

Annual report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Viet Nam

Appeal No. MAAVN001

29 April 2010

This report covers the period 1 January
to 31 December 2009.



Fishing activities in the mangroves: the plantation of mangroves in Viet Nam's coastal areas provides more than a buffer against natural disasters. (Photo: Thanh Hoa chapter, Viet Nam Red Cross)

In brief

Programme purpose: The 2009-2010 support programme aims to strengthen the Viet Nam Red Cross society's role as the leading humanitarian organization in Viet Nam.

Programme summary:

The focus of activity during this reporting period remains the planting and maintenance of mangroves in efforts to enhance disaster preparedness through the natural means of mangroves and bamboo; training on disaster preparedness planning; education on disaster preparedness; first aid training; and training on finance management.

Planned activities have been implemented in parallel with the 2008 floods operation, the 2009 Typhoon Ketsana operation and Typhoon Mirinae.

Financial situation: The 2009 budget has been revised from CHF 682,915 (USD 629,200 or EUR 447,895) to CHF 709,653 (USD 694,825 or EUR 469,580). Coverage of the budget is up to 117 per cent while expenditure for January to December 2009 is 79 per cent of the total 2009 budget.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

See also [MDRVN006 floods and typhoons](#).

No. of people we help: Under the disaster management, and health and care programmes, there are 3,786

direct beneficiaries, excluding the number of people being reached under the current relief operations.

Our partners:

Partners who have supported VNRC under this appeal include Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross/British government, Japanese Red Cross (as a long-term partner under the 2006-2010 memorandum of understanding), Liechtenstein Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross.

VNRC also works with government departments, namely in the ministry of health, and the disaster management working group, as well as with UN agencies, such as UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO), and other non-governmental organizations. VNRC is also supported by corporate sector donors.

Also contributing to the work of the national society on a bilateral basis are American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross.

On behalf of Viet Nam Red Cross, IFRC would like to thank all partners and contributors for their response to this appeal.

Context

The year 2009 has been reported as a good economic year for Viet Nam¹: gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 5.32 per cent overall, while industrial production values grew by 7.6 per cent as compared to 2008. Total retail consumer goods and services rose an impressive 18.6 per cent, as total realized investment capital gained 15.3 per cent against its 2008 counterpart. In a period during which global economies are still slumped or struggling to recover, Viet Nam has shown considerable resilience against the economic recession; even growth, despite understandable concerns both nationally and globally.

In terms of health, however, the country has had to contend with several outbreaks of newly emerging diseases, including avian influenza A/H5N1, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and the H1N1 influenza pandemic. Other diseases that have posed public health threats in the country include malaria (which is at present greatly under control), TB (gauged to claim almost 20,000 lives annually), HIV, intestinal parasites (especially in children), and other zoonotic diseases carried by farm animals.

Diseases and natural disasters were among the major factors affecting VNRC's activities during this reporting period. Dengue fever became an emerging threat in urban areas such as Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and other cities where an increase in the number of cases detected was linked to consequences of climate change, and water and sanitation conditions. In total, 93,339 cases were reported in 41 provinces in the country, of which 81 were fatalities.

In late May 2009, the first human cases of influenza H1N1 were found in Viet Nam and soon after that, became widely spread in all provinces in Viet Nam. As of December, there were 11,104 laboratory confirmed cases, including 53 deaths². Pregnant women, children and people with existing illnesses other than influenza were identified among the most vulnerable groups. In September, a national action plan on influenza A/H1N1 was adopted by the ministry of health, indicating specific roles and responsibilities for other ministries and VNRC. National authorities also requested that each sector, agency and province make its own action plan. With engagement and an active role in pandemic preparedness in the updated national pandemic plan, the function of VNRC was clarified in assisting the government in pandemic response such as establishment of the community response team, assistance in field hospitals, patient referral and on-site responses. After the A/H1N1 outbreaks, VNRC, with technical and funding support from the Federation country office, organized public campaigns in key cities and bordering provinces with China and Cambodia to raise awareness among the public.

Meanwhile, the H5N1 recurrence in poultry and human cases is still a concern. In December, one new human case was reported, while accumulated cases of infection and fatalities number 112 and 57 respectively while epidemic was reported in 37 provinces.

¹ Viet Nam General Statistics Office (http://www.gso.gov.vn/default_en.aspx?tabid=508&ItemID=9464)

² <http://www.wpro.who.int/vietnam>

The Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) remained on the alert for the annual typhoons and floods and other natural disasters, given the country's susceptibility to climate events. Climatic events have been an annual occurrence in Viet Nam, and these have intensified over recent years as the effect of climate change becomes more obvious through the typhoons that strike the country's vast coastline every year.

