

# **Timor-Leste Red Cross**

# Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste

#### **Key Information**

#### **Branch Offices**

13 districts of Timor-Leste, with its national headquarters in the capital, Dili

#### **Date Established**

Established: 2000

Accepted as member of IFRC: 11 November 2005

#### **Funding**

1,987,302 CHF. A small amount of funding comes from the Timor-Leste government, while most is through partner National Society support Each branch also raises money to help fund its operational costs.

#### **IFRC Country Delegation?**

Yes. IFRC has had representatives in place since early 2001 to assist with the formation of the CVTL and to help build the necessary capacity to deliver services to the vulnerable population. IFRC signed a legal status agreement with the Timor-Leste government in 2006.

#### **Key Persons**

President: Mr. José Pereira da Conceição Secretary General: Mr Januario Ximenes

# **Legal Status**

CVTL is formally recognised by the Timor-Leste Government in a Decree Law (2005) and protective emblem law (2009)

#### **Major partners**

Of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement: American RC, Australian RC, British RC, Japanese RC, Korean RC, New Zealand RC, British Government DFID, Spanish RC, Canadian RC, ICRC, Italian RC, Japanese RC, New Zealand RC. Other bilateral partners: Government of Timor-Leste (Ministry of Social Solidarity), GoTL Ministry of Health/Global Fund; International Organization for Migration (IOM), Catholic Relief Service, The Promise/KOICA, Japan Embassy

#### **Members and Volunteers**

2,367 members and 2,858 volunteers



# **Background**

Formed in 2000, Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL), the Red Cross of Timor-Leste, is one of the youngest Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the world.

CVTL's vision is to save lives and improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable people. It does this through responding to disasters, providing first aid and basic health services, supporting water and sanitation services, HIV/AIDS prevention, tracing and other activities. The society's work is guided by its Strategic Plan for 2015-2019.

CVTL, like all Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, recruits volunteers from local communities to deliver most services.



# **Programme Overview**

Disaster management: CVTL concentrates on three priority areas of intervention at the community level: risks related to environmental degradation, recurring local disasters, and food and economic security. CVTL assists communities at risk from natural disasters such as flooding, landslides and strong winds with training, evacuation planning and preventive measures such as planting mangrove trees. Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction (ICBRR) is CVTL's flagship programme. An integrated approach guides resilience-building work by the National Society.

First aid: CVTL provides basic training and services to communities, volunteers and government and at special events. First Aid training courses are offered to individuals and organisations for a fee, which helps to fund the National Society's work.

Health education: CVTL educates the public about reducing disease vulnerability, while working to prevent and prepare for potential public health crises. Health issues are addressed in all 13 districts under the Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction programme, using the community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach.

HIV/AIDS: CVTL is part of the National HIV/AIDS/STI programme led by the Ministry of Health and assists in facilitating peer education activities and participation in regional and global campaigns. Prevention and social mobilisation programmes have increased dramatically since 2008. CVTL uses also outreach approach in HIV prevention.

Promotion of humanitarian values: Dissemination of Red Cross Red Crescent principles and values to the public through high profile activities and provision of written information.

Youth: CVTL's Youth Department is equipping young people with life-skills to participate in their communities, instilling an understanding of humanitarianism and a culture of volunteerism. The National Society has an active, nation-wide Youth Network.

Livelihoods: Improving livelihoods and incomes contributes more resilient communities. In 2010 and 2011, CVTL's Livelihoods Program was piloted in four districts, and then expanded to 11 districts where, in 2014, 29 livelihood groups were established. Efforts focus particularly on vulnerable communities such as significantly impoverished and isolated villages and those where multiple crop failures have occurred.

Protection of the environment: Including cleanup of the Dili seashore, planting trees, cleaning public markets and cultivation of nursery trees in five districts.

Water and sanitation: This project, initiated by the ICRC in 1989, was handed over to Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste in 2002. CVTL has built over 150 water and sanitation facilities throughout the country. These facilities include public and home lavatories, water tanks, wells and irrigation systems.

## **Recent Disasters**

Floods (2013)

CVTL are continually responding to small scale regular disasters. In 2014, they supported the Ministry of Health in a response campaign to seasonal escalation of dengue fever

#### **Disaster Law**

Disaster law is a relatively new area of work in Timor-Leste and for CVTL, yet important developments have taken place. In February 2015, CVTL joined government, the national military, UN agencies and NGO's in a national disaster response simulation and discussion including IDRL. Since then IFRC and CVTL have been providing inputs into the development of a new disaster management law (still in draft). Meanwhile, CVTL's capacity continues to grow through participation in regional forums and workshops.



For further information about the **Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste Red Cross** 

#### **Headquarters Address & Contact Details**

Rua. Jacinto de Cândido, Bairro Formosa, Dili, Timor-Leste Email: info@redcross.tl

#### **Online Profiles**

Website http://www.redcross.tl Facebook https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cruz-Vermelhade-Timor-Leste/422556931191491

## **Recent Appeals**

A list of all appeals Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste has submitted is available on the IFRC website here: http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals/?ac=&at=0&c=&co=SP351T-P&dt=1&f=&re=&t=&ti=&zo=







