

Annual Report 2011

**Reinforcing resilience:
climate-smart disaster risk reduction
in the Red Cross Red Crescent**



**RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT
CLIMATE CENTRE**



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The Netherlands  **Red Cross**

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COVER PHOTO: INDONESIAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER FIRMUS RESI WITH A YOUNG JATI SHRUB PLANTED ON THE EDGE OF A MAIZE FIELD ON FLORES ISLAND AS PART OF THE NETHERLANDS RED CROSS 2008–10 PLEDGE PROJECT FOR CLIMATE-RELATED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION. REFORESTING DENUDED HILLSIDES AT RISK OF LANDSLIDES WAS A KEY PLEDGE ACTIVITY. (PHOTO: ALEX WYNTER/NLRC)

**RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT
CLIMATE CENTRE**



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Table of Contents

Acronyms	4
Preface	5
Introduction and strategic review, 2008–2011	7
Executive summary	10
Climate Centre programmes: past, present and future	10
‘Early warning early action’	12
Engagement with policymaking	12
Disaster risk reduction	13
Capacity building for the Red Cross Red Crescent	14
Research, analysis and academic collaboration	14
Communications	15
Resource mobilization	16
1 Programmes	17
1.1 Partners for Resilience (PfR)	17
1.2 Preparedness for Climate Change: conclusions and outcomes	19
1.3 The Climate Centre and health programming	20
1.4 Other programme development	20
2 ‘Early warning early action’	22
2.1 The Horn of Africa	23
2.2 The Pacific	23

3	Engagement with international policymaking	24
3.1	UNFCCC COP17	24
3.2	The IPCC Special Report on Extremes	25
3.3	Dialogue on reducing disaster risk	26
4	Red Cross Red Crescent capacity building	27
4.1	The Climate Training Kit for National Societies	27
4.2	Other training materials and courses	27
5	Research and analysis	29
5.1	Academic collaborations	29
5.2	Teaching	30
6	Communications and advocacy	31
6.1	External communications	31
6.2	Red Cross Red Crescent communications and other publications	32
6.3	Films	33
6.4	Games	33
6.5	Presentations	34
6.6	Published case studies	34
7	Finance and administration	35
7.1	Finance and resource mobilization	35
7.2	Organization	37
7.3	Board	37
7.4	Staff and consultants	37
8	Annual accounts 2011	41
	Other information	49

Acronyms

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
ADB	Asian Development Bank
CCA	climate change adaptation
CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
COP	Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC)
CSP	Climate Services Partnership
DFID	(UK) Department for International Development
DREF	(IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund
DRR	disaster risk reduction
EMR	Ecosystem Management and Restoration
EWEA	Early Warning Early Action
FEWS NET	(US) Famine Early Warning Systems Network
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (World Bank)
HERR	Humanitarian Emergency Response Review (DFID)
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICCS	International Conference on Climate Services
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDAMS	International Research Consortium on Dengue Risk Assessment
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NLRC	Netherlands Red Cross
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODI	(UK) Overseas Development Institute
PfCC	Preparedness for Climate Change programme
PfR	(Netherlands) Partners for Resilience programme
PNS	Participating National Society
SREX	(IPCC) Special Report on Extremes
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
VCA	Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment

Preface

In 2012, the Climate Centre will be celebrating its tenth anniversary. The year 2011, topic of this annual report, marked the final year of its first decade, and also of its 2008–2011 Strategic Plan.

Since its establishment in 2002, the Climate Centre has been instrumental in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of climate change – then a relatively new issue – within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. In the global community, the Climate Centre was among the few pioneers who successfully advocated for climate change adaptation (CCA) policies and resources, and it has successfully claimed a humanitarian role in international climate negotiations. From that position, the Climate Centre was a key actor in the process of harmonizing disaster risk reduction (DRR) and CCA policies at the global level, including the now-growing emphasis on resilience and “climate-smart” development. The Centre also helped shape the research agenda on these topics and played a key role in the recent report on climate and extremes – “SREX” – by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which was adopted in 2011.

While it is often recognized for its work on global policy, among the Climate Centre’s other priorities has been support for the translation of abstract climate science and policies into concrete action, and facilitating the integration of climate-risk management into the humanitarian work of the Red Cross Red Crescent. Its *Climate Guide*, produced for its fifth anniversary in 2007, was one of the first publications of its kind and helped practitioners worldwide; the guide has been followed by several practical guidance notes. Over 60 National Societies in developing countries participated in the Preparedness for Climate Change programme (implemented in partnership with the IFRC secretariat and completed in 2011) to assess how climate risks could be factored into their programmes.

In parallel, the Climate Centre team conducted or supported countless trainings and presentations. Internship programmes that the Climate Centre brokered with many prestigious academic institutions have provided useful insights and capacity building, and are attracting young talent to the Red Cross Red Crescent and the wider humanitarian community. Many National Societies have now developed programmes that have successfully integrated climate-risk management, increasingly accessing new sources of funding previously not available to the Movement. Moreover, the Climate Centre is supporting National Societies to engage in policy dialogues on the humanitarian consequences of climate change, emphasizing the needs of the most vulnerable people, and the key role of civil society in implementing adaptation.

After ten years, the pioneering spirit and the ongoing quest for “smart” ways to address climate-related risks still characterize the work of the Climate Centre. One example on the science side is the climate-risk map room and help desk developed with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), including weather forecasts and seasonal forecasts of rainfall up to six months ahead. Some of these forecasts now feature in the IFRC’s Disaster Management Information System (DMIS). These are valuable tools in a world of rising climate-risks and uncertainties, and help strengthen the operational continuum between longer-term DRR and disaster response including “early warning early action”.

Recognizing that neither science itself nor raising awareness is enough to trigger action on the ground, the Climate Centre has also been investing in innovative tools to communicate the ways climate risks can be integrated into practical decision-making. This includes participatory video, and the development of climate-risk management games, again developed in partnership with National Societies and other centres of excellence. Successful examples of dialogues engaged in or triggered by the Climate Centre include local communities in Senegal, Red Cross Red Crescent staff and their counterparts in national meteorological services, government ministers attending negotiations of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and in the boardroom of the Rockefeller Foundation.

All this is aimed at strengthening the resilience of people and communities to stand ready for the rising risk of extreme weather events in a changing climate. As the Climate Centre approaches its tenth anniversary, it is clear that this challenge is bigger than ever before. However, in the Red Cross Red Crescent, challenges are no reason to give up, but rather an additional motivation to work even harder, and be even smarter. In doing so, we thank all our partners in and outside of the Movement, and look forward to continued cooperation.



Ed Nijpels
Chairman of the Board



Maarten van Aalst
Director

Introduction and strategic review, 2008–2011

Over the past year the Climate Centre has continued to support the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (“the Movement”) in addressing rising risks of climate change, climate variability and extreme-weather events, and their impacts on the most vulnerable people worldwide. Within the Movement, the Centre aids the use of the science that contributes to prevention and early warning, and the response and recovery phases of disasters. It continues to invest in international initiatives and processes that shape debates, funding mechanisms, and policy, aiming to ensure that vulnerable people benefit from decisions made at global, regional and national levels.

The year 2011 provided us with an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes and results of our *Strategy 2008–2011*,¹ which had the climate-related capacity building of the Movement at its core. This included, for example, significantly increasing the number of IFRC (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies)² staff and volunteers equipped with knowledge of climate variability and change, and how to use it in their work.

The year 2011 also saw the successful completion of the Climate Centre’s own two-phase Preparedness for Climate Change (PfCC) programme, which has now been externally evaluated, and the start of another major cross-sector, inter-agency programme: the Netherlands-based “Partners for Resilience” (PfR), of which the Centre is one. The two phases of PfCC – to date its principle contribution to the mainstreaming of climate issues into Red Cross Red Crescent disaster management – operated for roughly half the Centre’s existence and for the entire 2008–2011 strategic period: “If judged only by the degree to which [climate] issues *are*, in practice, now embedded in Red Cross Red Crescent work, the programmes have been an undoubted success,” according to a 2011 external evaluation. Climate Centre staff reported good progress during the PfCC² period, especially, in the delivery of services to support climate-informed decision-making within the Red Cross Red Crescent.