Flooding has become a yearly event; in 2009, Typhoon Ketsana struck the Philippines, and subsequently wreaked havoc across 13 provinces in Viet Nam, forcing the evacuation of more than 350,000 people, the destruction of almost 500,000 houses, and heavy losses to agriculture and fisheries. An estimated three million people suffered the impact of this disaster. The Typhoon Ketsana operation began right after the 2008 flood operation had been completed two weeks before. Hardly a month later, Typhoon Mirinae swept in from the gulf and through nine provinces, causing widespread damage and heavy losses. Most of the provinces affected by this typhoon were already hit by Typhoon Ketsana about a month before, posing a setback in gains already made in relief and recovery under the emergency appeal that was earlier launched in response to Ketsana.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Global agenda goal 1: Reduced deaths, injuries and impact from disasters

Programme objective: VNRC fulfils its designated strategic and implementation role in the context of Viet Nam's disaster management network

Outcomes/expected results

- Impact of storms and floods in Viet Nam are reduced through timely distribution of life-saving assistance to the affected populations.
- Communities in Viet Nam are aware of disaster hazards in their region and are capable of acting effectively during times of disaster.
- Vulnerability of communities in storm-prone areas is reduced from the impact of disaster through timely information, capacity building and livelihood resilience to disaster risk
- VNRC at all levels has developed and updated their annual contingency plan and shares it with other stakeholders.

Achievements

A main portion of the disaster management activities in 2009 concentrated on the coastal protection programme which involved the plantation of mangroves, bamboo and other vegetation endemic to the coastal area to help buffer the onslaught of extreme weather events coming in from the East Sea and the Gulf of Tonkin. Implementation of this programme began in April, despite a delayed start, but accelerated with the aid of experience in project management accumulated over previous years, as the programme continued. Also provided was technical assistance for contingency planning and disaster risk reduction through the organization of planned workshops for Red Cross staff, volunteers and community members.



Field coaching on planting bamboo in NamĐịnh



Plantation of mangroves in Ninh Binh province



Two-month old fledgling bamboo plants

Photos: VNRC/IFRC

Achievements under this component include:

Plantation of vegetation:

- 105 hectares of *kandelia* (mangroves) planted in Nam Dinh and Ninh Binh provinces
- 61 hectares of *sonnaria* planted in Ninh Binh and Hai Phong
- 10,500 clumps of *bamboo* planted in Hai Phong, Nam Dinh and Thai Binh
- 25 hectares of *casuarinas/fucalyptus* (*eucalyptus*) planted in Nghe An and Ha Tinh

Training on plantation techniques:

Up to 174 people who participate in planting were given instruction in proper plantation techniques through eight training sessions in Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Nam Dinh and Ha Tinh.

Training of Red Cross staff and community members in disaster preparedness:

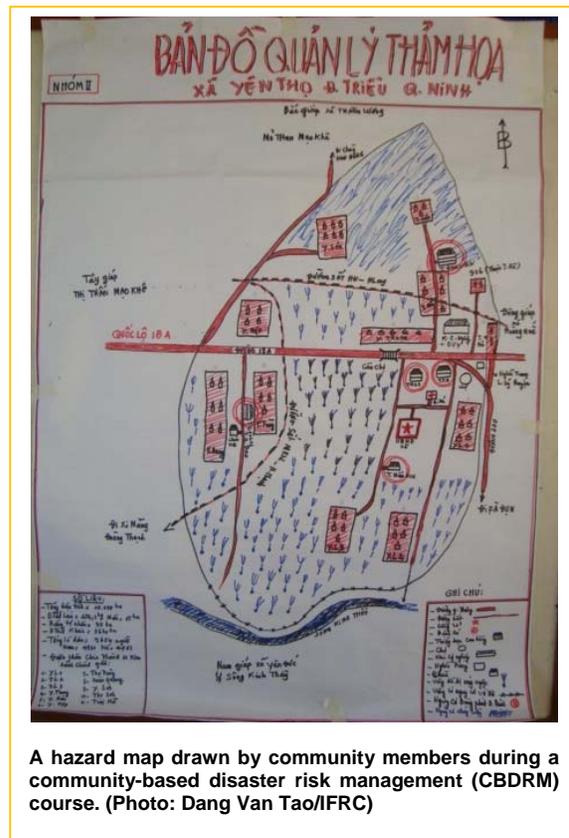
- 1,605 Red Cross staff members in communes in the provinces of Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Ninh, Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, and Ha Tinh were trained in community-based disaster risk management through six-day courses. In total, 75 courses have been provided. Those 75 communes use acquired knowledge to make annual disaster preparedness and response plans.
- 240 commune staff and volunteers in Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Nam Dinh, and Nghe An were trained in 12 first aid and disaster response courses, and provide first aid on any occasion including traffic accidents in their respective locations.
- 125 commune staff and community volunteers in Thanh Hoa were trained in five courses on general disaster preparedness.

