

Annual Report 2008

# Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management



RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT  
**CLIMATE CENTRE**



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The Netherlands  Red Cross

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## Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

PHOTO ON THE COVER: SAMOA RED CROSS YOUTH VOLUNTEERS DEMONSTRATED TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE HOW THEY COMMUNICATE CLIMATE CHANGE WITH COMMUNITIES, OCTOBER 2008 PHOTO: BEC McNAUGHT

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# Acronyms

ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development
AGRHYMET	Centre Regional de Formation et d'Application en Agrométéorologie et Hydrologie Opérationnelle
CATHALAC	Centro del Agua del Trópico Humedo para America Latina y el Caribe (Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean)
COP	Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
CRC	Canadian Red Cross
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters
DIPECHO	Disaster Preparedness for European Commission Humanitarian Office
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DP	Disaster Preparedness
EW>EA	Early Warning > Early Action
GISS	Goddard Institute for Space Studies
GRCS	Ghana Red Cross Society
IASC	Inter Agency Standing Committee
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IFRC	International Federation of RC/RC Societies
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
NRC	Netherlands Red Cross
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NPL	Nationale Postcode Loterij (Dutch national postcode lottery)
NS	(Red Cross Red Crescent) National Society/Societies
PfCC	Preparedness for Climate Change Programme
PMI	Indonesian Red Cross
PNS	Participating (Red Cross Red Crescent) National Society

RC/ RC Movement	Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement
SANOBI	A power utility company in Burkina Faso
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN/ IASC	United Nations Inter Agency Standing Committee
UN/ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
VCA	Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
WBI	World Bank Institute
WCAZ	West/Central Africa Zone of the International Federation of RC/RC Societies
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

# Preface

2008 Was the 'in-between-year' when it comes to climate change. In between 2007 and 2009, where 2007 marked a major breakthrough in global awareness that climate change is indeed one of the main threats to humanity and 2009 in which the global community will have to underline commitments in a new global climate change agreement to be signed in Copenhagen.

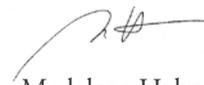
2007 Ended with two meetings which had a major impact on the work for the RC/RC Climate Centre. At the 30<sup>th</sup> International Red Cross/Red Crescent Conference in November all National RC/RC Societies, the ICRC and governments committed themselves to increase their efforts to address the risks of climate change for vulnerable people. One month later in Bali, governments agreed to the elements of a new climate change commitment to be signed in Copenhagen in 2009. Disaster risk reduction strategies and risk management were clearly included as key approaches to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The outcome of these two conferences determined the agenda of the Climate Centre in 2008, and in the years to come. First of all the Centre focused on enhanced action on the ground to improve the capacity of national and local Red Cross and Red Crescent professionals and volunteers to better understand and address the risks of climate change. Secondly, the Centre geared up to become fully engaged in the negotiations for a new climate change agreement in Copenhagen. At national and global level the Centre invested to consolidate and deepen the risk related elements in this new crucial global agreement.

Does all the work in awareness raising, advocacy and capacity building make any difference on the ground? How do you measure your results? These are most relevant questions, even though they are very difficult to answer. Working on climate risk reduction is still pioneering work, struggling between complicated academic knowledge and often very harsh conditions on the ground in the most deprived communities. It is also difficult to point at where we could make a difference. This year we had such an example when the IFRC in West Africa for the first time used a seasonal forecast predicting an enhanced above average rainfall that could lead to floods. National societies and local volunteers could begin to mobilize people and resources prior to the actual disaster and were better prepared. This led to less harmful impacts of the floods and was considered as an action that saved lives and livelihoods.



Ed Nijpels  
*Chairman of the Board*



Madeleen Helmer  
*Head*

PHOTO: DAMIEN SCHUMANN/INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EARLY WARNING, EARLY ACTION! A MOZAMBIQUE RED CROSS TAKING PART IN AN EARLY WARNING DRILL IN 24 DE  
JULIO, A SMALL COMMUNITY OUTSIDE OF MOPEIA.



PHOTO: ALEX WYNTER/INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
MOZAMBIQUE RED CROSS AQUATIC RESCUE TEAM, JANUARY 2008.

# 1 Introduction

In 2002, the Netherlands Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) established the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) Climate Centre, based in The Hague (Netherlands). The main function of the Climate Centre is to support the IFRC and national societies in reducing the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations by integrating knowledge of climate risks into RC/RC strategies, plans and activities.

Since its inception, the main approach and goals of the RC/RC Climate Centre have stayed the same. The Centre's work remains focused on helping the poorest people, in the poorest countries to reduce their vulnerability to climate-related disasters and health hazards. Although poor countries have contributed the least to the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change, they are the ones most vulnerable to its consequences.

A key aspect of the Climate Centre's work is the integration of climate risks into the existing RC/RC programmes. Vulnerable communities are the heart of these programmes.

The Climate Centre had the following goals in 2008:

- Provide technical support to the 37 national RC/RC societies participating in the 'Preparedness for Climate Change' (PfCC) programme. More information about the PfCC programme can be found in chapter 3.1.
- Facilitate and strengthen cooperation between scientific and humanitarian communities at the national, regional and global levels. The Centre provides assistance in utilising scientific knowledge to improve RC/RC disaster management and health programs through forecasts and early warnings. The risks associated with climate change are primarily defined on the global and regional scale, thus it is important to ensure that relevant knowledge is also made available at the national and local level
- Ensure that knowledge of localized climate change impacts is available to the international world of policymakers, particularly those engaged in negotiations over the new climate agreement. Core activities of the Climate Centre are to bring the voices of communities to advocacy efforts, and to partner with other humanitarian agencies to strengthen influence of the humanitarian sector in climate change negotiations.

In 2008 the Climate Centre had 7 employees with part-time contracts, based in various locations throughout the world. In addition, the Centre worked with 6 freelancers (filmmakers, communication experts and university interns), in multiple countries. The Climate Centre coordinates its international team, through virtual team meetings that take place regularly via Skype.

### *Fundraising*

In 2008 the Climate Centre received its main source of financial support for the PfCC programme from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Netherlands Red Cross (NRC) also provided substantial support for further programme development within the RC/ RC Movement and the Climate Centre's mobilization of additional resources. The Centre also received considerable funding from the Danish Government to increase policy and advocacy activities, particularly in preparation for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations, but also to make sure climate change risks are integrated well throughout the work of the RC/RC Movement. Contributions from the Watch Hill Foundation funded multiple video projects on climate change. The Climate Centre's 'core costs' were predominantly covered through contributions from Participating Red Cross/ Red Crescent National Societies (PNSs). In 2008 these contributions came from Austria, Australia, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United States of America and Canada.

## 2 Climate change science and disasters in 2008

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007), “warming of the climate system is unequivocal”. The year 2008 was notable because it tied as one of the 10 warmest years on record, since 1850, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO 2009). Twelve of the warmest years on record occurred within the last 14 years. It is certain that climate change has already led to more weather extremes melting glaciers and sea level rise. That in itself is a strong incentive for increased early action through disaster preparedness within the Red Cross Red Crescent. Climate change requires us now to help prepare communities for threats that are unpredictable in both severity and nature.

