

Programme Update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

South Asia

Appeal No. MAA52001

This report covers the period 1 July to
31 December 2009

21 December 2009



Red Crescent volunteers in Bangladesh with their blood donation cards. Photo: International Federation.

In brief

Programme purpose: As outlined in the 2009-10 plan, the aim of the International Federation is to coordinate and support efforts at country and regional level to assist South Asian national societies to scale up their work to improve the lives of vulnerable people.

Programme summary: The disaster season throughout the region was relatively calm in its first half though Sri Lanka witnessed one of its worst dengue outbreaks in years as health authorities scrambled to contain the disease.

Late floods in India during October affected six different states across the country, out of which Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were the most affected.

In Nepal, the 2008 Koshi River floods appeal closed at the end of August. Another flood /landslide in the first week of October 2009 affected more than 14 districts of the far western region of Nepal. The flood and landslides claimed 62 lives, affecting more than 27,000 families and more than 150,000 individuals. Following an assessment, a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) of approximately CHF 307,000 (USD 294,763 or EUR 205,656) has been allocated for the distribution of non-food items to some 4,000 affected families and replenishment of emergency stocks

During the cyclone Aila operation, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the International Federation successfully completed the distribution of shelter kits and household items to 7,000 the affected families in Satkhira and Khulna districts. Low-lying areas of the northern, north-eastern and central districts of Bangladesh were inundated by heavy downpour and flash flood during the third week of August 2009. However, considering the overall improvement of the flood situation and intervention by the government through its safety net programmes, no international intervention was needed.

Due to military operations in south Waziristan in Pakistan, a fresh group of internally displaced people are moving into western Punjab. Approximately 200,000 displaced people are expected to leave the conflict area. According to government estimates, 2,500 to 3,000 displaced families are still staying back in Hazara division and Attock district. Latest figures on the displaced people suggest that more than 1.65 million (out of 2.7 million) displaced families have returned to their homes in Malakand division. Some 7,200 displaced families have so far received non-food items.

Financial situation: The total 2009 budget was revised downwards from CHF 3,158,085 (USD 3,161,246 or EUR 2,094,790) to CHF 2,241,787 (USD 2,244,031 or EUR 1,487,000) based on the programmes' workplan and funding situation. Coverage is 135 per cent while expenditure from January to October 2009 is 65 per cent of the total 2009 budget (see [attached financial report](#)). The financial report from January to December 2009 will be issued with the 2009 annual report by April 2010.

No. of people we help: The South Asia regional office supports the seven national societies and seven country offices of the International Federation in South Asia. The South Asia regional office is also actively working with the authorities in Bhutan providing disaster management and risk reduction training for their leadership. The region includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, out of which the national societies exist in all except Bhutan. Please refer to the country reports for the number of people reached in each country.

Our partners: The main partners supporting the regional programmes during 2009 were the American, British, Danish, Finnish, Japanese and Swedish Red Cross Societies, along with the European Commission/ECHO, British Department for International Development (DFID) and World Bank (GFDRR). Technical partnerships/relations were also maintained with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) disaster management centre, United Nations (UN) International Strategy for Disaster Response, World Bank (through the ProVention consortium), other UN organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations under the regional disaster management programme; and with the World Health Organization, networks of people living with HIV, government ministries and civil society organizations under the regional health and care programmes. The South Asia regional office also maintained strong cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and links with the World Food Programme, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Agency for International Development (USAID). Further, close cooperation was continued with international media agencies like Reuters, BBC and CNN for efficient information flow, especially during disasters.

The International Federation, on behalf of the national societies in the South Asia region, would like to thank the above mentioned partners for their generous support.

Context

During the reporting period, the security situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan deteriorated considerably, especially so from August to October. Of note was the heightened security situation of humanitarian workers with an increase on these people being targeted including the attack on the UN compound in Kabul on 28 October in which five UN expatriate staff members died.

Pakistan has also endured an increased number of violent security incidences in the second half of the year. Sparking the escalating deterioration of the security situation in Pakistan was the armed conflict between the Pakistan army/security forces and the Taliban/various militant groups that have continued in Federally Administered Tribal Areas/North West Frontier Province/South Waziristan.

The reporting period also witnessed monsoon floods in both India and Nepal during late September and October. In India, the heaviest rains in more than a century affected parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka on 29 September, displacing more than two million people and leaving 300 people dead. A joint assessment team which included the regional disaster management coordinator, the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) and partner national society identified emergency needs and have supported the development of plan of action and drafting of a domestic appeal for the national society.

