

ANNUAL REPORT



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

PACIFIC

May 2002

This Annual Report is intended for reporting on the Federation's Annual Appeals only.

Appeal No. 01.50/2001

Appeal Target: CHF 981,665 (USD 605,000/ EUR 671,000)

Operational Developments

Although natural disasters continued to strike the Pacific Islands in 2001, large-scale devastation did not occur as in previous years. A volcanic eruption in Vanuatu contaminated water supplies and threatened agricultural production in the neighboring islands due to acid ash-fall - a periodic but potentially deadly event. In the Cook Islands, Tropical Cyclone Trina brought the worst flooding in half a century to the Island of Mangaia, destroying nearly all crops and drowning over half the livestock. Apart from these disasters, the Pacific region faced the issue of asylum seekers following the Australian government's decision to seek off-site processing centers for those entering the Australian migration zone by sea. Several boat loads of asylum seekers were brought to various locations within and outside Australian territory, including some 1000 people to Nauru, over 200 to Papua New Guinea (PNG), and 150 to New Zealand. While these countries lent their land and facilities, the ongoing care and processing of asylum seekers was under the strict jurisdiction of the Australian immigration authorities. UNHCR did not see its customary role of determining refugee status as applicable to the majority of these cases.

High profile elections in Australia, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands created new dynamics and underscored old problems. The ethnic divide was as evident as ever in PNG, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and even Vanuatu as was demonstrated by sporadic burning, looting and fighting amongst communities. Although Bougainville autonomy kept tensions relatively in check there, human rights abuses were reported towards West Papuans in Papua, Indonesia (formerly West Irian).

Objectives, Achievements and Constraints

Disaster Response and Preparedness

Objective 1 To improve the human resources capacity of national societies for DP/R programme planning and implementation on the national level.

Achievements

All but one programme proposal submitted by national societies at the regional partnership meeting in the Cook Islands in July 2001 followed the logical framework model. This was indicative of the remarkable progress achieved by national societies in the past few years in the area of programme planning capacities. Eight programme proposals presented by Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of

Micronesia (FSM), Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu Red Cross at the planning meeting included activities related to DP capacity building.

Technical assistance was given to national societies in the Cook Islands, FSM, Samoa and Vanuatu before, during and after natural disasters struck these countries. The national societies' efficient relief services were highly appreciated by the governments concerned, by relevant agencies and by the communities affected. The regional delegation facilitated exchanges of information between the operating national society (ONS), participating national societies (PNS), the Geneva secretariat, and regional organizations.

A member of the Solomon Islands Red Cross staff participated in the Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) training workshop held in Singapore in September. The Australian Red Cross also sent two staff members to the workshop. Two persons from the Fiji and Tonga Red Cross societies, as well as the regional DP delegate, participated in the DP induction workshop held in Lausanne, Switzerland in October.

Objective 2 To ensure that networking among the national societies functioned well, enabling them to provide resources for each other, and at the same time to strengthen the capacity of national societies through networking with other relevant partners.

Achievements

The provision of a computer for Marshall Islands and Tuvalu Red Cross finally enabled all the national societies in the Pacific region to be connected to each other through the Internet, although three societies did face initial teething problems with their respective servers.

The new standard operating procedures for information management in disaster/emergency monitoring and response, which took effect in December, were expected to enhance the collective ability of the Red Cross in the Pacific region to share and utilize information regarding disasters and other emergencies. The procedures actively used the Emergency Managers Wireless Information Network (EMWIN) system, which was installed in RDS during the first half of 2001, and the Disaster Management Information System (DMIS), introduced by the Geneva secretariat in the second half of 2001.

Professional contacts with other relevant agencies were developed and maintained. Three Pacific Red Cross staff from the Cook Islands, Fiji, and Samoa participated in two regional workshops in Nadi, Fiji, organized by the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). An Introduction to Disaster Management workshop was held between 2 to 4 October, and a more advanced Training for Instructors course was organized between 3 to 7 December.

Objective 3 To assist Pacific Red Cross societies in helping community leaders in disaster prone communities to establish effective Community Based Disaster Preparedness plans and activities.

Achievements

Two community based self reliance workshops were held in Kiribati (25 to 29 June) and Tuvalu (11 to 14 December 2001). The Kiribati Red Cross originally planned to follow up the workshop by conducting 14 visits to outer island communities, but only one such visit was made due to the society's restructuring process in which the contracts of all three field personnel were terminated.