The 2008 Atlantic hurricane season was the fourth most active year since 1944<sup>1</sup>. For the first time, a major hurricane (Category 3 or above) occurred each month from July through November. Fresh in our memory are the hurricanes/ tropical storms Gustav, Hannah and Ike, which followed each other in rapid succession and caused tremendous damage in the Caribbean (particularly in Haiti) and the USA (*see figure 1*). In June Typhoon Fengshen killed 644 people in China and the Philippines.



FIGURE 1: THIS GOES SATELLITE IMAGE FROM SEPTEMBER 2, 2008 SHOWS HURRICANES GUSTAV (OVER TEXAS), HANNA (IN THE BAHAMAS), IKE AND JOSEPHINE (BOTH OVER OPEN WATER). CREDIT: NASA/NOAA GOES PROJECT

1 Azadeh Ansari and Reynolds Wolf (1 December 2008). “An unusually destructive hurricane season ends”. CNN. <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/11/30/hurricane.season.ends/index.html>. Retrieved on 1 December 2008.

Several extreme weather and climate events were recorded in 2008 in various parts of the world. The most disastrous one was tropical cyclone Nargis, which made landfall in Myanmar in May, causing catastrophic destruction and more than 70 000 fatalities. *Table 1.* below summarizes the climate-related disasters that occurred in 2008. While it is not possible to attribute a specific event such as cyclone Nargis to climate change, the upward trend in the number of extreme events in recent years is related to climate change

In 2008, floods affected 43 million people. Although this number is much lower than the 164 million people that were affected by floods in 2007, flooding was still one of the most frequent disasters that occurred in 2008. As shown in figure 2 below, Asia remains by far the continent most affected by natural disasters in the world. Nine of the ten countries with the highest number of disaster-related deaths were in Asia. Nine out of the ten countries with the highest number of disaster-related deaths were in Asia. The IPCC states that prolonged droughts and more frequent floods are likely in the coming century.

### Percentage of people killed by natural disasters by region

**2008**

**Average 2000-2007**

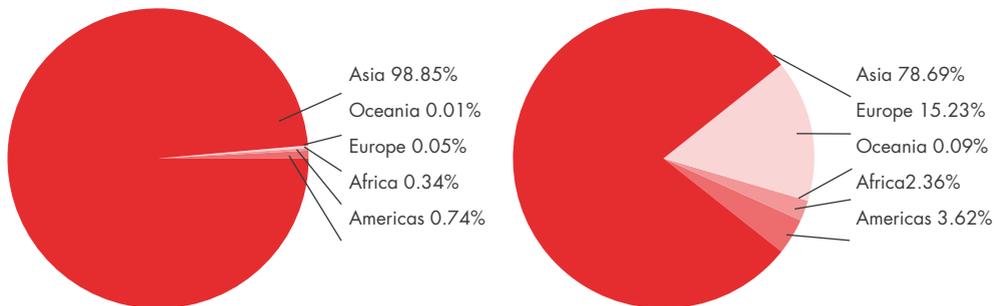


FIGURE 2. DISASTER FIGURES FOR 2000 TO 2008, SOURCE UNISDR, CRED, EM-DAT 2009.

2 WMO statement on the status of the global climate in 2008, World Meteorological Organization

3 EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database

## Disaster occurrence and impact in 2008

Disaster type	Disaster subtype	Occurrence	Number killed	Total number affected
Drought	Drought	12	4	26502500
Epidemic	not specified	1	46	66
	Bacterial Infectious Diseases	25	3048	69099
	Viral Infectious Diseases	7	173	170184
Extreme temperature	Cold wave	3	97	500
	Extreme winter conditions	5	1462	79170684
Flood	not specified	4	113	28535
	Flash flood	23	1467	10668320
	General flood	125	3166	32441062
	Storm surge/coastal flood	6	10	75998
Mass movement wet*	Avalanche	1	12	0
	Landslide	11	492	5149
Storm	Extratropical cyclone	7	13	1150
	Extratropical cyclone (winter storm)	2	15	1600
	Local storm	18	204	77980
	Tropical cyclone	72	140614	15545921
<b>Total</b>		<b>322</b>	<b>150936</b>	<b>164758748</b>

TABLE 1. DISASTER OCCURRENCE AND IMPACT IN 2008, SOURCE EM-DAT

# 3 Capacity building

Capacity building to address the impacts of climate change related risks within the RC/RC Movement is a core activity of the Climate Centre. Raising awareness about climate change impacts, promoting the use of seasonal forecasts and sharing knowledge across all layers of the Movement is key.

## 3.1 The Preparedness for Climate Change programme

The RC/RC Climate Centre offers national RC/RC societies in developing countries the opportunity to improve their understanding of the negative impacts of climate change for their country and programs. Developing countries, and particularly their poorest inhabitants, do not have the means to fend off floods and other natural disasters. To make matters worse, their economies tend to be based on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and fisheries, which makes them all the more vulnerable. A better understanding of climate change and how extreme weather events could affect vulnerable people will eventually lead to stronger risk reduction programs.

All national RC/RC societies in developing countries were invited in 2006 to participate in the program 'Preparedness for climate change - understanding and addressing the risks of climate change' (with financial support from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate-General for International Cooperation).

A total of 37 national RC/RC societies worldwide joined the Preparedness for Climate Change Programme (PfCC). The programme seeks to improve national societies' understanding of, and response to, the negative impacts of climate change in their respective countries.

The programme consists of four consecutive steps:

1. A workshop is held for RC/RC staff members with presentations by climate experts, often from the national meteorological service. For many RC/RC societies, this is often the first introduction to the topic of climate change.
2. A background study is carried out by the national society, which maps out the country's climate risks and identifies connections between these risks and existing RC/RC programmes. The results of this study are shared with the whole staff and

volunteers of the national society and other interested parties in an accessible fashion, such as a brochure or a video production.

3. A regional workshop is held in which the experiences and ideas of the various RC/RC societies in the region are shared and follow-up steps are prepared.
4. An action plan is written describing how the national RC/RC society plans to integrate climate risks into its activities, and mobilize the necessary capacity and resources to do so.

*Important characteristics of the programme include:*

- Cooperation with meteorological institutes, universities, environmental government bodies, non-government organisations and other climate knowledge centres.
- Analysis focused on climate-related risks for the most vulnerable.
- Dialogue with local government bodies in order to contribute humanitarian and community perspectives to the development of climate policy.
- Awareness raising among RC/RC staff and volunteers regarding climate change risks.
- Discussions on the consequences of climate change for the organization's humanitarian work.

Before the year ended, 27 National Societies completed the first and second steps of the PfCC programme. The tremendous amount of work and dedication National Societies put into their step-2 background documents resulted in an elaborate analyses of climate change impacts and risk from all over the globe. Many of these reports will result in tangible plans for action (fourth and final step of the programme), as well as publication materials to sensitize their constituency by March 2009.