1 The Climate Centre’s Strategy 2008–2011 was approved by its board in The Hague in 2007 and is available at www.climatecentre.org/site/mission.

2 IFRC “secretariat” is used in the correct sense throughout this annual report to mean both the organization’s Geneva and field offices; “IFRC” means the secretariat *and* the member National Societies. The “Movement” means the IFRC in that sense and the ICRC.

At the international level in recent years, the Climate Centre has received many invitations to provide input at policy meetings and joint presentations and papers on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) – a clear recognition of our important role in policy processes. The invitation to its director, Maarten van Aalst, to be a coordinating lead author of the IPCC’s “SREX” report was taken as a compliment to the quality of Climate Centre’s scientific work.

Over the period of the 2008–2011 strategy, the Climate Centre formed or brokered numerous partnerships with other humanitarian and UN agencies, universities, government meteorological offices, and regional networks. It developed new and effective approaches to conveying complex scientific messages, especially participatory audio-visual tools and highly innovative games that illustrate decision-making. On average, Climate Centre personnel now give more than 70 presentations a year worldwide – a number that is still rising.

On the advocacy front, before the conferences in Copenhagen in 2009 and Cancun in 2010 for the parties (“COP”) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), advocacy toolkits were prepared with the IFRC, media activities were coordinated within the context of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) climate change task-force, although resources did not allow scaling-up to a truly global level.

Others will judge how just instrumental the Climate Centre was in the processes involved, but the Cancun Framework on Adaptation shows that DRR and risk management are now well embedded in adaptation policies; risks related to climate change also became a key issue within DRR policy processes at national and global levels, and we believe the Climate Centre was key to all of this, through its engagements with COP meetings and the establishment of the IASC climate task-force – an effective network that was revived after a period of dormancy to discuss relevant COP 17 divisions.

In the key operational area of “early warning early action”, and in close collaboration with the IFRC secretariat and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at New York’s Columbia University, additional work was begun in 2010 on the use of climate information across timescales, including inputs into new training materials for contingency planning and the provision of La Niña updates Movement-wide.

Over the years the Climate Centre has supported National Societies with resource mobilization, mostly with technical advice for project proposals and consultations. Through brokering by the Climate Centre the IFRC secured funding for the secretariat of the IASC climate change task-force in 2008–2010. Another initiative to secure funding from the European Union for a large programme in the Sahel was postponed.

Private-sector funding has been limited, though one success in that area has been the contributions from Statkraft – a renewable energy company, and an emerging collaboration between the German Red Cross and insurance company Allianz.

In the latter part of the strategic period, the Climate Centre secured funding for long-term budgetary commitments from the Dutch foreign ministry, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Canadian, Netherlands and Norwegian Red Cross. Every year the Climate Centre has mobilized funding to cover its core costs from up to 15 National Societies.

ZAYNIDDIN OLIMOV, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY OF TAJIKISTAN (RCST) BRANCH IN KULYAB – SITE OF THE COUNTRY'S LAST MAJOR FLOOD-DISASTER, VISITS A BENEFICIARY FAMILY IN DECEMBER 2011.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY IS REORGANIZING ITS DISASTER-MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT TO BETTER MEET THE DAUNTING COMBINATION OF CLIMATIC AND SEISMIC RISK IT FACES. IT WAS ONE OF FOUR NATIONAL SOCIETIES IN CENTRAL ASIA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CLIMATE CENTRE'S PfCC PROGRAMME, WHICH ENDED LAST YEAR. (PHOTO: ALEX WYNTER/IFRC)



Executive summary

Climate Centre programmes: past, present and future

Over the past year the Climate Centre continued to support the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (“the Movement”) in addressing the rising risks of extreme-weather events and their impacts on the most vulnerable people worldwide. The Centre aids the use of the science that contributes to prevention and early warning, and the response and recovery phases of disasters. The year 2011 saw the successful completion of the Climate Centre’s own two-phase Preparedness for Climate Change (PfCC) programme, which has now been externally evaluated, and the start of another major cross-sector, inter-agency programme: the Netherlands “Partners for Resilience” (PfR), of which the Centre is one.

It also provided an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes and results of our *Strategy 2008–2011*, which had capacity building with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement at its core.

The realization that development gains are increasingly under threat from disasters is now widely acknowledged. To address this increased vulnerability, the Climate Centre joined four other Netherlands-based humanitarian, development and environmental organizations, supported by the Dutch foreign ministry, in forming the PfR alliance to work together in nine countries: Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Uganda. The other four agencies are: the Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC), CARE Nederland, Cordaid, and Wetlands International.

For the Climate Centre, PfR is a major commitment and 50 per cent of our contribution to its success will be support at the national level – assisting in the development of the programmes of the different partners and ensuring that climate-related components of risk management are included. Much of the start-up phase of PfR, in the field and in the Netherlands, has been devoted to establishing structures and arrangements, preparing for accelerated project implementation in 2012.

Over the past five years, the two phases of PfCC enabled a total of 64 Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies to assess climate risks and identify better ways to address them. The first phase of PfCC ran from 2006 to 2009 and National Societies assessed the implications of rising climate risk and its consequences for their work. For most, it was the first time they had embarked on such an exercise. A full reflection on the programme can be found on the Climate Centre’s website as well a 2011 external evaluation.

In 2011 the Climate Centre continued its work in the vital area of the linkages between climate risk and *health* with important action research funded by the Rockefeller Foundation – “Health risk management in a changing climate: A global approach to building local capacity”. Begun in 2010, this is now being implemented with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) secretariat and the Indonesian, Kenyan, Tanzanian and Vietnamese National Societies.

The Climate Centre also joined a consortium for research into dengue fever involving Heidelberg University and funded through the European Union’s International Research Consortium on Dengue Risk Assessment (IDAMS).

The Climate Centre has brokered strong linkages with the London-based Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), which combines research, advisory services and knowledge management to support decision-makers in delivering climate-compatible development. CDKN has made resilience in the context of climate change and disaster risk one of its three priority areas. Over the coming years, CDKN will be supporting Climate Centre activities in Africa and Asia, and we expect to collaborate to support policy development on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

The Climate Centre has partnered with the Finnish Red Cross and the country’s meteorological office, along with counterparts in Malawi and Mozambique, and submitted a proposal to the Nordic Development Fund entitled “Strengthening the resilience of people living in high-risk urban and semi-urban areas to weather-related disasters”. This two-year proposal has been accepted and was starting in early 2012, linking early warning with early action in the cities of Beira, Mozambique and Salima, Malawi.

Madeleen Helmer stepped down as director of the Climate Centre in early 2011 to concentrate on developing a proposal for “Great Green Wall” projects in Africa on behalf of the Netherlands Red Cross, together with ten Netherlands-based civil society organizations and their partners in the Sahel region of Africa. The proposal, which was fully developed and submitted but ultimately unsuccessful, was developed for the Dream Fund of the Netherlands Postcode Lottery.

‘Early warning early action’

The Climate Centre has invested substantially in recent years in the delivery of climate tools and services to support climate-informed humanitarian decision-making *ahead* of disaster. Together with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at New York’s Columbia University, and the IFRC secretariat, the Climate Centre continued operation of the IFRC’s help desk and map room for climate-risk information and provided regular updates on La Niña, for the small-island nations of the Pacific, for example.

An analytical framework is under development for linking forecasts (early warning) with humanitarian decisions (early action) via handbooks and guidelines that incorporate concrete ideas for bridging knowledge and action in different sectors across space and time.

The Climate Centre, in collaboration with students from Boston University, has also invested in research into geo-referenced data from the IFRC’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide indications of when pre-disaster funding pays off, and in response to what kind of forecast information.

The drought in the Horn of Africa in 2011 which affected millions of people and led to an international humanitarian response highlighted the importance of early-warning systems. The IRI-Climate Centre seasonal forecasts signalled an increased risk of drought as early as September 2010. Other early-warning systems that directly monitor drought risk, particularly the US Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), communicated similar signs. But experience again highlighted the difficulty, at the multilateral level, of moving from clear early-warning to early action in the context of Horn of Africa drought emergencies, especially in the area of resource mobilization.