In Nepal the late monsoon in October has triggered floods and landslides which affected in total 14 districts in the mid- and far-west regions and claimed 61 lives and affected more than 150,000 individuals. The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was mobilized in both instances and for the India flood response, a national appeal was launched to support the IRCS response.

Progress towards outcomes

Global Agenda Goal 1: Disaster management

Purpose: National societies have strengthened capacity to implement disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programmes.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Outcome
Community preparedness and mitigation	National society capacity to support community preparedness and mitigation is strengthened.
Disaster response and preparedness for response	Regional capacity and systems are improved to respond effectively and efficiently in times of disasters.
Coordination and cross cutting issues	South Asia disaster management programme is made more effective through coordination, collaboration, and innovative crosscutting initiatives.

Achievements

Programme component 1: Community preparedness and mitigation

Following the approval of the regional proposal for the second phase of 'building safer communities' (DIPECHO-V), the recruitment process of DIPECHO project manager and project staff was concluded. The project manager joined with effect on 1 September. The communication officer and disaster risk reduction officer will join in December. The recruitment in Bangladesh for the DIPECHO project staff was also completed.

The first coordination meeting of DIPECHO partners organized by Concern Universal was held on 16 August. The International Federation has been selected as the facilitating agency for the information, education and communication material standardization working group. The plan of action and budget was finalized through an induction course held in Cox's Bazar during 13-15 September. The International Federation and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) hosted the second DIPECHO partners coordination meeting held on 7 October. Being the lead agency, the International Federation and BDRCS has been facilitating the standardization process of information, education, communication materials. Monthly progress update for the period June to October 2009 has been sent to ECHO. As of 30 November, 50 cyclone shelter management committees have been formed/restructured following the guidelines.

Under the building safer communities phase-2 project, the regional disaster risk reduction project manager (DIPECHO) held project orientation meetings with disaster management/disaster risk reduction focal persons in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan country offices. The regional project manager visited Cox's Bazar DIPECHO country project site, where the community disaster management committee formation process was initiated and election for committee members was formalized. In India, a four-day stakeholders meeting for the disaster risk reduction programme orientation workshop was organized by IRCS in Maharashtra and facilitated by the International Federation's South Asia regional office and India office.

The South Asia regional office represented the disaster risk reduction practitioners' workshop in Phuket, Thailand from 15-17 September. The disaster risk reduction practitioners from national societies and country offices in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan also participated in this workshop which was hosted by the South East Asia regional office and Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre. The workshop helped the practitioners to develop a broader perspective of disaster risk reduction and learn from experience sharing. It provided a good platform for networking and knowledge sharing.

A visibility and communication plan for the building safer community's phase-2 project has been developed and has been presented to ECHO/DIPECHO.

Translation of the community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) curriculum into local languages has started. The translations have been completed in Pakistan. Printing and designing is in progress.

Programme component 2: Disaster response and preparedness for response

The South Asia regional office provided technical supports to the six different disaster response operations: Bangladesh cyclone (Aila), India floods, acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) operation and floods in Nepal, Pakistan displaced people operation and Sri Lanka dengue control and prevention. The South Asia regional office also provided support to the Philippine typhoon and Samoa tsunami operations where two regional disaster response team (RDRT) members were deployed, one to the Philippines and the other to Samoa.

During this reporting period, key progress included (i) finalizing the second phase of the development of the RDRT/human resource database, (ii) developing and sharing the RDRT standard operating procedure document with all concerned for inputs, (iii) drafting of the field and assessment coordination team (FACT)/RDRT field handbook, (iv) implementation of RDRT refresher course and stimulation exercise (14 persons trained), (v) development of RDRT human resource development, strategic development plan and (vi) promotion of the RDRT pre-deployment agreement concept with the senior management of the national society.

In October (12-25), a review of the RDRT programme was carried out by an independent consultant. The review highlighted the following key successes to date:

1. The RDRT programme is an instrumental component of the regional disaster response system.
2. National societies at the disaster management technical level are working more closely together.
3. Over 30 RDRT trained members have been used in key positions in domestic disasters resulting in increased national society capacity.
4. The RDRT is an example of a well designed and implemented International Federation programme and serves as an example for other International Federation, national societies and partner national society initiatives.
5. Ten RDRT trainers from the region are now available for course facilitation. This is an important step in ensuring both national society ownership as well as sustainability.
6. Five well-equipped RDRT kits are in place for use during deployment, members have been supplied with RDRT shirts, vests and caps to ensure visibility and create a RDRT "identity".
7. Following the recommendations of the review, a detailed plan of action for the RDRT programme for 2010 has already been developed and shared with the key stakeholders.