Training of school teachers and students in disaster preparedness:

- 1,390 teachers in primary schools in Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Ha Tinh participated in 55 disaster preparedness training courses in order to be able to train school children.
- 31,991 children were trained on disaster preparedness by the same teachers (above) in the provinces of Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Ha Tinh.
- 4,457 primary school children in Quang Ninh, Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces participated in 14 disaster preparedness competitions and camps where they demonstrated their knowledge and participation in disaster preparedness and mitigation through protecting the mangrove forests. In Quang Ninh province, ten contests were held at district-level in October before the final one held at provincial level, and saw the representation of 140 children from ten schools, selected from the previous round in November.

Income generation incentives and activities:

- In Hai Phong province, 40 families planting mangrove trees were paid a total of VND 60 million (CHF 3,343 or USD 3,243), while 40 other families planting bamboo were paid a total of VND 50 million (CHF 2,783 or USD 2,702).
- In Nam Dinh province, 49 families planting mangroves were paid a total of VND52.50 million (CHF 2,923 or USD 2,837), while three families planting bamboo were paid a total of VND18 million (CHF 1,002 or USD 973).
- In Thai Binh province, 81 families were paid a total of VND 40.5 million (CHF 2,255 or USD 2,189).
- In Ninh Binh province, 28 families planting mangroves were paid a total of VND 126.72 million (CHF 7,055 or USD 6,850).
- In Nghe An province, 20 families planting casuarinas species were paid a total of VND 20.25 million (CHF 1,127 or USD 1,095).
- In Ha Tinh province, 16 families planting casuarinas were paid VND 18 million (CHF 1,002 or USD 973).



A hazard map drawn by community members during a community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) course. (Photo: Dang Van Tao/IFRC)

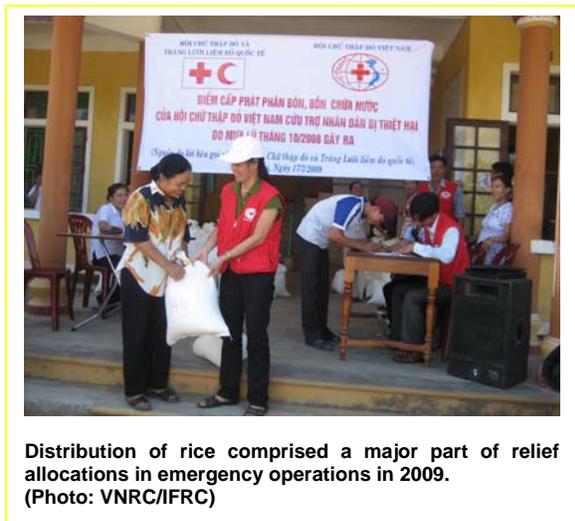
- In total 277 families received additional income from USD 30 up to USD 500 by engaging in the project activities.
- Poorer households planting mangroves or bamboo have received an additional income of VND 1 million (CHF 57 or USD 55) according to their participation in planting. They are also given access to fishing and/or using bamboo products or raising poultry under the bamboo trees from these resources three years after plantation.

Information, education and communication (IEC) materials:

- 2,600 community-based disaster risk management handbooks, 1,500 training materials for teachers and 36,100 booklets on “Disaster preparedness (DP) introduction to children” have been printed and distributed in eight provinces in order to carry out training workshops as planned. Two LCD projectors, one computer and three cameras have been procured and given to the Red Cross chapters of Hai Phong, Ninh Binh, Nghe An, Thai Binh and the national headquarters to facilitate training and monitoring activities.
- 10,000 booklets on mangrove impact and planting techniques, and 9,000 poster calendars of the year 2009 on project objectives, and the seven core principles for more public awareness for local communities and children, were placed at the mangrove research centre.

The visibility of the Red Cross in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, and the successful plantation of mangroves have elevated the national society’s profile as a whole. Chapters share knowledge on disaster preparedness measures with each other or are consulted by other organizations also seeking to engage in mangrove plantation. For instance, the Nghe An Red Cross chapter has been invited as a guest speaker or facilitator to all workshops on disaster preparedness in their province, while the Quang Ninh Red Cross chapter has been consulted by other organizations engaging in mangrove plantation in the province. Based on their experience, this chapter has been able to assist in the selection of households participating in the plantation, techniques of mangrove plantation and protection, as well as community involvement in the process.