Engagement with policymaking

The Climate Centre participated in the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Durban, South Africa; there (at the eleventh hour) consensus was reached on a road map for further negotiations on reductions in greenhouse gases by all countries in 2015, to be implemented from 2020. The Climate Centre believes decisions made in Durban on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) provide a helpful context for the engagement of civil society partners in this process over the next few years. National Societies in developed countries can, in addition to supporting their counterparts in the developing world, engage with their governments on the mobilization of much-needed resources for the implementation of these plans.

The Climate Centre's director, Maarten van Aalst, was a coordinating lead author for the IPCC's Special Report on Extremes ("SREX"), a policymakers' summary of which was released at a special public event in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, in November, where he spoke for the IFRC. The report cites evidence that climate change has led to changes in extremes such as heat waves and heavy precipitation, and summarizes the best scientific knowledge on how to manage such events, including through stronger emphasis on anticipation and risk reduction. The report is an important basis for future policies on climate and disasters, and generated significant international media attention (*see below*, Communications).

Disaster risk reduction

The continued importance of investment in disaster risk reduction (DRR) as a constructive alternative to repetitive humanitarian outlays on emergency response was reflected in the Climate Centre's work in 2011. The Centre was engaged in a number of meetings and conferences like the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May and the DRR conference organized by the Norwegian government in June – arguing strongly for the early warning early action model and for the risks faced by the most vulnerable people worldwide to be at the heart of planning for DRR in general and national adaptation in particular.

Proactive monitoring of policy processes in multilateral and national agencies was done through the monitoring of a number of relevant websites, as well as through networking and personal communications. Connections within key institutions are strong and growing.

The Climate Centre initiated discussions with knowledge and practice networks working in related areas, including Strengthening Climate Resilience, the Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance, and the Adaptation Learning Programme. Collaborations have started in some countries. The Climate Centre gave presentations at the influential Fifth Community-Based Adaptation Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh at the British Council, and at the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre's 25th anniversary conference at Wilton Park, west of London, and it held relevant discussions with several donor agencies.

Capacity building for the Red Cross Red Crescent

Funded by the Canadian Red Cross and with support from the Austrian, Colombian, Danish and German Red Cross, the Climate Centre is developing a Climate Training Kit to support the integration of climate risks into the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent. The kit consists of modules which cover different topics within climate-risk management, including health and care, disaster management, youth, policy dialogues, basic science, and more.

Further examples of the role of the Climate Centre in capacity building in 2011 include:

- Training with Australian, Danish and German Red Cross international staff and delegates on how to integrate climate change into their work.
- Brokering of climate-risk management consultants and interns to support IFRC zone and Participating National Society (PNS) activities.
- Support to the American Red Cross for the use of games to communicate on early warning early action across timescales in its community programming.
- Support to Austrian Red Cross training sessions for South-East European networks of civil society organizations on policy and assessment.

In 2011 another round of IRI summer internships in Red Cross Red Crescent offices took place around the world. As in the previous three years, the students made valuable contributions to enhancing understanding and preparedness for changing climate-risks and extreme-weather events.

Research, analysis and academic collaboration

Partnerships have been established with leading universities and knowledge centres at the global and regional level to tailor climate-related information, knowledge and methodology to the Red Cross Red Crescent. Lessons-learned documented by the Climate Centre are used to enhance new Red Cross Red Crescent programmes, while analyses of the humanitarian consequences of climate change are recognized as valuable inputs to international policymaking and research.

Together with the IRI programme, the Climate Centre's academic and other collaborations – chiefly student internships but also activities ranging from data entry to design of participatory games – continued to generate research and analysis on ways of linking forecasts with humanitarian work.

One member of the Climate Centre team is currently undertaking masters research at Melbourne University on the mainstreaming of climate change into the Red Cross Red Crescent.

Communications

The Climate Centre website generated around 20,000 hits in 2011, many from the Netherlands, the UK and the US. India was the only developing country in the top ten list, but the website had visitors from 184 countries – nearly every country in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Programme updates, documentation of country experiences and information on important events, accomplishments and best practice are all available online. Three newsletters were distributed electronically in 2011, reporting on activities, programmes, publications, meetings and events. Each newsletter reached more than 2,200 subscribers worldwide.

The launch of the IPCC's Special Report on Extremes, "SREX", was also a very successful media event. In cooperation with the IFRC communications department, the Climate Centre produced several case studies which were featured on Reuters AlertNet, an editorial by IFRC Secretary General Bekele Geleta, and a press pack for National Societies. Maarten van Aalst acted as IFRC spokesperson in Kampala and was quoted extensively by hundreds of print and broadcast media outlets worldwide on the need to act *before* rather than after disasters.

The Climate Centre prepared and/or contributed to at least ten case studies, publications and guidance notes in 2011.

An important communications strategy of the Climate Centre is the use of audio-visual tools. The Climate Centre website now provides access to more than 40 films from all over the world and a number of games. The films, to which the Climate Centre contributed, can be easily viewed and used for workshops. Over the years, participatory video has been developed into a successful tool and the Climate Centre has been using it to teach vulnerable people how to make their own films on climate change and adaptation.

In 2011, the Climate Centre also started a strategic investment in games to communicate concepts related to climate-risk management. The Climate Centre has already developed a number of games with the Parsons School of Design in New York, to be used interactively, with audiences ranging from local communities to senior policymakers in donor agencies. One of them was called “Choices in a changing climate”, facilitated by Associate Director of Programmes Pablo Suarez in more than a dozen events during 2011.

Climate Centre people gave more than 70 presentations all over the world in 2011.

Resource mobilization

The Climate Centre is grateful for the financial support from the American, Australian, Austrian, British, Canadian, Danish, Finnish, German, Netherlands, Norwegian, Swedish, and Swiss Red Cross. Several of these also funded specific Climate Centre programmes or included support from the Centre in their own programmes.

In addition, in 2011 the Climate Centre received funding from existing donors and partners like the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Statkraft company, the Norwegian foreign ministry (through the Norwegian Red Cross), and the Rockefeller Foundation.

New resources mobilised in 2011 with a substantial component for the Climate Centre’s own activities include two projects with CDKN in Asia and Africa, a research project funded by the Nordic Development Fund through the Finnish Red Cross, and the European Union’s International Research Consortium on Dengue Risk Assessment (IDAMS), funded by the EU through Heidelberg University.

1 Programmes

1.1 Partners for Resilience (PfR)

The realization that development gains are increasingly under threat from disasters is now widely shared. Degraded ecosystems affected by poor management as well as natural causes contribute to increased disaster-risk for people and communities. Also climate change increases this risk, both directly through, for example, increased precipitation or prolonged drought and indirectly through ecosystems. To address this increased vulnerability from the three key angles of disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate change adaptation (CCA) and ecosystem management and restoration (EMR), the Climate Centre has joined four other Netherlands-based humanitarian, development and environmental organizations, supported by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in forming the Partners for Resilience (PfR) alliance to work together in nine countries: Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Uganda. The other four agencies are: CARE Nederland, Cordaid, the Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC), and Wetlands International.

For the Climate Centre, PfR is a major commitment and 50 per cent of our contribution to its success will be support at the national level – assisting in the development of the programmes of the different partners and assuring climate-related components of risk management are included. The other half will be at the global level, linking PfR experience with global processes like the UNFCCC and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), and translating lessons learned into generic approaches and tools.

THE PARTNERS FOR RESILIENCE:
SPECIALISTS FROM THE PfR
AGENCIES – THE NETHERLANDS
RED CROSS, THE CLIMATE CENTRE,
CARE, CORDAID AND WETLANDS
INTERNATIONAL – MET IN THE
HAGUE IN SEPTEMBER 2011.
(PHOTO: CLIMATE CENTRE)



The Climate Centre organized the first global PfR work conference on 19–22 September 2011 in The Hague, during which partners looked back on what has been achieved so far, and explored how to increase and share knowledge and how to link local experiences with global developments. Partners also looked ahead: country teams worked on plans and the global agenda for 2012. This conference was attended by nearly 90 participants, including staff from all programme countries, headquarters staff from partner organizations, communications experts, and the PfR advisory board.

All these efforts are aimed at strengthening the resilience of people faced with increased disaster risk through strengthening community resilience, empowering civil society and promoting policy dialogue. In the nine countries, the alliance's partner organizations implement activities at community level, liaise with civil society networks, and engage in dialogue with governments to reduce vulnerability and highlight the importance of the integrated approach. The partner organizations are themselves active civil society organizations working on DRR, CCA and EMR; they work individually and collectively with knowledge institutes and the private sector. The Netherlands-based alliance members provide technical support, especially with the integration of the three approaches. National PfR partners highlight, contribute to, and build on the national adaptation plans of governments.

