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# Community Preparedness and Risk Reduction Mid-Year Report

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This report covers the  
period 01/01/2012 to  
30/06/2012.

*Photo : Nicaraguan Red Cross promotes  
school children's awareness of disaster risk  
reduction through a "risk land game".  
March 2012/IFRC*



## Overview

In recent years the disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities, including community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP), climate change adaptation (CCA), climate change mitigation (CCM), livelihoods, food security (FS) and nutrition, have steadily increased in terms of expenditures and the number of people reached. According to the 2011 DRR mapping, Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) investment in DRR activities has increased annually by CHF 27.2 million since 2009 and the number of people reached through DRR activities has increased from 13.5 million to 20.3 million, an average of 2.2 million per year.

Efforts have been made to provide policy and operational guidance to National Societies (NS's). The IFRC's livelihoods strategy and climate change strategic framework have been drafted. Various guidelines and tools are under development, including the guidelines on mainstreaming DRR and CCA, the community early warning systems (CEWS) guide, DRR key messages and booklets for VCA use in climate change and urban contexts. A draft action plan for the IFRC carbon footprint has been made to raise awareness, collect data and compute the carbon footprint of IFRC Secretariat in Geneva. Support has been provided to the zones and NS's in building their capacities and assisting the vulnerable people through livelihoods, food and nutrition security programming.

This progress has been made against the declining funding for global DRR programmes and the increasing climate change impact, food and economic crises and tension, especially in Africa and the Middle East, which result in the rescheduling of some planned activities and detract the focus of NS's on long-term disaster preparedness and risk reduction programmes.

## Working in partnership

Close cooperation has been maintained with the ICRC and Partner National Societies (PNS) of Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Britain and Qatar in facilitating the implementation of various bilateral and multilateral programmes.

CPRR is working in close partnership with various stakeholders at all levels, including governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), private sector, academia and civil society organizations (CSO), in the areas of information sharing, technical expertise, coordination and resource mobilization. These partnerships have been

instrumental in holding various events and promoting the resilience agenda at various regional and global for a, including the UN Conference for Sustainable Development in Rio in June.

The IFRC is a member of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and its Management Oversight Board, and the Inter-Agency Group (IAG). It is one of the only two permanent observers in the Consultative Group of the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). It is an active member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and chairs its task force on climate change. It is working in partnership with various UN agencies and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), European Union (EU), Department for International Development (DFID), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union (AU), Southern African Development Commission (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Development Bank (AfDB), International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM), Zurich Financial Services, Nestle, Accenture, Friesland Campina, Arup International Development, Lund University and various other partners. Efforts are being made to improve partnership with academic and private sectors through joint projects and internship programme.

In March the Norwegian Red Cross signed a new multi-year cooperation agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which will support the IFRC in its work for DRR and DP in 2012-2014, especially enhancing its capacity to increase community safety and resilience, to prevent and alleviate human suffering, and for the most vulnerable to live in dignity.

The IFRC has been accredited by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) as one of its 11 project agencies which will be eligible to implement GEF-financed environmental projects. An agreement was signed with the Corner Stone in June 2012 to develop a VCA online course. Furthermore, a partnership has been built with the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to jointly deal with the food and nutrition crisis in Africa. CPRR is in discussion with GFDRR to explore the possibility of integrating VCA into the post disaster needs assessment (PDNA) and recovery framework.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Business Line 1: Raise humanitarian standards.

**Outcome:** *Uplifted thinking that inspires and underpins our services to maintain their relevance in a changing world, along with increased magnitude, quality, and impact.*

To conceptually consolidate the various resilience approaches and establish its own definition of resilience, the IFRC Secretariat has developed a concept paper on resilience in consultation with various departments and people concerned within the IFRC. Based on the common understanding of resilience provided by this paper, the Community Preparedness and Risk Reduction Department (CPRR) is planning to revise the Framework for Community Safety and Resilience (FCSR) in order to provide operational guidance to National Societies. The draft revised FCSR is expected to be ready for consultation with zones and NS's in the second half of 2012.