*Six regional workshops were held, each with its own focus:*

1. **Caribbean, Trinidad** – This meeting was held in conjunction with a larger meeting on community resilience and local adaptive capacity to climate change in the Caribbean.
2. **Central America, San Salvador** – Two regional meetings were held on climate change and disaster preparedness. Guidance was also provided on how to effectively communicate climate risk to constituencies.
3. **East Africa, Mombasa** – This meeting focused on the negative health impacts of climate change.
4. **Pacific, Suva** – This meeting was presented as a forum for civil society, aiming to bring climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction practitioners together to share lessons learned and develop creative ways to reduce climate risk in Pacific communities.
5. **South East Asia, Jakarta** – This meeting utilised the opportunity to share information and collaborate across the region with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
6. **West Africa, Dakar** – This meeting focused on understanding and making use of seasonal forecast and weather predictions tools.

PHOTO: WOMEN IN SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA OFTEN WALK FOR DAYS TO FIND FIREWOOD. SELLING WOOD AT THE LOCAL MARKET IS ONE OF THE FEW INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES WHEN CATTLE HAS DIED DUE TO EXTREME DROUGHT. PHOTO BY: JAKOB DALL/ DANISH RED CROSS



## 3.2 Bringing an understanding of scientific climate information to the RC/RC Movement

Dealing effectively with climate change requires an increased awareness of the changing risks, and a systematic integration of this knowledge into regular plans and programmes. One way in which the RC/RC Climate Centre aims to achieve this is by helping the RC/RC Movement begin translating early warnings into early action (EW>EA). Taking targeted actions in response to science-based early warnings can be done on multiple timescales. Examples of such actions include:

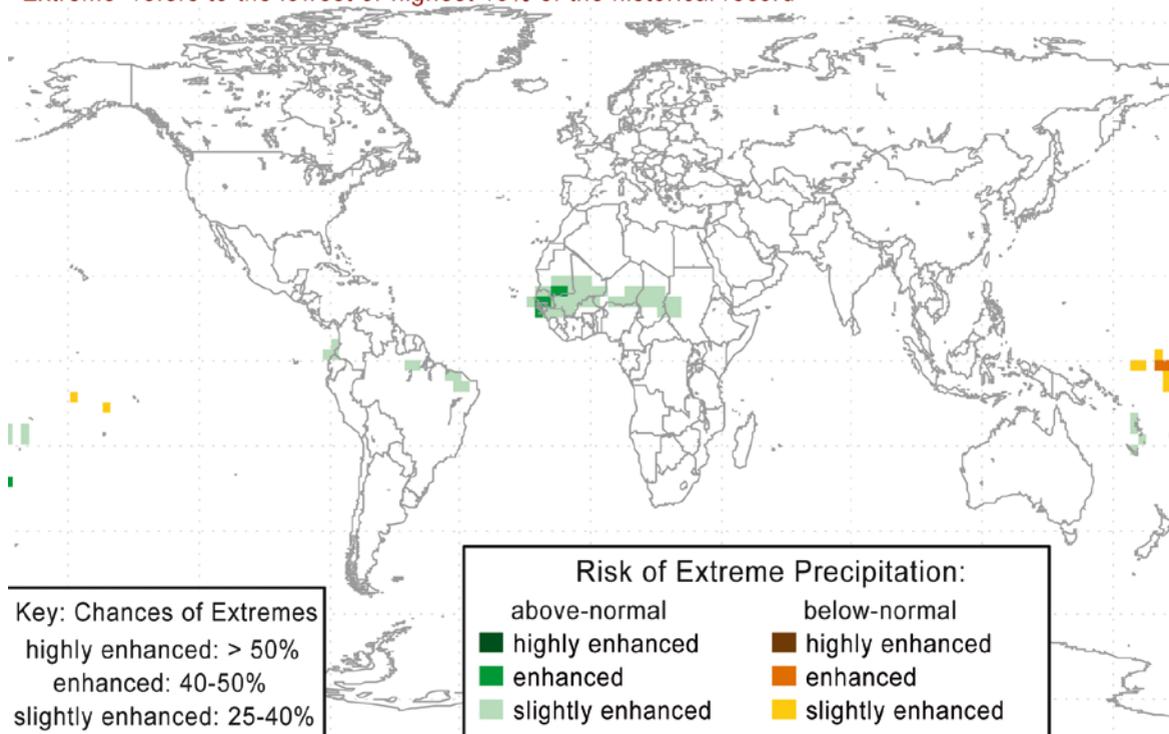
- countering the increased risk of flooding over the long-term, through local activities such as planting mangroves along the coastline;
- preparing for extreme dry or wet seasons ahead of time, by monitoring and designing strategies around seasonal forecasts;
- improving evacuation and response procedures for increased capacity to manage more frequent/severe climate-related disasters.

Enhancing the EW>EA approach requires an increased effort to understand scientific information and probabilistic forecasts, and then to translate the information into action at the operational level of the national societies and IFRC regional/zone offices.

In 2008, the West/Central Africa Zone (WCAZ) of the IFRC took unprecedented actions in response to seasonal rainfall forecasts. The forecasts were issued by the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI). The May forecasts anticipated that rainfall during West Africa's 2008 wet season would be above-normal compared to the historical average for the region. Having been caught off-guard by devastating floods in 2007, the WCAZ decided to take a series of 'no-regrets' actions to improve flood management and response in preparation for the anticipated above-normal rainfall in 2008. These actions included pre-positioning relief items, improving disaster response capacity through trainings, developing flood contingency plans, and launching of pre-emergency funding requests for preparedness activities and response. This EW>EA approach saved lives by helping flood prone communities remove themselves and their property from harms way, as well as by dramatically decreasing the amount of time that beneficiaries had to wait for life-saving assistance from the Red Cross. Disaster Managers from the WCAZ report that EW>EA transformed the position of Red Cross in the region, to now be considered a key player in disaster response.