Red Cross commune members have been able to generate income from the plantation of these mangroves through fishing activities and marine cultivation. In communes planting bamboo, an agreement has been reached between households engaged in planting and the local administration whereby beneficiaries will contribute a part of their income earned from marine and young bamboo harvesting to the Red Cross commune fund.



Distribution of rice comprised a major part of relief allocations in emergency operations in 2009. (Photo: VNRC/IFRC)

The implementation of this programme’s activities has had positive direct impact on the communities involved. Capacity building activities have helped communities better prepare for the onset of disaster, and increase their capacity to respond in the aftermath. Disaster preparedness planning has helped commune staff to develop and implement preparedness plans within their own communities. In almost all communes where activities take place, disaster preparedness and response plans have been developed subsequent to vulnerability and capacity assessments. Efforts to raise awareness of community-based disaster risk management and preparedness among community staff and members have also been carried out.

This project has given the Red Cross the opportunity to build and strengthen cooperative partnerships with the education sector through provision of curricular training for school teachers, who in turn, train school children in

summer classes. These include school children aged between nine and ten years, who better understand and are more equipped to respond to or cope with emergency situation and risks.

As with previous years, the annual disaster management programme has been run parallel to emergency operations. In 2009, the emergency operations in response to flooding in October/November 2008 continued until September. Under this operation, up to 68,959 households (some 196,729 people) in nine provinces received rice supplies while the distribution of non-food items was made to 26,655 households (some 112,986 people), and 4,200 water storage tanks to as many households (or some 17,255 people). (See the [operations final report](#) for more details.)

While the 2008 floods operation was completed by September 2009, this was succeeded almost immediately by the onset of Typhoon Ketsana which struck at the end of the same month, affecting an estimated 1.5 million people. Initial response by VNRC was supported by the Federation through a disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) allocation of CHF 314,064 (USD 324,167 or EUR 214,633) for the distribution of household kits, water treatment supplies such as water purification tablets, and information, education and communication (IEC) materials for household water treatment.

Right on the heels of Ketsana, Typhoon Mirinae struck in early November, cutting a swathe across many of the provinces already enduring the destruction by Ketsana. Parallel to the floods and typhoon operation, the VNRC has been operational in the field in response to Mirinae since 1 November.

Constraints or challenges

Among the challenges faced are:

- The lack of qualified human resources to implement planned activities under the disaster management (DM) programme has proven a difficulty in the event of emergency operations (2008 flood operation, and 2009 Ketsana typhoon operation), and presently remains an issue at both headquarters and chapter level. While this is directly implicated in the component of disaster management, it is implicitly tied to organizational development and capacity building of the national society. This is also affected by the turnover of trained disaster preparedness staff at chapter level; as such, the coordination of disaster preparedness trainers among chapters may be best carried out at headquarters level.
- Frequent information gathering, planning and reporting is another area that requires attention. While monitoring visits have been made and monitoring reports submitted, these findings need to be captured and analysed to improve future project implementation. To address it, the Federation's disaster management programme manager has given direct technical support to each project province.
- Involvement of partners in the process of VNRC's annual planning may provide valuable input, especially in the area of disaster preparedness and response. A coordinated, participatory plan can display the steering role of VNRC, and enable partners to exercise a holistic approach in their support to the national society.

Health and care

Global agenda goal 2: Reduced deaths, illness and impact from disease and public health emergencies

Programme objective: VNRC delivers quality health and care programmes and services that address the needs of vulnerable people in Viet Nam

Outcomes/expected results

- The awareness of people on the dangers of avian influenza in five target provinces and the preparedness/response capacity of VNRC to public health emergencies is enhanced.
- Vulnerability to HIV and its impact is reduced through preventing further infection, expanding care, treatment and support, and reducing stigma and discrimination.
- Vulnerability to injuries caused by accidents reduced through the active participation of VNRC first aid trainers and volunteers in community-based first aid.
- The system of non-remunerated voluntary blood donor recruitment is strengthened.
- Access to safe water and sanitation services for poor ethnic minority people is improved in two selected northern mountainous provinces.