CPRR has supported NS's in increasing their capacity to develop and implement integrated climate-proof community-based programmes in disaster preparedness (DP), risk reduction, FS, nutrition and livelihoods. Technical inputs have been provided to the Africa and Asia Pacific zones in developing the Disaster Management Framework of Africa and identifying the role of the social capital in reinforcing community resilience. CPRR has ensured integrated approaches and programme quality by giving technical inputs and feedback to emergency appeals, including the ones for East Africa and Sahel food security, and sharing global best practices with NS's.

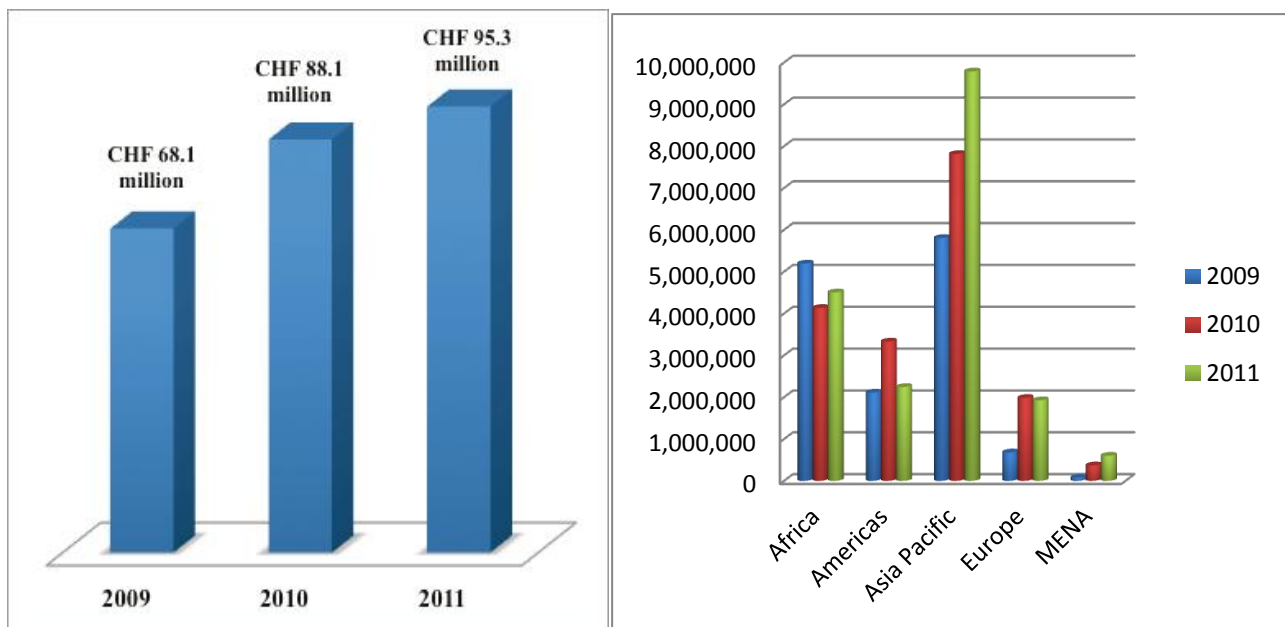
CPRR and the Health Department discussed how to integrate the Masambo HIV Fund with the FS and livelihoods programmes in support of those volunteers affected or infected by HIV/AIDS and agreed to develop a business plan for way forward. In collaboration with the Humanitarian Diplomacy Division, CPRR is developing a concept paper for conducting a joint FS campaign with WFP, FAO, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and other agencies, at global and national levels with a focus on selected NS's. With the support of CPRR, the Red Cross EU Office submitted a FS concept paper for the high-level panel discussion of the European Development Days (EDD) in October. This concept paper titled "No longer business as usual and investing in people and livelihoods for long-term FS" focuses on better understanding of long-term FS programming and integration, strengthening community resilience to reduce the

risk of food insecurity among vulnerable populations and promoting the role of smallholder farmers as drivers of local development. CPRR supported the Shelter and Settlement Department in developing a concept paper on producing improved cookers for emergency situations that are fast and energy efficient. Technical support was provided to the Danish Red Cross to determine the advantages and disadvantages of improved drought tolerant and pests and disease resilient varieties or seeds that grow fast and have higher yields.

