

Plan 2009-2010



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nepal

Executive summary

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranked 142 among 173 countries on the UNDP Human Development Index¹. It is also a highly disaster-prone country and thousands of people are affected every year by floods and landslides, which hit the country on a recurring basis. In 2007, about 650,000 people were affected by these disasters. The Kathmandu valley in particular is at high risk from earthquakes. The situation is worsened by rapid urbanisation, related urban planning problems and poor infrastructure (including poor disaster management and public health services), which increase the vulnerability of people during disaster and non disaster times. The internal conflict, which started in the mid-nineties and ended officially through a peace agreement in November 2006, killed about 12,000 people and left thousands more displaced, creating new humanitarian needs in the country.



A young boy and his parent await his Measles vaccination in Dhangadi, Nepal.

It is in this context that the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), the largest humanitarian organisation in the country, provides assistance to the most vulnerable population through its 75 district branches, 1,344 sub-branches, 4,343 junior/youth circles, more than 200,000 trained volunteers and one million members. To address the vulnerabilities among the people, the NRCS has endorsed a new strategic development plan for 2008-2010. Guided by the International Federation's Global Agenda goals and vision of the Federation of the Future, the plan prioritizes the work of the national society in four core areas: disaster management, health and care in the community, promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values, and capacity building.

Through its partnership with the International Federation, the NRCS will focus on disaster risk reduction and HIV, with volunteer management and humanitarian values as support and cross-cutting issues within the two programmes. Community-based disaster risk reduction initiatives will be in line with the regional South Asia disaster risk reduction initiative "Building Safer Communities" that promotes the disaster risk reduction approach among all national societies in the region. In addition to the clear focus on disaster risk reduction and HIV, the International Federation will continue its support for the community-based first aid programme, capacity building in disaster management, as well as for the avian and human influenza preparedness, supported by the Humanitarian Preparedness Initiative. In addition to the programmatic focus, the International Federation will further support and promote the new operating models, the Global Alliance on HIV and the operational alliance for the community development project.

¹ UNDP Human Development Index, 2007/2008

Activities in humanitarian values will specifically aim to address the complex social context and the post-conflict situation of Nepal, while the volunteer management component will include youth and gender development to empower young people and women to be part of the decision-making process in their communities and at all levels of the national society. For newly-established management support mechanisms at the NRCS, funding is needed in the areas of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, as well as for the setting up of a new unit for resource mobilisation and marketing.

This plan targets approximately 273,000 beneficiaries over two years, including disaster management: 70,000 beneficiaries (42,000 male and 28,000 female), health and care: 143,000 beneficiaries (72,000 male and 71,000 female), organizational development: 25,000 beneficiaries (15,000 male and 10,000 female) and humanitarian values: 35,000 beneficiaries (20,000 male and 15,000 female).

NRCS has been working with a large number of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and non-Movement partners. Most of these partnerships are expected to continue for the period of this plan. The national society will continue working with the International Federation, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), partner national societies and other partners from the UN and other international NGOs. To meet its priorities and achieve its goal, NRCS will explore diversified funding opportunities based on the partnership principles outlined in its country cooperation agreement strategy (CAS).

The total budget for 2009 is CHF 1,776,629 (USD 1.62 million or EUR 1.13 million) and for 2010 is CHF 1,789,205 (USD 1.66 million or EUR 1.14 million). [Click here for the budget summary.](#)

Country context

The population of Nepal is 25.88 million², with an estimated growth rate of 2.27 percent. About 7.3 percent of the population lives in the mountains, 44.2 percent in the hills and 48.5 percent in the Terai³. Migration from the mountainous regions and the rural Terai to the newly-developed cities is very high, as people seek better education and employment opportunities. The country features in the 'low human development' category with respect to most of the human development indicators, with over 80 percent of the population surviving on less than USD 2 per day⁴.

The country is faced with problems such as illiteracy, poor health education, discrimination based on caste, as well as inadequate government systems and support. Many parts of Nepal have little or no infrastructure and limited access to roads, safe drinking water (76 percent of the population have access to basic water facilities), sanitary facilities (46 percent of the population have access to sanitary facilities) and public health services⁵. According to the Human Development Index, the current literacy rate above six years of age is 63 percent and the literacy rate above 15 years is 52 percent, whereas the literacy rate for women is significantly lower. The infant mortality rate of 48 per thousand and maternal mortality rate of 281 per hundred thousand are challenges to the public health system. Further, about 75,000 people are estimated to be HIV positive and the social stigma and discrimination based on ethnicity, gender and HIV is very strong and widespread⁶.