Achievements:

The VNRC, with support of the Federation country office, is progressing in planned activities around community-based first aid (CBFA). The main activity was the development of a pedagogic methodology book, and a handbook for volunteer and community practitioners. These materials were developed based on a participatory approach where workshops and training were organized to test draft materials and garner input from their potential users, such as Red Cross trainers and volunteers. A host of workshops/meetings was organized and the achievements as follows:

- 27 Red Cross provincial trainers from Southern and Central provinces received instruction through the training-of-trainers course facilitated by one national trainer from the headquarters, and two national trainers from the Hochiminh City and Can Tho provincial chapters

- 100 volunteers were trained in a two-day course during the above-mentioned training-of-trainers course as a compulsory part for improving facilitation and technique of trainers on community-based first aid
- Technical inputs from a German Red Cross first aid instructor to VNRC that was facilitated by the Federation country office resulted in the completion of a first aid handbook for volunteers.
- The CBFA trainers' manual was finished taking into account knowledge and guidance from IFRC, and input from provincial trainers through training-of-trainer courses.
- 100 sets of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) mannequins were distributed to 43 active chapters and the headquarters office for first aid training activities in communities.



Practical group work at community-based first aid training workshops gives participants opportunities to put their newly learnt skills into practice. (Photo: VNRC)

- 400 newly printed standardized first aid manuals were distributed to 63 Red Cross provincial chapters
- 100 managers and staff from the health and care departments of VNRC headquarters and chapters received induction sessions on community-based health first aid.

Selected as one of the countries eligible for implementing the pandemic influenza preparedness and response (H2P) global programme, VNRC embarked on the one-year project which began in August 2009. While it is not part of the annual plan for 2009, this project will be integrated into the 2010-2011 Plan. Priorities for this period were given to planning, capacity building and coordination among the humanitarian sector, government bodies and UN agencies. Activities implemented included:

- Meetings to sensitize authorities and civil society organizations on H2P were organized both at national and provincial levels
- Introductory sessions on pandemic influenza as well as meetings on multi-sectoral pandemic planning were held in two pilot provinces of Ha Nam and Quang Tri
- Multi-sectoral pandemic plans were drafted with specification of roles for governmental agencies, key mass organizations and VNRC
- Strengthened information sharing and coordination mechanism between VNRC, the ministry of health, and WHO around national and provincial pandemic planning as well as responses to influenza H1N1.
- Strengthened cooperation between VNRC and Care through joint organization of training-of-trainers courses, and development of training tools.
- A regional H2P workshop for 100 participants from civil society and humanitarian organizations was hosted by VNRC
- Training for 20 master trainers and 40 provincial trainers on pandemic influenza; these trainers are from VNRC, and partner organizations representing civil society organizations.
- Training for 24 community responders and 26 community leaders as a result of testing cascade training in pandemic influenza.

In blood donor recruitment activities, VNRC continued to receive technical support from IFRC through capacity building on Club 25³ and information sharing. In 2009, VNRC met its goals through the collection of 600,000 blood units. Several public campaigns were held on the occasion of world and national blood donation days to recognize outstanding blood donors with awards, and to promote voluntary non-remunerated blood donation. Seven new Club 25 branches have been established nationwide.

Constraints or challenges

Given the shortage of human resources in the health and care programme, VNRC utilized capable staff from chapters to add capacity in the VNRC overall programme in components such as community-based first aid. The national society addressed this challenge in the H2P programme by contracting additional staff working on fixed service terms to supplement human resources to the programme. However, retaining the recruited staff and consistency in staff assignment is also a challenge for VNRC.

³ Where members, generally below 25 years of age, pledge to donate blood 25 times in their lifetime

Organizational development

Global agenda goal 3: Increased local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability

Programme objective: VNRC is a strong, relevant and well-functioning society that is more effective at all levels, thus providing better service to vulnerable people.

Outcomes/expected results:

- The capacity of VNRC to implement sustainable programmes through the headquarters and branch levels is increased
- Volunteer management is enhanced
- The capacity of branches to design, implement, evaluate and fundraise for their projects with vulnerable communities is increased

Achievements

Activities under organizational development were relatively light due to limited funding and pending decisions by the national society on the direction of their organizational planning.

However, one area in which capacity building was carried out in 2009 was finance development. This was made with support from the Federation Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok, which began with a week-long hands-on training of 12 staff at VNRC headquarters using new software. Maintenance of this effort continues, with technical support from the regional office for the development of guidelines for finance management and training materials for Red Cross staff. Three finance training sessions for staff from 63 VNRC chapters were held in November.

VNRC also proposed a revision on the rate of expenditure set out in the 2008 cost norm which aims to offset inflation. This revision was accepted by all partners and the new rate has been in effect since July 2009. However, salary support to the VNRC staff working in projects remains the most contentious point due to partner concern on the lack of the VNRC's human resource capacity that, in many cases, impedes the progress of project, and which has not yet been resolved.