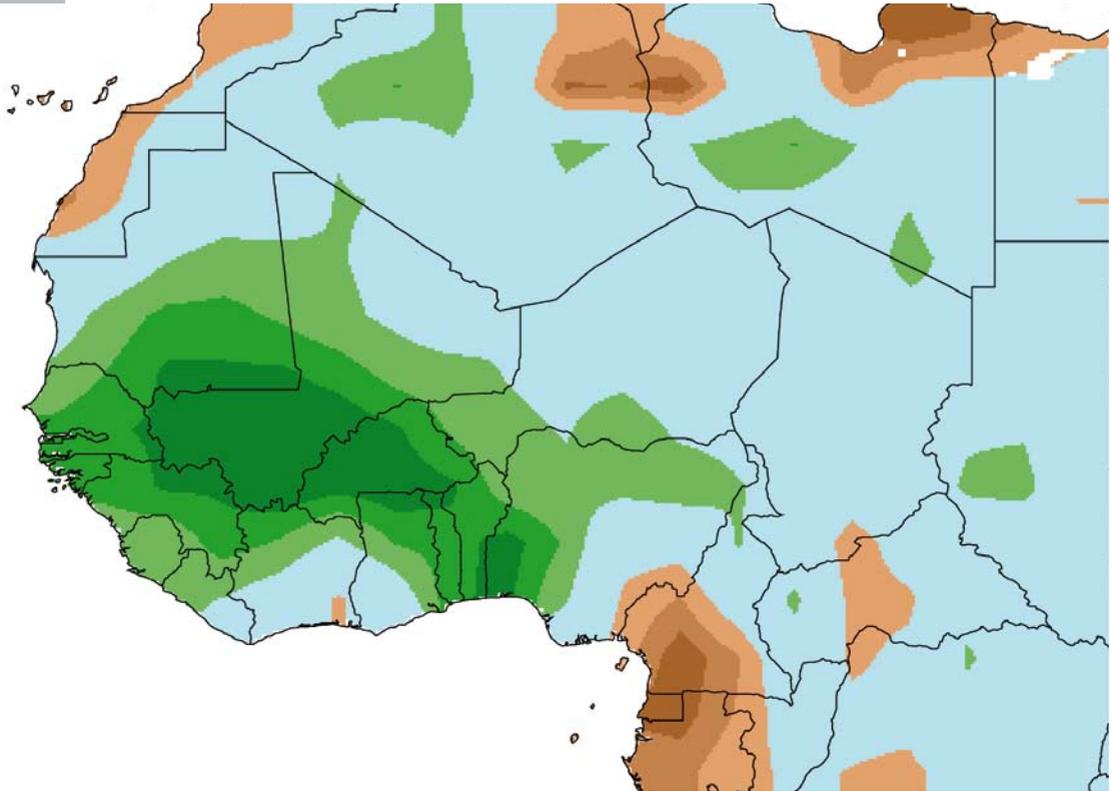
## West Africa '08: the seasonal forecast...

"Extreme" refers to the lowest or highest 15% of the historical record



MULTI-MODEL PROBABILITY FORECAST OF EXTREME PRECIPITATION FOR JUNE–AUGUST 2008, ISSUED MAY 2008. (SOURCE: IRI)

## ...and what happened



OBSERVED RAINFALL FOR JULY-AUGUST 2008. BROWN SHADING INDICATES THE DRIER THAN AVERAGE AREAS, GREEN SHADING THE WETTER AREAS. (SOURCE: IRI)

### Ghana -Early Warning 2008

Information received from the African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD) in Niger and SANOBIL, a power utility company in Burkina Faso, indicated the possibility of excessive rainfall in Burkina Faso from July to September 2008. There was concern that heavy rainfall, could lead to the repeated devastation of the 2007 floods that occurred when spillage of excess water caused the White Volta to increase and occupy its flood plains. In 2008, when heavy rains ensued, SANOBIL was able to provide the Ghanaian authorities with roughly two weeks notice before excess water would be spilled from the dam. Therefore, communities along the White Volta Basin in the three Northern Regions were warned to take precautionary measures to avoid imminent flooding.



### Ghana -Early Action

1. The District Branches of the Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) mobilized 150 volunteers who embarked on raising community awareness and public education regarding potential risks, hazards and vulnerabilities in advance of the Bagre dam release.
2. The volunteers moved from house to house and informed farmers of the dangers of farming close to riverbanks. Those living on low lying areas were advised to move upland, to farm in areas not prone to floods, and to vacate unsafe areas.
3. The communities were also educated to fortify their roofs as well as build embankments along their walls to strengthen them.
4. In the capital Accra the RC Emergency Response Teams educated communities in flood prone areas to not dump refuse into the gutters and to develop evacuation plans.
5. In some communities Red Cross volunteers gave first aid lectures on basic life support and carried out health education talks on diarrhoea, cholera and other water-borne diseases.
6. The volunteers also advised fishermen not to go near the river between August 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> (the scheduled period of excess water spillage from the Bagre dam in Burkina Faso).



PHOTO: THE GUATEMALAN RED CROSS IS STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITIES TO RESPOND TO DISASTERS AND RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES INVOLVED THE PLANTING OF SAPLINGS NEAR THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF SABANA GRANDE IN THE CHIQUIMULA-REGION IN THE SOUTHEAST OF THE COUNTRY. ONCE THE TREES HAVE GROWN, THEY WILL HELP KEEP THE LOCAL STREAM IN PLACE, A VITAL WATER SOURCE FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. PHOTO BY: ERRÁIN ORTEGA, LOCAL BRANCH IN CHIQUIMULA, GUATEMALA RED CROSS SOCIETY

### **3.3 Working with Partner National Red Cross/ Red Crescent Societies (PNSs)**

In January 2008 the Climate Centre organized a meeting with the Partner National Societies (PNSs) (from industrialized countries) that contribute financially to the Climate Centre. The meeting informed participants about the strategy and activities of the RCRC Climate centre and discussed how PNSs can themselves integrate climate change in their programmes and dialogues with partners and government. In addition, the Climate centre received a number of invitations to visit national societies in the UK, Norway, Germany, Austria, Flanders, the US, France, Finland, Spain and those within the Mediterranean Programme.

A growing number of Partner National Societies have begun to incorporate climate change into their own strategic planning. For example, the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) reported that they now, “Integrate climate change risk analysis and monitoring tools into the DM Capacity Hazard Assessment Tool (DM CHAT); review contracts and Memorandums of Understanding to ensure the Society can fulfil its commitments with the projected increase in disasters associated with climate change; integrate climate change into risk assessment and the Business Continuity Management process; educate staff to understand and incorporate climate change into assessments.”

The Australia Red Cross is another example of a PNS now integrating climate change into their strategic plans. In 2008 they established a ‘Climate Change Framework.’ The objective of the framework is to “incorporate climate change vulnerability into all program planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation tools, frameworks, and service models that are used to plan and deliver programs to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged; incorporate climate change considerations into risk management processes; reduce their own carbon footprint by implementing and monitoring compliance with the Red Cross Environmental Policy.”

### 3.4 The continuation of fruitful partnerships with scientists

The IFRC and the Climate Centre cooperate closely with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD), Centre Regional de Formation et d'Application en Agrométéorologie et Hydrologie Opérationnelle (AGRHYMET) and the Centro del Agua del Trópico Humedo para America Latina y el Caribe (Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean) (CATHALAC) and other meteorological institutes.

Cooperation with these specialized scientific agencies help the Red Cross/ Red Crescent to incorporate the use of weather forecasts into disaster risk management operations. Interns from the IRI have helped facilitate this process, by working closely with the IFRC, national societies, and meteorological institutes in Central America and West Africa. In Central America, specific attention was given to the evaluation of existing climate forecasting tools in the context of how the tools might be tailored to better meet the needs of the Movement. Recommendations resulting from these internships will help the research community improve the design and communication of these new tools in order to make them more useful for the RC/RC and other disaster management organizations.

#### *IRI/IFRC helpdesk*

The IFRC and the IRI set up a 'help desk' for national societies that want to understand technical information about forecasts in their region. Every RC/RC question regarding an observed or projected condition is answered in a manner that is as timely and reliable as possible.