In addition to socio-economic factors, geological, topographical and climatic conditions expose Nepal to multiple hazards, most prominently earthquakes, floods, landslides, fires, thunderbolts, windstorms, hailstorms and avalanches. The impact of climate change is worsening the situation. The general population has been most affected by floods, landslides, windstorms and hailstorms, followed by fires and epidemics. Floods and landslides are annually recurring events.

Nepal has also undergone a more than a decade-long armed conflict that resulted in the loss of thousands of lives and huge infrastructural damage, leaving a huge negative impact on the country's economy. Thousands of people have been displaced from their place of origin and live in vulnerable conditions. However, the peace process that began after the successful end of the people's movement

² Central Bureau of Statistics, 2006

³ Ministry of Home Affairs, 2002

⁴ UNOCHA, 2002

⁵ Three Year Interim Plan (2006/07 to 2009/10), National Planning Commission 2007

⁶ UNAIDS Global Report AIDS Report, 2006

in April 2006 has been instrumental in bringing a new socio-political dimension. A successful constituent assembly in April 2008 and the declaration of the country as a Federal Democratic Republic by the first meeting of the constituent assembly in May 2008 have helped to propel the peace process forward.

The new political environment in the country has raised expectations among people for lasting peace and sustainable development. More importantly, the constituent assembly is expected to formulate and endorse a new constitution within two years, along with a new federal political structure for the country. The process is not expected to be smooth-sailing, with several issues needing to be resolved through consensus between the political parties. Thus, while there are clear opportunities ahead for the country, there are also many challenges. The NRCS will have to be prepared to respond to the potential challenges and meet the increasing demands and expectations of the people. At the same time, it will be an opportunity for better image building and branding of the national society.

National Society priorities and current work with partners

The NRCS has an entrenched culture for long term development planning and has recently finalised its fifth development plan (2008-10), which defines its priorities for the coming three years in its four core areas of work. In addition, the NRCS has set the following strategic directions to improve its overall performance:

- Focus on quality programming while scaling up its activities;
- Building capacities at all levels to stay responsive; and
- Applying an integrated planning and programme approach, including the consolidation of current projects.

In addition, realising the need to strengthen the delivery and implementation structure of the NRCS, equal priority will be given to strengthen its management support service mechanisms, including human resources and financial management, administration and logistics, legal support, resource mobilisation, communication and marketing, as well as planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER).

The new strategic development plan of the NRCS was drafted through an inclusive and participatory approach involving NRCS governance and management, district chapters and partners. The plan was adopted by the NRCS General Assembly in 2008 and is aligned with the government's Development Plan as well as the International Federation's Global Agenda goals and Federation of the Future vision.

This International Federation country support plan for 2009-10 aims to address some of the needs and priorities described in the NRCS strategic development plan. It has been developed based on a specific request for support from the NRCS to the International Federation.

The priorities for the International Federation support plan for 2009-10 are:

Global Agenda goal 1: Disaster management

Focus:

- Community-based disaster risk reduction
- NRCS disaster preparedness capacity strengthening, including a pilot project on recovery and capacity building for water and sanitation during emergencies

Global Agenda goal 2: Health and care in the community

Focus:

- HIV (Global Alliance)
- Community-based first aid
- Humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P) with a link to disaster risk reduction

Global Agenda goal 3: Capacity building

Focus:

- Community development programme, through an operational alliance
- Volunteer management, including youth and women development
- Support services mechanisms with a focus on resource mobilization and PMER.

Global Agenda goal 4: Principles and values

Focus:

- Principles and humanitarian values promotion

In addition to the above long-term programmes, the NRCS is frequently involved in emergency operations, especially during the yearly occurring monsoon season. In 2007, the International Federation launched an emergency appeal for the NRCS to support its relief and recovery operation to provide support to 30,000 families affected by the floods and landslides. The operation had a focus on the distribution of relief materials and the provision of early recovery support in the form of shelter and livelihood materials. The operation applied an integrated programming approach linking the flood and disaster management activities to capacity building and humanitarian values initiatives at the NRCS. In order to develop more capacity in the area of recovery and as mentioned under Global Agenda goal 1, the NRCS will implement a recovery pilot project with the remaining funds from the emergency appeal and the technical input from the International Federation. Recovery guidelines and a manual will be developed for future recovery programme implementation.