## Business Line 2: Grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people.

**Outcome:** Increased share of consistent and reliable Red Cross Red Crescent action in support of communities affected by disasters and crises.

The results of the 2011 DRR mapping which was done with inputs from 122 NS's including 23 PNS's demonstrate the steady increase of DRR, CBDP, CCA, CCM, livelihoods, FS and nutrition activities, in terms of expenditures and the number of people reached. A total of 20.3 million vulnerable people benefitted from these activities carried out by NS's in 97 countries in 2011. The total spending in 2011 was approximately CHF 95.3 million, which means the global investment has annually increased by CHF 27.2 million since 2009. Please see below the expenditures and the number of people reached from 2009 to 2011.



Global DRR<sup>1</sup> Investment in 2009-2011

Number of people reached through DRR programmes

As part of the Emergency Working Group of the Secretariat, CPRR continues to review the draft emergency appeals and making sure that they include the necessary longer-term components of CBDP, DRR, CCA, CCM, FS, nutrition and livelihoods. The issue of allocating at least 10% of the emergency appeal budgets for longer-term DP and risk reduction as per the decision of the 18th Session of the IFRC General Assembly was discussed between various departments of the Secretariat and during the meeting of the Advisory Body for Disaster and Crisis Management in March. However, no decision has been made yet on how to implement it.

The guidelines on mainstreaming DRR and CCA have been drafted and shared with National Societies and zones for their comments and feedback. The draft guidelines (available upon request) are expected to be completed in the second half of 2012. Climate change issues have been integrated into the CEWS guide under development and the key DRR messages for public awareness and public education (PAPE).

In line with a recommendation of the vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) review in 2011, two complementary booklets on VCA use in climate change and urban contexts are being developed based on interviews and researches

<sup>1</sup> The acronym "DRR here includes not only DRR but also CBDP, CCA, CCM, livelihoods, food security and nutrition.

carried out in the Americas and Asia Pacific zones. The draft booklet chapters have been shared with various people for their comments. Having completed interviews, consultation and literature review in 2011, the development of a CEWS guide has entered a second phase of extended literature review of 450 documents, gap analysis and inventory of good practice and lessons learned, involving partners in different regions. The first draft guide has been revised in June. The development of this guide is closely coordinated with the West Africa initiative on CEWS. Details of this process can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/a/email.arizona.edu/ews/project-definition>.

CCM has progressed at various levels. At the institutional level, a carbon footprint reduction team (CFRT) led by CPRR has been formed with people from the Logistics, Administration, Disaster and Crisis Management and Communication Departments at the Secretariat. The IFRC's carbon footprint methodology and action plan have been drafted and circulated among the team members and the focal points of the zones to raise awareness, collect data and compute the carbon footprint of IFRC Secretariat in Geneva. At the zonal, regional and national levels a carbon footprint focal point has been identified and included in the CFRT to share ideas and experience from the field. The carbon footprint of the zones will be computed at the next phase, based on the methodology and report developed by the IFRC Secretariat. In parallel, CPRR and the Logistics Department are working to identify and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from relief operations and various projects and programmes. For instance the IFRC and the INSEAD (The Business School for the World) are working together on a case study in Pakistan to map the carbon footprint of the IFRC's flood operations and thus identify the sources of environmental impact in the end-to-end supply chain. The carbon footprint report, once finalized, will be shared with the zonal, regional and national offices, so that the zones can replicate the same exercise.