With the introduction of volunteering regulation in April, VNRC would like to carry out activities around volunteer management. The development and retention of volunteers trained and equipped especially with knowledge of Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles and who are able to apply these in their Red Cross volunteer work, will do much to enhance and increase the quality of VNRC service delivery.

Constraints or challenges

Partners will be better able to plan if given more indication of VNRC's plans for organizational development or clearer strategy in addressing the issue of human resources in technical departments particularly in disaster management, and health and care. The situation could be improved with:

- the positioning of permanent technical positions at headquarters level
- using the same service provider for email access at VNRC headquarters and for VNRC's website

Partners have offered assistance to the national society in this regard, and while VNRC leadership has indicated support for this idea, there has not yet been concrete commitment or progress made in this direction.

VNRC developed regulations on the functions of each department at headquarters level in 2008 but there has been no sign of furthering this endeavour with terms of reference for individual departments and positions.

The shortage of human resources in technical departments, particularly in disaster management, and health and care remains an issue for development programmes supported through VNRC. The issue of insufficient capacity becomes more critical in the event of emergency which challenges VNRC and partners every year.

Principles and values

Global agenda goal 4: Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion

Programme objective: The Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values of the Red Cross Red Crescent are promoted among VNRC

Outcomes/expected results:

VNRC leaders, staff and volunteers fully understand the mandate and role of Red Cross that helps to promote humanitarian values.

Achievements:

Activities planned under this component were not implemented due to limited funding. However, as a cross cutting component, Red Cross Red Crescent principles and values have been integrated into the areas of disaster management, and health and care through emergency operations. Training on the Movement's Fundamental Principles and their implications in Red Cross activities was organized prior to rice distribution under the 2008 floods operation, and Red Cross staff members were encouraged to apply these to their work in service delivery.

Highlights include:

- Presentations on humanitarian values and the seven Fundamental Principles constituted an integral part of training under the community-based first aid project. About 577 Red Cross branch staff and representatives of local government including heads or deputies of local commune authorities in nine provinces attended the training.
- In the latter half of 2009, 27 provincial first aid and 58 pandemic preparedness trainers were given refresher training on how to facilitate the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and principles session.
- 100 volunteers were provided with knowledge on humanitarian values, and the Movement principles

The Fundamental Principles will be printed on the cover pages of the pedagogic methodology book, and the handbook for volunteer and community practitioners. These books were printed in 2009 and will be distributed to Red Cross chapters in 2010. To begin with, each of the 63 Red Cross provincial chapters will receive five copies of each book. The VNRC headquarters will fund any additional printing for themselves if more copies are needed for Red Cross local branches.

Constraints or challenges:

There still remains insufficient common and appropriate understanding on the Fundamental Principles as the Red Cross Red Crescent code of conduct is not yet part of VNRC's training activities. As such VNRC staff members and volunteers are not given practical guidelines on the implementation of humanitarian values in their daily work, and subsequently, this affects the approach and standard quality of service delivery by VNRC.

Working in partnership

VNRC continues working in partnership with IFRC and partner national societies in-country. The latter include American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross (represented by German Red Cross), French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross (working in southern Viet Nam), Japanese Red Cross (represented by the International Federation), Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross (also based in southern Viet Nam). Apart from the Italian and Swiss national societies represented in the south, the VNRC, IFRC, and the partner national societies present in Hanoi maintain monthly coordination meetings to exchange information on project implementation led by VNRC headquarters.

The Federation country office in Hanoi in 2009 consisted of a health and care programme officer, a disaster management programme manager, a finance officer, a reporting officer, and an administrator. As there was no Federation country representative then, the country office was overseen by the Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok. On site, the daily management of the office was run by the current emergency operations manager who stood in as head of country office until the arrival of the new head of country office in 2010.

The Federation country office continues to support the national society in coordination and technical support. Apart from Movement members within the country, the Federation also provides technical support in

strengthening partnerships with governmental and UN agencies in the implementation of the pandemic preparedness initiative (H2P). The national society also remained present at the partnership on avian and human influenza (PAHI) meetings, the working group on behaviour communication change and on national committees on avian and human pandemic influenza in 2009.

VNRC organized Solferino Day and celebrated the 90th anniversary of IFRC. The event was held in conjunction with a campaign on humanitarian assistance at community level. On this occasion, VNRC reviewed the one-year implementation of a campaign whereby “each Red Cross staff, member, and volunteer selects a specific beneficiary to support”. According to VNRC’s report, over 500,000 profiles of beneficiaries being supported were recorded. Based on the specific needs of each beneficiary, VNRC called upon its staff and members to support this campaign. The gap was covered by other organizations through VNRC’s mobilization. About VND 300 billion (CHF 17.4 million or USD 16 million) was mobilized for this one-year campaign.