Four staff members from Fiji, Micronesia, Tonga, and Vanuatu Red Cross, participated in a community based disaster preparedness skills building mini-workshop, co-organized by the regional delegation and the Solomon Islands Red Cross society between 8 to 11 October in Auki, Solomon Islands, to acquire the basic knowledge and skills needed to prepare for CBRP workshops. All of the four national societies conducted activities to follow up on the Solomon Islands workshop and to lay the groundwork for the launching of the CBRP programme in their respective countries in 2002.

Objective 4 To assist the Pacific Red Cross national societies to review and update their existing disaster management plans and to develop new plans for those national societies which had not yet done so.

Achievements

Little progress was made in this area of the programme in 2001. The Micronesia Red Cross sent its draft disaster management plan to all of its four chapters for consultation. The plan will be finalized after discussion at the disaster management planning workshop in January 2002. By year's end, Kiribati and Marshall Islands Red Cross had not yet started developing their disaster management plans.

Objective 5 To ensure all the Pacific Red Cross national societies had well functioning DP Container programmes.

Achievements

All the provisions of new DP containers and relief stock according to the 2001 plan were completed by August, well before the annual cyclone season. Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and Samoa Red Cross received new DP containers. Stock at Fiji and Tuvalu Red Cross was replenished. By year's end every national society in the Pacific was equipped with at least one DP container complete with relief supplies to meet the immediate needs of 100 families, or 600 individuals.

The renovation of the main warehouse at the Fiji Red Cross headquarters compound in Suva was completed in July 2001. The stock report was received quarterly from all national societies in the format supplied to them, which enhanced accountability and transparency.

A programme review conducted jointly by the Japanese Red Cross and the regional delegation in cooperation with the Pacific national societies in November reexamined the scope of the regional DP programme and the relevance of its mutually complementary activities. The evaluation team endorsed the shift of the programme's focus from the hardware to the software aspect of disaster preparedness, which has been promoted by the regional delegation in the past two years.

Health and Care

Objective 1 To improve the human resources capacity of national societies in the planning and implementation of health programmes at the national level.

Achievements

- Assistance for programme planning was provided to Fiji, Cook Island, Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Vanuatu Red Cross societies.
- A total of 25 health programme plans were submitted to the PNSs. Expectations exceeded actual outcomes on the health programmes.
- Despite frequent visits and improved communications, problems in the human resources capacity in some of the national societies were clearly evident.
- A technical visit was made to Nauru.

Objective 2 To ensure that by the end of 2001, Fiji, the Cook Islands, Samoa, Tuvalu, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and the Federated State of Micronesia Red Cross societies had functional systems to generate income from health programmes.

Achievements

- Around 1000 first-aid (FA) kits were ordered from the New Zealand Red Cross by Pacific national societies this year at nonprofit prices.
- The marketing plan on FA kits was done at the Kiribati Red Cross by an Australian Red Cross (ARC) delegate.

Objective 3 To ensure that by the end of 2001 Pacific Red Cross national societies had all the necessary material and knowledge to enable them to plan and implement “First Aid in the Community” as a comprehensive programme inclusive of training and other components

Achievements

- A total of 1000 copies of the “First Aid in the Community” volunteer manual was printed for distribution to the national societies. The “First Aid in the community trainers manual” was finalized and 800 copies printed.
- A regional first-aid competition was organized in Samoa, and was attended by the Fiji and Samoa Red Cross teams. The Fiji Red Cross representative made an exchange visit to Samoa to facilitate the competition. National first-aid competitions were also organized in Fiji, and travel for eight participants from the outer islands was sponsored by the RHP.
- A Vanuatu Red Cross field officer made an exchange visit to Fiji Red Cross. During the visit he attended the first-aid competition and learnt about the youth programmes as well as related fundraising issues.
- A course for instructors was organized in Micronesia, where seven instructors and five assistant instructors were trained. The trainer was on loan from the New Zealand Red Cross.
- A CBSR course was organized in Kiribati and Tuvalu jointly with the regional DP programme.

Objective 4 To ensure that all the Pacific Red Cross national societies had functioning blood donor recruitment programmes, which were able to collect sufficient amounts of blood.