Together with the Gender Unit, CPRR drafted the integrated FS and gender mainstreaming paper which will be incorporated into the RCRC Movement's gender policy. The draft IFRC livelihoods programme for action has been developed and shared with field offices and partners for their comments. The nutrition supplement manual has been tested in the Sahel region and finalized for printing. The FS manual developed in 2006 has been revised.

A global PAPE workshop was held on 16-20 January in San Jose, Costa Rica. It was attended by 30 persons from 18 NS's who are working in different areas of communication, psycho-social support, education, DRR, health in emergency, climate change, community development, rural development and agriculture. The participants familiarized themselves with the PAPE guide and learned about the PAPE tools developed by NS's and the IFRC. The Learning and Organizational Development Department (LODD) presented the knowledge management tools of the IFRC and the Managing Editor of the Prevention Web gave an overview of the platform's different applications. Afterwards, the participants virtually explored the DesAprender learning platform. The Reference Centres of Community Education in DRR (based in Costa Rica) and Institutional Disaster Preparedness (based in El Salvador) and the Resilience Resource Centre for the Caribbean (based in Barbados) shared their experiences of knowledge sharing and information management. The participants also worked on developing the first draft key DRR messages. DesAprender provided an on-line access to the workshop, allowing more people in the region to follow the discussion there.

### **Business Line 3: Strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development**

***Outcome:** Appropriate capacities built to address the upheavals created by global economic, social, and demographic transitions that create gaps and vulnerabilities, and challenge the values of our common humanity.*

CPRR has supported the zones and National Societies in developing and implementing their plans and programmes to increase community safety and resilience, by providing technical inputs and reviewing their draft proposals. The Sahel Regional Representation was supported to develop a FS response plan of action based on a country FS analysis and organize a multi-stakeholder meeting in Dakar. The purpose of this Dakar forum was to share information and experience with various partners and agree on how to work together and complement each other. CPRR assisted the Sahel Regional Representation in developing a FS proposal for AfDB. The suggested project will focus on Senegal, Mali and Mauritania and aim to reduce food insecurity both in the short term and long term by linking current relief efforts with DP and resilience building and by helping vulnerable communities have a greater capacity to withstand future shocks.

CPRR coordinated with the Americas and Asia Pacific zones in developing the RCRC approach to urban risks. The Americas zone finalized the contextual framework and the methodological approach for DRR in urban context, through an extensive consultation process involving civil protection agencies, NGO's, local organizations, DRR experts, academic sectors and NS's. The Asia Pacific zone commissioned an urban sector study aimed at identifying a RCRC niche in urban

risk reduction programming, which resulted in the production of a final report titled “Programmatic directions for the RCRC in building urban community resilience in the AP region” in April.

Technical support has been provided to NS’s and zones in Africa, Europe and Central Asia and MENA in the areas of food security, livelihoods and nutrition. 29 NS’s in Africa are currently engaged in FS, nutrition and livelihoods programming. CPRR is supporting them to do more and better in view of resilience building. The Netherlands Red Cross has been supported in programming and developing tools and technical guide. The IFRC had a consultation meeting with the Spanish Red Cross and Accenture to discuss how to strengthen the Livelihoods Resource Centre (LRC) and establish a global partnership between the IFRC and Accenture. LRC has been supported through the review and feedback on its concept note on establishing a technical working group, the online e-learning course, website and newsletter. A FS assessment training was conducted in South Sudan to enhance the capacity of NS staff and volunteers. A FS mapping template was shared with the zones to collect detailed information of FS, nutrition and livelihoods activities. A total of 18 FS focal persons from selected NS’s attended the Global Food Security Cluster training and have become the coordinators or information managers of the Emergency Food Security Cluster for Africa, Asia and Americas. Arrangement is being made for the exchange visit of a FS team from the Americas to Africa. A CPRR staff was trained in development of ECHO proposals. CPRR is in the process of mapping FS, nutrition and livelihoods skills of NS’s in cooperation with the zones.