The disaster management team of the South Asia regional office also supported the national societies to strengthen the national disaster preparedness and response mechanisms (NDPRM). This included strengthening of the national disaster response team (NDRT) programme, developing/updating of contingency planning and disaster management strategic planning.

Programme component 3: Coordination and cross cutting issues

The regional disaster management coordinator, along with the disaster regional response manager, met the ECHO/DIPECHO focal persons to introduce the new project manager and discuss the work plan. The need for linkage between the country and regional programmes were highlighted and similar meetings will be held in Bangladesh and Nepal early next year.

American Red Cross confirmed support for a staff on loan position for supporting the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) and its partners consortium in the development of a disaster management strategic framework. The work commenced on 1 November.

The head of relief department of the British Red Cross visited the South Asia regional office and was involved in the evaluation of the RDRT programme. The final evaluation report will be made available publically. The report was also presented to the British Department for International Development (DFID) in order to develop a partnership plan for the coming year.

The regional disaster management team, along with two partner national societies, supported the IRCS in launching a domestic appeal for the floods in India.

The designing of disaster management policy and strategy has been completed and approved by the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Secretary General.

Constraints or Challenges

Programme activities (branch disaster risk reduction team training in northern areas, CBDRR induction and national youth camp) under the Pakistan earthquake operation were delayed due to the security situations in the country.

The delayed signing of the DIPECHO/ECHO agreement has hindered the implementation plans for this project and a considerable gap has occurred between phases one (ended in March) and beginning of phase two (began in September). A number of factors have changed and a whole new orientation programme has been rolled out these past months to re-acquaint country offices and partners to bring the project back on track.

Global Agenda Goal 2: Health and care

Purpose: National societies have increased capacity to reduce death from disease and public health emergencies.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Outcome
Regional health capacity support	National societies have improved HIV and AIDS and other public health programming.
Regional health partnership and resource development project	National societies have improved organizational capacity in mobilizing resources, building partnerships and advocacy for health programmes.

Achievements

Programme component 1: Regional health capacity support

The annual regional health meeting was held from 15 to 17 July 2009 in Sri Lanka. The theme of the meeting was 'integrated programming' with health, organizational development, disaster management and principles and values. The health focal persons from six national societies and country offices from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in it. The health focal person of the Red Cross Red Crescent climate centre, regional disaster management coordinator, disaster management coordinator from Sri Lanka and representative from Canadian Red Cross also attended the meeting.

The participants presented their experiences, examples, challenges and way forward for the integrated programme approach (IPA). The sessions on climate change, child protection, session on commonalities, differences and way forward in CBDRR and community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) were also included in the meeting. A set of recommendations and action points were agreed upon to follow-up by each national society.

The regional HIV programme cycle will be completed in December 2009. In order to explore funding opportunities and continuation of the programme, a new proposal (2010-2014) for seven countries (including Maldives) is being prepared with the help of a consultant. The proposal will be shared with donors for raising funds for continuation of the programme. There will be a strong focus on stigma and discrimination. The main modality of work will be CBHFA. The emphasis will be on targeted interventions to reduce the rate of transmission among the most vulnerable populations.

The HIV workplace programme was held for the South Asia regional office and India country office staff members. It was based and designed on the basis of the results obtained from knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey conducted among the staff members, International Federation's HIV workplace directives and International Labour Organization (ILO) workplace programme for HIV. This was done with an objective to prevent infection, expand treatment and support and also reduce stigma and discrimination. An external facilitator from the South Asia Collaborative Fund and Delhi Network of Positive People came and participated in discussions related to stigma and discrimination attached with HIV and AIDS.

In Nepal, the programme with female sex workers (FSW) has made a significant progress. A pilot project is also launched in Sri Lanka on HIV prevention with hotel workers and beach boys. The project has been visited by the regional HIV delegate. The project is running well but needs to keep focused on its

objectives and high-risk behaviour groups. These monitoring visits took place to provide clear directions and for further support from regional health team whenever required.

As a follow up of the regional public health in emergencies (PHiE) training held in Pakistan last year, a national level PHiE training was held in Bangladesh from 18 to 23 November. The concept and budgets for the same were prepared in detail with BDRCS's health team. Technical support was also provided to NRCS for developing a PHiE unit. Almost all participants of the PHiE workshop in Pakistan have been deployed in one or other public health in emergencies in the region within this year.

The humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P) programme proposal for India has been approved for implementation amounting CHF 700,000 (USD 672,239 or EUR 469,079).