Partners currently supporting NRCS through the Federation annual appeal:

No.	Partners	Programme components
1	Swedish Red Cross	Community development project, community based first aid, HIV, youth and volunteer development
2	USAID	Humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P)
3	Finnish Red Cross	Community based disaster risk reduction, youth and gender development
4	Japanese Red Cross	Capacity building in health
5	Austrian Red Cross	Federation coordination
6	British Red Cross	Gender development

Secretariat-supported programmes in 2009-10

As one of the goals in the new strategic development plan, the NRCS plans to further integrate its programmes and to consolidate current components wherever possible. The International Federation's support plan for 2009-10 reflects this goal, and has set a clear focus on disaster risk reduction and HIV, with the other programmes working around the focal programmes. For this, components under the previous annual appeals were merged with each other and stand-alone capacity building components were incorporated into the relevant programmes. Under Global Agenda goal 3, the volunteer management programme component will include youth and gender components and the whole programme will be linked to the main programmes of disaster management and health. The disaster management and health departments at the NRCS will be encouraged to request services from the volunteer management, youth and gender units at the NRCS, who will operate as technical units and service providers. The same concept will be applied for principles and values.

The current "management support team meetings" at the NRCS will be used as a coordination body to make sure that programmes are properly linked with each other and those additional funds for organizational development and principles and values are available through the large programmes.

Logical frameworks are available on FedNet⁷, or [upon request](#).

Disaster Management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

⁷ FedNet is an intranet and available to Movement members only

The disaster management budget for 2009 is CHF 480,979 and for 2010 is CHF 521,986.

NRCS has been involved in disaster relief in Nepal since it was founded in 1962. During the years and with growing experience, the NRCS broadened its scope to disaster preparedness both at the organizational and the community level. At present, the NRCS is recognized as the key actor in the area of disaster management in Nepal and disaster management constitutes one of the core programme areas of the national society. The International Federation and partner national societies have been supporting capacity building for disaster management at the NRCS for decades, either through long-term development programmes or short-term support for relief operations. For the past year, the NRCS's disaster management department has shown interest in linking relief to recovery and development. These efforts will be supported through this International Federation support plan, as well the NRCS's endeavors to address adaptations to climate change through disaster risk reduction measures.

The disaster management programme will contribute to the International Federation's Global Agenda goal one. Disaster risk reduction and disaster management capacity building are the main priority areas for this plan period. The purpose of the programme is to enhance the coping capacity of NRCS at all levels, reduce the risks to disasters among vulnerable people living in disaster-prone areas, and promote an effective recovery process for disaster-affected people. The Hyogo Framework for Action will be adopted to enhance organizational and community capacity for risk reduction and recovery. The South Asia regional initiative 'Building Safer Communities' will be actively implemented. In addition, the risk reduction interventions will focus on mitigating the negative impact of climate change.

Based on the lessons learned from the past, the NRCS has designed its programmes by applying a community-based approach to enhance the capacity of vulnerable communities and various projects are being implemented at the national, regional and district levels. NRCS is also involved in training, small scale structural and non structural mitigation activities, along with awareness generation to manage and reduce the risk of disasters at local level. It has been empowering the most vulnerable communities to be united and to develop their collective capacity to better respond to disasters and minimise their impacts. The national society is also maintaining stockpiles of non-food relief items in its 27 warehouses in different parts of the country.

Programme component 1: Community-based disaster risk reduction

Outcome: The risk of disaster is reduced in disaster prone areas and effective recovery processes are promoted.

The community-based disaster risk reduction component aims to reduce the risk to local disasters for vulnerable schools and communities. Targeted communities will be empowered to strengthen their own local coordination and mobilize optimum local resources to cope with the adverse effects of upcoming disasters. Furthermore, a disaster response plan will be developed in communities and at schools by involving locally trained human resources.

This programme component was previously supported by the Finnish Red Cross.

Programme component 2: Disaster preparedness and capacity strengthening

Outcome: Coping capacity of communities is strengthened and NRCS capacity enhanced for recovery initiatives and emergency water and sanitation services.

Under this component, the NRCS' disaster management capacity is further strengthened by implementing additional simulation exercises on the contingency plan, which the national society developed with the support of the International Federation through different consultative meetings. The contingency plan needs to be further disseminated among all stakeholders. It focuses mainly on earthquake preparedness, especially in the Kathmandu valley, and articulates three main issues: the vulnerability and capacities of the country; the steps taken on preparedness; and operational management of activities during a disaster.

In the coming period, the NRCS disaster management centre will be further equipped. Trained volunteers will be developed at the local level and rescue materials will be procured and positioned at strategic locations in the Kathmandu valley for prompt disaster response. The response capacity of

NRCS district and sub chapters will be further strengthened by providing institutional capacity building, as well as search and rescue materials support.