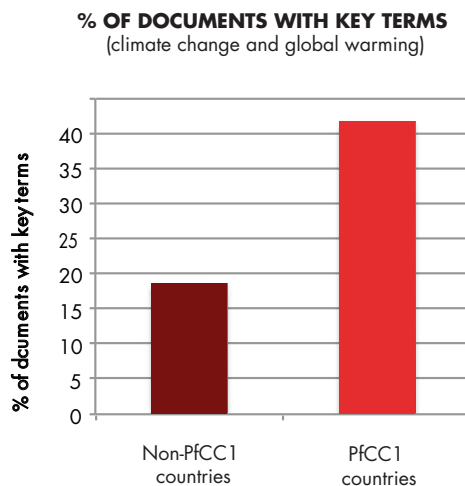
Much of the start-up phase of PfR, in the field and in the Netherlands, has been devoted to establishing structures and arrangements, and it's hoped that project implementation will accelerate in 2012. PfR country teams have now been established in all nine countries and (after taking account of some reduction in the overall budget) beneficiary communities selected. In most countries technical specialists from the Climate Centre and Wetlands International provided input at special workshops.

1.2 Preparedness for Climate Change: conclusions and outcomes

In June 2011 the Climate Centre successfully concluded the second phase of its Preparedness for Climate Change (PfCC) programme, with a further 27 National Societies, five zone offices of the secretariat of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and eight regional IFRC offices. Over the past five years, the two phases of PfCC enabled a total of 64 Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies to assess climate change risks and identify better ways to address them.

The first phase of PfCC ran from 2006 to 2009 and National Societies assessed the implications of rising climate-risk and its consequences for their work. For most, it was the first time they had engaged in such an exercise. Late in 2011, the Climate Centre published a summary report recognizing the hard work of these National Societies by featuring some of the many actions they had taken, while also highlighting a drastic increase in the number of climate-related references made in general appeal documents; this is seen as demonstrating a general increase in awareness of climate change across the Movement. A full reflection on the programme can be found on the Climate Centre website as well as the external evaluation referred to above.

The graph below, compiled from evaluative data gathered by the Climate Centre in 2011, shows that parts of the IFRC Asia-Pacific zone are using “climate change” and “global warming” terms *twice as often* as before 2007 when PfCC was getting fully underway. In other regions such as Central Africa, Europe and the Middle East, the frequency of occurrence of documents containing such key terms increased from zero to about 50 per cent. This does not in itself prove causality, but we are confident that PfCC did contribute significantly to increased attention to climate change at the National Society level.



SOURCE: CLIMATE CENTRE

1.3 The Climate Centre and health programming

In 2011 the Climate Centre continued its work in the vital area of the linkages between climate risk and *health* with the important research programme funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, “Health risk management in a changing climate: A global approach to building local capacity”. Begun in 2010, this is now being implemented with the IFRC secretariat and the Indonesian, Kenyan, Tanzanian and Vietnamese Red Cross.

In East Africa at the time of writing, the Kenyan and Tanzanian Red Cross had completed baseline surveys, vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA), training of volunteers, and health promotion activities, and also produced information, education and communication material. These societies have agreed a memorandum of understanding with their meteorological services, which will also facilitate the flow of climate information in the future. In South-East Asia, the Vietnamese Red Cross has completed a baseline survey and training materials; it has trained volunteers and implemented the project at community level. The Indonesian Red Cross has completed the baseline survey and prepared communication and training materials for roll-out in early 2012.

The Climate Centre also joined a consortium for research into dengue fever involving Heidelberg University: the International Research Consortium on Dengue Risk Assessment (IDAMS), funded through the European Commission.

The Centre’s health specialist, Lina Nerlander, left in May 2011 and was succeeded by Gilma Mantilla, a senior staff associate at IRI, providing technical support to the Climate Centre within the Rockefeller-funded health-risk management project.

1.4 Other programme development

The Climate Centre has brokered strong linkages with the London-based Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), which combines research, advisory services and knowledge management to support decision-makers in delivering climate-compatible development.

One CDKN project was submitted jointly with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and START, on forecast-based humanitarian decisions and tools and processes to link knowledge with action. The second is called “Facilitating innovative learning and policy dialogues, building upon delivery at scale in ‘Partners for Resilience’.” It will utilize lessons-learned from PfR experience to shape policy for scaling up community resilience in the context of disasters and climate change.

A proposal entitled “Forecast-based climate risk management through financial innovation” was submitted by the German Red Cross and is awaiting response from the German government’s international climate initiative. Based on a concept developed by the Climate Centre, this innovative four-year project aims to use science-based predictions to trigger Red Cross Red Crescent investments *before* disaster materializes to reduce its impact, with pilot activities in Peru and/or the Philippines.

The Climate Centre has partnered with the Finnish Red Cross and the country’s meteorological office, along with counterparts in Malawi and Mozambique, and submitted a proposal to the Nordic Development Fund entitled “Strengthening the resilience of people living in high-risk urban and semi-urban areas to weather-related disasters”. This two-year proposal has been accepted and was starting in early 2012, linking early warning and early action in the cities of Beira, Mozambique and Salima, Malawi.

A programme that helps Red Cross Red Crescent partners and PfR agencies understand climate risks is the Young Scholars programme. In 2011 we had another successful round with – at the time of writing – 16 scholars from Kings College London, Columbia University, Harvard, Yale, Boston University and other universities. In 2011, the Climate Centre itself hired two former young scholars, Julie Arrighi and Erin Coughlan. Another former Young Scholar, Lisette Braman, left the Climate Centre after several years to join the American Red Cross as its climate risk management specialist and will continue to liaise closely with us. Several other former young scholars have found their way into the Movement, or are working in strategic positions in partner organizations (including government agencies, universities, think tanks and meteorological institutes).

2 ‘Early warning early action’

The Climate Centre has invested substantially in recent years in the delivery of climate tools and services to support climate-informed humanitarian decision-making *ahead* of disaster. Together with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) and the IFRC secretariat, the Climate Centre continued operation of the IFRC’s help desk and map room for climate-risk information – about 5,000 visits in 2011 – and provided regular updates on La Niña.

With the help of IRI, La Niña updates were compiled monthly and distributed within the Red Cross Red Crescent across global networks, providing tailored information on likely impacts region by region. The Centre also developed a guidance document, offering further background information on La Niña, seasonal forecast interpretation, connecting forecasts with appropriate actions, and resources for monitoring and decision-making. The updates were also distributed to other agencies such as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and appreciated for their accessibility.

An analytical framework is under development for linking forecasts (early warning) with humanitarian decisions (early action) via guidelines that incorporate concrete ideas for bridging knowledge and action in different sectors across space and time. This will contribute to the improved use of climate information and help inspire approaches to addressing climate risks. Results will be widely distributed through journal articles, guidelines for facilitators, and web-based platforms.

The Climate Centre, in collaboration with students from Boston University, has also invested in research into geo-referenced data from the IFRC’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide indications of when pre-disaster funding pays off, and in response to what kind of forecast information.

2.1 The Horn of Africa

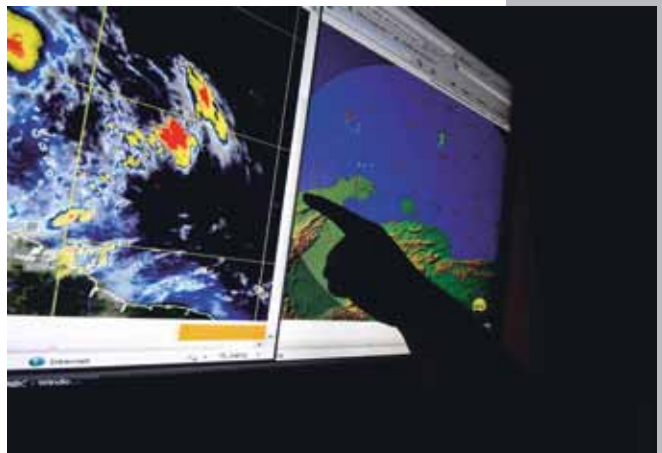
The drought in the Horn of Africa in 2011, which affected millions and led to an international humanitarian response, highlighted the importance of early-warning systems. The IRI-Climate Centre seasonal forecasts signalled an increased risk of drought as early as September 2010. Other early warning systems that directly monitor drought risk, particularly the US Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), communicated similar signs.