In similar efforts to support the poor through local resource mobilization, the national society headquarters mustered VND 3.5 billion (CHF 228,000 or USD 210,000), while Red Cross chapters sought VND 80 billion (CHF 4.3 million or USD 4 million) to carry out its traditional “Tet for the poor” activity. People intended to benefit from these efforts include the poor, elderly people living alone, people with disabilities, and people who have been affected by Agent Orange. These total over 200,000 households supported under this programme. Each received assistance of USD 30 (CHF 33) either in cash or in goods (e.g. traditional Tet items such as cookies and festive food items).

Significant achievements in local resource mobilization indicate strong local partnerships that the national society has built to scale up its outreach to beneficiaries within their own initiatives.

The Red Cross Activities Law officially came into effect in January 2009. This has helped Red Cross activities progress well. Before the introduction of this law, policy-makers were little aware of the Red Cross. Now with the Law and activities at all levels, VNRC receives legal support and public attention.

Two external projects managed by the country office are:

- International disaster response laws, rules and principles (IDRL) which help the national society in being legally prepared when responding to disasters and communicable disease emergencies, and
- The global road safety programme (GRSP) hosted by IFRC.

Though the involvement of VNRC in these activities is little at this stage, operation of the projects through IFRC, which requires contact with various ministries, agencies and stakeholders, helps other ministries and stakeholders become more familiar with VNRC and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in general.

Contributing to longer-term impact

Under the disaster management programme, the mangrove plantation project has already started to reap benefits in contributing to the reduction of the impact of typhoons on coastal communities. It has also helped to build more resilient communities through the provision of knowledge on disaster preparedness and response, and provided an alternative source of income generation for many community members.

In health and care, the community-based first aid project aims to provide skills and knowledge in saving lives in the community, and is strengthening VNRC’s profile in providing quality first aid to all levels of community. Efficient finance management through technical support benefits all VNRC programmes supported. While the promotion of Red Cross Red Crescent principles and values was not intensive at this stage, the integration of this component into other programmes paved the way for further work.

Supporting the national society in improving service delivery, implementation and management remains a priority of the Federation country office. Writing monitoring reports after field visits has been established in the disaster management department. More technical support will be provided to the department staff in order to help monitoring staff better understand their area of work and how to use their findings to improve programming efforts.

Looking ahead

The Federation country office worked with the Vietnamese national society in 2009 towards achieving the objectives set out in the plan. Throughout the year, the following activities were carried out, and several are likely to continue being strengthened throughout 2010:

Disaster management:

- The plantation of mangroves in coastal areas
- Organization of disaster preparedness planning training for Red Cross
- Organization of disaster preparedness training for school teachers and school children
- Organization of disaster preparedness training for communities
- Completion of the narrative and financial report for 2009
- Disaster management planning for 2010

Health and care:

- Community-based health and first aid
 - Selection of provinces for the implementation of community-based health and first aid (CBHFA)
 - Compilation and finalization of the CBHFA manual for facilitators
 - Organization of training-of-trainers workshops for CBHFA facilitators
 - Selection of community volunteers
- Pandemic influenza preparedness and response (H2P)
 - Finalization of country-wide pandemic preparedness plan, and multi-sectoral pandemic preparedness planning at provincial level.
 - Implementation of cascade training courses for provincial trainers
 - Roll-out of training for community leaders and first responders in two pilot provinces
 - Continuation of coordination with national authorities, UN agencies, civil society organizations and international NGOs
 - Strengthening of VNRC's role in the national steering committee on pandemic preparedness and advocate for civil society roles in pandemic preparedness

Finance development:

- Organization of training on software use for finance staff members of ten Red Cross provincial chapters
- Organization of training on monitoring and evaluation in finance management for VNRC headquarters staff
- Development of a finance manual for VNRC finance staff
- Development of a monitoring and evaluation manual for finance staff
- Design of a finance development plan for 2010

VNRC initiated discussions with the government on the Red Cross emblem and will talk with the ministry of health, before further government meetings. The national society is aware that the process will take time, and has asked ICRC to bring this issue to the attention of the government.

The national society also hosted the Southeast Asia national society leaders' meeting in Hanoi in August 2009. This was attended by leaders from national societies.

Among the national society's own long-term plans are:

- Completion of the construction of a Red Cross school
- Construction of a Red Cross hospital
- Replication of the Red Cross shop, which first opened in Hanoi in May, in other provinces
- Establishment of drinking water and instant noodle factories in order to supply in the event of disasters
- Set-up of health clinics, particularly in the north-west region

In the 2010-2011 country support programme, IFRC continues to support planning to address the vulnerabilities of the community in terms of health and care, and disaster management to focus on the need in the communities, and build up disaster resilient communities.