In addition, the NRCS plans to transfer the recovery pilot project under its current emergency appeal to this Secretariat plan for 2009-10. Through this pilot project, the NRCS expects to gain more expertise on the planning and implementation of recovery projects. In addition, the national society's disaster management department will work closely with the water and sanitation unit, the community development programme component and the health and care programme, to build capacity in emergency water and sanitation. Similarly, emergency communication capacity will be strengthened through improvements in technical and managerial mechanisms.

b) Profile of targeted beneficiaries

The capacity building and disaster risk reduction components target a total of 70,000 direct beneficiaries. They include minority groups, indigenous people, orphans, widows and economically vulnerable people, who will receive relief materials, rescue kits, training and livelihood support. Similarly, four districts will get support for small scale risk reduction activities, infrastructure support for Junior Red Cross offices and support for fund raising activities. The components aim to generate awareness regarding disaster risk reduction at local level through a "child to child" and "child to parents" approach. On the other hand, an early warning system will be established in the schools and the nearby communities. The economically vulnerable groups receive support for income generation while disaster-affected population receives relief materials to support their normal life. Community members will directly benefit from the risk reduction-related trainings, which will help to further enhance the response capacity of the community. A school emergency fund will provide additional support to disaster-affected families at local level.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Despite the end of the decade-long conflict, remaining unresolved political issues could cause instability which may hamper programme intervention. Inadequate and uneven participation of targeted groups could hinder the achievement of the expected results. Ensuring gender balance and equal participation of the targeted people are equally important for the effective implementation and sustainability of the programme.

To address the possible problems and to ensure the equal participation of targeted population, a proper coordination mechanism will be developed and the monitoring and supervision mechanism made more effective. NRCS' disaster management department will provide the technical input to the district chapters and community for the project intervention. The national society will focus on ensuring the participation of local organizations and concerned stakeholders to sustain the programme after it is handed over to the community. Local resources will be optimally mobilized as part of the strategy.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

The health and care programme budget for 2009 is CHF 951,444 and for 2010 is CHF 911,143.

The NRCS has been providing health services to vulnerable people through its volunteer network at the district chapters but also through highly professional and trained medical personnel. The national society has developed a health strategy 2006-10 based on the lessons learnt in the past. The NRCS is recognized mostly for its traditional first aid, ambulance and blood services. In addition and throughout the past decades, the NRCS has also built considerable capacity in the area of community health and disease prevention. Its services in hygiene promotion, water and sanitation, family planning, eye care and HIV are spread throughout the country, through its work with the local communities. For the International Federation-funded programme, the main partners for health have been the

Swedish Red Cross on HIV prevention and community-based first aid, and the Japanese Red Cross for capacity building.

The overall purpose of the health and care programme is to improve the health status of targeted communities and reduce their vulnerability through community-based health and care systems. The International Federation-supported programme focuses on three broad areas: HIV, community based first aid, and pandemic preparedness.

As part of the Global Alliance on HIV, existing HIV interventions will be scaled-up to reach a higher number of beneficiaries with an improved quality of services. Community-based first aid includes the provision of first aid services to targeted communities, reducing water-borne diseases (through the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation), and increasing community understanding of disease prevention and health issues. The USAID-funded pandemic preparedness campaign will focus on drafting contingency plans for the national and district levels to prepare for pandemics, including avian influenza.

In addition, the emergency water and sanitation project, which is placed under the leadership of the disaster management department, will be closely linked to the water and sanitation unit at the NRCS, and the health department will provide technical support for quality assurance.

As for disaster management, NRCS has adopted a community-based approach for all health and care programmes to enhance the capacity of the most vulnerable groups in the rural areas of Nepal.

Programme component 1: Community-based first aid

Outcome: Capacity of communities to manage injuries and illness during normal times and disasters is developed.
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The programme is mainly focused on building the capacity of local communities through health promotion, prevention, first aid training, organisation of people at local level and their mobilization in healthy behaviour campaigns. The programme also focuses on improving access to primary health care services from trained local volunteers during disaster and normal injuries and illness. Trained first aid volunteers will be mobilised effectively through refresher training and the replenishment of first aid kits. The programme promotes personal hygiene and provides support for the community-based sanitation promotional activities.

This programme component has previously been supported by the Swedish Red Cross.