However, actual experience again highlighted the difficulty, at the multilateral level, of moving from clear early-warning to early *action* in the context of Horn of Africa drought emergencies, including in the area of resource mobilization. Fund-raising at the national level in Africa, especially the “Kenyans for Kenya” appeal – in a nation that both suffered severely from the drought itself and bore the brunt of the refugee exodus from Somalia that it helped trigger – was more successful, though still not the product of forecast warnings alone.

2.2 The Pacific

Forecasts on La Niña were distributed monthly and found to be very useful to the IFRC Pacific office. They helped the small-island nations of the Pacific, notably Tuvalu, which faced a national drought emergency, better prepare for extreme weather in the second half of 2011. Knowing that the conditions were likely to continue, we helped these offices liaise with government and regional bodies in their response to situations as they developed. The Tuvalu early action experience was documented for the launch of the IPCC Special Report on Extremes and featured on Reuters Alertnet.

JOSE ZUNIGA, HEAD OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS WITH THE COLOMBIAN RED CROSS (CRC) IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LA GUAJIRA, CHECKS THE LATEST WEATHER ON SATELLITE AND RADAR INTERNET-PROJECTIONS IN HIS OFFICE IN OCTOBER 2011. THE CRC HAS LONG BEEN PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING EARLY WARNING AND ADAPTATION, INCLUDING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CLIMATE CENTRE. (PHOTO: NLRC)



3 Engagement with international policymaking

The Climate Centre continued in 2011 to pursue its goal of having Red Cross Red Crescent concerns and proposals reflected in agreements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other international policymaking processes. The Centre is now recognized as a key resource for groups defining policy on global climate change issues, either singly or as part of an international process, while the IFRC is increasingly involved in effective advocacy at the national and international level.

3.1 UNFCCC COP17

The Climate Centre participated in the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the UNFCCC in Durban, South Africa. There (at the eleventh hour) consensus was reached on a “road map” for further negotiations on reductions in greenhouse gases by all countries in 2015, to be implemented from 2020, but no binding agreement. The Climate Centre believes decisions made in Durban on national adaptation plans do, however, provide a helpful context for engagement of civil society in this process over the next few years. National Societies in developed countries can, in addition to supporting their counterparts in the developing world, engage with their governments on the mobilization of much-needed resources for the implementation of these plans. After the successful inclusion of text on DRR and risk management in the Cancun Framework on Adaptation (COP16, December 2010), the next steps to be defined in advocacy were in support of the Red Cross Red Crescent at national level in their engagement with governments and other actors for inclusion in national adaptation plans.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) climate change task-force, initiated by the Climate Centre in June 2008, was dormant during 2011, to be reactivated in early 2012 as an informal network in close cooperation with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR).

Some 40 COP17 participants played the Climate Centre’s decision-making game “Humans versus Mosquitoes”, which seeks to capture the dynamics of health-risk management and its consequences and is adaptable to other climate-related threats. Created with designers from the Parsons School of Design in New York and subject experts from Yale University, it engaged Ugandan and Argentine parliamentarians, Red Cross Red Crescent youth from Africa and the Americas, and IFRC colleagues. It also attracted widespread media attention, including a feature in the *New York Times*.

3.2 The IPCC Special Report on Extremes

The Climate Centre’s director, Maarten van Aalst, was a coordinating lead author for the IPCC’s “Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation”, a policymakers’ summary of which was approved at an intergovernmental session in the Ugandan capital, Kampala in November. He spoke for the IFRC at the formal launch. “SREX” (as the report is referred to) was heavily trailed by the media, and the formal release of the summary (which had already been leaked) received very widespread coverage in print and broadcast outlets worldwide (*see below*, Communications).

The report cites evidence that climate change has led to changes in extremes such as heatwaves and heavy precipitation. In combination with social vulnerabilities and exposure to risks, this produces climate-related disasters; but the report also argued that policies “to avoid, prepare for, respond to and recover from the risks of disaster can reduce the impact of these events and increase the resilience of people exposed to [them]”.

NETHERLANDS RED CROSS-SUPPORTED IRRIGATION WORK UNDERWAY IN NORTHERN ETHIOPIA IN 2011, NOW BEING CONTINUED AS PART OF NEW PFR WORK IN THE COUNTRY. THE PFR PROGRAMME IS ALREADY REDUCING DROUGHT IMPACT IN CERTAIN AREAS, THROUGH ACTIVITIES LIKE IMPROVED ACCESS TO SPRING WATER, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SERVICES, AND CANAL MAINTENANCE. (PHOTO: NLRC)



3.3 Dialogue on reducing disaster risk

The continued importance of investment in DRR as a constructive alternative to repetitive humanitarian outlays on emergency response was reflected in the Climate Centre's work in 2011. The Centre was engaged in a number of meetings and conferences like the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May and the DRR conference organized by the Norwegian government in June, arguing strongly for early warning early action and for the risks faced by the most vulnerable people worldwide to be at the heart of DRR in general and national adaptation planning in particular.

Proactive monitoring of policy processes in multilateral and national agencies was done through the monitoring of a number of relevant websites, as well as through networking and personal communications. Connections within key institutions are strong and growing, with the potential to leverage partnerships in context of PfR and in collaboration with IFRC zones (e.g. the Asia-Pacific zone and Asian Development Bank). Relevant information gathered through these networks is shared throughout the IFRC.

Interactions with the international donor community have also included a review of the World Bank's Climate Information Portal. Discussions with bilateral donors included the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID) whose *Humanitarian Emergency Response Review* emphasized resilience and anticipation – both key themes for the Climate Centre.

The Climate Centre initiated discussions with knowledge and practice networks working in related areas, including Strengthening Climate Resilience, the Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance and the Adaptation Learning Programme. Collaborations have started in some countries. Dialogue on common messages for policymakers and the wider community of practice (including minimum standards for climate-smart DRR) is ongoing. There was specific engagement in the development of monitoring and evaluation for CCA and DRR – including a CARE workshop in London.

The Climate Centre gave presentations at the influential Fifth Community-Based Adaptation Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh at the British Council, and at the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre's 25th anniversary conference at Wilton Park, west of London, and it held relevant discussions with several donor agencies.

Another important initiative is the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The Climate Centre has provided input through a workshop and interaction with WMO staff and advisers, as well as through the International Conference on Climate Services and the practice-oriented Climate Services Partnership, which aims to help foster better climate services, while informing the development of the GFCS.

4 Red Cross Red Crescent capacity building

4.1 The Climate Training Kit for National Societies

Helping vulnerable people adapt to changing climate conditions requires an understanding of the challenges and opportunities that the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement faces. Funded by the Canadian Red Cross and supported by the Austrian, Colombian, Danish and German Red Cross, the Climate Centre is developing a new Climate Training Kit to support the integration of climate risks in the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent. The planned kit consists of 11 modules which cover different topics within climate-risk management, including health and care, disaster management, youth, policy dialogues, basic science, and more.

All the products in the modules have been designed for interactive training sessions to help Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers understand and address the impacts of climate change and participate in the policy dialogue with governments and international agencies. The kit is being launched in 2012.

4.2 Other training materials and courses

Further examples of the role of the Climate Centre in capacity building in 2011 include:

- Training with Australian, Danish and German Red Cross international staff and delegates on how to integrate climate change into their work.
- Brokering of climate-risk management consultants and interns to support IFRC zone and Participating National Society (PNS) activities, such as the Asia-Pacific zone risk-monitoring system.
- Support to the American Red Cross for the use of games to communicate about early warning early action across timescales in their community programming.
- Support to Austrian Red Cross training sessions for South-East European networks of civil society organizations on policy and assessment.

In 2011 another round of IRI summer internships in Red Cross Red Crescent took place around the world. As in the previous three years, the students made valuable contributions to enhancing understanding and preparedness for changing climate-risks and extreme-weather events. The internships will continue in future years, mainly in the context of PfR with a focus on longitudinal collaborations that generate examples of best practice for replication (including impact analysis and verification).