Achievements

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the national society and the Ministry of Health (MoH) was drafted and signed in Vanuatu and submitted for consultation to ARC and the Geneva secretariat. The Samoa MoH policy on blood was also submitted for consultation, and a MoU in Solomon Islands was drafted.
- The Samoa Red Cross representative attended the International Blood conference in Johannesburg, where she presented a paper prepared by the Fiji Red Cross (funding for the conference came from the global AIDS programme).

Objective 6 To ensure that HIV/AIDS and psychological support programme components were actively implemented in the “First Aid in the Community Programme” or other relevant programmes, depending on specific needs in each country.

Achievements

- “The Fleet of Hope”, UNAIDS health education material designed to bring about behavioural changes was finalized, and a MoU between UNAIDS was signed.
- Eleven countries registered for a comic strip competition on discrimination and stigmatization against persons living with AIDS (PLWA) and their families was launched in the Pacific (jointly with Asian RD).
- Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Cook Islands staff members attended the International Conference on AIDS in Asia Pacific.
- World AIDS day was celebrated in Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Papua New Guinea by sending up balloons with messages on stigma and discrimination. This served to encourage a more positive attitude towards HIV/AIDS issues.

- Equipment for the Fiji Red Cross puppet theater was purchased during the year. Primary and secondary schools and other youth groups were targeted, and in Fiji alone over 30,000 young people saw the show, which featured HIV/AIDS prevention.
- Participants from the Fiji, Kiribati and Papua New Guinea Red Cross societies attended the international conference on AIDS home care in Thailand. Two of the representatives were funded by the global programme.
- A Fiji Red Cross representative from the University of the South Pacific attended the 4th international Red Cross and Red Cross conference on psychological support in Copenhagen.

Organizational Development

Objective 1 To improve the capacity of national societies in programme planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting.

Achievements

Eleven national societies from the Pacific region, including both staff and management, participated in an informative workshop on the “Characteristics of a Well-Functioning Society”. Topics covered included governance, management, and volunteer work.

A model for development plans based on the logical framework was devised, and intensive training was organized for all the national societies in the region. The twelve national societies submitted framework plans at the Pacific Regional Partnership meeting, and a number of proposals outlined in the plans were funded.

Constraints

Both the Polynesian and Melanesian cultures traditionally use oral rather than written communication. The concept of written plans was nonetheless introduced in 2000 and 2001.

A quarterly performance monitoring tool was developed and training in its usage was given to over half of the national societies. Three of them used the tool to monitor the progress of programmes and in reporting to donors.

Six technical visits were made to national societies. Each society welcomed these visits and ensured that they learned as much as possible from the OD delegate. Training and assistance was provided in strategic planning, programme planning and implementation, monitoring and reporting.

OD delegates participated in three activities organized by the secretariat, which were designed to improve the capacity of national societies. Pacific national societies were shown developmental models and tools during these activities, resulting in a marked improvement in certain aspects of their programme management.

Constraints

The enthusiasm generated by workshops was not sustainable owing to the wide geographic spread of the region as well as the prohibitive cost of extensive travel necessary for follow-up work. For the same reasons, the number of technical visits was also limited.

The Quarterly Performance Monitoring tool was difficult to follow and the national societies were therefore reluctant to use it. Additional follow-up training in its use was necessary.

Objective 2 To ensure that networking and exchanges between national societies functioned well, enabling them to share resources and identify and enhance regional expertise. In parallel, to network with other relevant partners to strengthen the capacity of each national society.

Achievements

The regional human resources coordinator attended the Asia/Pacific Conference on Human Resources in Manila as part of the initiative to identify key people within the region. A representative from the Cook Islands Red Cross subsequently attended a BTC sponsored by the Japanese Red Cross.

A Country Assistance Strategy commenced in Vanuatu and brought together relevant partners (the Federation, ICRC and PNS). The process resulted in a clearer understanding of the work of the Vanuatu Red Cross Society.

Three national societies made exchange visits. The first involved an exchange between the Australian Red Cross and the Fiji Red Cross to review existing income generating activities of the latter. This resulted in an improvement in income generating projects by the Fiji Red Cross. The second visit was undertaken by the newly appointed secretary general of the Federated States of Micronesia Red Cross when she attended a workshop at the Yap chapter. Finally, a representative from the Vanuatu Red Cross society visited the New Zealand Red Cross to learn how a well-functioning board operated. The visits broadened the participants' understanding of good governance and management.

Visits by the regional information delegate to the national societies did not take place as originally planned. However, throughout the year different strategies for increasing visibility were discussed.

Constraints

Limited funding impacted on the recruitment of candidates.