Programme component 2: HIV

Outcome: Contribution to the reduction of new cases of HIV according to the Global Alliance on HIV framework.
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Community groups (comprising community and school youth, people living with HIV, spouses of migrants) will be established on a voluntary basis to carry out regular outreach activities like participatory learning sessions, street theatres, celebrating days and events, condom distribution and networking through peer educators. Peer educators are selected from the community groups with a gender and ethnic balance. They will be trained as trainers and also provided training on peer counselling and social mobilization to address the peer learning group sessions. They will then provide counselling to the target groups and advise for referral to health institutions for voluntary counselling and testing, antiretroviral therapy or opportunistic infections management. In addition, the promotion of humanitarian values, a “reduce discrimination” campaign and activities to promote respect for diversity will be part of the HIV/AIDS programme component. District chapters will manage the activities with regular monitoring and supervision and technical support from NRCS headquarters. Reporting on the programme will follow the same channel.

This programme component was part of the regional HIV programme coordinated and technically supported by the International Federation’s regional office. The programme was previously supported by the Swedish Red Cross/ SIDA.

Programme component 3: Humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P)
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Outcome: Capacity of NRCS to prepare for and to provide emergency assistance to people affected by potential influenza pandemic is enhanced.

The potential influenza pandemic initiative is a three-year USAID-funded programme aiming to build a chain of health and disaster management tools and practices as an indispensable prerequisite to generating a fully-prepared capacity of community first-responders during an influenza pandemic. These essential front-liners will provide the most rapid, coordinated and effective response possible, designed to limit morbidity and mortality, safeguard livelihoods and maintain societal cohesion and integrity. The campaign has three principal objectives:

- To support the development of influenza pandemic preparedness plans and protocols of the humanitarian sector in the area of health and food security in Nepal.
- To strengthen the in-country capacities of staff and volunteers to carry out the influenza pandemic preparedness plans.
- To ensure functional coordination between all stakeholders in the preparedness and response of the humanitarian sector.
- The NRCS will pilot this community based pandemic preparedness project in three vulnerable districts for 18 months and mainstream to its health and disaster management programme.
- This component will be funded through Federation's global avian and human influenza appeal which has received a three-year grant from USAID.

b) Profile of the target beneficiaries

The programme will benefit approximately 143,000 people (male: 46 percent; female: 54 percent), without discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, gender, age and health status. Most of the target population will comprise young people, with more than half of them young women. The programme also emphasizes the empowerment of *dalits* (disadvantaged ethnic people) and indigenous groups.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The main challenge is to sustain the programmes in the communities due to the lack of government services and also a lack of long-term commitment from donors. As political unrest still prevails during this transitional period, and a large number of health facilities were destroyed during the conflict, there is a big challenge to cope with hazardous public health problems in the remote areas of the country. The increased migration during the internal conflict in the country is also expected to have contributed to the additional increase in the number of HIV cases, and due to limited resources, support to people living with HIV may be highly inadequate.

In order to meet the challenges, health services will be provided in a comprehensive package in the coming years, through a well-functioning coordination mechanism with stakeholders, to avoid the duplication of resources. Similarly, focus will be on mobilising local resources and generating long-term partnerships for the sustainability of the programme. Equal importance will be given for coordination among concerned authorities at the local level as much possible.

Organisational Development/Capacity Building

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

Enhance local community, civil society and Nepal Red Cross Society capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

The organisational development/capacity building programme budget for 2009 CHF 305,619 and for 2010 is CHF 309,814.

The NRCS has been working continuously to build its organizational capacity at all levels to deliver improved humanitarian services to the needy people in a transparent manner. The national society started organizational capacity development initiatives under a separate programme and later used

integrated or crosscutting approaches. For effective humanitarian services delivery to the vulnerable community, the NRCS has focused on building capacity of the local volunteers including youth and women since 2005.

The national society has developed policies on volunteer management and gender. The clearly defined policies and guidelines on volunteerism and membership have been disseminated up to branch levels so far. Through the programme, women membership and participation has gradually increased. Applying the lessons learned from various programmes, the national society has started integration and standardization of the programme with a focus on the quality of services delivery.

The overall purpose of the programme is to further develop and strengthen organizational and management capacity of NRCS at all levels, including the newly-established management support mechanism, to enable it to become a well-functioning national society.

The community development programme component aims to improve the basic health conditions of the targeted vulnerable communities and to strengthen the capacity of community organizations and NRCS institutions at all levels to provide quality services. It also endeavours to develop a network of volunteers including youth and women members to provide more effective services to the vulnerable section of communities.

Programme component 1: Volunteer management
Outcome 1: Volunteer management system established and further strengthened and leadership capacity of volunteers enhanced at different levels.
Outcome 2: Capacity of the junior/youth members and volunteers of the society in providing effective and qualitative services to vulnerable communities increased.
Outcome 3: Participation of women at all levels of the national society is increased.