Regular updates have been sent to staff members and external stakeholders for H1N1. A preparedness proposal prepared by national societies from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for CHF 50,000 (USD 48,023 or EUR 33,511) has been approved for implementation.

Technical support has been provided to NRCS to develop emergency water and sanitation programmes. A meeting was organized for Asia Pacific water sanitation and hygiene promotion partners from 20 to 21 August. There were participations from national societies of the region.

The regional health team supported a CBHFA in action national masters' facilitators' workshop in Nepal organized by NRCS. The workshop was a follow-up of the regional CBHFA in action master's facilitators' workshop held in Sri Lanka last year. The workshop was supported by resources and technically by regional health team. This helped in multiplying the number of trainers and implementers of CBHFA in Nepal.

The regional health coordinator attended the global road safety programme (GRSP), Asia road safety seminar 2009, Singapore. The objective of the participation was to explore the possibilities and opportunities for future programming with the national societies in the region. The morbidity and mortality due to road traffic accidents are becoming a growing concern in the region. An initial discussion was done with GRSP for future programmes in South Asia region.

Programme component 2: Regional health partnership and resource development project

A detailed study was conducted to assess the impact of national condom day in Nepal which was initiated by NRCS 15 years ago and has now become a national event. A researcher was hired to carry out the assignment with a team of 25 data investigators from branches of NRCS. A report of the study has been shared with national societies in the region and other stakeholders.

The short film on regional HIV programme has been produced with the support from regional communication team. The main objective of the film is to showcase the contribution of the regional HIV programme for the reduction of the burden of HIV in the region. The film and postcards picturing different aspects of the HIV programme were shared with national societies, country offices and other stakeholders for promotional purposes. The film will be used as an advocacy tool and will also support fundraising efforts for the HIV programme of South Asia.

The regional HIV delegate, along with participants from different national societies in the region, participated in the International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) 2009 in Bali, Indonesia. A film on the regional HIV programme was officially released. Participants from three national societies have participated at the pre-ICAAP Red Cross Red Crescent meeting. Information materials like postcards, posters, pens and country fact sheets developed for the Global Alliance were disseminated in ICAAP 2009. As part of its efforts to strengthen networks of people living with HIV, the South Asia regional office will provide scholarships to deserving members of networks. One member from the Afghanistan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) was acting as a representative for South Asia region at the antiretroviral therapy (ART) meeting after the ICAAP.

The regional health team continued to serve as a growing platform for knowledge sharing, information dissemination, partnership development, resource mobilization and advocacy during the reporting period. The report of the regional health meeting was disseminated in the region. The regular dissemination of consolidated monthly reports from regional health team and health programmes in all six national societies help in sharing information about their programmes.

Measles proposal: Technical support was provided by the South Asia regional office in developing a measles campaign proposal with BDRCS. This has been approved by the International Federation Secretariat in Geneva and budget of CHF 120,000 (USD 115,194 or EUR 80,412) will be allocated from the Global Measles Appeal. The measles campaign in Bangladesh will be held in February 2010.

The tuberculosis project for IRCS supported by Eli Lilly and USAID was approved. The regional health team provided the technical support in developing the proposal for IRCS. The baseline assessment has been conducted, report developed and shared.

Changes in human resources have taken place in the region. The regional health information and programme support officer has been recruited and resumed his responsibilities in the regional health team with effect from 15 September. The health delegates in Afghanistan and Sri Lanka were recruited and joined their mission.

An additional printing of booklet – standard criteria for first aid kits for the South Asia region under the 'building safer communities' initiative – has been completed. Many national societies have shown interest to translate the same in local language in order to disseminate further with volunteers and partners.

Constraints or Challenges

The security situation in the region hampered the implementation of the health programme. The situation was especially difficult in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The instability of human resources and insecurity of funds at the country and regional levels were two major risks to long-term health programming during the reporting period. In an effort to reduce some funding gaps, the team promoted programme integration and resource sharing.

Global Agenda Goal 3: Organizational & capacity development

Purpose: South Asian national societies have increased capacity to develop, manage and promote their programmes effectively.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Outcomes
Strategic organizational development and community-based support	National societies have policies, systems and procedures that enable better programme implementation.
Communications development project	Communications and advocacy for the most vulnerable at national society and regional level are more effective.
Finance development	National society capacity in financial accountability, reporting, management is strengthened.
PMER development	The capacity of national societies in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting is strengthened further.