Vanuatu Red Cross did not have a strategic plan as a starting point for the CAS process.

Although exchange visits were recognized as effective learning tools, they proved to be onerous on the host national society and were discouraged.

The regional delegation did not have a specific information delegate to undertake planned activities.

Objective 3 To assist all societies, based on the year 2000 self-assessment, to improve their capacities, with particular emphasis on three national societies still in formation (Federated States of Micronesia, Tuvalu and Marshall Islands) and on four of the smaller, risk-prone, societies (Tuvalu, Tonga, Vanuatu and Kiribati).

Achievements

A follow-up self assessment was carried out by Vanuatu Red Cross as part of the CAS process. Self assessment was used to strengthen the society's programmes and overall management.

A workshop focusing on governance was conducted for the Vanuatu Red Cross. In addition, another extensive workshop on governance and management practices was held for eleven of the twelve national societies at the Pacific Partners Regional Meeting. The secretary generals and board members increased their knowledge and skills level through the workshops.

Information packages on OD-related policies and strategies were regularly disseminated to the twelve national societies.

Constraints

The change in delegates at midyear resulted in additional self assessments being postponed until 2002.

Objective 4 To ensure that all national societies understood the need to diversify their funding base through the identification of new and different financial sources. This included encouraging full cost recovery for income-generating health programmes.

Achievements

The OD delegate assisted the 12 national societies to obtain an overall view of their funding base, through the formulation of framework plans. The societies recognized the need to diversify funding. Technical assistance was also provided to three national societies to undertake a cost benefit analysis on their first-aid programmes, which resulted in a modification of the programmes to ensure that they generated income. Tonga, Palau, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Solomon Islands all submitted proposals to the Empress Shoken Fund, in an effort to seek new sources of funding.

The OD delegate, in collaboration with the Fiji Red Cross, obtained sponsorship for one of its programmes. Further discussions with potential sponsors also took place.

Constraints

Innovative, different sources of funding were scarce in the Pacific region and therefore limited opportunities for national societies.

The need for regular reporting for this type of funding was not understood, thereby influencing future sponsorships.

Objective 5 To provide donors with a means of monitoring funded programmes and projects.

Achievements

The OD delegate, in close consultation with PNS, developed a Quarterly Programme Performance Management tool and provided training on its use to national societies. Donors indicated that they had received a larger number of reports from national societies using the Performance Management tool.

Constraints

The format for the Performance Management tool was difficult to follow and national societies requested that it be simplified in 2002.

Coordination and Management

Objectives To ensure that the coordination and management component of the regional delegation provided quality advice, service and leadership to the Pacific national societies in line with *Strategy 2010*, the Hanoi Declaration and existing country strategies. The main objectives for 2001 were to provide sound management for core regional programming, to advise and work closely with national societies still in formation, to work closely with the leadership of those national societies experiencing governance and management difficulties, and to provide coordination services to national societies, multi- and bilateral partner societies and the ICRC.

Achievements

An interim head of the regional delegation had a six-month tenure until his replacement arrived in June. The second half of the year thus began with a handover from the acting head of delegation to his successor. The Pacific Partnership Meeting was hosted by the Cook Islands in July, as planned. Almost all the Pacific national societies participated, as did partner national societies. Each society presented its strategic plan. In addition, sessions were held on governance and management, the Movement's strategy, conflict preparedness, advocacy and communication. While the entire event

was unanimously felt to be useful as far as information and networking went, the final analysis highlighted the need for a simplified, more practical approach for similar events in the future.

The recognition process for national societies still in formation, particularly that of the Cook Islands and FSM progressed, but did not reach completion as was originally anticipated. Since both national societies needed to align their constitutions with the guidelines ratified in the 1999 General Assembly, neither qualified for recognition in 2001. However, the process continued and the Cook Islands executive board expected to finalize statutory reforms in early 2002. National Societies with particular difficulties in management and leadership were given additional assistance and encouragement as demonstrated by the holding of an AGM in Tuvalu (this had not been done since 1982) and help with auditing in Tuvalu and Fiji.

Preparation of national societies for the 2001 General Assembly and Council of Delegates required enormous effort and flexibility from all sides. All but one of the Pacific national societies was present at the Geneva meetings, with the FSM and Cook Islands amongst the observers. With topics such as asylum seekers and climatic change on the agenda, the Pacific societies demonstrated their unity on these critical issues. A special meeting was held to address the issue of asylum seekers in the Pacific and the collective response of the Movement both operationally and in terms of advocacy.