5 Research and analysis

High-quality research and analysis supports all the Climate Centre's work on capacity building, communications and advocacy. Partnerships have been established with knowledge centres at the global and regional level to tailor climate-related information, knowledge and methodologies to the Red Cross Red Crescent. Lessons-learned documented by the Climate Centre are used to enhance new Red Cross Red Crescent programmes while analyses of the humanitarian consequences of climate change are recognized as valuable inputs to international policy-making and research.

5.1 Academic collaborations

The Climate Centre's academic and other collaborations – chiefly student internships but also activities ranging from data entry to design of participatory games – continued to generate research and analysis on ways of linking forecasts with humanitarian work.

The third IRI *Climate and Society* publication, “A Better Climate for Disaster Risk Management”, was devoted to the use of climate information in disaster risk management. The Climate Centre and the IFRC secretariat were key contributors, including case studies and analysis, along with other humanitarian agencies such as the World Food Programme. The peer-reviewed publication clearly demonstrated the value of climate information for disaster-risk management by acting in advance of disasters. The report was launched in June 2011 by the American Red Cross.

The Climate Centre deepened its collaboration with numerous other knowledge centres, including the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, Boston University, Brandeis University, Cambridge University, Columbia University, Harvard University, the Institute of Development Studies at King's College London, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New York University, Oxford University, the Parsons School of Design, La Trobe University, Ethiopia's University of Bahir Dar, the University of Buenos Aires, the University of Cape Town, University College London, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of Iceland, the University of Manchester, the University of Maryland, the University of Melbourne, the University of Miami, the University of the South Pacific, Wageningen University, and Yale University.

The Academy of Finland has funded a research proposal entitled “Resilience in disaster relief and development supply chains: Managing challenges of climate change, urbanization and security”. Led by the Humanitarian Logistics Institute at the Hanken School of Economics in Helsinki, it will involve fieldwork in East Africa supervised by the Climate Centre in collaboration with the IFRC Africa zone office in Nairobi.

The relationship with the Australian Bureau of Meteorology was recently enhanced, and this led to joint research on coastal inundation, assistance with regional updates in the Pacific, and training on and development of a paper on communicating climate science.

One member of the Climate Centre team, Bec McNaught, is currently undertaking masters research at Melbourne University on the mainstreaming of climate change into the Red Cross Red Crescent.

The Climate Centre participated heavily in IPCC research, and Maarten van Aalst was coordinating lead author of the SREX report, including the core writing team for the summary for policymakers. Pablo Suarez contributed to the section “Managing Risks from Climate Extremes at the Local Level”.

As part of preparations for the IPCC’s Fifth Assessment Report (“AR5”) expected in 2014, Maarten van Aalst is participating as lead author of Working Group II on vulnerability, impacts and adaptation.

5.2 Teaching

Maarten van Aalst has taught at Wageningen University and at ITC/United Nations University. He also participated in a PhD thesis committee at Wageningen University.

Pablo Suarez teaches a week-long course on the Hanken School doctoral programme on humanitarian supply-chain management entitled “Climate, Disasters and Risk Reduction”, as well as a masters-level course at Parsons School of Design, “Systems and Games” (targeting Red Cross Red Crescent needs in the Zambezi River Basin Initiative), and (for the third time since early 2010) a masters course, “Innovations in climate-risk management”, at the University of Lugano, Switzerland.

In all cases, research opportunities were offered to students interested in the Movement’s work.

6 Communications and advocacy

6.1 External communications

The Climate Centre website generated around 20,000 hits in 2011. A recent analysis on visitor statistics showed that outside the home page itself, most interest focused on the Young Scholars programme. Visitors came from the Netherlands, the UK and the US. India was the only developing country in the top ten, but the website had visitors from 184 countries – nearly every country in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Programme updates, documentation of country experiences and information on important events, accomplishments and best practice are all available online. Three newsletters were distributed electronically in 2011, reporting on activities, programmes, publications, meetings and events. Each newsletter reached more than 2,200 subscribers worldwide.

The launch of the SREX report was also a very successful media event. In cooperation with the IFRC communications department, the Climate Centre produced several case studies which were featured on Reuters AlertNet, an editorial by IFRC Secretary General Bekele Geleta, and a press pack for National Societies. Maarten van Aalst acted as IFRC spokesperson in Kampala and was quoted extensively on the need to act *before* rather than after disasters, with special attention for the most vulnerable people, by the Associated Press, DPA and Reuters agencies, and in hundreds of international retail media outlets worldwide, including many influential publications and newspapers. The Climate Centre's special SREX website, including a ten-point summary written by the UK Overseas Development Institute's (ODI) Tom Mitchell and Maarten van Aalst, was a very useful resource and will remain available as a future reference, including regional interpretations of the report.

The SREX report not only provided a summary of the latest climate science on extremes, but also underlined the Climate Centre's approach to climate-risk management. Now backed by governments, SREX should provide a solid foundation for future programming and policy dialogues. A range of outreach events began in late 2011 with a webcast panel-discussion at the ODI in London and will continue in 2012.

6.2 Red Cross Red Crescent communications and other publications

The Climate Centre prepared and/or contributed to a number of case studies, publications and guidance notes in 2011. Some specific examples, finalized in close cooperation with the IFRC secretariat and National Societies, were these:

- “Questions and answers: climate variability and change into the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent.”
- “From global commitments to local action,” prepared for the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in November.
- “Entry points on climate risk management.”
- “Minimum standards of climate risk management.”
- “Climate impacts in the Pacific: assessing capacity for change.”
- “Preparedness for Climate Change, case study and evaluation.”
- “A Better Climate for Disaster Risk Management,” (peer-reviewed publication published by IRI/Columbia University, co-edited by Maarten van Aalst, including a contribution from Pablo Suarez).
- Scientific journal articles on Red Cross Red Crescent use of forecast information: one in *Disasters* (led by Lisette Braman), and one in the *International Journal of Geophysics* (led by Arame Tall).
- “Putting vulnerable people at the center of communication for adaptation: The case for knowledge sharing through participatory games and video tools”, in *World Resources Report 2011* (led by Pablo Suarez).
- Chapters on experimental learning for a book on community-based adaptation, on the humanitarian dimensions of geo-engineering for a volume on the ethics and governance of geo-engineering, both co-authored by Pablo Suarez and to be published by Earthscan.
- Book review published in *Ecological Economics* on “Global Environmental Change and Human Security” (published by MIT).

We worked closely together with the IFRC and IRI on the IFRC’s map room, which is providing global precipitation (rain and snow) forecasts on six-day to three-month timescales, and is now also available in Spanish.

6.3 Films

One important communications strategy of the Climate Centre is the use of audio-visual tools and games. The Climate Centre website now provides access to more than 40 films from all over the world and a number of games. They can be easily viewed and used for workshops. Over the years, participatory video has been developed into a successful tool and the Climate Centre has been using it to teach vulnerable people how to make their own films on climate change and adaptation.

6.4 Games

Games are becoming a more and more important tool in the Climate Centre's efforts to raise awareness and particularly confront practitioners and policy makers with the need to better anticipate disasters and diseases in a changing climate.

In 2011, the Climate Centre started developing a number of games with the Parsons School of Design in New York, to be used interactively to communicate concepts related to climate-risk management. One of them was called "Choices in a Changing Climate", facilitated by Pablo Suarez in more than a dozen events during 2011, including events convened by the World Bank in Addis Ababa in March, CDKN in London in April, the UNFCCC workshop on DRR in Lima in October, and COP17 in Durban – the latter reported by Reuters and included in media outlets ranging from the *Jakarta Post* to the *New York Times*. Another one was "Dengue, Catch the Fever!" – a game to educate people on health and climate change and used during a side event at COP17, co-designed by Yale and Parsons students and faculty.



THE DICE ARE ROLLED FOR ONE OF THE CLIMATE CENTRE'S DECISION-MAKING GAMES, PLAYED ON THE FRINGES OF THE FIRST GLOBAL PFR WORK CONFERENCE HELD IN SEPTEMBER 2011 IN THE HAGUE. (PHOTO: CLIMATE CENTRE.)