CATHALAC and the IRI organized a specific workshop on new tools for disaster management, specifically aimed at improving tools for RC/RC staff. Discussions during this workshop dealt with the use of satellite data for disaster damage assessment, prediction of hydro-meteorological events and information in real time to monitor phenomena such as storms of short duration. Climatological information for the region, based on seasonal predictions and climate change trends, was also discussed at the workshop with the national societies.

### 3.5 Health and climate change

In 2007 the RC/RC Climate Centre extended its work on health. A health and climate change specialist joined the team and works in close cooperation with the health and care department in Geneva and with the health coordinators in the IFRC zone offices. The focus of the specialist is to develop programs for:

- East Africa: on early warning systems for flooding in Kenya and Tanzania;
- South East Asia: on the increased risks of malaria and dengue.

### 3.6 The mobilization and strength of Red Cross Red Crescent Youth

To date much of the youth involvement on climate change has focused on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) that will affect the long-term future, rather than the need for dealing with the impacts (adaptation). The primary RC/RC mandate is to engage youth on climate risks that are already happening now and will continue regardless of how much we reduce emissions. We need to mobilize them to help shape the *humanitarian* response to climate change.

With this in mind, the Climate Centre's youth action plan was developed and partially implemented in 2008. The plan included ideas for the development of materials such as a Youth Climate Kit, involvement of the RC/RC Climate Centre in the 2009 RC/RC World Youth Meeting, youth contributions to RC/RC Climate Centre newsletters and opportunities for partnership. Collaboration with the Youth section of IFRC in Geneva resulted in a media release for World Youth Day 2008, which was posted on the front page of the IFRC website. Written contributions to case studies on youth engagement in climate change have come from Red Cross national societies in Colombia and the Solomon Islands. The Youth and Climate Kit has been drafted and will be finalised prior to the World Youth Meeting in 2009. The Climate Centre has also provided detailed input for the 'Youth and CC guide,' by the Alliance of Youth CEO's, and is responding to NS and IFRC requests for information and ideas on RC/RC youth action on climate change, by collecting and distributing examples.

### 3.7 Three videos on climate change and the Tabasco floods

In collaboration with Mexican RC, IFRC/Americas and Signal Studio Humanitarian Productions, three videos on climate change and the Tabasco floods were developed in 2008. The videos aimed to help the Mexican Red Cross staff and volunteers understand: the factors that contributed to the 2007 Tabasco floods; the challenges faced by the Red Cross (before, during and after the event); and most importantly, the necessary actions to better prepare for this new precedent of climate-related disasters in the future. The 20-minute film was premiered in the context of a climate change presentation that Pablo Suarez gave to approximately 4000 members of the Mexican Red Cross during their annual meeting in San Luis Potosí (November 11–14,2007).



PHOTO: DROUGHT AND HARD TIMES HIT THE ELDERLY AND THE CHILDREN THE HARDEST. IN DIDA GUCHI, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS NOT A GIVEN AND RIGHT NOW IT IS ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT FOR THE PUPILS TO ATTEND TO THEIR EDUCATION. HALF OF THE STUDENTS HAVE DROPPED OUT DUE TO THE DROUGHT AND SUBSEQUENT LACK OF FOOD. THE GIRLS STOP GOING TO SCHOOL BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO HELP WITH THE PROCUREMENT OF FOOD. THE BOYS ARE SENT NORTH WITH THE CATTLE, AND SOME STOP ATTENDING DUE TO EXHAUSTION. PHOTO: JAKOB DALL/DANISH RED CROSS

# 4 Advocating climate risk reduction: the main meetings and events in 2008

The global climate change agreement to be signed in Copenhagen in December 2009 is of high importance. This agreement will need to facilitate the global reduction of greenhouse gas emissions over the next 10 – 15 years, which scientist warn is a ‘decisive period’ for climate change. The RC/RC Climate Centre advocates that the regulation be fair to all countries. The agreement should also have solid commitments to help the most vulnerable nations (Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States) address the impacts of climate change that can no longer be avoided. The negotiations for the next global climate change agreement started in Bali in December in 2007, where Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Risk Management Practices were identified as key strategies for climate change adaptation.

Since the 2007 negotiations, the RC/RC Climate Centre decided to monitor all major negotiation events, leading to the RC/RC Climate Centre’s participation in the UN negotiation meetings in Bangkok (March), Bonn (June) and Accra (August). At the June meeting in Bonn the RC/RC Climate Centre observed a need for more actors from the humanitarian community to provide technical advise to the negotiators.

## 4.1 The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) taskforce on climate change

At the initiative of the IFRC, the IASC – the highest policy forum of humanitarian agencies and organisations (UN, NGO and the Red Cross/Red Crescent)– decided in June to establish a taskforce on climate change. The taskforce would coordinate advocacy work related to the UNFCCC negotiations and integrate climate change into existing policies and practices of the IASC member organisations. Until an IFRC-based coordinator was appointed in November, the RC/RC Climate Centre facilitated the first meetings and actions of the taskforce. The initial collaboration resulted in a joint submission with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee for the UN Climate Conference in Poznan (*see: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/awglca4/eng/misc06a01.pdf>*).



PHOTO: PEOPLE LIVING ON ARTIFICIAL ISLANDS IN MALAITA PROVINCE, SOLOMON ISLANDS FINDS THAT CHANGING WIND PATTERNS ARE IMPACTING TRADITIONAL METHODS OF WEATHER PREDICTION, ENDANGERING THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO CANOE TO THE MAINLAND TO COLLECT FRESH WATER. PHOTO BY: INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

## 4.2 UNFCCC negotiations in Poznan, Poland: COP 14

Mr. Bekele Geleta, Secretary General of the IFRC headed the Red Cross/ Red Crescent delegation of twenty to the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Poznan (Poland). Within the first week of negotiations, Mr. Geleta spoke at a formal Risk Management workshop. At the workshop, other experts like ISDR and the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative, informed the Parties about their views. Specifically, they spoke about how existing disaster risk reduction strategies, insurance, and institutional frameworks could contribute to the UNFCCC adaptation framework. The IFRC delegation was encouraged that quite a number of Parties later echoed these visions in negotiations. (For the workshop report, see: *www.unfccc.int document FCCC/ AWGLCA/2008/CRP.7*)

In addition to the joint submission and presentation at the workshop, the IFRC delegation also: organised a side event with the IASC on EW>EA; participated in 4–5 side event panels; put on two press-briefings; and held high level meetings with a number of key Parties.

## 4.3 Presentations and knowledge sharing at Red Cross/ Red Crescent and external events

In 2008, staff of the Climate Centre were invited to present at numerous meetings, workshops and seminars around the world. Many more invitations had to be turned down, due to the high volume of requests and limited human capacity. The year's highlights from these events include:

### **The Oslo Policy Forum**, February 2008

This was one of the first global meetings on the humanitarian consequences of climate change. It was organised at the initiative of the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Climate Centre participated and chaired a panel discussion.