The new head of the regional delegation reintroduced the delegation's programming to partners and donors. Visits were made to all relevant embassies and high commissions, and participation with UN partners (WHO, UNAIDS, UNDP, OCHA) was frequent and visible. The delegation was also a member of the UNAIDS regional consultative group. Close contact was maintained with the EU representative and particular attention was given to developing both an operational relationship for mutual support in disaster response, as well as for outlining the Federation's role at the regional level and that of the national societies at the country level in the Cotonou Agreement process. The regional delegation were also present at key fora such as the annual SOPAC meeting and the ICAAP conference thereby ensuring a visible and vocal presence of the Federation and its national societies in the Pacific. As part of efforts to prioritize partner / donor relations, the first of several joint missions was made to AusAid and DFAT in conjunction with the ARC secretary general, the head of the international department, and the head of the ICRC's regional delegation. Regular visits were made to government authorities in the Pacific Islands during missions by delegates in order to reinforce the work of the local national societies.

Other initiatives with the ICRC in the region included the launching of the recent CAS process in Vanuatu, a presentation on the Movement to ARC national headquarters staff and ongoing planning for the jointly sponsored disaster management / conflict preparedness workshop slated for 2002. In addition, joint annual strategic planning and the setting of objectives were part of the working relationship between the two regional delegations.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

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Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.50/2001 Pacific regional programmes

Period: year 2001

Project(s): 55160, 55900, 55902, 55905, 55907

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED INCOME 2001, CASH, KIND, SERVICES

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Reallocations	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	981,665				
less					
Cash brought forward	213,705				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	767,960				
<i>Contributions from Donors</i>					
American Red Cross (DNUS)	42,857				42,857
Australian Red Cross (DNAU)	270,323				270,323
British Government (DGGB)	36,999				36,999
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	131				131
Finnish Govt. via Finnish Red Cross (DG)	69,248				69,248
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	81,862				81,862
ICRC (DM04)	8,459				8,459
Japanese Red Cross (DNJP)	359,389				359,389
New Zealand Red Cross (DNNZ)	10,670				10,670
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	5,000				5,000
Spanish Red Cross (DNES)	10,000				10,000
UNDP (DH07)	7,640				7,640
Australia				65,708	65,708
Finland				59,959	59,959
Japan				59,959	59,959
TOTAL	902,578			185,626	1,088,204

II - Balance of funds

Opening balance	213,705
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	902,578
CASH EXPENDITURE	-1,041,020

CASH BALANCE	75,263

Appeal No & title: 01.50/2001 Pacific regional programmes

Period: year 2001

Project(s): 55160, 55900, 55902, 55905, 55907

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction		38,745			38,745	-38,745
Clothing & Textiles		3,853			3,853	-3,853
Food/Seeds						
Water		40			40	-40
Medical & First Aid		412			412	-412
Teaching materials		5,665			5,665	-5,665
Utensils & Tools		86,723			86,723	-86,723
Other relief supplies	101,499	13,947			13,947	87,552
Sub-Total	101,499	149,384			149,384	-47,885
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings	6,000					6,000
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	395	16,488			16,488	-16,093
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	13,614	1,765			1,765	11,849
Sub-Total	20,009	18,253			18,253	1,756
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>	54,485	44,989			44,989	9,496
Sub-Total	54,485	44,989			44,989	9,496
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	380,503	306,153		185,626	491,779	-111,276
Personnel (local staff)	101,557	102,724			102,724	-1,167
Training						
Sub-Total	482,060	408,877		185,626	594,503	-112,443
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts		2,496			2,496	-2,496
Travel & related expenses	95,200	174,298			174,298	-79,098
Information expenses	45,614	21,422			21,422	24,191
Administrative expenses	74,815	80,017			80,017	-5,202
External workshops & Seminars						
Sub-Total	215,629	278,233			278,233	-62,605
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	66,194	72,162			72,162	-5,969
Technical services	19,815	21,606			21,606	-1,791
Professional services	21,975	23,967			23,967	-1,993
Sub-Total	107,983	117,735			117,735	-9,752
Operational provisions		23,548			23,548	-23,548
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	981,665	1,041,020		185,626	1,226,646	-244,981

Consumption rate: Expenditures versus income 113%
Expenditures versus budget 125%