Achievements

Programme component 1: Strategic organizational development and community-based support

Based on inputs/feedback from the partnership meeting and fundraising summit that were held during the previous reporting period, the IRCS finalized its four-year strategic plan. BDRCS has started the process of development of its long term strategy, but due to lack of organizational development staff at delegation, the process has slowed down. Hopefully it will elevate by the end of this year.

Based on the recent monthly updates from the International Federation Afghanistan country office, ARCS has appointed an external consultant who will help the national society in developing its human resource system. The consultant has submitted the human resource development proposal which is yet to be reviewed by the national society.

As a new working modality, an email group was established and most of the national societies' documents have been uploaded on the group. The group also serves as a virtual library in the South Asia region.

Support was provided to Nepal for the 'organizational operational alliance light' process which the NRCS started. Feedback on organizational development framework and policy was provided to NRCS. NRCS has shared minutes of the meeting on the operational alliance with the South Asia regional office.

A voluntary investment and value audit (VIVA) is being planned in all the countries in the South Asia region. It is a measurement tool that assesses the output of the volunteer programmes, i.e. the value of the volunteers' time in relation to the input – the resources used to support the volunteers. The programme is nearing completion in India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The last study in Afghanistan has been postponed until the beginning of 2010 due to the political situation in the country. The volunteer audit was conducted with support from the regional organizational development team. The audit is being clubbed with a peer review by national societies in the region who will review the programme and submit a review report.

A two-day South Asia regional organizational development forum was conducted on 23 - 24 November where all the International Federation organizational development representatives except Nepal participated. The Asia Pacific Zone organizational development team facilitated the forum along with regional programme coordinator and regional organizational development manager. The participants used this platform to present their progress, plan for the next year and how the IPA is working within the national societies of the region. The idea was to explore and see how the South Asia regional expertise in different fields of the region could be utilized and how the organizational development team could work closely with the disaster management and health teams. The next organizational development forum with the national societies organizational development practitioners was decided to be held in first quarter of 2010 for a common understanding and how better as an organizational development practitioner the International Federation can provide support to the national societies service deliveries in South Asia. The minutes of the meeting will be shared with all the country offices of the region as well as the Zone organizational development section. It was also discussed that the organizational development approach should give more focus to improve the service delivery. To have a realistic plan, the activities under regional organizational development programme have been modified.

An IPA check-list was forwarded to the regional health team which was further disseminated to the regional country offices and national society health teams.

Programme component 2: Communications development project

During the second half of the year, the regional communications unit developed a new South Asia regional office communications strategy which aims to make this regional delegation the reference when it comes to both the delivery of programmes of the highest quality to vulnerable people, and clear advocacy on their behalf.

The strategy focuses on three key issues across the region:

1. Alignment with programmes and resource mobilization: Communications strategies and budget in each regional programme.
2. Increased regional communications capacity: Knowledge sharing, team building and capture of institutional successes across the South Asia team.
3. Emergency communications: A proactive, effective, fast and leaning forward approach.

Some of the main changes include a much more proactive media strategy – focusing on a broader impact, working with the agenda setting and keeping in stride with global events like the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference and World AIDS Day, as well as encouraging all teams to focus on clear and well supported messages when communicating with their different target audiences through their various products.

The regional communications team continued a proactive media strategy working with key journalists in the region to give the International Federation a more prominent profile in the international media agenda. This requires close coordination with the country offices in order to make sure the messages are consistent and easy to deliver and that the risks are being assessed.

During these last months, there has been a significant improvement in the way the various programmes and communications team have worked together. Communications is now part and parcel of each regional programme which ensures better use of resources, more efficient results, better quality products and clear

messaging. The HIV regional film and the new RDRT communications module are just a couple of examples.

The integration also exists at the Zone level where the whole team has developed a series of Asia Pacific products, ensuring integrated messaging, quality and saving costs. The regional communications unit is also integrated with the tsunami communications team supporting the production of different materials; from audiovisuals to media outreach efforts, and with the team in Geneva with whom the regional communications department is now working on climate change materials for the Copenhagen meeting.

In order to support the communications capacity across the region, the communications unit has developed a series of training tools; these include a more comprehensive RDRT communications module, a communications senior management training, messaging and effective communications module, a strength-weakness- opportunities-threats (SWOT) analysis applied to communications, and hosted a two-day workshop with all the communicators in the region.

As a main objective, this meeting had to try to level the communicators' ground zero knowledge across the region and fill in some of their wide capacity gaps.

During this intensive two-day workshop, the regional communicators' team participated in a series of trainings aimed to level up their knowledge across the region and laid a common ground to work on. The participation was extraordinary and so was the level of interest. Now the challenge is to ensure the South Asia team achieves the goals set and is able to implement the tools acquired.