A data base of volunteers will be set up in the district chapters. Youth and women will be especially encouraged when recruiting volunteers. They will be trained in topics like volunteer management, leadership development, and gender sensitivity as per the needs assessment and will be involved in different phases of the programmes in the community and in emergency situations. Referring to the integrated programme approach, the three components under volunteer management will be closely interlinked with each other and the main disaster management and health programmes at the NRCS.

The different components of this programme have been supported by the British, Finnish, Korean and Swedish Red Cross societies.

Programme component 2: Community development programme
Outcome: Socio-economic vulnerability of the targeted communities is reduced and their self-reliance increased.

The programme will continue to carry out a survey to identify the problems, needs and capacity of the target community. Activities will be designed and implemented together with the community. Health and sanitation, literacy, self-help and drinking water schemes will be the generic parts of this component. Community participation will be emphasized in all phases, including needs assessment, implementation, monitoring and benefit sharing.

This programme component has been supported by the Swedish Red Cross.

Programme component 3 : Strengthening support service mechanisms
Outcome 1: NRCS capacity to mobilise in-country resources is increased.
Outcome 2: Planning, monitoring and reporting capacity of the NRCS is enhanced.

In order to support the programme departments to achieve the set goals, the NRCS has planned to set up a management support service mechanism. This is to help ensure that support services of the secretariat are carried out in an effective manner with the most efficient use of the limited resources available. In addition, the management support service mechanism will enhance service coordination amongst the departments and enable the programme departments to focus on programmatic issues.

The International Federation support plan for 2009-10 will focus on the development of a resource mobilization unit at the headquarters. This component is part of the South Asia regional resource mobilisation programme. In addition, the International Federation will continue its support for developing the overall planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) unit at the NRCS.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The programme will target approximately 25,000 people (9,000 of them female) among the targeted communities, NRCS staff and volunteers, junior/youth members and women development committee members.

The programme plans to enhance the capacity and self-reliance of local communities through its community development component. This will cover aspects like health and hygiene awareness, along with livelihoods and institutional development. The community development programme will benefit about 4,000 people. The programme also seeks to enhance the capacity of the NRCS to provide more effective services to vulnerable populations, by increasing and diversifying physical and human resources. About 200 staff members will benefit from this programme. In this regard, it aims to develop the national society’s network of volunteers including women, junior and youth volunteers.

The programme will also mobilise both male and female students through junior/youth volunteers recruitment and trainings. It also plans to strengthen NRCS’s capacity for resource mobilization, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, and its communication system.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The economic vulnerability of the community as well as the fluid political situation in the country present possible risks to the programme. The major challenge is external funding for the programme as response from external partners in this sector has been usually low. Another challenge for NRCS is to retain trained volunteers due to the rural-urban and cross country migration.

The national society plans to integrate some components as cross-cutting issues in all programmes and mobilise internal resources to minimise the risks. All programmes will give high priority to the recruitment of new volunteers. Married women, for example, will get special priority while recruiting community motivators. In addition, the programmes will also explore the possibility of local coordination and collaboration with relevant line agencies for trainings and refresher trainings to replace trained human resources who have migrated.

Principles and values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Understanding of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values is improved (through integration in core programmes and promoting community awareness).

The principles and values programme budget for 2009 is CHF 38,588 and for 2010 is CHF 46,262.

The Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values have been promoted in an integrated manner since the inception of the NRCS. The scope of humanitarian values has been focusing on reducing discrimination and respecting diversity in the organization of the NRCS and the communities it works with. The integration of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values has been done in a more focused way after this core area was prioritized in the Fourth Development Plan.

As a consequence of the quickly changing social environment in Nepal and the empowerment of previously excluded and marginalized groups, there is a need for the NRCS to adapt quickly, to be sensitive and proactive in order to be able to serve without obstacle or discrimination all vulnerable people, who are in need of humanitarian services.

The proposed project aims to increase the integration of the humanitarian values component within all community-level interventions of the NRCS. In particular, the non-discrimination campaign will continue through the HIV programme and other community-based programmes to address the low awareness on non-discrimination and social inclusion at the community level. Over half a million vulnerable people will benefit from this. This will contribute to Global Agenda Goal four. Nepal has benefited from good humanitarian values support over the years from the South Asia regional office and NRCS is now regarded as a regional humanitarian values resource for South Asia.

