One year on – Strong signs of recovery follow September 2009 disasters in Asia-Pacific

In September 2009 four countries in the Asia-Pacific region – the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam and Samoa – were reeling from the impact of consecutive natural disasters that struck over a one-week period. More than 2,500 people perished and almost 1.1 million people were directly affected when the region suffered the combined impact of typhoons, an earthquake and a tsunami. Today, those same communities have made dramatic steps towards recovery, infrastructure has been repaired, water supplies restored and people who lost their homes once more have a roof over their heads.

- Read the press release
- Read the news story: Philippines - one year after typhoon Ketsana
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube
- Latest Red Cross Red Crescent news

TOP ISSUES

World Disasters Report 2010
IFRC warns that 857 billion urban dwellers living in low and middle-income nations are exposed to unacceptable levels of risk.

NDG Summit
IFRC and its partners has convened two side events at the MDG Summit with a focus on immunization and malaria.

Influenza pandemic
Influenza and pandemic in the news

GET INVOLVED

- Donate online | Bank transfer
- Become a volunteer
- Youth activities
- Contact your National Society

PHOTO GALLERIES

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
International Federation of
Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

• The Federation carries out relief operations to assist victims of disasters, and combines this with development work to strengthen the capacities of its member National Societies.

• The Federation's work focuses on four core areas: promoting humanitarian values, disaster response, disaster preparedness, and health and community care.

• 186 countries have Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.
More than 180 countries and 100 million volunteers
International Federation of
Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Each country is resourced differently, according to their unique skill sets:

- **Mexicans and Icelandic** perform Urban SAR
- **British** provide water sanitation
- **Germans and Norwegians** establish field hospitals
- **Americans** coordinate logistics, movement of materials
We provide *hope and help* around the world.
Earthquake in China
Phases of a Disaster

- Rescue
- Response
- Recovery
- Rebuilding
Phases of a Disaster

- Rescue
- Response
- Recovery
- Rebuilding

The current challenges in Haiti
The American Red Cross story began on a battlefield.
The *modern* Red Cross

We *shelter*, *feed* and *care* for disaster victims.

We *supply* nearly half the nation’s blood.

We *teach* lifesaving skills.

We *help* the military and their families.

We *provide* humanitarian aid worldwide.
Empowering ordinary people to perform extraordinary acts.
Preparation is critical to fast, effective disaster response.
Each year we train 10 million people.
We serve members of the military, veterans and their families.
Every two seconds, someone needs blood.
We respond to 70,000 disasters a year.
“Tropical Depression 16”

Rainfall: The depression is expected to produce 5 to 10 inches of rain over the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, and Cuba. Isolated maximum amounts of 20 inches are possible over the higher elevations of Cuba and Jamaica. These rains could cause life-threatening flash floods and mud slides.
**Hurricane Earl**

**Current Information:**
- Center Location: 17.2 N 58.4 W
- Max Sustained Wind: 75 mph
- Movement: W at 17 mph

**Forecast Positions:**
- Tropical Cyclone
- Post-Tropical
- S < 39 mph
- 39-73 mph
- 74-110 mph
- M > 110 mph

**Potential Track Area:**
- Day 1-3
- Day 4-5

**Watches:**
- Hurricane
- Trop.Storm

**Warnings:**
- Hurricane
- Trop.Storm
Tropical Depression Sixteen

Tuesday September 28, 2010
11 AM EDT Advisory 1
NWS TPC/National Hurricane Center

Current Information:
Center Location 20.6 N 82.5 W
Max Sustained Wind 35 mph
Movement NNE at 10 mph

Forecast Positions:
bullet Tropical Cyclone  ○ Post-Tropical
Sustained Winds:  D < 39 mph
S 39-73 mph  H 74-110 mph  M > 110 mph

Potential Track Area:

Watches:

Warnings:
Disaster Services Mission Statement

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers, guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.
Mission: Disaster Services is America’s partner and a leader in mobilizing communities to help people prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and other life-threatening emergencies.