In addition, the communications unit is supporting the humanitarian diplomacy efforts led by the Asia Pacific Zone office in Kuala Lumpur and is currently working on crafting a series a few written tools that demonstrate humanitarian diplomacy in action, documenting best practices from work that national societies have already done on behalf of vulnerable populations. Nepal is being considered as a successful case study in the region.

Programme component 3: Finance systems development

The South Asia regional finance development project in 2009 has focused in developing a sound finance management for national societies which is a high priority and has been a technical support to national societies to develop their finance software, finance manual and finance procedure as per their new requirements.

The finance development project for Sri Lanka was approved for two years in October 2009, therefore the programme update budget for finance development project has gone up from the original appeal budget.

National societies are now in a better position to plan and manage their financial resources. Computerization of the accounting system has helped national societies to keep a close eye on the expenditure and budget which facilitates better control after replacement from local software to international software and customization according to their recent requirement.

PRCS is in the process to replace local software to international software (Navision). IRCS and Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) are in the process to upgrade the software this year.

The national society finance department and training and regional finance directors meeting in Bangkok has provided a platform to all national societies to share their experience and learn from each other and from the other regions (South East Asia) on ways to address finance in a national society context.

Programme component 4: Planning, monitoring, evaluation, reporting (PMER) development

The regional planning and reporting officer went to the Asia Pacific Zone office PMER department as a staff on loan to broaden her experience in the planning process for 2010-2011 and understand as to how plans were written, edited and re-edited in consultation with different units, particularly the finance unit.

A five-day PMER workshop was organized for the South Asia PMER focal points in the Maldives from 6-10 December 2009 with objectives to:

1. Strengthen the regional PMER team,
2. Understand logical frameworks and the preparation of the same,
3. Understand monitoring and evaluation and how this is applied in programmes/projects.

The regional resource mobilization and PMER manager was appointed in December and, apart from resource mobilization, will focus on supporting PMER capacity building for countries in the South Asia region.

Constraints or Challenges

A major challenge was overcoming the gap from the outgoing organizational development focal people and the commencement of the incoming programme coordinator and the organizational development manager. The recent organizational development forum has provided the new organizational development team of South Asia regional office's with a clear picture of the priorities of the national societies in the region.

Most of the communications staff in the region need continued support and training to ensure development of personal skills and communication capacities are reached provided they maintain a consistency of communications that is yet to be fully realized throughout the region. To adhere this, it may be necessary to consider a five-year timeframe of communication support from the South Asia regional office and to include promotion of standardized guidelines of all aspects of human resource for communication personnel. The recognition of competing country offices' communication needs has to be further disseminated to counterparts at the different levels of the International Federation.

Some of the national societies have not been very supportive for finance development and do not see it as a priority for them as it is sometimes misunderstood as interference in internal affairs. The challenge of changing well established practice has also been an issue. There was also some delays in funding as the senior finance manager was on leave.

Global Agenda Goal 4: Humanitarian values

Purpose: National societies have increased capacity to promote dignity and respect for diversity and to fight discrimination and intolerance in communities.

Outcomes/Expected results

Programme component	Component outcome
Understanding Humanitarian Values	National societies and International Federation country offices show an increased understanding of humanitarian values.
Promoting diversity and increasing dignity	National societies demonstrate an increased capacity to incorporate their understanding of humanitarian values in their ongoing work.

Achievements

Instead of a regional humanitarian values workshop this year, youth from the region will be sent for the international youth camp organized by the International Federation office in Geneva in the first quarter of 2010. An induction course on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is planned to be held in December in Delhi.

A humanitarian diplomacy session facilitated by the external relations coordinator from Asia Pacific Zone was organized by the International Federation for the staff of the South Asia regional office and India office on 10 November.

As mentioned under health and care, a new HIV project proposal (2010-2014) with focus on stigma and discrimination is being prepared for seven South Asia countries.

A HIV workplace programme for the staff members of the South Asia regional and India offices was jointly organized by the humanitarian values and health team. About 30 staff members participated in the same programme. The President of Delhi Positive People's Network and Regional Coordinator, Collaborative Fund for HIV Treatment Preparedness-South Asia was invited to facilitate a session on HIV-related stigma and discrimination, positive living and positive prevention as an external facilitator.