### **Climate Change Adaptation, Development and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop**, February 2008, Trinidad and Tobago

Hosted by the ProVention Consortium and the IFRC's Regional Caribbean Office, the workshop brought together 50 participants from civil society, national and local governments, regional inter-governmental bodies, academia, media and the private sector. The goal of the workshop was to develop a Programme of Action for strengthening community resilience and local adaptive capacity to climate change in the Caribbean. The event was directly followed by a regional PfCC workshop (*see chapter 3.1*).

**Pre-Hurricane Season Meeting** June 1–4, & 6th, 2008 Panama

Pablo Suarez held a workshop session for RC Disaster Managers from Latin America and the Caribbean on “New Tools for Climate Risk Management.” The participatory workshop was designed to help participants understand new tools, and learn the basics of how to access, interpret and utilize available information on climate-related risks. The session was also the first step towards collaboration between the IFRC, the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).

**Global Humanitarian Forum**, June 2008.

The first Global Humanitarian Forum under the leadership of former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan brought together leaders from all over the world to discuss the humanitarian consequences of climate change. The Climate Centre was asked by the Forum early on to advise and participate in two round tables.

**The Pacific Red Cross Disaster Management Forum**,

June, 23–27 2008, New Caledonia.

The RCCC participated in this disaster risk reduction forum, in which two sessions related to weather, climate variability and climate change. Participants learned about the phenomena of El Niño and La Niña in the Pacific, and how these events can influence cyclones, droughts and floods.

**Commonwealth Event**, July 2008, London, UK (speech).

**IPCC Science Meeting**, September 2008 (participation).

**The 7<sup>th</sup> PAN AFRICAN Conference**, October 2008, Johannesburg, South Africa.

53 African National Red Cross/ Red Crescent Societies reflected on today’s humanitarian priorities in Africa and aimed to set the agenda of the four years to come. The Climate Centre attended the conference and presented on climate change and climate risk management within the Red Cross/ Red Crescent.

**The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Meeting**, July 2008, New York, USA. (speech)

**The Pacific Climate Change Round Table**, October 2008, Samoa.

Governments and civil society met to map out organisations working on climate change in the region, take stock of achievements to date, share information and approaches, and look to the future. As a result of this meeting, collaborations with meteorological agencies and climate science providers are being fostered in the region. Samoa Red Cross youth volunteers performed a skit about climate change, bringing the message home that creativity and youth can bring a new vibrancy to talking about climate change.

**Regional Environment Programme (SPREP),**  
October 2008, Apia, Samoa (participation)

**Participant Development Workshop of DRR,**  
October 2008, New Delhi, India (participation)

**Risk Reduction Meeting, October 2008,** Bonn, Germany (speech)

**ECHO Annual Strategy Meeting (with IFRC and partners),** October and December.  
The Climate Centre was invited to present at the annual strategic discussion between ECHO and the IFRC. The Climate Centre was then asked again to present at the annual meeting between ECHO and all NGO-partners in December.

**Copenhagen Policy Forum,** November 2008.

This conference aimed to follow-up on the Oslo Policy Forum in preparation for COP15. The Climate Centre, together with ISDR and the Worldbank-GFDRR advised the government on the content of the workshop.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,**

December 2–4th, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The RC/RC brought a large delegation, which promoted the role of community-based action. The Climate Centre was involved in the production of a case study launched at the event, and participated in two sessions (one with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre).

# 5 Media and publications in 2008

In order to share best practices and explain new areas of work, the Climate Centre (often in collaboration with the IFRC) has prepared a number of case studies and videos.

## 5.1 Audiovisuals

A number of filmmakers in the Centre's audio visual team have explored possibilities for new video productions. Participatory video production offers an effective way to raise awareness, build capacity, develop advocacy and create institutional partnerships.

A project to promote climate adaptation in Malawi has been in the works since 2007, and several short films were released in 2008. Villagers in Mphunga village (Malawi) produced a participatory video in order to share their successful community-based adaptation practices with four neighbouring communities. The ease of sharing information through video screening workshops has led to the following two 2008 productions:

- *Adaptation to climate Change by Mphunga Villagers.* This video was made entirely by the villagers. It consists of their perspectives on climate change, and illustrates how they are adapting, allowing them to capture and share community-based practices.
- *Farmers become Filmmakers.* This film has been selected for the shortlist of the 'Social Dimensions of Climate Change award' and is now proceeding to an independent judges panel. Part of this footage was also enrolled at the video festival for development and climate days during UNFCCC COP 14 in Poland. The film includes interviews with neighbouring villagers and viewers about what the people of Mphunga have learned on climate risks.

Other video's produced:

- *More than Survival* The video was made in Tabasco, Mexico. It gives an excellent overview on the harsh impacts of climate change on living conditions. It is a Spanish film with English subtitles. (See chapter 3.7)
- Workshop video in Trinidad. One of our filmmakers joined ProVention and the IFRC Caribbean Office to document their workshop on climate change and disaster risk reduction in February 08.
- Workshop video in Mehdiya, Morocco. One of our filmmakers joined our technical advisor to this climate change workshop.

## 5.2 Articles, Interviews and Case Studies

- *Bridging the gap*, prepared by Bec McNaught in collaboration with the IFRC Asia/Pacific zone office and the Climate Centre, November.
- *Early Warning/Early Action*, a brochure prepared for COP 14 in Poznan by the IFRC and Climate Centre on the RC/RC answer to increasing climate risks.
- *Disasters needn't be disastrous*, a case study on climate risk management in Africa, by Alex Wynter, November.
- 'Not just a band-aid' an interview with Madeleen Helmer, published in 'Onearth' by the Natural Resources Defence Council, fall 2008.
- *Community level adaptation to climate change: The potential role of participatory community risk assessment*, by Maarten van Aalst, Terry Cannon and Ian Burton. This article was published in 'Global Environmental Change' Volume 18, Issue 1, February 2008, Pages 165–179.
- *Communicating Climate Risks*, by Maarten van Aalst. Published in the Forced Migration Review on Climate change and Displacement, October 2008.
- *Video-Mediated Approaches for Community-Level Climate Adaptation*, by Suarez, P., Ching, F., Ziervogel, G., Lemaire, I., Turnquest, D., Mendler de Suarez, J. and Wisner, B. IDS Bulletin 39 (4) 96–104, September 2008.
- Two case studies from the Solomon Island and Colombia on Youth and Climate Change – *International Youth Day: mobilizing RC/RC volunteers on the impact of climate change*. An article produced in conjunction with the IFRC Youth Department in Geneva, August 2008.
- *Climate-Related Disasters: Humanitarian Challenges and Reconstruction Opportunities*, by Pablo Suarez, Graham Saunders, Sandra Mendler, Isabelle Lemaire, Jorge Karol, and Laura Curtis in the Journal called: "Places: a Forum of Environmental Design", October 2008.

## 5.3 Website and newsletter

The website of the Climate Centre received on average 2700 hits a month in 2008 (visited more frequently than in 2007). Program updates, country experiences, important events, accomplishments and best practices were all made available online.

Three newsletters that reported new activities and programmes, publications, meetings and events were distributed electronically in 2008. The newsletters reached up to 1,600 subscribers worldwide. In addition to the newsletter, the Centre has an internal listserv with more than 150 subscribers in the RC/RC family who receive climate related news a few times per week.