Programme component 1: Principles and humanitarian values promotion
Outcome 1: Humanitarian values component is integrated within health and care, disaster management and capacity building programmes of the NRCS.
Outcome 2: Social discrimination (practices against “untouchables”) against minorities, women, returnees, children and people living with HIV is reduced in 35 selected communities.
Outcome 3: Additional 100,000 people are reached through the radio and electronic media to promote humanitarian values.

The Fundamental Principles, especially humanity, impartiality and neutrality and the behaviour to be inculcated will be part of every orientation programme for NRCS staff, volunteers and community members. Adequate provision will be made to encourage the participation of the communities, youth, women and minorities in the areas of needs assessment, training, as well as decision making processes in the community. The programme activities will aim to bridge communities from different backgrounds by involving them in identifying common problems, resources and benefits they can share. Youth camps on non-discrimination will be conducted to develop youth from diverse backgrounds as role models to influence the behaviour of others. The network with people living with HIV and their organizations will be strengthened through partnerships. Success stories and positive lives will be shared through print and electronic media.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

This programme targets 35,000 direct beneficiaries in 35 conflict-affected communities. In addition, there will be increased understanding of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values among 24,000 staff and volunteers of the NRCS. Approximately 100,000 people will be educated on humanitarian values through the Red Cross radio programme, NRCS website, library and Red Cross television programme. Over 500,000 vulnerable people will benefit through the integration of the humanitarian values component in NRCS community-level interventions.

c) Potential risks and challenges

Although there have been previous efforts to integrate the humanitarian values component for resource sharing and better results, funds for this have not been forthcoming. Further, without increased human resources, further operation and scaling-up of the programme will be difficult.

Political instability is a possible risk. To manage the risk, NRCS will further strengthen its neutral and impartial image among the external audience through dissemination of Red Cross knowledge on International Humanitarian Law and the Fundamental Principles to political parties, civil society, and the public. NRCS will further focus on promoting the behaviour of staff and volunteers in accordance with the Red Cross principles and values. Since Nepal is in a socio-cultural transformation phase, advocacy for the promotion of humanitarian values will be done with the political parties and communities.

Role of the secretariat

The International Conference in 2007 made a resolution "Together for Humanity". It urged the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to address four key issues: a) environmental degradation and climate change; b) humanitarian concerns generated by international migration; c) violence, in particular in urban settings, and; d) emergent and recurrent diseases and other public health challenges such as access to health care. The International Federation in-country, regional and zone offices will provide technical and financial support to the NRCS to respond to those issues. In addition, the national/regional disaster response teams will be developed, strengthened and mobilized as per the need of the country and the region. Similarly, the capacity of the NRCS will be further strengthened

based on the regional disaster management review findings and disaster management/disaster risk reduction framework.

The International Federation country office in Kathmandu will continue to provide administrative and financial support related to the programme implementation and requirements of donors. The International Federation representative will focus on providing support for resource mobilization for the annual plan and emergency appeals, for strategic issues and issues related to coordination and the new operating models, as well as on facilitation for technical input for programme implementation and capacity building. In addition, the International Federation in Nepal will provide priority support for Movement coordination and international representation.

a) Technical programme support

Technical support for programme implementation is facilitated by the International Federation Nepal country office and generally provided by the South Asia regional office in New Delhi or other International Federation country offices in the region. For specific areas, support is mobilized from the zonal or global level or through external consultants. This support mechanism reflects the agreement with the NRCS that the International Federation has a representative role in Nepal, implying that the programme staff is with the NRCS and its programmatic capacity is built through regional support. Through this mechanism, the NRCS's health department, especially the HIV unit and the disaster management department have close links with the regional health and disaster management units at the South Asia regional office in New Delhi. Organizational development and humanitarian values are supported by the International Federation's regional office on a request basis.

For narrative and financial reporting support, the International Federation office in Nepal is closely linked with the PMER unit at the regional office and the zone finance unit to make sure that reports are of good quality and timely.

NRCS will continue to be a part of the Federation's regional "building safer communities in South Asia" initiative and contribute to the maximum possible extent to achieve its objectives. Similarly, as part of the Global Alliance on HIV, the NRCS will focus on scaling-up HIV/AIDS activities and resources to achieve the objectives.

Support on strategic issues, e.g. development plan and cooperation agreement strategy (CAS), implementation of operational alliances and the Global Agenda will be provided or facilitated by the International Federation country representative.

The regional health unit will continue to provide support to the NRCS in all aspects of health and care programming and resource mobilization, expanding the HIV programming to new districts in line with the Global Alliance commitments, and implementing the HIV programme's mid-term evaluation recommendations, as well as the community based first aid in action concept through trainings, coaching and supervision.

b) Partnership development and coordination

The main partners contributing to the previous International Federation appeals (emergency and annual) for Nepal were the following partner national societies: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Belgian (Flanders) Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Liechtenstein Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Korean Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross and most of all Swedish Red Cross.