Regional support was provided for a five-day youth camp organized by the IRCS, Punjab state branch, from 24-28 October in Haridwar. A total of 61 girl students and 12 teachers from nine colleges participated in this camp. The understanding on the Movement history, volunteering as well as principles and values were reinforced through plays, extempore speech, and folk song competition as well as the poster

competitions. Emphasis was laid on the burning issues in the state that is dowry, female foeticide and drug addiction. The ICRC has supported with the dissemination materials for the participants. The state branch has expressed their views to organize international youth camp in the future.

Constraints or Challenges

Due to lack of funding, there is no stand-alone principles and values regional programme. Principles and values nevertheless remains an important focus of the work in South Asia and is fully integrated into the other programmes in line with the regional integrated programming approach.

As the humanitarian values staff at the regional level joined only recently, a regional HV workshop planned for this period could not be carried out.

Working in partnership

As a follow-up to continue building relations and support to Bhutan with a Movement-coordinated approach, a meeting with the ICRC and International Federation was organized on 3 November to discuss next steps and develop a common strategy. The regional disaster response team has also facilitated a workshop and training for the Bhutanese government disaster managers from 21 to 26 November.

The regional health programme will continue to establish collaborative efforts in HIV prevention and in preparedness to health emergencies with Movement partners, United Nations agencies, international non-governmental organizations, networks of people living with HIV, government ministries and National AIDS control programmes. There is a need for collaboration with the global network of people living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) and people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) organizations.

The Nepal International Federation country representative, NRCS health director and regional health coordinator attended the World Health Organization (WHO) regional committee meetings in September. The focus was on climate change impacts on health and Red Cross Red Crescent's contribution on measles elimination.

The regional health coordinator and regional senior health manager participated in a partnership meeting, coordinated by UNICEF India office which was attended by various agencies like WHO India, WHO South-East Asia regional office (SEARO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Disaster Management Team (UNDMT), USAID and Sphere.

The regional health programme continued to focus on strengthening existing partnerships. The International Federation and regional offices of WHO held meetings for the renewal of Memorandum of Understanding. The discussions focussed on strengthening partnerships between the two organizations. The key potentials areas where WHO and International Federation can work together are H1N1, tuberculosis, HIV, road safety, climate change, water and sanitation, measles, polio, and emergency health preparedness. In order to make it more active at the country level, a detailed work plan will be discussed jointly by WHO and International Federation. Besides strengthening existing partnerships, the programmes will continue to forge, nurture and develop new partnerships.

Finance development project got support from Danish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The regional support in health and care is responsive to the needs of national societies and is in line with the Global Agenda goals and priorities and aligned with the International Federation's global health and care strategy. Furthermore, the focus will be on scaling up of CBHFA activities and rolling out the global CBHFA in action across the region. The health programme is also committed to the integrated programming.

Furthermore, the South Asia regional office made significant progress in strengthening the regional disaster response system particularly the RDRT programme. This programme is directly benefiting eight South Asian countries through (i) strengthening their RDRT systems to better assist in disaster response and (ii) transferring skills from their staff who are RDRT trained to the national societies' own disaster response mechanisms. It also has a strong linkage with the NDRT's programme of six national societies,

the Asia Pacific Zone disaster management system, other regional offices and the FACT/RDRT programme managed by the Secretariat in Geneva.

Looking ahead

The regional health team is looking towards providing direction and guidance to the national societies in order to scale up their programmes and fund raise. A five-year extension of the regional HIV programme has been proposed. The trained pool of resources at regional level will act as facilitators in their country as well as in other countries for reaching and serving vulnerable communities.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <p>International Federation South Asia office in Delhi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azmat Ulla (Head of regional office); phone: +91.11.2411 1125; fax: +91.11.2411 1128 email: azmat.ulla@ifrc.org • Michael Higginson (Regional programme coordinator); phone: +91.11.2411 1125; email: michael.higginson@ifrc.org <p>International Federation Asia Pacific Zone office in Kuala Lumpur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alistair Henley (Head of Zone); phone: +601 2203 8245; email: alistair.henley@ifrc.org • Jagan Chapagain (Deputy Head of Zone); phone: +603 9207 5702; mail: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org • Penny Elghady (Resource mobilization and PMER coordinator); phone: +603 9207 5775 email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org • Please send all funding pledges to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org 	

[<financial report below; click to return to title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA52001 - South Asia region