Preparations are being made to conduct a training workshop on CCA and CCM. During a global disaster response preparedness workshop held in Chavannes-de-Bogis, Switzerland, in January, CPRR facilitated a session on linking community preparedness and DRR with NS’ response preparedness and conducted an assessment of DP needs within the RCRC Movement to analyze how a global disaster preparedness centre led by the American Red Cross could help address them.

In close coordination with the LODD and with the technical and financial support of the Cornerstone Foundation, a VCA e-learning module is under development. This module aims to improve the efficiency and impact of VCA training by providing complementary means to reinforce the VCA learning by using a blended learning approach. The course is due to be available in the IFRC learning platform in 2013. CPRR is collecting from different zones the information about VCA reports, pictures, videos and case studies. These files will then be loaded on the FedNet for easy access by users. The FedNet and IFRC website are being revised and updated with new materials and documents on CBDP, DRR, CCA, CCM, livelihoods, FS and nutrition.

A draft IFRC Framework for Climate Change 2012-2016 has been developed to provide a strategic direction for climate change activities in the next 5 years, define RCRC key priorities for supporting climate change resilience and ensure increased coordination and knowledge sharing within the IFRC. The draft (available upon request) has been shared with people concerned for their initial comments. Preparations have been made to develop the participatory videos on climate change activities which will support awareness raising and knowledge sharing. Technical inputs were provided to various IFRC papers like the development paper, resilience concept paper, draft DM Strategic Operational Framework to ensure the integration of CCA, CCM, DRR, CBDP, FS, livelihoods and nutrition.

#### **Business Line 4: Heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work**

***Outcome: Evidence-based humanitarian diplomacy conducted to draw attention to the causes and consequences of vulnerability, giving voice to vulnerable people, and demonstrating the value of Red Cross Red Crescent humanitarian work and leadership.***

The key DRR messages, which complement the PAPE guide<sup>2</sup> and aim to build a culture of safety by conveying unified and strong messages, were revised in June through consultation with NS’s, IFRC Secretariat departments, various organizations and academic institutions. These revised messages will be used for 18 months, from June 2012 through December 2013, with the goal of adding more DRR messages in several languages. They are supposed to be used in PAPE, especially in campaigns, participatory learning and informal and formal education. They cover the following themes:

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<sup>2</sup> For more information please visit the following below: a) PAPE guide: [https://fednet.ifrc.org/Global/Publications/disasters/reducing\\_risks/302200-Public-awareness-DDR-guide-EN.pdf](https://fednet.ifrc.org/Global/Publications/disasters/reducing_risks/302200-Public-awareness-DDR-guide-EN.pdf); b) PAPE workshop report and PAPE Key Messages validation version: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/en/resources/disasters/disaster-management/dm-resources/community-preparedness/guidance--tools/>

- a) Family and household disaster plan;
- b) Earthquake safety;
- c) Flood safety;
- d) Cyclone/hurricane/typhoon safety;
- e) Drought mitigation and adaptation;
- f) Wildfire safety;
- g) Epidemic/pandemic prevention.

CPRR is actively participating in the work of the IASC task force for financing preparedness, which is studying the ways to adopt and harness the life and cost saving potential of preparedness activities, especially in those countries hit by multiple and persistent crisis, through new funding models, more cost effective approaches, increased spending on resilience and adequate resources and capacity for building resilience. The IFRC has established a new partnership with the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) and has become one of its implementing agencies which will have access to GEF funding. The IFRC is also in discussion with the Foresight Initiative of the UK Government to get its support to mainstreaming climate change related issues into migration. It is also working with the Canton of Geneva and the UN Issue Management Group (IMG) on Sustainability Management and Greening the Blue, with regard to the IFRC carbon footprint assessment. The IFRC and the International Food Policy Research Initiative (IFPRI) developed a publication “Reducing the Risk of Food and Nutrition Insecurity among Vulnerable Populations” and jointly launched it at the Secretariat in May in the presence of the Mexican Ambassador and representatives of UN missions, embassies, governmental and non-governmental organizations based in Geneva. An agreement was signed with the Cornerstone Foundation to support the development of the VCA online module. In accordance with its mission to empower communities by investing in and increasing the impact of non-profits that focus on education, job training, and disaster relief, the Foundation is developing partnership with the IFRC and other non-profit organizations in facilitating access to DRR training and database.