6.5 Presentations

Climate Centre people gave more than 70 presentations all over the world in 2011. Team members are regularly invited to give presentations at conferences and seminars on themes relating to the objectives of the Centre. This included high-profile presentations on the IPCC SREX report (including one at ODI in London which also attracted a significant online audience), chairing of a high-level Panel hosted by the Norwegian government at the UNFCCC COP in Durban, and a prominent presentation at the International Conference on Climate Services (ICCS) at Columbia University.

The demand for Climate Centre presentations is higher than our human resources allow us to meet, and this is one reason for the development of the Climate Training Kit referred to above.

6.6 Published case studies

In 2011 the Climate Centre was involved in creating a detailed case study and shorter practitioner's note on the climate change-related work of the Solomon Islands Red Cross. The research and case study was based on the implementation of a VCA that considered the impacts of climate change at the community level. The case study is being utilized in a Pacific-wide climate change assessment publication funded by the Australian government. The case study was produced in partnership with Australian Red Cross, the Solomon Islands Red Cross and the IFRC Pacific office, as well as University of the South Pacific and the Secretariat of the Pacific Communities.

Another Solomon Islands case study is being produced on the opportunities and challenges of integrating climate change into the work of Red Cross. The work will be finalized in 2012 in the form of a thesis and journal publications as well as a series of short practitioner notes that will be extracted to enable lessons to be shared more widely.

Three case studies, from Colombia, Tuvalu and West Africa, were prepared together with the IFRC communications department for the launch of the IPCC SREX report, demonstrating how the report findings affect the Red Cross Red Crescent and how our community-based solutions and early warning early action approach help address the changing risks. These studies were also featured on Reuters Alertnet.

7 Finance and administration

7.1 Finance and resource mobilization

The main donors to the Climate Centre in 2011 were the Netherlands government, the Canadian and Norwegian Red Cross, and the Rockefeller Foundation. In total, 12 Red Cross societies and five other institutional donors have contributed either to core costs or specific activities.

The National Societies that contributed are (in alphabetical order):

- American Red Cross
- Australian Red Cross
- Austrian Red Cross
- British Red Cross
- Canadian Red Cross
- Danish Red Cross
- Finnish Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Netherlands Red Cross
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross.

An increasing number of these National Societies also funded specific Climate Centre programmes or included support from the Centre in their own programmes (*see also*, Chapter 8).

In addition, the Climate Centre received funding from the following donors and partners:

- Climate and Development Knowledge Network
- Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (approved extension of 2010 funding)
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Statkraft

Approval for new resource mobilization for programmes primarily undertaken by the Climate Centre included:

- Two projects with CDKN on games for early warning early action in Africa and – in close partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross and other agencies – to provide additional capacity in policy and research to PfR in Asia.
- A Climate Centre partnership with IDAMS to help bridge research and practice on dengue fever.

Examples of new resource mobilization primarily for others in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement with continued Climate Centre involvement during programme implementation included:

- Support to the Finnish Red Cross for a successful Nordic Climate Fund proposal for the Malawi and Mozambique Red Cross.
- Final stage of support to the Netherlands Red Cross to complete resource mobilization for PfR.
- Support to the German Red Cross on innovative financing for Early Action in the context of DRR programmes in partnership with Allianz and GIZ (application pending).
- Support to the Australian and Solomon Islands Red Cross for a research project with funding from the Australian government.

Overall, however, resource mobilization from climate-related sources for the Red Cross Red Crescent to address climate risks still falls short of what's needed – a major concern for the Climate Centre and a recurring subject for discussion with partners.

The Climate Centre continues to be involved in bilateral discussions with major bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to shape future funding mechanisms, including on the continuum between development, humanitarian and climate financing, and against a backdrop of discussions on SREX and the UK government's 2011 *Humanitarian Emergency Response Review*.

7.2 Organization

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre is the Red Cross Red Crescent's Resource Centre on climate-related issues. It is an independent foundation under Dutch law, with three board members responsible for management and policy. The governing board met three times in 2011 in April, October and December.

The Climate Centre remains grateful to its host, the Netherlands Red Cross in The Hague. Each year the Centre receives support from many different departments of the NLRC and benefits from the expertise of its human resources, legal and financial departments.

7.3 Board

Name and function

Mr. E.H.T.M. Nijpels, <i>chairman</i>	Chairman of NEngineers, former Royal Commissioner in Friesland and Netherlands Minister of the Environment (inter alia)
Mr. Matthias Schmale, <i>board member</i>	IFRC Under-Secretary General
Mr. Cees Breederveld, <i>treasurer</i>	Director General, Netherlands Red Cross

7.4 Staff and consultants

The daily work of the Climate Centre in 2011 was carried out by the following members:

Maarten van Aalst, Director (0,8 fte)

Responsible for overall management, strategy and policy development; links to the scientific community; analysis and guidance on climate risk management in Red Cross Red Crescent programmes, support to international programmes. Coordinating lead author for Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Maarten took over from Madeleen Helmer as Director of the Climate Centre in April 2011.

Madeleen Helmer, Director, Policies and Communication (0,7 fte)

Responsible for communications and advocacy particularly the UNFCCC negotiation processes and the EU, as well as mobilization of resources, and coordination with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Until April 2011, Madeleen was Director of the Climate Centre, thereafter she was leading Great Green Wall project development for the Netherlands Red Cross

Pablo Suarez, Associate Director of Programmes, based in Boston, US (0,7 fte)

Responsible for applied research and innovation, audio-visual work and participatory games of the Climate Centre, as well as technical advice to National Societies in the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa.

Fleur Monasso, Senior Programme Officer (0,8 fte)

Responsible for overall coordination of the international Preparedness for Climate Change programme and adviser to the Central Asia region, as well as the general finance and communications of the centre.

Rebecca McNaught, Senior Programme Officer (0,6 fte)

Responsible for technical advice and programme and policy support in the Asia-Pacific region, with a special focus on community risk assessment.

Lina Nerlander, Health Specialist (0,6 fte)

Responsible for addressing the effects of climate change and climate variability on health. Programme development in East Africa and South-East Asia, to be extended to other regions.

(Lina has left the Climate Centre in May 2011 to join the US Centers for Disease Control; her tasks were handed over to Gilma Mantilla)

Lisette Braman, Programme Officer (0,8 fte)

Responsible for supporting the Preparedness for Climate Change Programme and helping to facilitate the Partnership to Save Lives between the IFRC and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).

(Lisette left the Climate Centre team in December 2011 to become Climate Risk Management Advisor in the American Red Cross; her tasks were mainly handed over to Erin Coughlan)

Julie Arrighi, Programme Officer (0,5 fte)

Julie is a regional programme officer for East Africa, based in Kampala, Uganda. She provides technical advice in the context of the Partners for Resilience programme. She spends half of her time supporting American Red Cross programmes in Africa.

Knud Falk, technical advisor and consultant

Knud assists the Climate Centre in its support to the Movement on climate-related programme development and resource mobilization. He is an expert in the field of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecological monitoring, surveys and assessment.

Gilma Mantilla, consultant for climate and public health

Gilma is based at IRI in New York and provides technical advice on the use of climate information in Red Cross Red Crescent health programming, as well as guidance, tools and policies.

Arame Tall, regional technical adviser and consultant

Arame is the Climate Centre's technical adviser for West and Central Africa. She provides technical advice in the context of the Partners for Resilience programme. She is pursuing a PhD at Johns Hopkins University.

Erin Coughlan, technical advisor and consultant

Erin joined the Climate Centre in December 2011. She supports Climate Centre programmes to build awareness and capacity for climate risk management, and coordinates an internship programme through Columbia University, bringing graduate students in climate fields to IFRC offices around the world.

Carina Bachofen, Technical adviser and consultant

Carina joined the Climate Centre in December 2011. She supports the Partners for Resilience programme in Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Desiree Davidse, office manager (0,8 fte)

Responsible for desk support, secretarial support and office management, including travel support to the team, consultant and intern contract management, and maintaining the Centre's website and newsletters.