Interim Financial Report Jan-Oct 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/10
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAA52001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	908,404	647,446	542,440	13,422	130,075	2,241,787
B. Opening Balance	119,632	304,284	133,772	10,079	14,837	582,603
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	0					0
British Red Cross	176,407					176,407
Danish Red Cross	28,203		98,596			126,799
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)			48,994			48,994
ECHO	692,356					692,356
Japanese Red Cross	23,593	23,593	32,921		18,655	98,763
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	42,000					42,000
Sweden Red Cross	18,872					18,872
Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	61,056	199,220	82,497	13,749	20,533	377,056
C1. Cash contributions	1,042,488	222,814	263,008	13,749	39,188	1,581,248
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
British Red Cross	160,707					160,707
Danish Red Cross			90,807			90,807
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)			-48,994			-48,994
ECHO	123,894					123,894
Sweden Red Cross	-19,472					-19,472
Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		218,583	87,726	14,621	18,276	339,206
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	265,129	218,583	129,539	14,621	18,276	646,148
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Danish Red Cross			77,293			77,293
Irish Red Cross	18,600					18,600
Spanish Red Cross					30,800	30,800
Sweden Red Cross		44,000				44,000
C4. Inkind Personnel	18,600	44,000	77,293		30,800	170,693
<u>Other Income</u>						
Services					53,722	53,722
C5. Other Income					53,722	53,722
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	1,326,217	485,397	469,840	28,370	141,987	2,451,811
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,445,850	789,680	603,611	38,449	156,824	3,034,414
Appeal Coverage	159%	122%	111%	286%	121%	135%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	119,632	304,284	133,772	10,079	14,837	582,603
C. Income	1,326,217	485,397	469,840	28,370	141,987	2,451,811
E. Expenditure	-562,112	-502,750	-291,377	-9,102	-101,574	-1,466,914
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	883,738	286,931	312,235	29,347	55,249	1,567,500

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA52001 - South Asia region

Interim Financial Report Jan-Oct 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/10
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAA52001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		908,404	647,446	542,440	13,422	130,075	2,241,787	
Supplies								
Teaching Materials	7,714		14				14	7,700
Other Supplies & Services	1,026		1,026				1,026	0
Total Supplies	8,740		1,040				1,040	7,700
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings	3,111							3,111
Vehicles	10,310		7,303				7,303	3,007
Computers & Telecom	97,964	9,835	2,829	4,480		-2,453	14,691	83,273
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	1,610	84				104	188	1,422
Others Machinery & Equipment	1,026		4,138				4,138	-3,111
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	114,021	9,919	14,269	4,480		-2,349	26,319	87,703
Transport & Storage								
Storage	758	621	568				1,189	-430
Distribution & Monitoring	2,930	2,107					2,107	823
Transport & Vehicle Costs	41,845	3,111	15,460	4,419		5,482	28,472	13,373
Total Transport & Storage	45,534	5,839	16,028	4,419		5,482	31,768	13,766
Personnel								
International Staff	515,217	122,677	86,182	190,979		32,210	432,049	83,168
Regionally Deployed Staff	570	570				676	1,246	-676
National Staff	193,358	30,979	36,250	18,896	5,626	15,589	107,339	86,019
National Society Staff	62,911		45,103	101			45,204	17,707
Consultants	231,763	111,056	29,759	14,714		11,024	166,552	65,211
Total Personnel	1,003,820	265,283	197,294	224,690	5,626	59,498	752,391	251,429
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	488,767	166,248	76,180	24,403		15,114	281,946	206,821
Total Workshops & Training	488,767	166,248	76,180	24,403		15,114	281,946	206,821
General Expenditure								
Travel	117,085	25,231	43,031	15,510		2,366	86,138	30,947
Information & Public Relation	164,413	40,123	14,066	32	2,859	1,618	58,698	105,715
Office Costs	57,816	2,755	2,702	1,224		777	7,458	50,357
Communications	40,163	14,425	7,116	2,278	26	1,766	25,612	14,551
Professional Fees	4,550							4,550
Financial Charges	13,686	-4,441	2,390	-10		12,771	10,710	2,976
Other General Expenses	37,477	12,448	20,238	2		56	32,744	4,733
Total General Expenditure	435,189	90,541	89,543	19,037	2,884	19,354	221,360	213,829
Programme Support								
Program Support	145,716	37,668	31,078	14,373	592	4,600	88,311	57,405
Total Programme Support	145,716	37,668	31,078	14,373	592	4,600	88,311	57,405
Services								
Services & Recoveries		128					128	-128
Total Services		128					128	-128
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-13,513	77,317	-27		-125	63,652	-63,652
Total Operational Provisions		-13,513	77,317	-27		-125	63,652	-63,652
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,241,787	562,112	502,750	291,377	9,102	101,574	1,466,914	774,873
VARIANCE (C - D)		346,292	144,697	251,063	4,321	28,501	774,873	