Range of Responses
70,000 disasters a year, including:
• House fires and apartment fires
• Tornadoes, Floods, Winter storms, Hurricanes, and Earthquakes
• Transportation Incidents
• Terrorist events
When Disasters Occur

What We Do:

- Feeding, sheltering
- Distribution of emergency supplies
- One-on-one casework/assistance
- Health Services
- Mental Health
- Family Connectedness
- Community Recovery
- Blood & Blood Products
Current Capabilities: Feeding

• Maximum Meals Served in a Day
  – 2004 – Charlie: 280,000
  – 2005 – Katrina/Rita/Wilma: 995,000

• Today – Resources
  – Ability to distribute > 1,000,000 meals/day
  – More than 300 Emergency Response Vehicles to deliver food and supplies, and 5 mobile kitchens
  – With partners (Southern Baptists and others), provide significant capacity for meal preparation
  – Stockpile of shelf-stable meals and shelter supplies has been integrated with DHS/FEMA stocks
Current Capabilities: Sheltering

• Maximum Single Night Shelter Requirements
  – Katrina: 140,000

• Today – Resources
  – 501,424 cots and 750,000 blankets
  – 327,104 comfort kits and 375,121 clean-up kits
  – National Shelter System (NSS) shows more than 50,000 potential shelters with the capacity to shelter millions
  – Sheltering limited by available facilities and trained staff
Partnerships

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS
ACTIVE IN DISASTER, INC.

The National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators

LSC
Legal Services Corporation

Boat People SOS

United Jewish Communities
The Federation of South Jersey

211

American Association of Pastoral Counselors
Professionally Integrating Psychotherapy and Spirituality

HOPE worldwide
Bringing hope. Changing lives.

LIVE UNITED

The Humane Society of the United States

Tzu Chi Foundation

The Salvation Army

Disaster Relief

Disaster Response

UMCOR
United Methodist Committee on Relief

NCLRC
National Council of La Raza

CAN
Coordinated Assistance Network

Feeding America

American Psychological Association

Church of the Brethren

American Red Cross

Association for the Advancement of Black Social Workers

CEPIN
Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network

NAACP
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Disability Rights Network
Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Disabilities

NAACP
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
When Disasters are **not** Occurring - Readiness / Preparedness

- Capacity building and risk planning
- Pre-positioned supplies, shelters
- Volunteer recruitment & training
- Disaster plans & drills
- Planning & engaging key partners
- Community outreach & mobilization
Individual Preparedness

• Disasters or other emergencies can strike quickly and without warning

• The best way to make your family and you safer is to be prepared before disaster strikes:
  – Get a Kit
  – Make a Plan
  – Be Informed
Sample Preparedness Information

When a Watch Is Issued
- Listen for weather updates. Hurricanes are unpredictable, so stay informed.
- Have your car ready. Check gas, oil, water and maintenance.
- Check your disaster supplies kit.
- Close all windows and doors and then hurricane shutters. If you don’t have shutters, close and board up all doors and windows with plywood. When windows break, homes are destroyed.
- Bring in bicycles, lawn furniture, hanging plants, trash cans or anything that could be picked up by strong winds.
- Secure your boat. Remember that most drawbridges and swing bridges will be closed to all boat traffic after the evacuation order is issued.

For more information on Preparedness: www.redcross.org
The American Red Cross

95% of our workforce are volunteers.

- The American Red Cross has 33,000 paid staff and 700,000 volunteers.
- Most staff spend much of their time working with volunteers.
Our Challenges?

Fundraising

The economy

Competing with other charities

Certain disasters (e.g. floods) are less compelling than others
Our Challenges?

Social Media

How to harness the communication of the public and its broad array of communication channels?
Our Challenges?

Volunteer Engagement

Like a volunteer fire department, our volunteers can often go months without a major call-out.
95% of our workforce are volunteers.

The American Red Cross has 33,000 paid staff and 700,000 volunteers.

Most staff spend much of their time working with volunteers.
In closing...

*WHAT EXACTLY* does the American Red Cross do during a major disaster???
The American Red Cross establishes a relief operation equivalent to a Fortune 500 corporation

- fully staffed;
- internal and external voice and data communications;
- leadership teams utilizing timely data reporting;
- ... and we do it in 48 hours
The American Red Cross establishes a relief operation equivalent to a Fortune 500 corporation

- The facility we use may be an empty building, a schoolhouse, or a former retail store;
- We have to turn it into an office space and run cables for connectivity;
- If communications are down, we bring our own, including satellite trucks.
The American Red Cross establishes a relief operation equivalent to a Fortune 500 corporation

- We will often bring together thousands of people with very specialized skills — the vast majority of them volunteers;
- We transport them, house them, and feed them;
- We see to their physical and emotional well-being;
- ...and in three weeks, we rotate that staff.
The American Red Cross establishes a relief operation equivalent to a Fortune 500 corporation.

And 91 cents on every donated dollar goes to service delivery.
Thank You

(Please wake the person next to you.)
Earthquake in Italy