8 Annual accounts 2011

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2011 (in Euro)

After appropriation of the result

Assets	12/31/11	12/31/10	Liabilities	12/31/11	12/31/10
Tangible fixed assets (1)	0	124	Unrestricted funds		
Accounts receivable and prepayments (2)	91,033	15,372	– going concern reserve (4)	360,024	264,114
Cash and cash equivalents (3)	547,023	519,753	Restricted funds		
			– donor restricted funds (5)	98,181	62,939
			Total equity	458,205	327,053
			Short-term debts (6)	179,851	208,196
	638,056	535,249		638,056	535,249

Statement of income and expenditure for 2011 (in Euro)

Income	Actual 2011	Budget 2011	Actual 2010
Income from own fund-raising			
Gifts and donations (7)	632,896	724,000	259,395
Government grants (8)	397,093	425,000	676,787
Other income and expenditures	42,093	25,000	17,974
Total available for Climate Centre's objectives	1,072,082	1,174,000	954,156
Expenditure			
Climate Centre operations			
– own activities (9)	676,637	869,500	1,024,503
– general operating costs (10)	264,293	287,000	274,634
Total expenditure for Climate Centre's objectives	940,930	1,156,500	1,299,137
Balance for the year	131,152	17,500	-344,981
Appropriation of balance for the year			
– donor restricted funds	35,242	-	-447,654
– going concern reserve	95,910	17,500	102,673
	131,152	17,500	-344,981
Brief summary			
Donor restricted funds			
– Income	696,975	-	676,787
– Expenditure	661,733	-	1,124,441
	35,242	-	-447,654
Going concern reserve			
– Income	375,107	1,174,000	277,369
– Expenditure	279,197	1,156,500	174,696
	95,910	17,500	102,673
	131,152	17,500	-344,981

Notes

These 2011 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Guidelines for Financial Reporting by Non-Profit Organizations (*Richtlijn Verslaggeving Organisaties zonder winststreven*). They aim to give an understanding of income and expenditure and the overall financial position of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre.

Principles of valuation and presentation

General

The financial statements have been drawn up on the historic costs. Unless stated otherwise, assets and liabilities are posted at nominal value. Balance-sheet items in foreign currencies are converted at the rate on the date of the balance sheet, and the ensuing gains or losses in exchange are recorded in the statement of income and expenditure under the heading “investment revenues”. Unless stated otherwise, all amounts are given in euros.

Tangible fixed assets

These are stated at acquisition cost less cumulative depreciation. Depreciation is calculated as a percentage of the acquisition cost, according to the straight-line method on the basis of useful life.

Accounts receivable and prepayments

Receivables are shown at nominal value, less any bad-debt provision deemed necessary.

Principles for determination of the result

Costs and revenues are allocated to the period to which they relate.

Government grants

Grants that the provider has made dependent upon the costs of a project are included in the statement of income and expenditure for the year in which the subsidized expenditure was incurred.

Notes to the balance sheet as at 31 December 2011 (in Euro)

Tangible fixed assets (1)	2011	2010
Acquisition cost at 1 January	124	620
Investments (computers)	-	-
Depreciation charged for year (33.33%)	-124	-496
Book value at 31 December	-	124

Accounts receivable and prepayments (2)	2011	2010
Receivables re activities	84,712	12,620
Accrued interest	6,321	2,752
Total	91,033	15,372

Almost all receivables have a remaining term of less than 1 year.

Cash and cash equivalents (3)	2011	2010
Current accounts	547,023	519,753
Total	547,023	519,753

Equity

In accordance with the aforementioned guidelines, the Climate Centre's equity is broken down into restricted funds and unrestricted funds. Restricted, earmarked funds are that part of equity to which a third party has dictated a specific use, and the Climate Centre can only use these funds for that purpose. The remaining equity is reported as unrestricted.

Going concern reserve (4)	2011	2010
Balance at 1 January	264,114	161,441
Appropriation of balance for the year	95,910	102,673
Balance at 31 December	360,024	264,114

Restricted funds (5)	2011	2010
Balance at 1 January	62,939	510,593
Appropriation of balance for the year	35,242	-447,654
Balance at 31 December	98,181	62,939

	Balance 1-Jan	Appropriation of balance		Balance 31-Dec
		Income	Expenditure	
IASC	23,193	-	4,741-	18,452
Rockefeller	1,227-	205,635	174,635-	29,773
PFCC2	29,851	64,933	94,784-	-
Audiovisuals	11,122	-	1,151-	9,971
PfR (MFS II)	-	332,170	332,170-	-
Climate Training Kit	-	75,337	53,963-	21,374
European Commission (IDAMS)	-	18,900	289-	18,611
	62,939	696,975	661,733-	98,181

The donor-restricted funds include the portion of equity that may only be used for certain purposes, either because a third-party (donor) has stipulated the restriction or because the money was collected for a specific purpose. Allocations to the donor-restricted funds are determined according to the specific purposes for which gifts and donations are given.

The Climate Centre's policy is to spend restricted funds within three years of the stipulation being made.

Short-term debts (6)	2011	2010
Accounts payable	64,874	49,925
Taxes and social security premiums	8,073	13,200
Other accounts debt	106,904	145,071
Total	179,851	208,196

Notes to the statement of income and expenditure for 2011 (in Euro)

Gifts and donations (7)	Actual 2011	Budget 2011	Actual 2010
PNSs: Netherlands Red Cross	65,318	370,000	25,000
Australian Red Cross	6,720		-
German Red Cross	10,000		10,000
Danish Red Cross	10,000		18,656
American Red Cross	7,717		7,717
Swiss Red Cross	11,648		10,435
British Red Cross	14,267		4,565
Swedish Red Cross	49,869		14,503
Austrian Red Cross	10,000		10,000
Norwegian Red Cross	111,894		135,297
Finnish Red Cross	10,000		-
Canadian Red Cross	75,337	-	
Total	382,770	370,000	236,173
Local branches Netherlands Red Cross	2,000	-	2,000
Statkraft	21,180	-	21,180
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	-	100,000	-
European Commission (IDAMS)	18,900	194,000	-
Rockefeller	205,635		-
Other	2,411	60,000	42
Total	632,896	724,000	259,395
Government grants (8)	Actual 2011	Budget 2011	Actual 2010
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (PfCC2)	64,923	-	676,787
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFS II)	332,170	425,000	-
Total	397,093	425,000	676,787

Climate Centre operations (9)

Own activities	Actual 2011	Budget 2011	Actual 2010
Other personnel expenses	266,243	319,500	242,484
Consultants/volunteers	343,588	357,000	768,831
Office and housings costs	65,499	50,000	302
Campaign materials	11	-	13
Other direct costs	1,296	143,000	12,873
Total	676,637	869,500	1,024,503

Climate Centre Operations (10)

General operating costs	Actual 2011	Budget 2011	Actual 2010
Personnel expenses			
Salaries	171,716	216,234	168,946
Social security charges	25,670	32,325	24,353
Pension contributions	14,644	18,441	11,481
	212,030	267,000	204,780
Other personnel expenses	4,152	} 20,000	13,179
Consultants/volunteers	6,850		19,100
Office and housings costs	38,960		35,604
Campaign materials	-		-
Other general costs	2,301		1,971
Total	264,293	287,000	274,634

In 2011, members of the board of governors did not receive any reimbursement in respect of travelling and representations, incurring nil costs.

The Hague, 14 June 2012

Board of Governors

Mr E.H.T.M. Nijpels

Chairman

Mr C. Breederveld

Treasurer

Mr. M. Schmale

Member of the Board

Other information

Independent Auditor's report

To the board of governors of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre:

Report on the financial statements

We have audited the 2011 financial statements of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre at The Hague, which comprise the balance sheet at 31 December 2011, the statement of income and expenditure for the year that ended on that day, and summary notes of the accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for the preparation of the management board report in accordance with the Dutch Accounting Standards Board guidelines for annual reporting by non-profit organizations (DAS 640). Management is further responsible for such internal control as it deems necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement from fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law and auditing standards, requiring that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of finances whether due to fraud or error. In making such risk-assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used, and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements herein give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre on 31 December 2011, and of its results for the year ended on that day in accordance with the guidelines for annual reporting by non-profit organizations of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board (DAS 640).

Report on management board report

We have no deficiencies to report as a result of our examination whether the management board report, to the extent we can assess, has been prepared in accordance with the Guideline for annual reporting 640 “Not-for-profit organisations” of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board. Further, we report that the management board report, to the extent we can assess, is consistent with the financial statements.

Amstelveen , 14 June 2012

KPMG Accountants N.V.

P.W.D. Venhoeven RA

Colophon

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