of existing MRCS buildings in such a way that it will include training/warehousing facilities. 	<p>Main warehousing capacity will be rented for time being.</p>
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RECOVERY			
Project PMM542: Recovery			
Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
	<p>Livelihoods are re-established and improved by supporting the coping mechanisms of the affected population.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of necessary building materials at Kaing Thoung island: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • island seawall build in state to protect seaside shore • School renovated and double as community shelter • Provision of water transport boats for local RC <p>Livelihood 4th quarter 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of boats (47) and • Nets (43), based on needs of the most vulnerable people to start reviving and rebuilding their future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seawall construction was put on hold after request from local authorities. • MRCS recruited construction coordinator and established a construction working group (Federation programme coordinator as member). This group is responsible for implementing construction works at HQs and in the field. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaing Thoung projects are being reviewed and plans will be presented to the working group as soon as 1st approvals and details have been compiled. It is also planned to visit the island in the last quarter and discuss the future of the projects with local authorities. 	<p>Water transport boats handover to local RC branch in Labutta took place on 5 July.</p>

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
Project PMV000: National society establishment and support			
Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
	<p>1. MRCS branches are supported to take a leadership role in implementing humanitarian activities – addressing the needs of the local communities.</p>	<p>1. Advocacy meetings for branch development were conducted (September 4-8) at Kyaik Ma Yaw in Mon state, Hpaan in Kayin State, Taunggyi township in Shan (South)state and Loikaw township in Kayah State and Lashio township and Hsipaw township in Shan (North) state in Sep 17-22 September. The main achievement of the meetings is getting the commitment of local Red Cross leaders and the authorities to support the process of local branch development.</p> <p>2. National meetings of branch coordinators: 3 meetings of all the branch coordinators were held. These meetings served as a forum to update the Headquarters on the accomplishments, challenges and lessons learned by the branch coordinators and likewise provide support them support trough coaching/mentoring. Issues presented in these meetings include clarifications on reporting formats and channels, working advances and accounting for them, how to effectively and efficiently bring together branch leaders to discuss development plans.</p> <p>3. A Branch development programme review workshop was held from 2nd to 4th August where branch leaders from states /divisions and pilot townships attended and discussed the achievements, strengths, weaknesses and challenges they encountered in carrying out the branch development programme such as implementing community based projects that respond to needs, getting land grant from local authorities, construction of Red Cross building , income generation, organizational activities of youth, volunteers and school Red Cross and financial regulation for branch coordinators.</p>	<p>One of the teams was led by the executive committee member with the Federation head of delegation and branch development delegate. Advocacy meetings in another four pilot townships will be conducted in November and December.</p> <p>At the beginning of 2007, another eight branch coordinators will be recruited.</p> <p>The review workshop was participated by all MRCS divisions and the pilot townships together with their respective states/division Red Cross leaders.</p>

		<p>4. MRCS NHQ provided financial assistance to 4 pilot townships after scrutinizing and reviewing their income generation proposals. These townships with small grants (range: US\$500-\$4'000) are: Kyauk Phyu (teashop), Zeegone (telephone), Pathein (tri-shaw) and Myeik (motorcycle taxi). These branches committed to: 1) use the profit to carry out Red Cross activities; 2) submit monthly operational & financial report to NHQ; 3) pay back NHQ with the funds lent to them on a predetermined date.</p>	<p>Approval of other income generation proposals is on hold pending initial review of the newly approved projects.</p>
	<p>2. Volunteer and youth development have been strengthened to deliver community based services efficiently and effectively to meet needs of the most vulnerable in Myanmar.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In July, the design and lay out of the uniform regulation booklet was made and production, distribution and dissemination will commence upon approval of the executive committee. 2. A working group was created tasked with the development of IEC materials to promote volunteering. After a series of meetings, designing, and pre-testing, 40,000 copies of pamphlet focusing on volunteering is under production 3. NHQ circulated a guideline on how to fill-out the volunteer registration form. The branch coordinators were likewise further trained on how to support the branches in volunteer registration. 4. MRCS sent 2 youth volunteers, Mr. Thuya Aung, supervisor of <i>life skills and HIV/AIDS prevention</i> and Ms. Nway Oo Khine, Phyu Tsp, to attend the PMI 6th RC <i>Youth Gathering Camp</i> in Indonesia from 4th to 10 July. 5. OD coordinator participated in the 4th Youth Directors' Meeting in Bali, Indonesia in 11-13 September. The meeting provided more ideas for MRCS to develop clear youth structure. 	<p>The Volunteering Policy is still awaiting final approval from the Ministry.</p> <p>These pamphlets will be shared during the MRCS 3rd partnership meeting in October.</p> <p>Data shows that MRCS has 24,262 volunteers from 87 townships (27% of total townships), 7 universities and colleges. male to female volunteer ratio is 1.3:1</p> <p>MRCS is in the process of further developing its youth and volunteer program.</p>
	<p>3. The financial management and sustainability of the MRCS is further improved at both HQ</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRCS externally audited. 	<p>Highlights of the <i>management notes</i> submitted by the external auditors will be available in the next reporting period.</p>

	and branch level.		
	4. MRCS NHQ's organization is improved with well defined roles of governance and management, and its programme and services are in line with the strategic plan.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MRCS Strategic Plan 2007-2010 translated into Burmese, produced, distributed and disseminated. In July and September, Operational Planning meetings were conducted to convert the Strategic Plan into programmes that will be implemented by MRCS divisions and branches. A consultation meeting with the branch leaders was also organized to ensure their participation in the operational planning. 2. Developed MRCS (NHQ) staff database by MS Access. 	<p>The operational plan is a work in progress. It contains the whole of MRCS Operations reflecting partnerships not only with the International Federation but with other international organizations as well.</p> <p>A working group was created tasked to lead the development of an MRCS HR policy.</p>

HUMANITARIAN VALUES			
Project PMVHV: Dissemination			
Location	Expected results	Progress / Achievement	Remarks
Magway Yangon MRCS Library	MRCS communication division at NHQ is taking a lead role in the promotion and advocacy about the work of MRCS including technical support to the other NHQ divisions & branches, the handling of media relations and advocacy/information to the general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The division & ICRC jointly organized 2 Dissemination Workshops for 82 Red Cross leaders from Magway Division • TV interview was aired from MRTV in commemoration of “World First Aid Day” • 3 First Aid TV spots were aired from Myawaddy TV during the month of September • Strengthening information resources (Newspaper, Magazines and other publications) • 4,000 copies MRCS News Journal (Myanmar Version) was published and distributed to branches. To date, the total income received from Commercial Advertisement and journal sales is 149,800 Kyat. • 3 copies of MRCS ACT, rules and regulation were distributed to 72 townships • 50 copies of each, 7 Fundamental Principles, emblem, Movement brochure and Movement comic were distributed to Magway division. • IEC materials were distributed to on going NHQ trainings • Attended 1st SEA Forum on IHL and did a study visit to PNRC • Attended Microsoft access class • Attended IEC production for ECD workshop organized by UNICEF (7 -12 August 2006) 	IEC distribution
Manila, Philippine Yangon		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the workshop on strategies to promote utilization of media organized by UNICEF (18-21 September 2006) • On going participation in a distance learning <i>Course on Writing Effectively</i>. 	Head of division
Yangon			Information officer
Yangon			Information officer
Yangon			Information officer
Yangon			Dissemination Officer