## 6. External climate risk reduction programmes

The Red Cross/ Red Crescent Climate Centre stimulates PNSs to develop climate adaptation programmes with their partner National Societies in developing countries. The Climate Centre can help with the development of these programmes, mobilization of resources and further scientific advice during the implementation phase of the project.

### 6.1 The Indonesian Red Cross joining forces to increase resilience of vulnerable communities

From January 2007 through December 2008 the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) started to prepare vulnerable communities in Jakarta for future disasters. This effort was made in collaboration with the German RC, Netherlands RC and the IFRC. External partners in this project include the Rabobank Foundation and the NGO Rekadessa (a Villagers Development Foundation). Together they have incorporated a microfinance component into the project. Due to its strong and trustworthy network (at the national, provincial, district and sub-district level) PMI can contribute to the micro finance aspects of the project. PMI does so by providing volunteers that can be trained by Rekadessa trainers on how to mobilize, support and motivate Self Help Groups (SHGs). The project builds on existing PMI structures and aims to 'strengthen the capacities of the vulnerable communities at risk to cope with disasters and to reduce their vulnerabilities to natural and man made hazards, including the negative impacts of climate change'. Many activities performed with local communities, such as risk mapping, disaster planning and trainings, are the core of this project.

## **6.2 'HIER 2' in Guatemala**

The Netherlands Red Cross consolidated funds to continue their climate risk reduction activities in Guatemala, through the HIER 2 campaign funds from the Dutch Postcode Lottery. This second HIER programme with the Guatemala Red Cross is aimed at strengthening local capacities to respond to disasters and raising awareness about the effects of climate change. An example of one activity involved the planting of saplings near the community schools of Sabana Grande in the southeast Chiquimula-region. Once the trees are grown, they will help keep the local stream in place, thereby protecting a vital water source for the whole community. The Netherlands Red Cross also assists in Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change programmes in Nicaragua, Colombia and Ethiopia. More information can be obtained by the Netherlands Red Cross.

## **6.3 Climate Centre supporting South Asia with technical advice**

The South Asian Regional Delegation and National Societies implemented a large DIPECHO project called, 'Building Safer Communities.' The Climate Centre provided input on integrating climate change into disaster risk reduction training, assisting with the development of a training of trainers curriculum, school programmes and advocacy guidelines. An additional regional 'think tank' workshop and climate change framework will be incorporated in 2009.

# 7 Organization

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre is the global reference centre for the RC/RC movement on climate change related issues. It is an independent foundation under Dutch law, with 4 board members. The board members are responsible for the management and policy of the Climate Centre. On February 1<sup>st</sup> 2008, Marc Hofstra was replaced by Cees Breederveld, Director of the Netherlands Red Cross. The governing board met four times in 2008.

## 7.1 Board of Governors

<b>Name and board function</b>	<b>Positions in 2008</b>
Mr E.H.T.M. Nijpels, chairman of the board	Royal commissioner in Friesland and former Dutch environment minister
Mr Ibrahim Osman, board member	Deputy secretary general of the IFRC
Mr Mohammed Mukhier, board member	Head of the disaster policy and preparedness department of the IFRC
Mr Cees Breederveld, treasurer	Director of the Netherlands Red Cross

## 7.2 Finance

The main donors to the Climate centre were the Netherlands Government and the Danish Government via the IFRC. In addition, eight Participating National Societies have contributed to either the core costs or specific activities of the Climate centre. All Climate Centre donors are listed in chapter 8.

## 7.3 Climate Centre Staff

The daily work of the Climate Centre in 2008 was carried out by the following members:

### **Madeleen Helmer, head (0,7 fte)**

Responsible for... overall management, strategy and policy development, coordination with the RC/RC Movement; mobilisation of resources, communication and advocacy particularly the UNFCCC negotiation processes and the EU.

**Maarten van Aalst, lead climate specialist and associate director (0,6 fte)**

Responsible for... overall management, strategy and policy development, particularly in relation to development agencies and banks; links to the scientific community; analysis and guidance on climate risk management in Red Cross Red Crescent programmes, support to international programmes.

**Fleur Monasso, programme officer (0,8 fte)**

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

**Pablo Suarez, associate director of programmes based in Boston, USA (0,6 fte)**

Responsible for... technical advice to National Societies in Latin America and Africa in the context of the Preparedness for Climate Change programme. Coordination of all the audiovisual work of the Climate Centre.

**Rebecca McNaught, senior programme officer (0,8 fte)**

Responsible for... technical advice to National Societies in the Preparedness for Climate Change Programme in the Asia Pacific region and program development in this region. Youth specialist of the climate team. Rebecca joined the Climate Centre team in March 2008.

**Lina Nerlander, health specialist (1 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 started working for the Climate Centre in October 2008.

**Raimons Duijsens, senior programme officer (0,2 fte)**

Responsible for... support of climate activities in the South East Asia Region, where he coordinates the Preparedness for Climate Change Programme.

**Corine Emmelkamp, programme officer (0,8fte)**

Responsible for... desk support, secretarial support and office management. This includes backing up the whole team and giving climate change presentations in the Netherlands.

## **8. Annual accounts 2008**

**Red Cross Red Crescent  
disaster risk reduction  
and climate change**

## Balance sheet as at 31 December 2008

After appropriation of the result

<b>Assets</b>	<b>31-12-2008</b>	<b>31-12-2007</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>31-12-2008</b>	<b>31-12-2007</b>
Tangible fixed assets (1)	1,410	1,062	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Accounts receivable and prepayments (2)	148,761	39,742	- going concern reserve (4)	95,389	80,575
Cash and cash equivalents (3)	402,920	830,494	<b>Restricted funds</b>		
			- donor restricted funds (5)	<u>248,215</u>	<u>358,101</u>
			<b>Total equity</b>	<b>343,604</b>	<b>438,676</b>
			<b>Short-term debts (6)</b>	<b>209,487</b>	<b>432,622</b>
	<b>553,091</b>	<b>871,298</b>		<b>553,091</b>	<b>871,298</b>

## Statement of income and expenditure for 2008

Income	Actual 2008	Budget 2008	Actual 2007
Income from own fund-raising			
Gifts and donations (7)	208,668	320,000	312,673
Government grants (8)	444,338	100,000	489,458
Investment revenues	-402	1,800	339
Other income and expenditures	14,189	20,000	70,384
<b>Total available for Climate Centre's objectives</b>	<b>666,793</b>	<b>438,200</b>	<b>872,176</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
<b>Climate Centre operations</b>			
– own activities (9)	541,072	620,500	779,288
– general operating costs (10)	220,793	275,100	248,815
<b>Total expenditure for Climate Centre's objectives</b>	<b>761,865</b>	<b>895,600</b>	<b>1,028,103</b>
<b>Balance for the year</b>	<b>-95,072</b>	<b>-457,400</b>	<b>-155,927</b>
<b>Appropriation of balance for the year</b>			
– donor restricted funds	-109,886	-475,000	-193,548
– going concern reserve	14,814	17,600	37,621
	<b>-95,072</b>	<b>-457,400</b>	<b>-155,927</b>
<b>Brief summary</b>			
<b>Donor restricted funds</b>			
– Income	274,388	–	457,237
– Expenditure	384,274	475,000	650,785
	-109,886	-475,000	-193,548
<b>Going concern reserve</b>			
– Income	392,405	438,200	414,939
– Expenditure	377,591	420,600	377,318
	14,814	17,600	37,621
	<b>-95,072</b>	<b>-457,400</b>	<b>-155,927</b>

## Notes

### General

The 2008 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Guidelines on Financial Reporting by Organisations without an aim for profit (Richtlijn Verslaggeving Organisaties zonder winststreven). The aim of these financial statements is to give an understanding of income and expenditure as well as of the financial position of the International Red Cross / Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness Foundation (Climate Centre).