The IFRC delegation led by its Under Secretary General and composed of representatives of the Secretariat and NS’s participated in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio in June. In addition to attending various sessions and events, delivering key RCRC messages and developing networking and partnerships, CPRR, in cooperation with other agencies, organized or co-hosted the following events:

- Panel discussion: “The Role of Women and Youth in Advancing the Food Security Agenda”, jointly with the Brazilian Red Cross, FAO, UN Volunteers, Asian Farmers Association, IFOAM.
- Side event: “Resilient Cities - Fostering Local Action for Sustainable Development”, in partnership with UNISDR, UN Habitat, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives.
- Learning Session: “Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment: a Tool for Resilience Building”.

The Rio Conference provided the IFRC with an opportunity to affirm its position as a development actor and strengthening partnerships with other agencies including FAO, WFP, IFOAM, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the World Bank, UNV and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition.

The IFRC organized the African Union (AU)/IFRC Sahel Stakeholders Forum in Dakar on 25-26 April. It was officially opened by the Senegal President and attended not only by IFRC and National Societies in the region but also by external key stakeholders including FAO, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), WFP, UNDP, USAID, ECHO, Nestlé and embassies. The purpose of the forum was to present and discuss the RCRC plan and approach to the Sahel food crisis and agree on a specific plan and timetable for follow-up with the AU and other key partners to deal with the crisis on a short and longer term basis. The forum achieved its expected outcomes by creating the space for all stakeholders around the “twin track” approach of the RCRC in the Sahel, exploring the opportunity to strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders such as WFP, IFAD, Nestlé, etc., and sharing positive energy, thinking and enthusiasm for joint efforts and actions to fight hunger in Africa.

CPRR represented the IFRC at the 13<sup>th</sup> Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF-13) and the 12<sup>th</sup> Special Session of the Governing Council of the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) which were held in Nairobi in February. The focus of the two events was on (a) marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNEP; and (b) preparations for the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. It participated in group and plenary discussions, especially during the GMGSF meeting. In addition, it conducted bilateral discussion with various stakeholders (NGOs, research organizations, UNEP, governments, major groups etc). CPRR participated in the executive board meeting of FAO in Rome in June and obtained the first-hand information about its global FS priorities and objectives. The IFRC hosted the Global Food Security Cluster meeting on 16-18 April and shared its experience from the Sahel stakeholders meeting on the RCRC movement response to the crisis. After the meeting the IFRC shared FS

assessment tools and case studies with the cluster members and posted them on the cluster website. The IFRC co-chaired meetings of the Nutrition Working Group of the Global FS Cluster. A DM Advisor of the American Red Cross represented the IFRC at a joint working group meeting of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), which was held in Washington in February to assist the GFDRR in developing its Civil Society Partnership Strategy. CPRR attended the EU Thematic Dialogue on Preparedness and Resilience which took place in Geneva in March and made a presentation on the IFRC's activities for disaster preparedness and resilience. CPRR also delivered a lecture on disaster and risk management for students of Geneva University in March and attended a meeting with representatives from 13 Mediterranean and Balkan partner countries of the Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD-South) in February. Representatives of the Swiss Red Cross and CPRR met in Bern in April and discussed the issues regarding the potential tripartite cooperation between the Swiss Red Cross, IFRC and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) in Latin America.