With the NRCS having many partners within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and among international organisations and donors, one of the major priorities for the International Federation office in Nepal is coordination and relationship management.

The NRCS is part of the Global Alliance on HIV and has an operational alliance for the community development programme. Both these new operating models of the International Federation of the Future aim to bring partners together to harmonize programme frameworks. With the NRCS in a leading role, the International Federation has taken a strong supportive role for both operating models.

With the adoption of its 5th Development Plan 2008-10, the NRCS will also update its existing CAS (cooperation agreement strategy) with the support of the International Federation. This will reflect that two of the four partner national societies in the country are currently being integrated under the International Federation umbrella, while the other two partner national societies keep regular and good contact with the International Federation office. The ICRC has been a strong Movement partner and coordination with them has been well-functioning through the coordination and management meetings, which serve as the Movement platform for coordination in Nepal. Nepal has a good practice of Movement cooperation through coordination and management meetings which are held fortnightly. It provides updates of the national situation including security, as well as developments within the NRCS, the ICRC and the International Federation. There is also a practice of sharing the coordination and management meetings minutes among the Movement components. In addition, the Movement components have signed a memorandum of understanding that defines the role of each component in times of emergency response in Nepal.

During natural disasters, the International Federation office in Nepal supports the NRCS in fundraising for its operations (through emergency appeals) and in giving technical support. It is worth noting that the NRCS has been a reliable partner for some UN Agencies, such as WFP and UNICEF for relief in the areas of food and water, as well as sanitation and hygiene. In addition to the strong bilateral ties, the International Federation has developed a good relationship with the main international humanitarian actors in Nepal, especially those represented in the humanitarian country team of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the disaster management team.

c) Representation and Advocacy

In addition to the coordination activities with international partners in Nepal, the International Federation office has been an active advocate of the national society's neutrality and its auxiliary status with the government. This advocacy role has not only been carried out during international meetings, but also with relevant government authorities and the media.

The International Federation office is frequently representing and advocating for the national society and its capacities during disaster response and preparedness meetings. Relationships with major donors in the country, such as the European Commission, ECHO, USAID, Global Fund, etc. are established to advocate for the NRCS and its programmes.

d) Other areas

On the International Federation's convenor role in the emergency shelter cluster of the humanitarian reform system, the International Federation office in Nepal is actively involved in the IASC contingency planning exercise, focusing particularly on a potential major earthquake in Kathmandu valley.

Promoting gender equity and diversity⁸

The NRCS programmes will continue to emphasize gender balance and focus on the participation of women, especially in decision-making processes at the community and institutional levels. The gender and women development component of the volunteer development programme aims at increasing women's representation and effective participation in all levels of the national society.

Reflecting the social change and the empowerment of marginalized groups, social inclusion and diversity has been included as a priority issue in the 5th development plan of the NRCS. This cross-cutting issue is also reflected in the humanitarian values programme, which focuses on reducing discrimination and enhancing respect for diversity by reaching out its programmes to the marginalized.

Quality, accountability and learning

The NRCS will involve community members, with the assistance of volunteers, at different stages of

⁸ South Asia regional office produced a study report on the Women Volunteers in South Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies in March 2006 which includes a case study from NRCS

programme implementation including the assessment of their needs/problems; planning and implementation of activities. This is to ensure the delivery of appropriate services based on the needs of the communities, and promote local ownership and effective coordination leading to better sustainability of programme interventions.

As the majority of the health and care programme activities are community-based, needs assessments will be conducted using the participatory rural appraisal method and participatory learning groups will be formed to carry out planned activities. The involvement of targeted groups, for example, people living with HIV, will further contribute towards quality assurance. Under the disaster management programme, community participation will ensure that activities are planned to address local needs and take local resources and capacities into consideration. Programme staff will work with beneficiaries to mobilize local resources for better risk reduction and recovery measures. Further, the involvement of all stakeholders in the planning and implementation stages of the programmes will help ensure accountability.

The NRCS will also develop policies and database systems that will contribute to programme efficiency. The volunteer management system will be standardised and the core programmes will work with the volunteer management programme to develop a database of volunteers working in their specialised areas. This will improve knowledge management and learning. The existing resource mobilisation policy will also help to standardize programme activities.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the International 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 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.
Contact information	
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[**<Country map below; please click here to return to title page>**](#)