## Principles of valuation and presentation

### General

“The financial statements have been drawn up on the historic costs. Unless stated otherwise, the assets and liabilities are posted at their nominal value. Balance sheet items in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rates prevailing on the balance sheet date and the ensuing exchanges gains or losses are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure under the heading “investment revenues”.

Unless stated otherwise, all amounts are in euro.”

### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets 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 a 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 taken to 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 2008

<b>Tangible fixed assets (1)</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Acquisition cost at 1 January	1,062	1,830
Investments (computers)	1,488	–
Depreciation charged for year (33.33%)	-1,140	-768
Book value at 31 December	<b>1,410</b>	<b>1,062</b>
<b>Accounts receivable and prepayments (2)</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Receivables re activities	145,475	36,292
Accrued interest	158	322
Other accounts receivable and prepayments	3,128	3,128
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,761</b>	<b>39,742</b>

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

<b>Cash and cash equivalents (3)</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Current accounts	402,920	830,494
<b>Total</b>	<b>553,091</b>	<b>871,298</b>

## Equity

In accordance with the Guidelines of Financial Reporting by Non-profit Organisations (Richtlijn Verslaggeving Organisaties zonder winststreven) the Climate Centre's equity is broken down into restricted funds and unrestricted funds. As restricted funds is earmarked that part of equity to which a third party has dictated a specific use (with the result that the Climate Centre can only spend these funds on these specific purposes). The remaining portion of equity is reported as unrestricted funds.

<b>Going concern reserve (4)</b>		<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Balance at 1 January		80,575	42,954
Appropriation of balance for the year		14,814	37,621
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>		<b>95,389</b>	<b>80,575</b>

<b>Restricted funds (5)</b>	<b>TMF-fund</b>	<b>NPL-fund</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Balance at 1 January	287,364	70,737	358,101	551,649
Appropriation of balance for the year	-109,886	-	-109,886	-193,548
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>177,478</b>	<b>70,737</b>	<b>248,215</b>	<b>358,101</b>

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

The Climate Centre's policy is to spend the restricted funds within 3 years on the purposes for which the money has been received.

<b>Short-term debts (6)</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Accounts payable	70,212	348,291
Taxes and social security premiums	6,542	8,440
Other accounts debt	132,733	75,891
<b>Total</b>	<b>209,487</b>	<b>432,622</b>

## Notes to the statement of income and expenditure for 2008

<b>Gifts and donations (7)</b>	<b>Actual 2008</b>	<b>Budget 2008</b>	<b>Actual 2007</b>
Netherlands Red Cross	52,195	100,000	50,000
Australian Red Cross	10,000	–	–
Danish Red Cross	10,000	–	–
Austrian Red Cross	20,000	–	–
American Red Cross	15,000	–	–
Swiss Red Cross	13,214	–	–
British Red Cross	6,872	–	21,309
Swedish Red Cross	27,011	–	21,956
Norwegian Red Cross	12,442	–	7,000
Other Red Cross Societies	–	–	15,000
	<b>166,734</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>115,265</b>
Local branches Netherlands Red Cross	7,500	–	6,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies *	–	220,000	68,135
Watchhill Foundation	11,569	–	–
Others	22,865	–	123,273
<b>Total</b>	<b>208,668</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>312,673</b>
<b>Government grants (8)</b>	<b>Actual 2008</b>	<b>Budget 2008</b>	<b>Actual 2007</b>
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	274,338	–	457,237
Danish Government	170,000	100,000	–
Others	–	–	32,221
<b>Total</b>	<b>444,338</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>489,458</b>

\* IFRC contributions: “The Danish Government Funds and the Swedish Red Cross funds have been donated through the IFRC appeal”.

<b>Climate Centre operations (9)</b>	<b>Actual 2008</b>	<b>Budget 2008</b>	<b>Actual 2007</b>
<b>Own activities</b>			
Other personnel expenses	63,742	98,100	37,224
Consultants/volunteers	294,180	363,500	372,471
Office and housings costs	168,192	149,300	66,526
Campaign materials	16,754	8,100	61,022
Conference	–	–	107,322
Other direct costs	-1,796	1,500	134,723
<b>Total</b>	<b>541,072</b>	<b>620,500</b>	<b>779,288</b>

<b>Climate Centre Operations (10)</b>	<b>Actual 2008</b>	<b>Budget 2008</b>	<b>Actual 2007</b>
<b>General operating costs</b>			
Personnel expenses			
Salaries	145,371	195,800	152,817
Social security charges	19,964	27,200	19,410
Pension contributions	2,424	8,500	6,056
	<b>167,759</b>	<b>231,500</b>	<b>178,283</b>
Other personnel expenses	22,200	11,800	11,595
Consultants/volunteers	16,122	16,400	25,228
Office and housings costs	12,600	12,600	26,697
Campaign materials	–	1,100	759
Other general costs	2,112	1,700	6,253
<b>Total</b>	<b>220,793</b>	<b>275,100</b>	<b>248,815</b>

In 2008, the members of the Board of Governors did not receive any reimbursements in respect of travelling and representations costs they incurred (2007: EUR 878).

The Hague, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009

### **Board of Governors**

Mr E.H.T.M. Nijpels      *Chairman*

Mr C. Breederveld      *Member of the board*

Mr M.O. Mukhier      *Member of the board*

Mr I.M. Osman      *Member of the board*

# Other information

To the Board of Governors of the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness Foundation

## **Auditor's report**

We have audited the financial statements 2008 of the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness Foundation, The Hague, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2008, the statement of income and expenditure for the year then ended and the notes.

## **Management's responsibility**

Management of the foundation is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for the preparation of the management board report, both in accordance with the Guideline for annual reporting 640 "Non-profit organisations" of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

## **Auditor's responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law. This law requires that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit 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 the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the foundation'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 foundation's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of 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 give a true and fair view of the financial position of the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness Foundation as at 31 December 2008, and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with the Guideline for annual reporting 640 “Non-profit organisations” of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board.

The Hague, 20 May 2009

KPMG ACCOUNTANTS N.V.

J.A.A.M. Vermeeren RA

## **Colophon**

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Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

### **Text**

Fleur Monasso and Madeleen Helmer

### **Edited by**

Rebecca McNaught and Lisette Braman

### **Prepress**

Havas & Co