CPRR developed a paper on FS and building community resilience through the Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI), which was submitted to the Subgroup "Third Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in Trans-boundary Basins". The paper was also presented to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe which was hosted by the Convention on the Protection and Use of Trans-boundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the WMO in Geneva in April. CPRR has also developed a concept paper for conducting a joint FS campaign at global and national levels, together with the WFP, FAO, IFPRI and other agencies. CPRR is developing a new partnership with AU, Economic Commission for Africa, Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and AfDB to support long term FA, nutrition and livelihoods programming in Africa. CPRR and the Humanitarian Diplomacy Division are supporting the Africa zone and NS's of Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda to prepare proposals for possible access to governments' funds provided by AfDB, USAID, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and UNDP.

CPRR supported zones and regional offices in developing FS project proposals including a joint IFRC and FAO proposal for the Zambezi River Basin FS chapter in favour of the NS's of Zambia and Namibia. This proposal was approved and received a second grant USD 500,000 from USAID. CPRR developed a concept paper for funding food and nutrition security programming, in partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross and the Friesland Campina, a Dutch company.

### **Business Line 5: Deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability**

***Outcome: More effective work among National Societies through modernised cooperation mechanisms and tools, and a greater sense of belonging, ownership, and trust in our International Federation.***

In cooperation with the Africa zone, CPRR is developing a terms of reference for a cost benefit analysis of FS projects in two African NS's. The DRR and resilience study in the Latin American and Caribbean region is underway and the Americas Zone Office has supported the process of gathering data of DRR activities in the five selected countries. A study inception document was developed with inputs from the advisory group in late March. Preparations were made to hold an inception workshop in Panama in July with participants from the NS's of Colombia, Guatemala and St. Lucia. CPRR participated in the annual technical and planning meetings of the Asia Pacific Zone which took place in Kuala Lumpur in April, and contributed to its sessions deliberating the resilience building, urban risk reduction and annual plans. CPRR also participated in a workshop on urban sector study findings in Asia Pacific, which was held in Kuala Lumpur in April. Based on the urban risk studies and experience in the Americas and the Asia Pacific zones, CPRR plans to produce an IFRC position paper spelling out the Red Cross Red Crescent niche in urban community resilience programming.

The DRR Support Group consisting of representatives of different departments of the IFRC Secretariat regularly meet to discuss various DRR-related issues and exchange views on how to promote DRR within and outside the IFRC.

The DRR Working Group composed of representatives of Partner National Societies (PNS's) and the IFRC Secretariat met in Geneva in May to discuss DRR-related issues. It was attended by 26 persons from 12 PNS's and the IFRC Secretariat. Included on the agenda were the sharing of information on the initiatives or work undertaken at various levels; the RCRC participation in various global events; and the issues concerning the DRR Working Group. The meeting elected a new troika of the Working Group with a Chair and two Vice-Chairs.

The American Red Cross and CPRR hosted a meeting of the IFRC reference centres<sup>3</sup> in Geneva on 9-10 May. Participants exchanged information about their activities and experiences and explored how to jointly increase the impact of the services provided by the various centres for the benefit of the members and communities they serve. As the first meeting of the reference centres, it was successful in building a strong spirit of collaboration between participants and raised a great interest in fostering cooperation and continuing the dialogue. The meeting concluded with a series of action points to be followed up by the centres and/or the IFRC Secretariat that will facilitate a wider platform for exchange of experiences, networking and future cooperation through the existing centers.

CPRR is working with regional offices in Southern Africa and Eastern Africa to support NS’s of Namibia, Malawi, Kenya and Rwanda in documenting their lessons learnt, best practices and evidence.

## Stakeholder participation and feedback

CPRR has supported the zones and NS’s in ensuring that their planning process is based on the VCA of vulnerable people and communities and that their programmes and projects are designed to meet their needs. Given the growing threats posed by climate change and increasing urbanization, CPRR is working on development of VCA booklets for climate change and urban contexts and has encouraged the zones and NS’s to be more actively engaged in activities for urban risk reduction.