How we work

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".

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAVN001 - Viet Nam

Annual Report 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAAVN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	484,318	57,380	1,726	0	166,229	709,653
B. Opening Balance	42,663	22,358	1,726	0	21,835	88,583
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>Australian Red Cross</i>					13,815	13,815
<i>British Red Cross (from British Government)</i>		7,380				7,380
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	546,465					546,465
<i>Liechtenstein Red Cross</i>		1,000				1,000
<i>New York Office (from Merck)</i>	25,214					25,214
<i>New Zealand Red Cross</i>		73,572			9,855	83,427
C1. Cash contributions	571,679	81,952			23,670	677,301
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>					20,683	20,683
<i>New Zealand Red Cross</i>		-30,598				-30,598
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		-30,598			20,683	-9,915
<u>Income reserved for future periods</u>						
<i>Australian Red Cross</i>					-3,734	-3,734
C3. Income reserved for future periods					-3,734	-3,734
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Sweden Red Cross</i>					12,750	12,750
C5. Inkind Personnel					12,750	12,750
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>					24,600	24,600
<i>Services</i>					39,152	39,152
C6. Other Income					63,752	63,752
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	571,679	51,354	0	0	117,121	740,154
D. Total Funding = B + C	614,342	73,712	1,726	0	138,957	828,738
Appeal Coverage	127%	128%	100%	#DIV/0	84%	117%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	42,663	22,358	1,726	0	21,835	88,583
C. Income	571,679	51,354	0	0	117,121	740,154
E. Expenditure	-464,700	-39,451	-875		-53,543	-558,569
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	149,643	34,262	851	0	85,413	270,169

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAVN001 - Viet Nam

Annual Report 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAAVN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination			
A		B						A - B	
BUDGET (C)		484,318	57,380	1,726	0	166,229	709,653		
Supplies									
Seeds,Plants	35,497	51,757					51,757	-16,260	
Medical & First Aid	10,000							10,000	
Teaching Materials			1,263				1,263	-1,263	
Utensils & Tools	1,300							1,300	
Other Supplies & Services		690					690	-690	
Total Supplies	46,797	52,447	1,263				53,710	-6,913	
Land, vehicles & equipment									
Computers & Telecom		2,788					2,788	-2,788	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.		5,454					5,454	-5,454	
Others Machinery & Equipment	47,775							47,775	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	47,775	8,242					8,242	39,533	
Transport & Storage									
Storage			32				32	-32	
Distribution & Monitoring	103,838	36,412					36,412	67,425	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	13,820	13,579	128			6,527	20,234	-6,414	
Total Transport & Storage	117,658	49,991	159			6,527	56,678	60,980	
Personnel									
International Staff	70,500	61				38,718	38,780	31,720	
Regionally Deployed Staff						34	34	-34	
National Staff	64,079	28,228	7,747	112		6,697	42,784	21,295	
National Society Staff	51,595	24,073	4,116				28,189	23,406	
Consultants	12,350							12,350	
Total Personnel	198,524	52,362	11,863	112		45,450	109,787	88,736	
Workshops & Training									
Workshops & Training	132,315	171,672	12,600				184,272	-51,957	
Total Workshops & Training	132,315	171,672	12,600				184,272	-51,957	
General Expenditure									
Travel	58,699	7,593	267	706		5,115	13,680	45,019	
Information & Public Relation	8,652	71,188	12,747			533	84,469	-75,818	
Office Costs	16,920	1,370	34			15,538	16,942	-22	
Communications	5,400	7,273	760			1,765	9,798	-4,398	
Professional Fees		13,352				13,125	26,478	-26,478	
Financial Charges	480	-45	5			-35,049	-35,089	35,569	
Other General Expenses	30,306	2,686	491			-2,112	1,064	29,242	
Total General Expenditure	120,457	103,417	14,304	706		-1,085	117,342	3,115	
Programme Support									
Program Support	46,127	34,781	2,616	57		2,652	40,106	6,022	
Total Programme Support	46,127	34,781	2,616	57		2,652	40,106	6,022	
Operational Provisions									
Operational Provisions		-8,213	-3,354				-11,568	11,568	
Total Operational Provisions		-8,213	-3,354				-11,568	11,568	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	709,653	464,700	39,451	875		53,543	558,569	151,084	
VARIANCE (C - D)		19,619	17,929	851	0	112,686	151,084		