To facilitate a comprehensive and integrated approach to reducing the risks faced by vulnerable communities and strengthening their capacity, CPRR has strongly advocated for the implementation of the FCSR and worked to ensure that the DRR programmes and projects support the community safety and resilience. To put resilience on the global agenda and increase investment in resilience programming, CPRR took active part in the resilience consultation and discussion hosted by various stakeholders, through, for instance, providing its inputs to the preparation of the European Commission’s communication on resilience and the DFID’s consultation on its Global Resilience Action Programme (G-RAP).

Stakeholders appreciate the role played by the IFRC in pushing the community resilience agenda and meeting the needs of vulnerable people through various community-based programmes and hope for its continuous lead role in this area. Through the revision of the FCSR and the development of various guidelines, CPRR will help the zones and NS’s do more and better and reach further.

## Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Positive factors: - Effective and productive working relationship with zones and DPRR Working Group  Risks: - Limited capacity of National Societies to deliver at scale.	L	- Provide necessary training to NS staff and volunteers.

<sup>3</sup> Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Resource Centre, Barbados; Climate Change Centre, Netherlands; Disaster Preparedness Reference Centre, El Salvador; European Centre for First Aid Education, France; Expertise Centre, Belgium; Global Disaster Preparedness Centre, United States; Livelihoods Resource Centre, Spain; Psycho-Social Support Centre, Denmark; Reference Centre for Community Education on Disaster Preparedness, Costa Rica; Reference Centre on Volunteering, Spanish/British Red Cross; Shelter Technical Unit, Luxembourg; Training Centre, Haiti; Water Reference Centre, Seychelles.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited funding available for CPRR programmes.</li> </ul>	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop reference materials for capacity building</li> <li>- Encourage National Societies to introduce various measures to retain competent staff and limit staff turnover.</li> <li>- Explore new partnership with academic and private sectors and governments.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unpredictable and short-term funding for development programmes.</li> </ul>	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adopt new and innovative resource mobilization strategy, targeting potential donors.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IFRC Governing Board's decision to allocate 10 % of emergency appeal budgets for long-term DP and DRR projects.</li> </ul>	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create a Community Safety and Resilience Trust Fund.</li> <li>- Develop a guide on how to implement the GB's decision.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quality monitoring and evaluation and tracking system to measure the impact.</li> </ul>	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Build PMER capacity of NS's through training and increase investment in M&amp;E</li> <li>- Develop a database to facilitate the collection of data.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High staff turnover at regional and NSs levels</li> </ul>	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support NS to come up with lucrative packages for staff</li> </ul>

## Lessons learned and looking ahead

The resilience discussion within the IFRC Secretariat has been helpful in reaching a common understanding of resilience and pushing forward the resilience agenda at community, national, regional and global levels. The IFRC will continue the resilience approach in order to ensure the integration of RCRC programmes at the community level and further their contribution to the building of safe and resilient communities. Based on the IFRC's concept paper on resilience, the FCSR will be revised to provide the NS's with more practical guidance in designing and implementing DRR programmes in support of community safety and resilience. Efforts will be made to mobilize resources to support long-term, integrated community-based activities of NS's. In this regard, priority will be given to creating a Community Safety and Resilience Trust Fund.

In the area of climate change a main focus will continue to be put on supporting the effective scaling-up of CCA and CCM activities throughout the IFRC and at community levels. NS's will be supported in mainstreaming CCA activities and strengthening their positions as key actors in both CCA and CCM. CBDP will focus on expanding the PAPE activities and finalizing the CEWS guide and the booklets for VCA use in climate change context and in urban environments.

The persistent food and nutrition crisis has highlighted a need for all actors to take a more coordinated and coherent approach for better impact. For NS's to effectively perform their auxiliary role, they need to possess the necessary capacity and resources and position themselves as key players in reducing hunger and malnutrition. In the areas of livelihoods and food and nutrition security, continuous efforts will be made to support longer-term funding frameworks and provide technical support to NS's in strategy development, capacity building, assessments and evaluation. Partnerships with other international organizations and research institutions will be strengthened and resource mobilisation will actively be pursued at various levels.

## Financial situation

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

## How we work

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

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)